



# Who's What in Development?

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**Aid:** In its broadest use, Aid refers to all resources—goods, skills and technical knowledge, financial grants or loans—transferred by donors to recipients.

**Official Development Assistance (ODA):** “Aid” is often used synonymously with ODA. While CSOs can receive ODA, ODA does not include direct resource transfers by civil society organizations or other non-state actors. Similarly, developing country donors, who are not members of the DAC, also provide development assistance, most of which currently is not reported to the DAC, and is not included in ODA.

**Aid Effectiveness:** Aid effectiveness relates to measures that improve the quality of the aid relationship, primarily focusing on the terms and conditions of the resource transfer itself between donor governments and partners. The Paris Declaration defined five principles that should guide official donors and developing country governments to improve the effectiveness of this resource transfer.

**Development Effectiveness:** Development effectiveness promotes sustainable change, within a democratic framework, that addresses the causes as well as the symptoms of poverty, inequality and marginalisation. It is about the impact of the actions of development actors, including international aid, on improving the lives of the poor and marginalised.

## Milestones in Aid Effectiveness

**2000:** Millennium Development Goal 8 of the Millennium Declaration calls for a global partnership for development, recognising the importance of inclusive, comprehensive international efforts.

**2002:** The Monterrey Financing for Development Conference secures international consensus around funding targets to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and calls for more effective aid to deliver maximum impact on development.

**2003:** At the High Level Forum on Harmonisation (Rome), donors agree to co-ordinate their activities and reduce transaction costs for aid recipients.

**2005:** Donors and developing countries endorse the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and commit to improve and monitor aid quality at the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Paris).

**2008:** The Accra Agenda for Action is agreed at the Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Accra) to help developed, emerging and developing economies, civil society organisations and parliamentarians accelerate the achievement of the Paris Declaration commitments.

**2010:** A series of new agreements to improve the impact of development co-operation are made, grounded on the Paris principles. The Bogota Statement commits partners engaging in South-South co-operation to deepen the exchange of knowledge and mutual learning. The Dili Declaration proposes to counter conflict and fragility through country-led processes in peacebuilding and statebuilding. And the Istanbul Principles are set out to provide specific guidance for the development work and practices of civil society organisations.



**Civil society:** Basically any organisation which is not corporate and not government including community-based groups, women's or youth groups, professional organisations, rights organisations, business groups, activist groups and media organisations.

**Civil Society Organisations (CSOs):** Includes NGOs, but CSO is a more inclusive term, including other organizations such as institutions, foundations, associations and almost 1,000 Indigenous Peoples Organizations (IPOs).

**Humanitarian NGOs:** Humanitarian NGOs are guided by the imperative to alleviate suffering, protect lives and ensure non-discrimination. They adhere to the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence often in response situations such as complex emergencies or disasters.

**Non-State actors (NSA):** In practice these are all kinds of actors in civil society: religious organisations, advocacy organisations, informal groups such as grassroots organisations, farmers' cooperatives, trade unions, universities and research institutes, the media, and the private sector in the form of professional associations etc. The private sector is considered only insofar as it is involved in non-profit activities.

**DAC:** The OECD Development Assistance Committee is a unique international forum of many of the largest funders of aid, including 24 members. The World Bank, IMF and UNDP participate as observers.

**The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC):** ECOSOC serves as the central forum for discussing international economic and social issues, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to Member States and the United Nations system. ECOSOC consults with academics, business sector representatives and more than 3,200 registered non-governmental organizations.

**Busan Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness ( Busan or HLF4):**

The Fourth High Level Forum (HLF) on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, Korea follows meetings in Rome, Paris and Accra. In 2011 the HLF will make commitments that set a new agenda for development. Delegates from CSO platforms like CID and BetterAid are working together to affirm and ensure the participation of the full diversity of CSOs as independent development actors in their own right.

**Working Party on Aid Effectiveness (WP-EFF):**

Established in 2003 under DAC, WP-EFF has evolved into leading international partnership forum for aid effectiveness with 80 participants including bilateral and multilateral donors, aid recipients, emerging providers of development assistance, civil society organisations, global programmes, the private sector, and parliaments. The WP-EFF is actively preparing for Busan.

**Open Forum:** The Open Forum focuses on how Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) can improve their own effectiveness as development actors, including by improving the enabling environment that is provided by official donors, governments and other development stakeholders for CSOs.

**BetterAid:** The goal of the BetterAid Platform is to monitor and influence how official donors can improve their effectiveness as development actors, particularly in regards to the implementation of the AAA.

**The Reality of Aid Network (RoA):** ROA is the only major North/South international non-governmental initiative focusing exclusively on analysis and lobbying for poverty eradication policies and practices in the international aid regime. The Reality of Aid builds on a seventeen-year track record of independent assessment of aid policies and practices, accompanied by constructive dialogue with policy makers at national and international levels.