

Summary Report

Panel Discussion
26 January 2009

“Civil Society and the New Aid Architecture”

Expert Workshop
27 January 2009

“Budget Support and Civil Society Participation”

Location: Diplomatische Akademie Wien, Favoritenstraße 15a, 1040 Vienna

**Summary Report edited by: Franz Schmidjell (VIDC)
Laura Leyser, Johanna Mang (ADA)**

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Panel Discussion

“Civil Society and the New Aid Architecture”

Background: The past 30 years have been accompanied by an explosive growth of civil society organisations (CSOs) the so called “associational revolution” (CIVICUS). This was partly promoted by the dominant development paradigm which drifted away from the state towards a market orientation (liberalisation, privatisation) and participatory approaches. The re-emergence of the state in development cooperation, expressed by the Paris Declaration and driven by the debate about budget support and other program-based approaches, poses challenges and offers new opportunities for civil society in general and CSOs in particular. Many researcher and practitioners consider social accountability and democratic ownership as key issues for sustainable increasing aid effectiveness. This opens completely new roles for Southern and Northern CSOs, beyond the simplifying dichotomy of service provider and advocator.

The panel discussion focuses on the “political” aspects of civil society engagement: new roles (space, relation to state/governments, role of social movements etc) and puts special emphasis on supplementary social accountability measures.

Panellists:

Welcome: Robert Zeiner (ADA) and Franz Schmidjell (VIDC)

Paolo Renzio, Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Sciences, DPhil Candidate at the University of Oxford, Associate at the Overseas Development Institute

Pauline Apolot, Uganda Debt Network

Lena Ingelstam, Swedish International Development Agency, Head of NGO Unit

Liz Steele, Care International, EU Representative

Moderator: Johanna Mang, Austrian Development Agency

Welcome Note

Robert Zeiner (Director Programmes & Projects International), **ADA**

The past decades of development cooperation were often characterised by disappointing levels of aid effectiveness. Development cooperation and policy had not developed fast enough – in terms of quality and quantity - to give an adequate answer to the increasing global challenges. This international concern led to the definition of the Millennium Development Goals and to the elaboration of the principles, targets and indicators on aid effectiveness in the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action.

The principles formulated in the High Level Forums of Paris and Accra - in 2005 and just recently in 2008 - comprise partner-country ownership, alignment of donors with partner-country strategies, harmonisation of donor actions, results-orientation and mutual accountability. This framework is backed by concrete and measurable indicators and comes hand in hand with a set of new aid instruments – commonly referred to as programme-based approaches, and including budget support.

The Accra Agenda for Action not only reinforces these commitments and strategies but also draws special attention to three key areas of action, which are considered to be decisive to achieve the targets of the Paris Declaration:

1. Strengthening partner-country ownership over development
2. Building more effective and inclusive partnerships for development, and
3. Delivering and accounting for development results.

Involvement and participation of civil society is crucial for the success of the agenda at all these levels. Hence, in Accra, an emphasis was placed on the role of civil society. A forward agenda on civil society and aid effectiveness was laid out, comprised of the following key elements:

- Need for capacity development for civil society organisations
- Need for civil society organisations' own development effectiveness initiative
- Need for an enabling environment for civil society

The Austrian Development Cooperation is like other international donors committed to enhance the implementation of this agenda. It pursues an integral development model and offers a diverse set of instruments, depending on the partner-country's needs. Sector and general budget support are instruments among others and cannot be seen in isolation. But they can be the key to sustainable development success in the adequate environment. However, with the implementation of budget support new challenges arise and it is thus important to choose an integrated approach that includes supplementary measures such as fostering social accountability by strengthening civil society. The concept of social accountability and the future role of civil society in regards to these new instruments still need to be discussed as well as tested in practise.

I hope, that today's panel discussion and tomorrow's workshop will contribute to an in-depth understanding of the challenges ahead of us and will foster the exchange among civil society in the South, the North, scientific institutions and donors.

Welcome Note

Franz Schmidjell (Deputy Managing Director), VIDC

Why we initiated this debate about the civil society and the “new aid architecture”?

We think that the so called “**new aid architecture**” is not a finished one. Rather it is still under **construction**. Most of you are familiar with the debate around the Paris Declaration, which one of the milestones. But there is a **second discourse going on**, which is not so well known: a discourse which takes place in the villages in the Southern countries, at their universities, among their social movements and others.

