

Report from the

# Joint BA-OF CSO Strategy Meeting

Sida Partnership Forum, Hännösand, Sweden

14-15 March 2011

*For copies of the presentations, documentation and agenda of the meeting, please visit:*

<http://www.cso-effectiveness.org/-CSO-Strategy-Meeting-.html>

## Contents

<b>CSO STRATEGY MEETING.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>OPENING, WELCOME AND KEYNOTE SPEECHES.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>UPDATE AND RECAP OF THE OF AND BA PROCESSES TO DATE .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>DEMANDS AND MESSAGES FOR BUSAN: A REVIEW OF THE KEY DOCUMENTS OF BA AND OF .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>PRESENTATION OF A REVISED DRAFT DOCUMENT ON CSO MESSAGES AND PROPOSALS.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>BA AND OF ADVOCACY STRATEGIES AND OPPORTUNITIES .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>PRELIMINARY UPDATE ON THE ROAD TO BUSAN .....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>CLOSING SESSION.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ANNEXES.....</b>	<b>16</b>

---

**Monday 14 March**

---

## **Opening, Welcome and Keynote Speeches**

**Amy Bartlett**, Global Coordinator of the Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness, opened the meeting and introduced a short video that was produced in the run-up to the Accra HLF in 2008.

**Vazha Salamadze**, Co-chair of the Open Forum Global Facilitation Group, noted that this was the first formal joint meeting of the two CSO platforms. The two processes are distinct but complementary, and there are many common concerns and intersections between them. The goals of the joint meeting is to synchronise, to develop common messages, asks and advocacy strategies, and to ensure that messages are focused and well targeted. Salamadze reminded participants that the constituencies of the OF and BA platforms are millions of poor and disadvantaged people.

**Tony Tujan**, Co-chair of the BetterAid Coordinating Group, reflected on the fact that the meeting was taking place on the stage of a theatre, and urged participants to imagine that there was an audience of poor Asian and African women - the "typical" human beings. Rising prices of food and fuel, the climate crisis and a faltering economy provide the backdrop for Busan. The need for development funding is growing, but supply is shrinking.

Busan offers opportunities, but there is also a risk of failure. CSOs that represent the poor and marginalised feel the urgency to demand more effective aid and an agenda for development effectiveness. BetterAid and Open Forum are both open platforms that seek ways for civil society, in all its diversity, to be more constructive in pushing reforms. Despite their different functions – with BetterAid pushing for development effectiveness of all development actors, including civil society itself, and Open Forum promoting development effectiveness of civil society in all areas, also beyond aid – there is scope for a joint agenda for Busan.

Tujan ended by thanking Sida Partnership Forum and others who had provided support for the meeting.

**Per-Ola Mattsson**, Deputy Director at the Department for Management and Methods in Development Cooperation, Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, stated by asking why aid effectiveness is important. Aid volumes have doubled since the 1990's, the number of donors and vertical funds have increased dramatically, and development CSOs now employ more people than the bilateral and multilateral agencies combined. The Paris Declaration and Accra Agenda for Action address some of these challenges that are faced by development partners who have to deal with too many aid delegations and an array of different requirements.

Sweden wants HLF-4 to focus on aid effectiveness rather than development effectiveness, to make sure that it will have an impact. There are other contexts and fora for the broader issues.

While there is no disagreement on the necessity of the agreed aid effectiveness principles – and no turning back to the old ways – there are signs of an emerging "aid effectiveness fatigue" among embassies and partner governments. The challenge is to deliver on commitments without getting bogged down in processes. Sweden wants Busan to focus on "low-hanging fruits" in 3 areas where progress is a fundamental prerequisite for moving ahead in other parts of agenda:

1. Transparency and accountability, both for aid and for partner country resources. Citizens have right to know, and transparency is crucial to limit scope for corruption. Sweden has introduced a transparency guarantee for all aid funding. Accountability must also be given more room. The issue is not only about accountability to donors, but accountability to the public in both donor and partner countries. Support is needed for capacity development for parliamentarians, audit offices, CSOs and the free media.
2. Stronger focus on results. This is the link between aid effectiveness and development effectiveness. The Paris Declaration already covers monitoring for results, and the performance monitoring provides a basis for a better dialogue on results. We support the use of national systems as far as possible, including through support for the strengthening of such systems.
3. Risks and risk management. All agree that aid comes with risks, and particularly in conflict and post-conflict areas. But many are also becoming less inclined to accept risks. There is a need to better define risks and how to address them, and to discuss principles for risk sharing.

Sweden also gives priority to civil society participation and contributions to the aid effectiveness discussions. Sida is one of the leaders of the donor group on civil society, Chair of the civil society Task Team, and the largest donor to civil society processes for Busan.

CSOs are important for demanding accountability, and recognised as legitimate development actors in their own right. But with this also comes the responsibility for CSOs to address their own aid effectiveness within the broader development effectiveness framework. There is scope for CSOs to improve on issues like ownership, representation, legitimacy and transparency, and reflecting the voices of the poor.

Mattsson ended by saying that while aid alone cannot change development, and partner countries' own resources and actions are important, effective aid is an important part of the solution.

**Richard Ssewakiryanga**, Executive Director of the Uganda National NGO Forum, substituted for the intended keynote speaker Suranjan Kodithuwakku, who was unable to attend as he had been unable to obtain a visa to come to Sweden. "Where are Sweden's priorities?" asked Kodithuwakku in a message to the meeting, and noted that he was denied Schengen visas about 40 percent of the times he had applied.

Communications now make it possible to follow world events in real time, said Ssewakiryanga. Death is also played out in real time, and the shooting of six women in Ivory Coast can be viewed on YouTube. Disasters like the Japan earthquake are not only images on TV, they affect real people. We need to think critically about this, as a reality check on all discussions.

But democracy is also played out in real time, and we see citizens in leader-less movements bring down governments North Africa. Without a leader you can still change the world...

As we go to Busan, it is important ask what we want to say. At an African meeting of BetterAid, Open Forum and Reality of Aid - it dawned on us that we must address messages to African leaders, as well as to the global community. Civil society in Africa is constrained by new draconian laws that have been passed in more than 20 countries. We also see that the MDGs are not being met, people face the disaster of rising prices, and there is an increasing urgency of humanitarian aid. We in civil society must see how we can bring back discussion to the realities of citizens and our constituencies.

**Rubén Fernández**, of the Asociación Latinoamericana de Organizaciones de Promoción (ALOP), presented some key messages that had emerged from discussions among CSOs in the Latin American region:

- The framework of development cooperation should be understood as a 'global public good' to solve common problems, not as a relation between donors and people in need. The relationship of cooperation is a long chain where all have resources, needs and energy.

- Human rights should be our common framework. Aid is not based on kindness, but on a common responsibility to produce an environment where human rights can be claimed and are respected. CSOs are actors in their own right who push the public agenda to claim reforms and public policies that meet the needs of the excluded. Aid is more effective when it supports civil society to influence governments, than when CSOs are just contracted to implement projects.
- The development effectiveness framework should include indicators to follow up whether actions have the effect of weakening or strengthening the capacities of civil society.
- We have to assume that the agenda of women's rights is a common civil society agenda, and not only that of women's organisations.
- We need to ensure that base level organisations are better reflected and represented at higher levels in the civil society movement. Trade unions are a good example.
- CSOs need to move faster on the issue of their own transparency and accountability. A positive example from Latin America is a network of hundreds of CSOs that have committed to producing public reports on activities, resources and results.
- The CSO agenda needs to be "re-politicised". Our positions and proposals should be at core, not the needs. This contributes to putting Northern and Southern CSOs at the same level.

## Overview and update on the WP-EFF process

**Eduardo Gonzalez**, Policy Advisor at the Aid Effectiveness Division of the OECD Development Cooperation Directorate, provided an introduction on the preparatory process for HLF-4. He said that the ambition for the HLF-4 is to make it a political event that attracts ministerial attendance, and delivers decisive outcomes. HLF-4 is expected to:

Take stock of the Paris/Accra process and the results it has delivered in relation to targets

Agree on features of "high quality aid" towards 2015, possibly with new targets and principles

Situate aid in a broader, and constantly changing, context: development finance effectiveness; diversified approaches to MICs, LICs, fragile states and regions; the role of aid as a catalyst for trade, security and responses to climate change; reorientation towards results-based approach, etc.

