



**Room Document No.2**

**DAC NETWORK ON GENDER EQUALITY**

***Seventh Meeting, OECD Headquarters, Paris, 10-12 June 2009***

**Progress Report on the Implementation of the Work  
Programme, 2009-10**

## PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NETWORK'S WORK PROGRAMME, 2009-10

1. This note:
  - Outlines the expected output results for 2009-10 and the process of developing the work programme.
  - Describes the working methods of the GENDERNET.
  - Reports on the implementation of the work programme to May 2009.

### Introduction

2. The DAC Network on Gender Equality (GENDERNET)<sup>1</sup>:
  - Contributes to improving the quality and effectiveness of development co-operation.
  - Provides strategic support to the policy priorities of the DAC.
  - Provides members with a unique forum for sharing experiences and disseminating good practice and innovative approaches.
3. The GENDERNET is responsible for producing one output result in the 2009-10 biennium. This output result was ranked third during the DAC prioritisation exercise. [Draft programme of work and budget, 2009-2010, DCD/DAC(2008)31/REV2]

#### **GENDERNET's expected output result 2009-10**

**3. Policy and practice guidance on gender equality and women's empowerment to strengthen the development impact of the Paris Declaration and achieve the MDGs (the focus will be on supporting partners' efforts to broaden democratic ownership, achieve gender equality results and strengthen mutual accountability).**

3.1 Identification and sharing of good practice in integrating gender equality and women's empowerment into development co-operation programmes to strengthen development impacts and achieve the MDGs.

3.2 Report on the lessons learned in applying the Paris Declaration to advance gender equality and women's empowerment and engagement with partner countries to disseminate these lessons.

3.3 Practical tools designed to support donor and partner country efforts to empower women in order to broaden democratic ownership, strengthen mutual accountability and achieve improved development results.

### **Background to developing the work programme**

4. At the July 2008 GENDERNET meeting, members agreed that the Network will continue to focus on aid effectiveness (specifically the implementation of the *Paris Declaration on aid effectiveness* and the *Accra Agenda for Action*) in the 2009-10 biennium, building on the achievements of 2007-08. It was agreed that the work programme should be tightly focussed and achievable, whilst sufficiently flexible to respond to emerging issues and changing needs. Decisions on the specific outputs and activities would be based on what would be most useful to a "critical mass" of Network members and their agency colleagues. Increased attention will be given to communicating and disseminating GENDERNET products, including in partner countries.

---

1. OECD DAC (2009). Subsidiary body mandates 2009-2010 [DCD/DAC(2008)39/REV2]

5. It was agreed that interested members would collaborate with the Bureau to prepare a **specific work programme proposal by the end of October 2008**, taking into account the outcomes of the HLF-3 in Accra and the UN High Level MDG event (both in September 2008). Members of the GENDERNET Bureau met on Monday 22 September 2008 to identify key outputs for the 2009-10 work programme. The draft was reviewed and revised; then distributed to the full membership for their comment. The draft was finalised in November. A well-attended, informal GENDERNET work planning meeting was held on 29 January 2009. The work programme was updated to reflect those discussions.

### **Working methods**

6. The Network meets at least once a year. It may convene additional meetings or workshops with direct relevance to the work programme or to respond to emerging issues on the development assistance agenda.

7. The GENDERNET's working methods are based on sharing experience and information and developing "good practice" and guidance. Decisions on the specific outputs to be produced are based on what would be most useful to a "critical mass" of Network members and their agency colleagues. The commitment of a lead country or institution to each output is crucial for the successful implementation of the work programme. Members are encouraged to bring to the Network current and planned projects and research papers which could contribute substantively to the GENDERNET's programme of work. The aim is to build on and consolidate members' efforts collaboratively, rather than to duplicate work being carried out elsewhere. Consultants will be commissioned to assist, only as necessary.

8. In 2009-10 short-term teams will be formed to coordinate the production of specific outputs or activities. These groups consult through e-mail exchanges, telephone conferences or face-to-face meetings. They will disband when the output or activity is completed. The Bureau of the Network is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the work programme between meetings and for ensuring that the necessary linkages are made between each cluster of activities so that the working groups do not work in silos. Where there is no task team, individual Bureau members and the Secretariat are responsible for liaising with interested members and with other DAC subsidiary bodies.

