



WORKSHOP ON
DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS IN PRACTICE:
APPLYING THE PARIS DECLARATION TO ADVANCING
GENDER EQUALITY, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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Session B
Joint Assistance Strategies – a way to advance cross cutting issues?
Implementing the JAS in Tanzania – The Development Partner Group on Environment
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Presented by:

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Joint Assistance Strategy for Tanzania (JAST):

The JAST (December 2006) is a national, medium term framework for managing development cooperation between Government of the United Republic of Tanzania (GoT) and Development Partners (DP). JAST has been formulated in the spirit of international commitments on aid effectiveness, including the Rome Declaration on Aid Harmonization (2003) and the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005). JAST will span a cycle of 5 years and outlines the main objectives, principles and broad arrangements of Tanzania's development partnership. Development Partners are expected to adopt the strategy as a basis for guiding the management of their development co-operation with government.

JAST Principles:

- National ownership and government commitment
- Harmonization and alignment with national strategies, systems and processes
- National capacity building, including demand driven and un-tied Technical Assistance
- Division of labour in government and amongst DPs
- Preferred aid modality is GBS, other mechanisms according to JAS principles
- Disbursements and procurement through GoT
- Improved dialogue structure under government leadership

The nature of Environment and Natural Resource (ENR) Sector:

The Environment and natural resource management sector is unique with a unique set of challenges. ENR is a sector with its own legislations and institutions; and at the same time is a cross-cutting issue which needs to be mainstreamed across different sector policies, legislation and institutions. ENR is not a typical public service delivery sector (e.g. Health, Education), which are areas concerned with expenditures and coverage. ENR is also about utilization and revenue generation thereby contributing to improving livelihoods. ENR is managed by many stakeholders: government, private sector, communities and individuals. ENR challenges cut across administrative boundaries (local, national and international borders). ENR is of global concern and is governed by Multilateral Environment Agreements

Accomplishments and opportunities:

The achievements of environment stakeholders in Tanzania include integration of 15 environmental targets in the National Strategy for Growth and Poverty Reduction (MKUKUTA), which successfully mainstreams ENR. A comprehensive Environment Management Act, EMA, (2004) became operational in July 2005. JAST emphasizes harmonization and alignment and gives guidance on dialogue architecture. A target that is prioritized in the National Performance Assessment Framework of GBS is the development of a functioning state of environment reporting system, which is fulfilling obligations under EMA implementation. A cabinet committee on environment was established in March 2006 and the Environment Working Group (EWG), a sector dialogue forum, chaired by VPO and includes MDAs, DPs and Non State Actors (NSAs), was also strengthened. Guidelines for mainstreaming ENR in MDA and LGA plans and budgets have been developed. Additionally, budgets and staff allocated to the sector have increased significantly.

Challenges and constraints:

Challenges in ENR continue to grow with the continuing increase in economic activity. The government's management of the sector is still fragmented and Civil Society in environment is not sufficiently strong to ensure domestic accountability. Capacity building needs remain in the sector, especially at local level

Division of Labour (DoL):

JAST states that in order to achieve smooth management of Development Partners in the sectors and thematic areas, and to reduce transaction costs for both GoT and Development Partners, DPs will rationalize the number of sectors or cross-cutting areas that they engage in. The number of DPs active in a sector will be limited to an appropriate level. At a second level of DoL, lead partners will be appointed in each sector and, where necessary sub- sector, to lead and coordinate other partners in the area

Dialogue structures:

Quality, regular dialogue between GoT, DPs and domestic stakeholders based on national processes is crucial for the success of JAST. Such processes include MKUKUTA, GBS, PER, national budget and sector processes

Dialogue is used in order to:

- Strengthen partnership around common goals
- Improve policy choices
- Strengthen national ownership
- Improve information sharing
- Facilitate GoT accountability to its citizens and mutual GoT and DP accountability to each other

DPs and NSA stakeholders are expected to participate in sector dialogue, especially by using Sector Wide Approaches (SWAp).

DPG-E organization:

DPG-E ToR were revised to accommodate JAST, they have been shared with GoT and the overall DPG. The DPG-E leadership has been formalized establishing a chair and co-chair system (Danida and EU). DPG-E has undertaken a mapping exercise of the sector in order to determine areas receiving support and the remaining needs. Focal points have been identified to link with other sector working groups in water, agriculture, energy and governance. A workplan and calendar reflecting GoT processes is being developed and DPG-E has been streamlined, only a Forestry sub group exists and one Task Force that is shared with the Governance Working Group (GWG).

DPG-E actions:

Policy briefs were developed by DPG-E for Forestry, Wildlife, Fisheries, and were shared with GoT and the overall DPG. A renewed focus on governance resulted in initiating cooperation with GWG, with activities such as briefing parliamentarians. Common presentations were made to Ministers for Environment and for Natural Resources that has led to improved, focussed discussion with GoT. Increasing collaboration with GoT on PER, GBS/Poverty Reduction Budget Support Review and MKUKUTA monitoring through EWG. Joint GoT/DPG-E discussions, in EWG, on project based funding to prioritized EMA activities were conducted. Joint DPG-E support to capacity needs assessment, development of a capacity building programme, which has led to EMA Implementation Support Programme. A single workplan, joint sector reviews, shared TA, GoT disbursement and procurement of services and some co-financing have all been established as part of SWAp in the forestry sector

Challenges:

Harmonization and alignment is most effective when GoT leadership is firm and national systems are in place. EWG is a new sector group and other groups in the sector still continue to function. Capacities in GoT remain low, especially at implementation level and DPG-E members experience high turnover and varying commitments to JAST.