

Triangular Cooperation and New EU Donor Countries

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Content Outline

- Background
- Reflections on the current status
- Exploring potentials for enhancing triangular cooperation
- Technical and practical limitations
- Proposals for next steps

Emerging Donors Initiative (EDI)

- strengthening capacities in emerging donor countries to effectively deliver development assistance;
- promoting development cooperation between emerging donor countries and recipient countries, with a special focus on Southeast European and CIS countries;
- enhancing the role of UNDP, and the UN system overall, as a major partner for and facilitator of East-East cooperation, trilateral cooperation and donor coordination

EDI Results

- ODA capacity building projects in CR, SR, Hungary, Baltic countries, Slovenia, Russia, Turkey, Croatia
- Advisory services to Thailand, Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan
- Trust Funds with CR, SR, Hungary and Romania that delivered over \$ 20 million since 2003
- Series of regional emerging donor meetings/workshops since 2000
- Trilateral cooperation facilitated within the Slovak TF framework

Remaining Challenges for the Emerging Donors in RBEC

- Human resources for development cooperation
- Programme based and demand driven approach
- Partnership agreements with the target countries
- Effective use of multi-lateral channels
- Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
- Coordination with other donors
- ODA budgets (0,1% of GNI at the moment, EC targets for EDs 0,17 by 2010 and 0,33 by 2015)

Current Observations

- Not too much enthusiasm for triangular cooperation in new EU donor countries
- Their potential dual role – as a quasi “southern” partner and/or as proposed in the concept note – as a “northern” partner
- Declared interest in TIKA and Rossotrudnicestvo (Russian Agency)
- Some ongoing activities in Slovak Aid

Potentials – Traditional Donors

- Long term experience
- Lessons learned
- Available funding
- Developed implementation frameworks and procedures
- EU perspective

Potentials – “Emerging Donors”

- Transition experience
- EU accession experience
- Lower cost of consultants
- Russian language knowledge
- Cultural patterns
- **NEW ASPECT** – European Transition Compendium and how to turn it into praxis

Potentials - UNDP

- Transparent procedures
- Sound programmatic approach
- Network of country offices
- Regional programmes managed by the Bratislava Regional Centre making use of emerging donor expertise

Technical and Practical Implications

- Procedural issues
- Contractual issues
- Additional workload
- Ideally – the whole PCM cycle starting with joint programming and ending with joint evaluations and lessons learned
- Financial and HR constraints and procurement justifications
- Still WORTH IT!

Accra Agenda Highlights

- Fragmentation of Aid (from 10,000 to 80,000 bilateral ODA projects in ten years) (-)
- 15,000 missions in 54 recipient countries in 2007 (-)
- Untied aid raised to 53% in 2006 (+)
- Consensus on increasing role of recipient countries in policy dialogue on development, reduction of fragmentation, untying of aid, increased role of CSOs, ownership, predictability and focus on delivering results

Proposals for Next Steps I

- With regard to European Transition Compendium
 - EU development policy should pay more attention to the transfer of transitional experience in different territories and namely in the Eastern Europe and CIS region
 - Establishing specific budget line for the transfer of transition experience
 - Not just quantity of ODA matters, but also quality, especially in terms of relevance
 - “pairing” of a “traditional” and “new” European donors

Proposed Next Steps II

- Facilitation of trilateral cooperation
 - UNDP can provide and broaden established mechanisms on the side of “new” donors in order to compensate for the lack of human and professional resources on the side of MFAs and ODA agencies
 - Example – besides the ongoing TFs - regional workshop in Bratislava June 2009 or tentatively planned programming and donor coordination workshop in Chisinau later in 2010

Issues....

- Can we agree on the timetable of next steps?
- With whom to follow on European Transition Compendium agenda?
- How to introduce the new patterns of ODA work in new donor countries that would allow for more donor coordination, hence also triangular cooperation?
- How to promote interest to work jointly – what incentives to be introduced into calls for proposals?

THANK YOU!!