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CO-OPERATION
AND DEVELOPMENT



Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness

2008 Survey Orientation and planning for High Level Forum 3 Asia and the Pacific Workshop

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1. Introduction

The Paris Declaration (PD) on Aid Effectiveness commits donors and partner countries to undertake two rounds of monitoring before the Accra High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Accra HLF-3) scheduled in September 2008. The first round of monitoring was organised in 2006 and in the run-up to the Accra High-Level Forum, a second survey is underway to run through early 2008. The 2008 Survey is designed to do two things. First, the results of the survey will provide an important contribution for assessing progress at the Accra High-Level Forum. Second, and even more significantly, the survey will help deliver bona fide improvements in the way aid is delivered.

In order to prepare for the survey the Asia Development Bank, the Department for International Development, the OECD DAC and UNDP, with support from the World Bank, hosted an Asia and the Pacific regional orientation workshop in Bangkok, January 21st-22nd 2008, to support the roll out of the 2008 Paris Declaration Survey and to help governments begin the process of preparing for the HLF. The event brought together national coordinators from twenty countries in the sub-region as well as their donor focal points where they had already been selected (see Annex 1: list of participants). This workshop was one of five regional and sub regional events taking place globally.

The objective of the workshop was primarily to prepare national coordinators, donor focal points and other concerned government officials, for the completion of the survey, as well as provide space for identification of country capacity needs, peer learning and broad exchange on the preparations for the Accra HLF. The workshop further introduced the OECD DAC, UNDP and World Bank Help-Desk to follow-up and to further support country survey 2008 preparations.

Participants are to be thanked for their full participation; willingness to share experiences, concerns and interests; as well as their positive commitment to implementing the Paris Declaration and associated 2008 Survey. Several governments skilfully chaired and presented during the meeting and whilst presentations are captured in annex 3 (which is linked to a workshop web resource), it is not possible to do justice to chairs' remarks in this report – but thanks is extended to all of them here. Neither can this summary document adequately capture the full range of practical examples, tips and advice that was shared. The workshop's emphasis on peer learning, south-south exchange and support across countries was only realisable, due to the great depth and breadth of experience of participants. This report does provide brief summaries of the discussion on the survey – indicators, qualitative assessment and process for implementation; and on the further preparations for the High Level Forum – including consultations and issues for further work in the run up to 2nd-4th September 2008.

This report, associated presentations and further information on the workshop itself can be found at <http://www.aideffectiveness.org/index.php/Survey> and the Survey Help Desk is constantly updating the [OECD DAC 2008 Survey homepage](#) with new 'Hot Tips', practical examples and frequently asked questions. Please do keep sending them in to hlfsurvey@oecd.org!

2. Taking forward the 2008 Survey

2.1 Introduction

This section of the report focuses on some of the questions and answers that emerged during discussion of the indicators and the process of implementing the survey – including a strengthened element to the 2008 survey: the qualitative assessment. The questions and answers are questions and responses that were delivered during the workshop and have been used to augment the OECD DAC [OECD DAC HLF Survey website](#) webpage (linked here).

Participants discussed both in break out groups and in plenary and the discussions benefited from opening presentations from Marcia Kran, Officer-in-Charge of the UNDP Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific, Simon Mizrahi of the OECD DAC and His Excellency Chhieng Yanara of the Royal Government of Cambodia. Presentations on the lessons from the 2006 Survey and the way forward in implementing the 2008 survey were presented by Simon Mizrahi and Misaki Watanabe from OECD DAC and Mr Sultan Ahmatov from the Kyrgyz Republic provided a presentation on his country's experience with the 2006 survey and plans for 2008. Subsequently three parallel clinics involved presentations on clusters of the indicators resourced by Simon Mizrahi and Misaki Watanabe of the OECD DAC and Janet Entwistle of the World Bank. These presentations are attached in full at annex 1. Provided below are summaries of the government presentations from Cambodia and Kyrgyz Republic and subsequent Survey discussion.

His Excellency Chhieng Yanara: The Royal Government of Cambodia perspective.

Mr Yanara highlighted for participants the Royal Government of Cambodia's (RGC) position in the High Level Forum (HLF) preparatory process as a member both of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness (WP-EFF) and the Joint Venture for Monitoring the Paris Declaration (JV MPD). Mr Yanara referred participants to some of the misunderstandings during the 2006 Survey regarding terms and definitions leading to different interpretations of (for examples) 'coordinated', 'integrated Project Implementation Units', 'Programme based approaches', 'Missions', and 'Joint'. He highlighted how the RGC and development partners had made significant efforts to localise, institutionalise and operationalise the Paris Declaration principles. As a result of these efforts and participation in the previous 2006 Survey RGC is pleased at new guidance that proposes donor focal points to coordinate partners and expects preparation of the survey to be timely and accurate. The survey is not longer an ad hoc undertaking and is part of on-going monitoring of aid practice in Cambodia. This time round RGC will be asking partners to give information on proposed disbursements for 2008/9 to strengthen RGC planning and budgeting.

Mr Yanara highlighted some key interests for the RGC in the High Level Forum discussions and preparations. He noted the weak link between the rhetoric of aid effectiveness at donor HQs and action in country. He suggested at the very least HQs should commit to monitoring country office implementation of their commitments. Mr Yanara also worried that without connect to country level reforms, heavy investment by partner governments and donors in participating in the aid effectiveness industry at a global level would not see adequate returns. Mr Yanara outlined how RGC was trying to place their key issues on the agenda for discussion for the High Level Forum through participation on the WP-EFF and JV MPD. RGC had requested that HLF Round Tables and AAA provide for discussion and agreement of commitments to (i) increase **donor incentives** for reform – the reality is without incentives and a strong monitoring mechanism, many of required changes will not take place; (ii) **strengthen division of labour and complementarity** amongst donors – the 2007 RGC report

on aid effectiveness gave statistical analysis of proliferation and fragmentation of aid. Over the last 5 years the problem has got worse not better; and (iii) **improve the quality of technical cooperation (TC)**– with 50% of total aid in Cambodia being channelled as TC much more needs to be done to improve TC for capacity development.

Mr Sultan Ahmatov - The Kyrgyz Republic perspective

Mr Ahmatov presented an account of the Kyrgyz Republic's experiences in attempting to put the Paris Declaration Principles into practice. Only in the health sector had it been possible to agree joint donor budget support, but this had resulted in significant improvements in financial management, audit and procurement, as well as reducing opportunities for the misuse of funds. Government was invited to join in donor meetings, and joint portfolio reviews were conducted. Generally, key areas for improvement were identified for both donors and the government. Donors needed to redouble efforts to use national systems, reduce the number of PIUs and bilateral missions (over 300 a year), increase joint analysis and deliver messages to government jointly. Government needed to reinforce public resource management, accountability and transparency to facilitate use of government systems by donors, to expand the programme-based approach into other sectors, and be more selective in which projects, missions and meetings it agreed to.

The Government reached agreement with seven donors on a Joint Country Support Strategy for 2007-10 which provides a national medium-term framework for managing development cooperation and reviewing progress annually. In addition, at the Kyrgyz Development Forum in 2007, non-DAC donors such as Russia agreed to consider using aid effectiveness principles. The Kyrgyz Republic is also integrating the Paris Declaration commitments to into the national development plan to ensure that they are implemented and monitored.

2.2 Summary of discussion on Survey indicators

If you click on the name of the indicator shown in the grey boxes below, you will be linked to further guidance posted on the 2008 Survey website. Depending on the indicator, this provides: explanation of the indicator, illustrative country examples, the indicator methodology, and a contact email address for further guidance.

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Question: How should the different fiscal years of donors be dealt with?

Answer: Partner country governments and donors are required to report against the calendar year 2007 (Jan-December) except for Indicator 3. For Indicator 3 (Aid flows aligned on national priorities) both government and donors report against the partner country's fiscal year 2006/2007. If a country cannot report using calendar year 2007 for a specific indicator despite best efforts, then consideration should be given to using fiscal year 2006/2007 for that indicator. *The most important principle is that, per indicator, both government and all donors use the same reporting timeframe.*

Question: The Survey covers only development assistance and excludes humanitarian assistance. How can we in practice separate the two?

