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KEY MESSAGES AND CASE STUDIES FOR THE HLF-3 ROUNDTABLES FROM THE WORKSHOP ON "STRENGTHENING THE DEVELOPMENT RESULTS AND IMPACTS OF THE PARIS DECLARATION ON AID EFFECTIVENESS THROUGH WORK ON GENDER EQUALITY, SOCIAL EXCLUSION AND HUMAN RIGHTS", LONDON, 12-13 MARCH 2008

These reports have been prepared for the co-chairs of each of the nine HLF-3 Roundtables by the Secretariat of the DAC Network on Gender Equality. Based on concrete evidence from the field, the reports highlight key messages and introduce case studies that can be used in the Roundtable preparations. Their wide distribution is encouraged.

For more information on the case studies in this document and other case studies presented, please consult the workshop web site: www.oecd.org/dac/effectiveness/resultsandimpacts

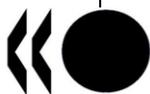
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**KEY MESSAGES AND CASE STUDIES FOR THE HLF-3 ROUNDTABLES
FROM THE WORKSHOP ON “STRENGTHENING THE DEVELOPMENT
RESULTS AND IMPACTS OF THE PARIS DECLARATION ON AID
EFFECTIVENESS THROUGH WORK ON GENDER EQUALITY, SOCIAL
EXCLUSION AND HUMAN RIGHTS”**

London, 12-13 March 2008

Introduction

1. The Department for International Development (DFID) hosted a workshop on “Strengthening the development results and impacts of the Paris Declaration through work on gender equality, social exclusion and human rights” in London on 12-13 March 2008. The workshop shared emerging analysis and experiences from the field. Case studies of direct relevance to the themes of the September 2008 High Level Forum (HLF-3) in Accra were identified and “show-cased”.
2. The workshop agenda was developed around the nine HLF-3 Roundtables. Over 20 case studies from various evidence gathering projects formed the basis for the content.
3. From the case studies and concrete evidence presented, workshop participants concluded that the Accra High Level Forum and the Accra Agenda for Action must be firmly focused on development impacts, i.e. improving people’s lives. The Accra discussions and outcomes need to be made politically compelling and not purely technocratic or process-oriented exercises.
4. As a follow-up to the workshop, the Secretariat of the DAC Network on Gender Equality has prepared brief reports, with key messages and syntheses of particularly relevant case studies from the workshop, for the organisers of each of the HLF-3 Roundtables.

Roundtable 1: Ownership

Key messages on ownership from the workshop

- Broad based, democratic ownership requires participation by all stakeholders – women as well as men - including civil society, the media, communities, service providers, parliament, line ministries and local level governance structures.
- The understanding and measurement of ownership can be improved by including attention to human rights, gender equality and inclusion dimensions.
- Donors can support partner governments to align their Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRS) with existing commitments such as the MDGs, the Beijing Platform for Action (1995), the Rio Conventions (1992) and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (1993), and to translate the PRS into budget-linked, results-oriented and operational programmes.
- Both qualitative and quantitative data are critical for building understanding and ownership of development issues.
- Key ingredients for building democratic ownership in fragile situations include strategic leadership and vision, coalition building, engaging with government at all levels, engaging the media and involving those in remote rural areas and those who are otherwise marginalised.

Relevant case studies

5. All case studies presented at the workshop addressed ownership directly or indirectly. Examples of presentations which may be particularly relevant for Roundtable 1 include:

Mozambique - Ministry of Health-led Irish Aid-Clinton Foundation partnership on HIV/AIDS (presented in parallel session 4)

6. This case study highlights the strong leadership and ownership of the Ministry of Health in Mozambique and demonstrates the difference a critical mass of likeminded donors can make to promote adherence to the “three ones” - one agreed HIV/AIDS action framework, one national AIDS co-ordinating authority and one agreed country-level monitoring and evaluation system - and to influence global initiatives to use and support existing structures.

7. The Ministry of Health began developing an HIV and AIDS Strategic Plan in 2003, bolstered by substantial donor support for increased ownership. The Minister took a strong stance in providing guidance and designing the framework for all partners wishing to work in the area of HIV and AIDS, with the Strategic Plan as the guiding document. Decision-making around HIV and AIDS is increasingly integrated into the broader health system - not only in terms of planning and budgeting but also in terms of service delivery. A Code of Conduct has been signed by donors, technical agencies and non-governmental organisations, adhering to jointly agreed principles for engagement in the sector.

