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DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE

DAC Network on Development Evaluation

Summary Record of the 15th Meeting of the DAC Network on Development Evaluation

18-19 June 2013

Hans Lundgren: Tel. +33 1 45 24 90 59 - hans.lundgren@oecd.org Joëlline Benefice: Tel. +33 1 45 24 84 09 - joelline.benefice@oecd.org Deborah Chappat: Tel. +33 1 45 24 95 07 - deborah.chappat@oecd.org
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**15TH MEETING SUMMARY RECORD
MEETING OF THE DAC NETWORK ON DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION**

18-19 JUNE 2013

TUESDAY 18 JUNE

1. A workshop on “**Evaluating support to private sector development**” co-sponsored by the Independent Evaluation Group of the World Bank, was held on Tuesday 18 June. The summary record of this workshop is presented in Annex 1.

30th Anniversary of the DAC Evaluation Network

2. On the occasion of the 30 year anniversary of the first meeting of the DAC’s subsidiary body on evaluation, this session looked at “The DAC Evaluation Network at 30: Accomplishments, Evolution & Future Challenges”. Niels Dabelstein (Consultant & former Chair of the Network) presented a report on the history of the group, its past accomplishments, how the work programme has evolved over time and future challenges facing evaluation and the Network.

3. During the discussion, members emphasised the inclusive and normative role of the Network. They noted that the achievements of the Network depend to a large extent on the active participation and dedication of its members as well as the professionalism of the Secretariat.

4. Going forward, the Network should continue to be inclusive, adapt to the evolving evaluation capacities of partner countries and face up to new challenges related to the changing development agenda and ensuring the continued influence of evaluation evidence.

5. Directly after the discussion, a reception celebrated 30 years of the Network and Jon Lomoy (Secretariat) launched the publication: 12 Lessons from the OECD DAC - Evaluating Development Activities.

WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE

I. OPENING SESSION

6. The Chair opened the meeting and invited new participants to briefly introduce themselves.
7. The Summary Record of the 14th Meeting of the DAC Network on Development Evaluation and the agenda for the 15th meeting were approved.

II. BUILDING A CULTURE OF EVALUATION

8. This session looked at how evaluation units can help create a learning culture in development agencies and shared experiences of current efforts to help strengthen professional competencies in evaluation.

9. Cynthia Clapp-Wincek (USAID) provided an update on progress in building a culture of capacity development in evaluation within USAID. In July 2011, a target was set to produce 250 evaluations in 18 months. This high target raised the profile of evaluation across the organisation. The first draft of a recently concluded meta evaluation exercise on USAID evaluations shows that:

- A decrease in evaluation practice was recorded in the 1990s when mid-term evaluations were not compulsory anymore;
- Further work is needed to improve the rigour of evaluation methods;
- Approximately 10% of the evaluations assessed were impact evaluations, a third of which were defined as ‘true’ impact evaluations due to their use of high quality quasi experimental designs.

This study also showed the need for a balance between monitoring and evaluation.

10. Mohamed Hedi Manaï (African Development Bank) shared information on how evaluation can promote a learning culture in an institution. The recent AfDB assessment of the evaluation function recommends specific criteria to build a culture of evaluation. These include:

- Engagement and partnership with stakeholders, management and research institutions at each stage of the evaluation process;
- Incentives to increase staff capacity and the quality of evaluations;
- Ensuring that lessons from evaluations are applied through learning and sharing events, and a database of lessons learned.

11. Dereck Rooker-Smith, (AusAID) described recent work on results in AusAID and the evolving role of the Office of Development Effectiveness (ODE). Originally, systems and processes in AusAID were geared to conducting mid-term reviews and producing process reports but not conducting evaluations. In 2006, the ODE was established to upgrade performance and reporting. This was followed by larger changes in 2011 with the commissioning of an independent review of the Australian aid programme, the establishment of the Independent Evaluation Committee which oversees ODE, and the external publication of management responses cleared at senior executive level. Remaining challenges highlighted by AusAID in conducting evaluations include:

- The difficulty in finding good quality contractors for evaluation work;
- The balance between building internal capacity in evaluation and out-sourcing;
- Whole-of-Government approach and ensuring policy coherence across 27 departments who spend Official Development Assistance;
- Ensuring that evaluation work is responsive to needs.

12. In the discussion which followed a number of EvalNet members presented their organisations' experiences in developing a culture for evaluation. Most members indicated that they were continuously working on this issue through staff learning (training, information dissemination) and improving accountability (publishing evaluation policies and communication of results). Members highlighted the critical role external actors can play in building a culture of evaluation within an organisation. Engaging and working with control and audit entities could act as catalysts to transform the culture of evaluation. Some of the most common challenges highlighted included:

- The need to improve quality in decentralised evaluation systems with emphasis on implementation frameworks, key performance indicators, and staff capacity;
- Striking a balance between building capacity and out-sourcing evaluations to external contractors, and finding good consultants for out-sourcing evaluations;
- Ensuring independence;
- Increasing information dissemination through innovative approaches using the social media;
- Gaining buy-in at management level and ways of integrating the evaluation practice systematically into organisations;
- Choosing evaluation methodologies appropriate to new areas of development (aid for trade, private sector development, green growth etc.).

Follow-up:

- Members agreed to continue sharing experiences in developing a culture of evaluation including evaluation policies, communication tools as well as in improving the quality of decentralised evaluations.
- Members were invited to share training and learning material as well as experiences with management and quality control of evaluation contractors and their products.
- Members were also reminded to provide updates to the Secretariat so as to keep the member pages of the Network website up to date and available for consultation.

III. UPDATES ON ONGOING WORK AND PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE COLLABORATION

13. Karen Jorgensen (Secretariat) gave an update on DAC membership and engagement with non-member countries. Two countries have recently joined the DAC: Iceland on 14 March 2013 and the Czech Republic on 14 May 2013. Membership discussions between the Secretariat and Slovenia, the Slovak Republic and Poland are on-going. China was an observer during one recent evaluation in the context of the China-DAC study group as well as during the Switzerland peer review. A staff member from the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC), an external body of the MOFCOM (Ministry of Commerce) specialising in evaluations will intern in the DCD. As one of the three

criteria to join the DAC is to have a system of evaluation of performance, the group was invited to discuss ways of supporting new and potential DAC members in the area of Monitoring and Evaluation. Members were invited to support new and prospective members following the example of Finland supporting Slovenia, for instance by inviting them to take part in training seminars or similar events. The Czech Republic reminded the participants that potential new members may have the possibility to use national experience gathered by the administrations in charge of monitoring and evaluating the European Union structural funds.

