

Development Cooperation Forum Uganda High Level Symposium
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FOR A NEW ERA:
MAKING THE RENEWED GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT A REALITY
**PREPARATORY MEETING FOR CIVIL SOCIETY, PARLIAMENTARIANS AND LOCAL AND REGIONAL
GOVERNMENTS**

4 November - Majestic Hall (4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.)

The DCF CSO reference group will facilitate the organization of a meeting to provide an opportunity for CSOs, local and regional authorities, parliamentarians and other non-governmental stakeholder group representatives participating in the DCF Uganda High-level Symposium (4 – 6 November 2015) to discuss the agenda of the Symposium, consolidate views and identify areas of common concern and priorities.

The DCF Uganda High-level Symposium is the first opportunity for all development actors to assess the implications of the agreed 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on development cooperation policies under the UN aegis. In particular, the Symposium will take a closer look at the county level, which calls on the potential role of CSOs and local and regional governments (LRGs) in contributing to knowledge sharing and monitoring and review of international development cooperation to support the realization of the 2030 Agenda.

It is vital that the views and the expertise of CSOs, local and regional authorities, parliamentarians and other stakeholders are properly factored in this conversation. All representatives from CSOs, parliaments, LRGs and other non-governmental organizations participating in the Symposium are invited to attend the pre-meeting.

The issues for discussion at the Symposium include:

- adjusting development cooperation towards integrated, aligned and coherent implementation of the SDGs;
- promoting technology facilitation and capacity building, and ways to address gaps in technology, science and innovation; and
- monitoring and reviewing development cooperation for sustainable results, specifically at country level by putting into place country-driven monitoring and results frameworks; at local level, including citizen-led monitoring; and of the private sector, other non-state actors and blended financing.

This agenda reflects topics that CSOs as well as LRGs have been working on for years and/or directly implies the role of citizens. It is time to review these issues in the light of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda as well as the Agenda 2030. The comprehensive new global sustainable development framework includes a broad set of development cooperation issues to consider, with certain elements that may be particularly relevant from a CSO perspective, such as national leadership and ownership, ODA as vital source of sustainable development financing and the importance of the effectiveness of development cooperation. Other considerations such as the mainstreaming of development cooperation within national and local development planning, the promotion of cooperation effectiveness mechanisms at local level and/or the facilitation of inclusive and integrated local development processes are particularly relevant for LRGs. Indeed, Local and regional governments, being a legitimate level of government, have to comply with upward and downward accountability: towards national level and to citizens.

The 2030 agenda calls for innovative multi stakeholder partnerships as the basis for a successful implementation of the SDGs. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will not be able to achieve its ambitious targets if it does not involve all layers of governance and all levels of our societies, in an inclusive and cohesive manner. The forum will provide an opportunity to discuss the specific roles of CSOs as well as LRGs but also to explore innovative ways of collaboration, knowledge sharing and mutual learning for integrated review of progress against the new global sustainable development agenda.

The DCF offers new opportunities as the global body to monitor progress in development cooperation now that the follow-up process to the Addis Ababa and the 2030 Agenda starts taking shape. The work of the DCF will be taken into account by the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development. It will also inform the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up and inject specific messages and inputs to global policy debate on economic and social affairs trends in development cooperation.

Format and Organizers

The meeting will be informal. It will start with a brief introduction to illustrate the scope of the DCF Uganda High-level Symposium. Participants with official speaking engagements during the Symposium will be invited to present their key messages. An open debate will follow to explore joint messages.

The meeting is convened by the DCF CSO reference Group. Contact person: Luca De Fraia, luca.defraia@actionaid.org
