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# **Draft Key Workshop Findings**

Feedback from Core Evaluation Team

# Presented and discussed: no major issues

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- "Overview of Phase 2 Evaluation"
- "Country evaluations, objectives and challenges"
- Status reports
- "Practical guidance: Bangladesh Phase 1 experience"
- "Management arrangements (see process points)"
- "External support mechanisms and resources"

# Some key points to confirm around Generic ToRs

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- 1. The origins & role of the generic ToRs seems clear, as well as the reasons for the Common Matrix and how to use it.**
- 2. The evaluation looks not just at the 2005 document, but the steps that preceded and flowed into it.**
- 3. There is a need to show clearly the purpose and expected results of this evaluation and how it will build on other work, and minimize further burdens.**
- 4. All the terms used and questions asked must be clear and simple (glossary is key).**

# Key Points 2

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5. **Even-handed coverage:**
  - **donor performance is key part of country evaluations (HQ studies link)**
  - **mutual accountability means transparency and accountability to parliament and public on both sides**
6. **Inform & engage stakeholders: awareness of PD still not sufficient, Parliaments and Civil society need to be engaged, beneficiary interests captured in the evaluations**
7. **Ensure that PD principles and emphases from Accra are integrated into the analysis**
8. **One goal is to look toward Aid Effectiveness after 2010, how to sustain, what follows the PD?**

# The Four Evaluation Questions

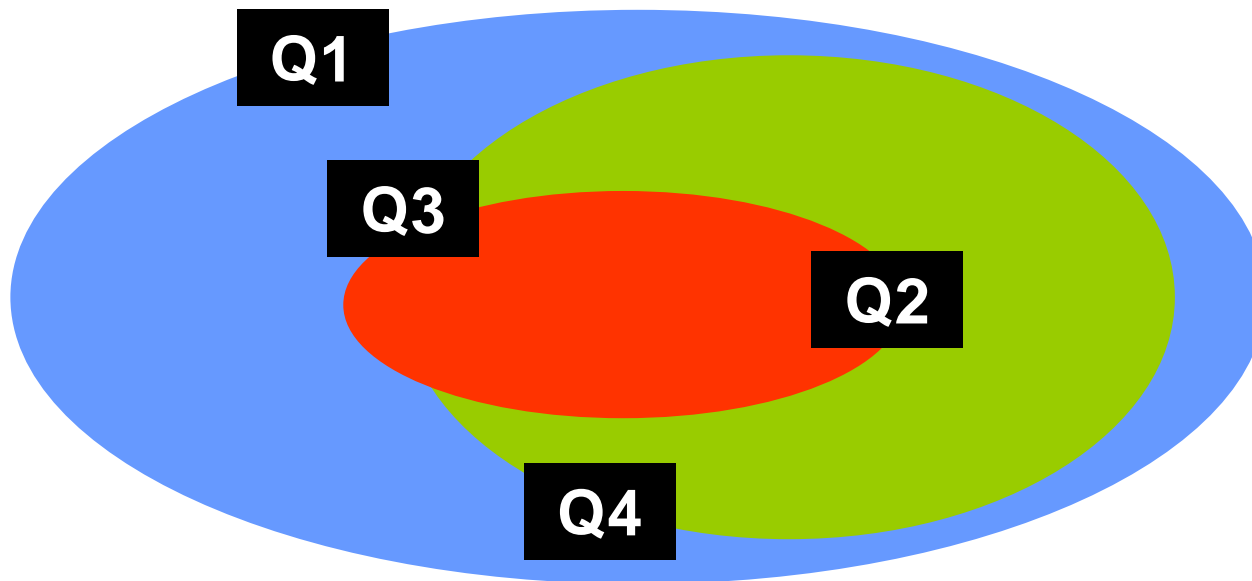
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- **The flow (see diagram) from context, to aid effectiveness, to development effectiveness and alternative approaches makes sense. (Question 1 needs to be simplified)**
- **The idea of putting aid, and the PD, in a clear and modest perspective is important.**
- **Seeking “plausible contributions” of PD to improved effectiveness of aid and development is more realistic than attributing too much.**

# Why these four core Questions

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Other international & national influences & forces



**Q1: PD in context**

**Q2: Effects of PD on aid effectiveness**

**Q3: Effects of PD on development effectiveness**

**Q4: Compared against different or alternative approaches**

Overall development processes

The Aid Partnership

Aid influenced by PD commitments

# Question 1: Context

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## **a) Key characteristics of countries:**

- **How does PD fit with countries, not the reverse**
- **Avoid mere descriptive listings, focus on those which help analysis**
- **Rule of law & functioning legislature are key**
- **Capacities needed by both countries and donors need to be taken into account**
- **What are critical factors that influence implementation of the PD/AAA (possible conflicts or synergies between principles)**
- **What are the PD arrangements in the country**
- **Some cultural factors may be important**

# Question 1: Context

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## **b) PD and overall development finance:**

- **Means “look beyond aid”**
- **How important are aid and PD relative to other resources, national budget, private finance, etc?**
- **Include transparency, public financial management**

## **c) Does PD mean anything to key actors/ decision-makers?**

- **Remember that donors still mainly set modalities**
- **Look beyond Government executive to parliaments, local governments and non-state actors (private sector, communities and CSOs)**

# Question 1: Context

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**Sub-questions c. and d. can be linked/merged, take account of power and inequalities in aid relationships**

**e) Identifying key and emerging issues is a clear priority**

**f) Implementation of the PD: Keep first half of the question. Think about “what did the PD add?”**

## Question 2: Effects on Aid Effectiveness

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- **Widespread doubts and concerns about the “transaction cost” question and possible survey on it. Not clear, simplistic, assumes too much, neglects benefits.**
- **Wide support for logic of using the eleven “expected outcomes”, probably by informed stakeholders survey. Need structured standard questions, look at trends. Recognizing some subjectivity, and possibly mixed results on some questions. Back up with Question 1, secondary sources, and indicators or proxies where possible.**

# Question 3: Effects on Development Effectiveness

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## a) Impact on MDGs and poverty reduction

- Focus on the national development goals that reflect MDGs
- Try to capture the possible (intangible) effects of PD in changing mindsets and behaviour, accelerating reforms
- Give clear guidance to track the links, more analysis than description
- "Are donor systems flexible enough to adapt, country systems flexible enough to achieve?"
- Caution: real difficulties with getting meaningful results here

## Question 3 (Contd.)

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### b) Priority to the poorest

- Some preferences for referring to gender over women and girls
- Minorities and marginalized groups to be included
- Look at social spending, policies, possible effect of PD in spreading good practices

## Question 3 (Contd.)

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### c) Sectoral focus

- Acceptance of idea of 2 sectors, one for all evaluations, one “non-social”, reflecting specific country priority
- After some debate, agreement that health is the right standard sector (priority for all countries and donors, many PD practices, well documented)
- Various special sectoral interests were mentioned by some (e.g. infrastructure, governance, water supply & sanitation, rural roads, climate change etc.)

d) Unintended consequences: view that there are some, draw out. E.g. How are countries and donors handling PD?

# Question 4: Is PD the best way?

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- **Sub-questions need re-thinking: some duplication, not all clearly linked to major question, sectoral comparisons very difficult, budget support question unclear and too sweeping.**
- **Sub-question c) huge and difficult**
- **Think more about identifying alternatives, including the pre-PD situation, broad alternative schools, other actors, alternative scenarios in PD implementation and effects.**
- **Clarify "PD-style" measures, and reflect AAA**