---

### **Achievements to May 2009 (Note: this follows the order in the attached work programme)**

#### **Output 1 - Identification and sharing of good practice in integrating gender equality and women's empowerment into development co-operation programmes to strengthen development impacts and achieve the MDGs**

- **Biennial workshop with the UN Interagency Network on Women and Gender Equality**

The workshop is due to be held in late 2009/early 2010, hosted by a UN agency. The GENDERNET Bureau and Secretariat worked with the IANWGE Secretariat on a jointly agreed proposal on ownership and accountability for discussion at the February IANWGE meeting. An alternative proposal on women's economic empowerment was presented by UNIDO to an inter-sessional meeting of IANWGE in early May.

- **Aid in support of gender equality and women's empowerment, 2006-07**

An updated version of *Aid in support of gender equality and women's empowerment* reporting on the figures for 2006-07 was published in May 2009 in time for the DAC High Level Meeting. ODA

focussed on gender equality amounted to USD 10.2 billion in the years 2006 and 2007. Seventeen DAC members are now using the gender equality policy marker, with USD 31 billion of aid being screened.

A special **Creditor Reporting System report** on aid focussed on gender equality to mark Beijing+15 in 2010. This will also be the basis for a special chapter in the Development Cooperation Report to be produced in late 2010. In discussion with DCD/STAT, we are expecting to produce several fact-sheets, with the full report being published towards the end of 2010.

- **DAC Peer Reviews**

Secretariat staff have contributed to the Peer Reviews of Ireland, Austria, Sweden and Switzerland, liaising with members, as appropriate.

- **Women's economic empowerment**

- Secretariat staff have played an active role in the work of the POVNET's task team on empowerment. Bureau member, Ineke van de Pol, also represents the Netherlands on the task team.
- Members and Secretariat also provided comments on the POVNET Policy statement on employment and social protection, endorsed at the 2009 HLM, and its supporting publications.
- The Secretariat, interested members and observers
  - Contributed to the meeting of trade union, development and OECD experts on *Gender, development and decent work – building a common agenda* (27 April 2009) organised by the OECD's Trade Union Advisory Committee and the Public Affairs and Communications Directorate (PAC)
  - Provided advice to PAC on speakers for the 2009 OECD Forum - *The crisis and beyond – for a stronger, cleaner, fairer economy* (23-24 June).
- *World Bank's Gender Action Plan and beyond* -In collaboration with the World Bank, the Network organised a brainstorming meeting on *Entry points for advancing women's economic empowerment – the World Bank's Gender Action Plan and beyond*. The meeting identified four critical entrypoints for followup:
  - President Zoellick's six MDG3 torch commitments
  - The Gender Action Plan – Gender equality as smart economics
  - The Doha Declaration on financing for development, and
  - The evaluation of Bank support for Gender.

A small number of involved members have initiated an informal information exchange about IDA16.

- **Work programmes of DAC subsidiary bodies (in areas other than aid effectiveness)**
  - **ENVIRONET – Policy and practice guidance on climate change** - Under the leadership of Finland, interested members have collaborated on planning a presentation on climate change for the GENDERNET meeting (12 June).
  - **DAC International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF)** – Interested members and the Secretariat contributed to Integrating gender awareness and equality – Section 9 of the OECD DAC Handbook on Security System Reform published in early 2009.

*The DAC guiding principles for aid effectiveness, gender equality and women’s empowerment [DCD/DAC/GEN(2008)1/FINAL], endorsed by the Senior Level Meeting in December 2008, are the basis for the GENDERNET’s work on implementing the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action (intermediate outputs 2 and 3).*

**Output 2 - Report on the lessons learned in applying the Paris Declaration to advance gender equality and women’s empowerment, and engagement with partner countries to disseminate these lessons**

- **Gender, rights and inclusion**

The Secretariat has worked with Cathy Gaynor to “match” the case studies from the London and Dublin workshop with the “lessons learned” from the implementation of the *Paris Declaration* and the *Accra Agenda for Action*. Quite a lot more work will be required to enliven the case studies so that they are of interest to a broad audience.