8. A performance framework for the health sector in Mozambique, monitored on an annual basis, includes an indicator tracking development partners’ responsibilities and behaviour.

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Nepal - Support to the Safe Motherhood Programme (presented in parallel session 3)

9. This case study outlines the implementation of the Nepalese Government's National Safe Motherhood Plan (2002-17) within a broad Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) framework. The government has developed a Rights and Social Inclusion Policy and formed a Gender and Social Inclusion Unit, led by a high-level Ministry official. Donor assistance is provided for human resource development, service strengthening, infrastructure, procurement, monitoring and research, and a national financial incentives scheme.

10. Civil Society has been instrumental in "capturing voices" of the poor and excluded, building synergies between rights holders, facilitating dialogue between rights holders, and providing data and information to support policy reform. An "Equity and Access" programme focused on the poor and socially excluded is implemented by ActionAid and its local NGO partners.

11. Advocacy and accountability for safe motherhood and neonatal health has been assisted by women becoming more informed, empowered and organised, as well as by the increased acceptance by local government officials and health workers of the legitimacy of the approaches used – particularly in the light of Nepal's new "inclusive" political context. Quantitative data showing the extent of service exclusion and qualitative "voice" data, telling many of the stories behind the figures, lends compelling weight to advocacy and accountability initiatives.

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Roundtable 2: Alignment

Key messages on alignment from the workshop

- Donors can engage in policy dialogue with partners on commitments such as the MDGs, the Rio Conventions (1992), the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (1993) and the Beijing Platform for Action (1995).
- Gender responsive budgeting supports effective Public Financial Management.
- A long term commitment to alignment is needed to achieve sustainability; pressure for quick results has to be resisted.
- Support for capacity development needs to encompass all stakeholders, including donors, and address institutions, structures, processes and analytical capacity.
- UN agencies can play a key role in terms of capacity building in governments and in facilitating alignment because of their perceived neutrality.

Relevant case studies

Nepal - Public financial management and gender equality (presented in parallel session 5)

12. This case study outlines how the Ministry of Finance in Nepal initiated a Gender Responsive Budget (GRB) in the fiscal year 2005-2006, leading to public interest in the Budget Statement that year being focussed on GRB, with wide media coverage, public debates and private sector commitments to provide employment for women. The Ministry has since established tracking indicators and a Committee (comprising representatives from the Ministry of Finance, the National Planning Commission, the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, the Ministry of Local Development and UNIFEM) to institutionalise the Gender Responsive Budget. The case study also points to the important role played by CSOs.

13. The increasing acceptance by donors of gender equality policies and plans is identified as facilitating the process, even though large projects by larger donors in the country often fail to address gender issues and the more gender-responsive donors often offer less funding.

14. The case study also touches upon the issues of conditionality, discontinuity of aid flows due to shifting donor priorities, and ideological competition between donors.

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Ethiopia - Gender responsive public financial management (presented in parallel session 5)

15. This case study outlines how the integration of gender equality and women's empowerment into the national development strategy, and into funding modalities and monitoring mechanisms, was made possible by an enabling partnership between donors and government. It also clarifies how gender responsive budgeting (GRB) supports effective public financial management.

16. The gender responsive budgeting was initiated by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, and is mainstreamed both in strategic planning and management documents of the Ministry and in the national Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty (PASDEP).

17. Although Direct Budget Support was suspended in 2005 and the implementation of the PASDEP is taking place in a new aid landscape, opportunities have been created for civil society to become more actively involved in development planning and monitoring and to more effectively complement government work - in particular by tracking budget initiatives and by the use of innovative mechanisms, such as participatory surveys.

18. The case study provides insights about the importance of understanding the country context and larger reform process and the value of having a diversity of monitoring systems.

