

# GENDER EQUALITY, WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND THE PARIS DECLARATION ON AID EFFECTIVENESS: ISSUES BRIEF 2

## FINDING THE ENTRY POINTS

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The purpose of this Issues Brief is to assist programme managers and thematic advisors in donor agencies to advance gender equality and women's empowerment within the framework of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. The approaches, questions and specific actions in this Brief are intended for use in consultation with partners to respect and reinforce the Paris principles of ownership, alignment and mutual accountability in particular.

It outlines a strategic approach and entry points and questions to ask for influencing the development effectiveness agenda, in particular at country-level. In addition, a number of gender equality tools that can add value to the aid reform process are presented.

This Issues Brief is one in a series of publications focussing on aid effectiveness, prepared by the DAC Network on Gender Equality.<sup>1</sup>

### INTRODUCTION

The Paris Declaration, endorsed in March 2005, establishes commitments for donor and partner countries to support more effective official development assistance (ODA) in a context of significant scaling up of aid. The intention is to reform the delivery and management of aid in order to improve its effectiveness and achieve development results.

Gender equality and women's empowerment are fundamental cornerstones for achieving development results and the ultimate goals of the Paris Declaration: to increase the impact of aid on reducing poverty and inequality, increase growth, build capacity and accelerate achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. The Paris Declaration commitments also provide opportunities to advance gender equality and women's empowerment. Concrete measures are, however, needed to ensure that the changed modalities address — not reinforce existing gender inequalities.

Paragraph 42 of the Paris Declaration commits donors and partner countries to harmonise their approaches to gender equality. The links between aid effectiveness and gender equality, however, go far beyond that: broad based, democratic *ownership* requires participation by all stakeholders — women as well as men. *Alignment* includes a commitment to strengthen and support the capacities and systems of developing countries. In this context, both donors and development partners can make greater use of global agreements and conventions, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and national gender equality policies as the basis for policy dialogues. The rationale for *harmonisation* is that joint donor actions and common procedures will reduce transaction costs and enhance the effectiveness of aid. The likelihood of gender equality and women's empowerment being

<sup>1</sup> Other documents in the series on Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment and the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness include Issues Brief 1 "Making the Linkages" and Issues Brief 3 "Innovative Funding for Women's Organisations". These documents should be read together.

The contributions of Cathy Gaynor to this Issues Brief are gratefully acknowledged by the DAC Network on Gender Equality.

considered in harmonised approaches and division of labour exercises depends on how strong the commitment is from both partner country governments and from donors. *Managing for development results* is critical for ensuring that attention is focused on development goals and outcomes rather than purely on the mechanics or processes of aid delivery. Reducing poverty and inequality, increasing growth and building capacity are the ultimate goals of the Paris Declaration and also the basis for those working to achieve gender equality. Finally, all development actors are *accountable* for commitments on gender equality and women's empowerment.<sup>2</sup>

## INFLUENCING THE DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS AGENDA – A STRATEGIC APPROACH

There is considerable potential for the current aid modalities to contribute to the achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment. Elements of a strategic approach to address gender equality and women's empowerment, to make development more effective, include:

### AT HEADQUARTERS LEVEL

- **Familiarise yourself with the Paris Declaration and its links to gender equality and women's empowerment**, with country and agency monitoring and evaluation reports and with your agency's positions.
- **Monitor experience of aid reforms from a gender equality perspective.** Gather evidence of how gender equality and empowered women can make development more effective and use this to influence the agenda at country level and globally.

#### Evidence gathering initiatives

Building on the momentum created by the workshop on *Development Effectiveness in Practice - Applying the Paris Declaration to Advancing Gender Equality, Environmental Sustainability and Human Rights* (hosted by Ireland in April 2007), a number of donors have focussed on improving joint work at partner country level to increase knowledge and understanding of how to use the Paris Declaration as an instrument to advance the achievement of gender equality, women's empowerment, human rights and environmental sustainability.