- **Ownership and accountability – a possible workshop**

See intermediate output 1. Ownership and accountability may be the topics for the biennial workshop with IANWGE. If not, these topics will be picked up as part of a planned aid effectiveness and gender equality conference planned by the UN’s Development Co-operation Forum early in 2010. The Secretariat has been invited to contribute to the conference’s organisation.

- **Contributing to the implementation of the Accra Agenda for Action**

- *Working Party on Aid Effectiveness*

The Secretariat and interested members contributed to the work programming notes for the clusters on accountability and ownership cluster, country systems and managing for development results.

- *DAC Network on Governance*

The Secretariat is liaising closely with the GOVNET on its work on domestic accountability.

- *Evaluation of the implementation of the Paris Declaration – phase 2*

Members from agencies which are involved in the evaluation provided comments on the *approach paper* for phase 2 of the evaluation of the *Paris Declaration*.

**Output 3 - Practical tools designed to support donor and partner country efforts to empower women in order to broaden democratic ownership, strengthen mutual accountability and achieve improved development results**

- **Gender-specific indicators to measure the impacts of the implementation of the *Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action*.**

The GENDERNET and WP-EFF Secretariats are examining the best approach to take to developing a few relevant indicators. We have also sought advice from a few practitioners with a keen interest in using them.

- **Products and activities, including *Issues Briefs***

- *Managing for development results*

Two *Issues Briefs* on managing for gender equality results have been published in the series on aid effectiveness and gender equality. One focuses on donor agencies and one on implementation in partner countries. These are largely drawn from the presentations at a workshop held during the 2008 GENDERNET meeting.

- *Country systems*

It is likely that case studies and presentations from the workshop on country systems at the June 2009 GENDERNET meeting will form the basis for a practice note or *Issues Brief* which will be designed to be relevant to the work of the WP-EFF's country systems cluster.

- *Ownership, accountability and inclusive partnerships*

The Secretariat coordinated advice from members and observers to assist GTZ and SDC with organising a workshop – *Beyond Accra – practical implications of ownership and accountability in National Development Strategies*.

## APPENDIX

### GENDERNET 2009-10 WORK PROGRAMME<sup>2</sup>

#### PROPOSED OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES, 2009-10

The GENDERNET work programme for 2009-10 outlines the proposed products and activities for each intermediate output.

---

#### Intermediate output 3.1 - Identification and sharing of good practice in integrating gender equality and women's empowerment into development co-operation programmes to strengthen development impacts and achieve the MDGs

- a) **The biennial workshop with the UN Interagency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE)** is due to be held in late 2009/early 2010, hosted by a UN agency. Potential topics of relevance and interest to GENDERNET members include:
- Country ownership and accountability (paras. 12-14, 24 of the *Accra Agenda for Action*)
  - The financial and food crises (added January 2009)
  - Situations of conflict and fragility (added January 2009)
  - Building more effective and inclusive partnerships for development to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment (MDG3) (paras. 16-21 of the *Accra Agenda for Action*)
  - "Delivering as one" through the UN gender equality architecture
  - Division of labour (para. 17 of the *Accra Agenda for Action*)

*Secretariat suggestion:* There is potential to combine some of these topics.

**Responsibility:** Bureau and Secretariat to consult on the workshop theme with the IANWGE Secretariat by September 2009.

- b) **Aid in support of gender equality and women's empowerment** - work with the DAC Working Party on Statistics to increase the numbers of members using the gender equality policy marker when reporting their aid statistics (2007: 17 of 23 members) and to increase the proportion of aid screened (2007: approximately USD\$31 billion) by regularly publishing *Aid in support of gender equality and women's empowerment* and disseminating information about applying the marker, including to programmatic approaches.

**Responsibility:** DCD/STAT staff, with the GENDERNET Secretariat.

- c) A special **Creditor Reporting System report** on aid focussed on achieving gender equality and women's empowerment is planned to mark Beijing + 15. Depending on the available data, this may include a section on the application of the gender equality policy marker to programmatic aid.

