

**DOCHAS**  
*The Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organisations*

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Report: 'Spotlight on EU Policy Coherence for Development'**

**EU policies still undermining the fight against poverty, say NGOs**

EU policies are continuing to seriously undermine rights in developing countries, says a new report published by the confederation of European development NGOs: CONCORD.

The report, entitled '*Spotlight on EU Policy Coherence for Development*' being launched today, shows that much of the good work being done by EU aid is undone by other EU policies. The report comes at an important time, as the EU is set to reform its agricultural, trade and development policies.

The report reveals that:

- The EU is failing to meet its obligations under the Lisbon Treaty to make its policies coherent so that they do not undermine development objectives.
- The EU can greatly improve the impact of its €53 billion per year investment in development aid if it shows a clearer commitment to Policy Coherence for Development.

A clear example featured in the report is how the EU is looking to meet increasing European demand for raw materials by signing unfair trade agreements with resource-rich developing countries. And in failing to account for the effects of policies such as the EU Renewable Energy Directive on human rights and the environment, the EU is implementing policies which break its development commitments.

The report shows that 925 million people went hungry in 2010 - that's almost 1 out of every 7 people on the planet - while one third of all food produced for human consumption is wasted. The report suggests that despite reforms, the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) still means that EU exports are made artificially cheaper by subsidies and still squeezing local farmers out of the production chain and their local markets.

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## NOTES FOR THE EDITOR

1. **About the report:** The report is the joint effort of European development NGOs and civil society organisations, coordinated by CONCORD. It follows a first report in 2009. In the 2011 report, throughout the thematic chapters relating to food security, natural resources management, human security, and migration, CONCORD uncovers some incoherencies of current EU policies and proposes alternative, fairer measures that respect the Human Rights of all. The report is available at:  
[www.dochas.ie/Shared/Files/2/Spotlight\\_on\\_EU\\_policy\\_coherence\\_for\\_development.pdf](http://www.dochas.ie/Shared/Files/2/Spotlight_on_EU_policy_coherence_for_development.pdf)
2. **Article 208 of the Lisbon Treaty** stipulates that: *“The Union shall take account of the objectives of development co-operation in the policies that it implements which are likely to affect developing countries”*.
3. **What is Policy Coherence for Development?** Policy Coherence for Development is about ensuring that the aims and objectives of EU development co-operation policy are not undermined by other EU policies, such as those on climate, trade, energy, agriculture, migration, and finance matters. These issues are highlighted in CONCORD’s report.
4. **CONCORD** is the European NGO confederation for relief and development. CONCORDs 26 national associations and 18 international networks represent over 1,600 NGOs which are supported by millions of citizens across Europe. More information at [www.concordeurope.org](http://www.concordeurope.org)
5. **Dochas** is the Irish member of CONCORD and the association of Irish Non-Governmental Development Organisations. It provides a forum for consultation and cooperation between its 43 member organisations, and helps them speak with a single voice on development issues. more information at [www.dochas.ie](http://www.dochas.ie)

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