14. Karen Jorgensen (Secretariat) gave an update on triangular cooperation. According to the conclusions of the May 2013 policy dialogue conducted in Lisbon, three roles are typically involved in a triangular cooperation partnership: facilitator, pivotal country and beneficiary. The necessary elements for a successful triangular cooperation are planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating and a clear funding mechanism. Going forward, in order to increase knowledge, more case studies and promotion of monitoring and evaluation of triangular cooperation are needed. In further work, including possibly a task team, the following issues could be discussed: joint evaluation focused on joint development objectives; partnerships and improvement of their quality; and evaluation of secondary objectives for each partners.

15. During the discussion, Shulamit Kurzon van Gelder (Israel) informed the participants that Israel is working on criteria to create a joint evaluation unit for triangular cooperation with the Netherlands. Israel also recently signed an agreement with Italy and Senegal to conduct a joint evaluation. Manuela Ferreira (Portugal) mentioned that their evaluations of triangular cooperation are focused on the results for the beneficiaries. They are interested in a tool-kit to know how to include the interests of the intermediaries (emerging countries). Jose Manuel Argilés Marín (Spain) suggested using their joint evaluation with Chile and Paraguay as a start to draw lessons on triangular evaluations.

16. Riitta Oksanen (Finland) explained Finland's use of the UNEG guidelines to improve its own approach on evaluating human rights and gender equality. Several members expressed interest in this and it was agreed that a discussion on this issue will be included in the next EvalNet meeting agenda to exchange practical experiences and assess potential interest in joint work in this area.

17. Hans Lundgren (Secretariat) provided a short report on implementation of the 2011/2012 programme of work, including a collection of resources for communicating evaluation findings available on the website of the Network. Information on on-going work streams is also available on the site which could be particularly useful to new members. The Secretariat presented a short update on the evaluation plans database and thanked the 26 members who had submitted their plans ahead of the meeting. Members were invited to share their updated evaluations plans when available as the Secretariat will regularly update the evaluation plans inventory to avoid duplication or overlap and encourage joint evaluations and undertaking joint evaluations.

Follow-up:

- Current members are encouraged to support new DAC members or candidates by inviting them to take part in training seminars or similar events.
- A discussion on evaluating human rights and gender equality will be conducted during the next EvalNet meeting.
- Members are invited to share their updated evaluations plans when available.

IV. ELECTION OF ONE VICE-CHAIR

18. Karin Kohlweg (Austria) was elected vice-chair following her nomination by Dominique de Crombrughe De Looringhe (Belgium), seconded by Dereck Rookan-Smith (Australia).

V. MULTILATERAL EFFECTIVENESS

19. Hans Lundgren (Secretariat) opened the session with a short presentation of the various initiatives to assess multilateral effectiveness.

20. Ted Kliet (The Netherlands) provided an update on the UNEG-DAC task team on peer reviews of evaluation functions. Eleven peer reviews of evaluation functions have been conducted up to now. Indran Naidoo (UNDP) informed the members on the reconstitution of the UNEG-DAC task team and the appetite for peer reviews among international organisations. Dominique de Crombrughe De Looringhe (Belgium) accepted to represent EvalNet on the UNEG-DAC task team on peer reviews of evaluation functions and encouraged the members to participate in peer reviews exercises.

21. Consultant Ian Davies presented findings from a review of the UNEG-DAC peer review experiences. Peer reviews have contributed to strengthening capacities of the evaluation function within UN development agencies. They have had a positive impact on management and raised the profile of evaluation functions within organisations. However data are conflicting regarding their effect on credibility. Peer reviews should be considered as one tool among others to ensure overall quality of the evaluation function as well as capacity building thanks to peer exchange. Their framework should be conceived as one part of an overall quality assessment.

22. James Melanson (Canada) provided an update on the development effectiveness reviews of multilateral organisations. The reviews successfully used the methodology endorsed by EvalNet in 2011. Review findings are available on the DAC website. With the evolution of the MOPAN approach and its assessment of results, the question of the complementarity between the two approaches should be assessed. The first step could be a comparison of the conclusions of the MOPAN “results components” and the development effectiveness review on the IFAD assessment possibly leading to a modification of the respective methodology.

23. Björn Gillsäter (The Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network – MOPAN – OECD) updated members on MOPAN’s work. An evaluation of MOPAN is currently under way with good participation and feedback from DAC Members. Assessment results are due in September. MOPAN 3.0 will include evaluation findings into the assessment of multilateral and development effectiveness.

Follow-up:

- James Melanson (Canada) informed that Canada is willing to facilitate the discussions on results with MOPAN if a wider participation of members is reached. Ted Kliet (The Netherlands) and Claude Leroy-Thémèze (France) agreed to participate. France will limit its support to analysis of the complementarity between the MOPAN and development effectiveness reviews of the ADB. Other members who already showed an interest are invited to participate actively in discussions. Members who wish to be involved in the discussion are also invited to attend the presentation of the MOPAN evaluation steering group report on September 11-15.

- Questions on whether there is scope for combining MOPAN's approach and the development effectiveness reviews based on evaluations will be addressed once the MOPAN evaluation is available.
- In the meantime, members are invited to inform their colleagues on the various multilateral effectiveness tools in order to limit duplication and work on the rationalisation of the system.

VI. SUPPORTING EVALUATION CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

24. During this session members discussed current work on strengthening evaluation capacities, focusing on support to partner country systems.

25. Riitta Oksanen (Finland) gave an update on the network's Evaluation Capacity Development (ECD) Task Team including work on developing a tool-kit for advocating for evaluation. She focused on the Task Team's work across five clusters, namely:

1. Networking / dialogue with partner countries on ECD needs, frameworks, role of donors to be guided with updated information;
2. Concept and guidance on ECD support;
3. Coordinated ECD support, promotion of joint activities;
4. Advocacy for enabling environment;
5. Joint evaluations for capacity development.

26. Claude Leroy-Thémèze (France) and Jacques Toulemonde (Consultant, Eureval) presented a proposal to support collaborative Partner-Donor evaluation work. The objectives of the project are to: (1) understand how collaborative partner-donor evaluation work may best strengthen country evaluation systems; (2) pave the way to a multi-annual program devoted to such work; and (3) propose the working arrangements for implementing that program and learn jointly from its results. Participants discussed the feasibility of the proposal, the demand of partner countries and the need for feedback from partners as a first step.