**Responsibility:** DCD/STAT staff, with support from the GENDERNET Secretariat to liaise with members.

---

2. This work programme has been updated to reflect the evolving work programmes of the WP-EFF, the GOVNET and of INCAF.

- d) **2010 Development Co-operation Report** – when accepting an MDG3 torch, the Chair of the Development Assistance Committee undertook to include “... a special report in the 2010 *Development Cooperation Report* which assesses progress made in the **levels of aid focused on achieving gender equality and women’s empowerment.** “

**Responsibility:** DCD/STAT staff, with support from the GENDERNET Secretariat, to liaise with members.

- e) **DAC Peer reviews, 2009-10** [DCD/DAC(2008)10/REV1] – provide inputs to peer reviews, as required.
- **2009:** Ireland, Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, Italy, Japan.
  - **2010** (proposed): New Zealand, Belgium, Germany, Portugal, United Kingdom.

**Responsibility:** Secretariat, in consultation with relevant members as appropriate.

f) **Women’s Economic Empowerment**

Provide inputs and advice to:

- the POVNET output: *Policy guidance notes, focussing on tools and approaches, to empower poor women and men to participate in and benefit from growth* (output area 5.1.3.3) [Note: the Chair of the GENDERNET is an *ex-officio* member of the POVNET]
- support the implementation of the World Bank Group’s Action Plan – Gender equality as smart economics.

**Responsibility:** Interested members, with the support of the Secretariat. The Netherlands, Switzerland, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the United States are interested in the POVNET work. A large number of members have an active interest in the World Bank’s approach to gender equality and women’s empowerment.

- g) **Work programmes of DAC subsidiary bodies** (in areas other than the implementation of the *Accra Agenda for Action*) - some members have expressed an interest in providing inputs to and advice on:

- the **ENVIRONET** output: *Policy and operational guidance on integrating climate change into development co-operation as called for by the Environment and Development Ministers at their joint meeting* (output area 5.1.1.1) (Interested members: Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Switzerland and Canada)
- the **DAC International Network on Conflict and Fragility’s (INCAF)** proposed output on *International consensus statement on goals and mechanisms to track results in support of state-building and peace-building, and reporting on progress in implementing the 2007 High Level Meeting Policy Commitment to improve development effectiveness in fragile states* (output area 5.1.1.7) (para. 21 of the *Accra Agenda for Action*)

**Responsibility:** The Bureau and Secretariat will facilitate the engagement of interested members with the relevant subsidiary bodies.

The *DAC guiding principles for aid effectiveness, gender equality and women's empowerment* [DCD/DAC/GEN(2008)1/FINAL], endorsed by the Senior Level Meeting in December 2008, are the basis for the GENDERNET's work on implementing the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action (intermediate outputs 3.2 and 3.3).

**Intermediate output 3.2 - Report on the lessons learned in applying the Paris Declaration to advance gender equality and women's empowerment, and engagement with partner countries to disseminate these lessons**

**Secretariat note:** The details of section 3.2 of the work programme will be developed in close consultation with other subsidiary bodies of the Development Assistance Committee once it is clearer how and where the GENDERNET could make the most relevant contributions to the implementation of the *Accra Agenda for Action*.

- a) **Gender, rights and inclusion: how to make aid more effective** - as part of the followup to the case studies presented at the workshop – *Strengthening the development results and impacts of the Paris Declaration through work on gender equality, social exclusion and human rights* (London, 2008), organised in collaboration with WP-EFF, an **accessible paper** will be produced which includes illustrative case studies and key “lessons learned”. See also 3.3 b

**Responsibility:** Members of the original research consortium (Ireland, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Norway) with support from the Secretariat, 2009.

- b) **Possible workshop on ownership and accountability** - several members have signalled an interest in collaborating with the OECD's Africa Partnership Forum Secretariat and other DAC subsidiary bodies on a possible case-study based workshop on ownership and accountability (a proposed WP-EFF cluster for 2009/10) in a partner country prior to the HLF-4 (paras. 13, 20 and 24 of the *Accra Agenda for Action*). See also 3.3 b of this work programme.