Both discourses picked up the important issue of “**social or political accountability**”, although with a slightly different connotation. While for some stakeholders like the OECD or the World Bank it is an important “**complimentary**” measure concerning budget support, for the others it is a **key issue** within a broader democratization process. But both discourses have in common that the **traditional role of the CS/NGOs is challenged**. Some feel, this is a threat; others consider it as new opportunities.

The internationally well-known Professor **Alan Fowler** from the KwaZulu-Natal University in Durban, expressed in a recent lecture the need “to go beyond NGOism”. He criticized, that (southern) CSO have been mainly seen as project implementers and less as **agencies for a sustainable social transformation**. He proposed to integrate much more the “**un-aided**” **civil society**, which is much broader than the NGO-world, into this dialogue.

The inclusion of this ‘southern’ discourse might help us - either we are donors, researchers or NGO representatives - to improve the **effectiveness and sustainability** in our cooperation.

I wish you all interesting and inspiring discussion.

Summary of the statements by the panellists

Paolo de Renzio

In light of the Paris Declaration's principle "ownership", the partner countries were involved in discussions on the Accra Agenda for Action (AAA). This was an important step within the so called new aid architecture towards social accountability. De Renzio expects that the ongoing financial crisis is likely to have long lasting effects on the aid architecture and speaks of a 'new aid environment'. Within this new aid environment, CSOs can play an important role in monitoring the use and transparency of funds and in holding governments accountable.

Domestic priorities can be different from what western countries have defined as their development priorities. Hence, a dialogue between donor agencies, governments and the citizens in the partner countries is needed. There is a current shift of donor support away from projects to supporting governments.

De Renzio defined two problematic areas of current donor funding for CSOs:

- Donor agencies often decide what funds should be used for (technical aid, capacity building etc)
- Donor funding often stimulates CSOs to formulate what donors want to read in funding proposals instead of focusing on real needs and priorities.

Among donors there has been a shift from a focus on NGOs to a focus on institutions. This means that CSOs have to reinvent themselves to be in focus again. De Renzio mentioned the following specific criteria which he would expect from CSOs as the future partners of donor agencies: adequate levels of experience, citizen engagement, strategic orientation, and constructive and solution-oriented ways of working.

Pauline Apolot

In Uganda a legal framework exists that allows CSO-participation and initiatives in social accountability, as well as, to a certain extent, also the political will for CSOs' engagement. However, in practice there are limits, as CSOs' advocacy work risks to be seen as anti-government. Additionally, there is donor support for CSOs in Uganda to engage in social accountability activities.

Pro poor policies would definitely promote CSOs' opportunities and help the majority to profit from development. There has been a shift in priorities in Uganda's allocations from public administration towards key priority areas from which the poor can benefit. There has also been a trend towards more transparency in budget work and an active engagement and lobbying by CSOs at the local level.

Limitations to CSOs' engagement in social accountability are due to several reasons, including a lack of capacity, a lack of experience in advocacy work (compared to experience in project work), certain political limitations for the practical work, and the dependence on donor funding. Accordingly, CSOs are only able to work in this field if donors are willing to support social accountability initiatives.

Liz Steele

The new aid architecture, in particular the Accra Agenda for Action, recognises the role and voice of CSOs as actors in development. Although CSOs have an important function as watchdogs in order to hold governments accountable for their decisions, at the Accra High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness mainly donor agencies were represented. The focus in Accra was mainly on aid delivery, not so much on aid effectiveness. Steele noticed a big gap between the Paris Declaration, the Accra Agenda for Action and the practice in the field.

CSOs in the North should strengthen their legitimacy, aim for greater involvement of their partners in the South and be much more explicit about what they want and expect from them. It is the responsibility of CSOs in the North to strengthen the capacities of CSOs in the South, and to provide funding for advocacy work on social accountability. Steele highlighted that there should be an equal partnership: CSOs in the North should promote CSOs in the South and help them to, for example, monitor budgetary decisions. Steele also highlighted the key role of donors and governments in creating an enabling environment (legislative framework, dialogue, funding, and providing new aid modalities). An example for a new aid modality could be that donor agencies partner more directly with CSOs in the South without Northern CSOs as “middle men”. Building and working in coalitions would make the work of all actors – donor agencies, local governments and CSOs – more effective. It is important to keep a balance between the government, the donor agencies and the CSOs in the North and the South.

