



Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator



Development Partners Coordination Group (DPCG)

50th (L) DPCG Meeting Report

Thursday 02nd February 2012

Draft for comments

MINECOFIN Boardroom

FIFTIETH (L) DPCG MEETING

PROPOSED AGENDA

Date: February 2, 2012

Time: 09:00 AM

Venue: MINECOFIN (Ground Floor) Conference Room

Chair: Kampeta Sayinzoga, PS/ST, MINECOFIN

Co-chair: Aurélien Agbénonci, UN Resident Coordinator

1. Remarks by Chair and co-Chair of the DPCG
2. Approval of last DPCG Minutes
3. Briefing on Busan High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (EFU)
4. Presentation:
 - a. Outcome of the EDPRS Review (synthesis of Self-Assessment)
 - b. EICV and DHS
5. Preliminary outcome of the SWAP assessment
6. DPR Concept and Programme
7. AOB

1. Welcome

The Chair called the meeting to order and welcomed members of the DPCG to the Fiftieth DPCG Meeting. She welcomed in particular Mr. Heon Lee, the new Chargé d’Affairs at the Embassy of the Republic of South Korea. She thanked the Co-chair and other members present, expressed appreciation for support already received and her wish for strengthened continuation of support to Rwanda in 2012, which will be an important year for EDPRS and the fast-tracking of Vision 2020. The Co-chair then took the meeting forward, reviewed the agenda, which was approved by all present.

2. Review and Adoption of the July 2011 Minutes

The minutes were adopted with amendments recommended from the NINGO representative on the issue of registration of international NGOs. The Chair informed the meeting that the DPCG could only make a recommendation for follow-up of these issues, but couldn’t dictate how immigration policy will work. Noting the incorrect attendance list of that meeting, the Secretariat was requested to ensure correct recording of attendance in future DPCGs.

3. Briefing on Busan High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness

Mr. Ronald Nkusi provided a briefing from the Busan High-Level Forum (HLF) on Aid Effectiveness, noting that it marked a major turning point for the global aid agenda. The Busan agenda places centrality of achieving development results at the heart of global aid dialogue. He noted that the Busan agenda is strongly owned by African countries, as evident from high-political level engagement of Africa at the Busan. The Busan HLF also achieved a major milestone, whereby China and India also endorsed the Busan Outcome Document, forging new inclusive global partnership on development cooperation. Mr. Nkusi also outlined the shared principles and commitments as agreed from the Busan, which include: country ownership of development policies; focusing on development results; inclusive partnership; and transparency and accountability. Use of country systems was also considered as a default option for delivering development cooperation, which was noted to be one of the key achievements for the partner countries. Mr. Nkusi noted that the core of the Busan agenda implementation in Rwanda will be taken forward through the EDPRS II process, defining development policies and a monitoring framework for development results in Rwanda. Country level monitoring framework is expected to be built on the CPAF and DPAF processes for a strengthened results and accountability framework. In light of the inclusive partnership forged through the Busan, Rwanda wishes to further expand the scope of development cooperation framework. In addition, inclusive joint programming and enhancing Programme-Based Approaches are expected to be key components of Rwanda’s implementation of the Busan agenda.

Discussions:

- i. The Co-chair thanked the presenter for his presentation, noting the impressive progress made in Rwanda, and invited comments by participants.
- ii. The AfDB Resident Representative noted that the Busan meeting resulted in a broadly defined and inclusive development cooperation agenda, which was a positive development building on what was agreed at the 2008 Accra High Level Forum (HLF) on Aid Effectiveness. He however noted limited progress in “decentralizing” the development cooperation agenda, which has inhibited regional and continent-wide efforts to contribute to the aid effectiveness agenda. He also noted the Busan outcome document does not elaborate on the key developments since the Accra HLF, in

