



## DCF NEWSLETTER

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### The second half of 2015

#### DCF Uganda High-level Symposium – Kampala, 4-6 November 2015

The [DCF Uganda High-level Symposium](#) was co-organized in Kampala in November 2015 by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the government of Uganda, in preparation for the 2016 high-level meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum (see below “Looking ahead”).



H.E. Mr. Ruhakana Rugunda, Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda, delivering his opening statement at the DCF Uganda Symposium.

During the three-day meeting, over 150 representatives of governments, parliaments, international organizations, civil society, foundations and the private sector discussed how development cooperation can support implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda since their adoption.

The Symposium focused on two overarching questions: How will we adapt development cooperation policies and interventions for implementing the SDGs? And how will we monitor and review the impact of development cooperation in advancing the new sustainable development agenda?

Particular attention was placed on what this means in terms of challenges and opportunities for development cooperation in Africa. (Symposium Programme [\[EN\]](#), [\[FR\]](#), [\[ES\]](#))

Discussions were supported by several [policy briefs](#) with recommendations on:

- The revitalized global partnership for sustainable development and adjusting development cooperation to the SDGs [\[EN\]](#); [\[ES\]](#); [\[FR\]](#)
- International development cooperation to promote technology facilitation and capacity building for the 2030 Agenda [\[EN\]](#); [\[ES\]](#); [\[FR\]](#)
- Citizen-based monitoring of development cooperation to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda [\[EN\]](#); [\[ES\]](#); [\[FR\]](#)
- Monitoring and review of development cooperation at the local level [\[EN\]](#); [\[ES\]](#); [\[FR\]](#)
- Private and blended development cooperation: Assessing their effectiveness and impact for achieving the SDGs [\[EN\]](#); [\[ES\]](#); [\[FR\]](#)
- Country results frameworks for effective monitoring and review [\[EN\]](#)



The Symposium echoed the collective commitment among all stakeholders to implement the 2030 Agenda. It made a strong call to make best use of the early implementation phase, by adapting existing policies, tools and platforms to ensure cross-sectoral linkages for delivery on the new Agenda at all levels.

Participants expressed a sense of urgency to sustain momentum, eagerness to learn, keenness to share and readiness to act. The Symposium showed that, for effective efforts to reach the SDGs, open exchanges about development cooperation will have to remain at the centre of a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development.

Pre-meeting workshops focused on country results frameworks for reviewing development cooperation and on the role of national development cooperation policies.

**Country results frameworks (CRFs):** The workshop highlighted the role of country results frameworks in development cooperation stressing the importance of linking CRFs to national development cooperation policies, alignment of development partners and integration of the SDGs. Further, the importance of engaging citizens and civil society in results monitoring was emphasized as well as the engagement of local and regional governments. ([Summary](#))

**National development cooperation policies for the SDGs:** The workshop featured the role of national development cooperation policies in guiding development cooperation, by spelling out the purpose, objectives, principle, institutions and coordination arrangements, and the importance of such policies for SDG implementation. Participants stressed the importance of country ownership as well as policy coherence for development in NDCP design. ([Summary](#))

Least development countries, civil society organizations, parliamentarians and local and regional governments held pre-meeting stakeholder consultations to prepare for the symposium. The [DCF Advisory Group](#) also met.

For a detailed *Symposium Summary*, please click [here](#).

## Special event on private and blended development cooperation – Addis Ababa, 16 July 2016

The Third International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD-III) in Addis Ababa set a new global framework for financing sustainable development, aligning all financing flows and policies with economic, social and environmental priorities. The framework provides a comprehensive set of policy actions by Member States, comprising over 100 concrete measures that draw upon all sources of finance, technology, innovation, trade and data to support mobilization of the means for a global transformation to sustainable development.

UNDESA organized a Special Event to collect feedback on specific proposals for the definition and measurement of the effectiveness and impact of private and blended development cooperation, proposed in a recent [policy brief](#).

The meeting concluded with a strong call for further analysis and inclusive dialogue on the definition, additionality, effectiveness and impact of private and blended development cooperation.



Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (left) addresses a press conference at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, joined by Wu Hongbo, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

Presentations by governments, development finance institutions, representatives of the private sector, foundations and civil society informed a lively discussion among key decision-makers in development cooperation policy and planning. ([Summary of Event](#))

*“With the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Post-2015 Development Agenda, we are entering a new stage to implement the SDGs. [...] This is the first time in history all of us, officials and people of 193 Member States reached consensus that our way of consumption and production is not sustainable. [...] Solutions will involve change of mind-set and change of the way we work. Government officials usually focus on specific areas as government departments are structured in silos. Efforts have to be made to change the sectoral and siloed approach.”*

Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Secretary-General for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development 2015

### Revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development – New York, 25-27 September 2015

With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the international community is confronted with multiple challenges on the way to successful implementation. The United Nations Sustainable Development Summit to adopt the agenda in September 2015 stressed the importance of revitalising and strengthening the global partnership for development, including development cooperation. Revitalizing the partnership has been a major focus of the Development Cooperation Forum since its 2012-2014 cycle and the Summit’s [Interactive Dialogue 6](#) gave special attention to this. Participants called for the inclusiveness of the partnership and for a focus on the needs of the most vulnerable, leaving no one behind. They also stressed the importance of effective, predictable, country-driven and results-focused development cooperation and the importance of strengthening the capacities of local actors. Effective and inclusive approaches to monitoring and review were also highlighted. ODA will remain critical; however, there was consensus on the need to mobilize further resources including public and private, domestic and international finance, as well as technologies and capacity building for sustainable development in order to reach the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Dialogue also highlighted the need for coherent financial, trade, debt and technology policies in support of sustainable development.

*“Unless we find Neverland, all youth at this summit will not “stay young” by the time this agenda comes to an end. If we are to sustain and increase youth participation, we must identify what motivates the youngest to take action, and have this agenda brought-down to people’s daily lives.”*

Jennifer Vinas-Forcade  
(Uruguay), LAC Youth Alliance, United Nations Sustainable Development Summit, Interactive Dialogue 6, 26.9.2015

### Next steps towards measuring Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD) – New York, 27 October 2015

#### Briefing co-organized by the Governments of Denmark, the United Arab Emirates, UNDESA and the OECD

The new measure of Total Official Support for Sustainable Development, or TOSSD, featured in a briefing held on 27 October 2015 in the margins of the Second Committee meeting on Financing for Development. In follow-up to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the briefing provided an update on ongoing consultations related to the technical considerations underpinning this new statistical measure. It also invited feedback from member States on how TOSSD could be designed to contribute to the delivery of all means of implementation needed to realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The discussions highlighted the importance

of maintaining ODA at the centre, while making use of TOSSD to increase transparency and help distinguish between public and private flows, including complex financial instruments. The need for effective partnerships and to mobilising additional financial resources from multiple sources was also stressed. ([Summary](#) of Event)



## LOOKING AHEAD: The road to the July DCF 2016

### [DCF Belgium High-level Symposium – Brussels, 6-8 April 2016](#)

The next opportunity to continue the discussion of key issues on how international development cooperation can support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda will be the third DCF High-level Symposium, held from 6-8 April 2016 in Brussels, Belgium. The Symposium will address “Rethinking development cooperation for the SDGs: country-level perspectives and lessons”, with a focus on two themes:

- Making development cooperation a better fit for implementing the 2030 Agenda in LDCs and vulnerable contexts
- Adapt development cooperation institutions to the implementation of the 2030

The Symposium will mark another major step in the ongoing preparatory work for the fifth biennial high-level meeting of Development Cooperation Forum (see below).

### **Contributing to the inaugural ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development – April 2016**

The deliberations of the DCF will be taken into account by the annual ECOSOC Forum on [Financing for Development](#), as well as by the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development or HLPF. The ECOSOC FFD forum was put in place by the [Addis Ababa Action Agenda](#) and will hold its inaugural meeting in April 2016. The forum will discuss the follow-up and review of the Financing for Development outcomes and the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It will include within it the annual special high-level meeting of ECOSOC with the Bretton Woods institutions and other stakeholders. Its intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations will feed into the [HLPF](#). ([Full conference report](#), [Briefing note](#))

### **Biennial High-level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum – New York, 21-22 July 2016**

The **fifth Biennial High-level Meeting of the DCF** will take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York on 21-22 July 2016, as part of the High-level Segment of the United Nations Economic and Social Council. As the first DCF taking place after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the Forum will engage high-level development cooperation policy makers to present and share their actions taken and possible future policy shift in adapting to the 2030 Agenda. The Meeting will make an important contribution to the follow-up and review of progress on financing and other means of implementation for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular the development cooperation aspects.

Based on an extensive preparatory process and the 2016 Report of the Secretary-General on trends in development cooperation, the 2016 DCF will aim to generate a shared understanding of the role and scope of development cooperation in this new context through peer learning and knowledge sharing. The findings of the 2016 DCF and its ongoing preparatory process will be taken into consideration by the HLPF and the FFD follow-up process (see above). The meeting will also provide opportunity for side events organized by governments and other stakeholders.

Further information on the July 2016 DCF will be available on the [DCF website](#).