Lena Ingelstam

Domestic demand for increased performance of the public sector and more efficient use of public resources for poverty reduction has become a key concern in Europe as well as in developing countries. The government and its administration must be responsive, transparent and answerable towards its citizens in how it performs and uses public funds. The citizens and independent domestic institutions should primarily demand accountability of their government, but of course the bilateral donor community can also play an important role in partner countries (e.g. having a positive influence on policies, the government, etc.). Ingelstam noticed a lack of transparency in many partner countries and sees an urgent need for mechanisms to hold governments and parliaments accountable to their citizens.

In the new setting of increasingly harmonised funding and greater attention to development results, CSOs as citizens' proxies are regarded as complementary and even more critical for effective development. Citizens, independent media and CSOs as people's representatives need to be supported to influence policy and planning, as well as to check and control the performance of the government, donors and market actors. Ingelstam mentioned that donor attitude must change in order to promote democratic ownership. Donors (bilateral and multilateral) often forget that social transformation takes time and therefore frequently just provide short term and fragmented funding. This could lead to the mainstreaming of CSOs into certain sectors. More coordination among donors (e.g. a common reporting system) and guidelines for supporting CSOs would let the work of CSOs be more effective. Ideally, CSOs that support citizens' initiatives should get funding.

Summary of questions & comments

There was a lively discussion centred on the following topics:

Multi-stakeholder approach needed

There is a need for a multi-stakeholder approach where different actors play their specific roles: Northern CSOs have to make sure that they are listening to the needs of Southern CSOs and international organisations should play a more active role. A multi-stakeholder debate between North and South is the basis for a successful partnership between government, donors and CSOs. Ideally initiatives always build on citizens' demands and support their needs. Donors involved in budget support are challenged to assess the performance of those partner governments, and to react accordingly in case of poor performance.

Shift of power?

Within the global economy, private actors gained enormous influence – at the global as well as on a nation's level. Hence, governments need to clearly define their role in the process of development, depending on the varying situations and social change processes in the respective country. The Paris Declaration resulted in shifting donor support towards governments and their institutions. It is now up to CSOs, North and South, to define their roles in this new development environment.

Why is advocacy work for CSOs in Uganda so difficult when there is a legal framework?

CSOs working on the advocacy level fear to lose their registration when being too critical about the government. Government officials often see budget work from civil society as unnecessary, although the legal framework in Uganda allows CSOs participation.

Should donor support for CSOs be mainstreamed into certain sectors?

When donor support for CSOs is mainstreamed into certain sectors, donors should push for quality indicators in the specific sectors because these are necessary for evaluating programmes and for checking their aid effectiveness.

Selection of CSOs receiving core funding

The selection of CSOs that should receive core funding is a complex issue. CSOs should fulfil at least the following criteria: adequate level of experience, citizen engagement, strategic orientation, and constructive and solution-oriented engagement. SIDA for example has benchmarks and certain quality criteria for selecting NGOs. It is important to improve the transparency of aid flows because otherwise donors risk losing money.

Johanna Mang – Conclusion

It is a fact that an enabling environment for CSOs in the South is crucial for successful monitoring of budgetary decisions and for holding governments accountable for these. However, it is not enough to only have the legal framework that allows for CSO participation and initiatives in social accountability. Genuine political will is needed too. But social transformations and changes need time.

Moreover, there is not one model that can be applied to every country or situation. Donor agencies have to rethink existing and/or have to look for new funding mechanisms that include cooperation between CSOs in the North and the South.

Minutes: Simone Ungersböck (ADA), 30.01.2009

Expert Workshop

“Budget Support and Civil Society Participation”

The workshop will focus on the operational side of social accountability, especially in the context of budget support. Methodologically, this day will be based on a series of working groups for participants from the Austrian Development Agency, the Austrian Foreign Ministry, all relevant NGOs and representatives from the academic community. The day will commence with a keynote speech by Paolo de Renzio, after which three subsequent working groups (WGs) will be conducted to discuss the concrete needs of and measures for different stakeholders. In order to foster exchange, it is important that participants from various backgrounds participate in all WGs. Each WG will include an international resource person for specialist inputs, a facilitator and a rapporteur.

This expert workshop brought together practitioners of development organisations, international experts and the academic community in Austria.

Workshop 1: What are the needs and priorities of Southern civil society organizations regarding their roles in social accountability measures supplementary to budget support?

