



# PERSPECTIVES

NEWSLETTER OF THE EXPOSURE AND DIALOGPROGRAMME ASSOCIATION

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*“Considering poverty as a whole, it becomes clear that it is an enormous waste of capacities. These are capacities within a person which remain unidentified and unused, which cannot be translated into action for the benefit of all people – neither for his or her own good, nor for the good of all people.”*

Muhammad Yunus,  
EDP Bangladesh 1997

## Editorial

Dear readers,  
We were very happy to hear that our longstanding cooperation partner, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yunus, and Grameen Bank have won this year’s Nobel Peace Prize. Microfinance systems are an ongoing issue for EDP e.V. A corresponding EDP was organized together with the new partners Centenary Rural Development Bank and Uganda Microfinance Ltd. (UML) in 2005. This programme made clear how important various microfinance services are for improving the living conditions of people. Another programme will be co-

organized with UML in December of this year. It will focus on ethical investment (cf. p. 3). The EDP with Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR) in India provided new experience and insight into the factors influencing water management programmes which are critical for improving the social and economic situation of people. It also provided an opportunity for South-South dialogue and exploring the chances for cooperation with Africa (cf. p. 2). On 1 October 2006, Dr. Elke Löbel started her new position with the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and

Development. We wish her success and good luck. For the time being, Jörg Hilgers is serving as vice managing director.



EDP India 2005, SEWA  
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## EDP cooperation partner wins Nobel Peace Prize

Prof. Muhammad Yunus, the founder of Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize 2006. The professor of economics realized already more than 30 years ago that poor people and particularly poor women were excluded from economic key processes, as they were considered to be “non-bankable”. By granting unsecured microcredits to the poor, Grameen Bank has given primarily women the chance to set up businesses on their own. The first EDP with Grameen Bank was carried out under the title “Struggling for self-reliance” in 1989. German and international decision-makers

gained insight into the effects of microcredits. A range of programmes, workshops and publications followed. The most recent EDP was organized in 2000 under the title “Women set up their own businesses”. Among the participants was the former prime minister of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Erwin Teufel, who is now spokesman of the EDP e.V. board. A subsequent exhibition presented companies from Baden-Wuerttemberg which committed themselves to promote worldwide economic progress and social responsibility. On the occasion of the opening of the exhibition in 2002, Prof. Yunus met with representatives of

GTZ, KfW, and members of parliament.



Prof. Muhammad Yunus (left), Former prime minister Erwin Teufel (right) - Exhibition opening „Entwicklung bekommt ein Gesicht“ (development has got a face), 2002 © EDP e.V.

## Self-governing watershed management - India

Active participation of local people in regenerating and securing natural water resources can significantly help to alleviate poverty. Programme measures include support of water and forestry management but above all education, healthcare and the empowerment of women and socially weak groups. The payment of funds according to well-defined and transparent criteria to a democratically elected local committee is crucial for the success of the

participatory water management approach of Watershed Organisation Trust (WOTR). Six members of parliament and twelve representatives of national and international organisations of development cooperation gained insight into this project during an exposure and dialogue programme in Maharashtra, India, from 27 October to 5 November 2006. The objective of this EDP was to make the participants familiar with this successful self-management approach and to

define steps for the application of this approach in other regions of the world, especially in Africa. To this end, the participants also defined recommendations for organizers of water management programmes.



Bärbel Höhn, Thakabai Bhangare,  
EDP India 2006  
© Matthias Adler, KfW

## Participatory processes in Bolivia

An exposure and dialogue programme was carried out in Bolivia from 19 to 28 May 2006 in cooperation with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) and CEPROLAI. It focussed on participation and democratisation processes of indigenous groups. The KAS office in La Paz has been concerned with democratisation processes for many years.

The 26 participants, among them political and societal decision-makers from Bolivia and Germany, learned what

democracy means in rural areas. They also got insight into education, economic and political reforms, new forms of ethnic coexistence and the exploitation of natural resources, especially gas.

Anette Hübinger MP reported on her newly gained experience before the parliamentary committee on economic cooperation.

