

BUSAN HIGH LEVEL FORUM ON AID EFFECTIVENESS

Background paper for the First Interim Meeting of the Policy Forum on Development, 10-11 May 2011 (Brussels)

The 4th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Busan, 29 November -1 December) was the key development policy event of year 2011. Over 3000 delegates met in Busan to review the progress on implementing the principles and commitments of Paris Declaration (2005) and Accra Agenda for Action (2008). One of the main issues addressed in the Forum was how to maintain the relevance of the aid effectiveness agenda in the context of the evolving development landscape and how to strengthen inclusive global development partnership to support lasting development results including Millennium Development Goals.

The Busan outcome document 'Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation' contains some of the following features: Firstly, it is inclusive as a great variety of stakeholders (partner countries, donors, civil society organisations, BRICS, private sector) participated in the document negotiations and have endorsed the document. Secondly, it contains an agreement on a new inclusive global governance structure, the 'Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation'. Thirdly, it focuses and deepens aid effectiveness commitments particularly in results, ownership, transparency and predictability, use of country systems and reduced fragmentation. Finally, it expands from aid to development effectiveness emphasising results and aid's role as a catalyst.

Busan follow-up process

The Busan outcome document stipulates that light working arrangements of the Global Partnership and monitoring will be agreed upon by June 2012. In addition, the Busan outcome document calls for OECD and UNDP to provide support to the functioning of the Global Partnership.

The Working Party on Aid Effectiveness has established a Post-Busan Interim Group to finalise the proposals on the Global Partnership and monitoring framework. This group contains 25 members from partner countries, fragile states, DAC donors, emerging economies, civil society, multilateral and regional organisations as well as Inter-Parliamentary Union.

The Post-Busan Interim Group has identified the following core functions for the Global Partnership: i) maintain political momentum, ii) ensure accountability for implementing Busan commitments, iii) facilitate knowledge exchange and sharing and iv) support the implementation of Busan commitments at the country level

In terms of monitoring, some of the key principles have been identified as: i) country level monitoring will provide the foundation for reviewing progress, ii) country level monitoring should allow flexibility to reflect country specific contexts, iii) both quantitative and qualitative analysis is needed and iv) participation in monitoring should be voluntary.

The work of the Post-Busan Interim Group is on-going and the final proposal on the Global Partnership (functions and structure) as well as monitoring (monitoring process and indicators) is expected in May-June. The final decision will be done by the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness end of June 2012.