Answer: Humanitarian assistance may form a component within overall ODA to country. The [DAC Statistical Directives](#) (April 2007) define humanitarian aid as: "assistance designed to

save lives, alleviate suffering and maintain and protect human dignity during and in the aftermath of emergencies. To be classified as humanitarian, aid should be consistent with the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence.”¹ See the **Glossary** contained on the Survey Help Desk for definitions. In some cases, the initial emergency phase may be over, and some of the assistance provided may be considered as contributing to longer term development and reconstruction objectives. *The precise dividing line will need to be agreed between the government and its partners at the country level, taking account of the DAC definitions.*

Question: If one-third of a donor’s assistance programme is given to others development agencies such as the UN for implementation, should both the donor and the UN agency report on that assistance?

Answer: No. Each donor completes a single donor questionnaire, but includes in its question (for all questions against all indicators) only the assistance that it manages itself. So if the donor provides one third of its assistance through a UN agency (delegated cooperation), then the donor reports only on the other two-thirds. The UN agency will include this assistance in its own donor questionnaire. Where a donor provides funds through another donor (bilateral or multilateral) it is the latter agency that is responsible for reporting it in the Survey Questionnaire.

Question: When can ODA that is channelled through CSOs be counted in the Survey as aid to the government sector?

Answer: When ODA is channelled by the donor to a CSO *with the agreement of the government* and to deliver products or services that are agreed with the government. Thus, if UNICEF contracts CSOs to deliver immunisation services that form part of the government health sector programme, it should be counted in the survey as aid for the government sector. Otherwise, funds given directly by a donor to CSOs can count towards **total ODA** to a country (provided it meets the regular criteria of ODA).

Question: How can Civil Society Organisations take part in the survey?

Answer: While CSOs should not complete questionnaires (even when they implement ODA), they are encouraged to join the country level dialogue on aid effectiveness by attending relevant meetings organised by the National Coordinator.

Question: How are regional programmes of donor assistance covered in the Survey?

Answer: The Survey does not cover regional programmes.

¹ Humanitarian aid is defined to include: “disaster prevention and preparedness; the provision of shelter, food, water and sanitation, health services and other items of assistance for the benefit of affected people and to facilitate the return to normal lives and livelihoods; measures to promote and protect the safety, welfare and dignity of civilians and those no longer taking part in hostilities and rehabilitation, reconstruction and transition assistance while the emergency situation persists. Activities to protect the security of persons or property through the use or display of force are excluded. Includes aid to refugees in developing countries, but not to those in donor countries.”

SPECIFIC INDICATOR QUESTIONS

INDICATORS	TARGETS FOR 2010
1 OPERATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES	AT LEAST 75% OF PARTNER COUNTRIES have operational development strategies.

Introduction

- 2006 survey data came from the World Bank Comprehensive Development Framework progress report
- 2008 survey data has come from the 2007 Aid Effectiveness Review of 62 countries - [Results-Based National Development Strategies, World Bank, December 2007](#)
- Country profiles were drafted by the World Bank and consulted upon with government and through the country office – latest profiles are on the website [Aid Effectiveness Reviews](#)
- The World Bank encourages countries to develop its own methodology for assessing progress against Indicator 1 – at the moment no country is doing this.

Questions and answers

Question: Does the methodology assess how integrated and consistent different plans are – eg 20-20 Vision, MDGs, PRSPs etc?

Answer: One of the assessment criteria is that these plans are linked/integrated and not separate.

Question: Why 62 countries?

Answer: All countries with PRSPs or IPRSPs are included.

Question: Is there a consideration of planning horizons – 1 year or what?

Answer: There is a consideration of the fact that a ‘long term’ (not specified) plan should be linked with a ‘medium term’ strategy.

Question: Are there any good examples of how plans have been integrated?

Answer: Yes, for example in Cambodia, Government asked donors to support an integrated plan rather than 3 separate plans as had been the case.

Question: For countries not part of the AER (eg **Indonesia, India, Fiji**) what do we do?

Answer: Look at the methodology for conducting the review and talk with the World Bank team and others about how a qualitative assessment might be carried out.

Question: Things have happened since 2007 review. They will not be considered in the scoring. Is that right?

Answer: Yes this is the case. Use the **qualitative assessment** to mark any progress that has taken place since the scoring but also to flag what needs to happen to get to 2010 targets.

[Click for DAC Guidance & Methodology.](#)

INDICATORS		TARGETS FOR 2010
2a	RELIABLE PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (PFM) SYSTEMS	HALF OF PARTNER COUNTRIES move up at least one measure (i.e., 0.5 points) on the PFM/ CPIA (Country Policy and Institutional Assessment) scale of performance.

Introduction:

- This score is taken from the [Country Policy and Institutional Assessments](#) of the World Bank. The CPIA rates countries against a set of 16 criteria grouped in four clusters: (a) economic management; (b) structural policies; (c) policies for social inclusion and equity; and (d) public sector management and institutions. Sub indicator 13 of the CPIA is used for this part of Paris Declaration survey
- Scores will be published in June 2008.

Questions and answers

Question: Scores on CPIA will only be released in June 2008. How will this inform the PD Survey and the qualitative assessment?

Answer: It is a global exercise and unlikely that results can be released before June 2008.

Question: What is the link to the scores from the [Harmonised Approach to Cash Transfers \(HACT\)](#) launched by the UN in April 2005?

Answer: the quantitative scores are taken from CPIA, but countries could draw on HACT data as a source of data for their qualitative response on this indicator.

Question: The World Bank has undertaken CPIAs for which countries?

Answer: All IDA eligible countries.

Remaining Issues

- A link between the DAC survey website and the World Bank website with CPIA score will be established. [World Bank CPIA scores](#) for 2005 are on this page.

INDICATORS		TARGETS FOR 2010
2b	RELIABLE PROCUREMENT SYSTEMS	ONE-THIRD OF PARTNER COUNTRIES move up at least one measure (i.e., from D to C, C to B or B to A) on the four-point scale used to assess performance for this indicator.

Introduction:

- In the 2006 survey, there was no agreed upon methodology for measuring the quality of procurement systems. The Joint Venture on Procurement has since established a self-assessment methodology which has been piloted in 22 countries.
- For the purpose of the 2008 survey, the self-assessment exercise is not mandatory. Governments should consider whether they would like to do a self-assessment exercise depending on capacity and time constraints.
- If your government would like further information on the self-assessment exercise, please contact michael.lawrence@oecd.org or visit the website at this link - [Procurement self assessment information](#).

Questions and Answers:

Question: Will there be scores for non-pilot countries?

Answer: There will be no score for non-pilot countries, but the qualitative assessment can be used to give an assessment of progress.

Question: Is there a new methodology here compared with 2006 – how can we compare results?

Answer: The only comparisons will be between 2008 and 2010.

INDICATORS		TARGETS FOR 2010
3	AID FLOWS ARE ALIGNED ON NATIONAL PRIORITIES	HALVE THE GAP — halve the proportion of aid flows to government sector not reported on government's budget(s) (with at least 85% reported on budget).

Introduction:

- The survey is using calendar year 2007 data, to allow the survey to feed into the High Level Forum meeting in September 2008 whilst maintaining a sufficient period between the first and second survey round to allow for change.

Questions and answers:

Question: How do the countries record aid on their budgets? Only financial aid provided in the form of budget support? Or all donor-funded projects whether as long as they are on (not necessarily in) the budget?

Answer: It should not be only budget support, but all aid recorded on budget, it could include programme-based approaches or project aid. Record all assistance that is captured in the published budget.

Question: Why is the baseline-global number so high?

Answer: Because it is an average at the global level, some countries with very large quantities of aid on budget skew the results upwards.

INDICATORS		TARGETS FOR 2010
4	STRENGTHEN CAPACITY BY CO-ORDINATED SUPPORT	50% OF TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION FLOWS are implemented through co-ordinated programmes consistent with national development strategies.

Introduction:

- According to the OECD-DAC Network on Governance, capacity development is the process whereby people, organisations and society as a whole unleash, strengthen, create, adapt and maintain capacity over time.

Questions and answers:

Question: What criteria should be used to judge which technical cooperation programmes can be considered as having been disbursed through coordinated programme?

