

IIEA/IRISH AID

iiea.com/irish-aid-development-matters-series-2013

DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

SERIES 2013

FINAL REPORT



One World
One Future



iiea.com
Sharing Ideas
Shaping Policy

 **Irish Aid**
An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

The Institute of International and European Affairs

Tel: (353) 1-874 6756

Fax: (353) 1- 878 6880

E-mail: reception@iiea.com

Web: www.iiea.com

8 North Great Georges Street,

Dublin 1,

Ireland

Report designed by Andrew Hegarty, Creative Officer, IIEA

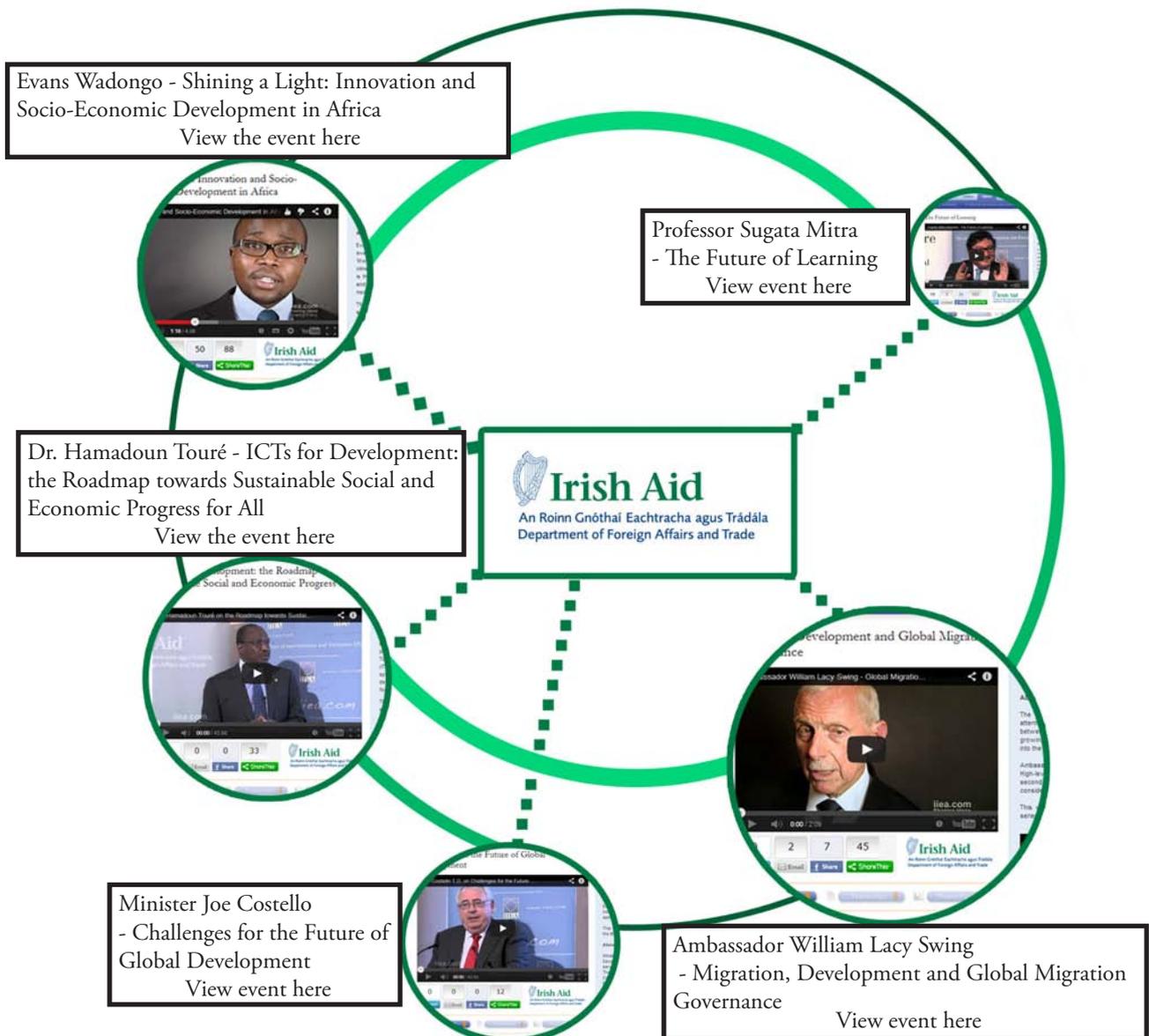
www.iiea.com/irish-aid-development-matters-series-2013