- particular on what worked and what did not work. He finally congratulated Rwanda for the distinct participation on the Sherpa group and as a representative of the other African countries, which helped to significantly shape the outcome of the Busan meeting.
- iii. A DP representative noted the increased focus in developed countries on results, and expressed wish that the successful Rwandan results and accountability frameworks of CPAF and DPAF would be strengthened and show-cased to other countries. To this the meeting agreed on the need to revise the DPAF, taking into account the current realities and shaping global aid effectiveness environment.
 - iv. A DP representative noted the presentation did not mention CSOs and wished to know Rwanda's position on the formers role in the development cooperation and aid effectiveness environment. To this Rwanda the presenter responded that Rwanda had been including CSOs in all the highest level forums for discussions on development cooperation and wished to continue strengthening this process.
 - v. The meeting discussed the issue of strengthening the fiscal decentralisation to ensure results are achieved on the ground. This was acknowledged by the meeting Chair who reminded the meeting that fiscal decentralisation in Rwanda was not a new process as it is currently in its second phase of implementation.
 - vi. The meeting Co-chair emphasised the Busan focus on increased use of country systems, which he noted would affect some DPs more than others and there would have to be increased engagement on the DPs side with their HQs on how to take this forward.

4a. Outcome of the EDPRS Review (synthesis of Self-Assessment)

The Chair introduced the session, informing the meeting about the planned launch event, where GoR would launch the EDPRS 2 elaboration, the publication of the Integrated Household Living Conditions Survey (EICV 3) report as well as the 4th Demographic and Health Survey (DHS 4) results. With regards to the EDPRS self assessment, the Chair noted receipt of extremely invaluable and extensive information from the sectors and districts that would be synthesised into a brief report, while the full sector summaries will be published on the MINECOFIN website. The Co-chair thanked the GoR for incorporating his role as a representative of DPs into the agenda and welcomed all DPs to communicate to him key messages they wished to convey during the event.

Mr. Leonard Rugwabiza gave the presentation on the outcome of the EDPRS self-assessment, and how this was reflected in the poverty levels, explaining that the main objective was to learn the lessons from EDPRS implementation for improved poverty reduction moving forward. Results show implementation was good overall with various key lessons to take forward in the next poverty reduction strategy. A key lesson was that where central and local government worked together and participation of the population was ensured, there were increased successes to be experienced. Another lesson was the success of many of Rwanda's home-grown initiatives, e.g. imihigo and the girinka, which showed success and had significant impact on peoples' livelihoods. Institutionalisation in sectors was also a success factor, while integration of ICT also improved service delivery. To the challenges belonged a lack of good sector strategies, and delays in their formulation that led to delays in their efficient implementation. He added that some structures still aren't functioning as expected, e.g. the JADF, which is in part due to inadequate participation by stakeholders. Also inadequate mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues beyond jargon, into actual inclusion in the planning and budgeting process was another challenge to EDPRS implementation. Other areas that were lacking in the EDPRS were regional

integration, which Vision 2020 discusses, and incorporation of the private sector, thus hampering effective implementation of private investment. These would all inform the elaboration of the EDPRS 2.

Discussions:

- i. The meeting noted that while there had been progress in institutionalisation and EDPRS implementation structures, there needed to be increased focus on strengthening these, especially the SWGs, JADF and aid coordination architecture. Thus another review was recommended, taking into account the EICV 3 results, to assist in differentiation of the Sectors and structures that are falling behind and an emphasis of these as priorities moving forward.
- ii. On the challenges experienced in M&E, the meeting agreed on the need to tackle this in the EDPRS 2. The Chair clarified that the DPR would be the next opportunity to exchange deeper on the lessons, and mechanisms for moving into the EDPRS 2. The meeting requested Mr. Rugwabiza to further elaborate on the consultation process in the DPR, and to include Parliament earlier in the consultations.

4b. EICV and DHS

The Chair introduced the session, noting that while the EICV 3 results would not change, GoR planned to do much more analysis of the data in the months ahead. However, it was necessary to share the results with DPs as key partners in the development agenda.

