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### Working Party on Aid Effectiveness and Donor Practices

JOINT VENTURE ON MANAGING FOR DEVELOPMENT RESULTS  
UPDATE ON WORK IN PROGRESS

To be held on 5-7 July 2006

*This document is submitted to the WP EFF meeting on 5-7 July as background for discussion under agenda item IV-C. Members are invited to address issues raised in the last section.*

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## **DAC WORKING PARTY ON AID EFFECTIVENESS**

### **JOINT VENTURE ON MANAGING FOR DEVELOPMENT RESULTS**

#### **UPDATE ON WORK IN PROGRESS**

1. The Joint Venture Managing for Development Results (JV-MfDR) is currently working in the framework of its work programme 2005-06. This programme will culminate in the 3rd Roundtable on Results – scheduled for the first week of February in Vietnam – as the focal point for stocktaking where this results agenda stands and for commitment to next steps. Thus, the JV has not yet proposed a detailed work programme beyond that point (2007-08).

2. Progress in its current work programme was discussed in the last JV meeting in April – [see DCD/DAC/EFF/M(2006)3/PROV]. It can be summarised as follows:

#### **Sourcebook on MfDR**

3. The first edition has been printed in four languages (English, French, Spanish and Mandarin). The Sourcebook is conceived as a “living document”, also accessible through the internet. Therefore, work on the Sourcebook will continue under the guidance of the JV Review panel and with a strong investment by the World Bank for further development costs. The second expanded edition is planned to be available at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Roundtable on Results.

#### **Agency performance**

4. Under this heading a number of activities have been carried out over the past 1 – 2 years, on topics such as results-based aid allocation, results-based country programming, agencies’ own performance assessment approaches, assessment of multilateral agencies’ performance, and results reporting by agencies. Work on these topics has been discussed in a number of JV workshops. These workshops have resulted in significant mutual learning and in the establishment of partnerships and harmonisation among agencies. At this point it is planned to summarise this work in an accessible way – and ToR for a consultant have been proposed. The output will be made available in the Sourcebook (web-based and hard copy) and recommendations that follow will be discussed in the JV and made available at the Roundtable.

#### **Partner country progress in MfDR**

5. A study on Harmonization around Results Reporting has been carried out and a synthesis note on the main findings has been circulated for comments from JV members as well as from partner countries.

6. The JV has initiated a task called “Mutual Learning Initiative (MLI)”. Four members (UK, Norway, Netherlands and IDB) act as task managers for the organisation of four MLI workshops (Asia, Eastern Africa, Western Africa, Latin America) that bring together MfDR professionals from a limited number of countries (4-6 in each workshop), to discuss their experience with introducing MfDR principles and practices in the public sector. The emerging good practices in a range of elements of MfDR will be documented and disseminated *inter alia* through the Sourcebook on MfDR. The first two workshops have

been held in June, in Burkina Faso<sup>1</sup> and in Uganda<sup>2</sup>; the other two MLI workshops (Asia, Latin America) are planned for August/September.

7. Parallel to this work the ADB has initiated in Asia a “Community of Practice on MfDR”, which brings together some 13-15 ADB member countries in a virtual network, with basically the same objective: stimulate experience sharing and mutual learning among partner countries.

### **Partner country membership of the JV MfDR**

8. The JV has only recently decided to invite partner countries to become members. It wanted to aim at MfDR professionals – rather than “country representatives” who are basically generalists. Therefore, the chairs from the MLI workshops host countries are being invited to be JV members. So far two of these countries (Burkina Faso and Nepal) have accepted the invitation, the other two are expected to follow once those workshops are being held. Furthermore, a representative from the host of the 3<sup>rd</sup> RT – Vietnam – will be invited.

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Roundtable on Results**

9. Preparations for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Roundtable on Results are gaining impetus. The JV commented extensively on the Concept Note that was prepared for this proposed event, and the proposal was discussed in detail in the recent JV meeting. With those inputs a second draft Concept Note [DCD/DAC/EFF(2006)15] is presented to this Working Party meeting for comments and suggestions. As the WP-EFF donor members have been reviewing this note in the JV MfDR already, partner country members have been invited to discuss the Concept Note at their informal caucus on 5 July and to feed back their consolidated views in the WP-EFF plenary.

10. The substantive focus of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Roundtable can be summarised as follows. It aims to be a platform for exchange and discussion, for partner countries as well as senior agency staff involved in and responsible for the effectiveness of aid delivery. The JV has agreed that the focus of the Roundtable will be on the *capacities* that are needed for countries and agencies to indeed manage for development results – ranging from statistical capacity to generate reliable (results-related) data, to the capacities to analyse, evaluate and learn from this information, and to the institutional capacities to feed this information back to policymakers and decision-makers. A *tool* to assess MfDR capacities at the country level is to be tabled at the Roundtable, and will help in linking to the Paris Declaration by assessing indicator 11 on results-orientated frameworks. On the basis of this first assessment of existing capacity *gaps*, the Roundtable will discuss concrete proposals to fill these gaps.

11. The Results agenda has gained momentum and is influencing the way in which aid is planned, implemented and assessed. But there are significant costs associated with these benefits. Preparations for the Roundtable, the event itself, and in particular the financing of the proposals that the international community will want to discuss and agree upon at the occasion of the Roundtable will involve considerable financial support. The MDBs have dedicated significant resources to the activities and outputs of the JV, as well as to the MfDR agenda, generally. There is a need to mobilise more funding, and the co-chairs of the JV MfDR, together with the DAC Chair and the WP EFF chair, have already approached the heads of bilateral agencies [DAC/CHAIR(2006)8] to consider the most immediate funding needs, namely the Roundtable.

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<sup>1</sup> The workshop involved Burkina Faso, Benin, Mali, Niger and Senegal.

<sup>2</sup> The workshop involved Uganda, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia.

### **Issues for discussion**

1. Do we have an adequate overview of the tools and indicators that are developed by the various Joint Ventures in terms of synergies, complexity, and likelihood of application by both partner countries and donors?
2. Are Members planning to actively participate in the 3rd Roundtable?
3. Do members share the need for a long-term capacity development initiative including statistics for and analysis of results-based data, capacities to analyse, evaluate and learn from this information and feed it back to policy and decision-makers?