Workshop 2: How does the “New Aid Architecture” change the role of Northern CSOs?

Workshop 3: What are the appropriate measures and interventions to foster social accountability by donor agencies?

Input: Pauline Apolot, Liz Steele, Lena Ingelstam, Paolo de Renzio

Facilitators: K. Küblböck (ÖFSE), F. Schmidjell (VIDC), K. Steiner (BMeiA)

Rapporteurs: L. Leyser (ADA), M. Obrovsky (ÖFSE), M. Seewald (VIDC)

Workshop 1

“What are the needs and priorities of Southern civil society organizations regarding their roles in social accountability measures supplementary to budget support?”

Input: Pauline Apolot

Facilitator: Karin Küblböck

Rapporteur: Laura Leyser

Key questions:

1. What are good-practice examples regarding participative budget processes (especially in rural areas and/or disadvantaged groups), including awareness raising, mobilisation, participation, monitoring etc. And what are the functions of Southern CSOs (including examples)?
2. What are the essential factors of success or conditions (culture of silence, leeway for CSOs.) for CSO participation in budget support processes?
3. What type of support do Southern CSOs need in order to exercise this function?

Summary

- Uganda Debt Network (UDN) “promotes and advocates for pro-poor people policies and full participation of the poor people in influencing poverty focused policies, monitoring the utilisation of public resources and ensuring that borrowed and national resources are prudently managed in an open, accountable and transparent manner so as to benefit the Ugandan people.”

1. Good-Practice Examples:

UDN is involved in the budget process at national, sub national and international levels:

- National level
 - UDN is involved at the drafting stage when key ministries invite UDN to sector working groups in order to discuss the specific allocations. UDN is usually presented with a proposal that it comments and this is followed by a push-and-pull process between CSOs and the government regarding priorities.
 - UDN lobbies different parliamentary committees before they approve the budget so that their positions are included.
 - UDN also prepares an alternative budget proposal and presents it to MoF officials.

- Local and district level (UDN operates in 12 of 81 districts in Uganda)
 - UDN is involved in monitoring budget implementation through selected community budget monitors.
 - These community monitors facilitate participatory budget processes at the community level.
 - They also participate in drafting budget proposals at the community level.
- International level
 - UDN collaborates with the International Budget Partnership (IBP) and is in charge of collecting the information necessary for IBP to generate its Open Budget Index.

Accordingly, UDN influences the budget through advocacy and campaign, scrutinising the public budget from a pro-poor perspective, enabling participatory budget processes at the local level, training legislature in budget scrutiny, publishing information on the budget.

This has led to a variety of important successes including the raising of awareness and education at all administrative levels of the budget process, a shift in the allocative priorities of the budget, a revision of policies, and greater transparency of the budget process.

2. Factors of Success

Factors of success always depend on the specific circumstances and are manifold, including:

- A legal framework and institutions which enable CSOs to participate in the development process including the budget processes. This is a crucial prerequisite.
- Technical capacities and adequate human resources.
- Financial resources to guarantee secure and predictable working conditions.
- Courage, strength and persistency on CSO side to confront advocacy issues.
- Access to information in order to practice fact-based advocacy.
- Focus in order to have an impact (e.g. regionally – UDN focuses on 12 out of 81 districts).
- Collaboration with other CSOs in order to increase influence and clout. In Uganda a group of CSOs cooperates under the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group.
- Political will for timely civil society inclusion.
- Trust between Southern CSOs and the government, as well as allies in the government and public administrations.

3. Type of Support

Support needed by Southern CSOs working in budget advocacy once again needs to be tailored to specific circumstances but includes, inter alia:

- Strengthening of technical capacities, including the capacity to comprehend and analyse the public budget and processes.
- Strengthening of financial capacities, in order to sustain citizen engagement in budget processes.
- Creating and enabling working environment, for example through lobbying of the government by Northern CSOs and Donors.
- Fostering transparency and accountability of public resources through a strong partnership between Southern and Northern CSOs and donors.
- South-South exchange, or so called peer learning.
- Donors should not only observe and monitor but also become actively involved.

Minutes: Laura Leyser

Workshop 2

“How does the „New Aid Architecture“ change the role of Northern NGOs?”