The Director General of National Institute for Statistics in Rwanda, Mr. Yusuf Murangwa delivered the presentation on the EICV results, noting that economic performance from 2001 had shown impressive growth, and was lead by the agriculture and services sectors, while industry performance had been lagging behind albeit improving. He added that, if the development continues as in the last five years, the 2020 target for GDP could be reached by 2017. While social performance, specifically primary education is quite good, net secondary education is lagging behind despite an impressive doubling of the 2005 figures. Access to safe drinking water is overall good, with some districts lagging behind, while access to electricity is improving in part thanks to the EWSA reform. He explained that the few indicators he presented aimed to show the development of Rwanda over the last five years. Looking back, he explained that in the period 2000-2006 poverty reduction was a challenge, with inequality increasing in the country. On the contrary the period of 2005/6-2011 had shown impressive results, as the EDPRS 2012 target of poverty reduction was achieved in 2010/11. However, he noted poverty reduction varied across Provinces, as the Northern Province had the highest poverty reduction due to high agriculture fertility and their recent rise in productivity that started in 2007. While Kigali is the least poor Province the Southern Province is still the poorest. He added that among the reasons behind the variations between districts were increased agriculture productivity and trade in agro products across borders, which helped reduce poverty figures in Rubavu, Nyagatare and Rutsizi.

Generally, reasons for improvement included agriculture, agro business, increased farm wages due to increased farm employment, and increased services that contributed to increases in non-farm wages. Among the challenges were population growth, price increases despite Rwanda's control over this, and low agriculture fertility in the Southern and Western provinces especially. He noted, globally, among the well performing countries in terms of poverty reduction are China, Ghana and Thailand. Rwanda is now among the list of good performers. If the trends can be maintained further results would be seen in near future. On the Demographic Health Survey he

noted improvements in maternal health and child health. However, he added that nutrition is a challenge, while although stunting levels reduced they still remained high. HIV prevalence remained at 3% nation-wide, which could mean access to treatment is good and fewer people are dying of AIDS, while there are few new cases of HIV, resulting in the sustained level of HIV prevalence. On the way forward he announced they would do deeper analysis of the data, both at sector and district levels, and will prepare the additional findings by end May. He added that they looked to be undertaking future (EICV) surveys more frequently, likely every 2 years.

Discussions:

- i. The Chair noted that the Vision 2020 targets that have been achieved will be revised upwards and presented for approval at the next leadership retreat. The aim is to make the targets even more ambitious, as the results have been better than expected when drafting the strategy. She added that financing for the upcoming census however is lagging behind and extended GoR's request to DPs for support in this area. In reasons for improvement a key question was what was different in 2000-2005 and what was different in 2005-2010. She explained that while the period of 2000-2005 had growth it didn't result in poverty reduction and the preceding presentation showed the key contributors to the improved poverty reduction between 2005-2010/11.
- ii. A DP representative asked about the indications for inequality, to which the presenter answered there was a drop in inequality with the Gini coefficient dropping from 0.52 to 0.49. He added that services contribution to poverty reduction was crucial and success depended on where the service is placed. Deeper analysis would help show the inter-linkages, citing the example of investments in the Serena Hotels that support and complement the agriculture sector, and thus have broader impact on the population. The difference with the period 2000-2005 was a lack in services that tapped into the poor.
- iii. Another DP representative wished for further elaboration on the way forward for having a closer interim of EICV. The presenter explained that the data collection in the field would be done in FY2013/14, data analysis undertaken in end 2014, and results would be ready early 2015 and available for the MDG summit. On the issue of access to data and methodology, he explained the NISR was working on making these more user-friendly and would post them on the NISR website once ready.
- iv. A GoR representative wished to have more info on youth indicators, citing the need to advance youth issues further in the EDPRS 2. Youth and employment are major sectors in EDPRS, while youth is a key cross-cutting issue. Thus NISR plans to do further analysis on these sectors and have them available by end May. To clarify the net secondary enrolment indicator, he explained it included those who go to secondary school on time, while gross enrolment figures are higher, i.e. meaning there is a time lag in when students eventually go to school and there would be discussions with the education sector on how to address this.
- v. The AfDB noted that Rwanda's sustained investments in infrastructure could also have implications for poverty reduction and implored NISR to investigate this linkage, to which the presenter clarified that these were among the sectoral analyses to be conducted by NISR in collaboration with the sectors.
- vi. GoR and DPs all welcomed the decision to have closer interims of the EICV and promised to continue support of the process in the future.
- vii. The Chair expressed GoR's wish for DPs support to broadcast the progress presented through their political and communication channels. She added that H.E. Paul Kagame has been interested in not only the story of inequality, but also the story that aid can support growth as well as poverty reduction in Rwanda.

