



ROOM DOCUMENT 3

SHARING EVALUATION PLANS

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat for discussion at the 8th meeting of the DAC Network on Development Evaluation, 18-19 November 2008.

8th meeting

18 – 19 November 2008

Sharing evaluation plans

Introduction

Development agencies and partner countries have, by adopting the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action, committed to work in more harmonised and aligned ways. The DAC Evaluation Network has long been in the lead of promoting joint and collaborative work.

In order to improve information sharing, transparency and facilitate identification of possible future collaboration, members of the Network have agreed to share evaluation plans and work programmes. Evaluation plans have therefore been submitted to the Secretariat ahead of the meetings of the Network for sharing among members. The Secretariat has compiled these plans into a document for the meetings, as well as posted them on the Evaluation Network's restricted website (on the information page for each member). This has provided members with information about future evaluations and also informed members of common interests in the Network.

Searchable spreadsheet

At the Network's seventh meeting in February 2008 the Secretariat was requested to consider how the Network's website could be further developed to serve as a platform for exchange of members' evaluation plans. In consultation with the Bureau the Secretariat has developed a searchable spreadsheet. The spreadsheet is now available on the restricted website (www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/members).

The spreadsheet gives information about:

- the agency (or country) which is responsible for the evaluation;
- the sector of the evaluation;
- the partner country where the evaluation takes place;
- the start and end year of the evaluation;
- whether the evaluation is a joint exercise or not.

The spreadsheet is searchable using the above characteristics. The search makes it possible to see, with a few clicks, who is planning what, where and when.

Considerations / for discussion

The usefulness of the spreadsheet depends on the data provided by members, it is therefore suggested that all Network members provide full and up-to-date information on their latest plans.

It is envisaged that plans fed into the Secretariat should not only include firm and agreed proposals for the years ahead, but also plans that are not yet confirmed. It is important to include plans which are not firm to enable members to share ideas that are still at the planning stage, where there is most potential for engaging in new joint work.

- Will your agency be able to provide the required information?
- Is your agency willing to share non-confirmed plans with other members?

Further developments

Further developments of the tool could be explored if members so wish. This could include an interactive platform (where members themselves update the information). It could also include making the information available to stakeholders (partners, NGOs, interested public) beyond the network, via the public website.