EUROPEAN COMMISSION
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

JRC.G – Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen (IPSC)
JRC.G.2 – Global Security and Crisis Management Unit (GLOBESEC)

Ispra, May 10, 2010

Report from the TR-AID Workshop held on April 30, 2010
Durieux room, Charlemagne building (170, rue de la Loi), Brussels

WORKSHOP OPENED BY EUROPEAID

The first Workshop for TR-AID was attended by more than 45 participants from 14 Member States and various DGs of the European Commission.

The opening presentation by EuropeAid concentrated on informing the participants what TR-AID is about, its functionality, and extended an invitation to the MSs to join the project.

This was followed by the following presentations:

PRESENTATION BY EUROPEAID: On the Aid Effectiveness Agenda

INITIAL REQUIREMENTS AT THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S LEVEL:

Presentations by

    OLAF: Case studies based on projects relating to 'Double Funding'
    DG DEV: TR-AID and the Donor Atlas
    DG ECHO: ECHO 14 points reporting system
    DG EuropeAid: TR-AID and Division of Labour

QUESTION/ANSWER SESSION:

The main concerns voiced were: When would IATI standards be available for aid effectiveness; the difference between IATI and TR-AID; if the data for multilateral donors is to be included; how raw data could be transferred automatically to TR-AID; who TR-AID would be open to (only donors, Partner Countries, others?); how much burden might be placed on the MSs in terms of providing data; if TR-AID was more than CRS; how redundancy in data would be avoided; how TR-AID could contribute to the issue of Division of Labour; and if it would include data from NGOs and EIB.

The following comments were made:

TR-AID would benefit accountability; it could help to achieve political, professional and policy objectives; it could be useful for forward looking and

dynamic data for which the data owners will need to study the impact of human resources required to provide this information; TR-AID should be an operational tool for coordination between donors; and that it would be interesting to see the complementarities and differences of TR-AID from IATI.

This was followed by various presentations by the JRC and EuropeAid:

> What is TR-AID information system?
> Presentation on the Governance of TR-AID
> Presentation on the TR-AID prototype and on possible scenarios of use for the system

FURTHER COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM THE PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE:

TR-AID has the potential to create a donor matrix and the Donor Atlas; the continuity from Humanitarian aid into Development aid could be visible via a system such as TR-AID; TR-AID is a much needed tool for which it needs to be ensured that potential MSs who could become members of TR-AID have data that goes beyond OECD; that TR-AID is a tool for operational support; with the recent creation of the European External Action Service, a link should be made with TR-AID to provide coherence; TR-AID should be developed iteratively and a consistent set of data should be provided by MSs; auditing information would be useful to have; that TR-AID could potentially become an operational tool for Division of Labour and Donor Coordination; and that it could be linked to the Fast Track Initiative.

SUMMARY

> A decision needs to be made whether TR-AID should be an EU tool or open to participation of a wider audience
> Quality of data: currently 'as is' data is inserted into the TR-AID system
> Is TR-AID meant to be a coordination tool between donors, or a wider transparency tool?
> Should TR-AID be institutionalised in a Council decision as an Aid Effectiveness tool i.e. a formal tool, or should it be an informal tool?
> TR-AID has the potential for forward looking data, timely data, creating the Donor Atlas and the Donor Matrix.
> An invitation was extended to the MSs to contact the JRC if they wanted to join the project and provide data.