5. Preliminary outcome of the SWAPs assessment

Mr. Ronald Nkusi gave the meeting a brief update on the SWAPs assessment. The main purpose of the assessment is to provide an assessment of the functionality and effectiveness of SWAPs within the context of the EDPRS Review. The assessment aimed to build more comprehensive understanding and status of the SWAp implementation. The lessons learned from the assessment are expected to inform the EDPRS II process, particularly in terms of informing the implementation framework of the EDPRS II. He highlighted that the key purpose of the SWAp is to reduce transaction costs of development assistance in sectors while improving policy and technical dialogue between development partners and government. As such, the following six characteristics of an effective SWAp provide the basis for assessment: (1) leadership, (2) policy framework, (3) resource framework, (4) coordination, (5) use of national systems and (6) partnership and dialogue.

Mr. Nkusi outlined the preliminary outcomes of the SWAp assessment, noting that many sectors where SWAPs are operational have seen a stronger leadership from the Government over good sector policy and programme implementation. The establishment of the Single Project Implementation Unit is noted to present an opportunity for effective SWAp implementation, while many sectors continue to see the proliferation of projects as one of their challenges. Similarly the use of national systems remains a challenge in many sectors.

Discussions:

- i. A DP representative expressed thanks for the presentation and looked forward to taking this forward to see how to increase PBAs/ SWAPs and thus a reduction in project support, which involves higher transaction costs on all sides.
- ii. The Chair added that a SWAp without coordinated financing cannot succeed fully. Those with progress are those where there is reduced fragmentation and such joint financing as Sector Budget Support. While it is crucial to have a good strategy, another often missed important requirement is the need for strong financial leadership from DPs side, to act as seed money giving other DPs incentive to support the SWAp.
- iii. A GoR representative from the justice sector explained that they were significantly under-funded, and hoped that the assessment would do a clear analysis on how to improve financial collaboration.

6. DPR Concept and Programme

Mr. Ronald Nkusi presented the tentative DPR agenda, which was positively received by the meeting. Referring to the agenda, the Chair noted that this DPR's innovation would be the adoption of the 'Joint Programming' concept, which would be implemented during the rest of the year. The Chair added that MINECOFIN would arrange with the IMF mission schedule to fit with DPR agenda so as to avoid inconveniences with the IMF mission. The invitations, final concept note, agenda and other key documents would be sent out after approval by the Hon. Minister John Rwangomwa, who will chair the retreat.

7. AOB

- i. The Chair introduced the GoR leadership retreat slated for March 3-6th. The main discussions will be on EICV and how to accelerate implementation in areas that are lagging behind.
- ii. The Chair announced that Parliament had approved the revised FY2011/12 budget and it is posted on the MINECOFIN website.

- iii. The Chair reflected on the sometimes unfortunate and inaccurate results of multi-lateral cross-country surveys, e.g. the latest HDR. She announced GoR is rethinking the way Rwanda is included in surveys, and requested DPs planning to conduct similar studies/ cross-country comparisons to coordinate with GoR before these studies are launched to among other things, discuss and agree on the methodology.
- iv. The Co-chair announced he had been given a new assignment in Mali and his replacement as the Rwanda UNRC had been announced to GoR, pending final confirmation. The meeting wished him a farewell as the DPCG Co-chair.

8. Close of Meeting

The Co-chair added that it had been a pleasure working with all partners in Rwanda, and it was indeed his invaluable experience from Rwanda that helped move him to Mali. He looked forward to further cooperation with GoR and DPs while in Rwanda. The Chair closed the meeting and expressed thanks to the participants for the good discussions.