Answer: To qualify as coordinated technical cooperation is must respect the principles of ownership, alignment and harmonisation. Specifically the TC **must meet BOTH** these criteria:

1. Have the relevant country authorities (government or non-government) communicated clear capacity development objectives as part of the national or sector strategy? (Y/N)
2. Is the TC aligned with the country's capacity development objectives? (Y/N)

AND it must meet at least ONE of these two criteria:

3. Do relevant country authorities (government or non-government) have control over the technical cooperation?

4. If more than one donor is involved are there arrangements involving the country authorities for coordinating the TC provided by different donors?

Question: Would directly executed TA programs come under coordinated TC?

Answer: You will need to have a look on a case by case basis and see whether it meets the 4 criteria.

INDICATORS		TARGETS FOR 2010
5a	USE OF COUNTRY PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	REDUCE THE GAP BY TWO-THIRDS — A two-thirds reduction in the % of aid to the public sector not using partner countries' PFM systems. For partner countries with a SCORE OF 5 OR ABOVE on the PFM/CPIA scale of performance (see Indicator 2a).

Introduction:

This indicator captures the share of assistance to the government sector that uses a country's public financial management systems. No specific aid modalities automatically qualify as using country PFM systems and most aid modalities can be adapted to use country PFM systems.

Questions and answers:

Question: Why don't donors use country systems - where can this concern be included?

Answer: Such information should be covered in the qualitative report.

Question: Do national budget execution, national financial reporting and national auditing procedures comprise PFM? Does a donor have to use 1, 2 or all three of the national procedures in order to be supporting the use of PFM?

Answer: For the purpose of the survey, all three procedures comprise the PFM system. The survey will measure the usage of country PFM systems by: adding (budget execution + financial reporting + auditing) divided by aid disbursed by donors for the government sector. Since we will be tracking the three components separately, you will be able to see whether a donor uses more budget execution procedures, or uses less auditing for example.

INDICATORS		TARGETS FOR 2010
5b	USE OF COUNTRY PROCUREMENT SYSTEMS	REDUCE THE GAP BY TWO-THIRDS — A two-thirds reduction in the % of aid to the public sector not using partner countries' procurement systems; for partner countries with a SCORE OF 'A' on the Procurement scale of performance (see Indicator 2b). REDUCE THE GAP BY ONE-THIRD — A one-third reduction in the % of aid to the public sector not using partner countries' procurement systems; for partner countries with a SCORE OF 'B' on the Procurement scale of performance (see Indicator 2b).

Introduction:

- This indicator focuses on whether aid provided for the government sector uses national procurement systems. It measures the share of aid that uses the national country procurement system as a percentage of the total aid provided for the government sector.

Questions and answers:

Question: What criteria can we use to judge whether assistance is using national procurement procedures?

Answer: National procurement procedures are being used when the funds provided by the donor for projects and programmes are managed according to national procurement procedures set out in legislation and used by government. It means donors do not make additional or special requirements of government for procurement of works, good and

services. (Any measures being taken by government and donors to address weaknesses in the national systems which prevent them being used can be set out in the qualitative inputs to the country chapter).

Question: Does the donor assistance have to be provided through budget support or any particular aid modality for it to count?

Answer: No. No particular aid modalities automatically qualify and most modalities including project support can be designed to use the national procurement system.

	INDICATORS	TARGETS FOR 2010
6	STRENGTHEN CAPACITY BY AVOIDING PARALLEL PIUS	REDUCE BY TWO-THIRDS the stock of parallel project implementation units (PIUs).

Introduction:

- This indicator aims to capture whether there is a shift over time towards strengthened local capacity and use of that capacity for planning, implementation and accountability to a country’s citizens and parliament.

Questions and answers

Question: What are the criteria used to distinguish whether a project implementation unit is a parallel one or an integrated PIU?

Answer: PIUs are said to be parallel when there are three or four “yes” responses to the four questions below:

1. Are the PIUs accountable to the external funding agencies/donors rather than to the country implementing agencies (ministries, departments, agencies etc)? (Y/N)
2. Are the terms of reference for externally appointed staff determined by the donor (rather than by the country implementing agencies)? (Y/N)
3. Is most of the professional staff appointed by the donor (rather than the country implementing agencies)? (Y/N)
4. Is the salary structure of national staff (including benefits) higher than those of civil service personnel? (Y/N)

Question: Where did these criteria come from?

Answer: These criteria came out of a long consultative process within the Joint Venture on Monitoring the Paris Declaration.

Question: Should ‘local-PIUs’ implementing sub-components at provincial/local level be considered a separate PIUs?

Answer: No. They are part of the same program/project, so it should be considered as one single PIU (with ‘sub-offices’).

Question: What happens when it is clearly a 50/50% decision-making system? Can this be called an integrated PIU?

Answer: This will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis. There are 4 criteria to consider and 3 out of the 4 need to be met for it to be labelled a parallel PIU. If stakeholders agree that there is sufficient accountability to government (with a 50% sharing of decision-making) then the first criteria for a parallel PIU is not met.

INDICATORS	TARGETS FOR 2010
7 AID IS MORE PREDICTABLE	HALVE THE GAP — halve the proportion of aid not disbursed within the fiscal year for which it was scheduled.

Introduction:

- In many countries development cooperation is an important source of overall resources for development – and thus for it to be used effectively partner governments need to be able to plan for the medium and long-term. The survey measures only one element of predictability: - in-year predictability, which measures the gap between the aid that was agreed for disbursement at the beginning of a country’s fiscal year was actually disbursed and recorded in the country’s accounting system.

Questions and answers

Question: Why does Indicator 7: Aid is more predictable measure only in-year predictability and not multi-year predictability?

Answer: It was not possible to reach agreement in Paris on an indicator to measure multi-year predictability – whether a donor provides a clear indication to government of how much assistance it intends to provide for several years ahead. There is, however, a commitment to multi-year predictability contained in the Paris Declaration.

Remaining Issues

- Predictability is focused on the financial predictability, what about outcome predictability and measure of achievements?
- Base line number overstates the case (70%), because of similar problem of averaging.
- Reasons for lack of predictability should be captured in the qualitative information, Provide information on whether the lack of predictability is due to structural or extra-ordinary circumstances.
- For ex-ante estimates on volume of aid, countries can use a discounting factor--based on past practice of individual donors on promises vs actual support.

INDICATORS	TARGETS FOR 2010
8 AID IS UNTIED	CONTINUED PROGRESS OVER TIME.

Introduction:

- Data for this indicator is drawn from reporting by DAC donors to the annual DAC Questionnaire on untied aid. Data is provided by donor headquarters and collected centrally by the OECD-DAC.
- You can find more information on this at:
 - [OECD DAC Statistical Reporting Directives, pp. 50-52 on “Tying Status” for definitions; and](#)
 - [OECD DAC Data on Tying Status of Bilateral ODA by DAC Donors](#)

INDICATORS	TARGETS FOR 2010
9 USE OF COMMON ARRANGEMENTS OR PROCEDURES	66% OF AID FLOWS are provided in the context of programme-based approaches.

Introduction:

- Programme based approaches can not simply be equated with Direct budget support – although both general and sector budget support would be classified as PBA.
- Other forms of aid can be classified as PBA through the use of the 4 criteria provided in the guidance.
- The denominator for this indicator covers total ODA (and not only aid for government).

Questions and answers

Question: Why does this indicator measure ODA for PBA as a percentage of total ODA (rather than ODA for the government sector used for other indicators)?

Answer: This is because PBAs could be used with all types of ODA, such as assistance given to the non-government sector (NGOs, chambers of commerce, etc) – and not only the ODA that is given for the government sector.

INDICATORS		TARGETS FOR 2010
10 a	JOINT MISSIONS TO THE FIELD	40% OF DONOR MISSIONS to the field are joint.

Questions and answers

Question: If two UN agencies conduct a mission jointly is it counted as a joint mission?

Answer: Yes. If, for example, WHO and UNFPA complete a mission together it would be recorded as 1 joint mission. Note: care needs to be taken in compiling the Survey spreadsheet: in this example, the total number of missions would be 1 (Q^d16), and the total number of coordinated missions (Q^d17) would also be one.

Question: How do you count exactly the number of missions and what exactly is considered a mission? Do you count the number of meetings or just the trips? Would missions at political/policy level be included?

Answer: A mission should cover the entire stay of the donor staff and all the meetings during that stay. Only technical/project level missions should be considered.