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Roundtable 3: Harmonisation

Key messages on harmonisation from the workshop (focus on Division of Labour)

- Donors need to respect institutional differences, and show a willingness to discuss and seek common ground; negotiation skills are needed to deal with conflicting mandates, values and internal procedures of individual donors.
- For division of labour to effectively support governments' policy priorities, donors have to be prepared to "let go" and disengage from sectors.
- Division of labour and institutionalised mechanisms among donors (e.g. Joint Assistance Strategies) and between donors and partner governments (PRSPs) are critical to promote mutual accountability for national policies and commitments to gender equality, human rights and environmental sustainability.
- Joint analysis and reviews of implementation gaps at national and sectoral level can help improve policy dialogue, decision-making, implementation and monitoring of the so-called "cross-cutting" issues.
- Harmonisation is most effective with donors' full commitment and when at least one agency with technical competence and committed staff is willing to lead the process.

Relevant case studies

Tanzania - Division of labour on gender equality (presented in parallel session 6)

19. The Development Partner Group on Gender Equality in Tanzania used a division of labour exercise to advance gender equality. Individual agencies were appointed as 'Gender Contact Points' to the different sector working groups.

20. Irish Aid was assigned as Contact Point to the agriculture sector and used this mandate to highlight gender equality as an important issue for the review of the National Agriculture Sector Development Programme. The Ministry of Agriculture was however resistant, due to insufficient knowledge and understanding of the relevance of gender equality to the agriculture sector. Discussion was therefore initiated by the Chair of the Development Partner Group on Gender Equality - the Canadian International Development Agency - with the Ministry for Community Development, Gender and Children, which in turn influenced the Ministry of Agriculture to align the review with government commitments on gender equality. Requests for technical support on gender issues in agriculture sector were met by Irish Aid.

21. A division of labour mapping exercise specifically highlighted gender based violence (GBV) as a common concern for many partners, revealing a lack of co-ordination in addressing this issue. A sub-group of donors interested in gender based violence was formed and engaged in a process of capacity building through learning from both government and civil society partners with relevant expertise. The subgroup developed objectives aligned with the Tanzania National Action Plan on GBV and spearheaded the creation of a basket fund which facilitated a more harmonised way of working to reduce gender based violence.

22. The division of labour on gender equality in Tanzania has resulted in increased accountability between development partners, government and civil society, and in better results.

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(See also the case study from Kenya about division of labour and financing for gender equality, presented in parallel session 6.)

Zambia - Co-ordinating the division of labour (presented in parallel session 8)

23. This case study focuses on the implementation of division of labour in Zambia. Seen as an initiative to strengthen harmonisation and alignment, and led by the Ministry of Finance, it demonstrates the need for strong leadership from the government and for a “new” set of skills in managing such a process - including negotiation and analytical skills.

24. It addresses a number of challenges relating to:

- Donors aligning with and supporting established national government priorities
- A large number of co-operating partners with different priorities
- Donors finding it hard to “let go” and disengage from sectors
- Equity and balance across sectors - with some sectors being under-represented by donors
- Imbalance in decision making power/authority of the co-operating partners
- Some donors still wanting high levels of visibility in certain sectors
- The so called “cross-cutting” and sub-sectoral issues – the division of labour in its current form does not do justice to these issues
- The role of emerging donors
- Declining significance of ODA (foreign financing in Zambia reduced from 40% to 16.6%)

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Strategic Environmental Assessment (presented in parallel session 7)

25. The OECD DAC Network on Environment and Development has prepared guidance on applying Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to development co-operation and is currently focusing on its implementation - including supporting training and capacity-building programmes, and developing case studies to illustrate good practice for donor approaches. Various products, including case studies, will be available for the Accra HLF.

26. The DAC defines Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) as:

“Analytical and participatory approaches to strategic decision-making that aim to integrate environmental considerations into policies, plans and programmes, and evaluate the inter linkages with economic and social considerations.”

27. SEA is applied at the very earliest stages of decision-making both to help formulate policies, plans and programmes, and to assess their potential development effectiveness and sustainability. It can:

- Provide environmental evidence to support more informed decision-making.
- Identify new opportunities by encouraging a systematic and thorough examination of development options.
- Prevent costly mistakes, by alerting decision-makers to potentially unsustainable development options at an early stage in the decision-making process.
- Build stakeholder engagement in decision-making for improved governance.
- Safeguard the environmental assets for sustainable development with poverty reduction.
- Facilitate trans-boundary co-operation and contribute to conflict prevention.

