

Preparing for the 2014 Development Cooperation Forum

DCF GERMANY HIGH-LEVEL SYMPOSIUM

***Accountable and effective
development cooperation
in a post-2015 era***

Background references

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1. MAKING DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION MORE EFFECTIVE

[MDG Gap Task Force Report 2013](#). This annual report tracks delivery on commitments listed under Millennium Development Goal 8—on the global partnership for development— including aid, trade, debt relief, access to essential medicines and access to new technologies. To deepen the global partnership of UN Member States, international organizations, civil society, the private sector and others, the report makes many recommendations, including for stopping tax evasion, strengthening manufacturing safety standards, dealing with unsustainable debt and improving financial regulation and the rules for global trade, while also calling on all partners to live up to their commitments already made in support of achieving the MDGs.

[National aid Policies: Key pillars for mutual accountability](#). This draft guidance note for development cooperation practitioners and stakeholders, commissioned by the Inter-Parliamentarian Union (IPU), has two main objectives, namely (i) to promote an in-depth discussion in the DCF, creating common ground among stakeholders on the role and features of an aid policy; and (ii) to raise awareness among all stakeholders of the need to advocate the adoption of aid policies, to participate in their implementation, and to take measures to strengthen mutual accountability.

[International Aid Transparency Initiative Annual Report 2013](#). This first report outlines progress of members on meeting agreed monitoring commitments. In addition to that, it also recognizes partner country endorsee progress, aims to raise awareness of non-signatory achievements and highlight hot topics and priorities for the coming year. Each area is supported by specific examples highlighting where progress was made and where improvements are still needed.

[The evaluation of the Paris declaration: Phase 2](#). This report prepared by the Danish Institute for International Studies provides a synthesis of all component evaluations and thematic studies that were commissioned covering various subjects such as Developmental Effects of Untying of Aid, Support to Statistical Capacity Building or the Relationship between the Paris Declaration, Aid Effectiveness and Development Effectiveness. It suggests among others policymakers to i) focus on transparency, mutual accountability and shared risk managements, ii) centre and reinforce the aid effectiveness effort in countries and iii) work to extend the aid reform gains to all forms of development cooperation.

[STATE OF CIVIL SOCIETY 2013: Creating an enabling environment](#). This is CIVICUS' second state of civil society report, introducing the enabling environment index, a quantitative tool to measure conditions for civil society in different countries, which will also be implemented in the Busan Global Monitoring Process.

[Commitment to Development Index 2013](#). This index, prepared by the Center for Global Development, ranks 27 of the world's richest countries on policies affecting more than five billion people living in poorer nations. It goes beyond measures of foreign aid to quantify performance in seven areas, i) quality and quantity of foreign aid, ii) openness to trade, iii) policies encouraging investment and financial

transparency, iv) openness to migration, v) environmental policies, vi) promotion of international security and vii) support for technology creation and transfer.

[Guidelines for Effective Philanthropic Engagement \(GEPEs\)](#). These voluntary and non-binding guidelines, developed jointly by the OECD Development Centre, netFwd, UNDP, WINFS and the European Foundation Centre, aim to enhance mutual recognition between governments and philanthropic actors and draw the contours of how to best work together to build synergies and leverage on the value added. The guidelines address issues of joint dialogue, DATA/knowledge sharing and partnership and thus focuses on promoting the general understanding of the comparative advantages of foundations as development actors, the creation of innovative partnerships and contributing to establishing an enabling inclusive environment for more effective development cooperation.

[Private Sector Transparency and Post 2015](#). This paper by Save the Children on mandatory corporate reporting on non-financial performance, a potential indicator for the private sector, highlights that harnessing the power of private sector could close on of the gaps of in a new framework post-2015. It also outlines the status quo of the current reporting arrangements and requirements of companies.

[Business and a post-2015 development framework: Where next?](#) This paper by Paula Lucci from the Overseas Development Institute, discusses ways to monitor the impact of private sector on development by i) proposing a separate accountability framework for businesses to harmonise different frameworks and identify core indicators building on existing frameworks, ii) recommending stepping up work on human and natural capital accounting methodologies to enable putting a value on the non-financial impacts of the private sector on development and iii) suggesting mandatory reporting for large businesses as a listing requirement. Some larger businesses are proposing global partnerships as part of the post-2015 implementation phase. Goal-specific working groups, could be set up to discuss delivery mechanisms and accountability frameworks in more detail.

[Global Reporting Initiative \(GRI\)](#). GRI is a leading organization in the field of sustainability aiming to make sustainability reporting standards practice by providing guidance and support to organizations. The reporting guidelines are developed through a global multi-stakeholder process involving representatives from business, labour, civil society, and financial markets, as well as auditors and experts in various fields and in close dialogue with regulators and governmental agencies in several countries. The reports on sustainability and corporate responsibility by several companies can be found [here](#).

[MOPAN](#). The Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN) is a network of 17 donor countries with a common interest in assessing the organisational effectiveness of the major multilateral organisations they fund. Members agree to carry out joint assessments, share information and draw on each other's experience in monitoring and evaluation.

[Measure what matters](#). This new global initiative, launched by the Green Economy Coalition and partners, aims to enhance coherence between corporate, national and

global measures of progress. The objectives, to be reached by the end of 2016, are to identify overlaps between different indicator sets at the global, national and corporate level, convene a High Level Working Group from policy and business to understand how to align these sets and lobby policy processes to develop the SDGs, alternative indicators to GDP and enhance corporate reporting.

