

# OWNERSHIP – RT 1

Bonn, 15 May 2008

# Presentation 1:

## TC to be effective for CD

- Assuring Country led management process
- Country led planning for TC/CD
- Assuring flexible and responsive TC/CD
- Embedding TC in the organizational change process
- Embedding TC in the organizational learning process for it to be effective for CD
- Assuring Country led management process

# Five messages:

- TC can be effective if it is embedded in national and sector wide CD strategies
- Strong political commitment to CD and robust sector organizational leadership
- TC/CD can be optimized when country and donors agree on TC policies and practices.
- TC and CD can be optimized within phased and sequenced CD plans with long-term donor commitment and support.
- TC/CD can be optimized when it is responsive to multi-level organizational development priority

Conducive environment: knowledge sharing systems for realistic messages, CA necessary for both external partners and countries

# Malawi

- National and sector CD strategy should be owned by the country, important for country to assume ownership
- Need for cohesion and champions to pick up on the CD and the concept of CD that is mutually agreed upon.
- TC often gives policy advice which can be most damaging as opposed to technical expertise, e.g. structural reform advice in Malawi
- Brain drain/capacity drain related to issue **of incentives** , TC can be useful for this. Salary top ups should be phased out through a jointly agreed plan.
- Attrition due to HIV/AIDS deaths.
- Managing for results is closely related for ownership.
- CD should be done at all levels

# “Working together towards Aid Effectiveness” Colombia

- Joint work between donors/recipient country is key to results: CD is based on (democratic ownership, country leadership and local capacities)
- Implementing different actions also to strengthen local conditions to design and implement national policies to ensure that they will be able to conduct their own development process and donor relationships.
- Donors should respect national leadership and ownership:
- Considering differences between MICs (not all developing countries are the same); promote joint programmes and deeper coordination arrangements among donors and partner countries (in Colombia donors were working in the same field but they did not know of each other); strengthen joint mechanisms for monitoring implementation and impact; promote S/S and triangular cooperation.

# Colombia Cont.

- Considering differences among developing countries can identify how capacities can be optimized.
- Recipients should also be able to work with different stakeholders and regionally/locally to lead their own development process.
- Monitoring and implementation – international cooperation/aid will not solve national problems but is a part of the solution.
- S/S cooperation might be one of the ways to foster country capacities.
- Development long term visions are important and related to democratic ownership.
- Impact of international cooperation on achievement of national priorities. Discussion is on financial issues primarily, especially with those that are very dependent, but Colombia has more interest in the construction and exchange of knowledge (lest that 1% ODA). Joint mechanisms should be set up to assess impact on NDS priorities implementation.

# Colombia cont.

- Greater coordination with government institutions is needed.
- An alliance for S/S to identify good practices of S/S and triangular cooperation with a knowledge bank on experiences.

AAA should consider:

- to recognize within MICs there are different interests and therefore AAA and PD should address these differences;
- stress importance of democratic ownership;
- highlight importance of higher predictability of aid to improve national leadership;
- define specific capacities of donor and recipient countries to monitor impact;
- increase S/S cooperation as an important challenge for promoting CD among them.

# Switzerland

- Ownership should be people controlled and managed and the notion should be broadened since we signed the PD looking at other stakeholders and actors.
- Democratic ownership is insufficient since most of the stakeholders are in a position to use the information and empowered to use these in an effective manner. Therefore, we need the capacity to make the best use of knowledge, context and information. CD as an empowerment tool to understand and master the development process and to critique choices. This implies an enabling environment.

# Switzerland Cont.

AAA and beyond Accra:

- CD must be seen as a central element of having and gaining ownership
- The roles and the needs of each and every actor in a social system and in a given context.
- CD is about ensuring that actors can competently endorse and exercise their roles which are different whether you are a CS or central governments...
- Promoting local/national independent thinking (e.g. local think tanks) and the capacity to do to include less projects, more core funding.
- Making learning reciprocal – should go both ways and have feedback. Donors have to willingly abandon power and install multi-stakeholder accountability.

# Discussion

- Does partnership undermines ownership? Aid dependency gets in the way of ownership. This is an important debate because maybe we are too far from ownership. Ownership is about results and graduation from aid.
- Value of capacity for ownership
- Ownership of CD
- Leadership in TC
- How to deal with conflicting interests and concepts on CD because they are different and there is no-one concept.
- Aid dependency: did the question of taxation come up as a practical thing that can lead to exit from aid.
- Emerging donors and ownership and CD programmes and their way of delivering assistance needs to be discussed.

# Key Messages

- **Capacity for change process**
- **Identify leaders and change agents and support them**
- **Capacity to develop a country's own development agenda**
- **Learning lessons from M&E and feedback means also resourcing CD to change the agenda**
- **Country ownership should be based on multi-stakeholder approach including negotiations**
- **Reducing aid dependency through CD**
- **Ownership of development process is more than central government and token CS participation and has to include grassroots**
- **CD is key to ownership and vice versa**
- **Specific commitment to joint learning**
- **A clear commitment of donors to support development of think tanks and S/S cooperation**
- **Aid dependency damages ownership so long term capacity to tax can address this problem.**

# Messages Cont.

- Reorient and orchestrate CD to support ownership by focusing on supporting partner reforms, i.e. change process and strengthening country institutions and systems at all levels
- Raising local financial resources to enhance ownership
- Local governance means effective planning and monitoring systems
- CD to build stronger ownership which will result in better CD
- Don't go for another planning push but focus on ownership of CD strategies that use local provides, allowed to learn over long time through a network of key actors
- Move away from cash based and money driven relationships to mutually supportive roles to CD
- Let not institutional structures drive a country
- Ownership is more about local voices
- Country wise different context should be taken into account in the AAA. CD can have many different meanings in different contexts.
- Creating space for dialogue between stakeholders.
- Role of the legislature and political parties, as well as private sector.

# Messages Cont.

- To get ownership one has to tackle serious issues like transparency, accountability and corruption.