The process will be inclusive and transparent. Evidence and perspectives will be gathered through on-line and regional consultations (including the regional workshops of the Paris Declaration implementation survey), civil society processes, and a process to engage parliamentarians.

The stocktaking will be based on the second phase of the Evaluation of Implementation, as well as evidence on the progress since Paris that emerges from the PD, from clusters in the WP-EFF, from CSOs and other sources. This will provide the foundation for key messages and recommendations to the HLF. The deadline for providing evidence is 31 March. A first draft "Progress Since Paris" report will be presented in July, and a final draft in September. The official HLF-4 web page will be launched in the end of March at: [www.busanhlf4.org](http://www.busanhlf4.org)

There is a clear target to raise the political profile of event in order to create momentum for meaningful outcomes. Negotiations will focus on determining likely areas of commitment, levels of ambition and possible opportunities.

Possible strategies for building support for Busan include organising Partner Country positions, ministerial level meetings, capitalising on existing events, and engaging key stakeholders and champions.

The communications strategy that has been presented to the WP-EFF ExCom focuses on raising the political profile. Comments on the draft, as well as financial pledges, are due by the end of March.

There was much discussion in the ExCom on the proposed format and structure -of the HLF. A revised proposal will be presented in mid-April.

Major decisions about the Outcome Document will have to wait until more empirical evidence becomes available. A first draft will be discussed at the next WP-EFF plenary in July, and a second draft at the following plenary meeting in September. The first [terms of reference](#) for a document were discussed at the March ExCom on the basis of a "Menu of Options" that builds on the 80 proposals for themes that have been submitted. This is a "living document" that will be revised. The ExCom only had time to discuss the first 4 out of 6 points.

## Questions & answers session

**Question:** What is the strategy for governments that will not come to Busan because they not willing to commit? Will Busan be preaching to the converted?

**Eduardo Gonzalez:** The HLF is a "coalition of the willing" and states cannot be forced to participate. But if the political level is raised, this will put pressure on reluctant countries to attend.

**Question:** What has happened since Accra is not what we expected. What can be done differently to ensure that Busan does not only produce beautiful declarations?

**Eduardo Gonzalez:** There is no formula, but adopting clear targets and a framework for monitoring may help. We can see progress since Paris because the 5-year targets and indicators that were adopted keep the process alive.

**Question:** What strategies can we bring home to our countries to raise political profile and get committed political participation?

**Eduardo Gonzalez:** Civil society is in the best position to create pressure on governments. The processes that aim to involve civil society, parliaments and the media will help get better representation of countries.

**Question:** What is your level of ambition? What do you expect will push the agenda in Busan?

**Eduardo Gonzalez:** The DAC Secretariat is neutral to this, but it is important to maintain targets and frameworks, to stay committed to and update the Paris and Accra principles.

**Question:** How does the process to Busan interface with other processes: DCF, MDG, LDC-4, G8, G20, etc?

**Eduardo Gonzalez:** The point I mentioned, "capitalising on other events", is part of building support for Busan.

**Question:** What might DAC do to attract the new donors to Busan? What kinds of incentives are there for them? Will there be any discussions on the aid architecture?

**Eduardo Gonzalez:** New donors are one of main points of discussion. We need to find a balance between making Busan attractive to the new donors without diluting the commitments that have been made. Some are reluctant because Paris and Accra are seen as a DAC agenda. A group in DAC engages with China on broader processes, but China is not part of the Busan process. The new donors have been invited to submit proposals and views on the issues and content of the HLF.

**Question:** The Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs spoke of "transparency", but there is little transparency in the discussions in the EU. Is there discussion about changing the ODA criteria?

**Eduardo Gonzalez:** I don't really know about any discussions on the DAC criteria. WP-EFF tries to make the process as transparent as possible, and encourages others to post relevant information on the WP-EFF portal.

## Update and Recap of the OF and BA processes to date

**Tony Tujan**, Co-chair of BetterAid, explained that BetterAid is the successor to the CSO Parallel Forum initiative. It is an open platform with some 900 participants, and coordinated by a self-selected Coordinating Group (BACG) of 32 networks.

Since after Accra, BetterAid is an official and active member of WP-EFF, as well as a member of its ExCom, as the representative of representing civil society (including parliaments and local governments). The role of in WP-EFF is to ensure coordination and participation. BetterAid undertakes consultations, studies, monitoring etc. The BetterAid outreach work in 2010 reached 800 CSOs, including through 12 regional consultations.

BetterAid also engages with the UN Development Cooperation Forum (DCF). DAC and the bodies under it (GENDERNET, POVNET, GOVNET etc) are a secondary priority.

Thematic consultations – on rural dev, trade unions, women’s rights etc – are also part of the BetterAid program.

BetterAid has developed a number of CSO policy proposals, which are available at [www.betteraid.org](http://www.betteraid.org) BetterAid communication channels also include a newsletter, a listserve and the use of Twitter and other social media.

**Vazha Salamadze**, Co-chair of the Open Forum Global Facilitation Group, presented the role and work of the process. Open Forum is a CSO driven process to define a global development effectiveness framework for CSOs. The initiative was launched in 2009, but emerged from the debates before and in Accra. The first Global Assembly of the Open Forum was held in September 2010. The next assembly, in June 2011, will continue preparations of Open Forum inputs to Busan.

The objectives of the Open Forum are 1) to reach consensus on a global CSO development effectiveness framework, with indicators and implementation guidelines, and on minimum standards for an enabling environment for CSOs; 2) to provide a learning space, based on mutual trust; and 3) to build understanding and support among official donors, governments and other stakeholders to promote an enabling environment for CSOs

Open Forum works by facilitating consultations, and stimulating multi-stakeholder dialogues. So far we have conducted 67 country consultations, 6 regional consultations and 5 global thematic consultations. The Global Assembly gathered 200 participants from 80 countries. A total of 2,500 people have participated in the consultation process.

The Open Forum adopts a holistic approach to promoting CSO effectiveness and seeks to involve all CSOs, regardless of size, approaches, cultures, structures etc.

The Open Forum is facilitated by a Global Facilitation Group with 29 member networks. 5 networks make up a Consortium of Supporting Organisations, each with the responsibility of a specific region. The Open Forum Secretariat is hosted by CONCORD.

The expected outcomes of the process are:

a common understanding the challenges of realising CSO development effectiveness, to be reflected in the global framework

increased accountability for principles of CSO development effectiveness

increased awareness and knowledge of existing tools, mechanisms and initiatives to promote and improve CSO development effectiveness.

strengthened partnerships to promote CSO development effectiveness

a better understanding and support for an enabling environment for enabling environments for CSO actions.

The Open Forum also hopes to lay the foundation for a long-term CSO development effectiveness process.

The first Global Assembly adopted the eight [Istanbul CSO Development Effectiveness Principles](#). The consultations continue, and a final version of the Draft Framework is due to be endorsed by the 2nd Global Assembly in Cambodia in September. In parallel, CSO advocacy and outreach will continue all the way to Busan.

## Questions & answers session

Several participants commented on the relationship and cooperation between the two platforms. Examples were given on how the two processes overlap at the country level, and are rather seen as components of a single CSO process to improve development effectiveness. The structure with two global platforms creates some confusion, including in relations to governments, as well as a double burden of consulting and reporting. One participant also noted that the Open Forum themes do not match the structure of the agenda at Busan, which may complicate the advocacy work.

**Tony Tujan** noted that BetterAid and Open Forum was indeed one process from the start, but that they tend to engage CSOs in different capacities. He suggested that the Open Forum needs to consult with and get the active buy-in from a very broad range of civil society, while what is important for BetterAid is to engage CSOs with a strong interest in aid. He said Open Forum depends on the CSO engagement on the aid effectiveness arena in order to win recognition for the CSO principles and endorsement of the standards on enabling environment. On the other hand, when CSOs engage with donors and governments in the aid effectiveness process, they depend on a credible Open Forum process in response to demands for CSO transparency and accountability. **Vazha Salamadze** added that both platforms realise the benefits of deepening the collaboration, and to come to Busan with a common agenda.

In response to a question on the drafting of minimum standards for enabling environment, **Amy Bartlett** informed that there is a 30 April deadline for comments, and a draft document is expected in May. Toolkits are also being produced for implementation and advocacy at different levels.

