

ANNUAL REPORT 2012

The European Confederation of Relief and Development NGOs

27 national platforms

18 international networks

2 associate members

1,800 NGOs represented

supported by millions
of citizens across Europe.

Foreword from the President

Joanna Maycock
President of CONCORD



Dear CONCORD Members and Partners,

It was a real pleasure to be elected President in 2012, a challenging year for European civil society and our partners across the world.

We've seen many governments shy away from their development commitments and space for civil society shrink. Budget cuts in Europe have continued, with development support coming under particular attack. Our AidWatch report however showed that 'Aid We Can', proposing solutions for European governments to meet their commitments even in difficult times at home.

We took a stand against cuts to the EU's future development and humanitarian budget throughout the year, championing a development policy that maintains Europe's responsibilities in global development. Building on our work looking at the EU's Agenda for Change, we took a critical look at the role of the private sector in development, holding a special event that invited leading speakers from EU institutions.

2012 also brought some good news, as the EU firmly recognized the role of civil society organisations in development. This is something we have been campaigning on for many years, and it's an important recognition of our advocacy to show EU decision makers our role. This coincided with two reports on how the EU's Foreign Service is dealing with NGOs in developing countries.

Through our work on Policy Coherence for Development, we highlighted to EU decision makers the impact of EU policies in developing countries. In 2012 we put the negative effects of EU biofuels policy in the spotlight with an event at the European Development Days.

Global partnerships are increasingly important for CONCORD, and I'm pleased that we strengthened our contacts with partners in developing countries, notably in the North African region following the Arab Spring. We co-organised events in Latin America and Europe which gathered hundreds of participants.

I'd like to particularly congratulate all those who took part in the "Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness" process that developed practical tools to improve the work of civil society organisations across the world.

All of this was supported by the development of new communication tools such as the new Concord website, improved media reach and social media presence, which I'm pleased to see is helping to make our messages more accessible and engaging. Finally, as the MDGs come to a close, we supported the launch of the new Beyond 2015 campaign that coordinates civil society organizations work on future development goals post 2015.

It's important that we look forward in 2013, during CONCORD's 10th Anniversary, to tell a better story of whom we are and where we want to be.

Thank you to all the members in the Concord family for their dedication and commitment in the fight for a just and sustainable world.

From Olivier Consolo – May 2013

The Board of CONCORD kindly invited me to make a short contribution to our Annual Report in 2012, which marks CONCORD's 10th Anniversary. It will be my last contribution to this important official document which summarized the many activities the whole confederation takes part in every year. These activities are led by our members and supported by our team in the Secretariat. By chance and coincidence 2012 also corresponds to my 20 years of engagement with NGOs in development and international solidarity. Half of it has been serving and leading CONCORD, one of the most exiting experiences I have been given during my professional life. I take then the opportunity to share with you, members and partners of CONCORD, my thoughts on our advocacy work and on the state of the international community over the last two decades.

Looking back

Twenty years is considered to be a long enough period to start assessing the past, achievements as well as failures. It corresponds almost to one 'generation'. The last two decades tell us many things to learn about the state of the world and of the European Union (EU).

Twenty years ago Europe was marked by several important political developments: the official end of the period known as the Cold War, the re-unification of Germany, the beginning of the most ambitious process of European Union enlargement, and finally the new EU treaty called the Maastricht Treaty (which came into force on November 1993). This new treaty opened four major evolutions for the EU: The consolidation of the EU as an open internal market and the agreement on a joint approach regarding international trade, the creation of a new ambition regarding common external relations and defense, the perspective of integrating new Member States (from Eastern and Central Europe), and the launch of the Economic and Monetary Union which has led to the creation of the Euro (a reality 8 years later). In 2013 our European Union's institutional and political environment is still deeply influenced by the Maastricht Treaty.

The international agenda

During the same period, the international community (led by the United Nations (UN) and the International Finance Institutions (IFIs) was looking to relaunch diplomacy and international negotiations to respond to a new era corresponding to the 'post-Cold War' situation. In 1992, the world summit in Rio known as the Earth Summit embodied unprecedented hope for thousands of activists, NGOs and diplomats. When reading again the preparatory documents or the outputs of Rio twenty years ago, activists will realize that the roads we are following today were already drawn and well apprehended in their complexity, scale of inter-relations and global ambition.

Since then, the international agenda has been strengthened by a series of other international negotiations which reinforced the feeling that the world wanted to move towards a new "progressive" and humanist agenda: Cairo Summit on population- September 1994, Social Summit in Copenhagen- February 1995, Beijing Women Summit- September 1995... Almost a decade which ended with the Millennium World Summit- September 2000. It also marked the launch of the Millennium Development Goals' agenda (MDGs).

At the same period, activists managed to make their voices heard to stop unfair ongoing trade negotiations. It is the beginning of a new stage for the alter/anti-globalization movements and the creation of the World Social Forum. 2003 marked also the failure of the Cancun 5th Ministerial negotiations of the World Trade Organization.

In summary, the first decade (1992-2003) has been characterized by many initiatives from governments, the UN and civil society across the globe, opening new spaces for international deliberations, alliance building, new agreements and what we believed were to be new ambitions for a better and just world.

The member led confederation

CONCORD was founded by its members in early 2003 after 3 years of internal and institutional discussions and strategic decisions. For its 10th anniversary, CONCORD today is trying to look with honesty at the last 10 years and more importantly trying to invent the next 10 years. I like to say 'invent' because at the end of the journey, it is women and men, institutions and politicians, organized civil society and grass roots organizations and communities who build (or destroy) the world we live in.

Over the last 10 years CONCORD has made real efforts to be a member-led confederation. We intended to be a fair and active partner with our colleagues from Civil Society in the EU, as well as in other parts of the world, especially in the so-called 'south'. As a European actor we tried to assume our responsibilities as a regional partner within global coalitions and alliances (GCAP, Better Aid, Open Forum on CSO effectiveness, and more recently in the framework of the Post-2015 agenda). Vis-à-vis European Institutions and national governments of the EU, CONCORD has maintained open critical dialogue and engagement.

Achievements

Regarding the main achievements of the international community over the last 10 years, it seems that the level of ambition and concrete outcomes of the European Union as well as of the international community (mainly based on inter-governmental dynamics and arrangements), have been relatively modest!

Looking at the 50% full-glass-of-water, we (civil society and a few institutions, including the EU) managed to safeguard key principles like the fight against and eradication of poverty as the main objective of the Development Cooperation Framework. Southern actors and governments called for truly equal partnerships (which has been partly translated into the Aid Effectiveness agenda). Civil Society engaging in the development agenda managed to rebuild confidence from institutions and donors on the role we play as development actors in our own right. CSOs engaged in an open process about our own effectiveness and transparency that led to the Istanbul Principles.

During the last ten years, many regional and world social forums contributed to connecting thousands of organizations, experiences and good practices across the globe. CSOs and some institutions intended to build alliances and coalitions across the silos we used to work in: on climate and ahead of Rio+20 our sectors managed to partially overcome the traditional divides and competitions. More importantly, millions of local actors have been developing solutions and creating innovations regarding all kinds of problems and challenges everywhere on earth. This last trend represents the greatest potential for the future.

Challenges

But the 50% empty-glass-of-water encompasses the following failures and challenges: the lives of billions of people remain under the minimum standards of dignity, rights and prosperity. Almost 5 billion people are living today in poverty in the developed and developing world, lacking access to basic services such as health, justice or education, struggling for democracy or being threatened by conflicts and wars. The planet is sick because of our current extractive and financial short-term economic model. Climate change awareness did not lead to a real change in production and consumption patterns for the so-called middle class all over the globe. Local and regional conflicts have replaced the 'high intensity' world wars of the 20th century, contributing to the invisibility of the suffering of millions and millions of men, women and children in all continents.

Nearly all international negotiations have failed during the last decade. People are increasingly doubtful about our current models of democracy and institutions, including in the EU. The political space for civil society is shrinking everywhere, including in Europe. The world has never been so wealthy (+220% over the 20 last years) but no significant new resources

have been allocated to eradicate poverty, respond to climate and environmental challenges or to invest in a great transition toward more sustainable societies.

Looking ahead

This short assessment is a call for increased mobilization and joint action to achieve real strategic and sustainable changes in the real life of billions of real women and men affected by the current politics, policies and status-quo of the international community. There is an increasing feeling and perception among public opinion that the international 'affairs' are led by an undemocratic economic, institutional and political leadership who resist to pursue the interests of the many, of the majorities (the famous 99%), who call them to respond to the challenges of the planet and to the rights and needs of the present and future generations.

Civil society across the world and CONCORD (as a modest but determined part of it), call for a next decade that delivers promises and expectations of the four fifths of the world population. For the first time in history, human societies have reached the level of knowledge, resources, experience and interdependent relations (networks and collective actions) that allow us to solve the problems the planet and humanity face. This new ambition will also require from CSOs that we fairly review and adapt our strategies for change.

And one of the best ways to achieve these changes is to invest and trust in people's capabilities, aspirations and rights with a clear option for women!

Olivier Consolo – director of CONCORD (2003-2013)

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CONCORD MEMBERS

At the end of 2012

AS	Associate Member	
NP	National Platform	
NW	Network	
NW	Action Aid International	www.actionaid.org
NW	ADRA	www.adra.org
AS	ALDA	www.alda-europe.eu
NW	APRODEV	www.aprodev.eu
NP	Austria: Globale Verantwortung	www.globaleverantwortung.at
NP	CONCORD Belgium	www.concordeurope.org/belgium-concord
NP	Bulgaria: BPID	www.bpid.eu
NW	CARE International	www.care-international.org
NW	Caritas Europa	www.caritas-europa.org
NW	CBM International	www.cbm.org
NW	CIDSE	www.cidse.org
NP	Cyprus: CYINDEP	www.cyindep.eu
NP	Czech Republic: FoRS	www.fors.cz
NP	CONCORD Denmark	www.concorddanmark.dk
NP	Estonia: AKU	www.terveilm.net
NW	EU-CORD	www.eucord.org
NW	Eurostep	www.eurostep.org
NP	Finland: Kehys	www.kehys.fi
NP	France: Coordination SUD	www.coordinationsud.org
NP	Germany: VENRO	www.venro.org
NP	Greece: Hellenic Platform	www.dev-ngos.gr
NP	Hungary: HAND	www.hand.org.hu
NW	IPPF European Network	www.ippfen.org
NW	Islamic Relief Worldwide	www.islamic-relief.com
NW	Handicap International	www.handicapinternational.be
NP	Ireland: Dochas	www.dochas.ie
NP	CONCORD Italia	www.ongitaliane.org
NP	Latvia: Lapas	www.lapas.lv
NP	Lithuania: LU	www.litdea.eu / www.pagalba.org
NP	Luxembourg: Cercle	www.cercle.lu
NP	Malta: SKOP	www.skopmalta.org
NP	Netherlands: Partos	www.partos.nl
NW	Oxfam International	www.oxfam.org/en/eu/
NW	Plan International	www.plan-eu.org
NP	Poland: Grupa Zagranica	www.zagranica.org.pl
NP	Portugal: Plataforma ONGD	www.plataformaongd.pt
NP	Romania: FOND	www.fondromania.org
NW	Save the Children International	www.savethechildren.org
NP	Slovakia: MVRO	www.mvro.sk
NP	Slovenia: SLOGA	www.sloga-platform.org
NW	Solidar	www.solidar.org
NP	Spain: Coordinadora ONGD	www.coordinadoraongd.org
NP	CONCORD Sweden	www.concord.se
NW	Terres des hommes IF	www.terredeshommes.org
NP	United Kingdom: BOND	www.bond.org.uk
NW	World Vision International	www.wvi.org
AS	World Wide Fund for Nature	www.wwf.eu

Acronyms

ACP	Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific
AidWatch	Working group and process of monitoring official European development aid
ALDE	Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (European Parliament)
AU	African Union
BACG	Better Aid coordination group
CAN EUROPE	Climate Action Network Europe, European network on climate change and energy
CODEV	Development working group of the Council of the European Union
CPA	Cotonou Partnership Agreement
CSCG	Civil Society Contact Group
CSO	Civil society Organisation
CTA	ACP-EU Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
DCI	The European Commission's Development Cooperation Instrument
DEAR	Development Education and Awareness Raising
DEEEP	"Developing Europeans' Engagement for the Eradication of Global Poverty", project by the CONCORD DARE Forum
DEVE	Development Committee of the European Parliament
DG	Directorate-general of the Commission
DG DEVCO	European Commission, Directorate General for Development and Cooperation – Europe Aid
EC	European Commission
EDF	European Development Fund
EEAS	European External Actions Service of the European Commission
EIDHR	European Instrument for Democracy & Human Rights
EPAs	Economic Partnership Agreements
EPAN	Enlargement, Pre-Accession and Neighbourhood
EU	European Union
EP	European Parliament
EPP	Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats),(European Parliament)
EPLO	European Peace-building Liaison Office
EUROPEAID	The European Commission's EuropeAid cooperation office
EVF	Evert Vermeer Foundation
FDR	CONCORD working group on funding for development and relief NGOs
GA	General Assembly
GDI	Gross domestic income (formerly GDP gross domestic product)
GCAP	Global Call to Action Against Poverty
HLF4 BUSAN	4 th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, Busan South Korea 29 Nov-1 Dec 2011
INTA	International Trade committee of the European Parliament
ISG	International Steering Groups
JEGs	EU-AU experts' groups
JPA	EU/ACP Joint Parliamentary Assembly
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MEPs	Members of the European Parliament
MTR	Mid-term Review
NGO/NGDO	Non-governmental organisation (NGDOs: development and humanitarian aid NGOs)
NP	National platform (national association of development NGOs)
NSA/LA	Non State Actors/Local Authorities
NW	Network of NGOs
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

PCD	Policy coherence for development
PPE	Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) and European Democrats (European Parliament)
S&D	Group of Socialists and Democrats (European Parliament).
REDD	Reduced emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.
TRIALOG	Project to strengthen civil society organisations (CSOs) in the enlarged EU for active engagement in global development.
UNGASS	United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS

INTRODUCTION

About CONCORD

CONCORD is the sole European Confederation of Development and Relief NGOs. Its national associations and international networks represent over 2000 NGOs which are supported by millions of citizens across Europe.

CONCORD leads reflection and political actions and regularly engages in dialogue with the European institutions and other civil society organisations. It is part of the Global Call to Action against Poverty, Open Forum for CSO Development effectiveness, and Spring Alliance.

Mission, vision, aims, approaches

CONCORD's vision is of a world in which poverty and inequality have been ended; in which decisions are based on social justice, gender equality and upon our responsibility to future generations; where every person has the right to live in dignity, on an equal basis, free from poverty and sustainably.

CONCORD's mission is implemented by CONCORD members who work together to ensure that:

- The EU and Member States are fully committed to comprehensive policies and practices which that promote sustainable economic, social and human development, aim to address the causes of poverty, and are based on human rights, gender equality, justice and democracy;
- The rights and responsibilities of citizens and organised civil society, to influence those representing them in governments and EU institutions, are promoted and respected.

CONCORD's main aims are:

- To influence the EU's policies and practices so that the Union and its Member States enhance social justice, equality and human rights throughout the world.
- To promote the rights and responsibilities of citizens, development NGOs and, where relevant to CONCORD's influencing agenda, civil society as a whole - to act in solidarity with those living in poverty and to influence their representatives in governments and EU institutions.

Six approaches underlines CONCORD strategy:

- Human rights and gender equality will underpin all our advocacy work.
- Strengthening CONCORD's political engagement with the institutions.
- Developing strategic alliances with Southern, European and Global coalitions.
- Supporting the organisational development of CONCORD's members.
- Ensuring that CONCORD collective decision-making combines efficiency with confederation ownership, and supports active participation of all members in CONCORD activities.
- Basing CONCORD work on members' energies, supported by a secretariat; balance our income sources to ensure our independence and sustainability, and manage finances prudently.

CONCORD structural changes in 2012

Board, staff and members

Board: Joanna Maycock (ActionAid) was elected CONCORD president in 2012, replacing Justin Kilcullen (Irish national platform). Rudy de Meyer (Belgium national platform), Marina Sarli (Greek national platform) and Glen Tarman (UK national platform) were elected to join the Board, replacing Gerard Karlshausen (Belgium national platform) and Ad Ooms (Dutch national platform), whose mandate had ended.

Secretariat: The Secretariat is led by the Director, with support from the Management Team.

The policy team is responsible for all policies of CONCORD - under both Pillar 1 (“what we say”) and Pillar 2 (“who we are”). There are two Policy Coordinators (AidWatch, PCD) and four policy officers.

The membership and communications team is responsible for membership, communications, and capacity building.

The administrative department is comprised of a finance and resources coordinator, a finance officer, a human resources officer and an office & events assistant. This team is led by a Finance and Administrative Coordinator.

Other policy support is provided by short term professional placements and interns – with the support of their universities – and through clear Memorandum of Understanding between CONCORD and the academic institute.

Membership: With the Lithuanian national platform LU joining CONCORD in 2012, all 27 EU member states are now covered in CONCORD membership. WWF joined as associate member.

CONCORD bodies/Working structures

In 2012, the existing working structures continued to deliver on the priorities of CONCORD, which is presented in detail in the following pages. Furthermore, a Private Sector Task Force was set up, and a European Task Force on Beyond 2015 integrated in the CONCORD work, whilst also being part of the Beyond 2015 campaign. An Annual Planning Commission was in charge of work on next year’s priorities. In addition, two projects contributed to CONCORD work in the reporting year:

- DEEEP (“Developing Europeans’ Engagement for the Eradication of global Poverty”) is a three-year project, co-funded by the European Commission, and aiming at strengthening the capacities of NGOs to raise awareness, educate and mobilise the European public for worldwide poverty eradication and social inclusion. The project was initiated by the DARE Forum (development education working group – former DEF) in 2003, and was managed by a consortium of 5 European NGOs (Plan Finland, Oxfam Italia, ITECO, Think Global and HAND). The project ended in September 2012. A follow-up project DEEEP4 has been granted support by the EC and shall start in 2013. More information on DEEEP and its activities are available on: <http://www.deeep.org>

- TRIALOG aims at strengthening civil society and raising awareness of development issues in the enlarged European Union. Global networking and exchange are key elements of all TRIALOG activities and contribute to a stronger involvement of CSOs from EU12 (EU member states after 2004) and accession countries in Global Learning and Development Cooperation. The EC funded project started in March 2000 and is in its fifth phase (2012-2015). All development CSO platforms of EU12 countries and Croatia are partners in TRIALOG. For more information see: <http://www.trialog.or.at>

General assembly:

The June General Assembly 2012 welcomed into the CONCORD constituency one new member, the Lithuanian national platform LU, and one associate member, WWF. This brought CONCORD membership to 27 national associations and 18 international networks, plus 2 associate members.

In the context of annual part-renewal of the Board Rudy de Meyer (Belgium NP), Marina Sarli (Greek NP) and Glen Tarman (UK NP) were elected to join the Board. Joanna Maycock (ActionAid) replaced Justin Kilcullen as CONCORD president.

On formal matters, the General Assembly unanimously adopted the 2011 report on the work of CONCORD, approved the financial report, and a new membership fee system, based on self-selected amounts.

1. CONCORD ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2012, CORRESPONDING TO THE SET AIMS

AIM1: INFLUENCING THE EUROPEAN UNION

CONCORD aims to influence the EU's policies and practices so that the Union and its Member States enhance social justice, equality and human rights throughout the world. To influence policies and practices, CONCORD draws upon its Engagement Strategy with EU institutions to identify and target key decision makers as well as decision making bodies. This often means a multi-pronged approach that draws on the strength of CONCORD as a Confederation – using National Platforms to push at national levels on EU issues, using Networks and Brussels-based organisations to push at the European level, and drawing on CONCORD's good working relationships with the Development Committee of the EU Council, with Parliamentarians, and with key officials at different levels. Equally important is CONCORD's use of the experience and expertise of its members and bringing this into policy discussions, and using other tools – research, publications etc – to influence policy.

1.1.1. Holding the EU and its Member States to account

EU Presidencies

The Treaty of Lisbon has reduced the importance of the Presidency significantly, by officially separating the European Council (EU heads of state or government) from the Council of the European Union, thus terminating the capacity of the head of state or government of the member state holding the Presidency to be President of the European Council. Simultaneously it split the foreign affairs Council configuration from the General Affairs configuration and made the High Representative the chairperson, and this role is no longer played by the foreign minister of the Presidency country. In the current EU constitutional framework, the Council of the EU retains the task to actively engage in negotiating legislation among member states and among the EU Council and the European Parliament, although the most difficult dossiers are subsumed by the President of the European Council.

What CONCORD wants

- EU to push its priorities to the Presidencies of the European Union and to request regular meetings with the Development Ministers so that the voice of civil society is heard;
- To stress the necessity of effective dialogue between the European institutions and the Civil Society organisations, transparency and NGO access to Council documents.