DAC Network on Environment and Development's SEA task team website: www.seataskteam.net

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Roundtable 4: Managing for Results

Key messages on managing for results from the workshop

- “Success” should be measured against key development issues such as human rights, gender equality and social inclusion - not just aid efficiency.
- The *quality* of results has to be assessed, for example, through collecting and analysing disaggregated data on different social groups; quantitative systems are not enough.
- All parties have made commitments to results on key issues such as gender equality, human rights and environmental sustainability (including the MDGs, the Beijing Platform for Action, the Rio Conventions and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action) and these can be used to increase the results-focus of development activities.
- Donors can work with partner countries to strengthen capacities and demand for results-oriented management which is responsive to the so-called “cross-cutting” issues.

Relevant case studies

Uganda - Gender mainstreaming performance measure for effective local governance (presented in parallel session 2)

28. Uganda’s decentralised policy is characterised by a strong local government system supported by bottom-up electoral, planning and budgeting processes. Local governments are key mechanisms for operationalising the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) - Uganda’s national planning framework which domesticates international commitments such as the Millennium Development Goals and the Paris Declaration.

29. To access development grants, local governments are required to meet basic access criteria elaborated from existing laws and policies. An incentive framework also involves rewarding good performance and sanctioning poor performance.

30. This case study outlines how, when the gender equality policy framework was not satisfactorily translated into actions at the local levels, a performance assessment was introduced, making gender mainstreaming part of the incentive framework. This incentive mechanism for gender mainstreaming in performance evaluation of programmes created a system and structure for collective ownership and helped institutionalise the principle of managing for results.

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Viet Nam - the Programme for Socio-economic Development of Communes Facing Extreme Difficulties in Ethnic Minority and Mountainous Areas in Vietnam: P135 (presented in parallel session 2)

31. This case study presents the Socio-Economic Development Programme for Ethnic Minority and Mountainous Areas (P135), which provides an example of operationalisation of the Paris Declaration and the *Hanoi Core Statement on Aid Effectiveness*. The P135 has supported a vast number of small infrastructure projects and trainings for community staff. This, together with a participatory and

decentralised approach, has contributed to enhancing people's participation and empowerment in commune level government.

32. The programme is based on national strategies and has a comprehensive system of indicators to monitor regular implementation and evaluate outcomes and impacts, disaggregated by sex, ethnic minorities and the poor. The cornerstone of P135's result based management is its implementation Roadmap, which was developed in wide consultation with key stakeholders.

33. The P135 also has a comprehensive audit plan with annual audits that contributes to effectiveness and accountability, and is the first government programme to officially involve NGOs in design and implementation.

34. This is a model for other programmes in Viet Nam to implement the Paris Declaration and to manage budget support to strengthen government programming.

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Roundtable 5: Mutual Accountability

Key messages on mutual accountability from the workshop

- Accountability requires agreed goals and clear responsibilities, with priority issues such as human rights, gender equality, social inclusion and environmental sustainability included in performance assessment frameworks.
- Accountability is the essential companion to ownership.
- Develop and use accountability frameworks that apply to and involve all stakeholders, including civil society, Parliaments, local government institutions, trade unions, chambers of commerce and the private sector.
- Regional commitments can be used to strengthen national-level accountability.
- Bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as national governments, can track the proportion of development assistance going to priority issues such as human rights, gender equality, social inclusion and environmental sustainability.
- Budget transparency and literacy are the basis for national accountability.
- Division of labour exercises can help increase accountability for commitment on gender equality, human rights and environmental sustainability by setting clear objectives and agreeing a clear leadership role.

Relevant case studies

The Southern Africa Development Co-operation (SADC) Gender Equality Protocol (presented in parallel session 8)

35. This case study demonstrates the use of regional mechanisms as a means of strengthening national level accountability. It sets out how an audit was commissioned by the Southern Africa Development Co-operation (SADC) Gender Unit and SADC Parliamentary Forum on the extent to which regional and international instruments for advancing gender equality had been implemented.

36. The greatest challenge identified in the audit was to move the SADC region from an era of commitments to an era of implementation. The main recommendation was therefore that Heads of State adopt a Protocol to accelerate gender equality, which would entail elevating the SADC Declaration on Gender and Development into a Protocol.

37. Since 2005, the process of drafting and lobbying for the Protocol has involved national governments, national civil society organisations, regional organisations and regional governance bodies. The Gender Alliance, a group of regional organisations, has supported lobbying and advocacy, both at national and regional levels, including through the provision of technical support.

