

Korea: A story of success

At the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2011, all eyes are on Korea and its successful – and rapid – change from aid recipient to major international donor.

Half a century ago, as Korea emerged from war, it was one of the poorest countries in the world. Over the following decades, Korea relied heavily on foreign assistance to rebuild its economy, receiving a total of USD 13 billion between 1945 – when the country became independent – and the late 1990s.

Today, Korea is a major global economy. In 2010, it joined the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC), the international forum for the world's major donors, and chaired the G20. In 2009, Korea's aid to other countries – in particular in Asia – was USD 816 million, up by 13.4% in real terms over 2008.

During Korea's induction to the DAC, Mr. Oh Joon, Korea's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, noted his country's eagerness to share its development experience: "Making good use of assistance, we worked hard to overcome poverty and achieve development. For many Koreans, including myself, it happened in our own lifetime. As a child, I went to an elementary school where we drank milk and ate corn bread that came in containers marked 'United Nations' or 'US Government'. A few months ago, I visited a kindergarten in Mongolia where children were studying with textbooks marked as gifts from the Republic of Korea."



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Milestones in aid effectiveness

2010

A series of **new agreements to improve the impact of development co-operation** are made, grounded on the Paris principles. **The Bogota Statement** commits partners engaging in South-South co-operation to deepen the exchange of knowledge and mutual learning. The **Dili Declaration** proposes to counter conflict and fragility through country-led processes in peacebuilding and statebuilding. And the **Istanbul Principles** are set out to provide specific guidance for the development work and practices of civil society organisations.

2008

The **Accra Agenda for Action** is agreed at the **Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness** (Accra) to help developed, emerging and developing economies, civil society organisations and parliamentarians accelerate the achievement of the Paris Declaration commitments.

2005

Donors and developing countries endorse the **Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness** and commit to improve and monitor aid quality at the **High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness** (Paris).

2003

At the **High Level Forum on Harmonisation** (Rome), donors agree to co-ordinate their activities and reduce transaction costs for aid recipients.

2002

The **Monterrey Financing for Development Conference** secures international consensus around funding targets to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and calls for more effective aid to deliver maximum impact on development.

2000

Millennium Development Goal 8 of the Millennium Declaration calls for a global partnership for development, recognising the importance of inclusive, comprehensive international efforts.

Accelerating Development with Effective Aid



부산 세계개발원조총회
**4th High Level Forum
on Aid Effectiveness**
29 Nov – 1 Dec 2011, Busan, Korea

International development co-operation surged in the early 1960s amidst post-war optimism and enthusiasm. It has since continued to evolve and is recognised as one of the key factors in advancing global development. But success has not always been evident: lack of co-ordination, overly ambitious targets, unrealistic time and budget constraints and political self-interest have too often prevented aid from being as effective as desired.

Setting a standard for effective aid

The formulation of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness in 2005 grew out of a need to understand why aid was not producing the expected development results – and to step up efforts to meet the ambitious targets set by the Millennium Development Goals. Adhered to by over 100 countries, the Paris Declaration offers a blueprint for effective aid that maximises impact from investments, synchronises donor efforts and integrates the full spectrum of development challenges. Today, it is the rallying point for international consensus on aid effectiveness.

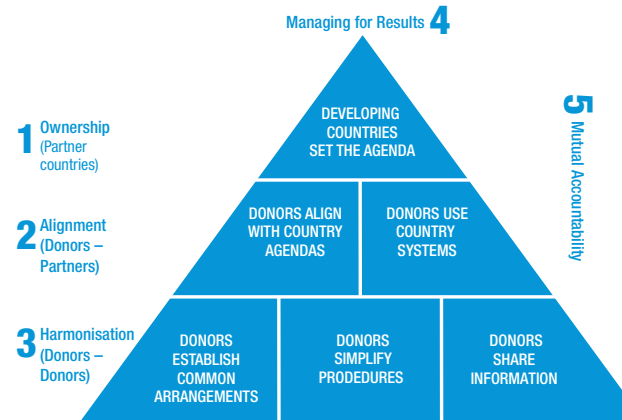
100+
countries
adhere to
the Paris
Declaration

Working together on equal terms

Work on implementing the Paris Declaration is guided by an international partnership known as the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness (WP-EFF). Although it originated as a small group of donors and aid recipients, the Working Party has grown to include civil society, multilateral and regional agencies and other key stakeholders. Today, it looks far beyond traditional aid practice, engaging with wide-ranging development actors on topics such as South-South co-operation, public-private partnerships, and key global issues, such as climate change and state fragility.

The Paris principles

The Paris Declaration is founded on five core principles, born out of decades of experience on what works for development – and what doesn't:



These principles have gained support across the development community, changing aid practice for the better. It is now the norm for aid recipients to forge their own national development strategies with their parliaments and electorates (ownership); for donors to support these strategies (alignment) and work to streamline their efforts in-country (harmonisation); for development policies to be directed to achieving clear goals and for progress towards these goals to be monitored (managing for development results); and for donors and recipients to be jointly responsible for achieving these goals (mutual accountability).

Progress on putting the Paris principles into practice is being closely monitored through three rounds of monitoring surveys (2006, 2008 and 2011). The evidence from these surveys constitutes a powerful tool to hold developed and developing countries accountable for their aid promises. Over time, the number of countries participating in the survey has grown from 33 in 2006, to 55 in 2008, to 90 countries in 2011.

Around 80
countries are
providing input to the
HLF-4 through the
monitoring survey

Accelerating delivery

In 2008, to step up implementation of the Paris Declaration and build countries' capacity to manage their own future, an unprecedented alliance of developing countries, DAC donors, civil society organisations, emerging economies, UN and multilateral institutions, and global funds agreed on the Accra Agenda for Action (AAA). The AAA proposes improvements in three main areas:

Ownership: Developing countries participate in policy formulation, take the lead on aid co-ordination and have aid delivered through their own country systems.

Inclusive partnerships: All partners – DAC donors and developing countries, as well as other donors, foundations and civil society – participate as full partners.

Delivering results: Aid is squarely focused on producing real and measurable impact on people's lives.

Setting a new framework for development

2 000
participants are
expected at HLF-4
in Busan, Korea

From 29 November to 1 December 2011, the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF-4) in Busan, Korea will bring together the widest possible mix of stakeholders to set a new framework for meeting our shared development challenges.

During these three intensive days of debate and discussion, participants will:

- look at experiences in implementing the Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action to highlight good practice, identify lessons that can be learned and pinpoint where more work is needed
- assess new development challenges – including the evolving landscape of actors and partnerships – to enhance aid's contribution to broad and inclusive development goals
- chart the way forward in the form of a new agenda for development and aid