What CONCORD has done

- struggled to have the same level of access – at Council and Development Minister levels – as it has had in the past. In previous years, CONCORD has been invited to present at the informal council of development ministers. However, since 2011 this has not happened anymore;
- continued to use Council and Head of States meetings as an opportunity to push on its messaging, but regretted the lack of direct access to Ministers;
- Advocated for a wide range of policies and processes, such as the next MFF, the post-2015 agenda, the role of the civil society in development, the role of the private sector in development, food security and others. The platform organised several large awareness raising activities as well as seminars, conferences and advocacy meetings, and was actively involved in the European Development Days.

Quantity of aid

In 2005, EU Member States committed themselves to the collective goal of devoting 0.56% of their gross domestic product (GDP) to official development assistance (ODA) by 2010, while by 2015 they are collectively due to reach the goal of 0.7%.

Individually, the 15 older Member States committed to reach 0.51% by 2010 and 0.7% by 2015, whereas the 12 newer MS have promised to achieve 0.17% by 2010 and 0.33% by 2015.

What CONCORD wants

- agreeing on realistic and binding actions by the EU and its Member States to reach collectively the aid target of 0.7% ODA/GNI by 2015 and be held accountable for meeting this commitment through an Annual Report to the European Council;
- ensuring that the EU provides genuine resources for development which are available to partner countries to invest in development and poverty reduction by:
 - Ending inflation of aid budgets with refugee costs, imputed student costs and debt relief;
 - Ensuring that climate finance is additional to ODA and primarily supports vulnerable countries' and populations' urgent adaptation needs;
- ensuring that the current definition of ODA is retained until 2015 and show strong leadership in the preparations for agreeing the post-2015 global development agenda that will build on the MDGs.

What CONCORD has done in 2012

- published its annual AidWatch report. The report was launched ahead of the European Council in June during which the Heads of States agreed on the Council Conclusions of the Second Annual Report to the European Council on EU Development Aid Targets. The publication was launched simultaneously across Europe by many CONCORD members and in Brussels accompanied by a media stunt;
- the Development Commissioner welcomed both the first report and the special report in his blog;
- increased the media impact with analysis of the DAC OECD preliminary aid figures in April;
- published a reaction to the EU Accountability Report 2012 which was presented at the European Parliament during the meeting of the Development Committee;
- organised Annual AidWatch Seminar in November, of which a full day was dedicated to future of aid and financing for development.;

Aid effectiveness

For aid to have a long-lasting impact in improving poor people's lives, the quality of EU development assistance is no less important than its quantity. In 2005 European governments, together with developing countries and international organisations, endorsed the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the first comprehensive international agreement on how to manage official development assistance (ODA) more efficiently and effectively. In December 2012 CONCORD AidWatch published a special report in time for the first anniversary of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (the follow-up agreement to the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action), which was launched in December 2011 at the Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF4) in the South Korean city of Busan.

What CONCORD wants

- EU and its Member States must fully implement the international aid and development effectiveness commitments made in Paris, Accra and Busan. Busan complements Paris and Accra; the unmet commitments must be implemented, as requested by the EU's partner countries;
- EU's legally binding focus on poverty eradication and human rights, as both the rationale for and the aims of EU development cooperation, must not weaken. On the contrary, it is past time to achieve these aims fully in the practice of EU development cooperation and aid allocation;
- EU should endorse a Union-wide development cooperation effectiveness plan, which needs to be designed in line with several key goals, including: to fully align EC and EU member states with Busan principles and commitments; to revamp the full implementation of Paris and Accra, and to create clear lines of responsibility for the implementation of global commitments. The plan should include an implementation mechanism at country level, and should be backed up by effective incentives or sanctions to ensure compliance by all EU member states;

- EU needs to take an ambitious stand on the new Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation by making use of participation in steering committee and ministerial-level meetings to keep development cooperation high on the agenda and push the process forward by being proactive at international level. The European Commission, as sole European representative, has an obligation to consult continuously with both governmental and non-governmental development actors across Europe.

What CONCORD has done in 2012

- Published a Special AidWatch report in December 2012 providing assessment of the effectiveness of the EU development cooperation on the first anniversary of the Busan Partnership Agreement on Effective Development Cooperation;
- Constantly advocated for improvements in the quality of aid alongside the call for reaching aid quantity targets;
- beyond the national and European level, CONCORD was also engaged in the international aid effectiveness agenda, as an active member of the global CSO alliance “Better Aid” and of its Coordinating Group (BACG). Through the BACG, the CONCORD AidWatch working group was engaged in the last meeting of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness of the OECD in June and at the first meeting of the Steering Committee of the Global Partnership on Effective Development Cooperation. CONCORD contributed to the preparation of BetterAid/CPDE position papers;
- Renewal of the Aidwatch Steering Committee.

Shaping the 11th EDF towards the building of new EU-ACP relations

2012 was marked by the discussions on the negotiations of the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) decided in parallel to the next EU multi-financial framework (2014-2020). The EDF is the main European financial instrument for the implementation of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement between EU and ACP countries and is a key poverty eradication instrument as most LDCs are located in the ACP group. As this legal framework is due to end in 2020, the Cotonou WG proactively engages with institutions and CSO partners in the EU and ACP to discuss their changing and future relation. One important highlight is that discussions between the EU and ACP countries are being dominated by the Economic Partnership Agreements, their ratification and implementation, which make clear that economy is the driving principle of the EU partnership with ACP countries.

What CONCORD wants

- the fundamental principles and the spirit of the Cotonou agreement to be preserved; moreover, the principles of equal partnership, democratic ownership and transparent dialogue should be put into practice;
- the 11th EDF to be negotiated in the framework of an effective global aid and development strategy that allows the ACP states to gradually free themselves from aid;
- full involvement of all concerned actors in the programming process of the 11th EDF. Concerning the WG programming must be done based on identifying the priorities of ACP partner countries and their populations. Therefore, in addition, it also means strengthening the capacities of CSOs to monitor and engage on public policies through the allocation of targeted and sufficient resources;
- new assessments of the benefits of EPAs which takes into account the current benefits of preferential market access to the EU and the global economic developments of the past ten years;
- the ACP governments to strengthen their solidarity in international negotiations as well as their commitment to regional integration processes in order to build dynamic economic and commercial spaces that allow the creation of value added chains and decent employment for their populations;

What CONCORD has done in 2012

- The Cotonou working group participated in the EU-ACP Joint Parliamentary Assemblies in Horsens (spring) and in Paramaribo (autumn): a lunch debate was organised generating public debate while providing parliamentarians from EU and ACP side with CSOs perspectives; a stand was held during the JPAs to have a contact point for EU and

ACP officials, and to ensure the dissemination of policy documents; a capacity-building workshop for ACP civil society participants was organised. In Horsens the focus was on the challenges for the 11th EDF, looking at the Agenda for Change and trade relations. In Paramaribo advocacy focused on EU-ACP relations on the verge of change with a special focus on the next MFF, the importance of civil society participation at the programming exercise of the 11th EDF the differentiation principle, the 20% benchmark for basic social services and the current negotiations and implementation of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA). The group also organised a capacity building workshop with local CSOs on how to advocate towards their target groups.¹

- Policy and thematic briefings (in French and in English) were produced and updated, and used for advocacy and capacity-building with the EU-ACP institutions, the EC, the EEAS and the EP. Broad spectrums of thematic were covered, with a specific focus on EU-ACP relations.
- Regular dialogue was held with the European institutions: EEAS, DEVCO and the European Parliament and ACP secretariat.
- In close cooperation with MEP Patrice Tirolien, rapporteur on the next EDF for the European Parliament, CONCORD Cotonou Working Group co-organised a multi-stakeholders high-level debate in November to discuss the implications of the 11th EDF in the framework of the Agenda for Change, where Commissioner for development, the Secretary General of the ACP Secretariat, MEPs, the Chief Operating Officer of the EEAS as well as the President of Concord were present. The group continues its collaboration with the office of MEP Tirolien regarding its report on the EDF by providing expertise, evidence and arguments upon request of the MEP.
- Synergies with other CONCORD working groups were built in order to strengthen advocacy messages and avoid overlapping notably on the programming and the MFF advocacy work.

HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis

At the 2011 UN General Assembly High Level Meeting on AIDS, the European Commission and EU Member States worked closely together to ensure that the Political Declaration on AIDS included new commitments and bold new targets which will create momentum in the AIDS response. The Political Declaration reaffirmed the full realisation of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all as an essential element in the global response to the HIV epidemic, including in the areas of prevention, treatment, care and support. By signing the Political Declaration, the EU and its Member States also committed to “redouble efforts to achieve, by 2015, universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support as a critical step towards ending the global HIV epidemic.”

Collectively, the European Commission and the EU Member States have contributed substantial financial resources to the global AIDS response in the last decade. The EU is the largest donor to the Global Fund, having provided 52% of its resources in the last decade. However, after the ‘European Programme for Action to Confront HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis through External Action 2007–2011’ (PfA) came to its end, the Commission hasn’t got any policy in place to guide its contribution to the AIDS response. The Commission is now set to prepare a programme for action to implement its Communication on the EU Role in Global Health, which will address the three diseases along with other health priorities.

What CONCORD wants

EU should scale up political and financial commitment for sustainable impact on HIV/AIDS, Malaria and TB by:

- developing a renewed and updated strategy and operational plan on HIV and AIDS in external action aimed at honouring the commitments on HIV and human rights it made when signing the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS;
- prioritising support for human rights-based HIV programming. It should consolidate technical coordination between the different aid instruments, including through long-term investment to support the capacity development of non-

¹ More exhaustive assessments, minutes and reports can be provided by the group,

governmental organisations working to serve the needs of vulnerable and marginalised populations. It should also demand accountability and sensitivity from the health sector;

- strengthening political and financial support for research and development for new preventive technologies;
- supporting the strengthening of health and social protection systems and solving the crisis of human resources for health through contributing to better alignment of financing mechanisms with other donors and by promoting adequate fiscal space for social sectors;
- pursuing greater policy coherence to meaningfully contribute to the realisation of the right to health. In particular, the EU should not impose any provisions in free trade agreements with third countries that limit access to essential medicines;

What CONCORD has done

- advocated for the development of an EU Programme for Action on Global Health to implement the Communication on the EU Role in Global Health (2010), which should now be adopted in early 2013;
- gave input in several policy processes, including the Agenda for Change, the communications on social protection and on the role of CSOs in development as well as on the new EU research framework “Horizon 2020”;
- raised several parliamentary questions to the European Commission on the EU commitment towards the global AIDS response, notably at the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly and on World AIDS Day.

Neighbourhood and Pre-accession

The year 2012 was marked by important milestones in the EU Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy requiring commitment and determination from the EU to respond to the fast - changing situation in the region. A number of significant EU policy developments relevant to the region took place. In May the European Neighbourhood Package was launched to assess the first year of implementation of the new Neighbourhood policy approach. It also proposed a roadmap to give further impetus to the implementation of the Eastern Partnership. In October the EU released its Enlargement package – an annual assessment of the challenges in the enlargement process and progress achieved by individual countries in the enlargement policy area. This package contained a Strategy Paper which identified a number of key challenges and proposed innovative approaches to meet them and too maintain the momentum of reforms in partner countries and of the enlargement process. Finally, in October, the EU launched a Joint Communication on the EU Support for Sustainable Change in Transition Societies which addressed the issue of transition and suggested a number of measures and EU support to developing countries to a significant extent based on the lessons drawn from the EU’s Enlargement and Neighbourhood policy.

What CONCORD wants:

Through its working group on Enlargement, Pre-Accession and Neighbourhood (EPAN), CONCORD works to influence from a development perspective the civil society dimension and impact policy development on relevant issues in the EU Enlargement and Neighbourhood policy area. Currently the group includes more than 60 members representing civil society organisations and networks from the EU and partner countries. In 2012, the CONCORD’s EPAN-related objectives were:

- Respond to the evolution of the relevant EU policy & instruments (e.g. the European Neighbourhood and Pre-Accession assistance instruments);
- Respond to political change in the region, including the on-going repercussions of the Arab Spring.

What CONCORD has done

- The EPAN working group had a meeting in the first half of 2012, with participation of EU and other external stakeholders. During the meeting preparations were made for the transition process of the EPAN group since TRIALOG was stepping down from its convenor role from September 2012. After numerous discussions between the EPAN steering group, TRIALOG, CONCORD board and secretariat about the future of the working group, the

CONCORD board declared its support to the group and the secretariat assisted EPAN in strengthening its linkages with other CONCORD working structures.

- The group has done well in the course its re-organisation. In October 2012, a new Brussels-based convener has been appointed. The Steering group of EPAN maintains regular contact and holds frequent conference calls.
- Collaboration was enhanced with local alliances and networks from the EPAN region. Communication and ties with the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum were intensified and put on a regular basis. Cooperation continued with the Balkan Civil Society Development Network (BCSDN).
- CONCORD has included the EPAN perspective in its contribution to the EC consultations as part of the preparation of the Communication on CSOs in Development – June 2012.
- EPAN has participated in various EU coordination & consultation meetings as well as in regional civil society fora for the Eastern Partnership and Western Balkans regions.
- Communication with the EU Commissioner for Enlargement and his cabinet continued with the exchange of official letters
- A number of communications with and submission of EPAN positions to members of the European Parliament and representatives of EU Member States on topics related to development cooperation and civil society development in the EPAN region have also taken place.
- EPAN working group was involved in the CONCORD's new strategic and operational planning process and supported the setting of the common basis for and the introduction of the system to test and implement them.
- EPAN has been represented in the two conveners' fora and other working structures' events and meetings (e.g. Policy Forum). Furthermore, progress has been made in improving coherence and coordination with other CONCORD entities and with EPAN's participation in and cooperation with other working groups (e.g. EPAN work on MFF programming in cooperation with MFF, PCD, and ODA)

1.1.2. Influencing external and domestic policies and practices

Policy Coherence for development: some political gains in 2012

Policy Coherence for Development (PCD) is about ensuring that the external impacts of other – internal and external – policies of the European Union (EU) do not undermine the aims and objectives of EU development co-operation. There is no point in the EU pursuing policies that have a particular goal if it also pursues policies which contradict that goal. Improved coherence is also very important for ensuring the effective use of Community resources and good governance, as well as for the credibility of the EU in general.

The principle of coherence is supported by successive treaties of the European Union since 1993 as well as by the European Consensus on Development. Development co-operation alone cannot meet the needs of developing countries. In recognition of this, in 2005, the EU identified PCD as a key concept in achieving poverty eradication and advancing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Since 2005, both the European Commission and the Member States have made important commitments to improving the coherence of national and EU policies. However, despite increasing awareness of the potentially harmful external impact of some European policies on people in developing countries, these policies are all too often inconsistent with the EU's broader and longer-term economic, social and political interests in the world. Doing no harm at home might be in conflict with development prospects abroad. Doing some good at home will not be enough to prevent the – perhaps unintended – counterproductive effects of domestic policies on development efforts in developing countries.

CONCORD issues a report entitled “Spotlight on EU Policy Coherence for Development” every two years since 2009 and carries out policy and advocacy work on both PCD as a concept, strategy and tool, as well as on PCD issues within different thematic policy areas (agriculture, energy, migration, etc).

What CONCORD wants

- stronger political will from the highest governance level in the EU and the Member States to make PCD a reality. Commission President Barroso, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Ashton, Development Commissioner Piebalgs and the other Commissioners must unequivocally stand for PCD;
- active co-ordination and moulding of policymaking processes with the aim of identifying and prioritizing synergies between EU policies that are likely to have a positive impact on sustainable development and Human Rights;
- pro-poor and sustainable development objectives to prevail over short-term, narrow or elite European interests;
- evidence-based, participative and transparent policy making to ensure that policy-makers capture the reality of the (intended and unintended) impacts of EU policies. Accountability for policy-making as well as policy impact is needed. Accountability is towards EU tax-payers (for the spending of public money in incoherent policies) and towards partner developing countries;
- existing tools and new mechanisms to be developed and budget for their implementation, in particular, more systematic development impact monitoring as well as ex-ante and ex-post impact assessments. Adequate mechanisms and dialogue should be in place to enable individuals and their representative organisations affected by EU policies in the South to be heard by EU policy-makers. The European External Action Service and EU delegations have a specific role to play in implementing PCD obligation and monitoring the impact of EU policies in developing countries through a dialogue with local stakeholders, including CSOs;
- revision of harmful and incoherent policies;

What CONCORD has done

- continued raising awareness on PCD to different stakeholders by presenting the 2011 Spotlight report: presentation at the European Parliament Development Committee, special event during the CSO Forum co-organised by CONCORD and La Mesa de Articulación in Chile, presentations at several conferences (e.g. Convergences 2015 in Paris);
- the full or parts of the Spotlight report were translated into more languages in 2012, including Spanish and Italian;
- continued a constructive dialogue with DG DEVCO PCD unit;
- initiated a dialogue with the EEAS on PCD, including during a CONCORD meeting with Catherine Ashton;
- carried out intense lobbying around the May Foreign Affairs Council, including a mass lobby of Permanent Representations in March during the CONCORD PCD annual seminar, and obtained the adoption of separate Council Conclusions which echo our demands for more evidence-based PCD and more dialogue on policy impact at country level, facilitated by EU delegations;
- contributed to the consultations of the outgoing MEP standing rapporteur on PCD for her report, which eventually includes a lot of CONCORD points; and initiated dialogue with the new MEP standing rapporteur on PCD; PCD was also on the agenda of the CONCORD meeting with the DEVE committee political coordinators;
- participated in the OECD meetings for the PCD focal points of the OECD Member States
- PCD was a core element in several major policy documents of CONCORD produced this year such as contribution to the EC’s consultation on the post-2015 framework and MFF positions. A chapter on PCD was also prepared for the background document for the special event on private sector.

Trade and Development

EU trade policy has major implications for developing countries around the world. The multiple food, financial and economic crises starkly reveal the extent to which current dominant market incentives have failed to deliver a type of development that is equitable or socially, environmentally and economically sustainable.

The European Commission outlined its new 10 years trade strategy with the publication of the Communication on “Trade, Growth and Development: Tailoring Trade and Investment Policy for Those Countries Most in Need”, in January 2012. The Communication was followed by the adoption of Council Conclusions on Trade, Growth and Development in the March 2012 FAC.

What CONCORD wants

- Concord regrets that both Trade Commissioners in their attempt to differentiate the treatment for emerging developing countries are excluding a large number of vulnerable middle income countries. No developing country whether classified as low or high middle income should be excluded automatically from the Generalised scheme of preferences; which must remain accessible to all developing countries;
- Concord regrets that the Communication on Trade, Growth and Development does not tackle important incoherencies of the EU’s Trade policy with the EU’s development goals;
- the EC should tailor its trade policy more to the need of the weakest countries. This is not the case now, as the experience of the EPA negotiations has shown. The EC rather tries to make them fit the EU’s standard trade approach;
- Concord calls for a transparent, inclusive trade policy towards development countries which is the result of a common effort to identify the trade measures that are really focused on development needs and the fulfilment of fundamental human rights;
- ACP countries must not be put under pressure to conclude EPAs. The market access offered under Market Access Regulation 1528 must be maintained as long as negotiations continue.

What CONCORD has done

- Concord’s Trade Reference group organised a roundtable in February, gathering Member State representatives from the Council’s Trade Policy Committee and Civil Society for an informal exchange of views on the Communication on Trade, Growth and Development;
- the group participated in consultations organised by the European Parliament and fed into the EP’s Development Committee report ‘Advancing Development through Trade’;
- included remarks, analysis, and recommendations on trade and development issues in its policy reactions to institutional documents;

The impact of policies on global Food Security

Feeding the world is less a technical than a political problem. It is poverty rather than food shortages that are keeping close to one billion people hungry. The solution starts therefore with increasing the purchasing power of the hungry, 80% of whom are engaged in farming activities. Thus the key question leaders must answer is not how to produce more food to meet tomorrow’s demands from a growing world population, but: who will produce more food? Another vital question is how to produce more responsibly given the global environmental challenges relating to climate change and the preservation of natural resources. Key to both answers are smallholder farmers. And supporting smallholder farmers to produce food sustainably and sell it at remunerative price is also central to building viable local economies in developing countries.

The European Food Security Group is leading CONCORD work on food security, in collaboration with the groups on trade and on Policy Coherence for Development. Like every two year since 2008, trade and food security groups organised the Forum on Food, Agriculture, Trade and Environment (FATE). In 2012, the reform process of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) towards 2013 has continued, offering opportunities to question its negative impact on developing countries' agriculture and food security.