INDICATORS		TARGETS FOR 2010
10 b	COUNTRY ANALYTIC WORK	66% OF COUNTRY ANALYTIC WORK IS JOINT.

Questions and answers

Question: What types of work are included as “country analytical work”?

Answer: It should include major pieces of analysis, such as diagnostic review (eg procurement assessment reports, country financial accountability assessments, etc), country or sector studies, strategies or evaluations, or cross-cutting work such as gender assessments.

11	RESULTS-ORIENTED FRAMEWORKS	REDUCE THE GAP BY ONE-THIRD — Reduce the proportion of countries without transparent and monitorable performance assessment frameworks by one-third.
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Introduction:

- The scores for this indicator are, as for Indicator 1, taken from the 2007 Aid Effectiveness Review of 62 countries - [Results-Based National Development Strategies, World Bank, December 2007](#)

Questions and answers

Question: What assessment criteria are used when rating a country's performance against the managing for results indicator?

Answer: Three criteria are used to assess whether a country has a results-oriented framework:

1. Quality of development information – is the country's development data timely, relevant, comprehensive.
2. Stakeholder access to information – is information on the national development strategy, budget, and other monitoring data widely available within the country.
3. Coordinated country level monitoring and evaluation: does the country's system integrate monitoring data from line ministries and local government and is it used by policymakers and development partners.

Issue:

Countries would like to institutionalise this assessment in-country, as a way of determining the degree to which they have a results-orientated monitoring and evaluation system that supports reporting to parliament and other domestic stakeholders. The broader aim of this indicator was agreed as been to promote this objective rather than to gather data for the World Bank report or the OECD DAC Survey.

INDICATORS	TARGETS FOR 2010
12 MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY	ALL PARTNER COUNTRIES have mutual assessment reviews in place.

Introduction:

- This Y/N response to this indicator is taken from the Government questionnaire. Government and development partners can comment on efforts to introduce mutual accountability mechanisms in the qualitative reports.

Questions and answers:

Question: what criteria are used to judge whether mutual assessment reviews take place?

Answer: Four criteria may be useful in determining whether mutual assessments have been undertaken:

1. Broad-based dialogue: a mutual assessment should engage a broad range of government ministries and donors in dialogue – and consideration given to involving CSOs;
2. Country mechanisms for monitoring progress: is a regular formal assessment of progress supplemented by independent/impartial reviews and are these made public?
3. Country targets: have country targets been set for improving aid effectiveness – which may, if desired, go beyond those agreed in the Paris Declaration?
4. High-level support: are the assessments backed at the highest level and with sufficient resources?

2.3 Summary of discussion on Qualitative assessment

Introduction:

- Countries are invited to provide qualitative inputs into the 2008 survey through two sets of inputs:

1. **Country Chapter Inputs:** Provide country perspectives on each of the 12 indicators to accompany the quantitative results (up to 800 words per indicator). Example questions for each indicator are given in the [Section 5 Country Report](#) of the DAC Guidance. *These are example questions only* and further questions and the methodology are to be determined in-country - the focus is on assessment of the issues and challenges in making progress on the indicators.
2. **Two page country contribution to the Accra HLF:** the key challenges and reforms needed to improve effectiveness of aid and achieve the targets agreed in Paris. The format and scope is to be decided by each country.
 - The National Coordinator leads the preparation of both reports and should reflect the views of a wide range of stakeholders – including government, donors, and relevant civil society organisations.
 - Greater emphasis than ever has been given to the qualitative inputs from each country, as they help provide context to the results, help explain any changes (or lack of change) in indicators, and set out reforms. Both inputs will contribute to the final Country Chapter reports prepared by OECD DAC.
 - *Indicative* questions are provided in the guidance but further questions and the methodology is to be determined in-country - the focus is on assessment of the issues and challenges in making progress on the indicators.
 - Both the Country Chapter and the Two-Page Country Contribution will provide useful documents in recording areas of consensus and those where consensus could not be reached.

Issues:

There were questions raised and noted over the standards that can be expected of a Qualitative assessment that will need to be completed by end March and for which not all data will be available (eg indicators 2a and 2b for example).

Different countries outlined possibly different approaches to the exercise with some opting to write the assessment themselves and then consult with development partners and other preferring to commission a consultant to write a draft qualitative assessment or discussion.

It was agreed that this assessment was an extremely valuable vehicle to give sense to the numbers as well as for helping government and development partners establish priorities to address in their in-country aid effectiveness policies, plans and strategies.

There was interest in a regional analysis based on qualitative country inputs into the 2008 Survey. The OECD DAC will only publish final Country Chapters prepared by the OECD/DAC – they will not publicise qualitative assessments submitted by the national coordinator. They can be shared according to the agreement by the National Coordinator. There may be a role for a regional donors in supporting such a regional analysis and in helping countries share their qualitative assessment for discussion and lesson learning during the process of the survey.

One of the participants suggested that National Coordinators should first prepare the Country Reports, and then consult donors and civil society on a draft. The final Country Report would reflect these discussions. In Vietnam, with the help of UNDP, the government was organizing a workshop on the Hanoi Core Statement and inviting civil society. CSOs also participate in the Partnership Group on Aid Effectiveness in Vietnam. A lot of ideas on the best

mechanism for including civil society in the dialogue around the 2008 Survey should come out during the workshop in Ottawa February 2nd – 4th .

2.4 Summary of discussion on the survey implementation process

This aspect of the report has already been synthesised with country experience from other regions to form a package of practical examples to use in taking forward the 2008 survey. It is available at [OECD DAC Paris Declaration Survey Website](#) under the menu title **Tips**. Thanks to all participants for their input at the workshop and in the coming weeks.

Countries were concerned to **use the Survey process to build the capacity of institutions and instruments for delivering on aid effectiveness** in the longer term. Some examples provided:

- 1) Vietnam provides a good practice example in aligning country monitoring with international monitoring. It plans to report to OECD-DAC in March on the Survey results and then to the Consultative Group in Vietnam in June.
- 2) Cambodia is using survey to try and get info on disbursements for 2008/9 as a way of helping planning and budgeting (using survey s part of policy process).
- 3) Bangladesh stressed the importance of using and strengthening working group mechanisms as part of the implementation of the Survey
- 4) Kyrgyz: highlighted how the Paris Declaration principles will form a monitor-able part of their national development strategy.
- 5) The 2008 Survey provides a good opportunity for a mid-term review in countries with a localized version of the Paris Declaration.
- 6) The Evaluations of the Paris Declaration (in those countries participating) and the 2008 Survey can feed into National roadmaps in each country on how to prepare for the Accra Higher Level Forum.

Donor headquarters were identified as **a key stakeholder in ensuring the survey is completed successfully**- some ideas that emerged:

- 1) Donors could help by having HQ mobilize focal points for the Survey for each country, and informing the National Coordinator/Donor Focal Point in each country. This could save a lot of time for the National Coordinators/Donor Focal Points.
- 2) OECD DAC could issue a "follow-up action request" for Donor's HQs to provide necessary information to Country Offices in a timely manner

3. Preparing for the High Level Forum

3.1 Introduction

This session benefited from four plenary presentations of country and regional level work focused on strengthening institutions, and building capacity for the implementation of aid effectiveness. These inputs were complemented by break out discussions as well as a session plenary discussion on the High Level Forum consultations exercise – chaired by Shahid Zahid (Asian Development Bank). Full presentations can be found in annex 3 and summaries of the four on-going country and regional initiatives are presented here. Conclusions on the consultations exercise and key issues to address in the preparation are also provided.

Mr. Monowar Ahmed (Bangladesh) presented the work on Evaluating the Paris Declaration. The government of Bangladesh, in cooperation with development partners, is carrying out an independent evaluation of the implementation of the commitments of the Paris Declaration. The independent evaluation assesses the Paris Declaration itself as a tool for increasing aid effectiveness and evaluates development partner and government behaviour in meeting the commitments. Managed by a working group comprised of the government and development partners, the evaluation exercise has been useful so far in increasing the awareness of aid effectiveness amongst government and development partners, revealing the challenges of using country systems (the government used country procurement system to contract a local consultant for the evaluation), and incorporating some of the evaluation findings into strengthening the Harmonisation Action Plans.