**Responsibility:** Interested members (Netherlands, Ireland and the United Kingdom), with support from the Secretariat.

- c) **Communicating with partners through the dissemination of Issues briefs, the Guiding Principles and other practical tools** – there will be a special focus in 2009-10 on widely disseminating material prepared by the GENDERNET, including the *DAC guiding principles on gender equality, women's empowerment and aid effectiveness*.

**Responsibility:** All members, in collaboration with the Secretariat.

- d) **Implementing the *Accra Agenda for Action* through contributions to and collaboration with the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness, its joint ventures<sup>3</sup> and other DAC subsidiary bodies on:**

- o **Ownership and accountability** – including the **DAC Network on Governance's** proposed outputs on guidance on how to support demand-side accountability institutions and on lessons learned on the impact of different aid modalities on domestic accountability (output area 5.1.1.10) (paras. 13-15 and 24 of the *Accra Agenda for Action*), and working with civil society representatives of the WP-EFF  
(Interested members: see 3.3 b of this work programme)

---

3. At its March 2009 meeting, the WP-EFF decided to “cluster” its work programme as follows: ownership and accountability, country systems, transparent and responsible aid, assessing progress and managing for development results.

- **Country systems** (Interested members: see 3.3 b of this work programme)
- **Transparent and responsible aid** (Interested members: tbc)
- **Assessing progress** - including contributions to the planned second phase of the evaluation of the implementation of the Paris Declaration (para. 30 of the Accra Agenda for Action)

(Interested members are likely to be those who offer to be evaluated in Phase 2 of the evaluation of the impact of the Paris Declaration. See also 3.3 a of this work programme – the development of gender specific indicators)

**Responsibility:** Interested members, with the support of the Secretariat.

**Intermediate output 3.3 - Practical tools designed to support donor and partner country efforts to empower women in order to broaden democratic ownership, strengthen mutual accountability and achieve improved development results**

**Secretariat note:** these are primarily products generated by the GENDERNET

- a) **Development of a few gender-specific indicators** which both donors and partners could *choose to use* to measure the impacts of the implementation of the *Paris Declaration* and the *Accra Agenda for Action* on gender equality and women's empowerment. These would be designed to complement the *DAC guiding principles for gender equality, women's empowerment and aid effectiveness* [DCD/DAC/GEN(2008)1/REV1]. (paras. 23 and 30 of the *Accra Agenda for Action*)

**Responsibility:** the Secretariat (with the WP-EFF Secretariat), with the United Kingdom and Canada.

**Reference group:** Sweden, European Commission, Spain, the Commonwealth Secretariat and UNIFEM.

- b) **Products and activities**, including issues briefs, on:

- **managing for development results** (both partner country and donor agency approaches) (paras. 22-24 of the *Accra Agenda for Action*). This work stream will include two issues briefs. (Interested members: Canada, Norway, Australia, Sweden, United States and the Asian Development Bank)
- **political/policy dialogue in partner countries**<sup>4</sup> (para. 13 of the *Accra Agenda for Action*) (Interested members: Sweden)
- **gender responsive country systems**<sup>5</sup> (including capacity development and public financial management) (paras. 14-15, 22-24 of the *Accra Agenda for Action*) (Interested members: Denmark, Sweden (tbc), Norway and Commonwealth Secretariat)
- **ownership, accountability and inclusive partnerships** (paras. 12-14, 16-17 and 20 of the *Accra Agenda for Action*). This work stream could include a case-study based workshop, as suggested under 3.2. b. (Interested members: Netherlands, Ireland, United Kingdom, Italy, United States, the Commonwealth Secretariat, UNIFEM, Spain and Sweden (tbc)).

**Responsibility:** Interested members, with the support of the Secretariat.

---

4. This may be folded into the work on managing for gender equality results or into the ownership/accountability related outputs.

5. In the *Accra Agenda for Action* country systems (para. 15) "...include, but are not limited to, systems for public financial management, procurement, audit, monitoring and evaluation, and social and environmental assessment".