What CONCORD wants

- EU agricultural and food related policies to protect the right to food, adopt a human rights based approach and comply with the obligation of Policy Coherence for Development;
- EU support for food security to be targeted at small-holder farmers, particularly women; to empower them and their organisations in policy formulation, implementation, and monitoring as well as to claim their rights; support research and extension systems that promote agro-ecological production methods and safeguard biodiversity; support producers to have access on beneficial terms to diversified, local, regional and international markets; and to align with national and regional country investment plans;
- a thorough monitoring of the external impact of those EU policies that affect food security in developing countries (i.e. agriculture, trade, energy, climate change, research);
- proper implementation of the 2010 EU Food Security Policy Framework and alignment of all other EU's (international) commitments relating to food security with this Framework's analysis and pillars;
- EU to ensure and monitor that the UN Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land is respected across all relevant policies;
- EU to collaborate to improve governance, transparency and oversight of global food markets at both international and domestic level;

What CONCORD has done

- actively engaged in the preparation of the civil society Forum ahead of the 39th session of the Committee on World Food Security CFS in Rome; and lobbied the EU to defend pro-smallholder positions in the CFS, especially with regard to the Global Strategic Framework, the land tenure Voluntary Guidelines, social protection and responsible agricultural investments.
- facilitated dialogue in the Western European branch of the Civil Society Mechanism for relations with the CFS and production of recommendations to EU on issues relating to the CFS agenda;
- lobbied DG DEVCO and the Head of Agriculture and Rural Development Departments in the Member States for accelerated move towards the adoption of the EU Implementation Plan of the 2010 EU Food Security Policy Framework on Food Security;
- continued lobbying MEPs in both committees on development and agriculture on the reform of the Common Agriculture Policy, and obtained that the DEVE opinion report reflected a number of CONCORD demands;
- organised brainstorming amongst CONCORD members, leading to possible future advocacy work on resilience and nutrition;
- held the third Forum FATE on the topic of agricultural investments, which gathered CONCORD members, partners from other CSO networks in Europe and representatives of African farmers' organisations;
- organised a High Level Panel event, entitled 'Promoting Biofuels, creating scarcity', at the 2013 European Development Days. The event scrutinised the EU's Biofuels policy from the perspective of Policy Coherence for Development. Experts from EU institutions, NGOs, and the private sector confronted their views.

Migration and development

The EU's competence in the areas of migration policy and development policy are different. Moreover, EU Member States also have their own historical privileged or preferred relations with third countries, generating parallel bilateral agreements.

This complex institutional situation is conducive to a lack of coherence of European (EU and national) policies vis-à-vis the development objectives set in the EU Treaties.

The 2005 EU Global Approach to Migration was reviewed in 2012 (adding “Mobility” to the title) and sets out the EU’s approach to migration and development. The European Union claims that it aims to minimise the negative effects of migration for the benefit of both recipient countries and the migrants’ countries of origin and to make migration a positive factor for development. However, the debate on migration and development in the EU is more oriented towards preventing migration to Europe and creating incentives for countries of origin to manage and control migration than towards extending to third countries’ nationals the freedom of movement.

‘Making migration work for development’ is one of the five ‘global challenges’ retained by the European Commission in its Work Programme for PCD for the period 2010-2013.

What CONCORD wants

- EU to adopt a systematic migrants-centred, human rights-based approach in migration policies, including in the Mobility Partnerships, that are compliant with the obligation of Policy Coherence for Development;
- EU to end conditionalities to EU aid related to migration flow control. It should mainstream migration into its development strategies and programmes;
- increased level of flexibility in labour migration policies and practices to facilitate real mobility for both highly and low-skilled migrant workers, through flexible residency and extension of the possibilities of multi-entry visas; the recognition of foreign qualifications of migrants; balanced measures to avoid exacerbating brain drain, including through binding measures for the ethical recruitment of migrant workers in social sectors;
- measures to enhance the portability of pensions and social rights of migrants’ workers;
- broaden the role of CSOs and diaspora in the formulation and implementation of migration and development policies;
- EU policies to better address the linkages between migrants’ social inclusion, non discrimination and integration strategies for the benefit of the countries of destination and countries of origin;
- EU Member States to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers & Families.

What CONCORD has done

- facilitated information sharing amongst CONCORD members within the caucus on migration and development;
- continued contributing to the cross-European CSO contact group on migration and development, that produced a joint letter of recommendations on the revision of the GAMM;
- presented in the European Parliament’s development committee CONCORD’s views on the future financing instruments relating to migration and asylum.

Human Security

The security and development agenda materialised at EU level with the Council Conclusions on Security and Development and again on EU response to situations of fragility in 2007. They stem from the recognition that “there cannot be sustainable development without peace and security; and that without development and poverty eradication, there will be no sustainable peace”. However, since then, there has been little progress to put this nexus in practice, while global military spending is on the rise and four EU Member States are on the top ten list of the biggest military spenders.

The EEAS was introduced to help conduct and coordinate the EU’s foreign affairs and security policy. At the same time, the EEAS will be closely involved in aid programming.

What CONCORD wants:

- The EU to adopt rights-based foreign policies and fair and mutually beneficial cooperation with third countries, with human security and justice considered as basic entitlements, and in compliance with the obligation of Policy Coherence for Development;
- EU aid to be based on needs and not driven by regional and global security concerns. There should also be no further erosion of the civilian character of development cooperation and ODA;
- All EU external policies to be conflict-sensitive and adopt a holistic human security concept. Guidelines and monitoring mechanisms should also be established for all public and private investment in developing countries, and in conflict-prone countries in particular;
- Conflict prevention to become central to EEAS interventions;
- The enforcement of EU policy on control of exports of military technology and equipment to be reinforced and the EU should push for legally binding international standards for the import, exports and transfers of conventional weapons.

What CONCORD has done

- facilitated information sharing amongst CONCORD members within an ad hoc group on human security and dialogue with EPLO;
- contributed to the European Commission's dialogue with CSOs and local authorities on fragility;

Natural Resources Management

The EU is one of the actors pursuing aggressive strategies to access resources. Europe is highly reliant on the import of this resource base on which to build its growth and wellbeing. This dependency forms the basis for significant interaction and trade with developing countries and poses both opportunities and challenges in terms of Policy Coherence for Development (PCD).

On the one hand, the EU encourages monetisation and free trade of natural resources. On the other, it recognises the need for this to go in tandem with the abilities of countries to realise their people's rights through adequate transparency, right to information and ultimately rights to food, land, and other natural resources.

What CONCORD wants:

- EU to ensure that policies that assist in driving global trends such as the grabbing of land and water, include strong sustainability criteria that cover both social and environmental aspects equally comprehensively;
- EU to encourage the value-added process of raw materials and natural resources in developing countries;
- instead of promoting the unilateral Raw Materials Initiative as it is today, the EU should support a transparent international process for the world community. The aim should be to address how to cooperate in managing raw materials in order to reduce global over-consumption and transfer knowledge on the sustainable management of resources.

What CONCORD has done

- facilitated information sharing amongst CONCORD members within the task force on raw materials and dialogue with think tanks and environmental organisations involved in the issue.

Private Sector

With the *Agenda for Change* Communication and Council Conclusions came a strong focus on the private sector as an actor in development, yet struggling to ensure sustainability and tackling increasing inequality. EU governments are also looking more and more at the private sector to leverage the limited development funds available and bridge the increasing finance

and investment gap. This leads the EU and its Member States to scaling up public-private partnerships, increasing financial inputs into blending mechanisms and extending the European Investment Bank's external lending mandate.

What CONCORD wants:

Taking into account the above listed trends and the impact they will have on the forward-looking debates focused on the next 7-years EU budget (the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020), the Post-Millennium Development Goals and Rio+20 framework, CONCORD wanted to:

- Set up a one-year reflection process to build capacity and knowledge among its members and search for common ground;
- Prepare an in-depth background paper looking at the private sector topic in a nuanced way;
- Organize a CONCORD Special Event to further increase capacity and raise awareness among members and other CSOs and start the debate with the EU institutions.

What CONCORD has done

- 2012 has been a year of internal debate on the private sector topic within CONCORD. Members were able to give inputs into a consultant-led mapping exercise and could exchange views on various occasions in Policy Forum meetings, a General Assembly discussion, private sector task force meetings and two online webinars.
- On the basis of these discussions, a background paper was drafted and, after multiple commenting rounds, finalized into its final state. Its content however is not written in stone. The paper should be considered an open tool to build capacity, provoke debate and identify common ground.
- On December 10, CONCORD organized a Special Event on the Private Sector and Development. During the first more internal part of the day the background paper was shortly presented and taken forward into break-out group discussions. After the presentation of some related and upcoming processes and CSO plans for the future, participants contributed to the preparation of a CONCORD Roadmap for 2013. During the second part of the day, a High Level Panel '*For Profit or for Rights?*' was organized with panellist from the EEAS, the Commission, the European Investment Bank, Südwind Institute and CICOPA-CECOP.
- At the end of the 2012, CONCORD helped set up the Informal Platform on Private Sector in Development, where CONCORD and its members can exchange knowledge on this broad topic with various other CSOs and think tanks and - where possible - coordinate future advocacy work.
- Finally, in April, CONCORD provided oral and written inputs into the consultation on the EU Platform on External Cooperation and Development, now called the EU Platform for Blending in External Cooperation.

1.1.3. Proactively develop an agenda for the European Union

2012 was marked with several policy processes in which CONCORD had a say and gave its contributions:

- a) The conclusions and first follow up of the Agenda for Change, which is taking a more and more concrete form.
- b) The policy processes on the post-MDG setup, the role of the civil society, the role of local authorities in development, linking relief and development, etc. were of direct relevance;
- c) CONCORD engaged in evaluating the first year of the EEAS' functioning;
- d) 2012 was a key time for the discussions starting around the next EU Multi-annual Financial Framework. Its external action elements were of particular interest to CONCORD;
- e) The EU Policy Forum on Development has been shaping itself, as follow up to structured dialogue.

These discussions have taken place in a very difficult context in 2012, too. Budget cuts at the national level have continued, ending the year in a similarly worrying state.

What CONCORD wants:

- CONCORD welcomed the strong commitment in the Agenda for Change to eradicate poverty, the focus on coordinated EU action at country level and the prominent focus on governance and human rights. It was concerned, however, with some approaches to reducing bilateral support to certain MICs.
- the Agenda for Change should be implemented in a way to revitalise Europe's global influence on poverty eradication. The EU should recognise that growth in unregulated markets does not always translate into inclusive growth without specific policy interventions. Therefore the Agenda for Change should emphasise and support peoples' ability and right to choose and influence their development path rather than presenting a growth model. A focus on economic growth and a reliance on 'trickle down' effects of private sector development alone, without full consideration of environmental impacts and resource constraints, will serve to deliver unsustainable development and will fail to reduce inequality;
- the EC must acknowledge that Europe's global role is also driven by offensive self-interest e.g. in the ACP trade negotiations and the new raw material policy. Policy coherence is therefore not an "add-on" – but a "way of working", which must be in the absolute centre of Europe's development policy objectives. Poverty eradication and Policy coherence are closely linked, as stated in article 208 in the Lisbon treaty. "Our Agenda for Change" must therefore include a strong focus on division of labour with the EC being the driver of Policy Coherence for Development in Europe and among member states;
- the Agenda for Change lacks focus and concrete commitments. The strategy does not outline how it will be implemented and how it will inform and be coherent with the existing work of institutions charged with delivering European development policy and practice. Furthermore, the strategy does not outline how new approaches, such as differentiation, working with the private sector etc will keep Europe focussed on the core aim of poverty reduction. These new approaches should not be implemented without strong evidence that they deliver poverty reduction. Otherwise, Europe is moving away from the commitments it has made to the world's poor.

What CONCORD has done:

- mobilised its members to approach their governments ahead of the Council Conclusions on the Agenda for Change and other policy documents;
- contributed to a range of open consultations;
- took part in the process around the EU Policy Forum on Development;
- worked closely with Commissioner Piebalgs' cabinet on a range of issues, focusing on the post-2015 process;
- held a meeting with Vice President Ms Ashton, discussing the role of the EEAS, the relevance of PCD and other future challenges in development cooperation;
- organised a high level event on the role of the private sector in development;
- held a number of discussions with the Working Party on Development, with the Development Committee of the European Parliament, and at Member State level (through our National Platforms, and through Permanent Representations in Brussels).

Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020

The Multiannual Financial Framework - MFF will define the EU budget from 2014 to 2020. This exercise is of particular importance as it will lock in the EU main policy priorities for 7 years. All aspects of the EU budget are up for negotiation. It is not only the EU budget and the instruments to implement it that are at stake but more broadly the EU integration process and ambitions and the future role of EU in a variety of policy areas including foreign policy, development and climate change. The MFF will thus shape the future of EU development assistance and the credibility of the EU as a major player in international development.

In June 2011, the EC published its general proposal for the 2014-2020 EU Budget. In December 2011 it published its proposal regarding the future funding instruments for external action. In 2012 the European Parliament and the European Council were expected to publish their positions on both the overall MFF and the different instruments. The Parliament

released its position on the Development Cooperation Instrument in September, after which a DCI triologue process was set up to find agreement among the Parliament, Commission and Council, which is still on-going. The Parliament's position on the overall MFF in October came out in October. In November, the European Council was expected to find an agreement on the overall MFF and the different heading figures, but the Summit failed to do so. Discussions on the overall MFF and the DCI triologue process will thus continue in 2013. The new MFF should enter into force on 1 January 2014.

What CONCORD wants:

- the Commission's proposals to increase the EU budget to €96 billion for external action in 2014-2020 to be protected and agreed on by the European Parliament and Member States, thereby ensuring that additional funds going to poverty eradication. We must ensure that in the next MFF sufficient resources are allocated to enable Europe to meet its international commitments, including the MDGs and the 0.7% of GNI target for ODA, and that climate funding is additional to development expenditures;
- to ensure that poverty eradication - the principle objective of development – is the main focus of the Development Cooperation Instrument. Aid effectiveness principles should be respected and the focus on economic growth should not threaten aid to the world's poorest and the support to social sectors such as health and education;
- the EU to ensure that aid is focused on the poorest people and the sectors most in need in the world, thereby not only relying on macro-economic data averaged at the national level which hides the reality of poverty and inequality within countries, but taking into account the multi-dimensional causes of poverty. Aid should not be instrumentalised for EU strategic interests;
- funding for civil society organisations (CSOs) to be increased in the future EU development budget. The EC proposals recognise that CSOs are independent actors in their own right. All institutional actors must recognise that CSOs are key to democratisation and fostering good governance in developing countries while playing a key role in enabling poor populations to defend their rights;

What CONCORD has done

- CONCORD organised a workshop to discuss with members the main issues that were analysed by a consultant who afterwards drafted the CONCORD publication '*Future EU External Action Budget. Focus on Development*'. The publication served as a basis for the '*CONCORD recommendations for the EU 2014-2020 External Action Instruments*' paper. In addition, CONCORD drafted a *Red Lines paper on the DCI* to influence the negotiations on the DCI.
- Through setting up meetings with and sending letters or position papers to European and national decision makers (e.g. all MEPs from the Development and Budget Committees, the Development Committee's DCI report rapporteur, the responsible people within DG Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid, the Council presidency, Heads of State and Government, national government officials working on development or finance, etc.), press releases, an Article in the European Voice '*Aid must not be a budget victim*', tweets, and capacity building of its members, the MFF working group shared CONCORD's main messages on the MFF and the development related instruments. More specifically, the group raised awareness on the importance of sufficient development funding within the overall MFF (focusing on Heading 4, the DCI and the EDF) on the one hand, and on a poverty-focused DCI on the other hand.
- In order to support National Platforms in their national work on the MFF and the DCI, a number of tools were created and shared. The tools varied from updates on the institutional process, an EU Budget fact sheet, an infographic, timelines, a power mapping, a list of all relevant documents from institutional and CONCORD side, template open letters, a media guidance note, position papers, etc. In addition, some of the projects under the Gates subcontracting scheme helped built the capacity and supporting the work of some National Platforms on the MFF and/or DCI. In 2012, 12 national platforms and 2 regional cooperation projects (Baltics and Visegrad countries) have been supported through this subcontracting mechanism.
- CONCORD actively contributed to the Alliances it is a member of (Civil Society Contact Group, Spring Alliance, EU CSO working group) and made sure to include CONCORD messages in their advocacy work by participating in

meetings with the EU institutions (e.g. with the cabinet of Van Rompuy and of the Budget Commissioner, the President of the Parliament, etc.) and contributing to the drafting of joint letters or statements.

Beyond 2015

Beyond2015

Campaigning for a **global development framework**
after the **Millennium Development Goals**

The CONCORD 2009 – 2015 strategy sets out its overall objectives in relation to a post-2015 global development framework: “A CONCORD manifesto, strategy and vision for shaping the development agenda beyond 2015, agreed by the General Assembly as being of high quality”.

On the international level, the UN will lead a process of national, regional and global consultations from 2012, under the auspices of a UN Task Team and a High Level Panel (due to be established after Rio+20 in June 2012). The Rio+20 Summit and the 2013 MDG Summit will be defining moments for the post-2015 process, and it is thus important that Concord members effectively engage with both processes in order to influence the debate.

On the European level, a European political position will be influenced by the 2013 European Report on Development.

What CONCORD wants:

- a post-2015 global framework aimed at both developed and developing countries, and adapted to the roles and responsibilities of each one;
- a comprehensive global framework for the post-2015 period, which not only addresses those crucial policy areas such as development, human rights, trade, finance, security, energy, agriculture, environment, consumption and production patterns, but also the inter-linkages between them;
- a process for the formulation of a post-2015 framework which is open, inclusive, participatory and responsive to the people most affected by poverty and injustice;
- improved policy coherence of the Union’s internal and external policies and used as springboard and catalyst for the post-MDG era;
- ensure that European civil society reaches a common European position on the post-2015 framework in 2012.

What CONCORD has done

- agreed to host the International Secretariat of the Beyond 2015 campaign;
- organised detailed discussions on the post-2015 framework during the 2011 General Assembly and Policy Forum meeting in June;
- created a Beyond 2015 European hub, which aims to create a European civil society position on a post-2015 development framework in 2013;
- organised a panel on the post-2015 framework at the European Development Days in Warsaw in December 2011;
- CONCORD members in Finland and Denmark organised Beyond 2015 discussions with national civil society as well as politicians;
- met with the team leading on the European Report on Development 2013;

- CONCORD members CIDSE and Bond organised detailed discussions on Beyond 2015 at the World Social Forum in Dakar, leading to the campaign's Essential Must Haves;
- made a presentation at the Informal Council of Ministers;
- participated in the Review Summit.

AIM 2: CONCORD AND CIVIL SOCIETY

NGOs and Civil Society Organisations as development actors continue facing challenges related to the conditions required for their functioning. The space for civil society has been shrinking in many countries and the gap between political commitments and reality has increased. Several EU member states have drastically cut funding to NGOs but legal and regulatory requirements are increasing. International solidarity has come under pressure and tendencies to instrumentalise development – and development actors – for other aims continue to be a major threat.

CONCORD's efforts to respond to these challenges have mainly focused on:

- engaging in the follow up process to the Structured Dialogue, together with other EU CSOs working on development, expressed through the EU Policy Forum on Development;
- contributing to the EU communication on the role of CSOs in development;
- supporting the successful closure of the Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness, and actively engaging in the follow up of the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan;
- successfully handed the Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness over to the new CPDE (CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness) structure.
- Piloting European NGO's vision and ambitions in the field of Development Education and Awareness raising.

1.2.1. Enable NGOs in Europe to inform, educate, engage, and mobilise European citizens for sustainable development and international solidarity

Development Education and awareness rising

Development education is an active learning process, based on the values of solidarity, equality, inclusion and co-operation. It enables people to move on from simply being aware of international development issues and sustainable human development to personal involvement and informed action, thanks to a better understanding of the causes and effects of world problems.

What CONCORD wants:

- CONCORD's Development Awareness Raising and Education (DARE) Forum, with the support of DEEEP (Developing Europeans' Engagement for the Eradication of Global Poverty) aims at putting Development Education and Awareness Raising (DEAR) - and its relevance in facing current and future global challenges - high on the European political agenda;
- to achieve that, it strives to strengthen the capacities of NGOs to raise awareness, educate and mobilise the European public for worldwide poverty eradication and social inclusion.

What CONCORD has done

Strengthen Development Education awareness towards European Institutions:

- The European Parliament adopted in July 2012 a written declaration on “Development Education and Active Global Citizenship”, with an overwhelming cross-party and cross-national majority of 399 signatories. The declaration calls European institutions “to develop a long-term, cross-sectoral European strategy for development education, awareness-raising and active global citizenship”. The adoption was made possible through a four months long intensive CONCORD and DEEEP campaign towards parliamentarians;
- Following the adoption of the declaration on DEAR by the European Parliament and the strong support to DEAR in the structured dialogue outcome documents in 2011, the European Commission set up a “DEAR support team” and elaborated a first strategic framework on development education, in form of a “staff working paper”, which was published in early 2013. The CONCORD DARE Forum critically followed and commented these processes.
- CONCORD co-organised the 2nd European Congress on Global Education, hosted by the Council of Europe’s North-South-Centre, and participated actively in the organizing core-group and the drafting committee of the “Lisbon Declaration on Global Education”.

