

Consultation Draft:

“Better” information: a better aid “Accra”, August 2008

Description

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Produced by [aidinfo](#).

aidinfo is an initiative to contribute to faster poverty reduction by making aid more transparent.

This is a [draft](#) for consultation that summarises the evidence we have gathered so far. We welcome suggestions, additions, comments and corrections.

Executive Summary

1.

Improved transparency of aid information would contribute to faster poverty reduction by making aid

more effective and accountable. Poverty reduction would be accelerated by:

- More responsive services, more accountable government and country ownership
- Improved performance of aid agencies
- Reduced scope for corruption
- Better linking of aid to results
- Improved quality of investment decisions
- Better macroeconomic management
- Reduced overhead costs in aid
- More trust and stronger partnership between donors and recipient countries
- More research and evaluation leading to improved lesson learning
- Increased public support for aid in donor countries

2. Increased transparency of aid is a specific commitment in the 2005 Paris Declaration the draft

Accra Agenda for Action: it is also a necessary condition for making progress across five of the Paris principles

of ownership, harmonisation, alignment, results and mutual accountability.

3.

Greater transparency of aid information will have a significant impact when the information accessed through a variety of means by people in developing countries as well as in a form

that is useful to them. This will enable them to use the information to make aid work better for them.

4.

We are conducting detailed surveys of users of information, in developing countries and countries, to find out what exactly they need to help them to make aid more effective. We have found that the main needs for more information are:

- more detail about how aid is being spent
- more up-to-date information (ideally, information in real-time);
- more timely and detailed information about anticipated future aid flows;
- a way to trace aid as it moves from one organisation to another, from funder to
- broader coverage including bilateral donors, multilateral organisations, foundations and
- sufficient detail so that information can be organised according to local definitions;
- easier access to the information in formats which can be integrated into local systems.

5.

We are also working with donors to find out what information they already have and what is available. We have found that a surprising amount of information is already published, in project

documents or collected through multiple, parallel reporting systems. Unfortunately, because of the way it is

published, much of this information is out of date by the time it is available, and it is difficult to access, compare

and aggregate. Other information that is needed to make aid

more effective is already collected by donors for their internal purposes, but is not currently published in the detail required

Read the rest of the paper [here](#)

Category

1. Uncategorized

Tags

1. aid effectiveness
2. Paris Declaration
3. transparency

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