

Asia Workshop on Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation: Links to the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Dhaka, 25-27 August 2013

RECOMMENDATIONS from ASIA-PACIFIC *Building Asia's Evidence for the First Ministerial*

Context

Twenty-eight Government development and economic cooperation policy makers and practitioners of twelve countries and Civil Society Organization (CSO) platforms from the Asia-Pacific region having discussed in Dhaka on 25-27 August 2013 country experiences and accrued knowledge on effective development cooperation in the region, having been informed- of the level of implementation of the Busan Commitments and the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), have come to the following common understanding:

- We recognize that rapid economic growth has contributed to remarkable progress in the Millennium Development Goals in the region, although these are accompanied by rising inequalities.
- We acknowledge the requirement for deepening of the Millennium Development Goals in the remaining two years to address the issues of income and non-income inequalities, the lack of quality education, youth unemployment and vulnerabilities, gender inequality and social exclusion, health and environment risks, conflict and fragility, good governance challenges, limited progress in global partnerships on ODA, trade, technology and affordable medicines.
- We recognize that aid and other forms of development financing including innovative financing will play an increased role in reaching MDG targets; at the same time, we underscore the need to ensure stronger links between the uses of country generated revenue and development partners' funding for achieving the development goals till 2015 and beyond.
- We reaffirm that efficient country systems are critically important for country ownership and more domestic resource mobilization to manage development goals.

Strategies

As policy makers and practitioners of development and economic cooperation, **we recommend the following three broad strategies**, at the country level that will actively seek regional cooperation in a practical and feasible way:

- 1. Strengthen and operationalise country-led results and accountability frameworks and multi-stakeholders' platforms to assess performance.**
- 2. Situate ODA in a broader development finance landscape for financing development priorities including MDGs and Post-2015 development agenda.**
- 3. Upscale successful South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation from the region including knowledge sharing platforms on development.**

Specific Actions

We urge the partner countries from the Asia-Pacific to adopt the following measures to implement the recommended strategies:

1. **Strengthen and operationalise country-led results and accountability frameworks and multi-stakeholders' platforms to assess performance.**
 - **Strengthen multi-stakeholder Results and Accountability Frameworks** that draw from country-specific national development plans which set out the key medium-term development priorities to be achieved using a rights-based and inclusive approach.
 - **Design and outline the performance framework for development cooperation providers** that draw from development finance, aid, and cooperation policies.
 - **Strengthen participation, dialogue and knowledge-sharing by/with** parliamentarians, CSOs, private sector and our development cooperation partners to improve the quality, delivery, measurement and accountability for development results.
 - **Ensure use of country systems** as the preferred option of aid delivery, and **strengthen** Public Financial Management and Results Based Management Systems, therefore reinforcing development results and transparency.
2. **Situate ODA in a broader development finance landscape for financing development priorities including MDGs and Post-2015 development agenda.**
 - Assess the sources of development finance and aid, and **develop medium term comprehensive development financing strategies** beyond 2015 and **develop country-led development finance and aid policies** that reflect a broader development finance landscape, groups of actors and beneficiaries, and new ways of delivering results, based on Busan commitments and its linkage to post-2015 development agenda.
 - **Target technical assistance to enhance institutional, systems and human resource capacity**, as well as **strengthen national planning and budget processes** required for a wider and more complex development finance envelope, wider partnerships, and group of actors.
 - **Encourage the emerging development partners, particularly the BRICS grouping**, to enhance their engagement in development financing and cooperation, in line with their growth and prosperity.
3. **Upscale successful South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation from the region including knowledge sharing platforms on development.**
 - **Upscale South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation** (knowledge sharing, mutual learning, ownership, and diversity in practices from across the Asia-Pacific region) through regional cooperation.
 - **Translate good practices** from countries in the region **into adaptable development solution packages** for **South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation** in other developing countries within and outside the region.
 - **Document the body of evidence** on South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation in Asia-Pacific **and promote it globally.**

Stock-taking measures

We **propose the following initial stock-taking measures** to track the implementation of the recommended strategies, which may be supported by the recently launched Asia-Pacific Development Effectiveness Facility:

- Aconsolidation of the evidence and perspectives from the Asia-Pacific region ahead of the First Ministerial to be hosted by Mexico in April 2014.
- Periodic online knowledge-sharing conference/events and the use of social networking to discuss challenges and exchange solutions.