

DCF Germany High-Level Symposium

“Accountable and effective development cooperation in a post-2015 era”:

Berlin, 20 – 21 March 2014

Foundations pre-meeting

“Securing effective philanthropic engagement in the post-2015 framework”

19 March 2014, 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Room Riga

The call for more inclusive development partnerships has led to increasing recognition of the philanthropic sector as a significant development actor. Yet, this acknowledgement and formal commitments to inclusiveness risk remaining empty promises if not met by the concrete involvement of foundations. To ensure effective participation of foundations in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda, they should already be actively engaged in its design.

Foundations have a lot to add to the global discussion on what constitutes effectiveness in development cooperation and how different approaches to development can be integrated in a new global development agenda. Yet, they need to be recognised as partners in their own right. They should not only be seen as an additional source of development financing but should also be valued for their specific expertise and innovative approaches.

The preparatory process for the high-level meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum (New York, 10-11 July 2014) provides an important opportunity for foundations to engage in the design of the development cooperation aspects of the post-2015 development agenda. In April 2013, foundations shared their views on their role in a post-2015 setting at a DCF Policy Dialogue at UN Headquarters in New York organized by UNDESA, OECD netFWD, UNDP, and WINGS. This discussion was continued throughout the year through dialogue events in Addis Ababa and New York and ultimately contributed to the development of the *Guidelines for Effective Philanthropic Engagement*, a voluntary and non-binding tool to initiate and enhance collaboration between foundations and other development stakeholders.

The DCF Germany High-level Symposium will discuss how a post-2015 framework for accountability in development cooperation could work in practice and what would make it attractive for different stakeholders to get engaged. The pre-meeting will provide an opportunity for foundations to reflect among themselves on the purpose, scope, and contours of an accountability framework for the role of the foundation sector in development cooperation post-2015. Foundations will then be able to bring the key messages of these discussions to the different sessions of the Symposium.

The objectives of this pre-session include:

- Identifying some of the key challenges and opportunities of designing an overarching global monitoring and accountability framework for development cooperation of multiple stakeholders
- Exploring key features and specificities of monitoring and accountability mechanisms of the philanthropic sector in development cooperation – in terms of both their operational environment and specific approaches.

- Discussing how the *Guidelines for Effective Philanthropic Engagement* – a recently developed voluntary and non-binding tool -- can be used (e.g. at the field level) to increase dialogue and partnering between foundations and other development stakeholders around the specific issues of monitoring and accountability in development cooperation.

Background material:

- Aide memoire Germany DCF Symposium
- [Summary of the DCF Special Dialogue on Philanthropy](#)
- [Guidelines for Effective Philanthropic Engagement](#)

For more information on the event, please kindly contact the DCF team at dcf@un.org or Ms. Alessandra Fiedler at Alessandra.FIEDLER@oecd.org