Such initiatives to gather the evidence base, share good practice and support partners to strengthen the development impact of the Paris Declaration include:

- "Strengthening the poverty impact of the Paris Declaration - aid effectiveness evidence gathering project on gender equality, human rights and social exclusion", funded by the United Kingdom, Ireland, Norway and the Netherlands. The project uses country case studies to identify good practice and practical examples to improve the inclusion of social equity issues in the implementation of the aid effectiveness agenda. For more information, see [www.dfid.gov.uk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk).
- The "EC/UN Partnership on Gender Equality for Development and Peace" of the European Commission, UNIFEM and ILO. This joint programme identifies practical approaches to further gender equality through the changed aid modalities. It also focuses on engaging women in conflict prevention and peace-building efforts. The overall aim of the project is to ensure that gender equality and women's human rights are fully incorporated into national development processes and in those co-operation programmes supported by the European Commission. For more information, see [www.gendermatters.eu](http://www.gendermatters.eu).
- "Pacific Gender and Aid Effectiveness Case Study Report" by NZAID and AusAID. This report will include a set of case studies that provide greater practical understanding of the linkages between gender equality and aid effectiveness and of how increased attention to gender equality can be used as positive leverage for achieving enhanced development outcomes in Pacific countries. For more information, see [www.nzaid.govt.nz](http://www.nzaid.govt.nz).

- **Develop alliances with others working on key development issues (also referred to as "cross cutting")**, such as human rights, environmental sustainability, social inclusion and combating HIV/AIDS. A concerted approach to influencing key stakeholders is more likely to be effective than multiple individual efforts. This was the approach adopted for the two workshops on "Development Effectiveness in Practice: Applying the Paris Declaration to Advancing Gender Equality, Environmental Sustainability and Human Rights" in Dublin in April 2007 ([www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/inpractice](http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/inpractice)) and "Strengthening

2. For more information, see Issues Brief 1 "Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment and the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness: Making the Linkages"

3. See for example the 2006 and 2008 Survey on Monitoring the Paris Declaration ([www.oecd.org/dac/hlfsurvey](http://www.oecd.org/dac/hlfsurvey)) and the Evaluation of the Implementation of the Paris Declaration ([www.oecd.org/dac/evaluationnetwork](http://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluationnetwork)).

the Development Results and Impacts of the Paris Declaration through Work on Gender Equality, Social Exclusion and Human Rights” in London, March 2008 ([www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/resultsandimpacts](http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/resultsandimpacts)).

- **Advocate for and support capacity building on gender equality and the Paris agenda in donor agencies.** For example, Danida’s Centre for Competence Development offers both basic and more specialised levels of training in Public Financial Management (PFM) with courses addressing gender equality at headquarters and in the field ([www.danida-dccd.dk](http://www.danida-dccd.dk)).
- **Anticipate.** Be prepared to take advantage of windows of opportunity to address gender equality and women’s empowerment, such as seminars or a chance to collaborate with staff working on implementing the Paris Declaration in a country’s programme or across the agency.
- **Identify and engage with those who work on aid reform at the global policy level,** such as through the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness, starting with colleagues in agency headquarters, to seek updates on forthcoming key issues and initiatives where there may be an opportunity to contribute or influence.
- **Work with others to adopt a strategic, joined-up approach to influencing** across an organisation, programme or sector.

### A bilateral agency strategic approach

The Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs supports increased attention to the so-called “cross cutting” issues in the implementation of the Paris Declaration. The Departments in the Ministry concerned with Human Rights, Environmental Sustainability and Health, Gender and Civil Society therefore prepared a joint memorandum prior to the workshop on *Development Effectiveness in Practice— Applying the Paris Declaration to Advancing Gender Equality, Environmental Sustainability and Human Rights* in Dublin in April 2007, which was approved and signed by directors and sent to the Director General. This memorandum:

- outlined the links between aid effectiveness, the MDGs, the so called “cross cutting” issues and the new aid architecture;
- committed to working towards inclusion of the so called “cross cutting” issues on the agenda for the Third High Level Forum on aid effectiveness in Ghana in September 2008;
- committed the departments to working horizontally, rather than in silos, towards implementing the outcomes of the workshop on *Development Effectiveness in Practice* (Dublin, 2007); and
- encouraged joint action by donors on gender equality, human rights and environmental sustainability.