Despite the frequent change of government in recent years, Bangladesh has been very active in pushing the Paris Declaration agenda. Some challenges shared by Bangladesh in making progress in aid effectiveness include: (i) the government (including line ministries and other departments) is often not well informed of the Paris Declaration; (ii) changes in focal points, particularly in the donors side; and (iii) the 12 indicators are not sufficient to assessing a broader range of issues on aid effectiveness. Bangladesh also raised the dilemma that participation in international initiatives on aid effectiveness carries opportunity costs for the partner countries. They have particularly raised the request to find global funding for partner countries to participate in the process, rather than having to always rely on local donors.

Mr. Cao Manh Chuong (Vietnam) presented the work on the Hanoi Core Statement and the Independent Monitoring Mechanism of the HCS. The Hanoi Core Statement (HCS) is localized expression of the commitments of the Paris Declaration. The HCS strives to contextualise the PD commitments in the local context and ensures translation of the PD in different government levels whilst ensuring consistency. Since the adoption of the HCS in 2005, an independent monitoring exercise has been carried out to assess the implementation of the HCS, particularly looking into the degree in which the government and donors have measured up to the commitments made in the HCS. The review of the independent monitoring exercise showed that due to the detailed and technical nature of the HCS, progress has been slow. The review showed that at times, efforts for improving aid effectiveness are not matched with adequate returns, and warned against fatigue and losing momentum.

Based on the findings, efforts are currently being made to prioritise work on aid effectiveness. In particular, efforts are being made to shift the focus on strategic and political levels by prioritising commitments under the HCS. At the technical level, practical steps are being made to create annual plans of the HCS with limited number of key priorities. The importance

of mutual accountability and responsibility by donors and government were emphasized. Based on Cambodia's experience of setting realistic targets on aid effectiveness, questions were raised on whether the HCS was too ambitious or unrealistic. Mr. Cao shared that the challenge has been that the objective is often clear, but not the scope. The independent monitoring helped focus more on the priority areas. Mr. Cao stressed that the most difficult part has already been accomplished – agreeing on the HCS – and that now it is ensuring that the government and donors live up to their commitments and identify areas where support is needed. Legalising aid effectiveness within the government systems can also accelerate progress in implementing the HCS.

Dr Rith Vuthy (Government of Cambodia) briefed participants of the workshop on *Aid Management Training in Cambodia* that was provided to 25 government officials in September 2007. In his presentation, Dr Vuthy shared key lessons and experience that were drawn from the two week training programme. The training course was very useful and helped identify two areas where there was additional training that was needed. This included a need to strengthen technical skills and negotiating skills as a way of engaging more effectively with donors in Cambodia. Participants expressed a strong interest in Cambodia's experience and could see value in duplicating it in other countries where there is a strong aid effectiveness agenda. Nepal in particular was considering opportunities in drawing from Cambodia's experience as part of South-South cooperation.

Tom Beloe (UNDP Regional Centre for Asia and Pacific) presented a review of literature on aid effectiveness commissioned by the UNDP: *Getting to Accra. Information Portal on Aid Effectiveness for the Asia-Pacific Region*. The purpose of this initiative is to help officials in Asia and Pacific countries prepare and contribute to the Accra High-Level Forum (2-4 September 2008) by collecting and making available through a portal existing literature and analysis on aid effectiveness. The review looks at topics from two different angles: *thematically* and *country-by-country*. *Thematically* the review focuses on the key topics being addressed by the nine Accra Roundtables and lists for all of these topics useful bibliographical references and available resources. *Country-by-country* the report pulls together references and analysis available on experience in *17 countries in Asia and the Pacific*. Participants strongly welcomed this initiative.

3.2 Conclusions on the consultations exercise

In taking the preparations for the High Level Forum forward participants **requested the High Level Forum Steering Committee to provide more timely information to national coordinators on the process of developing the HLF Accra Agenda for Action (AAA) and Round Tables**. Opportunities to present/chair/contribute should be highlighted. Key timings for preparations should be disseminated. Other preparatory work should be mapped and possible opportunities for governments to participate highlighted. The OECD DAC should establish a timetable of key opportunities for participation on its website. **In addition partner governments highlighted some principles for the continuing preparation process for the HLF including:** (i) there should be a strong recipient government lead; (ii) Recipient governments should work where possible to develop common understanding / voice / position on High Level Forum issues; (iii) Recipient governments should work to table their views persuasively at the High Level Forum.

Agreement was reached on a format of sub-regional workshops to facilitate consultations ahead of the High Level Forum. The focus of the workshops should be on the substance of debate at the HLF (not aid effectiveness in general). Partner countries wanted

consultations to present a meaningful mechanism for conveying their needs and interests regarding the two key discussions at the HLF – the **Accra Agenda for Action (AAA)** and **9 Round Tables (RTs)**. Some partner countries expressed a preference for support in developing understanding of particular roundtable topics which they were less conversant in (eg such as sector application of the Paris Declaration).

Alongside developing inputs and perspectives on the AAA and RTs, partner countries were supportive of **developing a regional perspective document** as a third channel of communication of issues from the region to the HLF. They felt this could be developed as one strand of the consultations process. There might be other work that partner countries want to undertake collectively - for example some partner countries were interested in putting together a common regional position on conditionality prior to the Accra high level forum. There was indication in developing regional understanding of other aspects of the agenda too – please see key issues to consider section below.

In response, **AsDB, Department for International Development (UK), OECD DAC, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Japan), UNDP and World Bank** have begun discussions for support to the four workshops:

- **Central and West Asia** (8) –_Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
- **South Asia** (8) –_Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
- **South East Asia** (7) – to be held in Bangkok, **21-22 April (tbc)** Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam
- **Pacific** (14) – to be held in Fiji **4 & 7 April (tbc)** - Cook Islands, Fiji Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

3.3 Key issues to consider in preparation for the High Level Forum

1. Create real incentives for reform of aid partnerships

There was a strong call from participants for those drafting the AAA to ensure that it creates meaningful commitments for donors to change their behaviour at country level. Donors should develop specific corporate commitments within each country so progress on reform could be monitored by host governments as well as donor headquarters. Some participants noted that stronger incentives for governments to reform their management of aid would also be required. Some participants argued that there was good experience amongst some governments in the region in creating incentives for donors to change their practices which could be learnt from and up-scaled for example: ‘naming and shaming’ donors who were performing badly on Paris Indicators and applying ‘conditionality’ to donors who wanted to provide aid (eg minimum funding requirements; maximum number of sectors to work in etc).

2. Accelerating reform on conditionality to strengthen aid partnerships

There was an expressed interest in developing a common position regarding conditionality in the region. Some participants felt that more could be done to understand how conditionality had changed in the region and how the HLF could further accelerate commitments to strengthen country ownership of aid programming through the use of different forms of benchmarking and target setting.

3. Mutual accountability

There is no workable system to assess mutual accountability. Development practitioners need a model to assess mutual accountability at the country level. Independent evaluation and monitoring is essential, but is hampered by the lack of a workable mutual accountability indicator to assess progress. Better agreements on division of labour are needed among donors, but these agreements should be driven by the needs of partner countries. Partner countries which have made progress on this aspect of the Paris Declaration should share these examples to help build up knowledge on how to implement mutual accountability in practice.

4. Securing longer commitments on aid – improving predictability and managing for results

This increase predictability and strengthen government capacity to plan and manage aid delivery. Important also is the potential for this to help in reporting on results – achievement of the MDGs and improvements in aid effectiveness go hand in hand. Keeping longer time horizons will help aid partnerships develop to achieve sustainable progress on the MDGs and reduce pressure for short term-ist aid programming looking for quick but unsustainable impacts on poverty.

5. Strengthening knowledge management in aid partnerships

Too much capacity development is not retained within countries. One solution is to improve knowledge management of analytical work so that it is not repeated over and over by different donors. It is therefore important to build a multi-stakeholder knowledge management system that can make capacity development sustainable and minimize waste at a country level. At a regional level UNDP will establish an Aid Effectiveness Literature review in the form of a web-based resource and CD Rom. This will provide governments and donors with access to the most up-to-date literature on the Paris Declaration and will also cut down unnecessary duplication of work.

6. Including a focus on the implementation of the Paris Declaration within decentralisation is an important cross cutting issue to consider when evaluating aid effectiveness. It is essential to measure effectiveness at the sub-national level in countries that are decentralized. The Asia and Pacific region has several large countries with decentralised delivery of development programming. Alongside the Round table preparatory work on sector applications of the Paris Declaration it would be useful for some analytical work to be undertaken on how the PD can be operationalised in decentralised programme delivery.