ANNEX I – LIST OF ATTENDEES

	Full Name	Organization
1.	Mr. Negatu Makonnen	African Development Bank
2.	Mr. Edward Sennoga	African Development Bank
3.	Mr. Anton Delie	Belgium Embassy
4.	Mr. James Parsons	CIDA
5.	Mr. Achim Tillesen	European Union Delegation
6.	Ms. Chantal Bés	French Embassy
7.	Mr. Clement Dupont	French Embassy
8.	Mr. Andrea Hensel	German Embassy
9.	Dr. Gudrun Rieger-Ndakorerwa	GIZ (Germany)
10.	Ms. Ida Hakizinka	Global Fund
11.	Mr. Dmitry Gershenson	IMF – International Monetary Fund
12.	Mr. Shoko Nakatomi	Japan Embassy
13.	Mr. Hiroyuki Kobayushi	JICA – Japan International Cooperation Agency
14.	Mr. Alexis Ndayisaba	JICA
15.	Ms. Anne Gahongayire	Judiciary
16.	Mr. Daniel Shmidt	KfW
17.	Ms. Minji Wang	Korean Embassy
18.	Mr. Lee Sangahn	KOICA
19.	Mr. John Bosco Kabano	KOICA
20.	Mr. Samuel Mulindwa	MIFOTRA – Ministry of Labour
21.	Mr. Ben Rutsinga	MINAFFET – Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
22.	Mr. Egide Rugamba	MINALOC – Ministry of Local Government
23.	Ms. Kampeta Sayinzoga (Chair)	MINECOFIN – Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning
24.	Mr. Leonard Rugwabiza	MINECOFIN
25.	Mr. Ronald Nkusi	MINECOFIN
26.	Ms. Sharon Haba	MINEDUC – Ministry of Education

	Full Name	Organization
27.	Ms. Alphonsina Mirembe	MINICAAF-Ministry of Cabinet Affairs
28.	Mr. Uwitonze Jean Louis	MINICOM-Ministry of Trade and Industry
29.	Mr. Victor Mugabe	MINIJUST/JRLOS – Ministry of Justice
30.	Dr. Fidel Ngabo	MoH – Ministry of Health
31.	Mr. Lazora Ndazaro	MoH/SWAP
32.	Mr. Edward Kalisa	MINISPOC-Ministry of Sports and Culture
33.	Ms. Rosemary Mbabazi	MINIYOUTH-Ministry of Youth
34.	Mr. Jolke Oppewal	Netherlands Embassy
35.	Ms. Frieda Nicolai	Netherlands Embassy
36.	Ms. Jennifer Nazaire	NINGO- Network of International NGOs
37.	Mr. Yusuf Murangwa	NISR-National Institute of Statistics Rwanda
38.	Ms. Dominique Habimana	NISR
39.	Mr. Jean Damascene Habimana	NPPA- National Public Prosecution Authority
40.	Mr. Anthony Ngororano	PRIMUTURE-Office of Prime Minister
41.	Ms. Angelique M. Rukundo	RCSPF
42.	Mr. Viresh Vallabhbbhai	South Africa High Commission
43.	Mr. Heon Lee	South Korean Embassy
44.	Mr. Joakim Molander	Swedish Embassy
45.	Mr. Jean-Marc Clavel	Swiss Development Cooperation-SDC
46.	Mr. Auke Lootsma	UNDP-United Nations Development Program
50.	Ms. Victoria Akyeampong	UNFPA-United Nations Population Fund
51.	Mr. Aurelien A. Agbénonci (Co-chair)	UNRCO-United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
52.	Ms. Yuko Suzuki Naab	UNRCO
53.	Mr. Dereck Rusagara	UNRCO
54.	Mr. Dennis Weller	USAID-United States Agency for International Development

	Full Name	Organization
55.	Ms. Birgit Hansl	WB-World Bank

	Full Name	Organization
56.	Mr. Ian Delbaere	WFP-World Food Program