27. Lennart Peck (Sweden and Board member of the Clear Initiative: Regional Centres for Learning on Evaluation and Results - CLEAR) provided an update from CLEAR created in 2010. Its objective is the establishment of regional centres working on capacity building in Monitoring and Evaluation. The centres, which were selected through a competitive process, have chosen different strategies to implement their programme of work. A Global Forum will take place in Mexico in November 2013 (no specific date set) which will focus on peer learning. A mid-term review will also be commissioned looking at achievements of the initiative thus far and future expansion possibilities, information from which will help redefine objectives.

28. Martyn Pennington (Chair) welcomed the Evalpartners proposal to nominate 2015 as the International Year for Evaluation, and highlighted potential synergies with the 2015 European Year of Development. Luxembourg will have the EU Presidency then and indicated its willingness to organise an event around this topic.

Follow-up:

- France will assess the partner countries appetite as a first step in moving forward on its proposal.
- Members willing to support the French proposal are invited to inform France and the Secretariat as soon as possible.

VII. CLOSING SESSION

29. Martyn Pennington (Chair) thanked Henri Jorritsma (The Netherlands) for his work as vice-chair and his involvement in the network. He also thanked out-going members Ted Kliet (The Netherlands), Ole Andersen (Denmark) and Margrethe Holm Andersen (Denmark) for their useful contributions over the past years.

PARTICIPANTS LIST / LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

**15TH MEETING OF THE DAC NETWORK ON DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION
15ÈME RÉUNION DU RÉSEAU DU CAD SUR L'ÉVALUATION DU DÉVELOPPEMENT**

19/06/2013

Chair

Mr. Martyn PENNINGTON

*Head of Evaluation Unit - EuropeAid
European Commission*

Australia/Australie

Mr. Dereck ROOKEN-SMITH

*Assistant Director General
Office of Development Effectiveness, Australian
Agency for International Development (AusAID)*

Austria/Autriche

Ms. Karin KOHLWEG

*Head of the Evaluation Unit
Austrian Development Agency (ADA)*

Ms. Laurence HENGL

*Evaluation Unit
Austrian Development Agency (ADA)*

Belgium/Belgique

**Mr. Dominique de CROMBRUGGHE de
LOORINGHE**

*Évaluateur Spécial
Évaluation Spéciale de la Coopération au
Développement
SPF Affaires Étrangères, Commerce Extérieur et
Coopération au Développement*

Ms. Isabelle WITTOEK

*Attaché de la Coopération Internationale
Délégation Permanente*

Canada

Mr. James MELANSON

*Director, Evaluation - Strategic Planning,
Performance and Evaluation Directorate
Canadian International Development Agency
(CIDA)*

Ms. Karen GARNER

*First Secretary (Development)
Permanent Delegation*

Chile/Chili

Ms. Carmen DOMINGUEZ

*Deputy Permanent Representative
Permanent Delegation of Chile to the OECD*

Czech Republic/République tchèque

Mr. Milan KONRAD

*Department of Development Cooperation and
Humanitarian Aid
Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Mr. Petr JANOUSEK

First Secretary - Permanent Delegation

Mr. Jan VANOUS

*Intern - Permanent Delegation of the Czech
Republic to the OECD*

Denmark/Danemark

Mr. Ole ANDERSEN

*Head of the Evaluation Department
Denmark's Development Assistance (DANIDA)*

Mr. Lars Christian OXE

Senior Advisor - DANIDA

Ms. Katrine SCHLUNDT

*Intern
Permanent Delegation of Denmark to the OECD*

EU/UE

Mr. Martyn PENNINGTON

*Chair of the DAC Evaluation Network
Head of Evaluation Unit , EuropeAid, European
Commission*

Ms. Catherine PRAVIN *Deputy Head of Evaluation Unit
DG Development and Cooperation (EuropeAid)*

Mr. Andrea BAGGIOLI *Evaluation Officer
Inter-institutional Relations and Planning*

Finland/Finlande

Ms. Kristiina KUVAJAXANTHOPOULOS *Senior Evaluation Officer
Office of the Under-Secretary of State/Development
Evaluation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Ms. Riitta OKSANEN *Senior Advisor - Development Evaluation
Ministry for Foreign Affairs*

Ms. Lotta KARLSSON *Counsellor
Permanent Delegation of Finland to the OECD*

France

Ms. Claude LEROY-THEMEZE *Chef d'Unité d'Évaluation - Direction Générale du
Trésor, Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances*

Ms. Christiane ZEPTER *Chef du Pôle de l'évaluation
Ministère des Affaires Étrangères*

Mr. Laurent FONTAINE *Responsable pour la Mission Évaluation &
Capitalisation
Agence Française de Développement (AFD)*

Ms. Catherine LEGRAND *Unité d'Évaluation - Direction Générale du Trésor,
Ministry of the Economy and Finances*

Mr. Bertrand SAVOYE *Division de l'évaluation et de la capitalisation -
Agence française de développement*

Ms. Sarah CHALLE *Intern - Ministry of Economy, Industry and
Employment (DG Trésor)*

Germany/Allemagne

Ms. Karin ROGGENBUCK

Evaluation Manager - Evaluation of Development Cooperation, German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Ms. Birgit SEIBEL

Head of project, Innovative Approaches for Private Sector - Development Economic Development and Employment - Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (gtz)

Ms. Dorothea GROTH

Counsellor; Development Advisor - Permanent Delegation of Germany to the OECD

Iceland/Islande

Mr. Stefán Jón HAFSTEIN

Head - Program Monitoring and Evaluation Icelandic International Development Agency

Ireland/Irlande

Mr. William CARLOS

Director of Evaluation and Audit Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Ms. Aine HEARNS

Deputy Director – Evaluation and Audit Unit Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Israel/Israël

Mrs. Shulamit KURZON VAN GELDER

Deputy, Planning and Evaluation Unit Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MASHAV)

Italy/Italie

Mr. Michele MORANA

Evaluation manager - Direzione Generale per la Cooperazione allo Sviluppo Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Japan/Japon

Mr. Keiichi MURAOKA *Director General – Evaluation Department, Japan International Co-operation Agency (JICA)*

Mr. Akihiko ISHIMOTO *Senior Deputy Director - ODA Evaluation Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan*