Questions were raised about how to achieve a firm commitment on enabling environments in Busan, and what to do if that fails. It was noted that the WP-EFF Task Team on civil society would meet later in the week to discuss how agreement can be reached on minimum standards based on the outcome of the Open Forum consultations, and that this was an important process. Lobbying and advocacy will also be needed at the national level. A concern was raised that in partner countries it is the Presidents' offices and interior ministries that 'own' the enabling environment issues, rather than the ministries of finance and planning who are likely to be represented in Busan. This challenge needs to be reflected in the advocacy strategy. One participant suggested that it is really the UN General Assembly that should be approving the enabling environment standards.

One participant raised the question on what capacity will CSOs have in going to Busan: as members or participant. It was noted that before Accra the advocacy on civil society issues in WP-EFF was mediated through government members of the AG-CS, but CSOs now speak with their own voice. CSOs are also members of the governing body, which poses additional responsibilities.

One participant said that the need for enabling political environments came out as a string priority in the consultations of women's organisations, and the enabling environment must also be high on the common CSO agenda. A particular concern was that the rights of illegal migrant workers cannot be reflected in legal framework, but need so be reflected in the CSO principles.

**Eurodad** requested more proactive feedback on the usefulness of the support that is provided to CSOs.

# **Demands and messages for Busan: A review of the key documents of BA and OF**

**Brian Tomlinson**, CCIC, presented the draft document *CSOs on the Road to Busan: Key Messages and Proposals*. The purpose of the document is to agree on and articulate shared key messages and proposals for the outcome of HLF-4 in Busan. The document would provide a joint platform for advocacy at all levels, to be adapted and evolved to fit different advocacy platforms and opportunities. Sources for the messages and proposals include the CSO assessment of the Accra HLF, a series of policy background papers, outcomes of Open Forum consultations and the 1st General Assembly, discussions at a meeting of the BACG in October 2010, feedback received from both platforms on an earlier draft, and country level work during past 2 years.

The framework for key messages is the over-arching goal of development effectiveness. The proposals focus on three inter-dependent areas:

## ***Completing and deepening current aid effectiveness commitments***

1. Taking stock of commitments with all aid actors
2. Carrying forward the Paris and Accra commitments on aid effectiveness
3. Implement full transparency as the basis for strengthening accountability

## ***Operationalizing development effectiveness***

4. Giving centrality to human rights, eradicating the root causes of poverty and inequality
5. Promoting and implementing gender equality and women's rights
6. Implementing the decent work agenda as the cornerstone for socially inclusive and sustainable development strategies
7. Ensuring the full participation of CSOs as independent development actors in their own right.

## ***Promoting an equitable and just development cooperation architecture, with systemic changes in global governance of international development cooperation.***

8. Proposing fundamental reforms in the global governance of development cooperation.

*(For further details on the contents, see the revised draft document in Annex 1)*

Brian Tomlinson highlighted that the second point, on carrying forward the Paris and Accra commitments, is not only repetition but refers to both implementation and deepening of the commitments. For example, democratic ownership that is based on human rights approaches in combination with a broad dialogue is different from the commitment in the AAA. He emphasised that conditionalities refer to donor preconditions, but not to respecting human rights commitments. Accountability and transparency need to move towards more binding frameworks and processes, with transparency requirements that are less discretionary which is the case with the present IATI process. On the issue of enabling environments, evidence of recent developments suggest that conditions are actually deteriorating in both South and the North. The demands for an equitable aid architecture requires fundamental reforms in global governance, which will not happen in Busan. CSOs should stress the need for negotiated and specific time-bound commitments.

Among the issues and options that are yet unresolved in the draft, Tomlinson mentioned greater focus on the following: 1) measurability of outcomes; 2) drawing attention to declining aid resources; 3) greater attention to the CSO development effectiveness agenda; 4) a clearer identification of DFC as legitimate forum; and, 5) a clearer call for a binding convention on development effectiveness.

## Questions & answers session

One participant presented the Istanbul Principles to the EU Commission in a meeting, but had not accepted the document because they insisted that it had to be signed by some body. Tomlinson suggested that this could be done by the Open Forum Consortium of Supporting Organisations.

One participant pointed to the urgency of discussing the minimum standards. Brian Tomlinson responded that the Draft Framework contains a set of proposals that are quite well elaborated, and provide a basis for standards to be approved by the next Global Assembly in Cambodia.

In response to a suggestion for CSOs to request the realisation of the use of country systems, rather than of program-based approaches, Tomlinson replied that program-based approaches imply a greater use of country systems and should not be abandoned entirely.

One participant proposed that the demands related to decent work had to be complemented with approaches that are relevant to the informal sectors, including agriculture, and bring up the issue of livelihoods.

One participant noted that while many of the points aim to create an enabling environment for development effectiveness, the term enabling environments was mentioned only in one point. It was clarified that the term is used primarily in relation to the conditions for civil society to work, and that it would be confusing to use term in other contexts.

Several participants commented on CSO demands related to the role of the private sector in development cooperation. One participant suggested that the role of the private sector should be limited to being contracted for implementation of programs, but that governments should not allocate resources to the sector as such. It was noted that Penny Davies had recently produced an interesting [background paper](#) on the private sector for the WP-EFF. There may be a need for a normative framework for assessing private sector interventions. The issue of private development assistance was also raised. Brian Tomlinson suggested that although the issue had not been much discussed, the CSO perspective would be that all development finance should be consistent with agreed development goals. However, the Paris Declaration and AAA focus on ODA, and Busan will not be in a position to discuss broader agenda. These issues, however; should be raised in the FfD and other processes and in dialogues at national level.

## Group workshops on common CSO key asks and messages

Participants were divided into [breakout groups](#) to discuss the following questions:

- 1) Whether the key messages and asks reflect the priorities for ensuring:
  - effectiveness in the work of CSOs in countries and regions
  - effective government and donor support for CSO activities
- 2) Which messages and asks are easy to agree to for donors, governments, and CSOs, and which are more difficult to put into practice.
- 3) Are there any messages missing that should be part of the common key asks
- 4) Are there any messages in the draft that should not be brought to Busan, or not be part of the common messages?

After the workshops, group rapporteurs presented key points from the discussions to the plenary. More detailed feedback was provided in writing to Brian Tomlinson, as the basis for developing a revised draft of the document which was presented the following morning.

---

**Tuesday 15 March**

---

## **Presentation of a revised draft document on CSO messages and proposals**

**Brian Tomlinson** presented the feedback from the breakout groups on CSO asks, and how they were being integrated into a revised draft of the document *CSOs on the Road to Busan: Key Messages and Proposals*.

The revised draft, as presented to the meeting on 15 March, is attached in **Annex 1**. Integrated changes are **highlighted in yellow**, and outstanding suggestions listed and **highlighted in blue**.

The draft will be worked on further during the coming weeks, and a final document sent to BetterAid and Open Forum for sign-off. As an option, the document may also be circulated for endorsement by platform members.

One participant suggested that the document should carry the logos of both BetterAid and the Open Forum. There was a statement that the organisations that have only participated in the Open Forum process would not find themselves in the document. Open Forum asks on the Istanbul Principles and enabling environment should also be given more prominence in the document.

For a finalized copy of the *CSOs on the Road to Busan: Key Messages and Proposals* click [here](#).

## **BA and OF Advocacy Strategies and Opportunities**

**Tony Tujan**, Co-chair of BetterAid, started by noting that for the first time CSOs will have both recognition and voice at Busan, and that CSOs have the position to take part in the negotiations on the outcome document. However, there will also be other discussions and processes that will be important to pay attention to. One strategic challenge for CSOs is how to raise their voices in the ministerial level negotiations that will take place before Busan.

He reminded participants that although there was early acceptance for putting development effectiveness in focus at Busan, the October meeting of the WP-EFF marked a shift. A new brochure from OECD now speaks of “accelerating development through effective aid”, and the host country Korea focuses on infrastructure and growth. A statement by the DAC chair suggests a willingness to bring in the new actors even at the price of abandoning the Paris Declaration.

There are several possible scenarios for the outcome from Busan. Different groups to have their own outcomes: commitments to development effectiveness by civil society, continued focus on Paris and Accra by the OECD countries, and agreement on principles for South/South cooperation by new actors. Or could there be agreement on common principles, but differentiated implementation? Common aspirations? These imply different challenges for bringing in our agenda on deepening implementation through development effectiveness.

