

**EVALUATING DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION**  
**- Providing Evidence for Learning and Decision Making -**  
**China-DAC Study Group Roundtable**

Beijing International Hotel Convention Center, 12 June 2014

**Overview**

The China-DAC Study Group provides an international platform for sharing knowledge and exchanging experiences on promoting growth and reducing poverty in developing countries, including how international assistance can be effective in supporting this objective. The International Poverty Reduction Centre in China (IPRCC) and the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) form the joint secretariat of the Study Group and provide its co-chairs.

As part of its current work programme, the Study Group is organising a series of Roundtable discussions on topics related to improving the quality of development co-operation. A first Roundtable took place in Beijing on 18 June 2013 on "Effective Development Co-operation: Drawing Lessons from Agricultural Development in Africa". This second roundtable focuses on strengthening evaluation capacity to improve the effectiveness of development co-operation. It is organised with the support of the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC).

Evaluation is at the heart of efforts to make development co-operation more effective in supporting economic growth and reducing poverty. The evaluation of development activities is important for improving the management of aid because it provides information about what works, what doesn't work and why. This learning can be used to improve the quality of future activities and provide insights into how policies can be improved.

China has tremendous experience in evaluating its own development process at home to improve the policy design and decision making for growth and poverty reduction. Lessons learnt from these experiences can be highly relevant for strengthening the evaluation capacities for China's development co-operation to other countries and are also useful for DAC members and observers. Through its Network on Development Evaluation, the DAC facilitates experience sharing and learning and can offer important lessons for building evaluation capacities in China.

The specific objective of this Roundtable is to share experiences and strengthen evaluation capacity by raising awareness of good practices in the evaluation of development co-operation and promoting greater familiarity in the application of these practices. Participation in this Roundtable is by invitation. The aim is to bring together around 50 participants, comprising officials, researchers and practitioners from China and DAC members and observers, especially those actively engaged in the DAC Network on Development Evaluation.