## AT COUNTRY LEVEL

It is critically important to understand the context in the given region and country, including the frameworks and plans that governments have in place to address gender equality in central and line ministries, at decentralised levels and through women’s ministries. Effective strategies at country-level include:

- **Engage wider social support to influence aid reforms** – raise awareness through disseminating information on aid reforms and evidence of how gender equality and women’s empowerment can help achieve effective development. Support stakeholders (such as key sector ministries and women’s civil society groups) to create space for dialogue on gender issues and to increase ability to participate in such dialogue.
- **Identify influential allies during aid reform discussions at country level** from within donor agencies, government and civil society at all levels – the higher up the better. Provide evidence and key messages to support them to promote a gender responsive perspective in discussions on reforms.

### Strategic partnerships in Tanzania

Strategic partnerships have proved to be one of the most effective approaches for making sustained and productive progress on gender equality in Tanzania. The first PRS in Tanzania, the ‘Mkukuta’, was not gender responsive. However, starting with the review of the Mkukuta in 2004 and during the process of developing the next Mkukuta in 2005, concerted effort by gender equality advocates bore fruit.

The Gender Working Group managed to create a space for addressing gender equality and an opportunity to engage with government actors. A small group of donor partners committed to strengthening government capacity and provided joint programme support to the lead ministry.

- **Support civil society** to ensure NGOs and women’s organisations are able to play a “challenge” role and back the drivers of change which are contributing to a culture of domestic accountability.<sup>4</sup>
- **Use synergies with parallel processes** to advocate for addressing gender equality. The reform of the UN System, the implementation and monitoring of the EU Code of Conduct on *Complementarity and Division of Labour in Development Policy* and the ECOSOC high level Development Cooperation Forum all address aid reforms. These and other deliberations need to be informed by gender analysis and substantiated by evidence.

### Three easy ways to heighten attention to gender equality

Practical tools that can be used to strengthen attention to gender equality within a donor agency or field office include:

**“Information card”**: topical country-specific points or key messages on gender equality with supporting evidence (if possible some compelling statistics) that can be used in meetings or as briefing points at all levels.

**Calendar of forthcoming events**: a large-format calendar placed visibly in the organisation where all events can be signalled. This supports information-sharing and facilitates anticipation of entry points for gender equality.

**Seminars/discussions**: capitalise on the availability of experts and resource people to share their experience and build understanding of gender equality and the role it plays in poverty reduction and development effectiveness. For example, extra time can be added to an existing consultancy in order to prepare a lunch-time seminar.

## KEY QUESTIONS AND SPECIFIC ENTRY POINTS FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT AT FIELD LEVEL

The changed aid modalities and processes provide both opportunities and challenges for addressing gender equality and women’s empowerment. This section proposes i) key questions to identify entry points for enhancing gender equality and women’s empowerment in some of the current modalities and ii) specific actions to strengthen attention to gender equality and women’s empowerment at country level.

### NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND STRATEGIES, INCLUDING POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES (PRS)

#### i) Key questions for identifying entry points

- How effectively has the PRS captured the gender dimensions of poverty and vulnerability?
- Does the PRS incorporate gender equality commitments from, for example, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against women (CEDAW), the Beijing Platform for Action, the MDGs and the African Charter of Human and People’s Rights?
- Does the PRS support the National Policy and Action Plan on gender equality and women’s empowerment?
- Does existing analysis of gender equality and poverty carry through into priorities, objectives and plans?
- Are commitments on gender equality in the PRS linked to Medium-Term Expenditure Frameworks and budget processes?
- How inclusive and participatory are the processes for decision-making and development and monitoring of the PRS
- How involved are civil society actors?
- How are monitoring and evaluation of gender equality captured in the PRS and its monitoring framework?

#### ii) Specific actions to strengthen gender equality

- ⇒ Provide timely support to working groups to incorporate gender equality and women’s empowerment in the development of the PRS, for example through support for analysis and through capacity-oriented technical assistance.
- ⇒ Support collection, dissemination and use of sex-disaggregated and qualitative data to policy makers, those drafting

<sup>4</sup> See also Issues Brief 3 “Gender Equality, Women’s Empowerment and the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness: Innovative Funding for Women’s Organisations”.

the PRS document and those monitoring its implementation.