Input: Liz Steele

Facilitator: Franz Schmidjell

Rapporteur: Michael Obrovsky

1. Key Questions

- ⇒ What are the functions of Northern CSOs within this context in developing countries and where are the biggest challenges (including specific examples)?
- ⇒ How can the cooperation between Northern and Southern CSOs be strengthened and who are CS cooperation partners outside of NGOs, i.e. “unaided” CSOs?
- ⇒ What are the functions of Northern CSOs within this context in the donor countries?

The discussion was started with the question “What is the role of Northern CSOs role in holding recipient governments to account?” Liz Steele emphasised that Northern CSOs have to be aware that this job must be done by the local partners in the South, and Northern CSOs need to ask themselves what they can do for a good political environment, which enables their Southern partners to do so.

2. Discussion

The following key issues were presented:

- ⇒ CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT is not only a question of providing technical assistance or financial means. Northern CSOs have to reflect if they are really listening to the partners in the South or if they just assume what their priorities are.
- ⇒ FINANCIAL SUPPORT. There is a role for Northern CSOs in
 - ✓ Core funding CSOs and also in pushing donors to provide core funding.
 - ✓ Funding for Southern CSOs. Though there is a discussion about direct donor funding some of the Southern partners prefer to get funds via Northern CSOs as an intermediate in order to cut bureaucratic transaction costs.
- ⇒ TRANSPARANCY & ACCESS TO INFORMATION
 - ✓ Aid flow monitoring
 - ✓ In terms of budgetary processes this means for example providing information to the partners in the South which they can use for their own advocacy work.
 - ✓ Pushing that information is available to the public.

- ⇒ **ADVOCACY** as a challenge for the South and the North
 - ✓ Support civil society in terms of bringing evidence to the North. In the case of budget support this means scrutinising what the real impact of budget support is in the field.
 - ✓ It is also important to avoid that Northern CSOs take political space from their Southern partners. Rather they should ask: “How can we enable our partners in the South to speak for themselves, how can we stimulate their political environment?”
 - ✓ Share experience. For example, at the European level advocacy becomes more effective when working together (e.g. Aid Watch Report of CONCORD).
 - ✓ Northern CSOs could support independent research so that Southern CSOs are able to provide more evidence
- ⇒ **COALITION WORK & INTERNATIONAL ALLIENCES**
 - ✓ It is important to look how regional, national and international coalition can be linked at all levels (for example ACCRA lobbying activities of the CSOs)
 - ✓ It is a crucial for Northern CSOs to learn not to dominate coalitions with Southern partners.
 - ✓ Northern CSOs should always ask how they can link their activities to the specific situation in a partner country-
- ⇒ The **KEY** of all what has been said is **THE QUALITY** of **PARTNERSHIP**
 - ✓ The old aid architecture pushed CSOs into the role of donors, or Northern CSOs subcontracted projects to Southern partners and they ended up as implementing agencies.
 - ✓ Southern CSOs have to be involved in Northern CSOs’ strategic planning and priority setting – it is all about changing the balance of power.
- ⇒ Regarding **BUDGET SUPPORT** there is **INTRANSPARENCY** concerning the negotiations between donors and partner governments.
 - ✓ One of the key roles of CSOs is to scrutinise the MoUs (Memorandum of Understanding – between donors and government) and the PAFs (Poverty Assessment Frameworks) and to make these publicly accessible.
- ⇒ Northern CSO moving into advocacy and policy work face the question of **LEGITIMACY**. Many CSOs derive their legitimacy from what they do in the field. In terms of fundraising the proximity to the field is important but the shift towards the new aid architecture challenges this legitimacy.

- ⇒ There needs to be a more balanced approach of FUNDING because Northern and Southern CSOs are competing for funds. One effect is that many Northern CSOs nationalise their local offices.
- ⇒ In terms of the relationship between the government and CSOs it needs to be discussed what happens when governments oppose the political participation of CSOs (for example in Ethiopia) and what the role of Northern CSOs is then?
- ⇒ In terms of accountability, Northern CSOs also have to ask to what extent they are accountable to their beneficiaries?

During the discussion Liz Steele emphasised that a multi-stakeholder dialogue is necessary to bridge the different approaches between donors, governments and CSOs. She explained the shift of Northern CSOs towards more advocacy –based activities, such as considering the causes of poverty in projects and programmes. Therefore the North has to accept that Southern CSOs want to address political issues as well. Liz Steele stresses that a lot of local partners are not interested in aid issues, as they are often much more interested in global political issues. Therefore one key question is if Northern CSOs want to deliver services and technical capacity or whether they take a political position. **Paolo de Renzio** added that he would wish for much more engagement by Northern CSOs in a radical assessment of the economic and political conditions for development.

