

## **Citizens' Voice & Accountability Joint Evaluation.**

### **Briefing Note for DAC Meeting**

Seven DAC donors (UK, Sweden Norway, Denmark, Switzerland, Belgium and Germany) are collaborating on the joint evaluation programme of development aid for strengthening Citizens' Voice and Accountability.

Although Voice and Accountability (V & A) has been around for a time it is normally incorporated within governance issues and the recent pilot studies (Benin and Nicaragua) are showing that there is little common understanding of what it means either in country or within development agencies. The evaluation is timely given the focus on good governance within the Paris Declaration and good progress has already been made in developing an Evaluation framework, compiling a Literature review and embarking on the country case study phase.

The evaluations will examine what has worked, or not worked, against programme objectives. The findings will:

- contribute to policy development
- offer better understanding of V & A
- highlight gaps in provision and identify synergies of programming between donors
- lead to more effective programme design and practice
- provide an analytical tool and model for future evaluations

The evaluation will produce 5-6 country case studies, plus synthesis, and publication will be completed by April/May 2008.