Strengthen DEAR within Civil Society:

- CONCORD, with the support of DEEEP, co-created the working group “Global Learning meets Development” within the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI), which significantly strengthened the links with the academic sector in the field of development education.
- CONCORD and DEEEP organized a series of seminars and events that stimulated debate and reinforced CONCORD members’ capacities in the field of DEAR. These include, among others: the Development Education Summer School on sustainable development, a round table at the Rio+20 people’s summit, a number of webinars and a seminar on the use of images and messages in development communication.
- In 2012, the application for a fourth phase of the DEEEP project was collaboratively elaborated by CONCORD members, submitted to the European Commission and successfully evaluated. DEEEP4 – “Citizens’ empowerment for Global Justice” goes far beyond the objectives of previous project phases: For the first time, it includes a global dimension (with global civil society network CIVICUS as a partner), as well as research component and a reinforced capacity building dimension.

1.2.2. Defending and promoting the rights, roles and responsibilities of civil society at local, national, European and global levels / Advocating for an enabling environment for development NGOs

Enabling environment for CSOs in Europe

The Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (BPEDC) recognises that the “Civil society organisations (CSOs) play a vital role in enabling people to claim their rights, in promoting a rights-based approach, in shaping development policies and partnerships, and in overseeing their implementation. They also provide services in areas that are complementary to those provided by states”. Moreover, the BPEDC specially refers to ensuring the enabling environment to maximise the contributions of the CSOs to development as well as encourages the CSOs in the implementation of the Istanbul Principles and the International Framework for CSO Development Effectiveness.

CONCORD as the EU platform for development CSOs has played a crucial role in the establishment of the CSO partnership for development effectiveness (CPDE) which is a merger of the Open Forum and BetterAid. The CPDE is a counterpart to the newly established Global Partnership on Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) and represents CSOs in its Steering Committee.

What CONCORD wants:

- to use the BPEDC as a political tool in the engagement with the European Institutions;
- paragraph 22 of the BPEDC to be respected and the EU to show concrete leadership in its implementation;

- EU donors and governments, including the European Institutions, to provide enabling environments for CSOs;
- CONCORD members to address their effectiveness individually and collectively in line with the Istanbul Principles and International Framework for CSO Development Effectiveness;

What CONCORD has done:

- organized one European regional consultation in Belgrade, July 2012 and one sub-regional consultation in Brussels, November 2012. Justin Kilcullen was elected as the European representative in the CPDE;
- coordinated inputs into the founding document of the CPDE;
- drafted sub-regional level policy strategies and advocacy plans on development effectiveness during the sub-regional consultation in Brussels;
- prepared country sheets for each European country for the legal framework for CSOs;
- supported the pilot training on the practitioners guide on the implementation of the Istanbul Principles in Athens, October 2012;
- actively participated in the first meeting of the CPDE in Nairobi and the European region was represented Justin Kilcullen, Pauliina Saares, Vazha Salamadze and Carlos Cabo Gonzales;
- continued to host the Secretariat of the Open Forum in 2012.

Structured Dialogue

The Structured Dialogue (SD) process was launched in March 2010 and concluded in May 2011 in Budapest-Hungary. It was a multi-stakeholders' process made up of 3 institutional actors on the one hand (EC, EU governments and European Parliament) and representatives of CSOs platforms and Local Authorities on the other hand. Its follow up materialised throughout 2012 in the creation of (1) an interim EU Policy Forum on Development, in which CONCORD engaged together with a range of members, and (2) a public consultation process to help draft an EC Communication on '*The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations*' (September) and subsequent Council Conclusions (October).

What CONCORD wants

- The Policy Forum on Development to be linked to on-going and future political processes and discussions, but not to be the sole avenue for discussion with institutions;
- The setup of the Forum to enable representativity, rather than reducing the numbers of participants to a small group;
- The dialogue to take part also at regional levels, and sectoral levels, and sufficient means to be given at the disposal of the stakeholders;
- The preparation of the meetings to involve stakeholders in a meaningful way;
- A strong EC Communication on CSOs and strong Council Conclusions, reflecting the principles agreed on during the Structured Dialogue process, recognizing CSOs as actors their own right with multiple roles in development and democratization. The Communication should set the stage for a strong EU policy towards and adequate support for civil society both in developing countries and the EU.

What CONCORD has done

- played a key role in shaping the debates; and engaged with other EU CSO platforms;
- contributed to the acknowledgement of some important global principles, for example the Rights Based Approach and the democratic ownership;
- supported the "Southern" involvement in the SD process, which has brought a more complete perspective and ownership to the process".

- provided responses to the public consultation paper 'Preparing the European Commission Communication on Civil Society Organisations in Development and met with the Commission on the role of CSOs;
- drafted a reaction to the final EC Communication '*The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations*' and presented this during the CODEV meeting in September.
- disseminated the Communication and our reaction to CONCORD members and other CSOs.

Predictability of calls for proposals

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) wanting to get funding from the European Commission usually receive it from the different Thematic Programmes and instruments: Non-State Actors and Local Authorities (NSA-LA), Food Security, Environment, Migration and Asylum, Investing in People and European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR).

The calls for proposals of the Thematic Programmes and Instruments are either published through global calls (managed at Brussels – Headquarters level) or through in-country calls (managed at EU Delegations level).

What CONCORD wants

- The forecasts table of calls for proposals, available on the EuropeAid website since 2011, was very much welcomed by CONCORD. We encourage the EC to continue with this good practice in 2013, as in 2012 these forecasts were not properly updated. These forecasts are extremely important for CSOs in order to plan ahead and structure their work;
- avoiding as much as possible the delays in publishing calls for proposals and ask the EC Headquarters and the EU Delegations to stick to the published forecast tables in order to have enough predictability regarding the launch calls for proposal;
- CSOs to be invited to take part in genuine consultation with EU Delegations on the focus and priorities for the Annual Action Plans (AAP) for the NSA-LA programme and other AAPs for calls which focus on civil society;
- EU Delegations to continue their efforts for increased communication with CSOs, including respecting the right of all applicants to get expanded feedback on failed proposals; with the provision of up to date statistics on the outcomes of calls for proposals and any other information relevant to calls, so that CSOs can make informed decisions and make quality, targeted proposals.

What CONCORD has done

- following CONCORDs calls over several years to have reliable and predictable information on available funding for NGOs, the EC published on its website the forecasts of up-coming calls: NSA-LA in-country calls for 2011-2013 and all thematic global calls for 2011 (managed at Headquarters level), including Human Rights, Migration, Food Security, Development Education, etc. The EC, however, needs to ensure the forecasts are regularly updated;
- shared widely with its constituency the different forecast of calls for proposals to allow its members to better predict their fundraising work, helping to make informed decisions on applications and how to best use their resources.

Monitoring the decentralisation of EC aid management: EU Delegation Watch report

CONCORDs Funding for Development and relief (FDR) working group has been monitoring the decentralisation of EC contract management since the end of 2005, using concrete examples of experiences provided by CONCORD members dating from contracts that started in 2000.

The objective is to help improve the quality of the work of CSOs and EU Delegations by identifying issues that regularly cause problems, and propose general solutions that would improve good practice. By identifying both weaknesses and

examples of positive experiences, it is hoped that the monitoring process can help foster good management practices in a sustainable way.

What CONCORD wants

- There's a real need for EU Delegations to ensure maximum predictability, transparency and accountability in the programming, selection and award of funds processes. A way to this would be for example to ensure timely and systematic consultation with CSOs in EC programmes planning; to standardly use the restricted procedure for all calls for proposals; and to give a comprehensive feedback on the reasons why a proposal was rejected;
- CSOs are still detracted from their main purpose of delivering development aid by an excessive administrative burden and serious delays in grant management issues by EU Delegations. This is increased by the inconsistency and restrictive approach to the interpretation of the Standard Contract requirements by Delegation staff. The EC should develop a "Code of Good Practice" to provide a consistent interpretation and encourage flexibility wherever it brings simplification;
- the EU should consider more creative partnership modalities that allow for a wider range of options than 'associate' or 'partner' or 'sub-grantee', and enlarge the use of 'informal partners' to all thematic programmes.

What CONCORD has done

- Produced the EU Delegation Watch report which is based on an online survey among CSOs in developing countries, a total of 118 cases are presented covering 56 countries. The report provides an insight into the evolving relationships between EU Delegations and CSOs, and gives clear recommendations to the EC and EU Delegations;
- the report has been disseminated among key decision makers in the EU institutions and has been shared through the EC with all EU Delegations;
- meetings with key EU decision makers on the basis of this report have been organised.

CONCORD Reader on the Practical Guide (PRAG)

In 2012 CONCORD published the third edition (after 2003 and 2007) of the CONCORD Reader on the 'Practical Guide (PRAG) to contract procedures for EU external actions'. The Reader analyses the General conditions of the March 2011 update of EuropeAid's 2010 PRAG. With contracts that were signed between signed between 2010 and 31 December 2012, projects can run until the end of 2016. Hence, the 2012 Reader will be valid until 2016.

The Reader was compiled by the CONCORD Financial Regulation subgroup of CONCORDs FDR working group, through regular meetings with the Legal Affairs unit (R3) within DG DEVCO. The Reader is officially approved by DG DEVCO R3 (only the core document, not the annexes).

What CONCORD wants

- for the EU to take into account CONCORDs interpretation and recommendations on the 2010 PRAG when preparing the next PRAG;
- Continue the close collaboration with the responsible units in DG DEVCO for the preparation of this year's Reader and for the upcoming Readers;

What CONCORD has done

- CONCORD produced its third Reader, which is an important tool for NGOs and EU officials to interpret the complex rules of the EC. It provides a clear explanation on all articles in the 2010 Practical Guide (March 2011 update). The Reader is conceived as a concrete instrument that should help CONCORD members and other NGOs to better address different contractual issues concerning the implementation of grant contracts.
- the Reader was the basis for a joint workshop with DG DEVCO in June on financial and contractual management;

Programming process for 2014-2020

In 2012 the EU began the first phase of the thematic and geographic programming of its development cooperation assistance for the period 2014-2020. This is part of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) that sets out the EU budget and programming priorities. As part of the programming process, EU Delegations were obligated to consult CSOs when defining the priority sectors in partner countries. Consultations were important for Delegations to gather a wide perspective and to improve local ownership of EU programming.

What CONCORD wants

- CSOs should be invited to take part in genuine consultations with EU Delegations as part of all phases of the programming process. Development concerns by CSOs should be included in the EC's strategy and funding allocations for the period of 2014-2020;
- the EC should be clear and transparent in sharing information about the programming process, allowing CSOs to prepare their input in an inclusive manner and at an early stage.

What CONCORD has done

- CONCORD prepared a briefing document on the programming process, outlining the key moments for CSOs to get involved in the process. The briefing was accompanied by a template letter, which could be used by CSOs to send to the Delegation in their respective country asking for a consultation;
- the briefing document was disseminated widely under CONCORD members with the request to share feedback on the process. On the basis of this information CONCORD created a mapping of the programming consultations, which was shared with EC representatives and provided a basis for discussion on the next steps of the process;

1.2.4. Support CONCORD members in improving quality & effectiveness

Partly induced by the national and European contexts, partly by the global process "Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness", CONCORD and its members have continually invested efforts in 2011 to build common agendas on NGOs' quality and effectiveness. Many national NGO platforms have – supported by CONCORD Secretariat - organised consultations with their constituency on principles and mechanisms for CSO development effectiveness, a joint understanding on NGO impact has been built and CONCORD is now equipped to advocate for enabling conditions for CSOs in development.

CSO development effectiveness working group

The working group's main focus since its creation is on the effectiveness of CSOs (as opposed to the effectiveness of governments and donors in official aid delivery), including on the roles and identity of NGOs in development and on the enabling environment which is required if CSOs are to realise their full potential in development.

CONCORD members focussed in 2012 solely on their own effectiveness. The main focus for this year was Quality Management in CONCORD members and which experiences there are in the member organisations

What CONCORD wants

- facilitate mutual learning among European CSOs, including through identification of good practices and lessons learned;
- facilitate a process towards defining shared principles and context-relevant implementation guidelines and mechanisms to improve the development effectiveness of CSOs;

- dialogue with the Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness, including by providing a European contribution to the global process;
- provide support to CONCORD's existing political dialogue and to the political dialogue of CONCORD members.

What CONCORD has done

The CONCORD working group on CSO effectiveness has:

- participated in the Open Forum European regional consultation in Serbia and fed into the consultation report which, together with the other regional consultation reports, fed into the new establishment of a new global platform to work on development effectiveness the CPDE (CSO Platform on Development Effectiveness);
- Convened a meeting in June in Belgrade to discuss the work of the working group after Busan.
- Convened a meeting in December on Quality Management systems in CONCORD member organisations

2. CONCORD STRATEGIC APPROACHES

CONCORD's work & strategy is supported by 6 cross-cutting approaches detailed in the strategic plan 2009-2015:

1. Human rights and gender equality will underpin all our advocacy work.
2. We will strengthen our political engagement with the institutions.
3. We will develop strategic alliances with Southern, European and Global coalitions.
4. We will support the organisational development of CONCORD's members.
5. We will ensure our collective decision-making combines efficiency with confederation ownership, and supports active participation of all members in CONCORD activities.
6. We will base our work on members' energies, supported by a secretariat; balance our income sources to ensure our independence and sustainability, and manage finances prudently.

In 2012, a mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the strategy was undertaken, clarifying that the process was going in the right direction but that more focus needs to be put particularly on approaches 1 and 4.

Approach 1: Human rights and gender equality

A mid-term review of the "Strategic Framework 2009-2015" for 2009-2011 concluded that CONCORD needs to focus on Gender and Human-Rights Based Approach. Following this assessment, CONCORD commissioned an internal gender audit that shows that CONCORD has been good at making its GE approach to development cooperation visible in most of its policy and position papers; however, 2013 will bring critical challenges that will require a more systematic work.

2.1.1. Human-Rights based approach

The Human-rights based approach (HRBA) builds on the belief that all human beings have inalienable rights which cannot be taken away from them and which enable them to make claims on others when their rights are being denied or violated. Human rights touch upon every aspect of life. They are about giving every human being the chance to live free from want, from fear and from discrimination.

A human-rights based approach creates a framework for a more inclusive, participatory way of doing development, and highlights the accountability of governments and other development actors to fulfill obligations and responsibilities towards their citizens according to international commitments.

What CONCORD wants

- the application of our common view to CONCORD's work ensuring that all CONCORD policy frameworks and internal policies and practices are based on this, including the management of human resources, communication and events;
- to influence EU institutions to reflect HRBA in their policies and practices
- to make sure the new EU Strategic Framework and Action Plan for Human Rights and Democracy is effectively implemented

What CONCORD has done

- the Human Rights Based Approach task force has presented CONCORD policy paper on the human-rights based approach to development to the General Assembly. After its approval by the GA, explicit recommendation by the Board has been made to all working structures to apply it
- a HRBA audit of the General Assembly was conducted by an external consultant in order to assess how the HRBA is addressed in practice. The recommendations of this exercise were approved by the Board
- The HRBA task force has been active and new members from both national platforms and networks have joined and are actively engaging on its activities
- Requests to all WG to include the HRBA as stressed in the policy paper were sent by the HRBA task force and bilateral exchanges with WGs co-chairs were held in order to support them in doing so
- Regular meetings have been held and a broader meeting to discuss strategies to engage with the EU institutions was organised

2.1.2 Gender

Gender equality and women and girls' empowerment are central to poverty, inequality eradication and sustainable development. The European Union (EU) must ensure that its policy commitments to gender equality are systematically put into practice, demonstrating political will and leadership in the consistent championing of gender equality and women and girls' empowerment issues.

What CONCORD wants

- improved political leadership and commitment to ensure the effective integration as well as specific actions on the promotion of gender equality and women and girls' empowerment within the development policies and activities of the European Commission;
- increased allocation of financial and human resources in order to reach the goal of gender equality;
- improved coherence between policies that impact on gender and development;
- increased dialogue with civil society, particularly with women. Civil society's participation in political dialogue and in the programming of aid at country level is most important;
- increase awareness-raising on gender issues and development within CONCORD and in its advocacy activities;
- the European Action Plan on Gender Equality of the European Commission to contain monitoring mechanisms and evaluations tools. It should refer to the existing international commitments.

What CONCORD has done

- The Gender WG has been active and increased its membership, especially from national platforms. Regular SG calls and WG meetings were held
- Spoke at the Member States Gender Experts meeting in March, where they the implementation report of the GAP was discussed. At this opportunity, the absence of gender in the Agenda for Change, as the guiding development policy document for the next seven years was highlighted
- Actively engaged in CONCORD processes that were priorities for the group: MFF and post-MDGs

- A gender audit of CONCORD was carried out by an external consultant. This audit assessed how CONCORD is addressing gender issues both at internal and external levels, and was based on the review of policy documents as well as the active participation of all working structures: Board, Delegates, WGs co-chairs and Secretariat
- The Board discussed the results and recommendations of the gender audit and committed to advance with the development of an action plan that tracks the implementation of the main points highlighted in the report

Approach 2: Political engagement with the institutions

2.2.1. Developing CONCORD's ability to engage with the institutions

Over the years CONCORD has established regular, predictable and high-level engagement with the EU institutions, which has continued in 2012 through a number of regular exchanges. However, engaging with the institutions has also been influenced by a number of factors:

- a Commissioner for Development, who is open to meeting and discussing with CONCORD, who has taken on some of our language, but who still see economic growth as the answer to development;
- a High Representative for Foreign Policy – who has 'development' within her mandate, but has not yet demonstrated capacity or interest in development issues, nor an understanding of Policy Coherence for Development;
- lack of political will for Policy Coherence for Development;
- a struggling leadership in the EEAS and DG DEVCO;
- uncertainty around decision-making and the struggle to keep 'development' on the agenda;
- the diminishing role of the Presidencies of the Council of the EU.

CONCORD takes its role as a partner to the EU institutions very seriously, and this is how it approached the numerous meetings, exchanges and regular spaces for input with all of them. At the appropriate level of representation, meetings were held with the high representative for foreign policy, the Commissioner for development, the cabinets, as well as a number of officials within the EEAS and the European Commission, and with the Members of the European Parliament. CONCORD also cooperated with the European Economic and Social Committee.

2.2.2. Improve strategic engagement between European NGOs and the Council and EU member States

CONCORD engages with the Council and EU member states:

- at the National level, through CONCORD's national platforms
- at the European Level, through the Working Party on Development (CoDev) and individual representatives of the CoDev
- at ministerial level at the Informal Council of Development Ministers and at other opportunities

CONCORD's National Platforms also meet regularly with their national ministries. National Platforms discuss many 'national' issues of importance, but they also discuss European issues. The AidWatch process facilitates many member states to engage with the national ministries – on aid quantity and quality issues - and additionally National Platforms undertake specific lobbying on specific issues which are being discussed in the Council.

As in previous years, under the Presidencies, CONCORD has made a presentation and held an exchange of views with the Working Party on Development (CoDev). These meetings are held every six months and are an opportunity to talk directly with representatives of members states working at the EU level to influence debates. The timing is such to try an influence on the Spring and Autumn packages. In 2011 the focus was on the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, the EU budget (the MFF), and the Agenda for Change. As a part of the process of advocating on Council Conclusions, delegations from CONCORD also meet regularly with Member States' Permanent Representations in Brussels.

Danish EU presidency

The Danish Presidency took place at a difficult time in the EU's history and the Danish EU Presidency first and foremost focused on stimulating growth and creating new jobs for Europeans. However, the Danish Presidency also supported the EU institutions and member states in efforts to strengthen the EU's global role by promoting the European External Action Service and the need to create a better coherence between EU policies in sectors that affect developing countries.

Concord Denmark's main priority during the presidency was to promote policy coherence for development (PCD), including special attention to civil society. Concord Denmark succeeded in this matter through a coordinated lobbying process when the Government announced that it would launch a Danish PCD Action Plan, which was inspired by Concord Denmark's report on "Delivering results – How Denmark can lead the way for Policy Coherence for Development". Hence from being a relatively unknown concept in 2010, PCD has now been established as a cornerstone in the Danish Development Strategy and Law on Development Cooperation.

During the presidency Concord Denmark held an international CSO Conference in March 2012. The main objective of the conference was to strengthen the role of civil society in future EU development cooperation and contributed to awareness and capacity building of the Danish civil society. The conference was attended by representatives from over 30 countries and 100 international and national CSOs and received much praise from several parties, including CONCORD Europe's director, Olivier Consolo. Furthermore, the conference contributed with key inputs and recommendations to the October 2012 EU strategy on civil society cooperation in development policy.