- ⇒ Include gender equality and requirements for gender expertise in the terms of reference for Joint Reviews.
- ⇒ Strengthen line ministry capacity to effectively engage with ministries of finance and planning in support of gender equality.
- ⇒ Promote country-led and coordinated approaches to capacity development on gender equality and women's empowerment, rather than ad hoc and isolated technical assistance.

### **The Cambodian National Development Plan**

Cambodia has made considerable strides to include gender equality in the National Strategic Development Plan. Gender equality has been integrated into the plan by expanding the official MDG targets and indicators. A new target has for example been added to MDG3, focussing on reducing all forms of violence against women and children. Additional indicators have also been added to other MDGs, including one related to the vulnerability of married women to HIV/AIDS infection.

This process is led by the Ministry of Women's Affairs and supported by donors. It provides a good example of efforts to ensure that aid dialogue mechanisms between government, donors and civil society are resourced to include discussion and accountability on gender equality.

## **SECTOR WIDE APPROACHES (SWApS)**

### **i) Key questions for identifying entry points**

- Where and how does gender equality feature in the sector plan(s) and programmes?
- Is there adequate analysis and understanding of gender relations and dynamics in the different sectors?
- Do the sector plans take account of national commitments to gender equality?
- Is there capacity at national and sub-national levels to implement gender commitments in the sectors?
- Do the sectoral or technical working groups have access to the necessary gender equality expertise and resources?
- Is gender equality captured in the sector results framework, including gender-sensitive indicators?
- Are the structures in place to create space for effective discussion on gender inequality in the sector?
- Is there a gender equality strategy and a budget line for gender equality in the sector? How else are gender equality interventions supported in the sector at national and sub-national levels?
- Do the sectors which do not have SWApS (especially the "hard" areas such as the productive and infrastructure sectors) address gender inequalities and the empowerment of women?

### **ii) Specific actions to strengthen gender equality**

- ⇒ Support joint analysis by the partners and the donor community on gender equality in sectors and of sector budgets with dissemination of key messages to policy/decision makers.
- ⇒ Promote representation for women and men, and women's organisations, in sector consultation processes at national and sub-national levels.
- ⇒ Ensure that gender issues are included in terms of reference for and reports on joint sector reviews.
- ⇒ Align with national policies and international commitments on gender equality in the sector.
- ⇒ Support gender specific indicators in SWApS results frameworks and mechanisms to track expenditure, assess performance and demonstrate impact on gender equality in the sector.
- ⇒ Develop staff and line ministry skills related to political and policy analysis, governance issues and budget processes, as well as understanding of the role of civil society organisations, including women's groups and parliament, in the sector.
- ⇒ Identify and disseminate good practice on addressing gender equality within and between sectors, especially from the more established SWApS to the emerging ones.

## The Justice Law and Order sector in Uganda

In Uganda, the Justice Law and Order Development Partner Group found that a joined-up and co-ordinated approach to encouraging gender mainstreaming worked better than bilateral and ad hoc donor initiatives. This was carried out in a transparent manner, in partnership with the government and depended on existing sector financing and processes.

### BUDGET SUPPORT

#### i) Key questions for identifying entry points

- Is aid channelled through budget support assessed against PRS indicators - and are these gender-specific?
- Is space being created for gender equality in policy dialogue about the use and allocation of budget support?
- Are there incentives for staff and accountability mechanisms to assess whether donors raise gender equality and women's empowerment in policy dialogue about the use of budget support?
- Are the relationships between the formal economy, subsistence economy and unpaid economy - and women's position in these - taken into account in assessment of budget support?

#### ii) Specific actions to strengthen gender equality

- ⇒ Include gender equality and women's empowerment explicitly in the memorandum of understanding between budget support partners.
- ⇒ Create a forum for dialogue and co-ordination on gender equality; make links across sectors and between thematic working groups, including groups on gender equality.
- ⇒ Include gender equality in performance assessment framework (PAF) priorities and use gender sensitive indicators and data in joint reviews.
- ⇒ Support long-term approaches to gender equality through budget support.