7. Gaining stronger commitments from donors to provide all their aid on budget

The need to take up the issue at the Joint Venture on Aid on Budget at the OECD/DAC of better recording not just of loans but also of grants on budget. OECD DAC indicated that the Joint Venture on Financial Management was about to release a report on this issue, and he would be happy to share it.

8. Training on key HLF topics and in leadership / negotiation skills

Ten countries expressed demand for training on key aspects of the aid effectiveness agenda which will be addressed at the HLF in Accra. They noted a need for training in leadership and negotiation both in building capacities for influencing the HLF process as well as for the day to day management of aid effectiveness in-country.

9. Providing cross-country analysis

There was demand for the facilitation of cross-country analysis of Survey findings, qualitative assessments and other elements of the High Level Preparatory process– at regional or sub-regional levels. This could form one input for sub-regional consultations’ meetings.

Annex 1: List of participants

2008 Survey on Aid Effectiveness: Asia-Pacific Orientation Workshop

Final Participants List

#	Country	Paris Declaration Survey		Name	Surname	Job Title	Affiliation / organisation	Email Address
		2006	2008					
1	Afghanistan	Y	Y	Sally	Waples	Programme and Strategy Coordinator	Department for International Development (UK)	s-waples@dfid.gov.uk
2	Bangladesh	Y	Y	Monowar	Ahmed	Deputy Secretary	PRS-HAP Cell, ERD Government Ministry	ahmedmonowar@hotmail.com
3	Bangladesh			Mohammad Shamsul	Alam	Deputy Secretary	Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance	msalam4070@yahoo.com
4	Cambodia	Y	Y	Yanara	Chhieng	Secretary General	Council for the Development of Cambodia	chhieng.yanara@crdb.gov.kh
5	Cambodia			Vuthy	Rith	Director of Aid Coordination with Europe	CDC/CRDB	rith.vuthy@crdb.gov.kh
6	Cambodia			Marjolaine	Nicod	Aid Effectiveness Advisor	DFID	m-nicod@dfid.gov.uk
7	Fiji	N		Marika	Luveniyali	Deputy Secretary	Ministry of Finance and National Planning	mluveniyali@govnet.gov.fj
8	India	N		Manisha	Sensarma	Deputy Secretary (PMU)	Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India	ms.sharma@nic.in
9	India			Reetu	Jain	Deputy Director (BC)	Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India	reetuj@nic.in
10	Indonesia	N	Y	Benny Setiawan	Kusumo	Director of Monitoring	BAPPENAS	bennysk@bappenas.go.id
11	Indonesia			Tubagus Achmad	Choesni	Deputy Director	BAPPENAS	choesni@bappenas.go.id ; choesni@gmail.com
12	Indonesia			Patricia	McCullagh	Counsellor (Development)	Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)	patricia.mccullagh@international.gc.ca
13	Indonesia			Verdi	Yusuf	Programme Development & Aid Coordination Advisor	UNDP/BAPPENAS	verdi.yusuf@undp.org
14	Korea	N	N	Sangahn	Lee	Resident Representative	KOICA Thailand Office	leesangan@gmail.com
15	Kyrgyz Republic	Y	Y	Sultan	Ahmatov	Head of Department	Ministry of Economic Development and Trade	sultan_m_akhmatov@yahoo.com ; asm2010@gmail.com
16	Kyrgyz Republic			Jhyldyz	Urbaeva	Donor Coordination Specialist	Donor Coordination Secretariat	donorsbishkek@infotel.kg

17	Lao PDR	N	Y	Somchith	Inthamith	Director General	Department of International Cooperation	somchith57@yahoo.com
18	Lao PDR			Bousavath	Inthavanh	Division Director	Department of International Cooperation	b_vath@yahoo.com
19	Lao PDR			Phanthanousone (Pepe)	Khennavong	Programme Analyst, Poverty Reduction Unit	UNDP Lao PDR	phanthanousone.khennavong@undp.org
20	Mongolia	Y	Y	Khurelbaatar	Gantsogt	Director-General, Procurement Policy and Coordination Department	Ministry of Finance	gantsogt@gmail.com
21	Mongolia			Bolormaa	Byambaa	Officer, Department of Policy and Coordination for Loans and Aid	Ministry of Finance	bolormaa_by@mof.pmis.gov.mn ; boloroo45@yahoo.com
22	Mongolia			Enkhariunaa	Oidovdanzan	Programme Officer	UNDP Mongolia	enkhariunaa.oidovdanzan@undp.org
23	Nepal	N	Y	Lal Shanker	Ghimire	Under Secretary	Ministry of Finance	lghimire@mof.gov.np
24	Nepal			Narayan	Dhakal	Section Officer	Ministry of Finance	ndhakal@mof.gov.np
25	Nepal			Anjaly	Tamang Bista	Team Leader, Programme Coordination	DFID Nepal Office	A-Bista@dfid.gov.uk
26	Nepal			Sharad	Neupane	Assistant Resident Representative	UNDP Nepal	sharad.neupane@undp.org
27	Pakistan	N*	Y	Sabina	Qureshi	Deputy Secretary	Economic Affairs Division	qureshi@policy.hu ; dsadb@ead.gov.pk
28	Pakistan			Tariq	Mahmood	Section Officer	Economic Affairs Division	tariqmahmood@ead.gov.pk
29	Pakistan			Jorg	Nadoll	Aid Coordination Adviser	UNDP Pakistan	jorg.nadoll@undp.org
30	Papua New Guinea	N	Y	Reichert Jonathan	Thanda	A/ Assistant Director	Department of National Planning and Monitoring	reichert_thanda@planning.gov.pg
31	Papua New Guinea			Anthony	Miva	Principle Aid Coordinator	Planning & Monitoring	tony_miva@planning.gov.pg
32	Papua New Guinea			Oscar	Schiappa-Pietra	Chief Technical Advisor, Strengthening Aid Project	UNDP PNG	oscar.schiappa-pietra@undp.org
33	Philippines	N	Y	Marcelina Espinoza	Bacani	OIC - Deputy Director-General, Regional Development Office	National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)	mebacani@neda.gov.ph
34	Philippines			Roderick M.	Planta	Director IV	National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)	rmlanta@neda.gov.ph
35	Philippines			Joven Z.	Balbosa	Country Specialist-Philippines	Asian Development Bank, Philippines Country Office	jbalbosa@adb.org
36	Solomon Islands	N	Y	George Dan	Hoa'au	Assistant Secretary for United Nations Branch	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	ghoaau@gmail.com
37	Solomon Islands			Allan Christian	Daonga	Director of Aid Coordination Unit	Ministry of Development Planning & Aid Coordination	daonga_allanchris@yahoo.com