Time	Agenda
09:00 - 09:30	<i>Registration</i>
09:30 - 10:30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Welcome and Introduction</b></p> <p>Development Co-operation can play an important role in stimulating growth and reducing poverty. To make most efficient use of resources, we must strive to better understand what, why and how development interventions, when coupled with supportive domestic policies in partner countries, work or don't work. Evaluation plays an invaluable role in providing answers to these questions and promotes more informed decision-making by both providers and recipients of development co-operation.</p> <p>The introductory remarks and key-note speech will highlight the importance of evaluation for improving the effectiveness of development interventions in conjunction with domestic policy making.</p> <p><b>Chair: Ms. Wang Luo</b>, Director, Institute of International Development Cooperation, CAITEC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Huo Jianguo</b>, President, CAITEC (10 min)</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Karen Jorgensen</b>, Head of Review, Evaluation and Engagement Division, Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD (10 min)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Zuo Changsheng</b>, Co-Chair of China-DAC Study Group, Director General of International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC) (10 min)</li> </ul> <p><b>Key-Note: Mr. Velayuthan Sivagnanasothy</b>, Secretary, Ministry of Traditional Industries and Small Enterprise Development, Sri Lanka (20 min)</p>
10:30 - 10:45	<i>Tea Break</i>
10:45 - 12:15	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 1: A Learning-oriented Policy for Evaluation</b></p> <p>Evaluation needs a clear role, responsibility and place in the institutional structure to strengthen evidence-based decision making and increase the effectiveness of development co-operation. Many members of the DAC have developed policies for evaluation to foster a learning-oriented institutional approach. China also has a very strong culture of learning to improve development policies within China and to provide more effective development co-operation to other developing countries.</p> <p>The session is designed to share information about evaluation policies of some DAC members and institutions in China, including how they are implemented. Discussions will benefit from the findings by CAITEC staff after observing evaluations conducted by USAID and AfD. The objective is to identify good practices in strengthening evaluation policies to ensure that findings are used for evidence-based decision-making.</p> <p><b>Moderator: Ms. Wang Luo</b>, Director, Institute of International Development Cooperation, CAITEC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Emilie Aberlen</b>, Evaluation Project Manager, French Development Agency (AfD) (15 min)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Mao Xiaojing</b>, Deputy Director, Institute of International Development Cooperation, CAITEC (15 min)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Christophe Bahuet</b>, Country Director, UNDP China (15 min)</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Maria Rendon</b>, Development Counselor, U.S. Embassy Beijing (5 min)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Kang Bingjian</b>, Director, Department of International Trade &amp; Economic Affairs, Ministry of Commerce of China (5 min)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Discussion</b></p>
12:15 - 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 - 15:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 2: Delivering Quality Evaluations</b></p> <p>An evaluation should provide useful evidence that contributes to learning processes. DAC members and observers have summarised standards for conducting evaluations with the ultimate objective of improving the quality of evaluation findings and recommendations. These standards can contribute to delivering evaluations more effectively and to providing guidance to project managers and policy makers on when, where and how to evaluate development interventions. CAITEC has introduced these Key Norms and Standards to Chinese authorities.</p> <p>This session is designed to share experiences in how to deliver quality evaluations and what China and DAC members can learn from each other about when, what and how to evaluate. The objective is to highlight good practices in delivering the right information at the right time to inform policy making.</p> <p><b>Moderator: Mr. Chris Chalmers</b>, Country Director, DFID China</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Li Jiali</b>, Director, Foreign Economic Cooperation Center, Ministry of Agriculture of China (15 min)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Wu Lei</b>, Director, China International Engineering Consulting Corporation (CIECC) (15 min)</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Liu Haifang</b>, Deputy Director, Centre for African Studies, Peking University (5 min)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Timothy Labunga</b>, Assistant Commissioner, Monitoring &amp; Evaluation, Office of the Prime Minister, Uganda (5 min)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Discussion</b></p>
15:00 - 15:15	<i>Tea Break</i>
15:15 - 16:45	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 3: Communicating and Using Evaluation Findings</b></p> <p>The evaluation of development interventions provides information about what works, what doesn't work and why. These lessons contribute to making development co-operation more effective. Therefore, all evaluation findings – no matter how positive or negative – are important as they help policy makers to better understand the development process and support evidence-based decision making. To achieve the desired goals of evaluation, the findings need to be communicated effectively and discussed by all stakeholders, including</p>

	<p>project managers, counterpart institutions and policy makers. These learning cycles are extremely important for improving the effectiveness of development interventions.</p> <p>The session is designed to share information about effective ways to communicate and use evaluation findings. The objective is to highlight good practices in informing decision making and on acting on evaluation findings.</p> <p><b>Moderator: Mr. Michael Laird</b>, Senior Policy Analyst, Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Keiichi Muraoka</b>, Director General, Evaluation Department, JICA (15 min)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Wang Cheng'an</b>, Vice Chairman, China Society for WTO Studies (15 min)</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Kristin Iglum</b>, Development Counsellor, Royal Norwegian Embassy, Beijing (5 min)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Zhang Chenxu</b>, Director, Concessional Loan Dep., Export-Import Bank of China (5 min)</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Dieudonné Takouo</b>, Head of Paris Declaration Follow-up Unit, and Director of the North-South Cooperation and Multilateral Organisations, Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development, Cameroon (5 min)</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Discussion</b></p>
16:45 - 17:30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Summary and Closing Remarks</b></p> <p><b>Chair: Mr. Wang Xiaolin</b>, Director of Research Division, IPRCC</p> <p><b>Summary Remark:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Li Xiaoyun</b>, Senior Advisor of China-DAC Study Group, Dean of College of Humanities and Development Studies, China Agricultural University (15 min)</li> </ul> <p><b>Closing Remarks:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Karen Jorgensen</b>, Head of Review, Evaluation and Engagement Division, Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD (10 min)</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Wang Luo</b>, Director, Institute of International Development Cooperation, CAITEC (10 min)</li> </ul>