



International division of labour – Towards a criteria-led process?

A DIE-FRIDE contribution to the donor-partner dialogue

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Where we are: The practice

- The practice today shows:
 - Donor decide unilaterally on concentrating
 - Partner countries not interested, but affected
 - Resulting in tension with partnership paradigm



Quantitative vs qualitative approaches

- Thus far, focus on quantitative dimensions
 - Aid fragmentation in countries / sectors (EU)
 - Allocation policies (DAC)
- Rather exploratory: Qualitative aspects
 - Criteria already used by donors
 - Comparative advantages emerging in partner countries

Embedding DoL in partnership

- DIE-FRIDE discussion paper
- Two dimensions
 - Donors concentrating
 - Partner countries identifying comparative advantages
- Overall conclusion: What matters is “who gives aid how”, not only “how much”



Donor-led criteria

- Czech Rep, Germany, Ireland, Sweden
- Formal criteria and use of rankings
- Self-assessed own added value
- Room for political decisions
- Inward-looking - no dialogue



Country-led criteria

- Cambodia, Malawi, Mauritania, Uganda
- Rather prudent, although affected
- Not money, but modality and donor's capacities
- Policy coherence not relevant?
- Comparative assessment still not used



Criteria for international DoL

Country-led criteria

Funding, incl. volume, predictability and budget support (all)

Commitment to aid effectiveness (all)

Trust, credibility & political dialogue (all)

Institutional capacity (Cambodia, Uganda)

Flexibility & risk-taking (Cambodia, Uganda)

Donor-led criteria

Need and poverty (all)

Aid effectiveness (all)

Previous linkages & regional agenda (all)

Donor added value (all)

Governance (Germany, Sweden)

Common values and interests (Germany)



Towards a criteria-based donor-partner dialogue

Address tensions: Intern. DoL vs partnership

- Foster peer learning partner countries
- Improve communication among donors
- Ensure synergies with mutual accountability
- Balance DAC and UN-DCF for dialogue