#### Zambia

In Zambia, gender equality is incorporated into the Performance Assessment Framework related to budget support and it has been agreed to undertake a gender audit every two years in priority sectors.

### PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (PFM)

#### i) Key questions for identifying entry points

- To what extent are gender equality advocates engaging with the current processes and investments in public financial management and to what effect?
- Is there increased central and line ministry ownership of gender equality in sector plans and budgets - as a result of efforts to improve public financial management?
- Is there recognition of the synergies between PFM and gender responsive budget approaches, and real interplay between the people advancing budget related work from a gender equality perspective and those working on good economic governance and transparent public financial management systems?
- Is there any change in budgetary allocations to gender equality as an outcome of improved PFM and/or gender responsive budget initiatives?
- How do civil society actors engage in public financial management reform processes and how does this influence the pursuit of gender equality?

#### ii) Specific actions to strengthen gender equality

- ⇒ Build capacity of donor agency staff, local government, parliamentarians and civil society groups to understand how PFM systems work, to address budgetary issues and to monitor resource allocations from a gender equality perspective.
- ⇒ Include gender equality dimensions in appraisal of government spending and taxation, impact of public expenditure policies and budgetary strategies and in public expenditure reviews and tracking systems.
- ⇒ Promote the use of gender-sensitive Poverty and Social Impact Assessments of macro and structural reforms.

- ⇒ Build capacity for gender responsive budgeting within, rather than separate from, PFM reforms and capacity development programmes.
- ⇒ Ensure that capacity for gender responsive budgeting is developed as part of mainstream public financial management and public sector reforms, and becomes part of the skill set of the main players, rather than resting in a separate division and with different officials.

## **DIVISION OF LABOUR / JOINT ASSISTANCE STRATEGIES (JAS)**

### **i) Key questions for identifying entry points**

#### **The budget process in Tanzania**

The Tanzania Gender Networking Programme, a non-governmental organisation, helped achieve institutionalisation of a gender focus in the budget process through advocacy, capacity development and by influencing processes such as taxation policy and a household labour survey.

- How is responsibility for gender equality and women’s empowerment treated under division of labour – is it for example a cross-cutting theme or a sector; what are the implications of the approach used?
- Where and how does gender equality appear in the joint assistance strategy document?
- How are capacity and policy dialogue on gender equality sustained across all sectors and thematic areas in the division of labour?
- What has been the role of analytical work and policy dialogue on gender equality in influencing the JAS agenda?
- Have there been any effective alliances between other so called “cross cutting” and social policy practitioners in the JAS process?
- Is the donor(s) with the greatest comparative advantage and capacity taking the lead in donor coordination for gender equality?
- Is there a risk of reducing attention to gender equality to the “lowest common denominator” as an outcome of harmonised donor approaches? If so, what is being done to mitigate this risk?
- How has civil society engaged in the JAS; has their challenge role been articulated clearly - how does this influence attention to gender equality?
- Is the JAS having any impact on the staffing competencies sought by donor agencies and how does gender equality fare in this process?

### **ii) Specific actions to strengthen gender equality**

- ⇒ Monitor what happens to gender equality in the division of labour exercise (including comparisons of experiences in different countries).
- ⇒ Develop adequate safeguards to ensure that the JAS does not lead to marginalisation of gender equality and other social policy concerns.
- ⇒ Monitor what impact donor gender working groups are having.
- ⇒ Develop capacity within agencies with clear roles in the division of labour to ensure that commitments to gender equality are implemented and that challenges are identified and addressed.

### **Division of labour on gender equality**

In Tanzania, the Development Partner Gender Equality Working Group, guided by the JAS division of labour, has developed a matrix showing agency status (lead, active, delegate) with respect to gender equality. The Working group has also mapped out the various donors' areas/sectors of engagement to establish where respective donors have a comparative advantage in promoting gender equality. Progress with this and other mechanisms will need to be monitored.

In Zambia, where gender equality was addressed by the government as a sector, it was not a priority sector for donor agencies when agreeing a division of labour, raising concerns about donor commitment to the issue.