We need to discuss how we can promote meaningful participation and responses. We sent ten proposals for themes, and seven of them have now been reduced to one bullet point in the draft outline of the “Outcome document” (point 3.2). Comments on the draft are due by April 3, but we also

need to lobby at country level for all our issues as it is in the country level that the issue of enabling environment comes in, and we need to get governments to accept the issues of gender, decent work etc.

**Carolyn Long**, Open Forum Outreach Officer, presented the **Open Forum political strategy** which is in force up to the 2nd Global Assembly in Cambodia at the end of June 2011. The primary goals for Open Forum are for the Busan HLF to 1) endorse, without change, the CSO Framework; and 2) endorse the fundamental elements of enabling environment.

A couple of strategic issues regarding the framework are whether we really want Busan to commit to using it as a measure of CSO development results, and whether we ask them to endorse only the principles or the full framework

The principles for enabling environment are divided into three categories: those that apply to all countries (freedom of assembly etc.), and those that need to be provided by donor countries and partner governments respectively.

Our promotion strategy after the first Global Assembly in September 2010 in Turkey was to 1) persuade governments to endorse the Istanbul Principles and advocate them to their peers, and 2) to persuade governments to provide enabling environments for CSOs to work, and urge them to implement their commitments and report in progress. We target in particular all national and donor governments, the UN and other multinational institutions, WP-EFF and DAC, and South Korea. The next steps include presenting the Istanbul Principles to CSO communities for discussion and endorsement and endorse, preparing national advocacy strategies, preparing for advocacy towards regional organisations, developing and implementing the Open Forum media strategy, and assessing progress on government endorsement. The strategy will be adjusted at the second Global Assembly, where we will also develop asks for the period after the HLF.

**Craig Fagan**, BAGC member, presented the draft **BetterAid advocacy strategy** and the outcome of consultations on the draft. The strategy will map out key events and milestones, and define opportunities for BetterAid to react and be proactive at these events.

Key messages relate to the quality and quantity of aid, the need to broaden the debate from aid effectiveness to development effectiveness, and recognition of civil society as actors and stakeholders. Two key objectives are to influence the post-Paris Declaration agreement from Busan, to get commitments on development effectiveness. As the implementation of past commitments have failed, we need a more binding approach and accountability towards a legitimate multilateral forum.

By 31 March CSOs need to submit research to the WP-EFF back up our proposals for themes. In the near future there are some important meetings that we can use as platforms for taking our issues forward, such as the conferences of the parties to the UN conventions on corruption and climate change, and the 4th conference on LDCs.

Advocacy tools will include letter campaigns, press releases, member-tailored advocacy materials, policy papers on a number of issues, etc.

CSOs also need to systematically collect intelligence on how the positions of different actors are developing.

Key risks to a successful outcome for civil society include limited space for civil society to engage in Busan, limited transparency in the process, and lack of political will and buy-in. In order to get public buy-in we need to formulate understandable and relevant messages.

## Discussion

In a brief discussion several participants commented on the need to work with different risk scenarios, and in particular on the risk that CSOs will be pushed to sign an unsatisfactory Busan declaration. The CSOs need to define what their minimum threshold is, both in terms of content and illegitimate processes.

**Tony Tujan** reflected that CSOs can be members of WP-EEFF precisely because it is a loose process with limited legitimacy. In a more legitimate process, such as a UN forum, CSOs cannot play the same role. The risk is not so much what CSOs will be asked to sign, as the outcome document is likely to be a consensus document with political rather than contractual obligations. The shape of negotiations in Busan will depend on progress before the event. The CSO response to the draft that goes to Busan must be more specific, and there will be a need for issuing statements during and after the meeting. Asian CSOs have already pointed to the risks associated with the "accelerated development" of Korea and Japan, which may give reason for CSOs to focus more on the issue of reparations.

Participants also listed additional events and opportunities for CSO advocacy.

## **Group workshops on the common CSO advocacy strategy**

Participants were divided into [breakout groups](#) to discuss the following questions:

What are some of the similarities and differences between the current OF and BA advocacy/ political strategies? Where are the strengths in each strategy that should be taken forward in the common CSO strategy, based on the common messages and key asks discussed in yesterday's group work?

What are some of the advocacy initiatives that you know of already happening around CSO development effectiveness and aid effectiveness that we can already capitalise on? Do you have any best-case examples or practices to share?

What are the strategies of OF and BA that are good for the particular process, but that should not necessarily figure into the common CSO strategy?

What strategies should be prioritised depending on the level and target group?

There was an announcement that a group would meet over dinner to discuss a dialogue meeting that the EU had invited to in Brussels 2 weeks later.

## **Summary Conclusions from Strategy discussions**

After the workshops, group rapporteurs presented key points from the discussions to the plenary.

Group reports, as well as a full synthesis of the outcomes, are available [here](#).

**Jan Dereymaeker**, BAGC member, summarised the outcomes of the session, saying that the CSOs platforms are approaching the mobilisation phase on their road to Busan. CSOs need to reach out and consult with constituencies to gain feedback and support for the Asks to carry the identified messages forward and to contextualise messages for different addressees and fora. A large number of events, processes and activities had been mentioned, and they will be listed. Much importance was given to reinforcing efforts at the regional level.

At the national level there seems to be little distinction between the BetterAid and Open Forum processes, as key issues like enabling environment, space for civil society and democratic ownership are crosscutting to both.

Outstanding challenges and issues that need deeper analysis and discussion include the role of private foundations, champion countries to ally with, the need to liaise with decision makers and share intelligence of their positions, and building alliances with other sectors and CSOs. A strong focus for the coming months would be to engage with governments from South and build peer pressure among them in support for CSO positions.

Other open questions are how CSOs mobilise for points on their agenda that are wider than Busan, and how they will deal with the issue of supporting the Outcome document from HLF-4.

## Preliminary update on the Road to Busan

**Tony Tujan**, BetterAid Co-chair, gave a presentation on the planning for CSO participation in Busan. HLF-4 is the first forum where CSOs are equal actors, and the aim is to be both constructive and principled participants. BetterAid had demanded to be included as members in the Core Group that is in charge of the preparations, but the request was opposed by Korea. Korea has recently also denied access to the country for Filipino CSO activists.

As CSOs will attend as full participants to the HLF, the outside activities are preparatory rather than parallel. On 26 November there will be parallel preparatory activities for sectors and themes, followed the next day by a preparatory forum that is open to all CSOs. 28 November there will be focused preparations for CSO participants according to the various HLF segments, as well as a joint preparatory forum for CSOs and parliamentarians. During the HLF itself, from 29 November to 1 December, the CSOs will organise daily press conferences and public reporting from the forum. There will also be parallel activities for those who CSOs who are present but cannot get in to the HLF.

CSOs will have opportunities to participate in all the different segments of the HLF, through:

- displays and activities at the "knowledge and innovation space"
- sponsorship and/or participation in side events
- co-sponsorship and/or participation in interactive sessions
- participation in political debates, plenary sessions and negotiations of the outcome document (although it is not clear to what extent CSOs will be allowed into negotiations)

Organisers expect 1,500-2,000 people to come to Busan. 164 countries are allowed delegations of up to five persons, of which one should represent civil society. There is an additional allocation of 100 delegates from the "private sector", which includes CSOs, parliamentarians, and local government representatives. 100 CSO participants will be subsidised from a donor trust fund, and there is an allocation for 200 CSOs to participate at their own expense or subsidised from CSO funds. CSOs had requested 20 percent representation, and with 300 CSO participants out of 1,500 this request would be met.

The CSOs now need an inclusive and transparent process for the selection of 1) the 300 CSO participants; 2) the 100 CSOs to be subsidised by from donor trust fund, 3) the additional 100-200 participants to be subsidised from CSO funds; and 4) 100 Korean CSOs to be subsidised.

A necessary qualification for all is that they must be knowledgeable and ready to work - CSOs will need to be present and active in many places simultaneously, so everyone needs to be able to contribute.

It is proposed that the selection done by CSO peers at regional level through joint bodies made up of members of OF-GFG and BACG and regional focal persons. The GFG and CG Co-chairs, together with two representatives from each secretariat, will oversee and support the regional processes, and ensure that they are open and consultative. The oversight committee will also receive and handle questions and clarification from CSOs in the regions.

The allocation to regions and sectors need to be set, as illustrated by the preliminary table below (to be adjusted as necessary before approval).