Liz mentioned that Southern CSOs want access to the international debate and that they want Northern CSOs to assist them to bring their issues to the international agenda.

3. Summary

Franz Schmidjell summarised that Austrian NGOs are open-minded to reflect on how to deal with the challenges of the new aid architecture, but that we have to bear in mind that the shift towards more advocacy has to be done in a smooth way. Considering the relationship between the world economic order and the political space we call for, one also has to look at the link between social accountability and democratisation.

Minutes: Michael Obrovsky

Workshop 3

“What are the appropriate measures and interventions to foster social accountability by donor agencies?”

Input: Lena Ingelstam, Paulo de Renzio

Facilitator: Klaus Steiner

Rapporteur: Magda Seewald

1. Key questions

1. What are best-practice examples of measures already implemented or planned by donors (including harmonised multi-donor approaches)?
2. What type of measures can be realistically implemented by bilateral donor agencies?
3. What is the role of bilateral donors regarding the political dimension and the more general framework in partner countries (tension: influence versus domestic sovereignty)?

Sweden’s policy for global development (PGD) wants to meet two conditions for development: the achievement of a desirable outcome and the establishment of a high-quality process, which is set by human rights principles, such as accountability, participation, equality and transparency, to achieve and sustain that outcome.

- The concept of **accountability** focuses on the relation between the state and citizens; the state or individuals as duty-bearer are accountable to the correlative right-holders (citizens); duty-bearers can only be accountable if they have the capacity to meet their duties.
- Every person is entitled to **participate** in, contribute to, and enjoy civil, economic, social, cultural and political development in which human rights can be realized; and every person has the right to participate in decision-making that affects his or her life.
- **Equality** for all means that all persons within a society enjoy equal access to the available goods and services which are necessary to fulfil human needs.
- Information must be provided, practical and easy to understand so that **transparency** and access to information from authorities is possible.

The human rights principles are a missing link between more effective public services and democratic development with real ownership from citizens.

Donors have to work on both sides, where citizens set the criteria for acceptable process build on human rights principles. **Capacity development** is needed to close the capacity gaps for duty bearers and rights holders must be supported.

2. How to support?

Donor – Southern CSO relations: **Donors must change their attitudes!**

Application of the aid effectiveness principles to CSO support, alignment and coordination are crucial for a successful donor and CSO relation.

Best-practice example: Nordic+ agreement for agencies direct support to civil society: the principles of the Paris Declaration were used as a starting point.

3. Good Donorship

- Stop treating civil society as a sector of its own, but integrate it into all sectors of development!
- Do not harmonise civil society support into one funding channel but harmonise the support by applying common arrangements and procedures and share information. Diversity is needed to suit the diversity of civil society – but coordinate with other donors by sharing information about support and criteria.
- Always apply the Human Rights principles; support capacity development for empowerment.
- Respect Southern CSOs' ownership of their operations and development. Dare to trust them! But make sure you support CSOs which are genuinely people's representatives, such as social movement, to demand domestic accountability.
- **Provide core funding** with long term commitments based on the CSO's strategic priorities and plans. The Swedish example: a framework agreement for 8 years for all operations incl. administration costs, with a specification of the concrete amount of funding every 4 years.
Make sure CSOs' capacity development is part of the core funding. Align with their systems and assist in strengthening those that are weak. But be strict on the CSOs' internal governance and legitimacy.
- Coordinate with other donors around the CSOs in basket funds to create improved conditions for the CSOs to focus their own strategic priorities for change.

4. Best-practice

The Swedish Embassies in Tanzania and Mozambique and a broader donor group in Tanzania are starting to align with the Southern NGOs and coordinate at the organisational level, using different modalities.

Question of (social) conditionality:

Upward conditionality (supply side measures) is accepted. Downward (social) conditionality to governments for CSO support was rejected by the Lena Ingelstam and Paulo de Renzio. Since the conditionality within the PRSPs did not work, they just brought frustrations. Accountability must be built from the ground and can not be pushed from outside. Create the conditions for social accountability and transparency in negotiations – however be realistic in your expectations.

Question of budget support in fragile states:

General budget support is not the solution in this context (see DAC working group on fragile states).