## **SUPPORT TO CIVIL SOCIETY, INCLUDING WOMEN'S GROUPS**

### **i) Key questions for identifying entry points**

- How harmonised is the support to civil society organisations working on gender equality and women's empowerment?
- Are aid reforms and new structures creating more or less space for sustained civil society engagement, including on gender equality?
- How well are socially excluded groups, women and those who represent them supported to engage in national and sub-national development processes?
- How are civil society organisations and women's groups supported to develop capacity to participate in reformed aid processes?
- Is there a clear articulation of the challenge role of civil society organisations - or are efforts in place to reach agreement on this?

### **Engaging civil society in fragile situations – the example of Zimbabwe**

Civil society has a key role in demanding good governance and in service delivery, and can be essential to ensuring a focus on gender equality in fragile states and situations.

In Zimbabwe, the collaboration between UNIFEM and the Women's Coalition – a civil society umbrella organisation – has been crucial to facilitating wide consultation and establishing open and effective communication on gender equality issues. This was achieved in an environment where gender and social exclusion issues are often overshadowed by a humanitarian aid focus.

### **ii) Specific actions to strengthen gender equality**

- ⇒ Adopt harmonised approaches to support civil society organisations working to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment.
- ⇒ Promote harmonisation and co-ordination between civil society organisations and women's groups, for example through the formation of alliances and umbrella organisations.
- ⇒ Encourage civil society organisations to be accountable and transparent in their own relationship with those they represent.
- ⇒ Support the development of an independent role for civil society in holding government and donors to account on gender equality results.
- ⇒ Build capacity of civil society, including parliamentarians, to understand and work with the Paris agenda.

### **Support to NGOs in Uganda**

In Uganda, NGOs have been supported by donors through a basket fund to influence the Justice Law and Order sector. This has brought organisations together in a strategic forum to articulate issues and concerns and liaise with the government - who also sit on the advisory committee for the fund.

## GENDER EQUALITY TOOLS THAT CAN ADD VALUE TO THE AID REFORM PROCESS

A number of tools have been developed to integrate gender equality and women's empowerment into development policies and programmes. These tools can also assist the implementation of the Paris Declaration and help ensure that it improves the lives of men and women. The main tools are:

- **Gender analysis and planning:** this is critical both for government planning and to enable donors to identify country-specific gender equality priorities and strategies. It is helpful for work at policy, sector, programme and modality level, as well as for policy dialogue. There is therefore need to build capacity for gender analysis within central and line ministries, at decentralised levels and in civil society organisations - and to translate the analyses into strategies and programmes.
- **Sex-disaggregated data and gender-responsive indicators:** both quantitative and qualitative data is essential to monitor progress towards development results and to identify gender gaps and discrimination. Donors should invest in building national capacity to collect, analyse and disseminate such data. This information can also add value to performance assessment frameworks - which should include gender equality dimensions.
- **Qualitative assessments** can help provide a comprehensive picture of what is happening in a given situation and why, leading to better development results. Donors could support the development and use of such qualitative assessments to complement, for example, the primarily quantitative monitoring of the Paris Declaration indicators and targets.
- **Gender sensitive poverty and social impact analysis** are used to guide and assess outcomes of policy and programme reforms, especially those with potential to affect the poor. This allows for more effective planning and management of results, as well as increased accountability.
- **Gender responsive public financial management and gender responsive budgeting (GRB):** integration of gender equality considerations into the overall budgeting process helps improve targeting and delivery of development benefits, and the reliability of public financial management systems.

Gender responsive budgeting seeks to influence the development of budgets and their execution through addressing gender equality gaps and discrimination. It thus offers more than a mere budget analysis (which takes place post-event). Gender responsive budgeting should be dovetailed with overall public financial management reforms. Also, donors that support public financial management should include a requirement for gender expertise in terms of reference for technical support.

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

There are several mechanisms in place for monitoring and evaluating development strategies and aid effectiveness reforms. Each of them provides opportunities for assessing how well gender equality and women's empowerment have been integrated.

**Monitoring and review of development strategies and impact** include country monitoring and accountability systems and joint reviews, related to poverty reduction strategies, to budget support and to sector programmes. Monitoring of commitments through MDG reports, CEDAW and the National Human Development Report are other examples of monitoring mechanisms. The capacity of government agencies and civil society needs to be strengthened to more effectively undertake this monitoring.

