

## FOCUS SESSION 27:

### Turning development cooperation principles into results

Experiences from education, health and WASH, and implications for the post 2015 agenda

Wednesday 1145 - 1300 Room Diezmo 1

#### Speakers/Panelists:

- **Mercedes Juan**, Secretary of Health, Mexico
- **Margaret Chan**, Director General, World Health Organization
- **Alice Albright**, CEO, Global Partnership for Education
- **HE Demeke Mekonnen**, Deputy Prime Minister, Ethiopia
- **Darren Saywell**, Vice Chair, Sanitation and Water for All
- **Sachita Shrestha**, Programme Officer, Restless Development Nepal

Moderator **Anders Nordstrom**, Ambassador for Global Health, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Other speakers: Mabinty Darami, Deputy Minister of Finance, Sierra Leone; Péter Wintermantel, Deputy State Secretary for Global Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Hungary, on behalf of the co-chair of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, and participants from African Development Bank; Burkina Faso, Rwanda and USA. Altogether, 70-80 people attended.

#### Conclusions and key messages:

##### 1. Global partnerships for national results:

- Over the last 20 years, there has been significant progress towards education, health and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) for all, but major challenges remain.
- Sector partnerships are effective. They help maintain a focus on results. They foster innovation. They facilitate sharing of solutions to common problems. They can bring additional development partners to the table,

including CSOs. They can mobilise political will for change, and help mobilise and effectively manage resources. There are many different types, global, regional and local. In education, health and WASH they have helped bring development partners together to support national sector plans and priorities.

- There can be costs and disincentives to working together, which have to be managed. Sometimes newer players such as young people, CSOs or the private sector are seen as a threat not an asset. Tensions are inherent as partners move at different speeds. Effective incentives for more collective action include: clear government vision and goals; and demonstration of results and returns on investment.

## **2. From principles to action:**

- Experience across the three sectors with putting principles of effective development cooperation into practice at country level is mixed. Examples of progress were provided in countries as diverse as Ethiopia, Rwanda and Sierra Leone, but there is less progress in others.
- Critical elements for progress include clear messages from government on its priorities, with guidelines for partners; MOF backing for the ministries tasked with delivering on sectoral priorities; joint planning and monitoring systems for accountability; and the use of external evaluations
- There remains more to do to support country ownership - including use of country systems, and country capacity to manage a growing range of development partners. Mutual accountability for commitments is critical.

## **3. A changing landscape:**

- Post 2015, partnerships will still be important because no government can deliver on its own. The Busan principles will be more relevant than ever, with their emphasis on ownership, inclusion, results and accountability.
- Partnerships will need to adapt, as new partners need to be recognized: civil society and the private sector are key engines for growth; young people also need to be more engaged. International development agencies, including the UN, need to listen and change to remain relevant.
- There are shared outcomes across education, health and WASH. There will be a continued need to capitalise on synergies across the three sectors, and break down silos, post 2015.

### **Focus session organisers**

Global Partnership for Education: [www.globalpartnership.org](http://www.globalpartnership.org)

International Health Partnership: [www.internationalhealthpartnership.net](http://www.internationalhealthpartnership.net)

Sanitation and Water for All: [www.sanitationandwaterforall.org](http://www.sanitationandwaterforall.org)