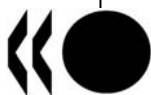


Unclassified

DCD/DAC(2010)19/REV1



Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

15-Apr-2010

English text only

DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

DCD/DAC(2010)19/REV1
Unclassified

**GUIDANCE FOR SELECTING PARTNER COUNTRIES TO VISIT AS PART OF THE PEER
REVIEW PROCESS**

This document has been revised in light of the discussion at the DAC meeting of 30 March 2010. This version of the guidance is for written comments. These should be submitted to the Secretariat by 30 April 2010.

Contacts: Chantal Verger - Tel. +33 (0)1 45 24 15 11 - Email: chantal.verger@oecd.org; Michael Ward, Tel: +33 (0)1 45 24 76 47- E-mail: michael.ward@oecd.org

JT03281925

Document complet disponible sur OLIS dans son format d'origine
Complete document available on OLIS in its original format

English text only

**GUIDANCE FOR SELECTING PARTNER COUNTRIES TO VISIT
AS PART OF THE PEER REVIEW PROCESS**

1. Background

1. At its meeting on 8th January 2010, the DAC discussed the selection of partner countries to be visited as part of Peer Reviews. It requested the Secretariat to prepare guidance on this issue, including the objectives of these missions, criteria for selecting countries to be visited and the number of countries that should be proposed by the reviewed member for the review team's consideration. A draft guidance note was discussed at the DAC meeting on 30 March 2010. This guidance note incorporates the amendments approved by the DAC and is for immediate application.

2. Objectives of Field Missions

2. The review normally includes one or two one-week visits to partner countries – depending on the size of the reviewed member's programme and the added value of a second visit - following the headquarters' (HQ) visit. The purpose of the field mission is three-fold: (i) to verify how HQ policies and strategies are implemented at the field level; (ii) more specifically, to probe into aid effectiveness efforts by the reviewed donor country; and (iii) to highlight good practice or illuminate how a donor engages in specific contexts (e.g. MICs and fragile states) for learning purposes. It is important to note that peer reviews do not evaluate the impact or results of specific programmes or projects at HQ or field level.

3. Elements to consider in suggesting countries to be visited

3. In selecting options for partner country visits, the reviewed member should consider the following criteria. (i) The country should be a significant partner for the reviewed member in terms of relationship, and level and scope of engagement; (ii) the country should be representative of the reviewed member's programme for accountability purposes (MDGs, poverty reduction and aid effectiveness must be among the key features); (iii) it should provide an opportunity for the review team to reflect on the reviewed member's application of its development co-operation policies and operational guidance; (iv) the programme should also provide an opportunity for other learning opportunities (such as those related to global issues, exit strategies and aid management issues); and (v) the country should not have been visited by a peer review team in the previous two years.

4. Choice of countries for partner country visits

4. In the interests of transparency and objectivity the reviewed member should offer the review team a number of countries from which to choose. The reviewed member should ensure that the countries it selects for consideration by the review team meet most of the criteria set out in section 3 above. The review team should be offered a choice of three countries in cases where there is only one visit to a partner country and a choice of six countries in cases where the Peer Review includes two visits. These options should be communicated to the Secretariat at least three months prior to the visit to partner countries to allow for consultation with the review team before a final decision is made. In making the final selection, the review team should bear in mind the criteria outlined in section 3 above. It is understood that some flexibility may be required in special cases.