38. Each country, through its Gender and other relevant ministries, has reviewed, discussed and debated the various drafts of the Protocol. Civil society organisations, with support from the Gender Alliance, have been directly involved in the country level consultations. SADC has played an instrumental role in convening and supporting the process and is the ultimate body that will approve the Protocol.

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Peru - A rights-based approach to promote ownership and accountability within the health sector (presented in parallel session 3)

39. This case study explains a programme by the humanitarian organisation CARE, aimed at improving the health of the poor. The programme acknowledges that significant and sustainable improvements can only be made if the poor are involved in shaping health policies, practices and programmes, and in ensuring that what is agreed actually happens. Increasing the voice of the poor is at the core of the programme, which ultimately seeks to improve relations between state and society, in order to promote fulfilment of people's right to health.

40. To promote public debate and accountability for health policy, CARE supported a variety of social reporting mechanisms, including a civil society shadow report to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, and various reports on issues such as sexual and reproductive rights and access to HIV/Aids treatment.

41. CARE linked up with ForoSalud, a nation-wide civil society health network, to build civil society capacity - with a particular focus on women - to participate in decisions and advocate for health rights. CARE also worked with key duty-bearers, including the Ministry of Health, to develop its capacity to deliver citizens' health rights.

42. The advocacy for and engagement in the formulation of national health rights legislation has created local mechanisms of surveillance and strengthened the basis for holding the government to account for service delivery.

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Roundtable 6: Role of Civil Society

Key messages on the role of civil society from the workshop

- Democratic ownership will be realised/strengthened by investments in and capacity building of civil society organisations which promote human rights, gender equality, environmental sustainability, social inclusion, HIV and AIDS and poverty reduction.
- CSOs have a dual role - advocacy and delivery. Being both a partner of the government (possibly even a recipient of government funding) and a monitor - holding the government to account - can, however, be challenging.
- Civil society is and should be diverse, but needs to be strengthened to fully assume its challenge role.
- Predictability of funding is needed also for civil society organisations, and can be realised through modalities such as programme support and joint basket funding.
- While government funding of CSOs can compromise their independence, at the same time donor funding of CSOs can be perceived by governments as external funding for the political opposition.
- Accountability frameworks should apply to and involve all stakeholders, including parliament, trade unions, the private sector, NGOs and citizen groups.
- Civil society can be instrumental in “capturing voices” and facilitating dialogue between citizens as rights holders, and the state as duty bearers.
- Engagement by civil society in the development process should be supported at all levels of the policy chain.

Relevant case studies

43. All case studies presented at the workshop addressed the role of civil society organisations directly or indirectly. Examples of presentations which may be of particular interest for Roundtable 6 include:

Division of labour in practice: responding to Paris Declaration principles and a model for financing gender equality in Kenya (presented in parallel session 6)

44. This case study provides a model for financing, designed to involve both government and non-government actors, and provide longer-term programmatic support. It has been developed as part of a deliberate strategy by donors, facilitated by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), to ensure that gender equality issues are adequately financed, including civil society organisations. Kenya has a vibrant civil society where strong women’s organisations and non-state actors have played a key role in making gender inequalities more visible and demanded increased government accountability for gender equality and women’s empowerment. However, funding for gender equality work has tended to be small, short-term, unpredictable and uncoordinated.

45. Following a strategic review and analysis of gender equality work in Kenya and the challenges faced by all stakeholders, it was decided to design a model for financing of gender equality in the context of the Paris Declaration. The model is being developed, under the auspices of UNIFEM, by a CIDA-sponsored adviser who works closely with civil society, government and donors. It builds on existing successes and elements in harmonised programming and aims to expand partnerships and

programme management capacities to increase gender equality results and achievements. The model proposes a common framework of targets and actions for women's rights and gender equality which draws on all stakeholders, recognises diverse approaches to gender equality, shares information, and reduces the transaction costs in disbursement of funds to both government and civil society.

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A community centred approach to health in a situation of fragility: the case of Zimbabwe (presented in parallel session 3)

46. The Community Working Group on Health (CWGH) is a network that works to strengthen community participation in the health sector in co-operation with the Ministry of Health, local government and other health providers. It carries out training and supports specific health campaigns and community activities such as Civic Education on Health, HIV and AIDS as a gender-specific issue, sexual and reproductive health and rights. CWGH places a major emphasis on active participation by communities in issues of public health concern.

