

Side Events

Universalising Effective Development Co-operation through promoting accountability of all actors committed to Busan & 2030 Agenda

30 November 2016, 14:30 – 15:30

Objective:

1. Universalising effective development co-operation: How to mainstream the EDC principles (i.e. transparency and accountability, inclusive partnerships, democratic country ownership, and results-focus) partnership, and accountability in Busan & 2030 Agenda
2. Accountability to the people: Why there is slow progress in development co-operation commitments, how to accelerate progress, How people are informed and involved in these efforts
3. Demystifying Accountability in the 2030 Agenda /Accountability audit for 2030 Agenda: What governments (as primary duty-bearers) and multi-stakeholder accountability framework are currently in place to ensure progress and behaviour change

Participants:

Facilitator: Justin Kilcullen, CPDE co-chair

Speakers:

- Mr. Vitalice Meja, Coordinator, Reality of Aid – Africa
- Ms. Julia Sanchez, President-CEO, Canadian Council for International Co-operation
- Ms. Johanna Teague, Deputy Director of Development Cooperation at the MFA Sweden
- Mr. Modibo Mao Makalou, Head of the Development and Cooperation Initiative, Development and Cooperation Initiative
- Emele Duituturaga, Executive Director, PIANGO

Key issues discussed:

What is needed for universal EDC?

- **Political will:** Discussions have to be closer to the ground to where development is happening. There is still a lack of political will. Understanding why this is so is equally crucial.
- **Accountability:** Transparency and accountability: commitments not enough, what is needed is country implementation. “global light country heavy”. There needs to be a focus on generating evidence and political accountability. Accountability remains the fundamental element. Not about how well it performed but what does it mean to development.
- **Ownership:** Ownership and inclusive partnership remain as key issues. More people need to be involved and more people need to be informed about the commitments of countries, development co-operation, and the 2030 Agenda
- **EDC as a distinct but complementary agenda:** As different global development agenda evolve, Effective Development Co-operation has always been there. EDC should be seen as complementary to 2030 Agenda or it risks losing itself

How can governments help to do this?

- **Accountability:** There is a need to bring back discussions and importance of mutual accountability. Over the last few years it is alarming that this has not been a priority by many donors.
- **Understanding the SDGs:** Despite the 2030 Agenda, there is still a need for a shift in thinking. Governments must make an effort to better universalise the SDGs by making everyone conscious about its details and purpose.
- **Behaviour change:** Donor countries must see their contribution to development as part of their core business. We are stuck with the technical aspects of EDC, there is also a need to elevate it to the political level
- **Recognising other development actors:** Governments need to recognize now that there are more development actors now than there ever was

Main conclusions and next steps:

The side-event was able to extrapolate certain consensus points on a framework for universalizing effective development co-operation. From both civil society and governments, it is apparent that transparency and accountability, and ownership and inclusiveness remain as the top considerations to truly universalise EDC. The primary emphasis of these points is the people. To 'universalise' therefore means to 'bring' EDC to the people and doing this entails stronger efforts by the development co-operation community over both accountability and ownership. In that regard, in light of the 2030 Agenda, the discussion also lead to emphasising the need to treat EDC as a complementary but distinct to the 2030 Agenda.