Cyprus EU Presidency

The Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the EU provided a great opportunity for the Cyprus Island wide NGO Development Platform CYINDEP to become a visible actor in Cyprus and beyond. CYINDEP's main focus throughout the Presidency has been on the Post-2015 process and on Food and Nutrition Security. With regards to advocacy work, CYINDEP has established close communication with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and participated in the informal CODEV meeting in Limassol, sharing the platform's views on transition societies as well as the Post-2015 process. CYINDEP also produced a series of policy papers, which were shared with the relevant stakeholders.

With its stronger presence due to the Presidency project, CYINDEP also actively participated in many of the CONCORD Working Groups, namely the Policy Forum, MFF, DARE Forum, Aidwatch, Food Security WG, Migration Caucus, FDR and the Steering Group of the European Taskforce of Beyond2015.

CYINDEP co-hosted the 'Power of One – The First Annual Inter-Regional Learning Exchange Conference on Citizen-led Innovation and Social Change Practices During Periods of Transition' in partnership with UNDP Action for Cooperation and Trust and organized the Euro-Mediterranean Souk for civil society representatives from EU and Euro-Mediterranean Neighbourhood countries, providing an open space for discussion and the creation of actions towards social change.

The main Presidency-event of CYINDEP was the global civil society symposium 'The World We Want – Food Security and Nutrition in the Post-2015 Framework', with participants and speakers from around the world. The Symposium, supported by the Beyond2015 European Taskforce, included a high-level panel, co-hosted by the Cyprus Minister of Foreign Affairs, including, among others, high-level speakers such as EU Commissioner Andris Piebalgs and the Irish Minister for Trade and Development. The symposium concluded with a set of recommendations on Food and Nutrition Security within the Post-2015 Framework, which was then submitted to the UN e-Consultation on Hunger, Food and Nutrition Security.

Furthermore, CYINDEP also co-organised two High Level Panels at the European Development Days, one of them in partnership with CONCORD, focusing on Biofuels and Food Security, as well as one with Caritas Europa on Food Security in the Post-2015 Framework.

Apart from the international events, CYINDEP also offered capacity building to its members on various development-policy related topics with the aim of strengthening its member organisations and their involvement in the CONCORD working groups.

More information on CYINDEP's activities throughout the Presidency can be found on www.cyindep.eu

European Year for Development 2015 (EY2015DEV)

Upon initiative of CONCORD, the year 2015 was designated as the official European Year of Development Cooperation. A task force involving the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of Region and CONCORD, is working in close consultation and cooperation with the Deputy Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Andris Piebalgs (DG DEVCO) in order to shape scope and content of this year. The Task Force organized during the European Development Days 2012 a high level panel/project lab on EY2015. The event was well attended and had high level inputs from the institutions involved in the task force: EC, EP, EESC and CoR.

On 23 October, the EP plenary assembly in Strasbourg approved with a substantial majority (540 votes in favour, 36 against, 60 abstentions) the report by MEP Charles Goerens on the "Agenda for Change" in its entirety. This report contained the recommendation to the Commission to designate 2015 as the European Year for Development.

On 30 November EP President Martin Schulz and EESC President Staffan Nillsson jointly sent a letter to EC President Barroso expressing their strong personal endorsement of EY2015DEV and calling on Barroso to also endorse it.

Following the advocacy efforts around the European Year for Development, which were substantially driven by CONCORD, the Commission prepares a detailed proposal in the beginning of 2013 including a budget for the EY2015DEV.

The Council still has to formally approve the decision, and this will most likely happen in response to the expected proposal from the Commission. Concord has been offered the opportunity work in close collaboration with the EC for the first inputs into what will become this official and detailed EC proposal.

Coinciding with the target year of the MDGs, the EY2015DEV will be a timely and excellent opportunity to raise awareness on development and global justice with the broader public in Europe, and to highlight the work and messages of CONCORD members.

2.2.3. Improve strategic engagement between European NGOs and the European Commission

In 2012, CONCORD participated in many formal and informal consultations with different parts of the European Commission, particularly DG Development but also DG Environment, DG Climate, DG Trade, DG Budget and others, also providing briefings and inputs into policy discussions. CONCORD still struggles to have a meaningful dialogue with the Commission, however, the willingness to meet and discuss issues is improving and CONCORD has established good working relationships with a number of units particularly in DG DEVCO. The Commission clearly acknowledges CONCORD as the main interlocutor on Development. However, at a more political level, the Commission is increasingly looking beyond CONCORD, particularly using the EU Policy Forum on Development to reach beyond CONCORD.

2.2.4. Improve strategic engagement between European NGOs and the European Parliament

CONCORD works with both the European Parliament Committee on Development as well as bilaterally with MEPs. It twice yearly meets with the Political Coordinators of the Committee on Development for an exchange of views and in 2012 has had discussions on the Agenda for Change; the Multi-annual Financial Framework, aid quantity and quality, and Policy Coherence for Development. CONCORD has also worked with the EP to support their role of scrutiny (sending out voting alerts to all MEPs).

Besides through the meetings with coordinators CONCORD has continued to work closely with the European Parliament on Policy Coherence for Development and has engaged with the standing rapporteur on PCD.

Members of the European Parliament have been mobilised on the occasions of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assemblies held in 2012.

2.2.4. Improve strategic engagement between European NGOs and the European Economic & Social Committee & other institutions

In 2012 CONCORD has been mainly contributing to the work of the EESC through the inclusive process ahead of and during the conference Rio+20. CONCORD was indeed mandated by EU CSO networks to lead the work on this topic vis-à-vis the EESC. After the conference and the people summit RIO+20, CONCORD has been participating to a plenary session of the EESC (on mid-July) jointly with Commissioner Potocnik (Environment).

Other institutions:

CONCORD also works with other international institutions. It focuses mainly on the European aspects of their policies or on their reform, since this could affect the weight of the European Union in such international government bodies. More specifically, CONCORD is member of the Board of the North South Center which is an institution linked to the Council of Europe focusing mainly on Development Education.

OECD

In the first half of 2012, CONCORD was present at the last meeting of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness and together with the global CSO platform BetterAid prepared positions on behalf of the CSOs.

Regular contacts have been taken throughout 2012 with the OECD PCD unit. CONCORD participated in the OECD PCD focal points meetings, where we presented CONCORD's views on PCD in the area of food security and agriculture, as well as on PCD monitoring and assessment mechanisms.

FAO / Committee on World Food Security

In 2011, the European Food Security Group (EFSG) of CONCORD continued to monitor the reform of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) of the FAO (see related sections in the report). In particular, CONCORD facilitated the meetings of the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) to the CFS, for the Western Europe region. EFSG members also actively participated in the Civil Society Forum and the consecutive 39th Session of the CFS in Rome in October. Ahead of the 39th CFS session, EFSG members had a series of consultations with EC and MS officials to influence EU positions.

Approach 3: Alliances

2.3.1. Alliances with civil society in the South

The CONCORD strategic framework (2009 – 2015) states that CONCORD will:

- Build alliances with civil society in the South, prioritizing regional and continental coalitions to strengthen our influence on EU policies affecting sustainable development
- Actively seek, build and consolidate alliances with coalitions of civil society organizations and other appropriate actors with whom we share ambitions or objectives for the European Union
- Participate, representing our members, in the work of global civil society alliances on CONCORD's priority issues

During 2012, several joint actions of CONCORD and Southern Civil Society Organisations carried on this strategy. Apart from the established partnership with Mesa and REPAOC, CONCORD has started to build closer relationship with the Arab NGO

Network for Development (ANND)– a platform of NGOs and groups of NGOs active in the Arab region aiming at enhancing the mobilization of civil society on Euro-Arab issues. CONCORD attended for example the EUROMED-ANND seminar on EU-Arab relations organized in Beirut in June. This led to our active involvement in the organization of the visit of a delegation of ANND members coming to Brussels in September 2012 from all countries of the region including actors such as development NGOs, trade unions, women organizations, human rights organizations etc. Relationship building activities was organized between our members and a mutual interest of collaboration in some future processes was discussed.

CONCORD invited its partners to attend our annual General Assembly in June 2011. Both representatives from REPAOC and MESA participated in seminars and the High Level Debate with the EEAS organized on the evening of the GA.

In September, a representative of CONCORD joined a meeting of the Board of REPAOC in Ouagadougou in order to enhance the collaboration between both coalitions.

For the fourth time CONCORD convened together with MESA de Articulación the Euro- Latin American & Caribbean Civil Society Forum. On the 27-28 September around 80 people from civil society associations and social movements in Latin America and Europe gathered in Santiago de Chile as a part of the preparatory activities of the Summit of Heads of State from EU and Latin America/Caribbean to be held in January 2013 in Santiago. A dozen representatives of CONCORD members were part of the European delegation that also included people from the Beyond 2015 campaign, the International Forum of National NGO platforms (IFP), CONCORD PCD coordination group and CONCORD secretariat. In a context of strong rallies in both continents against the risk of deepening political and economic crisis, the aim of this activity was to bring together civil society organizations in Latin America and Europe creating a space to define joint strategies for a more fair, supportive and sustainable relationship between the two regions. A joint declaration was signed and used in several advocacy activities ahead of the VII Summit of Heads of State and Government of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean. During the Forum, ConCORD also launched the Spanish of the Spotlight report on Coherence and a debate with Latin American partners about enhancing cooperation in order to draft the next report (2013)

At the Forum, CONCORD also organised a launch event of the Spanish version of its 2011 report “Spotlight on EU Policy Coherence for Development”.

2.3.2. Consolidation of alliances at EU level

Spring Alliance

CONCORD – along with the EEB, the Social Platform and ETUC – are members of the Spring Alliance. In 2012 the Spring Alliance continued to focus its work on the Europe 2020 Strategy and its flagship initiatives, initiating a series of EP breakfasts aimed at raising awareness among MEPs.

For more information: <http://www.springalliance.eu> .

CSCG

CONCORD is member of the Civil Society Contact Group (CSCG) which brings together the biggest platforms of European NGOs platforms from different sectors: Green 10, Human Rights and Democracy Network, European Women's Lobby, European Forum for the Arts and Heritage, European Public Health Alliance, EUCIS-LLL for life-long learning, Culture Action Europe, CONCORD and the Social Platform.

For more information: www.act4europe.org

North-South Center

A memorandum of understanding exists between CONCORD and the Council of Europe related to cooperation on development education, human rights and development cooperation. Different working groups of CONCORD (Africa-EU, Gender, Migration, Enlargement and Development Education Forum) are involved in this partnership.

Climate Action Network Europe (CAN-E)

CAN is Europe's leading network working on environment and climate issues with 129 members in 25 European countries. For more information: <http://www.climnet.org>

EU CSO group on international development

CONCORD led the EU Civil Society Group on International Development. This group brings together many (almost 15) other sectors that work on Development, but for whom development is not their core mandate (eg the Youth sector, the Environment, the Political Foundations, the Women's movement, the Trade Unions, the Fair Trade movement). CONCORD has actively included the EU CSO Group on International development membership in key political discussions, and this has also been the space for CSO coordination ahead of the interim EU Policy Forum on Development in 2012.

Other organisations

CONCORD continued to invite other Civil Society partners in its activities when it is relevant or participated in joint activities such as at decentralised seminars and Quadrilogue meetings where CONCORD met with ITUC, Local Authorities, Cooperatives Europe, ENOP. It also worked with Interaction (the largest alliance of U.S.-based international NGO) on Food security.

CONCORD is one of 25 members of the governing body (Global Facilitation Group), the regional coordinator for the Open Forum in Europe as well as the fiscal agent and head of the consortium of the Open Forum (outside the EC grant). For more: www.cso-effectiveness.org

2.3.3. CONCORD participation on global civil society alliances

As foreseen in its multi-annual strategic plan, CONCORD participated in the work of global civil society alliances on CONCORD's priority issues and played an important part in the dynamic of some processes such as the Open Forum on CSO Development Effectiveness.

Open Forum on CSO Development Effectiveness

In formal existence between 2009 and 2012, the Open Forum brought together civil society organisations from around the world to discuss, share learning and innovate around CSO development practice. Through a three-year global consultation process in over 70 countries around the world, civil society developed the International Framework for CSO Development Effectiveness, which is the consolidated global statement on 1) the principles that guide our work, 2) what CSO accountability means for us, and 3) the minimum standards for an enabling environment for CSOs. The International Framework and the Principles for CSO effectiveness therein, were officially acknowledged by governments and donors in late 2011 and were included in the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation. Following this landmark, three toolkits to support the implementation and contextualisation of CSO development effectiveness efforts were launched and tested by civil society organisations at global and national levels. Also, a CSO Development Effectiveness Web Portal where civil society practitioners working towards improving the impact of their work in development, can access and share tools, resources and case studies was launched.

Following a series of consultations worldwide with the aim of strategizing the most effective ways for civil society to engage in the implementation of the Busan Partnership, the Open Forum actively worked towards its merging with BetterAid into one joint global CSO platform – CSO Partnership for development effectiveness which was launched in December 2012.

For more information: <http://www.cso-effectiveness.org/> - <http://wiki.cso-effectiveness.org/>

IFP – the International Forum of National NGO Platforms

CONCORD is associative member of IFP which is a global initiative of non-governmental diplomacy that brings together over 50 national NGO platforms from Africa, Latin America, Asia, Europe and Oceania and seven regional coalitions, accounting for more than 10,000 organizations. Several of CONCORD National platform members are also members of IFP. CONCORD is encouraging its members to take an active part in IFP, which for example showed in our support in the process of electing members to IFP's council made in 2012.

GCAP Europe

The Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) is an alliance of trade unions, community groups, faith groups, women's and youth organisations, NGOs and other campaigners working together across more than 100 national platforms. GCAP Europe (Russia, Belgium, Hungary, UK, Germany, Malta, Portugal, Slovenia and the Netherlands) is very active.

BetterAid

BetterAid unites over 700 development organisations from civil society, and has been working on development cooperation and challenging the aid effectiveness agenda since January 2007. BetterAid led many civil society activities including in-country consultations, studies and monitoring towards the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF-4) in Busan, South Korea in 2011.

BetterAid is an open platform, and participating organisations can get involved in discussion and policy influencing opportunities on a wide range of issues to deepen aid and development effectiveness. BetterAid drafts policy and positioning papers in participatory processes, and promotes their messages through advocacy activities on an international and national level. BetterAid is member of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness at the OECD's Development Assistance Committee, where it represents the voices of global civil society.

CONCORD is an active member of the Coordinating Group of BetterAid, and in 2012 continued to contribute to its advocacy and policy development. CONCORD as well contributed to the merge of both BetterAid and Open Forum into one joint global CSO platform – CSO Partnership for development effectiveness.

For more information: <http://www.betteraid.org>

Approach 4: Organization development

2.4.1. Supporting members in strengthening their own capacities

CONCORD aims at supporting its members to strengthen themselves, so that the national platform in every Member State can act as the primary influencer of its national government and politicians on EU sustainable development policy and practice; and that networks are as effective as possible in influencing EU institutions.

Activities to strengthen members' capacities

CONCORD organised many introductory sessions for new members of working groups in order to catch up with the group's concerns and state of work. A specific "CONCORD Induction Day for new delegates was held at the General Assembly.

CONCORD received 21 study-visits from member organisations and members of members. Also in the PCD working group and AidWatch meetings attention was given to strengthen the capacity of the members in these specific policy areas.

CONCORD continued to be strongly involved in DEEEP and TRIALOG projects through financial contributions (outside the EC grant), participation in the management (DEEEP) advisory group (TRIALOG) and a joint CONCORD-DEEEP-TRIALOG planning session.

2.4.2. Enabling members to support and learn from each other

CONCORD wants to enable its members to support and learn from each other, so that individual NGOs can engage better in their networks and national platforms, and that the networks and platforms are themselves sustainable, in a way that strengthens CONCORD's impact & efficiency.

The main impact in this field came through the Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness. By engaging in this global process proposed by CONCORD, many members have started consultation processes with their constituency and thereby enlarged their mandate / field of work and enabled their members to engage from a new, additional angle. There was much exchange and peer learning among CONCORD members on these processes. Together with the CSO development effectiveness working group CONCORD organised a 2 day meeting on Quality Management Systems in Brussels in December, where members exchanged the different experiences that there are within CONCORD's membership. CONCORD also supported a pilot training on the implementation of the Istanbul Principles organised by the Hellenic Platform.

Approach 5: Leadership and participation in CONCORD

2.5.1. Ensuring that all members have the option of active participation

CONCORD wants to ensure that all members have the option of active participation in all CONCORD activities, through strengthening their capacities to contribute, writing documents in plain language, and – where appropriate – funding.

As in the past, CONCORD held to its founding principle of an inclusive platform for collective action. Through different processes, even non-members, NGO networks from other sectors (like HRDN, Red Cross, etc) could participate in several CONCORD processes and events.

Annual Planning Commission

For the first time, an inclusive planning process for the year to come was set up in 2012. This process, led by a strategic planning commission composed of two board members, two working group leaders and two staff members (including the CONCORD director), was fed by consultations and feedback from various CONCORD structures, such as the Policy Forum, the Conveners Forum of working group chairs, the board, the working groups and CONCORD members in general. It led to the adoption of three priorities for 2013: a new narrative on development, the EU multi-annual financial framework, and organizational development. Furthermore, the budget was elaborated in a participatory way, and all planned CONCORD activities were mapped out in a common and joint projection. This process, which was in a pilot phase in 2012, already significantly increased synergy building and strategic clarity in the confederation, and will be further improved in 2013.

2.5.2. Ensuring each Working group is open to all members

CONCORD makes sure that each Working Group is open to all members who wish to participate, operates with a high degree of autonomy, actively builds trust from other parts of the confederation, and is effectively held to account.

Policy forum leadership

The diversity of the membership of the Policy Forum is seen as its core strength, bringing together NGO representatives from the Member States, from the thematic and faith-based networks and from NGO alliances and families, culminating in a wealth of experience and political intelligence. Given its membership, the group acts as CONCORD's 'political spearhead', discussing and sharing political intelligence and coordinating CONCORD's policy work, thereby being in a position to effectively advise and support the CONCORD membership and the Board.

Conveners Forum

The Conveners Forum, revived in 2012, is the space where the leaders of all CONCORD working structures come together and engage in an exchange aimed at reaching more cooperation and coherence in their work. It also attempts to reduce overlaps in issues, and to increase the efficiency of annual planning.

Openness of the groups

All CONCORD Working structures have individual Terms of Reference with common criteria regarding participation and representation. All CONCORD Working structures are open to all its members. CONCORD's solidarity principle ensures that no member is excluded from CONCORD Working structures due to financial constraints. All Terms of Reference are approved by CONCORD Board.

Although some groups receive full support of CONCORD secretariat, all the working groups and sub-groups of task-forces are member-led. See annex 7 for a full description of the groups and to find out who is the chair amongst CONCORD members.

Annual figures for members' activity at Confederation level

The total number of participants in CONCORD activities in 2012 was 2092, an increase from 1746 participants in 2011 (+19.8%), and an increase from 1299 participants in 2010 (+61%).

Participation figures are based on the number of participants to each meeting and event organised by CONCORD in a given year.

Those figures nevertheless do not reflect the direct work that many members of CONCORD do on "Europe/CONCORD agenda" vis-à-vis their national/international constituency: i.e. annual meetings organized at national level on EU issues (sometimes in direct collaboration with CONCORD).

The difference in participation between categories:

National Platforms:	916 participants
Networks:	620 participants
Non CONCORD member:	348 participants
CONCORD secretariat:	203 participants
Associate member:	5 participants

The high level of participation from our National Platforms highlights their importance/relevance to CONCORD on a pan-European level.

The use of conference calls, as encouraged by CONCORD, has notably increased and thereby reducing overall costs and our carbon footprint.

2.5.3. Learning from successes

CONCORD is continuously learning from successes in combining the strengths of networks, national platforms, a facilitative secretariat and associated projects (DEEEP, TRIALOG), to create the best synergies for CONCORD's impact.

Many working groups and processes in CONCORD have built their work on past successes. For example, CONCORD's preparation of inputs for the next EU MFF is a continuity of the past work on Financial Perspectives and the engagement in the Structured Dialogue, AidWatch is continuously assessing and improving its report, campaign and mobilisation, and the successful elaboration of a fourth DEEEP project proposal by the CONCORD DARE Forum was thoroughly build on an analysis of previous project phases, which allowed to learn from successes and challenges.

In 2012, a CONCORD wide capacity development strategy was drafted, which will further strengthen mutual learning in the confederation.

2.5.4. Empower CONCORD's representatives to speak for CONCORD

CONCORD tries to empower its representatives to speak for CONCORD confidently, on the basis of established Policy frameworks but with the flexibility to adapt to political circumstances, and consolidate means of holding them to account.

