DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FORUM
Switzerland High-Level Symposium
“Development cooperation in a post-2015 era: sustainable development for all”
24-25 October 2013, Montreux, Switzerland

A universal and unified development agenda...
The world is reaching environmental and social tipping points. Despite the development progress made, extreme poverty, inequality and hunger persist. This suggests two central tasks for a post-2015 development agenda: completing any unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals; and putting the world on a more sustainable development path. The agenda would thus be ‘unified’ in its substantive focus, as well as ‘universal’ in its applicability to all countries.

Implementing such an ambitious agenda will require a renewed global partnership for development. The DCF Ethiopia High-level Symposium concluded that such a partnership will be essential to mobilize support for an enabling international environment for sustainable development. It must build on ODA as a vital source of development financing; engage all actors on an equal footing; intensify action on policy coherence for development, to address the range of issues underpinning sustainable development and provision of global public goods; and ensure effective monitoring and accountability for delivery on commitments by all partners.

...will have major implications for development cooperation.
The post-2015 development agenda will have implications on how actors in development cooperation will operate. Instruments, channels and division of labour among partners will have to adapt. Development cooperation will also have to break down silos and ensure integrated action on economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, particularly to support poor and vulnerable communities.

Additional resources will be required to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, including addressing climate change and managing global commons. There is need to assess the use of all other available forms of financing, including public and private and cross-border and domestic sources, in the spirit of the Monterrey Consensus. Some countries will have more room to maneuver, as they engage with a broader and more diverse range of actors. Others, however, may find traditional funding reduced.

Focus and objectives of the Switzerland Symposium...
The DCF Switzerland High-Level Symposium will stimulate a critical rethinking of the role of development cooperation in realizing equitable and sustainable development. It will examine:

- How can development cooperation advance equitable and sustainable development post-2015?
- What implications could a unified and universal post-2015 development agenda have for the allocation of different types of development cooperation financing, among and within countries and sectors?
- How can development cooperation be used to mobilize additional public and private sources of finance for sustainable development?
- How can development cooperation and sustainable development experts improve their effectiveness and best leverage their comparative strengths to promote equitable and sustainable development?
- What would enhanced global monitoring and accountability look like for development cooperation in the post-2015 setting?

The Switzerland Symposium will contribute to the ongoing discussions on a post-2015 development agenda as well as prepare for the 2014 ECOSOC DCF.

It will have an open, interactive format and engage high-level experts from all stakeholder groups: donor and programme countries, Southern partners, civil society, private sector, philanthropic organizations, parliamentarians, local governments and international organizations.

Several pre-meetings are planned for 23 October 2013.

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