



## 8<sup>th</sup> DCF Information Bulletin



### Upcoming Special Event on private and blended development cooperation

The Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination in UNDESA organizes a special event on *“The impact of private and blended development cooperation: what can we expect in practice?”* in the margins of the [Third International Conference on Financing for Development](#). The event will take place on Thursday 16 July, from 1:15 pm – 2:45 pm, at the Radisson Blu Hotel Addis Ababa, Room Lalibela. We would like to invite you to this interactive discussion among key players in international development cooperation. For more details, please click [here](#).

### DCF Republic of Korea High-level Symposium (Incheon, 8-10 April 2015)

*“A transformative, unified and universal post-2015 development agenda requires a renewed global partnership for sustainable development. Mutual trust and confidence is the key stepping stone. This cannot be built without the fulfilment of past commitments including those on ODA. [...] Yet, we must understand and advocate for development cooperation in all its forms, from financial transfer to technology facilitation to capacity support and policy change.”*

...said Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and Secretary-General for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development at the DCF Republic of Korea High-level Symposium in front of nearly 200 international participants from diverse stakeholder groups.



Participants at the [ECOSOC DCF High-level symposium](#), hosted by the Republic of Korea in Incheon, from April 8-10 2015, discussed for three days what it will take to put international development cooperation truly in the service of people and planet in the post-2015 era with a view to injecting policy messages to the preparations for the [Third International Conference on Financing for Development](#) and the intergovernmental negotiations of the [post-2015 development agenda](#).

Almost 200 representatives of governments, parliaments, international organizations, civil society, foundations and the private sector tackled a number of the most pressing questions that challenge the international development cooperation community in this decisive year ([symposium programme \[EN\]](#), versions in [\[FR\]](#) & [\[ES\]](#)). In October 2014 a joint curtain raiser meeting of the General Assembly and ECOSOC set the stage for the symposium ([summary of event](#)).

The objectives of the symposium were to: i) find ways to align approaches to financing and other means of implementation to take an integrated approach to development cooperation; ii) explore implications of the universality of the post-2015 agenda on development cooperation; iii) examine ODA allocation post-2015; and iv) discuss the role of the full range of development cooperation modalities and instruments to support implementation of the post-2015 development agenda.

A more detailed summary of the DCF Korea High-level symposium will be made

available on the [DCF website](#) shortly.



### Supporting preparations for the 2016 High-Level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum

Looking to the post-2015 era, the DCF will continue to provide an inclusive policy space to discuss and review trends and progress in international development cooperation and to identify gaps and obstacles, with a view to making recommendations on practical measures and policy options to enhance coherence and effectiveness.

In the 2014-2016 cycle, UNDESA and its partners are supporting the work of the DCF to help shape the development cooperation aspects of a renewed global partnership for sustainable development and to examine how the Forum can help forge new dynamism to mobilize development cooperation.

In preparation for the 2016 DCF, the discussions will focus on the following areas: i) Strengthening the narrative of development cooperation in a post-2015 setting including the vital role of ODA and its improved allocation and aligning the Monterrey and Rio tracks on financing and other means of implementation; ii) Advancing analytical work on South-South cooperation and facilitating policy dialogue among Southern partners and; iii) Furthering deliberations on the importance of monitoring, review and accountability in the post-2015 development agenda.

The following are key messages and policy recommendations that were generated and reinforced in Incheon:

- Implementing the emerging post-2015 agenda will require a change in mind-set, true country ownership at all levels and strong political will and leadership. Enhanced communication will be crucial in this context.

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- A universal agenda means joint responsibility of all actors, developed and developing alike, contributing their fair share while taking into consideration the notion of common but differentiated responsibilities. The emerging post-2015 agenda will be financed through many resources, both public and private. However, developed countries will have to honour past commitments made, including the UN ODA targets of 0.7 % of GNI as ODA and especially the 0.15-0.20% of GNI as ODA to LDCs that should be met without delay.

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- Under a renewed global partnership for sustainable development, coherence at all levels (including policy coherence for development) and between different partners is fundamental for the successful realization of a global development agenda. Development Cooperation is well placed to be an increasingly integrating force for sustainable development in this context.

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- As the agenda has broadened, a major acceleration in the mobilization of financial and non-financial means of implementation from all sources, public and private and domestic and international is needed.