Striving for transparency and accountability, the Board of CONCORD gives specific mandates (often with Terms of Reference and reporting obligation) to individuals representing the Confederation in external bodies. Major mandates given in 2012 include:

- Rilli Lappalainen (Board member) in the Executive Council of the North-South Center
- Rilli Lappalainen (Board member) as co-chair of the Multi-Stakeholder Group on Development Education on behalf of CONCORD
- Izabella Toth (CIDSE) and Olivier Consolo (Director) representing CONCORD in the EC Policy Forum on Development
- Justin Kilcullen (former President) as European representative of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE)
- Johannes Trimmel (Board member) in TRIALOG Advisory Group

2.5.5. Empowering the Board and Director to take decisions

With 3 new Members and a new President and with backing of the results of the mid-term review of CONCORD's Strategic Plan 2009-2015 the Board of CONCORD made 2012 to a year to strengthen its leadership role. It has engaged in discussions on the areas and issues that should be priorities for CONCORD Board leadership and engagement in the coming years. It has also focused on strengthening its outreach to Member organizations by visiting members and participating in member led activities throughout the year. While building a transparent, inclusive and open platform for joint action remains the top priority of CONCORD, the Board members have been clarifying their respective roles and responsibilities. The Board adopted a new Board policy simplifying and creating more transparency around Board responsibilities and working practices. It sets out General Guiding Principles, Specific Board policies and support to the work of the Board, and describes CONCORD Board (1) Identity and role; (2) Composition; (3) Responsibilities (at a macro level); and (4) Ethics and spirit of partnership. The aim of this internal process has been to reinforce the confidence among the membership that the board of CONCORD is in a position today to be, depending on the situations & expectations, inclusive, efficient and representative. The recent mid-term review of CONCORD's strategy shows that members are globally confident that a good balance has been built over the last three years between leadership and consultation.

Approach 6: CONCORD resources

2.6.1. Ensuring CONCORD's independence

CONCORD needs to ensure its independence, sustainability and its ability to match its ambitions with resources by achieving a balance of income from members, European Commission, income generation and other grant makers that match CONCORD values, while building a level of reserves sufficient to meet cash flow, statutory and social requirements.

Therefore, in 2011 CONCORD signed a contract with the Gates Foundation that provides funding for 36 months (Oct 2011 – Sept 2014). The Gates funding is an opportunity for CONCORD to strengthen its capacities and impact at a critical moment that will set European Development policies & funding for the next 10 years. The support is for work that ConCORD has already agreed to in its 2009-2015 Strategic Plan but which has been constrained by limited financial and human resources. Support will increase the capacity of the members and at the same time allow the Secretariat to increase its support to the working groups. The Gates funding focuses on two issues: Quantity and Quality of Aid, and the EU Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020. Communications, capacity Building and coordination cross-cut the proposal.

2.6.2. Maintaining a core budget

Since its establishment, CONCORD General Assembly made it very clear that the confederation had to maintain a core budget primarily financed by membership and predictable operational grants from the European Commission and to develop fundraising for project based activities with clear governance and management rules.

Regarding the expenses, the budget is build and followed-up using cost-accounting. Working groups expenses are monitored through this tool.

The General Assembly 2011 approved a new budget process for 2012. The aim was to ensure a more open, transparent and inclusive budgeting procedures. This process has been led by a planning commission.

2.6.3. Ensuring the commitment of members regarding resources

The commitment of members and their members to providing specialist personnel and finances allows to deliver CONCORD plans effectively. It is key for CONCORD to account to its members for effective use of these resources.

By mandate from the Board, since late 2011, the Financial Task Force that advised CONCORD Secretariat and its Treasurer in making the Financial Accounts more user-friendly and accessible to Members have turned into a permanent body: the Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) that comprises the Treasurer, another Board Member, the Head of Finance and Administration, plus few members who wish to serve on this committee. The FAC acts as a financial advisor to the Board in overseeing and monitoring the finances of ConCORD and its allocation of resources. It meets on quarterly basis.

In 2012, under the leadership of the Board and the FAC, CONCORD has put in place a new Fees System for the years 2013-2015. This system has been based on free/voluntary approach where each Member decides –depending on its own capacity- the level of its contribution to the CONCORD's membership Fees. In a time of crisis for all CSO's in many different countries, the output of this process showed a renewed commitment and ownership of CONCORD's Members on their confederation. Indeed, the level of expected fees for 2013 is closed to the collected amounts of the previous years.

2.6.4 Ensuring that the secretariat has the mandate, skills, aptitude

CONCORD's approach regarding its Secretariat is to make sure that it has the mandate, skills, aptitudes, knowledge, management quality and resources to facilitate the confederation appropriately to achieve this strategy. CONCORD has finalized the implementations of the recommendations stemming from the external assessment of the secretariat.

In 2012, in the framework of the first full year of the Gates funding, the size of the secretariat has been substantially increased (4 extra staff). This led to the reorganization of the Policy Team around 3 departments: More and Better Aid, Policy Coherence for Development, EU NGO's/CSO's & EU Funding. A new Membership and Communication Team has been put in place with 3 persons.

3. Finance & annual accounts

3.1 General introduction and financial strategy

CONCORD's current financial strategy is based on CONCORD's Strategic Plan 2009 – 2015, which includes the following Strategic Approach No 6:

“As a confederation, CONCORD's aims are achieved through its members, who are facilitated by a Secretariat and led by a Board and Director. CONCORD's objectives can be achieved only through marshalling the expertise of our members and their members, and through the commitment of members and funders to the financial support of CONCORD. Our human and financial resources must be used prudently to enable CONCORD to be independent, sustainable and effective.”

The outcomes for 2012 are set in the Strategic Plan as:

- Income sufficient for the ambitions of our strategy;
- A balance of income between members, EC and others achieved; and
- Reserves satisfactory – 25 to 40% of annual expenditure.

3.1.1 Balance Sheet – All CONCORD

The below Balance Sheet shows all CONCORD, including the 2 international projects, Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness and Beyond 2015 international. The details of these last 2 projects are given in the annexes.

	2012	2011
Intangible assets	€ 13,751	€ -
Tangible assets	€ 5,969	€ 8,801
Financial assets	€ 20,941	€ 20,585
Long term assets	€ 40,661	€ 29,386
Debtors	€ 410,803	€ 252,309
Cash	€ 1,073,257	€ 1,067,520
Accrued income/deferred expenses	€ 8,585	€ 17,898
Short term assets	€ 1,492,645	€ 1,337,728
Total assets	€ 1,533,305	€ 1,367,114
Short term creditors	€ 343,368	€ 198,420
Accrued expenses / deferred revenues	€ 711,489	€ 904,442
Short term liabilities	€ 1,054,858	€ 1,102,862
Provision for liabilities and charges	€ 49,720	€ 8,801
Reserves	€ 255,451	€ 255,451
Income and expenditure - accumulated balance	€ 173,277	
Members' Equity	€ 428,728	€ 255,451
Total financing	€ 1,533,306	€ 1,367,113

The increase of intangible assets represents the value of the new internet website while the decrease of the tangible assets is due to amortization. Although their accounting value is relatively immaterial, much of the equipment still has a useful life. The long term financial assets comprise a deposit account which holds a payment of 3 months rental by way of a rental guarantee.

The increase of debtors is due to the advances made to the Beyond 2015 International's partners while the increase of short term creditors is due to all the contracts signed for the Beyond 2015 International's at the end of December and paid in 2013.

The surplus amounts to €173,277. It is proposed to put up:

- €45,000 to create a special reserve for covering the costs of the headhunting company for the recruitment of the new Director in 2013 as well the costs of 2 Directors during the hand-over period.
- €128,277 to the legal reserve.

3.1.2 Summary of results – CONCORD excluding Open Forum and Beyond 2015 International

In accordance with the CONCORD's Financial Strategy, our aim is to cover our expenses, and to restore our reserves to a prudent level, as much as possible in order to provide the sufficient resources to CONCORD to face its legal obligations, including in the scenario of ceasing activities.

During 2012, the "core- CONCORD²"s total income amounted to €1,777,340 (2011 €1,356,450) and our core expenditure amounted to €1,604,063 (2011 €1,249,033), giving rise to a surplus of €173,277 (2011 €107,417), exclusively from the Membership Fees. Our income was 101.5% of that budgeted, expenditure was 96.8% of budget and the surplus achieved of €173,277 compares to the budget of €93,881.

The higher than budgeted surplus can be explained by the fact that the Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness project was supposed to end at the end of 2011 but continued throughout 2012. It therefore kept on contributing partly to the cost of the rent, the salary of the 2 finance staff and their overhead costs for a total of +/- €65,000 that was not budgeted for 2012. The higher grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (+/- €30,000) also contributed to increasing the surplus.

The General Assembly will decide in June 2013 if a reserve should be created to anticipate the costs of the replacement of CONCORD Director who is leaving at the end of 2013. This reserve would amount to €45,000 to partly cover the costs of the Head Hunting company as well as the overlap costs of 2 Directors during the transition period.

If this special reserve is created, our reserves at the end of the year would therefore stand at €383,728 [(2011 reserve= €255,451) + (2012 surplus = €173,277) – (special reserve = €45,000)] being 23.9% of actual expenditures (2011 20.5%). Under our Strategic Plan, our reserves are set at between 25% and 40% of our annual expenditures (core budget). Despite this highly satisfactory result for 2012, we still have some distance to go to achieve the desired level of reserves (+/- €17,000 to reach the minimum level).

3.2 Accounting principles and funding by members and the EC

The accounts of CONCORD are expressed in Euro and are maintained on a historical cost basis, in compliance with international accounting standards and the legislation on associations applicable in Belgium.

The core operational budget of CONCORD covers the cost of the secretariat; the costs of studies, consultancy and communication and the costs of the various members' led working bodies (working groups, general meetings, seminars etc.) Subject to the travel reimbursement rules, the budget allows for the participation of at least one representative per member at such meetings, covering travel and accommodation expenses, as well as the general costs of organising such meetings such as hire of meeting rooms, interpretation, translation, reports etc.

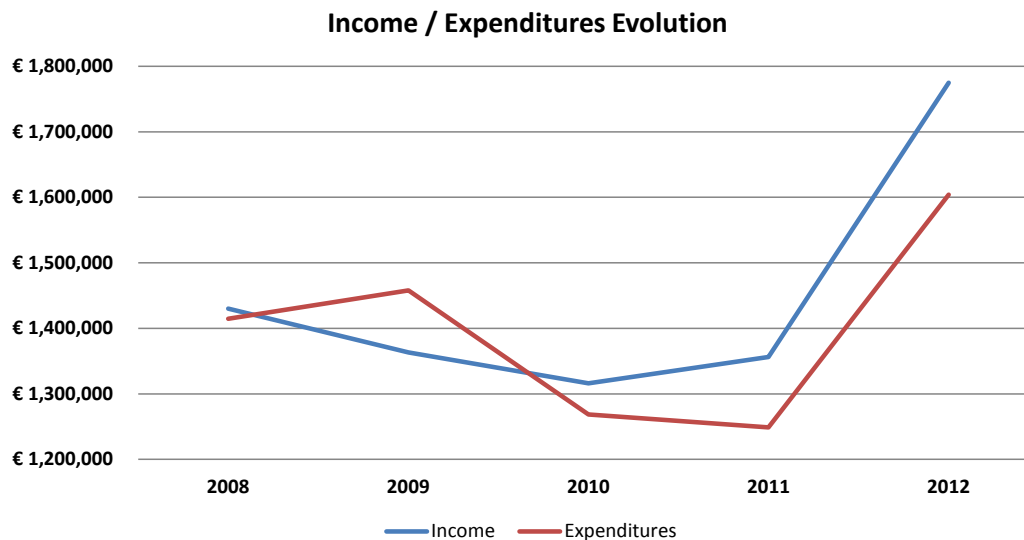
This core budget is financed by members' fees and co-financed by a core grant from the EC, and since 2011 a 3-years grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which focusses on specific activities/programs.

² Excluding the Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness and Beyond 2015 International Campaign that are both financed with their own resources.

3.3 Expenditure and Income – CONCORD only – Year to 31st December 2012

	Budget		Actuals					Actuals/budget	
	2013	2012	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2012 %	2012 €
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€		
Income									
Membership Fees	€ 434,000	€ 485,000	€ 462,145	€ 448,522	€ 433,710	€ 461,288	€ 439,110	-4.71%	€ (22,855)
NGO Contributions	€ 10,000	€ 26,000	€ 47,171	€ 68,343	€ 78,642	€ 68,440	€ 172,217	81.43%	€ 21,171
Other contributions/ foundations		€ 36,950	€ 36,866	€ 65,614	€ 30,000	€ 17,642	€ 7,461	-0.23%	€ (84)
Sub-Total Members & NGOs	€ 444,000	€ 547,950	€ 546,182	€ 582,480	€ 542,352	€ 547,370	€ 618,788	-0.32%	€ (1,768)
EC Grant	€ 700,000	€ 700,000	€ 696,736	€ 691,345	€ 700,000	€ 719,490	€ 673,906	-0.47%	€ (3,264)
Public Subsidy	€ 10,000				€ 28,579	€ 51,000	€ 98,315		€ -
Sub-Total Public Funds	€ 710,000	€ 700,000	€ 696,736	€ 691,345	€ 728,579	€ 770,490	€ 772,221	-0.47%	€ (3,264)
Gates Foundation	€ 490,000	€ 481,113	€ 511,460	€ 62,488				6.31%	€ 30,347
Other Income	€ 25,000	€ 22,500	€ 19,939	€ 18,084	€ 41,262	€ 42,021	€ 34,666	-11.38%	€ (2,561)
Exceptional Income		€ -	€ 3,023	€ 2,103	€ 3,805	€ 3,214	€ 4,381		€ 3,023
Sub-Total Private Funds	€ 515,000	€ 503,613	€ 534,422	€ 82,626	€ 45,067	€ 45,235	€ 39,047	6.12%	€ 30,809
Total Income	€ 1,669,000	€ 1,751,563	€ 1,777,340	€ 1,356,450	€ 1,315,998	€ 1,363,095	€ 1,430,056	1.47%	€ 25,777
Expenditure									
Travel and meeting costs	€ 179,000	€ 166,635	€ 172,675	€ 176,681	€ 172,827	€ 240,401	€ 306,809	3.62%	€ 6,040
Communication & logistics	€ 55,000	€ 78,900	€ 69,076	€ 50,210	€ 29,840	€ 55,596	€ 50,254	-12.45%	€ (9,824)
External services	€ 110,000	€ 122,965	€ 128,840	€ 96,843	€ 107,342	€ 173,919	€ 111,846	4.78%	€ 5,875
Total allocatable costs	€ 344,000	€ 368,500	€ 370,591	€ 323,733	€ 310,009	€ 469,916	€ 468,909	0.57%	€ 2,091
Staff	€ 960,000	€ 940,282	€ 920,256	€ 713,453	€ 692,090	€ 739,012	€ 732,536	-2.13%	€ (20,026)
Overheads	€ 90,000	€ 111,400	€ 98,887	€ 89,699	€ 108,318	€ 99,279	€ 80,261	-11.23%	€ (12,513)
Offices	€ 105,000	€ 115,000	€ 102,525	€ 102,148	€ 111,655	€ 114,795	€ 110,948	-10.85%	€ (12,475)
Other external services	€ 120,000	€ 122,500	€ 111,805	€ 20,000	€ 46,508	€ 34,832	€ 22,112	-8.73%	€ (10,695)
Total staff and overhead costs	€ 1,275,000	€ 1,289,182	€ 1,233,472	€ 925,300	€ 958,571	€ 987,918	€ 945,857	-4.32%	€ (55,710)
Total expenditure	€ 1,619,000	€ 1,657,682	€ 1,604,063	€ 1,249,033	€ 1,268,580	€ 1,457,834	€ 1,414,766	-3.23%	€ (53,619)
Surplus/deficit - Core Activities	€ 50,000	€ 93,881	€ 173,277	€ 107,417	€ 47,418	€ (94,739)	€ 15,290	84.57%	€ 79,396

We can see that since 2010, we've been able to maintain a gap between income and expenses, generating surpluses and building reserves according to CONCORD's multi-annual strategy 2009-2015.



3.3.1 Expenditure

In order to keep membership fees according to Members' capacity, we have reduced our total expenses over the past three years; 2009 - €1,457,834; 2010 - €1,268,580 (down 13%); and 2011 - €1,249,033 (down a further 2%), whilst still keeping at least the same level of activities.

In 2012, the Gates Foundation's grant allowed us to increase our activities³ and hire additional staff⁴, making our expenses go up:

By comparison with 2011, as regards our expenses are all up:

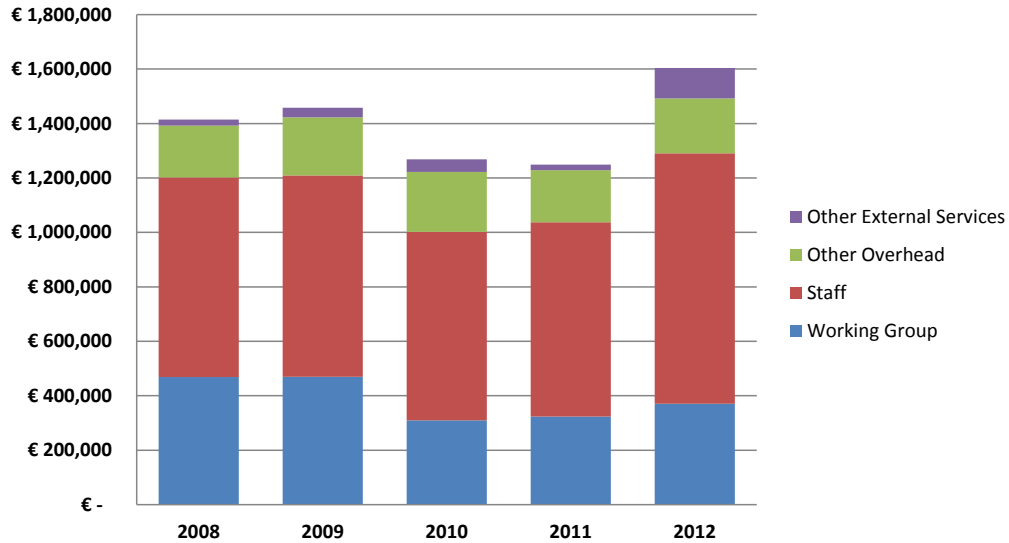
- The cost of Members' working groups/bodies	€46,857 + (+14.47%)
- Staff costs	€206,803 + (+28.99%)
- Other overhead costs	€9,565 + (+4.99%)
- Other external services ⁵	€91,805 +(+459.02%)
- Total expenses	€355,030 + (+28.42%)

³ The work of CONCORD on MFF and ODA is co-funded under the "More and Better Aid" grant from the Gates Foundation

⁴ 4 additional FTE are funded by the Gates Foundation.