Question Budget support vs. project funding?

This are not the only two alternatives, there are a lot of instruments between this two.

Minutes: Magda Seewald

Panellists Biographical Data

Pauline Apolot

Pauline Apolot stands for civic engagement. She has been involved in several campaigns on human rights and anti-corruption. This campaigning has included all key elements: policy analysis, media advocacy, networking, mobilisation of citizens. Pauline Apolot started her professional career as a teacher and Head of Political Education and History Department at St. Lawrence Citizens High School in Uganda. In 2005 she joined the Uganda Debt Network (UDN), which advocates pro-poor policies and full participation of poor people in influencing poverty focused policies. Ms. Apolot is a programme officer at UDN and works at grassroots' level to establish the Community Based Monitoring and Evaluation System (CBMES) as a tool for empowerment and to advocate improved service delivery.

Liz Steele

Liz Steele is the EU representative for CARE International based in Brussels and was CONCORD representative (CONCORD = European Network of Relief and Development NGOs) of the OECD-DAC Advisory Group on CSOs and Aid Effectiveness working on the Accra Agenda for Action and the High Level Forum in Accra in September 2008. Liz Steele has been active in establishing the new Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness which brings together civil society organisations from around the world to discuss the issues and challenges to their effectiveness as development actors. Its objective is to propose, by late 2011, a global effectiveness framework for CSOs. From 2000-2004 she worked for the European Commission, DG AIDCO, as Contracts and Finance Coordinator in the Delegation in Moscow, Russia, and as Geographical Coordinator for West Africa in Brussels.

Lena Ingelstam

Lena Ingelstam is a social scientist/economist trained at the University of Gothenburg, and has been working in international development cooperation for more than fifteen years. Her focus is on cooperation with civil society, human rights issues and the interface between the state and civil society. She has vast experience of working in direct cooperation with CSOs in Latin America and Africa, especially in the area of democracy and human rights. Ms. Ingelstam worked as Regional Director for South America at Diakonia (Swedish NGO) based in La Paz Bolivia, and prior to taking up the position as Head of the Civil Society Unit at Sida headquarters, she was as an adviser to the Swedish Embassy in Tanzania.

Paolo de Renzio

Paolo de Renzio is currently a PHD candidate at the University of Oxford, Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science and Associate of the ODI (Overseas Development Institute). He is an outspoken expert in Public Finance Management, as well as aid policies and aid effectiveness, both regarding his academic achievements and his practical experience. Among others, Paolo de Renzio worked as a Senior Policy Advisor for the Ministry of Treasury and Finance in Papua New Guinea, and as a Programme Officer in the Governance Unit of UNDP in Mozambique. He also participated as a leading team member in the ODI studies on civil society involvement in budget monitoring and advocacy in Brazil and Uganda.

Literature and Links

Recommendation:

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Relevant Links:

- **CSO Effectiveness:** Over 70 civil society delegates, representing a rich diversity and large constituency of CSOs gather in Paris (June 08) and agreed to launch a global two-year Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness, from January 2009 to December 2010; <http://www.cso-effectiveness.org/>
- **The International Budget Partnership (IBP)** aims to make budget systems more responsive to the needs of poor and low-income people in society and, accordingly, to make these systems more transparent and accountable to the public; www.internationalbudget.org, newsletter: info@internationalbudget.org
- **Idasa - Africa Budget Project** is an independent public interest organisation based in Cap Town (RSA) committed to promoting sustainable democracy based on active citizenship, democratic institutions, and social justice. The Africa Budget Project (ABP) is part of the Budget Information Service of IDASA and the regional partner of the International Budget Project (IBP). The ABP works to build capacity in civil society and legislatures to participate effectively in budgetary processes in African countries.
- **Capacity.org** is a web magazine-cum-portal intended for practitioners and policy makers who work in or on capacity development in international cooperation in the South. www.capacity.org
- **INTRAC** is a non-profit organisation working in the international development and relief sector. We support non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and civil society organisations (CSOs) around the world by helping to explore policy issues, and by strengthening management and organisational effectiveness. <http://www.intrac.org/>
- **Uganda Debt Network (UDN)** was formed in 1996 to campaign for debt relief for Uganda. Today the network advocates for pro-poor policies and full participation of poor people in influencing poverty focused policies, monitoring of public resources and ensuring that resources are prudently managed in open, accountable and transparent manner; www.udn.or.ug

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