	Africa	Asia	LA	MENA	EU/NA	Global	Korea	Total
<b>Regional</b>	20	20	14	3	18	50	30	
<b>National</b>	40	40	21	7	37			
<b>Total</b>	60	60	35	10	55			<b>300</b>
<b>TU</b>	4	4	2	1	4	3	2	20
<b>Gender/Feminist</b>	4	4	3	1	4	3	1	20
<b>Agri</b>	5	5	3	1	2	3	1	20

**Andreas Vogt** explained that the selection is based on applications to the appointed regional bodies. Applications have to specify the individual as well as the organisation. The selection process also applies to self-funded CSOs who want to be among the 300 CSOs that are allowed to get in and participate at the HLF. Within the next ten days, the BA and OF secretariats will present draft terms-of-reference for the oversight committee, to be endorsed by BetterAid and Open Forum. He added that the 100 participants to be subsidised from the donor fund need to be designated very quickly. Northern participation will not be reflected within this group.

**Krister Holm**, BetterAid, informed that a joint BA/OF delegation had visited Korea in November-December 2010, accompanied by the head of the Aid Effectiveness Division of the OECD Secretariat. They had participated in the Workshop on New Aid Architecture where the Istanbul Principles had been promoted. Together with the Korean Civil Society Forum (KOFID), the arrangements for CSO events and support for the Korean national preparations were discussed. In Busan, the delegation had checked venues and booked a hostel with 400 beds and conference facilities for the week of the HLF. A concept note for a proposal on financing for CSO participation was submitted on 1 February 2011. The budget of 1.3 USD also covers pre-Busan activities such as capacity building and four continental consultations. The proposal will need to be revised and comments from all CSOs are welcome.

## Discussion

In the discussion that followed the four presentations, efforts were made to clarify the significance of the various numbers of participants: 300 CSO representatives, 100 subsidised CSOs, participation in the 164 national delegations, etc.

CSOs have been guaranteed funding for 100 participants, but is there a risk that CSOs who are part of delegations will be included in this number? It was agreed that the subsidised 100 participants need to be nominated and secured quickly.

In this context, it was noted that the selection process will have to run in parallel with the process of regional and thematic consultations, rather than being one of the outcomes. In addition to the time factor, funding for the consultation process has not yet been secured. The consultations would be open to all, and most of the 300 CSO representatives should have been involved in BA/OF activities, but this cannot be set as a formal requirement. The function of the regional meetings may be seen more as preparatory meetings than as consultations.

It was pointed out that trade unions are not always members of national and regional platforms. The selections processes also need scrutiny from international networks of unions, feminists and rural development organisations to ensure that the right people are selected.

Suggestions were made that there should be a target for gender balance among the 300 CSO representatives, and that the application forms for selection should ask applicants to explain what they want to do in Busan if they are selected.

The maximum number of participants per organisation was discussed. In Accra CSOs only had 80 seats, and there was a strict principle of only one representative per CSO inside the meeting. With at least 300 seats, there may be some room for regions to make some exceptions.

The meeting also discussed the risks that some governments will countries bring in 'their own' CSOs and think tanks onto their delegations. It was agreed that the CSO platforms need to be informed about CSOs on national delegations, and able to coordinate CSO participation. The Korean CSO platform KOFID also urged all CSOs to coordinate their contacts with the Korean government and the organising committee though them.

Several speakers commented on the need for a CSO strategy on media outreach in Busan. Attention should be given to social media, and maybe youth bloggers, in order to reach a wider audience. It was suggested that some additional CSO people can get access to the meeting venue by being accredited as press.

## **Regional working groups to discuss how to take the messages and common strategy forward on the ground and in constituencies**

Participants were divided into [breakout groups](#) to discuss the following questions:

What is the first thing you are going to do when you get back to your office to follow up on the outcomes of this meeting?

What are some things already happening in your region/sector around development effectiveness advocacy that can be taken forward? Is there anything that is not working and should be changed?

What are the priority messages for your region/ sector? Who are the targets? What are the timelines?

How can OF and BA work together in your region/ sector to advance the common messages and strategy?

How can OF and BA participants work together to support the ongoing but separate work being undertaken in your region/ sector?

The outcomes of group discussions can be accessed here:

[\*Africa\*](#) – [\*Asia\*](#) – [\*Europe\*](#) – [\*Latin America\*](#) – [\*Global\*](#)

## **Closing session**

**Tony Tujan**, Co-chair of BetterAid, expressed his satisfaction that the meeting had taken place achieved good results. Acting together and with a shared vision, civil society can do much to advance the rights and interests of the poor in Busan. The challenge is exciting, but scenarios are unclear. The commitments made at the meeting will boost CSO confidence and energise them to fight their way for a better world.

**Emele Duituturaga**, Co-chair of the Global Facilitation Group of the Open Forum, thanked all participants for coming. She said the Open Forum, born out of the Accra process, will go to Busan with results. The cooperation and comradeship between CSOs engaged in the two platforms will enrich the joint effort. She recalled the words of a young aboriginal woman, who said in a meeting: “If you have come to help me, you are wasting our time. But if you want to work with us for your own liberation, then we can work together.” She reminded the meeting that Busan is one step on of journey, but not the destination.

**On behalf of the two platforms she thanked the staff of the Sida Partnership Forum, the people who had worked on logistics, translations and documentation, the Better Aid and Open Forum secretariats, and everybody else who had contributed to making the meeting a success.**

## **Annexes**

1. CSOs on the Road to Busan, revised draft document as presented on 15 March 2011. For the final version, click [here](#).
2. [Summary sheet of CSO key messages](#)
3. [Agenda](#) from the event
4. [List of Participants](#)
5. CSO Strategy Meeting Evaluation

## CSOs ON THE ROAD TO BUSAN

### Preamble

CSOs in the *BetterAid Platform*, with the *Open Forum on CSO Development Effectiveness*, are calling upon all development actors in the *Working Party on Aid Effectiveness* to work together for an ambitious forward-looking outcome at the Busan High Level Forum that addresses critical issues in development cooperation. Progress in three mutually dependent areas of reform is essential for a meaningful and ambitious *Busan Declaration on Development Effectiveness*:

- a) Complete and deepen current aid effectiveness commitments;
- b) Operationalize development effectiveness;
- c) Promote an equitable and just development cooperation architecture.

Each area will require negotiated specific, time-bound and measurable commitments. When taken together, they will build development partnerships, mutual trust and accountability for actions that can realize the goal of aid and development effectiveness: deepening the impact of aid and development cooperation on the capacities of poor and marginalized people to realize their rights and achieve the internationally agreed development goals (IADGs).

- Address the decreasing funding and foreign policy distortions in preamble.
- Preamble should accentuate importance of CSO participation, and failure to respect AAA article 20 to include CSOs. Make a strong political statement about the backlash against civil society. Make a reference to the *Istanbul Principles* in the preamble.
- Emphasize that the aid system should respect the rights and be sensitive to the needs of the most vulnerable groups/sectors (e.g., disabled, IPs, etc.).
- More emphasis on the lack of progress in meeting PD and AAA commitment.
- Underscoring the importance for policy coherence for development needs to be brought out somewhere in the executive summary or if not in a specific point, in the Preamble.
- A statement on CSOs vision of development including a perspective of aid exit and positive language on philanthropy and other forms of local mobilization.
- Clearly locate the place of aid effectiveness within the development effectiveness framework (thereby also differentiating the two). That is, CSOs engaging aid effectiveness agenda for its potential contribution to development.
- Realization that the power structure of aid architecture is changing and is negatively affecting the position of CSOs in that power structure. Therefore the need to create new mechanisms and new regulations for aid in the development process.
- Related to the point above, make statements on the need for coherence between aid policies and other policies regulating/relevant to trade, debt and other pillars of financing for development.

## Development partners must

### A) Complete and deepen current aid effectiveness commitments by ...

#### 1. Taking stock of commitments:

- 1.1 Implement an inclusive assessment of Paris and Accra commitments that takes account of and specifies the underlying reasons for the lack of more significant progress.

#### 2. Carrying forward and strengthen the Paris and Accra commitments through strengthening democratic ownership:

- 2.1 Promote meaningful democratic ownership of development policies, planning and actions through full engagement with, and accountability to, all development stakeholders (most importantly the intended beneficiaries and local communities, but also parliaments, CSOs, private sector, local government and media).