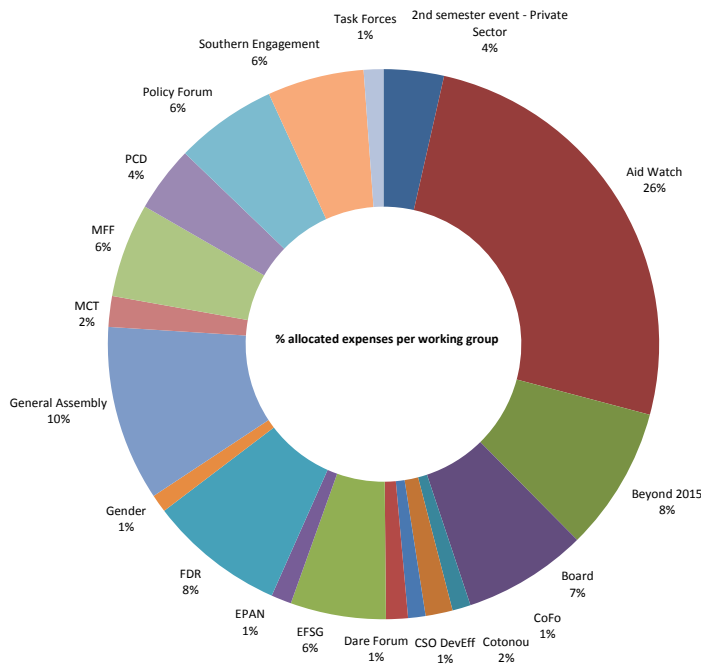
⁵ Contributions to DEEEP and TRIALOG and the Gates subcontracting to National Platforms

Expenses Breakdown



Allocated Expenditures per Activity

CONCORD uses analytical codes to directly allocate costs to its activities (excluding staff costs⁶ and other overhead). For 2012, the split between the different activities⁷ are such:



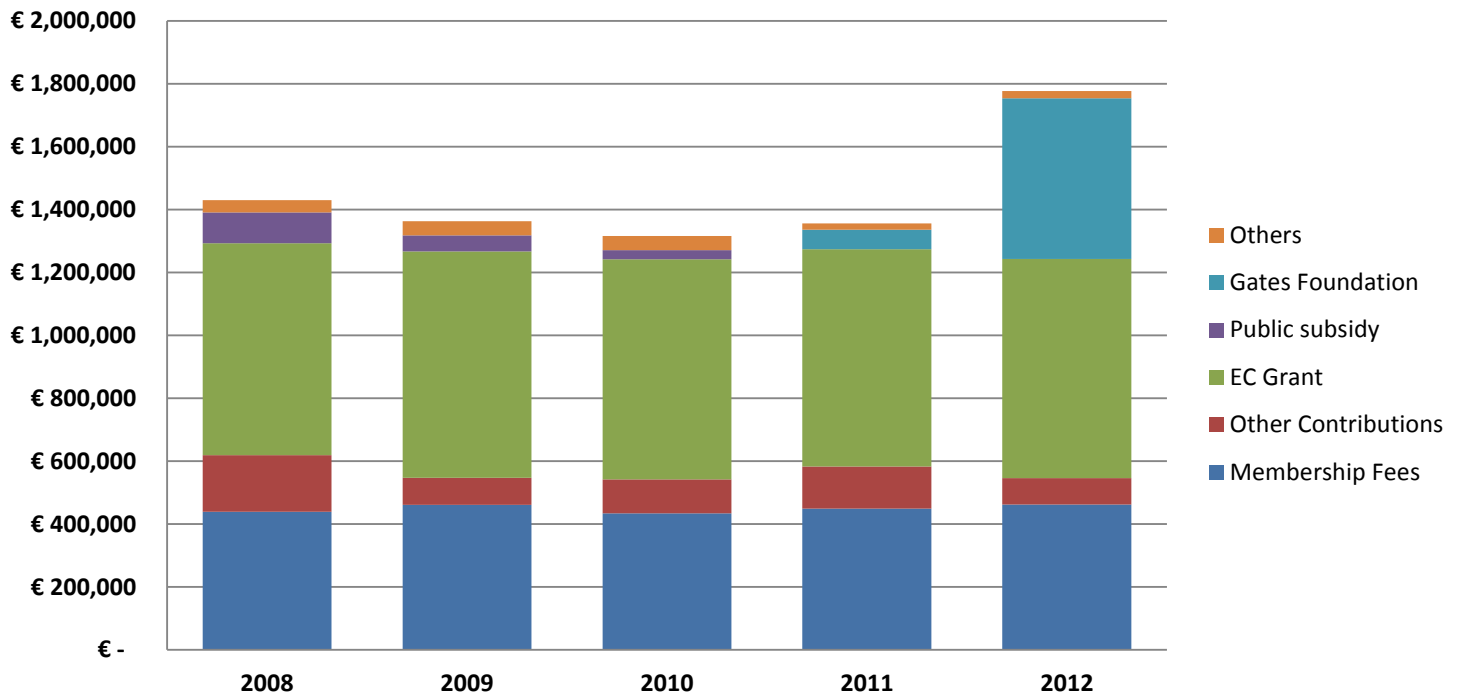
⁶ Except for Beyond 2015 for which part of the staff costs is directly allocated to the Beyond 2015 expenses.

⁷ excluding the sub-contracting to National Platform under the Gates Foundation

3.3.2 Income

Despite a decrease in NGO contribution (excluding fees), our revenue grew by more than 30%. This revenue increase is explained by the first full year of the Gates Foundation Granting.

Income per Origins



By comparison with 2011, our income from:

- Membership fees are up €13,623 + (+3.04%)
- Other income from NGOs is down €49,920 - (-37.26%)
- EC grant is stable €5,391 + (+0.78%)
- Sharp increase of the Gates Foundation €448,972(+718.49%)
- Other income is up €2,825 + (+14,03%)
- **Total income is up €420,890 + (+31,03%)**

Annexes

Annex 1: Board members at the end of 2012**President:**

Joanna MAYCOCK

ActionAid International

Vice President:

Johannes TRIMMEL

Austrian National Platform

Members of the Board:

Rudy DE MEYER

Belgium National Platform

Carlos CABO

Spanish National Platform

Harry GODDARD

Plan Ireland

Rilli LAPPALAINEN

Finnish National Platform

Marina SARLI

Greek National Platform

Glen TARMAN

UK National Platform

Izabella TOTH

CIDSE

Marius WANDERS

World Vision

Annex 2 : CONCORD PRIORITIES 2013

The scheme below reflects 2013 priorities by working group and their links with the overall confederation wide priorities:

- a) To develop, agree on and create ownership of a sharp visionary political **narrative** that will strengthen the activities of CONCORD and its members with regard to the next EP elections, the appointment of the new EC and the EU position on post-2015 framework.
- b) To influence the EU **Multi-Annual Financial Framework** 2014 – 2020 on budget chapters and programming which will be critical for the work of CONCORD and its members.
- c) To build a logical, manageable and coherent plan for **leadership development, membership engagement, and communication** within the confederation.

Annex 3: Description of the political working groups (end of 2012)

Policy Forum:

CONCORD's 'political spearhead', discussing and sharing political intelligence and coordinating policy work.

- ◆ Co-Chairs: Ester Asin (CARE), asin@careinternational.org, and Philippe Jahshan (French NP), pjahshan@solidarite-laique.asso.fr
- ◆ Contact secretariat: Sabine Terlecki (Sabine.TERLECKI@concordeurope.org) - Tel. +32 2 743 87 81)

Conveners Forum

The Conveners' Forum brings together conveners, coordinators (co-)chairs and vice chairs of CONCORD working structures. Its purposes, inter alia, are to ensure consistency and synergies across working processes, to identify and strengthen synergies and enable collaboration among different working structures. In addition, the Conveners Forum is a space for mutual learning and capacity building, with the aim of strengthening the capacity of CONCORD working structures to deliver quality work.

- ◆ Chair: Rilli Lappalainen (KEHYS), rilli.lappalainen@kehys.fi
- ◆ Contact Secretariat : Sabine Terlecki (sterlecki@concordeurope.org) - Tel. +32 2 743 87 81)

HRBA Task Force

The HRBA TF mandate is to: promote exchange of experience, raise awareness, increase understanding, expertise and capacity on human rights-based approach to development within CONCORD constituency; mainstream HRBA in CONCORD policy; enable CONCORD to include HRBA in its policy dialogue with EU institutions.

- ◆ Chair: Judit Almasi F.I Terre des Hommes (judit.almasi@tdh.ch)
- ◆ Contact secretariat: Sabine Terlecki (sterlecki@concordeurope.org) - Tel. +32 2 743 87 81)

AidWatch:

AidWatch is a pan-European lobby and campaigns initiative monitoring and advocating on the quality and the quantity of ODA provided by the EU member states and the European Commission. The AidWatch network is an active group of aid experts from across the 27 EU Member States, working collectively to hold EU Member States to account on their aid quality and quantity commitments. Each year, the AidWatch Initiative publishes a European-wide report analysing the qualitative and quantitative performance of each EU Member States and the European Commission according to international and EU pledges on aid. The initiative also carries out ongoing lobby, research and campaigns activities on a wide range of aid related issues throughout the year.

- ◆ Co-chairs: Wiske Jult, 11.11.11 (wiske.jult@11.be), Luca de Fraia, ActionAid Italy (Luca.Defraia@actionaid.org) and Jeroen Kwakkenbos, Eurodad (JeroenKwakkenbos@eurodad.org)
- ◆ Contact secretariat: Zuzana Sladkova – AidWatch Coordinator (zuzana.sladkova@concordeurope.org) – Tel: +32 2 743 87 72)

Policy coherence for development (PCD) coordination group:

Set up in 2007, the role of this Coordination Group is to promote policy coherence for development in all the EU and national policies; to ensure co-ordination of CONCORD's engagement towards the EU institutions on PCD; to raise awareness within the Confederation and European civil society in general about the PCD agenda; to implement where appropriate advocacy strategies developed by other working groups; to build-up policy and advocacy capacity of members vis-à-vis their Member States on PCD and to share the best practices; to coordinate the initiatives led by the platforms when necessary; to provide a space within CONCORD for analysis / experience sharing on PCD; to strengthen CONCORD's capacity to raise cases of (EU) policy incoherencies; to ensure that there is a comprehensive and regular dialogue between the EU and its Southern partners on PCD.

It develops analytical, methodological and training tools to enable CONCORD to mainstream a PCD approach within all the policy areas and advocacy work of CONCORD; and to build-up the capacity of CONCORD members on PCD. It coordinates a biennial report ("Spotlight on PCD"). It works in close link with the thematic groups (food security, trade, climate change, etc.).

- ◆ Chair : Laust Gregersen, Concord DK (llg@concorddanmark.dk)
- ◆ Contact CONCORD Secretariat: Blandine Bouniol (Blandine.Bouniol@concordeurope.org) – Tel: +32 2 743 87 61).

Trade reference group (part of PCD):

The Trade reference group is a forum where CONCORD members share policy intelligence and analysis on EU trade agenda, in particular trade, growth and development agenda, and its impacts on development objectives (sustainable development and poverty eradication)

and UN Development Goals. The group particularly focuses on the EU agenda relating to. The group also feeds in trade expertise into other working groups' work..

- ◆ Co-lead: Karin Ulmer, APRODEV (k.ulmer@aprodev.net), Marc Maes, 11.11.11 (marc.maes@11.be)
- ◆ Contact CONCORD Secretariat: Colin Kampschoer (Colin.Kampschoer@concordeurope.org – Tel: +32 2 743 87 74)

Climate Change and Development task force (part of PCD):

A task force was set up in January 2009. CAN is a key partner of CONCORD in this process, the latter providing the development perspective in the climate change debate, and vice-versa. Focus is on: financing adaptation to Climate change (looking at funding mechanisms proposals), climate Justice, adaptation and mitigation, low carbon development.

The group remains for the time being a task force and develops ad hoc policy initiatives when appropriate. The core issues that the task force continues to look at: climate financing, adaptation and development, coherence of climate/environmental policies with EU development policies, and the link between climate change and development in general.

- ◆ Contact CONCORD Secretariat: Colin Kampschoer (Colin.Kampschoer@concordeurope.org – Tel: +32 2 743 87 74).

Migration & Development 'ad hoc' group (part of PCD):

The aim of this informal group is to share policy intelligence and analysis on migration and development issues and coordinate members' initiatives in this field at EU level where appropriate– for example, policy analysis and advocacy on the EU Global Approach to Migration and participation in the annual Global Forum on Migration and Development.(GFMD). The group maintains a level of capacity within the Confederation that feeds into CONCORD's work on PCD and other working groups. The group engages also in the broader grouping of the CSO contact group on migration and development.

- ◆ Lead: Bob van Dillen, Cordaid (member of Caritas Europa, CIDSE and PARTOS) (Bod.van.Dillen@cordaid.nl)
- ◆ Contact CONCORD Secretariat: Blandine Bouniol (Blandine.Bouniol@concordeurope.org – Tel: +32 2 743 87 61).

Raw Material Task Force (part of PCD):

The Raw Materials Task Force was created beginning 2012 after CONCORD members expressed their interest to work more coordinated and actively on the EU Raw Materials Initiative (RMI) and other EU policies that are related with the governance of raw materials in developing countries. This Task Force brings together an already existing group of NGOs working on the RMI (the S2B-RMI mailing list), and CONCORD members working on raw materials issues. The Task Force reports to the PCD Coordination Group, and contributes to the Group's overall strategy relating to PCD. The aim of the Task Force is to have more visibility and effective coordinated actions by CONCORD members on raw materials policies of the EU.

- ◆ Lead: Koen Warmenbol (Koen.Warmenbol@11.be)
- ◆ Contact CONCORD Secretariat: Colin Kampschoer (Colin.Kampschoer@concordeurope.org – Tel: +32 2 743 87 74)

European Food Security Group (EFSG):

The EFSG offers a representative forum of European NGOs involved in policy as well as practical issues related to food security, and acts as a reference group in promoting a structured and regular dialogue between NGOs, the European Institutions and relevant international stakeholders. It intends to demonstrate the impact of NGO programmes and expertise, in particular vis-à-vis the most vulnerable groups. The group also aims at providing updated information and policy analysis on food security to be integrated, wherever relevant, in common CONCORD policy and lobbying activities. The group has created three task forces along its priority areas on i) Common Agricultural Policy, ii) EU food security policy and ii) the Committee on World Food Security (CFS). The group is also participating in the broader Civil Society Mechanism to the CFS, for Western Europe.

- ◆ Chair: Stineke Oenema, ICCO (member of APRODEV and PARTOS) (Stineke.oenema@icco.nl – + 31 3 06 92 79 47)
- ◆ Contact CONCORD Secretariat: Blandine Bouniol (Blandine.Bouniol@concordeurope.org – Tel: +32 2 743 87 61).

Cotonou Working Group:

The group focus its work on: civil society participation and strengthening the links with ACP organisations; the evaluation of the 10th European Development Fund (EDF) programming process; the monitoring of the EDF regional programming process; on lobbying and fostering the links with the Joint Parliamentary Assembly.

- ◆ Chair: Wiske Jult (wiske.jult@11.be)
- ◆ Contact secretariat: Sabine Terlecki (sterlecki@concordeurope.org) - Tel. +32 2 743 87 81)

Gender Working Group:

CONCORD has identified the strengthening of gender & development awareness and advocacy work within CONCORD and at EU level as a cross-cutting issue and key to achieving CONCORD's strategic objectives. The overall objective of the Gender WG is to ensure that gender is at the centre of EU Development Policy. This work is done through gender and development advocacy and lobby work and by engaging in structured dialogue with EU. The group also advises CONCORD bodies on how to raise awareness and build gender competence on EU development issues.

- ◆ CO-coordinators: Karen Schroh, Plan International (karen.schroh@plan-international.org), Elena d'Urzo, IPPF-EN (edurzo@ippfen.org)
- ◆ Secretariat Contact: Sabine Terlecki (sterlecki@concordeurope.org) - Tel. +32 2 743 87 81)

HIV and AIDS Working Group:

This group had its terms of references approved by CONCORD Board in September 2008 and has established a work plan, mainly focused on the review of the Commission's Action Plan on HIV/AIDs, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

- ◆ Co-chair Brussel: Arben Fetai, Stop Aids Alliance (afetai@stopaidsalliance.org)
- ◆ Co-chair outside of Brussel: Elena Villanueva, Global Sida (elena.villanueva@globalsida.org)
- ◆ Contact secretariat: Sabine Terlecki (sterlecki@concordeurope.org) - Tel. +32 2 743 87 81)

MFF Working Group

The MFF taskforce was set up in October 2010 to follow-up the negotiations regarding the European Union Multiannual Financial Framework - MFF 2014-2020. The objective of the MFF taskforce is to develop clear CONCORD positions on the next MFF in order to lobby European Institutions and make sure the CONCORD positions on foreign and development policies and funding are taken into account.

- ◆ CoChairs: Cécile Benhamou, Care (benhamou@careinternational.org) and Lars Bosselmann, CBM (lars.bosselmann@cbm.org)
- ◆ Contact secretariat: Lonnie Poissonnier (lonnie.poissonnier@concordeurope.org), Tel. +32 2 743 87 76)

Development Awareness Raising and Education (DARE) Forum:

The DARE Forum brings together practitioners and experts of Development Education, Awareness Raising (DEAR), Global learning and campaigning from most EU member states and a number of INGOs. The group meets bi-annually to establish common strategies to increase the impact of and support for Development Education and Awareness Raising activities in Europe. The Forum has a steering group and five subgroups: Advocacy, Formal Education, Quality & Impact, Youth & Children and Communication.

- ◆ Chair: Mari-Helene Kaber, Estonian National Platform (mari@humanae.ee)
- ◆ Vice Chair: Nicole Ikuku, Luxembourg National Platform (astm@astm.lu)
- ◆ Contact CONCORD Secretariat: Tobias Troll (tobias.troll@concordeurope.org) Tel. +32 (0) 2 743 87 78)

CSO Development Effectiveness:

This working group aims at supporting the efforts of CONCORD members to address, improve and demonstrate the effectiveness of European NGOs in development. The working group's main focus will be on CSOs' own effectiveness, including on the roles and identity of NGOs in development and on the environment that is needed to allow CSOs to realise their full potential in development. The group will link up CONCORD's membership with the Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness.

- ◆ Chair : Marco Cordero, Coordination Sud (cordero@coordinationsud.org)
- ◆ Contact Secrétariat : Daniel Nuijten (dnuijten@concordeurope.org)

Enlargement, Pre-accession and Neighborhood (EPAN):

The group brings together members from all over the EU and candidate countries to monitor the implementation of the European Neighbourhood Partnership Instrument (ENPI) and the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) of the European Union as well as supporting CSO strengthening in the European neighbourhood and Western Balkans. Members of the group are involved in the Eastern Partnership civil society forum and publish regular policy statements that have received personal responses from Commissioner Stefan Füle.

- ◆ Chair: Valery Pandzharov, Bulgarian National platform (VPandzharov@mtsp.gov.mk)
- ◆ Contact/convener: Alexander Muterko, Policy Officer & Special EU Liaison for Middle East/Eastern Europe at World Vision Brussels (Alexander.Muterko@wvi.org), +32 (0)2274 18 68

Funding for Development and Relief (FDR) Working Group:

The policy work of the FDR Group focuses on European Union - NGO funding policies and priorities, on the allocation of funds to these priorities and on the European funding process and organisation. The FDR has a steering group and 3 subgroups: de-concentration, financial regulations, geographic and thematic instruments.

- ◆ Co-Chairs: Alexandra Makaroff, Plan International (Alexandra.Makaroff@plan-international.org) and Ria Hulsman (Dutch NP); rhulsman@hivos.nl
- ◆ Contact secretariat: Colin Kampschoer colin.kampschoer@concordeurope.org, Tel. +32 2 743 87 93)

Beyond 2015 European Taskforce

The European taskforce of Beyond 2015 is open to all European participating organisations in Beyond 2015 and CONCORD members. As stated in its [Terms of Reference](#), the mandate of the European Taskforce, led by its Steering Group, is threefold:

- to lead and support the organisation of events, national deliberations, or other activities aimed at developing a European civil society position on the post-2015 global agenda;
- to follow the main processes which may have an influence on the EU's position on post-2015 such as the implementation of the provisions which, in the Agenda for Change or other official EU positions may relate to the post-2015 scenario;
- to coordinate efforts at the national and Brussels level in order to influence both the European Institutions and the Member States to agree on an official EU position on post-2015 that is in line with [Beyond 2015 essential must-haves](#).
- ◆ Co-Chairs: Tanya Cox, Save the children (tanya.cox@savethechildren.be) and Cliona Sharkey, Trócaire (csharkey@trocaire.ie)
- ◆ Contact secretariat: Gerard Vives (gvives@concordeurope.org), Tel. 32 (0)2 743 87 71

CONCORD Southern partnership reference group:

In consistency with the CONCORD Strategic Plan 2009-2015, which reaffirms the Confederation's intention of building alliances with Civil Society Organisations in other parts of the world, CONCORD has made formal agreement of mutual partnership with partners from [Latin America](#) and [Africa](#) and is also stepping up its relationship with regional CSO platforms in [Asia](#) and the [Arab region](#). To facilitate the implementation of these agreements and to develop a long term approach for existing and potential partnerships with Southern alliances of CSOs, the CONCORD Board decided to establish a Reference Group with the following working areas:

- Enabling a joint reflection on the challenges faced by development today
- Encouraging and facilitate CONCORD working structures to involve the participation of CSOs from other parts of the world in their work
- Reciprocal involvement in meetings (General Assemblies of partners, bi-regional civil society conferences, etc)
- Involvement of our partners in the shaping of the post-MDG global agenda
- Improvement of CONCORDs relations and contacts with other regional actors, for example in the Arab region.
- ◆ Chair: Gérard Karlshausen, (gerard.karlshausen@cncd.be)
- ◆ Contact secretariat: Nathalie Bekier Djerf (Nathalie.BEKIERDJERF@concordeurope.org), Tel. 32 (0)2 743 87 62

Annex 4: Monitoring the activities of CONCORD members in 2012

Participation to CONCORD activities for year 2012 (number of attendees)

Row Labels	Associate member	CONCORD Secretariat	Non Concord member	NP	NW	Grand Total 2012	Grand Total 2011	Grand Total 2010
Aidwatch		18	39	147	69	273	154	187
Beyond 2015		18	79	77	92	266	46	
Board		14	1	36	9	60	60	43
Conveners Forum		6	1	16	12	35	63	
Cotonou		3	49	10	6	68	94	22
CSO effectiveness		10	29	41	3	83	90	49
DE Forum		1	19	76	1	97	107	105
EFSG		10	25	108	43	186	80	89
EPAN			8	20	2	30	50	22
FDR		7	1	53	60	121	116	168
Financial Taskforce		4		6	7	17	6	4
Gender + RBA		2		6	10	18		
General Assembly	2	22	42	45	35	146	127	87
HIV/AIDS			5	2	1	8	30	8
MFF		22	24	65	104	215	120	
Other/New working processes		14	9	30	25	78	13	
PCD		12	11	76	41	140	131	73
Policy Forum		36	5	96	95	232	187	159
Southern engagement		2		2		4	18	
Structured dialogue	3	2	1	4	5	15	87	168
Grand Total 2012	5	203	348	916	620	2092	16	
							151	63
							1746	1299

Annual figures for members' activity in 2012 at Confederation level

The total number of participants in CONCORD activities in 2012 was 2092, an increase from 1746 participants in 2011 (+19.8%), and an increase from 1299 participants in 2010 (+61%).

