

Welcoming New Partnerships in International Development Co-operation

1. We, members of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC), acknowledge the essential role that major nations from beyond our membership have had in contributing to global progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These nations have lifted many of their own citizens out of poverty and have, in turn, taken on shared responsibilities in the pursuit of common development objectives, economic growth and poverty reduction in developing countries.
2. We welcome the contribution of all providers of development co-operation resources and expertise, and hope to forge new relationships with these new partners through open dialogue without preconditions. Before such a dialogue can become meaningful, it is important to recognize certain fundamental realities, and to acknowledge the diversity that exists within the broader development community.
3. We recognize that many nations engaged in South-South co-operation have a dual status as both recipients and providers. We believe that such duality can enrich the international dialogue and enhance the effort to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth.
4. We emphasize that engaging in mutually beneficial learning activities - or joint or trilateral development co-operation programs - can serve as a useful platform for increased impact and enhanced co operation with providers from the North and the South, especially at country level, in a manner that will serve the interest of the poor, without requiring acceptance of the norms and rules required of DAC member states.
5. As the source and keeper of Official Development Assistance (ODA) definitions and statistics, we wish to clarify that ODA is not defined as a North-South transfer, but rather its criteria relate to the development purpose, concessionality, and the official nature of such flows of resources.
6. We would welcome the sharing of data on concessional flows to developing country partners. Reporting of such flows has no bearing on a country's status as an aid recipient. Inclusion in the DAC list of ODA recipients is determined solely by a country's level of economic development based on its per capita income.
7. We believe that development co-operation, from providers from the North or the South, public or private, would gain from collaboration among all actors, no matter their economic status or particular development tradition.
8. During 2011 the DAC, pursuing its commitment towards a global partnership for international development co-operation, will strengthen its own global relations strategy - one that will be aimed at more knowledge-sharing, collaboration and dialogue with non-DAC OECD members, other non-DAC nations (both as our developing-country partners and providers of co-operation), private-sector foundations, and civil society organizations.
9. Our common agenda is the Millennium Development Goals. We hope and expect that the Fourth High Level Forum in Busan, Korea will reaffirm this commitment and lead to an enhanced global partnership. We may have different methods, but our common interest is in reducing global poverty and increasing sustainable and inclusive economic growth.