- Reference importance of respect for political and civil rights.

- 2.2 Carry out regular broad and inclusive multi-stakeholder country-level policy dialogues on development strategies, policies and programs.

- 2.3 Put into practice the Accra commitment to increase the use of country systems as the first option by donors in bilateral government-to-government cooperation, while strengthening the Paris commitment towards the use of program-based approaches, negotiated with transparency and the participation of all development actors engaged in political and policy dialogue.

- Engage and strengthen capacities of local government in negotiation on program-based approaches.

- Build the capacity of parliamentarians and civil society organizations to monitor government budgets.

- 2.4 End donor policy conditions attached to aid negotiations and disbursements, including implicit and indirect policy conditions by International Financial Institutions.

- 2.5 End all formal and informal practices of aid tying and give preference to local and regional procurement.

- Develop the notion of untying as prerequisite for local procurement; local procurement as prerequisite for more local developmental impact and more funds retained in programme countries).

- Link the importance of local and regional procurement to the growth of a national productive sector.

- 2.6 Make technical assistance fully demand-driven, responsive to country needs, ensuring an integrated human rights and gender equality perspective, with precedence given to

indigenous expertise sourced through transparent and inclusive processes.

2.7 Deliver on the Accra commitment to improve aid predictability by providing recipients with, and delivering on, predictable three to five year funding tranches.

2.8 Ensure that participation in development programs by the private sector respects democratic ownership in support of the realization of agreed development goals, decent work and human rights standards. Public funds especially aid funds should be prioritized for livelihood and economic/productive development, rather than for-profit initiatives.

❑ Call on the private sector to respect CSR and put in place activities consistent with sustainable environment.

❑ We need to distinguish better:

- Between different private sector actors: e.g. small cooperatives, foundations or transnational corporations.
- Between for-profit “private” economic activities, and activities for self-sustained livelihoods, ODA should not be given to the previous, the latter actually deserve support.
- Between ODA transfers to private sector (don’t dilute ODA criteria that it is not for commercial purposes); and contracting private sector entities for aid projects (often necessary) → make two separate items. Clearly no conditionality on privatization.

### 3. Implementing full transparency as the basis for strengthened accountability:

3.1 Create and strengthen clear accountability frameworks at global and country levels, based on existing country-led processes, with strategies to reduce aid dependence, the inclusion of all stakeholders, and the respect for human rights obligations of each development actor.

3.2 Adhere to and implement the highest standards of openness and transparency by signing up to, implementing and deepening the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standards, budget accountability and by recognizing civil society initiatives to improve CSO accountability and transparency.

❑ Bring the text up to date with the current state of the IATI process.

## B) Operationalize development effectiveness by ...

❑ Make clearer how these proposals “operationalize” development effectiveness.

### 4. Making development cooperation practices promote human rights standards, focusing on the eradication of the causes of poverty and inequality:

4.1 Commit to and implement rights-based approaches to reforms in development cooperation and its practices, as the basis for concrete measures to eradicate the root causes of poverty and inequality and to promote democratic ownership.

❑ Highlight the right to development as a conceptual framework for a rights-based approach to development (cooperation) → advocacy opportunity: 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the right to development

- ❑ Point to the importance of Ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol

#### 5. Promoting and implementing gender equality and women's rights:

5.1 Place gender equality and women's rights at the center for achieving development effectiveness, by strengthening implementation and monitoring of current gender equality and human rights obligations and commitments of donors and governments, and through the allocation of dedicated resources for their realization.

- ❑ Accept AWID word changes in the text of the paragraph.
- ❑ Emphasize the importance of gender-disaggregated data. Can also be an indicator of progress.

#### 6. Implementing the Decent Work Agenda as the cornerstone for socially inclusive and sustainable development strategies.

6.1 Implement economic development strategies based on the recognition of social and economic rights, with social inclusion, social protection and social dialogue. Social policies should also address the needs for livelihoods and access to resources especially for the informal sector and vulnerable and marginalized segments of society.

- ❑ The text should better reflect the situation in agriculture, informal urban sector, and informal work done by women.

#### 7. Ensuring the full participation of CSOs as independent development actors in their own right:

- ❑ Emphasize the importance of respect for the diversity of civil society organizations by referencing actor-based approaches to support for civil society. Civil society is not just NGOs, but includes human rights organizations, cooperative, women's organizations or trade unions, which may require unique modalities of support.

7.1 Recognize the *Istanbul Principles for CSO Development Effectiveness* (see Annex Three) as the basis for assessing CSO contributions to development and for donor and government policies that enable these contributions.

7.2 Engage CSOs based on the Istanbul Principles to agree on minimum standards for government and donor policies, laws, regulations and practices that create an enabling environment for CSOs to reach their full potential as development actors.

- ❑ Note the importance of Respect and fulfill the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (which recognized CSOs as human rights defenders). Need explicit linkages to international legal standards, but also political statement on lack of implementation and respect for these standards.
- ❑ Agreement on minimum standards on enabling environment (Task Team negotiations) is crucial. Reference civil society proposals in the Draft Framework.

### C) Promote an equitable and just development cooperation architecture by ...

Change intro section:

- Change last two sentences to: The focus of this new aid architecture should address policy coherence for development based on human rights norms.

## 8. Proposing and implementing fundamental reforms in the global governance of development cooperation:

8.1 Propose an inclusive multilateral process for a binding agreement on development effectiveness with an independent and mandatory accountability mechanism, negotiated within the United Nations and the framework of United Nations human rights conventions and covenants.

Or: Create a (Busan Compact), consistent with human rights conventions and covenants, for monitoring the Busan commitments for aid and development effectiveness with an independent and mandatory accountability mechanism, involving donors, southern governments, multilateral institutions and civil society.

- Establish an independent and transparent monitoring mechanism to evaluate donor progress on the outcomes of Busan, focusing on commitments to increasing the quantity and quality of aid.

8.2 Promote inter-institutional collaboration between the OECD Working Party on Aid Effectiveness and United Nations mechanisms, such as the Development Cooperation Forum (DCF), to strengthen UN institutions for policy dialogue and standard setting on development effectiveness.

8.3 As an immediate successor to the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness create an equitable country-led multilateral forum, inclusive of all development actors, with a clear mandate for policy dialogue and standard setting on development effectiveness.

## Missing

1. Environmental sustainability; respecting and defending the environment. → advocacy opportunity: UNCED+20 upcoming.
2. Climate finance → advocacy opportunity: already on WPEFF agenda, lots of funds committed and uncovered by effectiveness
3. Addressing the question of new donors.
4. Defending the rights of ethnic and cultural minorities.
5. Include an ask regarding the reparation for damages to peoples brought about by ODA supported development projects.

6. Inclusion of an ask or discussion on the role of private foundations that provide large aid monies on the basis that is not clear - need for this type of aid to be more accountable and demand-driven.

## **Format**

1. Delete the sub-points from exec summary, and instead make headlines stand alone, but add concrete 'how to' and indicators for each one. Will work with Clare on appropriate wording. (This can't work very well for section 2 as the main content is in the sub-points.)
2. Take out all references to BA and OF in document. Replace with 'civil society'. Title of the paper remains "CSOs on the Road to Busan..." but BetterAid logo on the frontpiece.
3. Verify that each of the headings properly reflects the actually content of the paragraphs, for example, para 2.8 goes a lot deeper on private sector, but this isn't reflected in the heading [Many additional changes have been made to 2.8 heading.]
4. Develop a glossary.
5. Proposal to move Section C to become Section A. Section B should follow beginning with a clear definition of development effectiveness based on a human rights approach. The recommendations of Section A should then follow, beginning with a recognition for the rights of CSOs, respect for the political and civil rights of all CSOs as well as the obligation of the state to support the development of CSOs as essential agents in the development of their countries.
6. Question about whether this is an advocacy document or a CSO platform for BetterAid. Some format suggestions relate to its structure as an advocacy document (e.g. identification of target in the specific proposals).
  - More ambitious ....more sharper asks.
  - The poverty focus of aid should be reinforced (more understandable and direct terms).
  - The document can be contextualised also at county level to lobby national governments.