Korea/Corée

Young-Kyu PARK *Director - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Korea*

Ms. Hye Jin JUNG *Deputy Director - Development Cooperation
Division, Ministry of Strategy and Finance (MOSF)*

Ms. So Hui CHO *Manager - KOICA*

Mr. Sung-Ki JO *Senior Research Officer - Evaluation Department in
Economic Development Cooperation Fund
Export-Import Bank of Korea (EXIM)*

Ms. Eunsun YOU *Evaluation Specialist - EDCF Evaluation Team
Export-Import Bank of Korea (EXIM)*

Mr. Jeong Hoon CHOI *Senior Officer - Permanent Delegation of Korea to
the OECD*

Ms. Ju-Hyun OH *Attachée - Délégation Permanente*

Ms. Ga Yeon BAIK *Intern*

Luxembourg

Mr. René LAUER *Directorate for Development Cooperation -
Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Netherlands/Pays-Bas

Professor Dr. Ruerd RUBEN *Director IOB - Policy and Operations Evaluation
Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Mr. Henri e.j. JORRITSMA *Deputy Director - Policy and Operations
Evaluation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Mr. Ted KLIEST *Policy & Operations Evaluation Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Mr. Jan KLUGKIST *Policy & Operations Evaluation Department,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Norway/Norvège

Ms. Tale KVALVAAG *Director - Evaluation Department, Norad*

Mr. Balbir SINGH *Evaluation, Norad*

Portugal

Mrs. Manuela FERREIRA *Advisor for Development Cooperation Affairs -
Camoos, I.P., Ministry for Foreign Affairs*

Mrs. Ana Paula FERNANDES *DAC Delegate Permanent Delegation of Portugal
to the OECD*

Ms. Catarina SANTOS *Intern - Permanent Delegation of Portugal to the
OECD*

Slovak Republic /République slovaque

Mr. Matej DOSTAL *First Secretary, Economic & Development
Permanent Delegation*

Slovenia/Slovénie

Mrs. Blažka KEPIC *Head of Department for International Development
Cooperation Implementation and Humanitarian
Assistance Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Spain/Espagne

Mr. Jose Manuel ARGILÉS MARÍN *Head of the Evaluation and Knowledge
Management Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation*

Sweden/Suède

- Ms. Madeleine HÄGG-LILJESTRÖM** *Monitoring and Evaluation Unit
Department for Organisational Development,
Swedish International Development Co-operation
agency (SIDA)*
- Mr. Lennart PECK** *Evaluation - Swedish International Development
Co-operation Agency (SIDA)*
- Ms. Eva LITHMAN** *Expert - Swedish Expert Group for evaluation and
analysis of Sweden's development cooperation*

Switzerland/Suisse

- Mr. Martin SOMMER** *Head, Evaluation and Corporate Controlling
Division - Environment and Natural Resources
Division - Swiss Agency for Development and
Cooperation (SDC)*
- Ms. Iren LEIBUNDGUT** *Deputy Head, Head Quality and Resources
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)*
- Mr. Mathias RICKLI** *Evaluation and Controlling Officer - Controlling
and Evaluation, Swiss Agency for Development and
Cooperation (SDC)*
- Mr. Philippe BESSON** *Counsellor
Permanent Delegation of Switzerland to the OECD*

Turkey/Turquie

- Mr. Harun AVCI** *Expert - Turkish Cooperation and Coordination*
- Ms. Nurdan ÇAKIR** *Expert - Department of Strategy Development
Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency*
- Ms. Nurcin YILDIZ** *Expert - Department of Strategy Development
Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency*

United Kingdom/Royaume-Uni

- Ms. Andrea COOK** *Evaluation Department - Department for
International Development (DFID)*

United States/États-Unis

Mr. Steven PIERCE

*US Representative to the DAC
Permanent Delegation*

***African Development Bank (AfDB)
Banque africaine de développement (BAfD)***

Mr. Rakesh NANGIA

*Director, African Development Bank Group
(AFDB)*

M. Mohamed MANAI

*Division Manager, Project & Programme Division
Operations Evaluation Department Groupe de la
Banque africaine de développement (GBAD)*

***European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)/
Banque européenne de reconstruction et de développement (BERD)***

Mr. Joseph EICHENBERGER

*Chief Evaluator - European Bank for
Reconstruction & Development (EBRD)*

***UN Development Programme (UNDP)
Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement (PNUD)***

Mr. Indran NAIDOO

Director, Evaluation Office

World Bank/Banque mondiale

Ms. Caroline HEIDER

*Director-General - Independent Evaluation Group
The World Bank*

Mr. Marvin TAYLOR DORMOND

Director - Private Sector Evaluation, IEG

Mr. Jack GLEN

Chief evaluation officer - IEG

Asian Development Bank (ADB)/ Banque Asiatique de Développement

Ms. Lauren HAUCK *Senior evaluation specialist (NSO) - Independent Evaluation Department*

UAE, Ministry of International Cooperation and Development (MICAD)

Mr. Nabil SALEH AL DHAHERI *Director of Monitoring and Evaluation - Ministry of International Cooperation and Development*

Mr. Makki HAMID *Evaluation Manager Evaluation*

UNITAID

Ms. Gulmira MCHALE *Head, Donor Relations and Resource Mobilization*

Other/Autre

Mr. Niels DABELSTEIN *Consultant*

Mr. Ian DAVIES *Consultant*

Ms. Julia BRÜMMER *Consultant*

OECD/OCDE

Ms. Karen JORGENSEN *Head of Division DCD/REED*

Mr. Hans LUNDGREN *Head of Evaluation and Results Team DCD/REED*

Ms. Joëlline BENEFICE *Policy Analyst DCD/REED*

Ms. Deborah CHAPPPAT *Policy Analyst DCD/REED*

Ms. Laetitia DEHELLE *Assistant DCD/REED*

Ms. Megan Grace KENNEDY-CHOUANE *Policy Analyst - Evaluation Network DCD/REED*

ANNEX 1

IEG/DAC EVALUATION NETWORK JOINT WORKSHOP ON EVALUATING SUPPORT TO PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

SUMMARY RECORD

TUESDAY 18 JUNE 2013

OPENING SESSION

Following a brief welcome by Hans Lundgren (OECD Secretariat), Caroline Heider (IEG, World Bank Group), and Martyn Pennington (Chair, DAC Network on Development Evaluation) opened the meeting and set the stage for the workshop with a discussion on the importance of the private sector in today's development context. A partnership with the private sector is necessary to ensure sustainable and inclusive development. The private sector, especially the small-and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), can create jobs and provide needed goods and services. The private sector can also act faster than the public sector in situations of emergency or rehabilitation. However, support to private sector development faces challenges. It should combine profitability, shared win-win, and ensure appropriate incentives. Convergence of views between private sector and governments can be improved with dialogue, understanding objectives from both sides, and implementing a clear and stable policy and regulation framework.