Participation figures are based on the number of participants to each meeting and event organised by CONCORD in a given year.

National Platforms:	916 participants
Networks:	620 participants
Non CONCORD member:	348 participants
CONCORD secretariat:	203 participants
Associate member:	5 participants

The high level of participation from our National Platforms highlights their importance/relevance to CONCORD on a pan European level.

The use of conference calls, as encouraged by CONCORD, has notably increased and thereby reducing overall costs and our carbon footprint.

Top four processes/Activities

AidWatch – 273

Beyond 2015 – 266

Policy Forum – 232

MFF – 215

Top four participation:

UK – 120

Belgium – 117

ActionAid – 84

Finland – 70

Annex 5 : New CONCORD members 2012

European NGO confederation
for relief and development



Confédération européenne des ONG
d'urgence et de développement



NAME of the organisation: Lithuanian Umbrella

Short background

LU (Lithuanian Umbrella) formed by the two Lithuanian NGDO networks Lithuanian National Platform of Development NGOs and Lithuanian Development Education and Awareness Raising Network (LITDEA) in 2012.

Main fields of action:

LU unites 28 Lithuanian NGOs. The greater part of LU member organisations see development activities as their primary goal - these are mainly NGOs working on the issues of human rights, democracy development, civil society development, gender equality, social justice.

The vision of the newly created Lithuanian Umbrella organisation is twofold: to be a part of the European NGO family and play an active role in global development processes. Having still vivid memories of their own transition they strongly believe in their capacity to share best practises and lessons learned with the countries suffering from undemocratic regimes, harsh human rights violations or even struggling for life. As second part of their mission the LU activities are oriented towards the dissemination of values and ideas of development cooperation and development education all over Lithuania. LU is seeking a strong partnership and dialogue with national governmental and non-governmental institutions that work with development issues.

Where is LU based?

Lithuanian National Platform of Development NGOs www.pagalba.org

Odminių str. 12 01122 Vilnius Tel: +370 68680676

Contact Person Marta Cubajevaite, info@pagalba.org

LITDEA www.litdea.eu

Raguvos g.7 44275 Kaunas Tel: +370 686 60464

Contact Person Lina Kalibataite, Chair of the Board, lina@kolping.lt

European NGO confederation
for relief and development

CONCORD

Confédération européenne des ONG
d'urgence et de développement



NAME of the organisation: WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE (WWF)

Short background

WWF was established in 1961 (in Switzerland) as a charity to fundraise for conservation projects around the world. WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:

- conserving the world's biological diversity
- ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable
- Promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

Main fields of action:

The WWF Network is present in more than 80 countries worldwide and works on climate change, energy, water, forests, biodiversity, marine and fisheries resources and sustainable management of critical natural resources on which people, particularly in rural areas, depend for their livelihoods. In all their work they stress that conservation and environmental protection can only be successful where they also contribute to human wellbeing and equitable and sustainable development.

Where is WWF based?

168 avenue de Tervurenlaan Box 20
1150 Brussels
Belgium

Tel: +32 2 743 88 00

Fax: +32 2 743 88 19

E-mail: wwf-epo@wwf.eu

www.wwf.eu

Annex 6: Communications

New website and the start of 'CONCORD Mobile'

2012 saw the launch of the brand new CONCORD website, complete with a freshly redesigned easy to use layout and structure. Accessibility options for the visually impaired were also built into the design. The website features a headline image box to impact visitors right away, as well as a publications library for quick access to documents and reports. Members are profiled more prominently than before, with a members list featuring across all pages of the site.

Some months after launch we also developed a mobile version of the website to be up-to-date with the latest changes in online technology.

www.concordeurope.org

Blogs

We started using Blogs for the first time in 2012, giving us the chance to be more conversational with both our members and stakeholders.

Both the Director and President wrote several pieces, with members and others set to feature their own articles in 2013.

Infographics

€0.50 cents per week. 85% of citizens support it. Only 0.09% of national wealth. That's how the catchy 'Multiannual Financial Framework' got simplified in our first infographic published in 2012.

This increasingly popular way of displaying information proved a big hit in 2012, with the European institutions and key journalists sharing the several CONCORD infographics.

Press coverage

Our aim in 2012 was to feature our views and reactions in top quality media. Coverage in leading news services such as the BBC, Reuters, The Guardian and the New York Times to mention a few show that we managed to get across our perspectives to the top publications.

There was also TV coverage in pan-European broadcasters such as Euronews, and several notable features in national press across Europe.

Newsletters

In 2012 we continued to use our two main newsletter services, with plans to integrate them into a new extranet in 2013.

Member to Member: Every 2 weeks, featuring members events, job vacancies, work calendar and news on publications.

EU Monitoring: Every week, featuring a roundup of the latest EU development news, with a full list of EU funding opportunities for NGOs.

#Social media

We continued to build on last year's new presence by developing our Twitter and Facebook presence.

Annex 7 : 2012-2013 Membership Fees

In 2012, under the leadership of the Board and the FAC, CONCORD has put in place a new Fees System for the years 2013-2015. This system has been based on free/voluntary approach where each Member decides –depending on its own capacity- the level of its contribution to the CONCORD’s membership Fees. In a time of crisis for all CSO’s in many different countries, the output of this process showed a renewed commitment and ownership of CONCORD’s Members on their confederation. Indeed, the level of expected fees for 2013 is closed to the collected amounts of the previous years.

Denomination	NP/NW/ AM	Country	2012 fees approved during 2011 GA	Revised fee 2012 (as decided by Board)	2013 self-selected Fees
ACTIONAID INTERNATIONAL	NW		€ 12,720	€ 12,720	€ 16,000
ADRA	NW		€ 9,000	€ 9,000	€ 8,000
ALDA	AM		€ 5,000	€ 5,000	€ 2,500
APRODEV	NW		€ 20,670	€ 20,670	€ 20,000
ARENGUKOOSTÕÕ ÜMARLAUD	NP	Estonia	€ 630	€ 630	€ 1,000
ASSOCIAZIONE ONG ITALIANE	NP	Italy	€ 20,670	€ 12,000	€ 8,000
BOND	NP	United Kingdom	€ 26,500	€ 26,500	€ 20,000
BPID	NP	Bulgaria	€ 1,060	€ 250	€ 500
CARE INTERNATIONAL	NW		€ 12,985	€ 12,985	€ 13,000
CARITAS EUROPA	NW		€ 20,670	€ 12,720	€ 12,000
CBM	NW		€ 10,600	€ 10,600	€ 12,000
CERCLE DE COOPERATION DES ONGD DU Lux.	NP	Luxembourg	€ 11,130	€ 11,130	€ 12,000
CIDSE	NW		€ 20,670	€ 20,670	€ 16,000
CONCORD DENMARK	NP	Denmark	€ 16,430	€ 16,430	€ 16,430
CONCORD SWEDEN	NP	Sweden	€ 16,430	€ 16,430	€ 16,000
CONGDE	NP	Spain	€ 16,430	€ 16,430	€ 12,000
COORDINATION SUD	NP	France	€ 20,670	€ 20,670	€ 20,000
COPROGRAM (CONCORD BELGIUM)	NP	Belgium	€ 16,430	€ 16,430	€ 16,500
CYINDEP	NP	Cyprus	€ 3,880	€ 3,880	€ 1,000
DOCHAS	NP	Ireland	€ 12,720	€ 12,720	€ 12,720
EU CORD	NW		€ 9,540	€ 9,540	€ 6,500
EUROSTEP	NW		€ 12,720	€ 5,000	€ 5,000
FOND	NP	Romania	€ -	€ -	€ -
FORS	NP	Czech Republic	€ 3,880	€ 3,110	€ 3,000
GLOBALE VERANTWORTUNG	NP	Austria	€ 11,130	€ 11,130	€ 12,000
GREEK PLATFORM FOR DEVELOPMENT	NP	Greece	€ 1,590	€ 1,590	€ 800
GRUPA ZAGRANICA	NP	Poland	€ 3,880	€ 3,880	€ 1,000
HAND	NP	Hungary	€ 3,880	€ (0)	€ 1,000
HANDICAP INTERNATIONAL	NW		€ 9,540	€ 9,540	€ 4,770
IPPF - EN	NW		€ 12,720	€ 12,720	€ 12,720
ISLAMIC RELIEF	NW		€ 9,540	€ 9,540	€ 9,540
KEHYS RY	NP	Finland	€ 12,720	€ 12,720	€ 13,000
LAPAS	NP	Latvia	€ 3,880	€ 3,880	€ 1,000
MVRO	NP	Slovakia	€ 3,880	€ 1,940	€ 1,000
OXFAM INTERNATIONAL	NW		€ 12,720	€ 12,720	€ 14,000
PARTOS	NP	The Netherlands	€ 20,670	€ 20,670	€ 16,000
PLAN EUROPE	NW		€ 12,720	€ 12,720	€ 12,700
PLATAFORMA PORTUGUESA DAS ONGD	NP	Portugal	€ 3,880	€ 3,880	€ 3,880
SAVE THE CHILDREN ALLIANCE	NW		€ 12,720	€ 12,720	€ 20,000
SKOP	NP	Malta	€ 1,060	€ 1,060	€ 1,000
SLOGA	NP	Slovenia	€ 3,880	€ 3,880	€ 2,500
SOLIDAR	NW		€ 9,540	€ 5,000	€ 5,000
TERRE DES HOMMES INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION	NW		€ 9,540	€ 9,540	€ 10,000
VENRO	NP	Germany	€ 26,500	€ 26,500	€ 20,000
WORLDVISION INTERNATIONAL	NW		€ 12,720	€ 12,720	€ 16,000
WWF	AM			€ 6,000	€ 6,000
		Total	€ 500,142	€ 469,862	€ 434,060

Annex 8 : All CONCORD detailed incomes and expenses

Expenses

	Expenditures										
	All EC Eligible Costs					Non EC Eligible Amounts					TOTAL EC ET NON EC
	EC Only	EC & Gates	EC & Euronaid	Total EC eligible costs	Open Forum non EC	Gates non EC	Beyond 2015 non EC	Others non EC	Total Non EC eligible costs		
0-Revenue											
1-Offices	€ 61,381	€ 26,807	€ -	€ 88,189	€ 17,860		€ 5,578	€ 14,336	€ 37,775	€ 125,964	
2-Travels and meetings	€ 86,222	€ 66,960	€ 11,235	€ 164,417	€ 56,952	€ 848	€ 9,935	€ 7,410	€ 75,145	€ 239,562	
3-Overhead	€ 81,263	€ 2,731	€ 1,721	€ 85,715	€ 51,292		€ 9,681	€ 13,172	€ 74,145	€ 159,860	
4-Communication	€ 32,180	€ 37,672	€ 1,333	€ 71,185	€ 36,738		€ 450	€ (2,109)	€ 35,079	€ 106,264	
5-External services	€ 59,515	€ 63,707	€ 3,118	€ 126,340	€ 106,997	€ 2,500	€ 24,953	€ 20,000	€ 154,451	€ 280,790	
6-Staff costs	€ 287,688	€ 385,077	€ 19,460	€ 692,225	€ 188,611		€ 58,306	€ 228,031	€ 474,948	€ 1,167,173	
7-Others											
sous total											
8- non NE						€ 91,805				€ 91,805	
Total expenses	€ 608,250	€ 582,954	€ 36,866	€ 1,228,070	€ 458,451	€ 95,153	€ 108,904	€ 280,840	€ 943,347	€ 2,171,418	

Revenue

	Fundings											
	Fundings for the EC Eligible Costs					Funding for Non Ec Eligible Costs					Total EC and Non EC	
	EC Grant	GATES	Euronaid	Membership Fees	Total Fundings EC Eligible	Open Forum non EC	Beyond 2015 non EC	Gates non EC	Membership Fess	Others		Total Funding Non EC eligible
0-Revenue												
1-Offices	€ 50,268	€ 16,084	€ -	€ 21,837	€ 88,189						€ -	€ 88,189
2-Travels and meetings	€ 93,718	€ 40,176	€ 11,235	€ 19,288	€ 164,417			€ 509			€ 509	€ 164,926
3-Overhead	€ 48,858	€ 1,638	€ 1,721	€ 33,498	€ 85,715						€ -	€ 85,715
4-Communication	€ 38,732	€ 31,121	€ 1,333	€ -	€ 71,185						€ -	€ 71,185
5-External services	€ 70,593	€ 52,628	€ 3,118	€ -	€ 126,340			€ 2,065			€ 2,065	€ 128,405
6-Staff costs	€ 394,568	€ 231,046	€ 19,460	€ 47,151	€ 692,225						€ -	€ 692,225
7-Others								€ 60,352			€ 60,352	€ 60,352
sous total											€ -	€ -
8- non NE						€ 458,451	€ 108,904	€ 75,840	€ 340,371	€ 70,133	€ 1,053,699	€ 1,053,699
Total expenses	€ 696,736	€ 372,694	€ 36,866	€ 121,774	€ 1,228,070	€ 458,451	€ 108,904	€ 138,765	€ 340,371	€ 70,133	€ 1,116,625	€ 2,344,695

Annex 9 : Open Forum

The Open Forum was supposed to be closed in March 2012 but continued throughout the year 2012.⁸

The Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness is a unique space for CSOs (Civil Society Organisations) worldwide to engage in *a global and fully participatory process towards defining and implementing a framework of mutually shared development effectiveness principles*. The Open Forum process has been running since 2009, and you can find out more about the history and background on its website: www.cso-effectiveness.org

Since Accra, civil society has been working on aid and development effectiveness issues, at the global level, via two parallel platforms: The Open Forum platform, working on articulating our role as independent development actors and on issues of CSO development effectiveness and enabling environment specifically; while at the same time, the BetterAid platform has been working on monitoring government and donor commitments to development effectiveness made at HLF2 (Paris) and HLF3 (Accra).

The successful outcomes of the Open Forum process have been well documented, and include the International Framework for CSO Development Effectiveness, which is the results of a three-year consultation process with thousands of CSOs across the globe in 70+ countries (and which was acknowledged in §22 of the final outcome document of the HLF4), as well as its accompanying toolkits to support CSOs in putting the principles into practice in their own national and organizational contexts, and advocating for a more enabling environment in their countries.

Given the evolving aid and development effectiveness architecture after HLF4 (Busan, December 2011) as well as the accountabilities that the CSO sector has committed to in Busan, there is a need for the sector to further advance positive policy gains in aid and official cooperation reform, and advance on our own commitments as independent development actors. In order to fulfill these functions, Open Forum and BetterAid (as the two global CSO development effectiveness platforms) have taken stock of their work in this process and re-organised themselves into the CSO Platform for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) in order to more effectively engage the new policy context which will be taking shape throughout 2012.

In order to assist in the smooth transition to this new global platform (which took shape throughout 2012), as well as ensuring that CSO effectiveness activities continue to happen during the transition period, the governing body of the Open Forum has agreed to extend the mandate of the process until it is fully transitioned to the new CSO Partnership for CSO Development Effectiveness structure. The activities for January to June 2012 were funded with the carry-over from 2011 and a contract extension from Sida to allow expenditures for the full year.

The specific activities of the Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness were:

- 1) Developing, testing and finalizing a training methodology for 'putting the Istanbul principles into practice', to support civil society in the fulfillment of the global effectiveness commitments that have been made in Busan, and start preparing for the implementation of the Principles for CSO Development Effectiveness and advocacy for an enabling environment at regional, national and organizational levels.
- 2) Developing an on-line, interactive and 'living' version of the implementation toolkit, so that CSOs can continue to share their tools, resources and best practices into the next phase of CSO effectiveness work: <http://wiki.cso-effectiveness.org/>

⁸ And will finally close in June 2013.

- 3) Supporting the establishment of the CPDE joint CSO platform and maintaining ongoing management functions during the transition period
- 4) Ongoing outreach, dissemination, network building and communication to maintain the momentum generated through the last three years of the Open Forum process on development effectiveness and enabling environment, and ahead of the establishment of the common platform being developed

Finance Report:

Government Grant	€	452,409
Other Income	€	6,042
Total Income	€	458,451
Travel and meeting costs	€	56,952
Communication & logistics	€	36,738
External services	€	47,058
	€	140,748
Staff	€	188,611
Overheads	€	20,784
Offices	€	17,860
Other external services	€	59,940
	€	287,195
Exceptional Charges	€	30,508
Total Charges	€	458,451
Surplus/Deficit	€	-

We can see that the Open Forum accounts are financially neutral to CONCORD as it is “self-financed”. Nevertheless a provision has been created following an audit from the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding a €50,000 grant that the Open Forum received in 2009 for the kick-off of its activities and for which an amount of +/-€30,000 is likely to be reimbursed to the Spanish Government.

Annex 10 : Beyond 2015 International

Governements Grants	€	54,141
Other income	€	54,763
Total Income	€	108,904
Travel and meeting costs	€	9,935
Communication & logistics	€	450
External services	€	24,953
	€	35,339
Staff	€	58,306
Overheads	€	9,681
Offices	€	5,578
Other external services	€	0
	€	73,565
Total Charges	€	108,904
Surplus/Deficit	€	0

In 2012, Beyond 2015 grew from 262 CSOs in 65 countries to 585 CSOs in 96 countries. In Europe, the Concord – Beyond 2015 European Task Force links +200 CSOs from 28 countries.

Globally, Beyond 2015 has been focusing on three major strands of work in 2012:

1. Facilitating and supporting national CSO engagement on the post-2015 agenda in 30 countries throughout Africa, Asia and Latin America. See <http://www.beyond2015.org/cso-led-national-deliberations>
2. Providing coordinated campaign input into the UN led thematic consultations on the post-2015 framework. See <http://www.beyond2015.org/cso-input-thematic-consultations>
3. Leading a detailed reflection process on the vision, purpose, values and criteria of the post-2015 framework. See <http://www.beyond2015.org/content-discussion>

Annex 11: CONCORD Audits**CONCORD AISBL**

**STATUTORY AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MEMBERS
ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2012**

In accordance with the legal and statutory requirements, we report to you on the performance of the mandate of statutory auditor which has been entrusted to us. This report includes our opinion on the financial statements together with the required additional statements and information.

Unqualified audit opinion on the financial statements, together with an emphasis of matter paragraph

We have audited the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2012, prepared in accordance with the legal and regulatory requirements applicable in Belgium, which show a balance sheet total of € 1.533.306 and a profit for the year of € 173.277 for the financial year.

The board of directors of the company is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant for the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the legal requirements and the auditing standards applicable in Belgium, as issued by the Institute of Registered Auditors ("Institut des Réviseurs d'Entreprises / Instituut der Bedrijfsrevisoren"). Those standards require that we plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. In accordance with those standards, we have taken into account the organisation of the Association from the administrative and accounting point of view, as well as the procedures of internal control.

The responsible officers of the Association provided us with clear answers to our questions for explanations and information. We have examined, on a test basis, the evidence supporting the amounts included in the financial statements. We have assessed the accounting policies used, the significant estimates carried out by the Association, as well as the presentation of the financial statements as a whole. We estimate that the work we carried out provided us with a reasonable basis for expressing our opinion.

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RSM Belgium is a member of the RSM network. Each member of the RSM network is an independent accounting and advisory firm which practices in its own right. The RSM network is not itself a separate legal entity in any jurisdiction.



In our opinion, the financial statements as of December 31, 2012 give a true and fair view of the company's assets, liabilities, financial position and results of operations in accordance with the financial reporting framework applicable in Belgium.

The financial statements have been established with the continuation of the activities in mind. This presumption shall be justified only to the extent where the Association continues to receive financial support from its members and subsidies from the European Commission, or if it succeeds in gaining access to other financial resources.

Additional statements and information

The association's compliance with the law applicable in Belgium to non-profit making associations (law of June 27, 1921) and the articles of association are the responsibility of the board of directors.

Our responsibility is to supplement our report with the following additional statements and information which do not modify our audit opinion on the financial statements:

- Without prejudice to formal aspects of minor significance, the accounting records were maintained in accordance with the legal and regulatory requirements applicable in Belgium;
- There are no transactions undertaken or decisions taken in violation of the articles of association or the law applicable in Belgium to non-profit making associations (law of June 27, 1921) that we have to report to you.
- The provision entitled « provision for depreciation of assets » for an amount of € 19.720 represents the future depreciation on the tangible assets.
- There is no separate bank account for the European grants. The possible surplus cash amounts are being invested globally; the financial income, however, is insignificant.

Zaventem, 16 May 2013

RSM INTERAUDIT CVBA-SCRL
Represented by
LAURENT VAN DER LINDEN

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