47. Despite the current fragility of the concept of ownership in Zimbabwe, CWGH works to build this from the community level. Increasingly, communities have begun to take up greater responsibility for their health, by initiating and co-ordinating processes for identification and prioritization of local health concerns, formulation of local health actions, and monitoring their implementation. Examples of such community driven initiatives include the Community Monitoring Programme, health literacy, and participatory reflection and action.

48. One of the main challenges is the need to build the capacity of civil society to scale up engagement with the state around governance issues. A critical question is to what extent external resources can be directed towards strengthening the capacity of citizens and NGOs to demand transparency and accountability without raising suspicion of pursuing an external agenda that does not necessarily benefit the country.

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Roundtable 7: Fragile States and Conflict Situations

Key messages on fragile states and conflict situations from the workshop

- The principles of the Paris Declaration are challenging but relevant in situations of fragility and conflict.
- A focus on key development issues such as human rights and gender equality can open up policy spaces and offer a means to progress in fragile and conflict situations; UN agencies can play a useful convening role.
- It is important for donors to be flexible in their approach to involving the state at all levels; multilateral organisations can act as a broker for this.
- A stable state needs a strong civil society (and *vice versa*); CSOs that promote human rights, gender equality, environmental sustainability and social inclusion have an important role to play in peace and state building.
- There are different kinds of fragility, requiring different kinds of responses.
- Broad-based partnerships at *community level* can help promote inclusive, sustainable outcomes related to gender equality, human rights, environmental sustainability, HIV and AIDS, and social inclusion.
- Alignment needs to be approached cautiously - a long term commitment is needed in order to achieve sustainability.
- Accountability during elections can be strengthened through monitoring by trained citizens.

Relevant case studies

49. Several cases studies from different regions discussed fragile and conflict situations. Three examples which may be of particular interest to Roundtable 7 are:

Sierra Leone - Harmonised work to support ownership and accountability in a fragile situation (presented in parallel session 1)

50. This case study presents the 2007 elections in Sierra Leone and provides a positive message on effective co-ordination of resources.

51. It indicates that building democratic ownership in fragile situations is challenging but possible. The work of the “quadripartite alliance” (CSOs, government, media and donors) to strengthen the election process did lead to a more robust and credible process, owned by all citizens - both women and men.

52. Key ingredients to make this work were strategic leadership and vision, involvement of government at all levels, and engaging those in remote rural areas. Media and civil society played important roles. Accountability was strengthened through monitoring conducted by trained citizens and by setting standards for electoral counting. These have raised expectations for the future.

53. The presentation made clear that capacity goes beyond training to strengthening institutions and structures: it is also necessary to build capacity of civil society, including the media, and government at all levels - even though this is costly and takes a long time to achieve.

54. It was noted that alignment needs to be approached cautiously in fragile situations. A long term commitment is needed to achieve sustainability.

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Zimbabwe - Advancing gender equality and women’s empowerment, the experience of the Women’s Coalition (presented in parallel session 1)

55. This case study describes the efforts to advance gender equality in the complex aid environment in Zimbabwe, where aid is focused on humanitarian assistance delivered through UN agencies and civil society. Other challenges in the country include a lack of consensus on the extent to which organisations should work with the government and limited donor co-ordination.

56. Efforts have therefore been made by DFID and UNIFEM (later joined by other donors) to establish a cohesive, co-ordinated agenda for gender equality. UNIFEM is working closely with the Women’s Coalition (an umbrella body of women’s organisations). A scoping study was undertaken to map key players, networks and gaps in the country. This is now being followed up and will be intensified after the elections.

57. While commitment to real ownership and participation has been time-consuming, and pressure from donors for quick results needs to be resisted, this process has been positive in establishing open and effective communication between all stakeholders.

58. This example shows that even where government buy-in is difficult, it is important to find a way to involve the state. Organisations such as UNIFEM can act as a broker to engage stakeholders, including CSOs, in determining and “owning” the agenda for gender equality.