## **CSOs on the Road to Busan: A Summary of Key Messages and Proposals**

### **A) Fully evaluate and deepen the Paris and Accra commitments through reforms based on democratic ownership.**

1. Redress the failure to make progress on Paris and Accra commitments.
2. Carry forward and strengthen the Paris and Accra commitments through realizing democratic ownership in development cooperation:
  - 2.1 Establish democratic ownership as the core aid and development effectiveness principle.
  - 2.2 Give priority to inclusive multi-stakeholder policy dialogue.
  - 2.3 Use country systems as the first option.
  - 2.4 End policy conditionality.
  - 2.5 Fully untie all forms of aid.
  - 2.6 Implement demand-driven technical assistance.
  - 2.7 Address the unpredictability of aid flows.
  - 2.8 Orient private sector development for self-sustaining livelihoods.
3. Implement full transparency as the basis for strengthened accountability and good governance:
  - 3.1 Create and work with clear inclusive accountability frameworks at country and global levels.
  - 3.2 Adhere to and implement the highest standards of openness and transparency by all aid actors.

### **B) Strengthen development effectiveness through development cooperation practices that promote human rights standards and focus on the eradication of the causes of poverty and inequality.**

4. Commit to and implement rights-based approaches to development.
5. Promote and implement gender equality and women's rights.
6. Implement the Decent Work Agenda as the cornerstone for socially inclusive and sustainable development strategies.

### **C) Affirm and ensure the participation of the full diversity of CSOs as independent development actors in their own right.**

7. Endorse the *Istanbul Principles* and acknowledge the Open Forum's *International Framework for CSO Development Effectiveness* to put these *Principles* into practice.
8. Agree on minimum standards for government and donor policies, laws, regulations and practices that create an enabling environment for CSOs.

### **D) Promote equitable and just development cooperation architecture.**

9. Launch an inclusive Busan Compact at HLF4, which brings together specific time-bound commitments and initiates fundamental reforms in the global governance of development cooperation.
10. Create an equitable and inclusive multilateral forum for policy dialogue and standard setting.

# CSO Strategy Meeting

Harnosand, Sweden

March 14-15, 2011

## FINAL AGENDA

### DAY 1: Monday, March 14, 2011

LOCATION: Harnosand Theatre (see Map)

Time	Activity
8:30 to 9:00	Registration
9:00 to 9:20	Opening and Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Vazha Salamadze, Open Forum GFG co-chair</i></li> <li>- <i>Tony Tujan, BetterAid CG co-chair</i></li> </ul>
9:20 to 10:00	Keynote Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Per-Ola Matsson (Swedish MFA)</i></li> <li>- <i>Richard Ssewakiryanga (Uganda NGO Platform)</i></li> </ul>
10:00 to 10:15	Mingling Ice Breaker
10:15 to 10:30	Coffee break
10:30 to 11:00	Overview and Update on the OECD WP-EFF process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Eduardo Gonzalez (OECD)</i></li> </ul>
11:00 to 12:30	Update and Recap of the OF and BA processes to date (including 30 minutes for Q&A, moderated by Niina Pitkanen) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Tony Tujan, BACG co-chair</i></li> <li>- <i>Vazha Salamadze, GFG co-chair</i></li> </ul>
12:30 to 1:30	Lunch
1:30 to 2:30	Our demands/messages for Busan: A review of the key documents of BA and OF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Brian Tomlinson (CCIC)</i></li> </ul>
2:30 to 4:00	Smaller group workshops (7-8) to discuss the common CSO key asks and messages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To be led by volunteer facilitators</li> <li>- Rapporteurs to take notes and hand them in to the small strategy group following these discussions, who will be working on synthesizing the small group inputs over the evening</li> <li>- Guiding questions will be provided</li> </ul>
4:00 to 4:30	Coffee
4:30 to 5:00	Plenary: General reflections and highlights from the discussions in the working groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Moderator: Tetet Lauron (IBON and OF Consortium member)</i></li> </ul>
19:00 onwards	SIDA Gala Dinner (LOCATION: Harnosand Theatre)

*Please Note : Small common messages drafting group will be meeting with working group rapporteurs from 5 :00 to 6 :30pm*

DAY 2: Tuesday, March 15, 2011

LOCATION: Harnosand Theatre (see map)

Time	Activity
8:30 to 9:00	Registration
9:00 to 9:30	Presentation of Common CSO Key Asks and Messages based on discussions and inputs from yesterday's work - <i>Representative of small strategy group</i>
9:30 to 10:30	Introduction to BA and OF Advocacy Strategies and Opportunities - <i>Tony Tujan, BACG Co-Chair</i> - <i>Carolyn Long, OF Consortium member (Interaction)</i> - <i>Craig Fagan, BACG (Transparency International)</i>
10:30 to 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 to 12:30	Smaller group workshops (7-8) to discuss the common CSO advocacy strategy - To be led by volunteer facilitators - Rapporteurs to take notes - Guiding questions will be provided
12:30 to 1:30	Lunch
1:30 to 2:00	Summary Conclusions from Strategy discussions - <i>Jan Dereymaeker, ITUC</i>
2:00 to 3:30	Preliminary update on the Road to Busan: Panel discussion on possible initiatives and plans at Busan, with debate/ discussion (Moderator: Anne Schoenstein) - <i>Tony Tujan, BACG Co-chair</i> - <i>Andreas Vogt, CONCORD</i> - <i>Krister Holm, IBON</i>
3:30 to 4:00	Coffee Break
4:00 to 5:00	Regional working groups to discuss how to take the messages and common strategy forward on the ground and in your constituencies - Volunteer rapporteur in each group to take notes - Guiding questions will be provided
5:00 to 5:30	Summary and closing - <i>GFG and BACG co-chairs</i>
6:00 onwards	Informal buffet dinner and free time (LOCATION: Harnosand Theatre)

## CSO Strategy Meeting

Harnosand, Sweden  
March 14 and 15, 2011

### Final Participants List

First Name	Last Name	Organisation	BA/OF
Alexander	Kohnstamm	Nordic +	OF
Amy	Bartlett	Open Forum Secretariat	OF
Andreas	Vogt	CONCORD	OF
Anne	Schoenstein	AWID	BA
Anselmo	Seonghoon Lee	KoFID	BA
Antonio	Tujan	IBON	BA
Aurelien	Atidegla	REPAOC	BA/OF
Ava	Danlog	RoA	BA
Azra	Sayeed	APWLD	OF
Bodo	Ellmers	EURODAD	BA
Borithy	Lun	CCC	OF
Brian	Tomlinson	CCIC	BA/OF
Bright	Muwador	All Africa Conferences of Churches	OF
Carlyn	Hambuba	FEMNET	BA
Carolyn	Long	InterAction	BA/OF
Christine	Andela	COSADER	OF
Clare	Birkett	EURODAD	BA
Craig	Fagan	Transparency International	BA
Daniel	Svoboda	European Union Presidency Group	OF
Daxing	Zhao	CANGO	OF
Emele	Duituturaga	PIANGO	OF
Farjana	Akter	VOICE	BA
Flore	Tixier	CONCORD	BA
Franz	Berger	CONCORD	OF
Fraser	Reilley-King	CCIC	BA/OF
Gaele	Nicodeme	Open Forum Secretariat	OF
Griet	Ysewyn	EURODAD	BA
Gustavo	Luna Terrazas	UNITAS	OF
Hyuk-Sang	Sohn	KCOG	OF
Iacopo	Viciani	ActionAid	BA
Ivan	Garcia Merenco	Coordinacion Civil	OF
Jake	Bharier	CONCORD	OF

Jan	Dereymaeker	ITUC	BA
Jennifer	Malonzo	RoA	BA
Jorge	Balbis	RoA	BA/OF
Kasia	Staszewska	WIDE	BA
Kate	Lapin	APWLD	BA
Katsuji	Imata	Civicus	OF
Krister	Holm	IBON	BA
Kyungshin	Lee	KCCOC	BA
Lars	Koch	Alliance2015	BA
Lyn Angelica	Pano	APRN	OF
Maria Theresa	Lauron	APRN	OF
Martha	Ayala	CSA	OF
Matt	Simonds	TUAC	BA
Meja	Vitalice	RoA Africa	BA
Mia	Haglund-Heelas	PLAN International	OF
Netsanet	Belay	Civicus	BA
Niina	Pitkanen	CONCORD	BA
Olga	Kozhaeva	Open Forum Secretariat	OF
Paola	Simonetti	ITUC	OF
Patrick	Muchelaka	CSPR	OF
Peter	Lanzet	ACT Alliance	BA
Reileen	Dulay	IBON	BA
Richard	Ssewakiryanga	Uganda NGO National Forum	BA/OF
Roberto	Pinauin	IBON	BA
Roy	Anunciacion	PCFS	OF
Ruben	Fernandez	ALOP	OF
Samuel	Zan Akolgo	GAEF	BA
Sarba	Raj Khadka	LDC Watch	BA
Showers	Mawowa	ZIIMCODD	BA
Solomon	Gicara	All Africa Conferences of Churches	OF
Suranjan	Kodithuwakku	GMSL	BA
Suvi	Virkkunen	ACT Development	OF
Tirivangani	Mutazu	AFRODAD	OF
Ulrika	Modeer	CONCORD	OF
Vazha	Salamadze	Civil Society Insitute of Georgia	OF
Velina	Petrova	CARE International	OF
Ziad Abdel	Samad	ANND	BA/OF
Zukhro	Mirzoeva	NGO Jahon	OF