Evaluating support to private sector development should help understand private sector's drivers and bring awareness of its potential among development agencies. It should support informed dialogue by providing evidence on what works and what does not. We need to challenge ourselves to deliver further evidence with a diversity of approaches.

PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT: PRIVATE SECTOR PERSPECTIVES

This session highlighted the perspectives and roles of private sector actors in development co-operation. Marvin Taylor-Dormond (IEG, World Bank) introduced the discussion on the following issues. What motivates the private sector? What does it need to prosper? What is its contribution to development? Is the private sector concerned with measuring its contribution to development?

Frank Nagel (RaboBank) explained how the cooperative bank went from supporting farmers in the Netherlands to investing in sub-Saharan banking institutions. The objective was to create inclusive leader banks in a region with high potential in agriculture. For RaboBank, inclusion requires a shared vision with the public sector on how to develop financial institutions, an enabling legal environment and political and economic stability. Moreover, investments needed to pay attention to customer, financial and employees' values. Frank Nagel recognised however, that the link between financial inclusion and growth has not been demonstrated yet and its assessment is not part of the RaboBank objectives.

Thierry Déau (Meridiam infrastructure) underlined the importance of the rule of law, the strength of the public counterpart for long-term contractual investments, as well as stability. Due to the long term nature of investments, Thierry Déau emphasised the importance of investing in relationships and engage with local communities. Long-term investments need to focus on the social impact, setting clear and shared goals between stakeholders.

Karim Maalioun (Contour Global) highlighted the importance of going beyond a simple analysis of financial return and the need to include social and economic indicators in order to qualify the value creation. In Contour Global, investments are based on four criteria: growth, safe and efficient implementation, ethical and transparent business, and enhancement of operating conditions. Strengthening local technical capabilities, improving policy and regulatory environments, and building partnerships around common objectives are critical. Strategic decision making is supported by IT tools that provide information and analysis on the social and economic aspects of value creation.

PUBLIC FUNDING FOR PRIVATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT: EVALUATORS' PERSPECTIVE

This session focused on key concepts in evaluating private sector support and approaches to private sector evaluations.

Roland Michelitsch (IFC) explained that one of the main differences, compared to the public sector, was that private sector operations rely on sufficient profits for their sustainability. For development institutions to support private enterprises, it is also essential that they provide benefits for the host economy, are environmentally and socially sound, and lead more broadly to private sector development. Financial, economic, environmental and social performance and private sector development impact have been established as the four key components of development outcomes for private sector operations in the Multilateral Development Banks "Good Practice Standards" for Private Sector Evaluation. Another key component of that framework is additionality. Eva Terberger (KfW Entwicklungsbank) underlined that additionality is becoming more difficult to measure because the objectives of public and private players tend to be intertwined. Jim Tanburn (DCED) broadened the question of evaluating additionality raising the issue of attribution in a moving international context and the issue of data collection.

The panellists agreed that additionality is important. However it was agreed that making a judgement for the added value of investments can be a challenge because of trade-offs between risks, financial returns, and development returns. Much information exists for the relationship between risks and financial returns. However, more limited knowledge has been collected on their link with development returns.

In terms of development outcomes, private sector development interventions are difficult to evaluate because of lack of quality data. There is an appetite for good monitoring information in the field but due to the length and complexity of the private sector results chain, estimating attribution in terms of poverty reduction benefits at the household level is more difficult and a costly process.

The panellists also discussed the new donors' focus on inclusive and green growth. A strategy shift is required to make green growth inclusive. Evaluation tools for green growth however need to be refined. Green growth is attracting investments; however its link to job creation has not been sufficiently assessed yet.

Participants raised the question of merging the standards for evaluating public and private sector. The risk of such a merger is that this type of evaluation will not address private sector specific needs of profitability, and that of the development financial institutions (additionality). However, the division between the two sectors is increasingly becoming less clear. Questions regarding the representation of the private sector within the Global partnership, differences between ex-post and ex-ante additionalities, the appropriate time to exit from a project, as well as main beneficiaries of support to private sector were raised.

Three lessons can be drawn from evaluating support to private sector:

- Poverty reduction can be achieved through job creation and the private sector creates jobs;
- Increased collaboration with the private sector is necessary in order to improve measurement on development returns;
- Such measurements can then also be used as incentives for implementers.

THEMATIC SESSION ONE: EVALUATION OF TARGETED SME PROGRAMS

The first of two thematic sessions focused on evaluating programmes aimed at supporting SMEs. Participants discussed recent evaluations of programmes SMEs in developing countries, describing both the evaluation approaches used and policy lessons. This session was chaired by Odile Conchou, Director of Environmental and Social Impacts in Proparco. The panellists for this session were Jack Glen of Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) World Bank, Bastiaan De Laat, Evaluation Expert in the European Investment Bank (EIB), and Simon Calvert, Private Sector and Growth Evaluation Adviser in the Department for International Development (DFID).

Jack Glen (IEG) referred to an on-going evaluation of targeted SMEs. SMEs are continuously constrained by institutions and market failures, and are faced with issues of power, corruption, tax rates, informality, and political instability. Access to finance was not singled out as a priority issue. Issues highlighted for discussion included:

- Should there be a standardized SME definition and, if so, how should it reflect country, sector and product factors?
- Is it acceptable to work through banks and other financial institutions without imposing constraints on their activities related to environmental and social issues? If not, how do we monitor those constraints?
- Can the impacts of interventions be measured without direct contact with ultimate beneficiaries?

Bastiaan De Laat (EIB) highlighted the various types of support the EIB provides to SMEs. Between 2005 and 2012, EIG conducted 19 in-depth evaluations across 20 SMEs. The main evaluation findings were:

- Projects were found to be highly consistent with EU and EIB objectives;

- The financial crisis increased the relevance of support to SMEs;
- Lending for SME product “says what it does and does what it says”;
- Higher awareness among SME about EIB origin of funding - more comfort about funding advantage being actually passed on ;
- Evaluation results triggered reflection on:
 - Targeted vs. volume-driven instruments;
 - Contribution to growth and employment;
 - Fine-tuning to national SME finance needs.

