

For Official Use

DCD/DAC/EV/A(2002)1



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

23-Apr-2002

English - Or. English

**DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE**

**DCD/DAC/EV/A(2002)1
For Official Use**

Working Party on Aid Evaluation

DRAFT AGENDA OF THE 36th MEETING

The Working Party will meet on Wednesday 29 May 2002 from 09.30 - 13.00 and 14.30 - 18.00, and on Thursday 30 May from 09.30 - 13.00.

Contact: Mr. Hans Lundgren, Tel: 33 (1) 45 24 90 59; Fax: 33 (1) 44 30 61 47;
Em: hans.lundgren@oecd.org

JT00124956

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

English - Or. English

**DAC WORKING PARTY ON AID EVALUATION
DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA FOR THE 36TH MEETING**

Wednesday 29 May

Part I: 09.30 - 13.00

1. Adoption of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Summary Record of the 35th meeting
3. Election of the chair
4. Follow-up on the Brainstorming Session held at the November 2001 meeting and proposed Work Programme for 2003-04:
 - a) Theme I: Joint reviews and evaluations
 - b) Theme II: Evaluation methods and approaches

Part II: 15.00 - 18.00

Focus Session on Agency Performance/Development Effectiveness reports

Thursday 30th May

Part III: 09.30 - 13.00

4. cont'd Continuation of discussion on the Work Programme and related ongoing work:
 - c) Theme III: Evaluation systems and capacities
5. Election of vice-chairs and leaders for the three main themes of the work programme
6. DAC Partnership Forum on Development Effectiveness of Aid
7. Further discussion/suggestions related to the Evaluation Matrix and the note on "Highlights of Evaluation Developments"
8. Other business

SCHEDULE OF PLENARY AND INFORMAL MEETINGS

28 May	14.30 - 17.00: Meeting of the Informal Sub-Group on Peer Reviews
29 - 30 May	09.30 - 18.00 (day 1) and 09.30 - 13.00 (day 2): Plenary meeting -- DAC Working Party on Aid Evaluation 29 May 18.30: Reception hosted by the Ambassador of Denmark to the OECD
30 May	14.30 - 17.30: Steering Group on Decentralisation and Local Governance

Meeting rooms will be communicated to participants upon their arrival at OECD Headquarters.

Participants should confirm their participation with the Secretariat in advance of the meeting (carola.miras@oecd.org) so that security badges can be requested for them.

ANNOTATIONS

Part I. Wednesday 09.30 - 13.00

Item 3: Election of chair

Mr. Niels Dabelstein has declined to stand for re-election as chair. He has chaired the WP for several years and he now feels that the time has come to cede the chairmanship to a colleague.

The position of chair of the WP-EV is therefore open to interested candidates among the OECD Members of the WP-EV.

The role of the Secretariat is to facilitate the process whereby the Working Party elects its chair. Members are therefore invited to make nominations and communicate any views on this matter well in advance of the meeting, preferably before **10 May 2002**.

The election of vice-chairs will take place under Item 5 (see below).

Item 4: Follow-up on the Brainstorming Session held at the November 2001 meeting, and proposed Work Programme for 2003-04

The Brainstorming Session held at the last WP-EV meeting resulted in a number of suggestions for the WP-EV, both regarding substantive content and working modalities. The discussion has been summarised and circulated to Members [see Room Document No. 1]. Members may wish to briefly look back at the discussion before entering into a review of the proposed 2003-04 work programme for the WP-EV.

It is suggested that work be focused on three themes as outlined in the draft Work Programme [DCD/DAC/EV/2002/1]. The first two themes will be discussed on Wednesday morning and the third theme will be taken up on Thursday morning. Ongoing work will also be reviewed under the respective thematic items in order to have an integrated discussion.

a) Theme I: Joint reviews and evaluations

- i) The discussion here will include a review of ongoing work with a brief introduction by the lead Member for each activity. The purpose is to review current status and identify necessary steps/actions needed to move forward and complete the studies as planned.

Lessons Learned in Donor Support to Decentralisation and Local Governance [Room Document No. 2]; Germany and UNDP are co-leading this evaluation synthesis study. A workshop will be hosted by the Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research (NIBR) on 11-12 September in Oslo to review synthesis results and other relevant work. Members of the WP-EV and the DAC GOVNET will be invited.

Evaluation and Gender [Room Document No. 3]; Australia will report on progress.

Client Survey Study of Peer Reviews [for reference: DCD/DIR(2002)12]. The sub-group met on 28 May and its chair will report on results.

- ii) Several new areas are suggested in the work programme:

Synthesis study on **Lessons Learned on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Peace-building**.

Further work on **Effectiveness of Aid Instruments in Poor Policy Environments** (in collaboration with GOVNET). [For reference: Development Co-operation in Difficult Partnerships, DCD/DAC(2002)11]

The **Evaluation Matrix** [Room Document No. 4] and the **Highlights of Evaluation Developments** [Room Document No. 5] are relevant to the discussion and should help identify possible joint evaluations or collaborative events.

Evaluation of **General Budget Support**. DFID is planning a workshop this autumn, to which WP-EV Members will be invited, to discuss this topic and possible joint evaluation efforts.

Members may also wish to discuss capacity related to preparing **impromptu synthesis reviews** of the type prepared by the chair for the DAC SLM in December 2001 [Aid Responses to Afghanistan: Lessons from Previous Evaluations DCD/DIR(2001)31]. This note continues to receive considerable attention. How can the WP-EV best respond to demands for synthesis studies of this kind? They are difficult to plan for and require a state of readiness, if the experience is to be repeated.

The issues here are: how should work on the above topics be planned and structured? Are there additional or alternative topics Members would like work to be conducted on?

Voluntary contributions from Members will be necessary to implement the work programme. Members may wish to discuss the modalities for this, noting the evolving practice in other DAC working parties/networks of pooling resources for joint work.

b) Theme II: Evaluation methods and approaches

Under this theme, the discussion will include the following items:

The **Glossary of Key Terms in Evaluation and Results Based Management** is scheduled for publication in May. How can we ensure effective dissemination and use of this important joint product?

Follow-up on the **results-based management agenda**. Work has been completed on a first-ever review of experiences in this field, but a second phase has only been partially completed. A DFID study is underway on the experiences of multilateral agencies, which would complement work undertaken earlier. Members are invited to provide further suggestions.

Assessment tools for "new" instruments such as SWAPs and donor contributions to PRSPs. These recommendations for future work emanate from the Brainstorming Session. Members are invited to provide concrete suggestions for moving this work forward and on how to structure a participatory approach which would yield results.

Are there other areas where Members see a need to promote methodological developments, either through joint work in a thematic sub-group and/or through commissioning research?

Part II: Wednesday 15.00 - 18.00

Focus Session on Agency Performance/Development Effectiveness reports

This session will be entirely devoted to **Agency Performance/Development Effectiveness reports**.

Presentations will be made by: Colin Kirk, DFID; Gerry Britain, USAID; and Bob Picciotto, World Bank. These presentations will relate the respective agencies' experiences in producing aggregated or overall performance reports.

Each presentation will be followed by a short comment by a discussant and brief questions and answers. A general discussion will follow the three presentations.

Effectiveness issues have moved to the centre of the development debate. A number of OECD countries have recently announced, notably in the context of the Monterrey conference, significant commitments to increase aid volumes coupled with stronger demands for accountability for results. In this context, efforts by some major development co-operation agencies to provide overall, aggregate results reporting is receiving increased attention. The focus of the debate in the WP-EV will be on experiences and the challenges met in producing these reports, including from methodological perspectives, by those agencies which have acquired experience in this field -- rather than the individual track record of the respective agencies. This session is intended to promote a dialogue, to share experiences and to identify possible avenues where collective WP-EV work can add value in this area.

Continuation of Item 4: Discussion of Work Programme and related ongoing work

c) Theme III: Evaluation systems and capacities

This item is about various aspects of **reinforcing Members' and partners' evaluation systems and capacities**. The aim is to mobilise the full potential of evaluation and to strengthen evaluation

functions and lesson-learning amongst Members and partners. Specific suggestions in the work programme are:

- A review of experiences in **evaluation capacity building**. The WP-EV conducted such a review in 1996 but a number of initiatives have been launched and experiences have been gained since then. This new work should identify the most promising avenues for further action to strengthen evaluation capacity.
- The activities mentioned above under Themes I and II are relevant to strengthening OECD Member capacities in terms of sharing methods and approaches and actual participation in joint evaluation studies conducted by the WP-EV or in collaboration between Members. In addition to this work, a suggestion has been made to build on the peer review process and go one step further to try to construct an "**experimental scorecard**" on **evaluation systems** which could help to take the review dimension of evaluation functions one step further. This could also be useful for evaluation capacity development work. Members are invited to comment on this suggestion and how it could be further developed.
- **Strengthened partnership practices in evaluation**, with a revival of earlier work and building on the survey of donor perspectives. This time focus will be on partners' views. The Secretariat has undertaken some preliminary work.
- **An "outreach event" for 2003** with the theme of "Partners in Evaluation". Preparatory work will be presented by France.

Joint **evaluation training programmes** by the International Program for Development Evaluation Training (IPDET) are relevant under this theme, and information about upcoming programmes will be provided (World Bank).

Collaboration with external partners in the context of the **Evaluation Inventory**. Canada will provide an update. The Development Gateway has expressed interest in collaborating.

Item 5. Election of vice-chairs and leaders for the three main themes of the work programme

Based on the earlier discussion of the three thematic areas of work, the WP-EV is invited to elect "team leaders" and vice-chairs for each of the three areas. This step corresponds to recommendations made at the Brainstorming Session and would also mean an **expanded Bureau for the WP-EV**, consistent with demands on the WP to meet the challenging, expanded evaluation agenda foreseen over the coming years in the context of ever-greater emphasis on the development effectiveness of aid. For nominations, please refer to Part I, Item 3.

Item 6. DAC Partnership Forum on Development Effectiveness of Aid

The Secretariat will briefly outline plans for a DAC Partnership Forum on this theme, to be held possibly back-to-back with the DAC Senior Level Meeting in December 2002. Members may wish to discuss how the Working Party could contribute substantively to such an event.

Item 7. Further discussion/suggestions related to the Evaluation Matrix and the note on "Highlights of Evaluation Developments"

This item provides the opportunity for any further comments or suggestions Members may have on the Evaluation Matrix and the note on Highlights of Evaluation Developments.