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Nepal - Incorporating gender equality into the Biogas Support Programme (presented in parallel session 7)

59. This case study outlines a demand-driven, multi-donor funded biogas programme in Nepal which provides technical assistance, subsidies and access to credit. The government provides oversight and some financial support while the private sector actors (plant owners) provide most of the funding.

60. The programme is designed to reach out to poor rural communities by providing subsidies and linking in with micro-credit and other rural development activities. It benefits women in terms of time saving, reduced work load and reduced indoor air pollution. The environmental benefits mainly relate to the potential to mitigate climate change through reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

61. The programme reflects the Paris Declaration principles of harmonised aid and uses a programme based approach and basket funding. It supports national policy and includes monitoring and evaluation components. There is a common understanding between partners, promoting mutual accountability, and a clear division of labour between the government, the private sector, civil society, donors and financial

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institutions. Genuine local ownership meant that the programme was able continue during times of conflict.

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Roundtable 8: Sectoral Application of the Paris Declaration

Key messages on sectoral application of the Paris Declaration from the workshop

- It is important that the value of the Paris Declaration principles are realised at sectoral level and that familiarity with applying these goes beyond central agencies. Work on human rights, gender equality, HIV and AIDS, social exclusion and environmental sustainability can be a means to achieve this.
- While government leadership on sectoral work is important, the inclusion and involvement of all stakeholders (with defined responsibilities and goals) is essential.
- There should be increased focus on tracking the *quality of results* achieved within sectors - finding out who are not included, not being reached or not having the opportunity to benefit. Work on human rights, social exclusion and gender equality can help understand results within sectors.
- Results frameworks should include an indicator on donors' responsibilities and behaviour in sectors.
- Predictability of funding for government and civil society engagement in the so-called "cross-cutting" issues in sectors can be advanced through utilising harmonised aid modalities, such as sector wide approaches and joint basket funding.
- Changes in key personnel (both donor and government) can have a significant effect on ongoing processes, leading to challenges in maintaining a consistent approach to the Paris Declaration principles.

Relevant case studies

62. There were several case studies from different regions and different sectors that discussed application of the Paris Declaration principles at sectoral level. Three short summaries of examples which will be of particular interest to Roundtable 8 are provided here.

The case of Bolivia - promotion of ownership, results and accountability in the education sector (presented in parallel session 4)

63. Despite the Bolivian Government not being very familiar with the Paris Declaration, the principles are considered important and are being applied in the education sector. The presentation described the strong national and sectoral commitment to marginalised and indigenous populations and a strong commitment to the involvement of civil society in the planning and implementation processes in the education sector, and also highlighted the risk of gender equality dimensions being overlooked.

64. The leadership of the Ministry of Education has increased through the formulation of the education strategic plan and the implementation of a Code of Conduct. The Ministry has also insisted that the donor community align with the sector plan and use national budgetary systems. Accountability has improved through the participation of civil society (including both women's organisations and women at community level) in the formulation of the educational law and in the process for monitoring and evaluation.

65. However, despite these gains in ownership, accountability and on a results focus, there is a need to strengthen Ministry and civil society capacity to play effective roles in these processes; and to broaden co-ordination mechanisms at local government levels. Not all actors have similar understandings of the sector wide approach or of 'ownership'.

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Nepal – Support to the Safe Motherhood Programme (presented in parallel session 3)

66. This case study outlines the implementation of the Nepalese Government's National Safe Motherhood Plan (2002-17) within a broad Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) framework. The government has developed a Rights and Social Inclusion Policy and formed a Gender and Social Inclusion Unit, led by a high-level Ministry official. Donor assistance is provided for human resource development, service strengthening, infrastructure, procurement, monitoring and research, and a national financial incentives scheme. An "Equity and Access" programme focused on the poor and socially excluded is implemented by ActionAid and its local NGO partners.

67. Advocacy and accountability for safe motherhood and neonatal health has been assisted by women becoming more informed, empowered and organised, as well as by the increased acceptance by local government officials and health workers of the legitimacy of the approaches used – particularly in the light of Nepal's new "inclusive" political context. Quantitative data showing the extent of service exclusion and qualitative "voice" data, telling the stories behind the figures, lends compelling weight to advocacy and accountability initiatives.

68. Civil Society has been instrumental in "capturing voices", building synergies between rights holders, facilitating "dialogue interfaces" between rights holders and duty bearers, feeding data and information into both policy reform and political advocacy.

