

The aid architecture debate: beyond Busan

M&E and gender

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OUTLINE

1. Gender, M&E and PD/AAA: mutually dependent

2. Evidence

3. Which way forward? Some suggestions

Annex

1. PD/AAA opportunities and risks for gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE)

2. Selected References

1. M&E, gender & PD/AAA: mutually dependent

➤ **gender and M&E → PD/AAA**

- M&E: crucial ingredient for
 - evidence-based & iterative policy-making
 - results-orientation
 - accountability
- gender-sensitivity: crucial ingredient for
 - results-orientation
- ❖ M&E important for gender accountability & feedback/learning
- ❖ integration of gender-dimension in M&E → ↑ M&E quality

➤ **PD/AAA → M&E and gender**

- M&E reform agenda
 - recipients: elaboration of M&E arrangements (indicator 11)
 - donors: harmonisation & alignment & M&E capacity building
→ interdependent
- different PD key-principles : opportunities & risks for GEWE (see annex 1)

2. EVIDENCE

- **opportunities and risks for GEWE**
 - **M&E reform agenda**

➤ opportunities & risks for GEWE

- higher aid modalities:
 - ❑ opportunities for gender mainstreaming but hardly realised
 - ❑ risks for targeted gender equality & empowerment projects
- no organisational changes in aid agencies

➤ donor & recipient M&E reform agenda

- slow donor harmonisation & alignment in M&E
- indicator 11: low scores – weak progress



2/29 in 2006 to 3/54 in 2008

➤ donor & recipient M&E reform agenda

- own desk & field studies on recipient M&E systems
 - absence of evaluation plan & policy
 - monitoring > evaluation
 - ✓ E: methodologically & politically more challenging
 - ✓ ↓ analytical quality of M&E outputs
 - ✓ leaves gender blindness & its effects unveiled
 - basic M&E principle of autonomy/impartiality neglected
 - ✓ ↓ accountability

➤ donor & recipient M&E reform agenda

- ❑ methodology: strongest component
 - ✓ focus on indicators & statistics
 - ✓ focus on two extremes (PFM&MDG) → missing middle (sector MIS)
 - ✓ move towards the aggregate → gender blindness
- ❑ organisational & systemic issues: problematic
 - ✓ no coordination and oversight
 - ✓ lack of horizontal & vertical integration
 - ✓ linkage between donor project M&E & national M&E often non-existent
- ❑ M&E demand & supply side outside government (downward accountability): largely neglected
 - ✓ CSOs > parliament, research institutes, evaluation societies
- ❑ (domestic) use for accountability & learning is limited

3. Moving forward: some suggestions

➤ **two-track approach**

- **strengthen recipient M&E system (LT)**
 - ❑ incremental changes to what exists > blueprints
 - ❑ joint diagnosis (cf. PEFA-system)
 - ❑ integrate gender scan

- **address short & medium term M&E needs**
 - ❑ organise joint M&E complementary exercises (e.g. J(S)R)
 - ❑ split among accountability & learning → more hybrid forms
 - ❑ focus on substance but also on recipient M&E system (track 1)
 - ❑ gradual evolution towards meta-evaluation instrument

➤ **don't forget the independent gender/M&E demand and supply side**

- CD and networking among CSOs, (gender) budget groups, research institutes, evaluation societies, parliament
- important role for local (gender) research community

➤ **recognise the political embeddedness of M&E**

- narrow technocratic approach: comfortable

BUT

- undermines accountability & learning
- use M&E to broaden evidence-based dialogue & public debate

➤ **need for impact evaluation and evaluation synthesis**

- public goods' characteristics → joint donor approach
- opportunities to bring in 'gender' dimension
 - gender as 'dependent' variable
 - gender as 'independent' variable
- integration of findings in national M&E + international database



evaluation synthesis

➤ **evaluation of the PD/AAA**

- process evaluation
- impact evaluation

➤ **integrate gender dimension in BS entry points**

- ex-ante appraisal of policy content
- ex-ante appraisal of institutional apparatus
- capacity development
- M&E
- policy dialogue
- + projects targeted at GEWE

→ need for organisational changes in aid agencies

- gender capacity
- location of gender expertise
- incentives
- ✓ use GRB as 'bridging frame'



Thank you!

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http://www.ua.ac.be/dev/aid_effectiveness

Annex 1: Changing Aid Modalities : opportunities & risks for GEWE (1)

PD Key-principles	Opportunities	Risks
Ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -↑ effective implementation of policies -most countries have national gender plans & apparatus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -misused as excuse to abandon donor responsibility -national gender policies often marginalised -national gender apparatus often weak
Harmonisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -clarification of notions -reduction of confusion -joint analytical work -harmonise programming and funding for gender equality and empowerment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -gender concerns sidelined to reach consensus -harmonisation towards the lower end -sectoral focus > horizontal issues

Annex 1: Changing aid modalities : opportunities & risks for GEWE (2)

PD Key-principles	Opportunities	Risks
<p>Alignment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -↑ gender mainstreaming through influence and dialogue at the overall sector & macrolevel (↔ projects) -integration of gender perspective in BS entry points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> .policy dialogue .appraisal and monitoring of quality of national plans and processes and systems .capacity building .M&E exercises (joint reviews, etc.) -room for specific 'gender equality' & empowerment projects (agenda-setting track) in portfolio approaches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -uncritical alignment to gender-blind policies & processes increases existing gender bias -curtailing of donor's agenda-setting 'gender equality' & 'empowerment' track

Annex 1: Changing aid modalities : opportunities & risks for GEWE (3)

PD Key-principles	Opportunities	Risks
<p>Management for development results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -evidence about results -focus on targets diminishes policy evaporation -analysis of failing development results could identify gender-blindness as a causal factor -similarities among results-oriented budgeting and gender budgeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -‘gender equality’ and ‘women’s empowerment’ often not captured in targets -indicatorism and lack of analysis of failing results -‘management for results’ often misinterpreted as ‘management by results’ -lack of (use) of sex-disaggregated data -move towards the aggregate

Annex 1: Changing aid modalities : opportunities & risks for GEWE (4)

PD Key-principles	Opportunities	Risks
Mutual accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -assessment of gender-sensitivity of donor practices : OECD/DAC G-marker -participation of non-state gender actors in accountability and review exercises -use of gender budgeting as accountability instrument 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -accountability reduced to a narrow interpretation of aid effectiveness -absence of a strong gender demand side among non-state actors

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