**Paris Declaration monitoring:** the twelve indicators used to establish the baseline and to monitor progress against targets set by the Paris Declaration are not immediately amenable to gender analysis. Gender advisors and advocates should, however, become familiar with the overall Paris Declaration monitoring reports (2006 and 2008), country specific reports and donor agency reports and use these to identify the opportunities for change.<sup>5</sup>

The outcome document of the Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Accra, September 2008) - the Accra Agenda for Action - will include some forward-looking strategies to complement the commitments of the Paris Declaration. This should open up new opportunities for monitoring gender equality results.

**Paris Declaration evaluation:** an evaluation led by the DAC Network on Development Evaluation looks at lessons to date from implementing the Paris Declaration. The first part of the evaluation focuses on ways of improving and enhancing implementation,

5. See [www.oecd.org/dac/hlfsurvey](http://www.oecd.org/dac/hlfsurvey)

rather than giving any definitive judgement about effectiveness. The second part of the evaluation, to be implemented after the HLF-3 in Accra, will provide information about the impacts and effects of increased aid effectiveness. While gender equality and women's empowerment are not explicitly addressed in the first part of the evaluation, there may be scope to take up these issues in the second part.<sup>6</sup>

## RESOURCES

### General reading

Budlender D. (2007), *Financing for Development: Aid Effectiveness and Gender-Responsive Budgets*. Background paper prepared for the Commonwealth Secretariat Eight Commonwealth Women's Affairs Ministers Meeting, Kampala, Uganda, 11-14 June 2007.

*EU Code of Conduct on Complementarity and Division of Labour in Development Policy* Council of the European Union Brussels, 15 May 2007, 9558/07 DG E II.

Fleming, S. et al. (June 2007), *Strengthening the Poverty Impact of the Paris Declaration: Aid Effectiveness evidence gathering project on gender equality, human rights and social exclusion*. Conceptual Framework and Partnership Strategy: Background documents for Phase 2.

INTRAC Newsletter No 33 May 2006 on *Aid Harmonisation: Challenges for Civil Society*.

*The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness* (2005). Available on [www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/parisdeclaration](http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/parisdeclaration).

Manning, R. (2007), *Development Co-operation Report 2006*, OECD Journal on Development, Volume 8, No.1, OECD.

OPM, Social Development Direct and Working Together, *Making Aid More Effective through Gender, Rights and Inclusion: Evidence from Implementing the Paris Declaration*. Analytical Summary, June 2008. Report funded by DFID, Irish Aid, the Netherlands and Norway.

OECD DAC, *Principles for Good International Engagement in Fragile States and Situations*, April 2007.

Social Development Direct (March 2006) *Aid Instruments, Social Exclusion and Gender*, a paper produced for DFID.

UNIFEM (March 2006) *Promoting Gender Equality in New Aid Modalities and Partnerships*: Discussion Paper, UNIFEM, New York.

### Web sites

Workshop on "Development Effectiveness in Practice: Applying the Paris Declaration to Advancing Gender Equality, Environmental Sustainability and Human Rights", Dublin, April 2007: [www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/inpractice](http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/inpractice).

Workshop on "Strengthening the Development Results and Impacts of the Paris Declaration through Work on Gender Equality, Social Exclusion and Human Rights", London, March 2008: [www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/resultsandimpacts](http://www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/resultsandimpacts).

EC/UN Partnership on Gender Equality for Development and Peace: [www.gendermatters.eu](http://www.gendermatters.eu).

The UK Gender and Development (GAD) Network: [www.gadnetwork.org.uk](http://www.gadnetwork.org.uk).

UNIFEM documents related to gender equality and aid effectiveness: [www.unifem.org/gender](http://www.unifem.org/gender).

Documents from the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Meeting 2006 and the Women's Affairs Ministers Meeting, 2007: [www.thecommonwealth.org/gender](http://www.thecommonwealth.org/gender).

The Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness: [www.accralf.net](http://www.accralf.net)

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6. See [www.oecd.org/dac/evaluationnetwork](http://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluationnetwork).