38	Sri Lanka	N	Y	J.H.J	Jayamaha	Additional Director General	Department of External Resources	jayamaha@erd.gov.lk
39	Sri Lanka			Velayuthan	Sivagnanasothy	Director General	Ministry of Plan implementation	sivagnanasothy@hotmail.com
40	Sri Lanka			Fredrick A.	Abeyratne	Senior Programme Analyst	UNDP Sri Lanka	fredrick.abeyratne@undp.org
41	Tajikistan	N	N	Saodat	Ibraghimova	Chief Specialist State Budget Department	Ministry of Finance Republic of Tajikistan	saodat_i@mail.ru
42	Timor Leste	N		João Freitas De	Câmara	Acting Secretary-General	The Ministry of Foreign Affairs	joao.camara@m nec.gov.tl ; jfcamara24@yahoo.com
43	Thailand	N		Wimonrat	Kreingsontikul	Programme Associate	UNDP Thailand	wimonrat.kreingsontikul@undp.org
44	Thailand			Sirisupa	Kulthanan	Assistant Resident Representative	UNDP Thailand	sirisupa.kulthanan@undp.org
45	Tonga	N	Y	Henry William	Cocker	Chief Economist	Ministry of Finance & National Planning	hcocker@finance.gov.to
46	Tonga			Viliami Tupou Futuna	Liava'a	Senior Economist	Ministry of Finance & National Planning	vliavaa@finance.gov.to
47	Vietnam	Y	Y	Manh Cuong	Cao	Head of General Division	Foreign Economic Relations Dept., Ministry of Planning and Investment	cmanhcuong@yahoo.com
48	Vietnam			Thi Que Anh	Luong	Officer	Foreign Economic Relations Dept., Ministry of Planning and Investment	luonqueanh74@yahoo.com
49	Vietnam			Kerry	Groves	Counsellor	Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), Australian Embassy, Hanoi	kerry.w.groves@dfat.gov.au
50	Vietnam			Thu Phuong	Nguyen	Senior Manager (Quality Assurance)	Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), Australian Embassy, Hanoi	thu-phuong.nguyen@dfat.gov.au
51	ADB			Antonio	Ressano-Garcia	Planning and Policy Specialist	Asian Development Bank	aressano@adb.org
52	ADB			Manju	Senapaty	Senior Planning and Policy Economist	Asian Development Bank	msenapaty@adb.org
53	ADB			Shahid	Zahid	Principal Planning and Policy Economist	Asian Development Bank	szahid@adb.org
54	The World Bank			Janet	Entwistle	Senior Operations Officer	The World Bank	jentwistle@worldbank.org
55	The World Bank			Nigel	Ewels	Senior Country Officer, Pacific Islands	World Bank, Australia	newels@worldbank.org
56	OECD			Misaki	Watanabe	Policy Analyst	OECD	misaki.watanabe@gmail.com
57	OECD			Simon	Mizrahi	Senior Policy Advisor	OECD	simon.mizrahi@oecd.org
58	UNDP			Marcia	Kran	OIC of the Regional Centre in Bangkok	UNDP - RCB	marcia.kran@undp.org
59	UNDP	Aidan	Cox	Regional Advisor, Aid Effectiveness	UNDP - RCB	aidan.cox@undp.org		
60	UNDP	Thomas	Beloe	Aid Effectiveness Specialist	UNDP - RCB	thomas.beloe@undp.org		

61	UNDP		Anthony Wood	Regional Advisor	UNDP - RCB	anthony.wood@undp.org
62	UNDP Pacific		David Abbott	Pacific Regional Macroeconomic and Poverty Reduction Advisor	UNDP Pacific Centre	david.abbott@undp.org
63	UNDP		Wasinee Trayaporn	Programme Assistant	UNDP - RCB	wasinee.trayaporn@undp.org
64	UNDP		Chetpon Changcharoen	Secretary	UNDP - RCB	chetpon.changcharoen@undp.org

* Under took survey, but not submitted in time for incorporation in Published Survey

FINAL: 2008 Survey on Aid Effectiveness: Asia-Pacific Orientation Workshop

21-22 January, 7th Floor, Room C, Amari Watergate, Bangkok

Monday 21 January

Time	Session	Content	Process
08:30 - 09:00	<i>Welcome Coffee</i>		
Session 1: The Road to the High Level Forum in Accra			
09:00 - 10:30	Setting the scene: Roadmap to the 3 rd High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Accra, 2-4 September 2008)	<p>(i) <u>Meeting Objectives & Process</u>, UNDP, ADB, OECD</p> <p>(ii) <u>Opening Remarks</u>, Ms. Marcia V. J. Kran, Officer-in-Charge, UNDP Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific</p> <p>(iii) <u>The Accra High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness Overview</u>, Mr. Simon Mizrahi, OECD Development Cooperation Directorate</p> <p>(iv) <u>Royal Government of Cambodia Perspective</u>, His Excellency Chhieng Yanara, Secretary General, Council for the Development of Cambodia</p>	<p><u>UNDP Chair</u> (Ms Marcia Kran)</p> <p>Presentations and Plenary Q&A</p>
10:30 - 11:00	<i>Coffee</i>		
Session 2: The 2006 Paris Declaration Survey & 2008 Purpose & Process			
11:00 - 12:15	Moving from 2006 to 2008: taking forward the next round of the Paris Declaration Survey	<p>(i) <u>2006 Survey on Monitoring the Paris Declaration: Key findings and Challenges</u>, Mr. Simon Mizrahi, OECD Development Cooperation Directorate</p> <p>(ii) <u>The Kyrgyz Republic Perspective</u>, Mr. Sultan Ahmatov, Head of Department, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade</p> <p>(iii) <u>2008 Survey on Monitoring the Paris Declaration: Purpose and Process</u>, Ms. Misaki Watanabe, Aid Effectiveness Division, OECD DAC Development Cooperation Division</p> <p>(iv) <u>Q&A</u></p> <p>(v) Introduction of break outs that follow lunch</p>	<p><u>ADB Chair</u> (Mr Shahid Zahid)</p> <p>Presentations and Plenary Q&A</p>
12:15 - 13:15	<i>Lunch</i>		

Session 3: The 2008 Paris Declaration Survey

13:15 - 15:35	3A. Substance of the 2008 Paris Declaration Survey: indicators and their revisions	<p>Timing of 3 Break Out Discussions: 13:15 - 14:10 14:10 - 14:55 14:55 - 15:35</p> <p><u>Indicators 1, 2, 11 & 12</u>, Ms. Janet Entwistle (Rm 1) <u>Indicators 3, 5, 7 & 9</u>, Mr. Simon Mizrahi (Rm C) <u>Indicators 4, 6, 8 & 10</u>, Ms. Misaki Watanabe (Rm 3)</p>	<p><u>3 Rotating breakout groups:</u> 3 groups of 6 partner countries each rotate around 3 rooms (each session lasts 40 minutes)</p>
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15:35 - 16:00 **Coffee**

16:00 - 16:30	3B. Dealing with outstanding issues on indicators	<p>(i) Any remaining questions on specific indicators that require guidance from OECD DAC? (ii) Any tips or advice that participants might have for each other on specific indicator queries? (iii) Guidance for final break out session</p>	<p><u>OECD DAC Chair</u> Plenary Q&A</p>
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16:30 - 17:30	3C. Identifying opportunities and challenges in the implementation of the Paris Declaration Survey	<p>Break out Groups Discuss: (i) Assess any opportunities and challenges for taking forward the Paris Declaration Survey when returning home, and any actions for solutions; and (ii) Identify any requests for further support needed from the survey Helpdesk and supporting donors</p>	<p><u>4 Breakouts Groups Chaired by:</u> (i) Nepal (Rm C) (ii) Tonga (Rm 1) (iii) Bangladesh (Rm 2) (iv) Lao PDR (Rm 3)</p>
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18:00 - 20:00 **Dinner reception (Garden Area, 8th Floor, Amari Watergate Hotel)**

Tuesday 22 January

08:45 - 10:15	3D. Next steps on survey process and support for country level implementation / capacity needs	<p>(i) Chairs present back actions & requests from break out groups at end of day 1 (ii) OECD DAC / UNDP / World Bank Help Desk respond to immediate concerns and any requests for further support</p>	<p><u>Panel</u> of Nepal, Tonga, Bangladesh, Lao, DAC, UNDP, World Bank Plenary Q&A</p>
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10:15 - 10:45 **Coffee**

Session 4: Ongoing Initiatives			
10:45 - 12:15	4A. Information sharing on existing preparations for HLF at country and cross-country levels	<p><u>Chair:</u> Ms. Manisha Sensarma, Deputy Secretary, Department of Economics Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India</p> <p>(i) <u>The OECD DAC Paris Declaration Evaluation in Bangladesh</u>, Mr. Monowar Ahmed, Deputy Secretary, ERD, Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh</p>	<p><u>India Chair</u> (Ms Manisha Sensarma) Presentations &</p>

(ii) **The Hanoi Core Statement and Independent Monitoring Mechanism**, Mr. Cao Manh Cuong, Head of General Division, Foreign and Economic Relations Department, Government of Vietnam

(iii) Q & A (5-10 minutes)

(iv) **Aid Effectiveness Training for Government Officials in Cambodia**, Dr. Rith Vuthy, Director of Aid Coordination for Europe, Canada and the US at the Council for the Development of Cambodia, the Government of Cambodia's aid coordination focal point

(v) **Gearing up for Accra: Aid Effectiveness Literature in the region**, Mr. Tom Beloe, Aid Effectiveness Specialist, UNDP Regional Centre for Asia and the Pacific

(vi) Q&A and further sharing of information from participants

12:15 - 13:15

Lunch

13:15-14:45

4B. Identifying further needs and interests at country level

Partner countries discuss in break out groups:

(i) Could we do more / less to prepare for the HLF?