Simon Calvert (DFID) presented findings from a review of evaluations of market system projects conducted by DFID and ITAD. A market systems approach to international development, often referred to as the ‘Making Markets Work for the Poor’ (M4P) approach, is being increasingly applied by international development agencies which are placing greater emphasis on the need for evidence on the effectiveness and results of their investments. Findings showed that evaluations were generally weak in terms of:

- Consideration of systemic, sustainable changes in market systems;
- Data quality;
- Difficulty in defining who the end-beneficiaries are;
- Triangulation practices (particularly with regard to qualitative data collection);
- The use of theories of change (linear, not externally vetted, with assumptions not adequately tested);
- Consistency in units for facilitating accurate aggregation;
- Consideration of unintended negative effects.

DFID recommended that in order to evaluate such programmes, a theory-based approach should be adopted and to engage evaluators from the onset of a programme. Engaging evaluators at this stage requires that the roles of evaluator and programme staff are clearly defined. The value of this approach will be studied in future evaluations.

The following issues were discussed:

- A focus on access to funding for SMEs may not be the best approach depending on the country context the SMEs find themselves in. They would benefit from finance but then the question would be one of additionality: what would be the added value of providing financing?
- Difficulties in evaluating the impact of SME operations on end beneficiaries. Requirements imposed on SMEs do exist. EIB have requirements in contracts which ask SMEs to comply with EIB standards. In IEG’s case, there is little evidence that performance standards are diffusing to the beneficiary level.

THEMATIC SESSION TWO: EVALUATION OF PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

The second thematic session focused on public private partnerships (PPPs), examining recent evaluations of public-private partnerships in development co-operation and looking at evaluation approaches and findings. Gudrun Timm (DEG) moderated the session. Panellists included Ruerd Ruben, Director, Policy and Operations Evaluation Department (IOB) Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Lauren Hauck, Senior Evaluation Specialist in the Independent Evaluation Department at the Asian Development Bank.

Ruerd Ruben presented a systematic review of partnerships in the Netherlands development co-operation. PPPs are increasingly considered to be an attractive development instrument as they are an efficient tool for financial resources mobilization with higher initial costs but lower risk and insurance costs. However, there are still few diagnostic tools available to determine when and how PPPs represent a preferred institutional arrangement. In addition, evidence on the effectiveness and efficiency of PPPs is scarce. A systematic review of available literature and evaluation reports conducted by IOB highlighted the following critical success factors of PPPs:

- PPPs are not a one-time arrangement;
- Full contractual basis;
- Training requirements;
- Partner selection;
- Trust;
- Interests and objectives are negotiated and packaged.

Lauren Hauck shared recent work on PPPs in Asia with specific reference to an evaluation conducted on an electrification project in Cambodia. The benefits arising from the PPP and the key requirements for PPPs to be effective are:

- Situation and risks must be understood by all parties;
- Clear rationale for PPP needed;
- Project has to be part of long term sector development plans;
- Clear contracts and deliverables required;
- Appropriate sharing of tasks and risks among parties required;
- Long-term commitment to the PPP is required.

Participants expressed mixed views on evidence relating to their effectiveness and efficiency. In previous experiences where PPPs have not been successful, it has been observed that the public partner had subsumed risks and not the private sector partner and that the choice to implement a PPP was not necessarily a deliberate and informed choice. There is a need to maintain precise definition for a PPP as there is a risk of this becoming too broad. PPP is a partnership with joint objectives, revenues of projects and risks are shared. In terms of evaluation, one should not only assess the agreement but also include the expected benefits compared to alternatives.

CLOSING AND NEXT STEPS

Marvin Taylor-Dormond (IEG, World Bank Group) and Hans Lundgren (Secretariat) closed the workshop and thanked the participants and panellists for their contributions. They underlined the relevance of evaluating the support to private sector in the context of the Busan commitments and the post 2015 agenda.

In view of the broad interest in evaluating private sector development, it was suggested that further opportunities for mutual exchange and learning should be encouraged. New evaluations are planned by development agencies which will bring further material for discussion. A number of issues were also identified as candidates for further reflection, including:

- Differences between private sector and public sector evaluations;
- Short term finance as an instrument of support;
- Assessing additionality;
- Technical assistance and advisory services for the private sector development;
- Financial intermediations and financial inclusion;
- Environment and social impacts of private sector development;
- Trade-offs (financial returns versus development gains);
- Standards to measure job creation;
- Effects on end beneficiaries (assessing whether interventions are reaching the poor);
- Support to banks on SME development;
- Issues and guidance on public level support;
- Building evidence and comparability around PPPs through systematic reviews and further examination of different models.

In identifying what topics and issues would be most useful, it was suggested that a survey would be undertaken assessing the appetite of the Network members and workshop participants for further exchange on evaluating private sector development.

PARTICIPANTS LIST / LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

Australia/Australie

Mr. Dereck ROOKEN-SMITH

*Assistant Director General
Office of Development Effectiveness, Australian Agency for
International Development (AusAID)*

Austria/Autriche

Ms. Karin KOHLWEG

Head of the Evaluation Unit - Austrian Development Agency

Mr. Reinhard WAGNER

*Advisory Programs Manager
OeEB - Oesterreichische Entwicklungsbank AG*

Belgium/Belgique

**Mr. Dominique DE CROMBRUGGHE
DE LOORINGHE**

*Evaluateur Spécial - Evaluation Spéciale de la Coopération au
Développement - SPF Affaires Etrangères, Commerce
Extérieur et Coopération au Développement*

Mr. Ivo HOOGHE

*Attaché Special Evaluation Office - Federal Public Service
Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Cooperation*

Ms. Gaëlle JULLIEN

*Direction Générale de la Coopération au Développement
Ministère des Affaires étrangères, du Commerce extérieur, et
de la Coopération au Développement*

Ms. Isabelle WITTOEK

*Attaché de la Coopération Internationale
Délégation Permanente*

Canada

Mr. James MELANSON

*Director, Evaluation - Strategic Planning, Performance and
Evaluation Directorate
Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)*

