**Private sector accountability in development**

**Terms of Reference – TORs (draft)**

*Background*

In recent times the private sector has been progressively seen as an important player in boosting economic growth, and therefore generating development processes. The role of private sector is echoed in all development fora, besides the GPEDC, such as the SDGs process, at the OECD, EU level, international agencies and donor governments. Growing percentages of traditional Official Development Assistance (ODA) are destined to support international private sector investments (FDI) in developing countries. This brings about concerns in terms of accountability (based on human rights), fiscal transparency and last but not least ownership of results.

*Objectives and structure of the Research*

The objective of this research is to carry out evidence-based case studies showcasing the currents weakness in terms of private sector accountability, and proposing recommendations. This study (following up the previous publication on “Business accountability FOR development”) will serve as an advocacy tool showcasing concrete examples of private sec-tor initiatives and their results in terms of sustainable development. The study will be aimed at providing recommendations that can serve as common key asks in international debates.

The case studies will need to be framed on the following criteria:

· Country-based cases (in developing countries);

· The target of the cases will be private sector ‘development’ programmes, meaning programmes/initiatives supported or co-financed by official development assistance (ODA);

· The scope of the studies will be concentrated on decent work and labour rights assessing private sector initiatives’ impact on those;

· The methodology of the cases will need to be structured against common benchmarks, namely: accountability (respect of international commitments); ownership (inclusion in decision-making); transparency (including remedies)

*Methodology and timeline*

The work will be structured in three phases:

1) setting detailed TORs for the research methodology of the country based cases;

2) drafting of the studies;

3) studies compilation and drafting final recommendations.

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| Activity | Expected Output/Outcome | Description | Schedule |
| Drafting TORs research methodology | Common methodology i.e. objectives, research scope and benchmarks set for the case studies | GlobalExperts will be engaged to support the TORs drafting. | 1Q 2015 |
| Conducting research and finalization of country-based case studies  | 3 to 6 country based case studies realized  | National - involvement of regional organizations | 2Q 2015 |
| Studies compilation and drafting final recommendations | Final publication  | GlobalExperts will be engaged to support the compilation and drafting final recommendations. | 3Q 2015 |