(ii) Is there any joint work across countries we would like to undertake?

Break Out Group Chairs:

- Laos PDR (Rm C)
- Papua New Guinea (Rm 1)
- Afghanistan TBC (Rm 3)

14:45 - 15:15

Coffee

15:15 - 16:15

4C. Moving forward with country level preparations for HLF

(i) **Introduction:** Aidan Cox, Regional Adviser, Aid Effectiveness, UNDP Regional Centre for Asia & Pacific.

(ii) Chairs from Session 4B report back on 3-5 priority actions at country or cross-country level

(iii) Q & A

UNDP Chair
(Mr. Aidan Cox)

Presentations &
Plenary Q & A

Session 5: Consultation Process

16:15 -17:00

Update on regional consultations for HLF

(i) **Proposal for consultation process**, Mr. Shahid Zahid, Principal Planning & Policy Economist, ADB

(ii) **Accra Agenda for Action (AAA)**, Mr. Simon Mizrahi, OECD Development Cooperation Directorate

(iii) Q & A

ADB Chair
(Mr Shahid Zahid)

Presentation and
Plenary Q&A

17:00 - 17:15

Workshop close

ADB

Annex 3: Presentations

See <http://www.aideffectiveness.org/index.php/Survey>

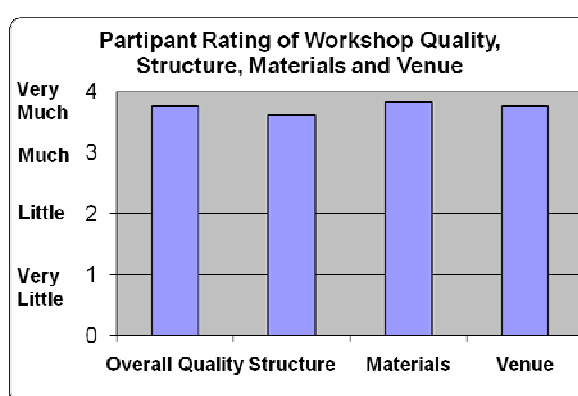
Annex 4: Workshop Evaluation

Participant Feedback

Thirty-four evaluation forms were returned. Participants indicated they were very satisfied with the overall quality of the workshop. Qualitative feedback emphasized that participants valued above all the opportunity to share country practices, share action plans, and learn about aid effectiveness initiatives in each other's countries. The "clinics" on Indicators contributed greatly to improving understanding of how to apply indicators at country level. The presentations by government colleagues on country initiatives were widely praised.

Colleagues said they planned to use what they had heard at country level survey launch workshops and share it with ministry and development partner colleagues.

Country representatives said they welcomed the briefing on the "Road to Accra" and had a better understanding of the "OECD DAC process", but felt that the information on consultation around the AAA agenda and Round Tables remained "too vague". Many participants said they would value consultation on a regular basis on the way to Accra and more information in general on how to ensure their perspectives feed into the Accra preparations. A recommendation was made to hold a post-Accra workshop in November since most government officials and other country level colleagues would not be able to attend the HLF.



1. How do you expect to use what has been discussed at the workshop in your daily work?

- To understand and exchange action plans and experience with countries that have previously undertaken the Survey.
- It was very useful to share and learn from other countries good practice. Ongoing initiative session excellent with examples from partner countries.
- This has really help to get in dialogue with the other donors and the Government.
- I shall feedback to other ministries colleagues and development partner representatives the key points from the workshop – and how to practically prepare for a survey workshop with government and partners immediately on my return.
- It helped me to understand how to apply the Survey indicators to my country context. All aspects of the Road to Accra and the Paris Declaration survey indicators were clearly presented and organized. Very useful and practical.
- Good to have focus on qualitative assessment as they can easily be neglected.
- Strengthen the coordination between Government, Partner and Donor.
- It has helped us prepare for the Accra HLF. It helped give us more understanding on OECD/DAC process.
- I have a better understanding of the aid effectiveness agenda, the importance of the survey, especially the qualitative assessment. Guides our country-level work on implementing PD.
- As a donor focal point, I can feedback on the workshop to other development partners on how to support the government in implementing the Survey.

- The workshop has been crucial for AusAid Vietnam's role as donors' focal point in Vietnam.
- The issues discussed will assist PNG to prepare for the Accra and to make aid effective.
- The workshop supported sharing harmonization efforts across Asia-Pacific countries.
- As a database officer I found all the discussion from the workshop very informative and useful for PD survey.
- It supported Government in Aid effectiveness/Paris Agenda well.
- It prompts us to immediately nominate National Coordinator and Donor Focal Points and commence the 2008 survey.
- It supports us to continue to make tremendous progress in localizing the PD in my country.
- Take PD survey forward in the country and initiate the consultation process.

2. Did the workshop meet your expectations? Why/why not?

Yes very much. Yes. Yes, opened the possibility to work closely with those with the same responsibility among donors and partner countries. Yes. Yes, because we learnt many information about Paris Declaration. Yes, it was effective since it provided uninterrupted contact time among many Government Counterparts. Should help us complete the 2008 Survey. Yes. Yes. Yes, covered what I expected & was useful. Yes. Yes, I have now a better idea of what the HLF process involves (it's more than the survey). Yes. Overall-Yes. The agenda and dressed the key issues & the discussion under each agenda item over generally usefully informative. Yes! I have now a good network to consult as and when needs. Too repetitive. Could have been more practice-oriented. Yes; I obtained practical guidance for further step until Sep 2008. Yes. Yes. Yes, it was well-organized, informative, very useful. Yes. It is very relevant and we are in the process of working on the subject. Yes. I am National Coordinator for survey. Great. Certainly! I'm now fully equipped with the appropriate knowledge of what to do next. Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes. Low knowledge base on very informative process. Yes, indeed, it met them. It provided an opportunity to think of various ways to make aid work better. Yes to a great extent. I got clear idea of PD survey a road map. Yes.

3. What was good and should be done again at a similar occasion?

- More group work perhaps by region as by region the issues will be similar.
- Bringing Government & Country/Donor focal point together.
- Peer-learning. Learning data from other countries. Sharing of country experiences. Sharing good practice and knowledge. Countries with experience showing their examples. Sharing of experiences from partner countries.
- Practical discussion on indicators. Clarification on the indicators was a very good session. Practical discussion on indicator & helpful, perhaps dedicated session on qualitative assessment would be useful. Very useful and a lot of help to PNG.
- The workshop was good to prepare for 2008 survey & Accra. However, better if it had been organized earlier.
- A good mix of plenary and group sessions – not easy to achieve much as large group. The mix of plenary + workgroup worked well.
- Good time management. Timing was very good. Logistics.
- The presenters knew their stuff and encouraged participation from the floor.
- Breakout sessions chaired by partner countries. Break out group session.
- Practicality of guidance.
- Countries should be asked if they wish to make any presentation and share country experiences.
- Information on UNDP support for Training on Aid Effectiveness.
- Content was quite comprehensive. Content.
- Participation was very good, the facilitation and resource persons excellent.

4. What could be done differently next time?

- Arranging such consultation on regular basis on way to Accra HLF.
- Would be really useful to have a pre-Accra regional workshop to consolidate the country preparations.
- More information on the HLF consultation process
- Information on timeframes regarding AAA and Round Tables too vague.
- 2008 survey lessons learnt and post Accra workshop to be organized in November 2008 as not all national and donor focal points can attend the Accra HLF.
- The discussion should be based more practical experiences.
- A dedicated session on the qualitative reporting. More focus on qualitative analysis.
- Hard to say! Except for opening the curtains more often to let some light in!
- Provide specific questions to be answered in advance to facilitate participants to better prepare. Consult with participants before structuring the program.
- Provide materials on CD ROM or electronically in advance, structure presentations to give more time to discussion.
- More clarification on definitions of indicators. More discussion on the validity and reliability of the indicators.
- Maybe to have it slightly longer to enable better digestion of the material. More time for break out discussions. Please allow more time for sharing country experiences.
- Perhaps 8 hrs and 3 days - need time also to see the country. May see it should be limited to one and half day, and the participants have few hours to discover BKK.
- Live illustration of Web resources.
- Follow-up of country survey. Follow-up.