Ms. Karen GARNER

*First Secretary (Development)
Permanent Delegation*

Chile/Chili

Ms. Carmen DOMINGUEZ

*Deputy Permanent Representative
Permanent Delegation of Chile to the OECD*

Czech Republic/République tchèque

Mr. Milan KONRAD

*Department of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian
Aid - Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Mr. Petr JANOUSEK

First Secretary - Permanent Delegation

Denmark/Danemark

Mr. Ole ANDERSEN

*Head of the Evaluation Department - Denmark's Development
Assistance (DANIDA)*

Mr. Lars Christian OXE

Senior Advisor - Danida

Ms. Katrine SCHLUNDT

*Permanent Delegation of Denmark - Trainee
Permanent Delegation of Denmark to the OECD*

EU/UE

Mr. Martyn PENNINGTON

***Chair of the DAC Evaluation Network**
Head of Evaluation Unit , EuropeAid, European Commission*

Ms. Catherine PRAVIN

*Deputy Head of Evaluation Unit
DG Development and Cooperation (EuropeAid)*

Mr. Andrea BAGGIOLI

*Evaluation Officer, Inter-institutional Relations and Planning
European Commission*

Finland/Finlande

**Ms. Kristiina KUVAJA-
XANTHOPOULOS**

*Office of the Under-Secretary of State/Development Evaluation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Ms. Riitta OKSANEN

*Senior Advisor Development Evaluation
Ministry for Foreign Affairs*

Ms. Lotta KARLSSON

Counsellor - Permanent Delegation of Finland to the OECD

France

- Ms. Claude LEROY-THEMEZE** *Chef d'Unité d'Évaluation Direction Générale du Trésor
Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances*
- Ms. Christiane ZEPTEP** *Chef du Pôle de l'évaluation -Ministère des Affaires Étrangères*
- Mr. Laurent FONTAINE** *Responsable pour la Mission Évaluation & Capitalisation
Agence Française de Développement (AFD)*
- Ms. Odile CONCHOU** *Head of Environment, Social and Impact Unit
Proparco, AFD*
- Mr. Bertrand SAVOYE** *Évaluation & Capitalisation
Agence Française de Développement (AFD)*
- Ms. Catherine LEGRAND** *Unité d'Évaluation - Direction Générale du Trésor
Ministry of the Economy and Finances*
- Ms. Jeanne HÉNIN** *Evaluation and Impact - Proparco*
- Mr. Jean-Paul REMY** *Division de l'évaluation et de la capitalisation.
Agence Française de Développement*
- Ms. Ranie RAMBAUD** *Evaluation and Impact - Proparco*
- Ms. Sarah CHALLE** *Ministry of Economy, Industry and Employment (DG Tresor)*

Germany/Allemagne

- Mr. Marco RIMKUS** *Head of Centre of Expertise for Private-Sector- Promotion
KfW Bankengruppe - KC PriWi - DEG*
- Ms. Karin ROGGENBUCK** *Evaluation Manager - Evaluation of Development Cooperation
German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development*
- Ms. Christiane RUDOLPH** *Head of Division - Corporate Strategy and Development Policy
DEG*
- Ms. Birgit SEIBEL** *Head of project, Innovative Approaches for Private Sector
Development - Economic Development and Employment
Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)*

Professor Eva TERBERGER

First Vice President – Evaluation - KfW Bankengruppe

Ms. Gudrun TIMM

Director Development Policy/Economics - DEG

Ms. Dorothea GROTH

Counsellor; Development Advisor Permanent Delegation of Germany to the OECD

Iceland/Islande

Mr. Stefán Jón HAFSTEIN

*Head - Program Monitoring and Evaluation
Icelandic International Development Agency*

Ireland/Irlande

Mr. William CARLOS

*Director of Evaluation and Audit
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade*

Ms. Aine Hearn

*Deputy Director – Evaluation and Audit Unit
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade*

Israel/Israël

**Ms. Shulamit KURZON VAN
GELDER**

*Deputy, Planning and Evaluation Unit - Planning and
Evaluation Unit - Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MASHAV)*

Italy/Italie

Mr. Michele MORANA

*Evaluation manager - Direzione Generale per la Cooperazione
allo Sviluppo - Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Japan/Japon

Mr. Keiichi MURAOKA

*Director General for Planning and Coordination
Public Policy Department - Japan International Co-operation
Agency (JICA)*

Mr. Akihiko ISHIMOTO

*Senior Deputy Director ODA Evaluation Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan*

Korea/Corée

Young-Kyu PARK

Director - Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Korea

Ms. Hye Jin JUNG

*Deputy Director - Development Cooperation
Division, Ministry of Strategy and Finance (MOSF)*

Ms. So Hui CHO

Manager - KOICA

Mr. Sung-Ki JO

*Senior Research Officer - Evaluation Department in
Economic Development Cooperation Fund
Export-Import Bank of Korea (EXIM)*

Ms. Eunsun YOU

*Evaluation Specialist - EDCF Evaluation Team
Export-Import Bank of Korea (EXIM)*

Mr. Jeong Hoon CHOI

*Senior Officer - Permanent Delegation of Korea to
the OECD*

Ms. Ju-Hyun OH

Attachée - Délégation Permanente

Luxembourg

Mr. René LAUER

*Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Directorate for Development
Cooperation - Direction de la Coopération au développement*

Netherlands/Pays-Bas

Professor Dr. Ruerd RUBEN

*Director IOB - Policy and Operations Evaluation Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Mr. Henri e.j. JORRITSMA

*Deputy Director Policy and Operations Evaluation
Department - Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Mr. Ted KLIEST

*Policy & Operations Evaluation Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Mr. Jan KLUGKIST

*Policy & Operations Evaluation Department, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs*

Norway/Norvège

Ms. Tale KVALVAAG

Director - Evaluation Department - NORAD

Mr. Balbir SINGH

Evaluation - Norad

Slovenia/Slovénie

Ms. Blažka KEPIC

*Head of Department for International Development
Cooperation Implementation and Humanitarian Assistance
Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

Spain/Espagne

Mr. Jose Manuel ARGILÉS MARÍN

*Head of the Evaluation and Knowledge Management Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation*

Sweden/Suède

Ms. Helena EWERS

*Deputy Director - Department for Aid Management
Ministry for Foreign Affairs*

Ms. Madeleine HÄGG-LILJESTRÖM

*Department for Organisational Development / Monitoring and
Evaluation Unit Swedish International Development Co-
operation Agency (SIDA)*

Ms. Eva LITHMAN

*Expert - Swedish Expert Group for evaluation and analysis of
Sweden's development cooperation*