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- Targeted development cooperation modalities (means of implementation), both financial and non-financial will have a unique role to play in realizing the emerging post-2015 agenda. They should be used in an interconnected way and chosen on a case by case basis, leveraging comparative advantages across different modalities while responding to the country specific context.

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- Post-2015, ODA will have to focus on where it is most needed, in the poorest, most environmentally and politically vulnerable countries, with poverty eradication as a key and explicit objective. ODA has the ability to leverage other resources and should thus also be increasingly directed towards strengthening domestic resource mobilization (DRM) and catalysing private sector financing for sustainable development.

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- Capacity building, technology development and policy change are integral to achieving sustainable development.

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- Delivery on the ambitious set of inter-linked development cooperation commitments envisaged by the post-2015 development agenda depends on the effectiveness of mutual learning and knowledge sharing and integrated monitoring, review and accountability for development results at all levels.

The first day of the symposium also featured two workshops:

- On national mutual accountability examining how the upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> round of the national mutual accountability survey conducted by DESA for the DCF can be further adapted to reflect new realities in monitoring and review of development cooperation post-2015 ([concept note](#); summary will soon be made available on our [website](#));
- On the role of catalytic aid in financing sustainable development in preparation for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (concept note).

In the margins of the Symposium, the DCF Advisory Group and the Core Group of Southern partners met. An informal exchange took also place between the [DCF Advisory Group](#) and members of the Steering Committee of the GPEDC. Least Developed Countries, Civil Society Organizations and the private sector and



philanthropic foundations held consultations to prepare for the Symposium.

The lively deliberations in Korea were informed by a series of targeted think pieces, also available on the DCF website (most of them are also available in French and Spanish):

### Background studies and policy briefs

- The Executive Summary of a forthcoming study on –“The need for a coherent approach to commitments on financing and other means of implementation coming out of Rio and Monterrey” [\[EN\]](#)
- “What is development cooperation?” [\[EN; ES; FR\]](#) offers an overview of considerations for the definition of development cooperation for the post-2015 era
- “Monitoring and review of development cooperation to support implementation of a post-2015 development agenda” examines how governments and other stakeholders can work together to prepare for the monitoring and review of an increasingly complex set of global commitments on development cooperation [\[EN; ES; FR\]](#) [\[full-length scoping study\]](#)
- “Addressing changes and challenges in monitoring and review of development cooperation at the national level” assesses how national policies, monitoring frameworks, institutional structures, and other building blocks to support changes of behaviour among partners and programme countries have to change in a post-2015 era [\[EN; ES; FR\]](#)
- “Strengthening technology facilitation and capacity building in a post-2015 setting: Understanding the issues” [\[EN; ES; FR\]](#) provides an overview of considerations for how development cooperation can support technology throughout the innovation cycle (A full study is forthcoming)
- Assessing the suitability of different development cooperation modalities for greater effectiveness and impact post-2015 [\[EN; ES; FR\]](#)
- “Improving ODA allocation for a post-2015 world” argues that the most effective way of using ODA is to refine the objective to benefit the poorest 20% of people in developing countries [\[Executive Summary and Policy Brief EN; ES; FR\]](#) [\[full-length scoping study\]](#)

#### Issue brief

- "Towards a Transformative Global Partnership for a Post-2015 Development Era" (by Professor Taekyoon Kim) [\[EN\]](#)

*“Despite the fifteen year-long efforts and many successes, the bitter reality is that the “bottom billion” still suffer from crushing poverty. And in terms of equality, access to justice and the environment, there are major gaps to be filled.”*

... said Yun Byung-Se, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea at the opening session of the DCF Republic of Korea Symposium on 9 April, 2015.



### Looking ahead: Preparations for the 2016 DCF to continue in Uganda and Belgium

The second and third DCF High-level symposiums will be held in Uganda on 4-6 November 2015 and in Belgium on 6-8 April 2016. Taking place after the United Nations Summit to adopt the post-2015 development agenda in New York in September 2015, both symposiums will provide timely opportunities to advance the discussion on how development cooperation can support the implementation of the new agenda. They will allow all stakeholders to discuss specific trends in development cooperation and share ideas and knowledge for policy making and practical solutions at all levels.

*“... 2015 could be a watershed year for development cooperation. There is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to lean back and reflect whether the moment has come for a new and – hopefully – common vision for development cooperation, at the heart of a new global development agenda.”*

... said Martin Sajdik, President of the UN Economic and Social Council in the closing session of the DCF Republic of Korea Symposium on 10 April, 2015.

