



ROOM DOCUMENT 5

DAC Network on Development Evaluation

UPDATE

DRAFT DAC GUIDANCE ON EVALUATING CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACEBUILDING ACTIVITIES

A Joint Work Stream of the DAC Networks on Evaluation and on Conflict, Peace and Development Co-operation (CPDC)

This note has been prepared by Norway and the Secretariat for information at the 6th meeting of the DAC Network on Development Evaluation, 27 – 28 June 2007.



**6th meeting
27 – 28 June 2007**



Room Document 5
Update on Development of
Draft DAC Guidance on Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities

A Joint Work Stream of the DAC Networks on
Evaluation and on Conflict, Peace and Development Co-operation (CPDC)

Steady progress towards development of a DAC Guidance on Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding (CPPB) activities has been made since the previous Evaluation Network meeting. Most notably, the scoping piece, “An Approach to DAC Guidance on Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding (CPPB)” is to be published shortly, and the Draft Guidance will be available soon. In addition, the initiative of several Network members has led to the drafting of TOR’s for the trial period and discussion of several promising potential sites for significant applications of the guidance. This note has been prepared by Norway and the Secretariat to provide background on the conflict prevention and peacebuilding Evaluation Guidance process, update members on ongoing work, and layout points on future steps for comment.

I. BACKGROUND:

Two DAC Networks, the Evaluation Network and the Network on Conflict, Peace and Development Cooperation (CPDC), DAC members and donors are looking at mechanisms for professionalizing the conflict prevention and peacebuilding area of development work through better evaluation and monitoring practices, an area where much work is needed.

Over the past decade, concern has grown over the utility and effectiveness of the growing number of interventions in the conflict prevention and peacemaking fields. Capacity to evaluate and demonstrate the outcomes of peacebuilding interventions has, for a variety of reasons, remained limited amongst many actors in the field.

In response to this growing, unmet need for clear direction, the Network on Development Evaluation and the Network on Conflict, Peace and Development Co-operation initiated a process to develop a DAC Guidance on Evaluation of Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding. The overall objective is to help improve evaluation practice and thereby support the broader community of experts and implementing organizations in enhancing the quality of conflict prevention and peacebuilding interventions. This process builds upon the “Joint Utstein Study of Peacebuilding” (2003), the FAFO “Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peace-Building Activities” paper (2006) and a wealth of other ongoing work in the CPPB-Evaluation field. The Draft Guidance has also been shaped in dialogue with Network members and experts through the DAC meeting in Paris in October, 2006 and the joint workshop of the two DAC networks in Oslo in November-December 2006.

The Collaborative for Development Action (CDA) was asked to draft an approach paper to contribute to the process of guidance development. This paper is meant to build greater clarity on definitions of CPPB; identify the distinguishing characteristics and special considerations of CPPB evaluations; suggest standards against which to evaluate CPPB activities; and outline key potential elements in evaluations of CPPB.

There is widespread interest in this process. For example, International Alert used parts of the approach paper to inform their recent work in São Tomé & Príncipe and the United States Joint Forces Command has expressed interest in experimenting with the guidance through simulation.

II. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS & ONGOING WORK:

1. Draft DAC Guidance on Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities: The draft Guidance, developed in consultation with experts and lead Network members, is being finalised and prepared for a wider consultation process involving the two DAC Networks, the Evaluation Network and the Network on CPDC, as well as INGOs, NGOs and others involved in the field. .

2. Application of Draft Guidance: Several suggestions and ideas for joint evaluations to test the guidance have been made. Switzerland, Norway and the UK have indicated an interest in joint field-testing. Switzerland and UK have suggested Sri Lanka. Belgium suggested the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi, and Norway has put fourth Northern Uganda and Haiti.

3. A Draft Terms of Reference (TOR's) for applying the Draft Guidance is being developed by UK (to be applied first in Sri Lanka). It may be of use to members that would like to join one of the proposed evaluations, or to those who are interested in using the guidance for ongoing evaluation work or new plans of their own.

4. Finalisation and publication of the paper: "An Approach to DAC Guidance on Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities". The approach paper was revised and issued as an OECD OLIS document for further comment in March 2007 [DCD/DAC(2007)3]. The Secretariat, in collaboration with experts and lead Network members from Evaluation and CPDC, worked to finalise the draft in June. The paper is currently being prepared for publication and will soon be available both online and in hard copy.

III. NEXT STEPS:

- **Finalization of Draft Guidance** should take place shortly (expected: October 2007), following feedback from members of both Networks.
- **Application and testing of the *Draft DAC Guidance***: Participants in the Oslo Workshop emphasized that the work on Guidance should be seen as an ongoing, collaborative process, not simply the production of a single document. Therefore, testing the *Draft DAC Guidance* for at least a year will encourage substantive feedback on the product and stimulate further learning by bringing in the field-level perspective.
 - This application of the Draft Guidance is foreseen for 2007/2008.
 - Members may want to plan to use the guidance, as appropriate, in upcoming evaluations that relate to CPPB interventions or conflict zones.
 - What other actions can Network members take collectively or individually to contribute to this process?
- The Draft Guidance will be **presented to DAC** for informational purposes as soon as feedback from the two Networks' members has been integrated and a quality product has been finalised. The Secretariat will draft an initial dissemination and outreach strategy (required for all DAC products).
- A **Feedback Framework** for learning about the *Draft DAC Guidance* during application will need to be developed and made available for member comment.

ANNEX I

Important events and relevant documents in this work stream

Network meetings:

DAC CPDC Network Meeting, 3-4 May 2007

DAC Evaluation Network Meeting, 27-28 June 2007

Meeting of the Joint Steering Group on Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding, OECD HQ, Paris, 23 March 2007

OECD/DAC Workshop on Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities: First Joint Evaluation & CPDC Event (Hosted by Norway), Oslo, Norway, 30 November – 1 December 2006 and related proceedings.

Expert Workshops on CPPB topics to inform process:

Experts Workshop: Evaluating Security Sector Reform Programmes, Birmingham, UK (DFID)
18-19 September 2006

Experts Workshop: Evaluating Dialogue Programmes, Cambridge, MA, US (DFID)
20-21 October 2006

Joint Evaluation & CPDC Network Steering Group: Norway (lead), Sweden, Switzerland (lead), United Kingdom.

CPDC Evaluation Task Team Leader: Cristina Hoyos (CPDC Network Co-Chair) represents the CPDC in the Joint Steering Group. **CPDC Evaluation Task Team:** Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United States, United Kingdom, and UNDP.

Critical Review Panel (Est. October 2006): Sulley Gariba, Thania Paffenholz, Bob Picciotto, Mary B. Anderson's Collaborative for Development Action (CDA), and Tony Vaux.

Relevant documents:

["An Approach to DAC Guidance for Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities \(Collaborative for Development Action \(CDA\)\) \[DCD/DAC\(2007\)3\]](#)

Background review of more than 75 studies/evaluations of CPPB activities: "[Evaluating Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding Activities \(FAFO-AIS Institute for Applied International Studies\)](#)"

The Joint Utstein Study of Peacebuilding <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/32/53/33983789.pdf>