Several newspaper articles followed (cf. [www.exposure-dialog.de/aktuelles](http://www.exposure-dialog.de/aktuelles)). Another EDP with CEPROLAI is

scheduled for 2007. Participants will include local politicians from Germany and Bolivia. Cooperation with KAS will continue in 2008.



Erika Brockmann, Trinidad,  
EDP Bolivia 2006  
© Carl Moses, FAZ

## What is development? AKH summer school (Guatemala)

"I have gained many impressions and experiences, but found no answer to the question as to what development is about. I have rather learned to ask many new and different questions. These questions are addressed to myself, to the people around me, but also to politicians and to society."

This quote from a student who participated in the summer school of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Katholischer Hochschulgemeinden (working

group of Catholic university communities) from 26 July to 10 August 2006 shows that questions rather than ready answers can promote personal commitment. 22 students spent five days with their Maya hosts in the diocese of El Quiché (Guatemala) sharing their family and working lives. Subsequently they analysed the exposure programme together with Guatemalan scholars and Caritas representatives. They also learned how projects

which are supported by Adveniat and Misereor help to improve the living conditions of the local people. For more information on future activities of the participants, please see

[www.sommerschule-akh.de](http://www.sommerschule-akh.de)



Luisa R. Chay Morales (left), Klara Bronberger,  
Guatemala summer school 2006  
© Alexander Brüggemann, KNA

## Ethical investment in microfinance – Uganda

What does it look like – the ethically motivated private enterprise value chain from European (small) investors to African micro-entrepreneurs, retailers and subsistence farmers? This is one of the questions of the EDP which will be organized in cooperation with the Federation of Catholic Entrepreneurs (BKU) and the Belgian social investment fund INCOFIN, from 2-10 December 2006. Eighteen EDP participants, among them deputy parliamentary party leader Arnold Vaatz MP (CDU-CSU) and Bettina Hagedorn MP

(SPD) who sits on the budget committee of the German parliament, will stay with clients of Uganda Microfinance Ltd. (UML), sharing their daily lives. Together with representatives of Church-owned banks as well as staff members and executives of the Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, of GTZ and of the KfW bank group, the EDP participants will gain profound insight into the opportunities of diversifying income sources of the local population, offered by improved access to microfinance services in Uganda.

Afterwards, these newly gained impressions and experiences will be discussed against the background of the current political and economic developments in Uganda with AMFIU, the umbrella organisation of microfinance service providers, with GTZ Finanzsektorentwicklung, DED, HORIZONT3000 and the German embassy.



Mariam Kironde,  
client of UML Bank,  
Uganda 2006  
© EDP e.V.

## Poverty and migration – Albania

Members of 24 European Justice and Peace Commissions are invited to participate in an EDP in Albania from 4 to 13 May 2007, which is organized in cooperation with the archdiocese of Shkoder and the European Conference of Justice and Peace Commissions.

Similarly to the EDP in 2004, the participants will explore the correlations between poverty and migration in the European context. On the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Encyclical Populorum Progressio, this EDP is

intended to make clear why “the daily struggle for subsistence absorbs the attention of the family“ and why the paradigmatic call by Pope Paul VI of 1966 has not lost anything of its relevance, even at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century: “The very life of needy nations, civil peace in the developing countries, and world peace itself are at stake.” (PP no. 55). The EDP participants will be given the opportunity to intensify their cooperation based on their shared exposure experi-

ence and to explore new ways of using EDPs for their own national Justice and Peace initiatives. Contact: Jörg Lüer, [jl@jupax-europa.org](mailto:jl@jupax-europa.org)



Children of the  
Guri host family,  
EDP Albania 2004  
© EDP e.V.

## Poverty-oriented water management – Tanzania

Strengthening the willingness to assume responsibility at local level, understanding the chances and limits of the recent decentralization process and adopting successful models of participatory water management – these are the key objectives of the exposure and dialogue programme conceived together with KfW

Entwicklungsbank and GTZ, which will primarily involve Tanzanian decision-makers and other key players in August 2007.