2. FEATURING QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN A POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

[Towards a strengthened framework for aid effectiveness](#). This background study, prepared by Richard Manning for the 2008 DCF, considered i) ways to improve the clarity of the indicators already established in the Paris Declaration, ii) issues of monitoring and mutual accountability, iii) coverage of any strengthened international framework for aid effectiveness and addressed the link between aid effectiveness and development effectiveness and how to build stronger support at the political level. It also put forward recommendations for how the various key institutions might work together towards a strengthened aid effectiveness framework.

[Measuring the quality of aid: QuODA Second Edition](#). This brief, sponsored by the Brookings Institution and the Center for Global Development, provides a summary of the forthcoming second edition of the Quality of Official Development Assistance (QuODA) that aims to help fill the analysis gap with emphasis on objective and quantifiable indicators and builds up on the [first edition](#). It uses the findings of the Survey monitoring the Paris Declaration and additional sources to create 31 indicators measuring donors' performance in 2009-2010. These indicators are grouped into four dimensions, namely i) maximizing efficiency, ii) fostering institutions, iii) reducing burden and iv) transparency and learning. Underlying data and results are made publicly available on their [website](#).

[Effective development co-operation: an important enabler in a post-2015 global development framework](#). This OECD reflection paper on post-2015 outlines ways in which the effectiveness of development co-operation can be deepened as part of a post-2015 global development framework, how new approaches to partnership can be promoted, and what the OECD can offer in support of these international efforts.

3. GLOBAL MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY ARCHITECTURE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN A POST-2015 ERA: KEY CONCEPTUAL AND CONTEXTUAL ISSUES

[Summary of the sixth session of the Open Working Group on SDGs](#) - This brief prepared by the IISD Reporting Services highlights the key messages of the session held on 9-13 December 2013, including the need for a strengthened implementation of the SDGs that is equitable, inclusive, builds on mutual accountability and a fair share of responsibilities; it also stresses the need to establishing public-private partnerships, recognizing the role of large corporations in developing new sustainable business models and to strengthen the availability data and statistical capabilities in developing countries.

[Statistics and indicators for the post-2015 development agenda](#) - The final report of the UN System Task Team Working Group on Monitoring and Indicators provides an

analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the MDG indicators and assesses options for statistics and indicators in a post-2015 setting. It recommends that the number of indicators should be kept strictly limited and fit within countries' own statistical development strategies. It moreover outlines data innovations in new critical areas to capture inequalities, governance, sustainability, population, limits to growth models, subjective indicators of well-being, composite indices, rule of law, technology-based innovations and more. It emphasizes that these should be reflected in both data-collection and indicators. The report also considers national capacities for statistics and makes some key recommendations on how to further foster these when developing a monitoring framework for the post-2015 agenda.

4. KEY CONTOURS OF AN EFFECTIVE GLOBAL MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN A POST-2015 ERA

[The Post-2015 UN Development Agenda](#). This briefing paper, prepared by José Antonio Ocampo for the Future United Nations Development system series, stresses that, independent from what shape the post-2015 agenda will take, its success will depend on a strong intergovernmental partnership for development and a system of accountability and effective monitoring.

[EU Accountability Report 2013 on Financing for Development Review of progress by the EU and its Member States](#). This Staff Working Document is eleventh in a series of annual progress reports prepared by the European Commission since 2003 under its mandate from the Council. Initially focusing on official development assistance (ODA) commitments, the council subsequently extended into other areas of Financing for Development, including domestic resource mobilisation, aid effectiveness, aid for trade and 'fast-start' climate finance. Overall, the 2013 EU Accountability Report found i) substantial progress on EU commitments concerning private investment, trade, finance relating to climate change adaptation and mitigation, STI and innovative financing sources and instruments, ii) moderate progress on EU commitments concerning domestic resource mobilisation, debt sustainability, remittances, biodiversity protection and development effectiveness and iii) limited or no progress on EU commitments concerning volumes of ODA.

5. ENSURING COHERENCE BETWEEN ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS AT ALL LEVELS

[The Community Score Card](#). This toolkit, developed by CARE, draws upon practical experiences and suggestions from communities, public health service providers and CARE Malawi Staff members and A-LIFH team. It is a two-way and ongoing participatory tool for assessment, planning, monitoring and evaluation of services, bringing together both the service user and the provider. Its main goal is to positively influence the quality, efficiency and accountability which services are provided at different levels.

[Development Justice](#). This policy brief by IBON International IBON proposes an alternative development framework - development justice. It incorporates five foundational shifts, namely i) redistributive justice, ii) economic justice, iii) social

justice, iv) environmental justice and v) accountability to peoples as pillars for genuine sustainable progress.

[Reinforcing international mutual accountability](#). An expert group meeting on international mutual accountability, held prior to the DCF Luxembourg High-level Symposium on [Working together to increase the development impact of aid](#) in October 2011 aimed to identify recommendations to reinforce international mutual accountability (MA) mechanisms to ensure all actors live up to past aid commitments. It showed among others that at least three factors are critical for stronger accountability, i) an aid policy that is linked to ii) national performance assessment and results frameworks, aid databases and independent analysis from non-executive actors, iii) whose evidence needs to be discussed in inclusive platforms at national and sectoral level, which have high level political buy in.

[Making the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development \(HLPF\) work: How to build an effective “review mechanism”](#). This briefing note highlights the key messages of a workshop held on 20 February in New York that aimed to create an open discussion around the review mechanism of the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) beginning in 2016. The HLPF, which will meet under the auspices of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, was regarded as the home for the future sustainable development goals (SDGs). Participants emphasized that a robust review mechanism will be needed to fulfill its role. It was also mentioned that, to avoid duplication, the review should be linked to the ECOSOC Development Cooperation Forum.