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Ghana - Co-ordinated action to strengthen ownership by National Environmental Agencies (presented in parallel session 7)

69. This case study describes the efforts by the Government of Ghana, supported by donors, to bring the Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) sector into policy dialogue and budget allocation, and to support the move from projects to sectoral and budget support.

70. Capacity development of the Environment Ministry and other institutions - including for planning and budgeting processes – has proven critical. Because environmental agencies were previously sidelined and not well resourced, it is necessary to build capacity for them to engage with the Ministries of Planning and Finance, and to speak the language of aid effectiveness. In addition, local capacity needs to be developed to conduct analysis for effective policy making.

71. The case study calls for consistency and coherence from donors when articulating and implementing their environmental policies, including ensuring that staff in headquarters and field offices convey the same messages.

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Roundtable 9: Implications of New Aid Architecture

Key messages on the implications of new aid architecture from the workshop

- Vertical funds (such as Global Funds) can, and do, support some of the key development issues, such as HIV and AIDS and climate change. These funds, however, need to better support human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment.
- The relationship between vertical funds and ownership is challenging.
- Sustained relationship-building, related to work on the so called "cross-cutting" issues, between bilateral donors, vertical funds and emerging donors, can be effective to bring new actors into the broader aid effectiveness agenda.
- Further analysis is needed on how non-DAC donors "fit in" with division of labour exercises, and how to involve them in such exercises.

Relevant case studies

Mozambique - Experience of working with global initiatives such as the Global Fund for AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM) and the World Bank Multi-Country HIV/AIDS Programme and Treatment Acceleration Programme, at country level in the health sector (presented in parallel session 4)

72. This case study highlights the strong leadership and ownership of the Ministry of Health in Mozambique and demonstrates the difference a critical mass of like-minded donors can have in promoting adherence to the Three Ones - one agreed HIV/AIDS action framework, one national AIDS co-ordinating authority and one agreed country-level monitoring and evaluation system - and in influencing global initiatives to use and support existing structures. It explains how a partnership between Irish Aid and the Clinton Foundation aligned with the framework set out by the Ministry and how other vertical initiatives on health then followed this lead - and started channelling their funds through the common fund and/or adapted their support as far as possible to the Ministry's own systems and cycles - in line with the Strategic Plan on HIV and AIDS.

73. The presentation explains the development and use of a performance framework for the health sector that is monitored on an annual basis, and includes an indicator tracking development/co-operating partners' responsibilities and behaviour. It also highlighted some of the challenges faced in maintaining a consistent approach to HIV and AIDS when key individuals change, and with an increasing number of donors and partners in the health sector in Mozambique.

74. The case study presentation emphasised the need to respect institutional differences whilst being willing to seek common ground. Commitment to transparency, openness of communication and willingness to debate are important. The study stressed the importance of involving a wide range of stakeholders and of having clearly defined responsibilities so that mutual accountability is effective.

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Zambia - Co-ordinating the division of labour (presented in parallel session 8)

75. This presentation focused on the Zambian Government's co-ordination of the Division of Labour. Seen as an initiative to strengthen harmonisation and alignment and led by the Ministry of Finance, the presentation demonstrated:

- The need for strong leadership from the government
- The need for different skills in managing such a process
- The challenges of change with a large number of co-operating partners with different priorities and agendas, and
- The particular challenges posed by new and emergent donors.

76. There have been many benefits from the division of labour in Zambia, such as better co-ordination and reduction in transaction costs for government. There are however also challenges, including donor difficulty of "letting go" and disengaging from sectors, achieving adequate balance across sectors (with the environment, energy and social protection under-represented by donors), the devolution of decision making powers varying considerably among co-operating partners, and the division of labour in its current form not doing enough for the so called "cross-cutting" issues.

77. In terms of emerging donors it was noted that China, India, Brazil are now active players in Zambia but that it is unclear how to bring these countries on board. Their staying outside of the division of labour exercise renders this only a partial contribution to making aid effective. As domestic resources increase, foreign financing in Zambia has decreased, which is shifting the balance and influencing how the government engages with aid effectiveness processes. There is therefore a need for a concerted donor position to support government in engagement with emerging donors to bring them on board with the aid effectiveness agenda.

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