The EDP participants will meet water users and village representatives of Karatu Villages Water Supply, a civil society association which was initiated by the diocese of

Mbulu with the help of Misereor and AGEH in 1998. The EDP will be part of the annual review of water management activities which was agreed between the Tanzanian government and international funding organisations.



Water place in  
Tanzania  
© EDP e.V.

## Activities of partner organisations

### GRAMEEN BANK (Bangladesh)

An international dialogue programme with financial experts and decision-makers from all over the world took place in Bangladesh from 16 to 27 September 2006. Grameen Bank also provided training courses in China, Bolivia, Nepal and Indonesia. [www.grameen-info.org](http://www.grameen-info.org)

### Guatemala – M. C. Zauzich received Order of Merit

Maria Christine Zauzich, our longstanding EDP partner of Proyecto Ija'tz, received the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in Düsseldorf on 18 November 2006. Congratulations!

### SEWA (India)

SEWA carried out an EDP with 15 international participants from 22 to 24 February 2006. This was part of a programme of the Institute of Social Studies which focused on the universality of socio-economic security of the poor and comprised altogether 15 training days in Ahmedabad, including the EDP.

Moreover, the SEWA Research Academy organized an EDP for a British researcher who stayed with slum-dwellers from 18 to 20 February 2006 in an attempt to understand the influences of the Mahila Housing Trust Programme on their lives.

[www.sewa.org](http://www.sewa.org)

### Follow-up of the EDP with SEWA and trade unions in 2005

With the support of Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund (DGB), SEWA became member of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in June 2006. ICFTU teamed up with the World Confederation of Labour to form the International Trade Union Confederation in November 2006.

Some representatives of various trade unions and DGB who had participated in an EDP on “organising processes in the informal economy” have formed a working group which is concerned with the problems of people working in the informal economy. In cooperation with the office of the German Commission for Justice and Peace, they collect case studies from various trades in order to illustrate the precarisation process with regard to economic damage and the problem of immigration.

On the initiative of an EDP participant, the Association Internationale des Charités (AIC), a worldwide women’s association and affiliate of Caritas, is planning to organize an international conference on “Poverty of women in different cultures” in Rome in March 2007. A SEWA representative will be invited to report on SEWA’s activities concerning the empowerment of women.

### WOTR (India)

From 26 to 30 July 2006, WOTR organized a “watershed development exposure and orientation programme” for managers of government institutions and business organizations. A schedule for future national and international “exposure and orientation programmes” will soon be available at [www.wotr.org](http://www.wotr.org)

For further details please visit the respective websites.

## Preview

### EDP Bolivia 2007 and 2008

Another EDP with CEPROLAI and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung is scheduled to take place in Bolivia in spring 2008. The objective is to explore transformation processes and ways of adopting local decisions at the national level. Local decision-makers from Germany and Bolivia will be invited to participate. For a preview of the 2007 EDP, please see p. 2.

### Conference of Katholische Akademie Schwerte

Based on the model case of microfinance, the exposure approach will be discussed at the conference entitled “Love moves... and changes the world”, which is scheduled for 26 – 28 January 2007. Participants will include Dr. Osner, Mrs. Dött, Prof. Dr. Töpfer, Dr. Elsässer, Prof. Gabriel and Mr. Pöner.

### Workshop on ethical investment

The workshop on “Ethical Investment... into microfinance” will be organized in cooperation with the German Commission for Justice and Peace on 18 April 2007 following the two exposure and dialogue programmes in Uganda in 2005 and 2006.

### Summer party

There will be a summer party in May 2007 to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of EDP which was founded under the name of Association for the Promotion of North-South Dialogue e.V. on 19 May 1992. More details soon.

## News

### New board members

In May 2006, Dr. Rolf Schumacher, head of the working group on “Church and Society” of the Central Committee of German Catholics, and Msgr. Bernd Klaschka, executive manager of Adveniat, were elected to the board of EDP e.V. Bishop Schwarz thanked Dr. Friedrich Kronenberg, the longstanding president of EDP e.V., for his service. Msgr. Dr. Dieter Spelthahn continues to serve on the

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COMMISSION FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE.