



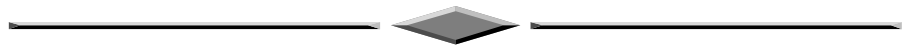
ROOM DOCUMENT 4

DAC Network on Development Evaluation

EVALUATING CONFLICT PREVENTION & PEACE BUILDING

Item III: a

This note has been prepared by the Secretariat as an input to the discussion/brainstorming on evaluating conflict prevention and peace-building programmes



**2nd Meeting
9 – 10 November 2004**

EVALUATING CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACE-BUILDING PROGRAMMES

At the recent CPDC meeting on 6-7 September 2004, CPDC members discussed the proposal [DCD/DAC/CPDC/A(2004)3/RD6] to hold a brainstorming meeting with the Network on Development Evaluation on evaluating conflict prevention and peace-building programmes.

CPDC participants fully supported this idea of the joint brainstorming meeting to explore potential areas of joint work. Canada, Germany, Norway, UK, US, and UNDP expressed a particular interest in helping to guide this workstream and wished to participate in such a meeting. On the Evaluation side, the joint work would draw on earlier outputs including the *Guidance for Evaluating Humanitarian Assistance in Complex Emergencies* (1999), as well as other relevant material developed by individual Members, such as the Joint Utstein study of peace-building 'Getting their act together towards a strategic framework for peace-building' (2003).

There are many possible options for collaboration between the two Networks; two initial alternatives were discussed at the recent CPDC meeting. It should be noted however that these options are not mutually exclusive and should be viewed as one input to current discussions.

I. Field-level case studies to assess results of donor efforts from an operational perspective

This would focus on the following key questions:

What conflict prevention and peace building programmes have been effective, in what circumstances and why?

How does the process of needs/conflict assessment and donor co-ordination affect the impact of conflict prevention/peace-building programmes?

and would

- involve a number of field visits to countries where the international development community are engaged in conflict prevention projects and to evaluate the outcomes of these projects.
- provide a clearer picture of the field level applicability and relevance of the DAC guidance
- evaluate the effectiveness of conflict prevention and peace-building programmes undertaken by the development community in the selected countries
- provide an insight into the different entry points and methods of engagement that the development community utilise when it comes to conflict prevention and peace building programmes.

As well as improving the effectiveness and impact of conflict prevention/peace-building programmes, an additional result would be the provision of lessons for elaborating future policy guidance in this area.

II. Develop Evaluation Guidance on Conflict Prevention and Peace-building Programmes

This would pose the following key questions:

How should conflict and peace building programmes be evaluated?

What specific evaluation tools and methodologies need to be developed for future use by the development community in relation to conflict prevention and peace-building programmes?

How can the above tools and methodologies be best used to inform future programmes?

Work could involve:

- Developing forward looking “Guidance on Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peace Building Programmes” to help agencies better assess results and improve internal learning.
- Targeted case studies (as outlined above).

This option would provide the same practical benefits/outcomes as outlined above but would have the added effect of developing an evaluation guidance specific to conflict prevention and peace building.

Process – the way forward

The DAC Network on Conflict, Peace and Development Co-operation and Development Evaluation Network collaboration would help define, frame and plan the evaluation work. It is recognised, however, that normal practice would require that the evaluation itself and the development of subsequent evaluation methodology be undertaken independently by the Network on Development Evaluation although with input at each key stage from the CPDC, such as providing input to and reviewing preliminary reports and possible field level workshops.

Outcomes required from the brainstorming include:

- Agreement is required to work together on evaluating conflict prevention and peace-building programmes. A decision is also required on the general direction and focus that such work should take.
- Identification of a lead group, made up of participants from both the CPDC and the Development Evaluation Network, which would define and frame the terms of reference for this work, based on the recommendations emerging from the 10 November meeting.
- Agreement on the way forward, including possible future meeting of the lead group and the reporting process back to both Networks.