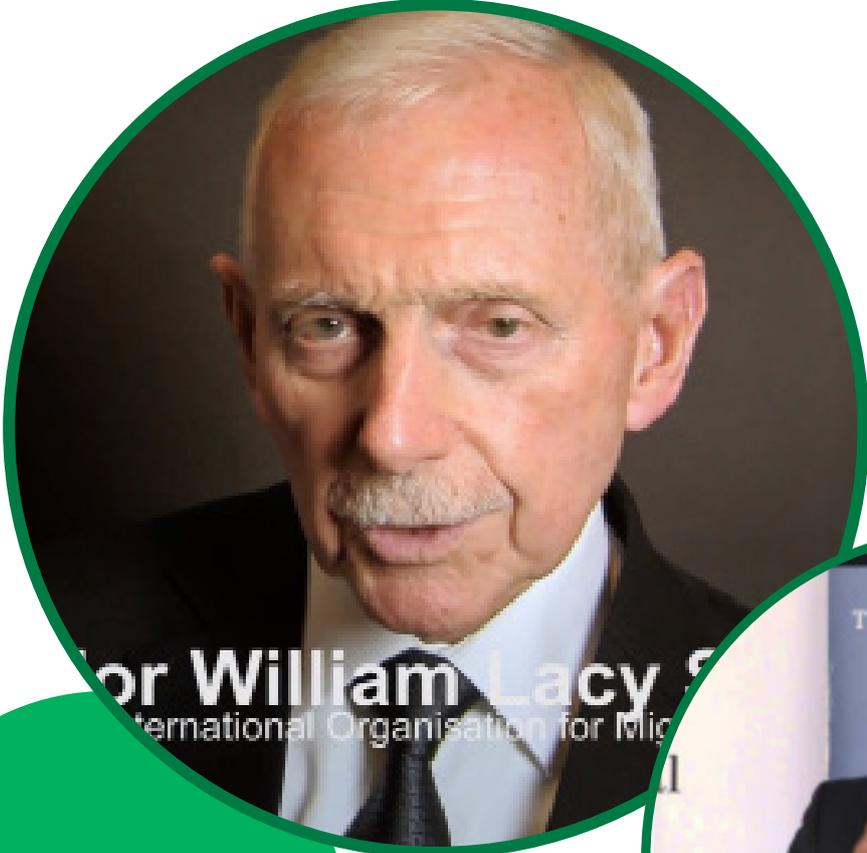
In 2011, the IIEA and the Irish Government’s programme for overseas development, Irish Aid, jointly launched a series of development-focused events entitled *Development Matters*. The goal of the series is to reaffirm and publicise the ongoing urgency of international development and innovation, as well as to welcome leading figures in the field to Dublin. Since its launch in 2011, the *Development Matters* series has resonated with a wide range of IIEA members, including representatives from the corporate, legal and financial services sectors, as well as the media. The series has aimed to draw attention amongst these stakeholders to a variety of development issues, as well as the growing importance of trade partnerships between the developed and developing world.

The IIEA would like to gratefully acknowledge the support and assistance of Irish Aid in organising the 2013 *Development Matters* series.

The 2013 series took place in the context of increasing international focus on the post-2015 global development agenda. The potential shape of the policies that will succeed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) provided a backdrop for the events in the series, which explored a wide range of traditional and non-traditional development policy areas. A particular focus for this year’s series was innovation, entrepreneurship and the contribution of technology to development.

Throughout the series, the IIEA leveraged its presence on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and other social media to promote events and draw attention to key pieces of content. As well as posting videos and podcasts of each of the lectures, the IIEA conducted short face-to-face interviews with a number of the speakers to draw out the key themes of their presentations in a concise and highly-accessible manner.





Director William Lacy Swing
International Organisation for Migration

Podcast

Social Media



Video



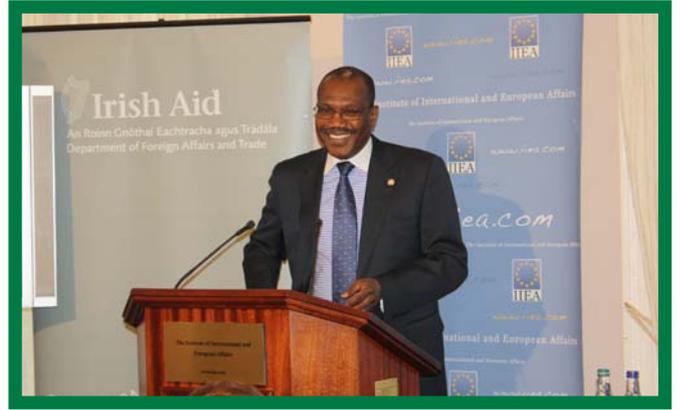
Audience



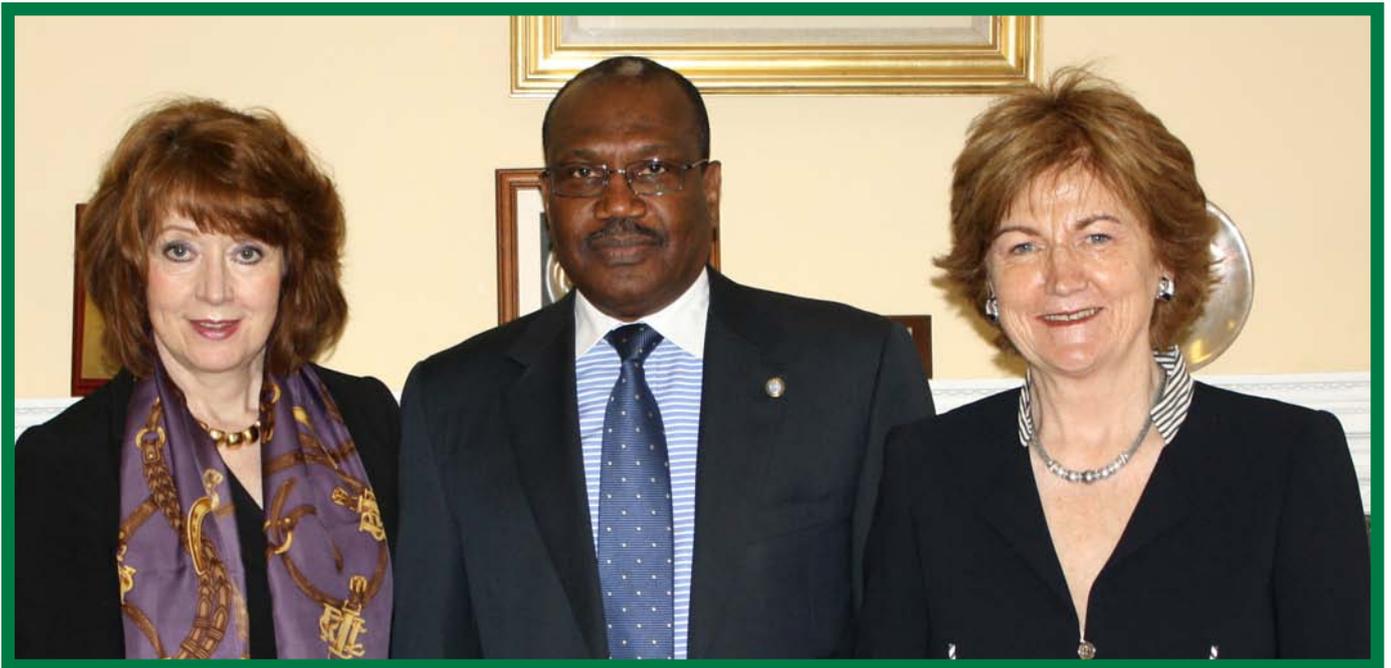
James Wadongo
Director and Chairman of Sustainable Development Fund for Africa (SDFFA) Kenya

Dr. Hamadoun Touré, Secretary General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

The 2013 *Development Matters* series was launched with a keynote address by Dr. Hamadoun Touré, Secretary General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations’ specialised agency for information and communications technology (ICT). Dr. Touré, a former Director of the ITU’s Telecommunication



Above: Dr. Hamadoun Touré delivers keynote speech



Above: Jill Donoghue, Dr. Hamadoun Touré and Joyce O'Connor before the event

Development Bureau, addressed a high-level audience comprising representatives from the development and technology sectors on *ICTs for Development: the Roadmap towards Sustainable Social and Economic Progress for All*.

Taking place in the week leading to Africa Day on 25 May 2013, Dr. Touré’s address provided an important opportunity to reflect on the growing contribution of technology to economic growth in Africa and other parts of the developing world. Whether addressing education and literacy, healthcare, food supply chains or climate change, ICTs are opening up new services and addressing problems in innovative ways. Dr. Touré highlighted the particular example of mobile devices, which are spreading faster in sub-Saharan Africa than anywhere else in the world. Increasing usage and convergence with Wi-Fi services are opening up mobile banking, e-commerce and

other tools that facilitate economic activity.

Dr. Touré stated that progress on ICT infrastructure as targeted in the eighth MDG (‘global partnership for development’) has been satisfactory, but that



Above: Dr. Hamadoun Touré delivers keynote speech

much work is still to be done at UN level to get more of the developing world online. Almost two-thirds of the world population are not Internet users, and further investment in broadband and fibre technology is required to ensure that this majority can benefit from growth in the digital economy. Dr. Touré stressed the clear link between economic development and connectedness, highlighting that investment in ICTs can stimulate trade, commerce and growth across the developing world.



Above: Brendan Ward addresses audience before keynote speech

At national level, 2013 saw the launch of Ireland's new policy for international development, *One World, One Future*. This document, which sets out Ireland's priorities for the fight against global poverty and hunger, provided an additional backdrop for this year's series of events. During the period of Ireland's EU Presidency from January to June 2013, agreement was secured between all EU development ministers on a common EU approach to the post-2015 global development framework.

Minister Joe Costello T.D., Minister of State for Trade and Development

Minister Joe Costello T.D., Minister of State for Trade and Development, delivered a keynote address in July 2013 on *Building on Ireland's EU Presidency: Challenges for the Future of Global Development*. Minister Costello emphasised at the outset that development should be at the core of global international relations. Ireland is playing its part in this respect, with the publication of its *One World, One Future* development policy in May 2013. The new policy is



Above: Jill Donoghue, Minister Joe Costello and Nora Owen



Above: Minister Joe Costello delivers keynote speech



Above: Audience members listen to Minister Joe Costello's address

the result of a broad consultation process and, in the context of shifting global challenges, identifies three new goals: reduced hunger and stronger resilience; inclusive and sustainable economic growth; and better governance, human rights and accountability.

Minister Costello underlined that *One World, One Future* offers a clear direction for Irish development policy. The document places human rights and climate change at the core of Ireland's development efforts, and aims to foster more rounded bilateral relationships with developing countries that are based on economic partnership, trade and business cooperation. The Minister highlighted that aid alone is no longer a solution to global problems; deeper economic relations between developed and developing countries are required to meet socio-economic challenges.

Minister Costello briefed on Ireland's extensive work on development issues during its Presidency of the Council of the EU during the first half of 2013. The Irish Presidency facilitated an unprecedented meeting of the European Commissioners for Development, Humanitarian Aid and the

Environment in February 2013 in order to better integrate development and sustainability agendas. The intrinsic connection between these two issues is at the heart of the common EU approach on the post-2015 global development framework adopted at the final EU General Affairs Council of the Irish Presidency in June 2013.

Looking to the post-2015 development agenda, the Minister stated that a rights-based, globally-applicable approach that involves all stakeholders will be vital. The post-2015 policy must go further than the previous framework and take an integrated approach to economic, environmental and social development. Ireland continues to be a strong voice on these issues in the UN and other international fora.



Above: Minister Joe Costello and Nora Owen

Evans Wadongo, founder of Sustainable Development For All-Kenya (SDFA-Kenya) and Just One Lamp

The third lecture in the series was delivered by Evans Wadongo, founder of Sustainable Development For All-Kenya (SDFA-Kenya) and Just One Lamp. Mr. Wadongo was named as one of three recipients of the inaugural Mikhail Gorbachev Award for ‘The Man Who Changed the World’ in March 2011 and was recognised as Regional Social Entrepreneur of the Year for Africa during the World Economic Forum on Africa in Cape Town in 2011. His speech provided a fascinating insight into the development of the ‘MwangaBora’, a solar lamp which Mr. Wadongo invented and that has been instrumental in addressing education, health, poverty and climate change in rural areas of Kenya.



Above: Evans Wadongo delivers keynote address



Above: Adrian Fitzgerald, Nora Owen, Evans Wadongo, Tom Arnold and Pádraig MacCosair before the event

Mr. Wadongo presented the MwangaBora as a case-study of effective and sustainable socio-economic development. He underlined that the lamp was intended to address very real problems: growing disparities between urban and rural areas, rising kerosene costs and lack of access to regular sources of income. 550 million people in sub-Saharan Africa still have no access to electricity. His aim was to develop a solution to these issues that would be simple, local and easily replicated.

Mr. Wadongo highlighted that, as well as providing light for rural households’ basic needs, the lamp generates employment through a community-based manufacturing process and additional income. Those distributing the lamp (primarily women) contribute money that would have otherwise been spent on kerosene to a cooperative; these funds are then re-invested in local agricultural and horticultural projects to generate further income.



Above: Nora Owens and Evans Wadongo

Mr. Wadongo noted the fundamental importance of local ownership and empowerment to this model, and stressed that innovation should always be tied to development. With these foundations, seemingly irreconcilable social, economic and environmental aims can be achieved.

Professor Sugata Mitra, educational psychologist and winner of the 2013 TED prize

Professor Sugata Mitra, educational psychologist and winner of the 2013 TED prize, delivered the penultimate lecture of the 2013 *Development Matters* series on *The Future of Learning*. Professor Mitra gave an overview of his research into the role of new technologies in improving education in the developing world.



Above: Pádraig MacCoscair and Professor Sugata Mitra with guests before the event



Above: Pádraig MacCoscair, Professor Sugata Mitra and Jill Donoghue with guests before the event

His acclaimed first experiment was the ‘Hole in the Wall’ project, which involved embedding computers within the walls of Indian slums to examine how children interact with technology and engage with self-learning materials. Professor Mitra explained that the results were extremely positive and suggested that children can direct aspects of their own learning when given access to the right kind of interactive technology. He highlighted the particular benefits of these findings in the developing world, where lack of teaching resources in rural areas and teacher migration are problematic issues.

Professor Mitra went on to describe his new project, the TED prize-winning ‘School in the Cloud’ experiment. By expanding on the concept of the ‘self-organised learning environment’, the project re-organises the classroom to facilitate web-based group activities, in which students are required to conduct Internet research into questions from the curriculum. Professor Mitra highlighted that this kind of disruptive innovation in learning has applications in both the developed and developing worlds.



Above: Professor Sugata Mitra delivers keynote speech



Above: Professor Sugata Mitra and Joyce O'Connor

Ambassador William Lacy Swing, Director General of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM)



Above: Ambassador William Lacy Swing delivers keynote speech

The final lecture of the series was delivered by Ambassador William Lacy Swing, Director General of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM). Ambassador Swing visited the IIEA on the International Day of Migrants, 18 December 2013, and noted that this provided an apt occasion to highlight the need for renewed international focus on migration challenges.



Above: Dáithí O'Ceallaigh and Tom Arnold speak with Ambassador William Lacy Swing

He underlined that we are living in a period with the highest level of human mobility in history; 232 million people, or 3.2 per cent of the world's population, are international migrants, compared with 175 million in 2000. Economic imperatives and an unprecedented range of complex natural disasters are leading to

high levels of forced migration. These trends are coupled with rising anti-immigration sentiments in Europe and many parts of the wider world.

Ambassador Swing reported on the October 2013 UN General Assembly (UNGA) High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development. This is only the second time in the history of UNGA that migration has been discussed in its own right, having first been debated in 2006. The Ambassador noted that the High-level Dialogue produced a remarkable level of convergence between various national positions, and that there had been consensus on the need for a global response to development challenges posed by migration.

At the High-level Dialogue and in other settings, the IOM has called for the incorporation of migration into the post-2015 development agenda. This should include, amongst other measures, a more robust rights-based approach to migration, action to end human-trafficking, lower remittance fees and others costs for migrants, better access to healthcare and education, and facilitation of legal migration. Ambassador Swing stressed that policies have not yet caught up with new trends, and that renewed global action is required both to counteract the negative consequences of migration and to harness its potential contribution to global development.



Successful advertising at iiea.com



Irish Aid

An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

www.iiea.com/irish-aid-development-matters-series-2013

23,000

IRISH AID WEBPAGE VIEWS

ieea.com

**Over
900,000
Pageviews**

927,167

Pageviews in 2013

522,621

Visitors in 2013

8,250

Facebook Fans (Up 5,200 since 2010)

5,086

Twitter Followers (Up 1,927 since 2011)

21.2%

New Visits in 2012

789,043

Video views on Youtube (Up 440,774 since 2011)

Analytics for 2013

iea.com
Sharing Ideas
Shaping Policy