Mr. Lennart PECK

*Evaluation - Swedish International Development Co-operation
Agency (SIDA)*

Dr. Sara ULVANG FLYGARE

*Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist
Monitoring and Evaluation Unit - Depart. for Organisational
Development Swedish International Development Co-operation
Agency (SIDA)*

Ms. Elin CARLSSON

*Market Development Specialist
Department for Long Term Cooperation, Swedish International
Development Co-operation Agency (SIDA)*

Switzerland/Suisse

Mr. Martin SOMMER

*Head, Evaluation and Corporate Controlling Division
Environment and Natural Resources Division
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC*

Ms. Iren LEIBUNDGUT

*Deputy Head, Head Quality and Resources
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO*

Mr. Mathias RICKLI

*Evaluation and Controlling Officer Controlling and Evaluation
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC*

Mr. Philippe BESSON

*Conseiller d'Ambassade
Délégation permanente de la Suisse auprès de l'OCDE*

Turkey/Turquie

Mr. Harun AVCI

Expert - Turkish Cooperation and Coordination

Ms. Nurdan ÇAKIR

*Expert - Department of Strategy Development
Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency*

Ms. Nurcin YILDIZ

*Expert - Department of Strategy Development
Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency*

United Kingdom/Royaume-Uni

Ms Andrea COOK

*Evaluation Department
Department for International Development (DFID)*

Mr. Alex MACGILLIVRAY

Director - Development Impact, CDC Group

Mr. Simon CALVERT

*Evaluation Adviser - Private Sector - Evaluation Department
Department for International Development (DFID)*

Mr. Adrian NEMBHARD

*Economist - Evaluation Department
Department for International Development (DFID)*

United States/États-Unis

Ms. Cindy CLAPP-WINCEK *Director, Office of Learning, Evaluation and Research
USAID*

Mr. Steven PIERCE *US Representative to the DAC - Permanent Delegation*

African Development Bank (AfDB)/Banque africaine de développement (BAfD)

Mr. Rakesh NANGIA *Director, African Development Bank Group (AFDB)*

M. Mohamed MANAI *Division Manager, Project & Programs. Division
Operations Evaluation Department
Groupe de la Banque africaine de développement (GBAD)*

**UN Development Programs (UNDP) /
Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement (PNUD)**

Mr. Indran NAIDOO *Director, Evaluation Office
UN Development Programs. (UNDP)*

**World Bank/Banque mondiale
IEG**

Ms. Caroline HEIDER *Director-General - Independent Evaluation Group
The World Bank*

Mr. Marvin TAYLOR DORMOND *Director, Private Sector Evaluation*

Mr. Jack GLEN *Chief Evaluation Officer - IEG, World Group Bank*

IFC

Mr. Roland MICHELITSCH

Manager, Development Effectiveness Unit - Development Effectiveness Unit International Finance Corporation

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Ms. Lauren HAUCK

Senior evaluation specialist (NSO) Independent Evaluation Department - Asian Development Bank (ADB)

EBRD

Mr Joseph EICHENBERGER

Chief Evaluator European Bank for Reconstruction & Development

Ms. Victoria MILLIS

European Bank for Reconstruction & Development

European Development Finance Institutions (EDFI)

Mrs. Claire MEYER

*Policy and Communication Officer
European Development Finance Institutions EDFI)*

European Investment Bank

Mr. Bastiaan DE LAAT

*Evaluation Expert / Team Leader - Opération Evaluation
Division European Investment Bank*

Islamic Development Bank

Dr. Abdel-Hameed BASHIR

Economic Policy - Islamic Development Bank

ContourGlobal, EMEA

Mr. Karim MAALIOUN

Deputy General Counsel - ContourGlobal, EMEA

Donor Committee for Enterprise Development

Mr. Jim TANBURN *Coordinator - Donor Committee for Enterprise Development*

European Evaluation Society

Mr. Fredrik KORFKER *Head of Thematic Working Group on Private Sector Evaluation - European Evaluation Society*

Meridiam

Mr. Thierry DÉAU *Founder & Chief Executive Officer - Meridiam*

Mr. Julien TOUATI *Founder & Chief Executive Officer - Director*

RaboBank

Mr. Frank NAGEL *Head of Banking Advisory - RaboBank*

UAE, Ministry of International Cooperation and Development (MICAD)

Mr. Nabil SALEH AL DHAHERI *Director of Monitoring and Evaluation - Monitoring & Evaluation UAE, Ministry of International Cooperation and Development (MICAD)*

Mr. Makki HAMID *Evaluation Manager Evaluation UAE, Ministry of International Cooperation and Development*

UNITAID

Ms. Gulmira MCHALE *Head, Donor Relations and Resource Mobilization*

Other/Autre

Mr. Niels DABELSTEIN *Consultant*

Mr. Ian DAVIES *Consultant*

Ms. Julia BRÜMMER *Consultant*

OECD/OCDE

Ms. Karen JORGENSEN *Head of Division DCD/REED*

Mr. Hans LUNDGREN *Head of Evaluation and Results Team DCD/REED*

Ms. Joëlline BENEFICE *Policy Analyst DCD/REED*

Ms. Deborah CHAPPPAT *Policy Analyst DCD/REED*

Ms. Laetitia DEHELLE *Assistant DCD/REED*

**Ms. Megan Grace KENNEDY-
CHOUANE** *Policy Analyst - Evaluation Network DCD/REED*

Mr. Gregory DE PAEPE *Policy Analyst - DEV/GD/EMEA*

Ms. Dorothee GEORG *Junior Advisor - SGE/PCD*

Ms. Marine GEORGE *Intern - DCD/P21*

Ms. Ahyoung JEONG *Partnership Support Assistant - DCD/P21*

Ms. Kaori MIYAMOTO *Senior Policy Analyst - DCD/SDF*

Mrs. Nariné NERSESYAN *Senior Economist (Tax, Development and
Investment), CTP/TDP*

Mr. William NICOL *Senior Counsellor - DCD*

Ms. Lucero PEREZ *Consultant - GOV/RDP*

M. Bakary TRAORE *Policy Analyst - DEV/GD/EMEA*

Ms. Flora VEVER *Trainee - DEV/TD/CSA*

Mr. Milosz WIATROWSKI *Economist, policy analyst - DCD/SDF*

Mrs. Farida TCHAITCHIAN BENA *Policy Analyst - DCD/GPP*