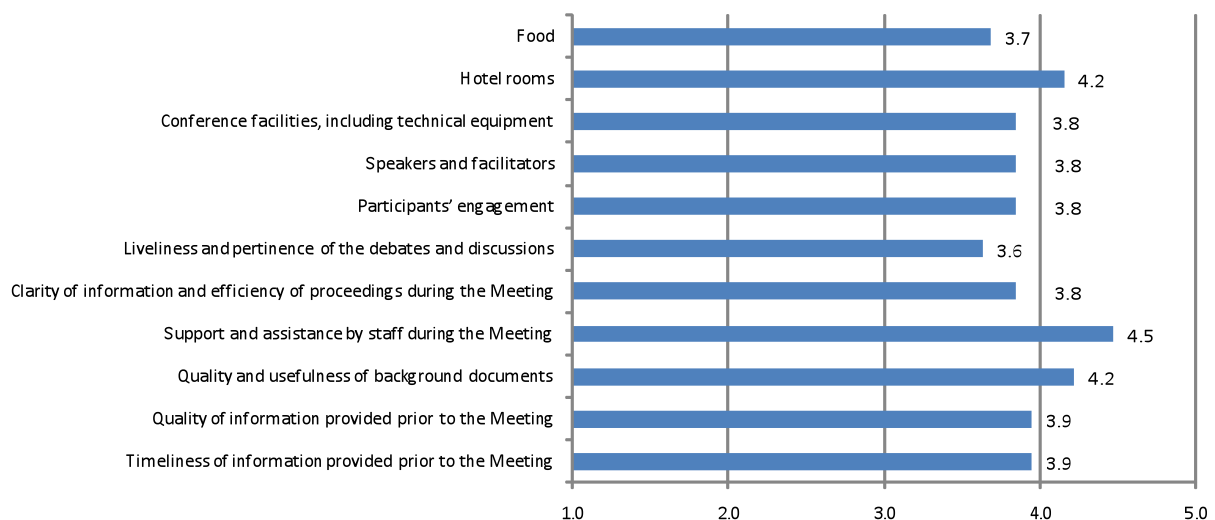
## Annex 5

### CSO Strategy Meeting Evaluation Harnosand, Sweden – March 2011

---

Response rate: 27%

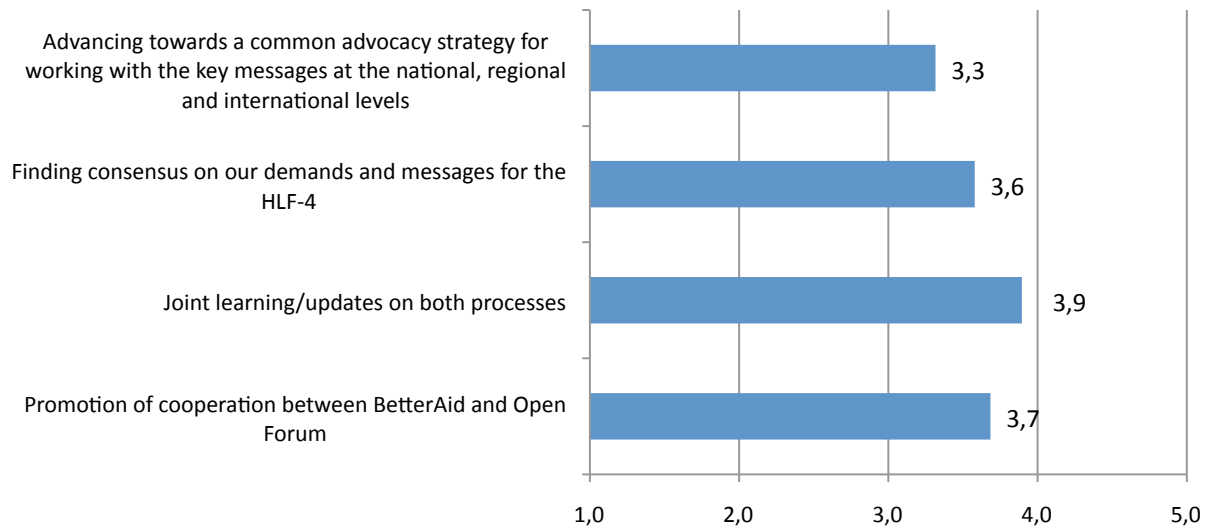
#### 1. On a scale from 1 (low) to 5 (high), how do you rate the following aspects of the Meeting?



People were overall very happy with the logistical aspects of the meeting and the way it was conducted. We received some good suggestions for further improvements, such as linking the documentation to each session in the agenda itself so that people can come prepared and have a better view on the issues during the debates.

Some people regretted that not everybody got the chance to contribute to the debates - and therefore suggested to investigate other meeting formats (e.g.: some smaller group sessions so that there is more interaction). The lack of women as key note speakers was also pointed out.

## 2. On a scale from 1 (low) to 5 (high), to what extent has the meeting achieved the following objectives:



The shared learning was seen as one of the strong points of the meeting.

Nevertheless, most people highlighted some ongoing lack of clarity on the following aspects:

- What are the very specific demands for an enabling environment?
- Where does the Open Forum sit in the BetterAid document on Key Asks?
- Joint steps forward: what's next in terms of collaboration between both processes?

## 3. For you personally, what were the three most interesting or exciting sessions, and why?

The 3 main sessions (Advocacy Strategy, Key asks for Busan and the Regional work group session) were equally appreciated and described as relevant, clear and transparent, and as helpful in terms of information sharing and conceptualization of the links between the 2 processes.

The key note speakers and the session on Busan by OECD were also mentioned and appreciated.

## 4. According to you, what is the most important outcome of the meeting?

The main outcome, according to the respondents, is the Key Asks for Busan document, that will allow both processes to come with a common and stronger voice to Busan.

The participants also highlighted the good level of unity reached between the OF and BA processes in terms of common understanding of their complementarities, differences and similarities.

### **5. In your opinion, why has the CSO Strategy Meeting been important for defining a common way forward in the run-up to the HLF-4?**

The vast majority of the respondents thought that in order to achieve both OF and BA goals in Busan, we should come united as one strong voice and that the meeting was very helpful in that sense.

It also allowed people to speak to each others, exchange, understand each others' role and strategize from worldwide to national level. This joint effort will enable CSOs to assert and claim their own space for involvement on the Development Effectiveness agenda on the national, regional and international levels.

### **6. According to you, what are the most important thing(s) we still have to achieve as CSO's on the road to Busan?**

In general, the respondents thought that we should share our meeting results further at the national level (top-down approach), work on the ground and learn from each others on this lower level to help come stronger in Busan (bottom-up approach).

Some concerns were raised about the key messages that need to be simplified and clarified or even be narrower, focusing on a few issues only in order to be more targeted, and hence more effective.

The advocacy strategy was one of the main areas where people think we should now focus our attention, getting a democratic ownership of the messages for further mobilization and hence public buy-in and decision makers' support to our agenda. In that matter, people were also concerned about the sustainability of the process in conveying our message longer term post HLF-4.

Overall people support the idea of having some sort of joint campaign (logo, slogan, side-event in Busan, etc) to concretize our unity.

### **7. What is the first thing you will do when you get back to your national constituencies?**

People were unanimous on committing to engage with their national constituencies by reporting the outcome of the Strategy Meeting.

Most people will be reviewing their own regional/national agenda and or strategy in the light of the discussions that happened in Harnosand.