Structured Dialogue:

Involvement of civil society & local authorities in EC cooperation

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Maxime Montagner
EuropeAid, Unit F1 “Relations with civil society”
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1/ Overall Objective of the structured Dialogue 2010

The starting point is Article 20 AAA:
- Deepen engagement with CSOs
- Have interest in ensuring that CSOs contributions reach their full potential

Structured dialogue aims at increasing the **effectiveness of all stakeholders** involved in EC cooperation by:

- **Building consensus** on the main issues to be addressed concerning the role of CSOs & LAs,
- Finding ways to **improve the effectiveness of CSO & LA involvement** in EC cooperation and to **adapt EC modalities** accordingly.
1/ Specific Objectives - expected results

The dialogue process shall help to:

• Elaborate a **shared definition** of the specific role, responsibilities, added value of various categories of CSO & LA in EC cooperation from programming to evaluation.

• Explore the potential for **partnership** between EU CSO & LA and local CSO & LA.

• At the country level, explore **the respective role of the various stakeholders** (State & CSOs & LA) involved in development efforts.
1/ Specific Objectives - expected results

• At the country level, enhance the **complementarity** between the EC programmes supporting CSO & LA (both geographic & thematic).

• Concretize recommendations on maximising the potential and effectiveness of the **call for proposals** system and improving the **sustainability** of projects.

• Identify **alternative aid mechanisms** to allow a more strategic involvement of CSOs and LAs through longer-term partnerships.

• Explore options to **improve future EC initiatives in specific areas**: (i) Development Education & Awareness Raising, (ii) support to local & regional authorities and (iii) Democracy & Human Rights.
2/ WHO – the actors involved

- The EC (headquarters and delegations)
- The European Parliament
- Members States
- Civil Society and LA representatives (European-based platforms and Southern actors)
2/ WHO – the actors involved in Brussels

**EC**
- **Genuine EC process** (DEV/RELEX/EuropeAid).
- **EuropeAid** acting as secretariat at the level of the Directorate F (Unit F1).

**EP**
- **DEVE Committee** (in particular the Working Group D) will lead the European Parliament participation in the process. All MEP from others Committees will be encouraged to attend.

**MS**
- Representatives of **Ministries and National Development Agencies** will participate in their capacity of members of the DCI and EIDHR Committees or as designed focal point to follow the entire process.

**CSO&LRA**
- In total 8 **CSO&LRA platforms have already been identified** and involved in the preparations of the Quadrilogue (CONCORD, CoopsEurope, ENoP, Green10, HRDN, ITUC, Platforma, Red Cross).
- It can be **envisaged to invite other** (traditional and emerging) actors.
2/ WHO – the actors involved: in the South

EUD

• Involvement of EU Delegations is strongly needed as they are the main actor responsible for engaging with local stakeholders at the country level.
• Consultations shall take place in Western & Central Africa, Latin America & Asia
• Others regions, such as Southern Neighbourhood, are considered for specific activities, such as the supporting initiative dealing with Democracy and Human Rights.
• In total, around 30 / 35 Delegations will be involved and additional 17 Delegations targeted in the supporting initiative on Democracy and Human Rights.

CSO&LRA

• With the support of EU Delegations & technical assistance, together with European-based and Southern CSO and LRA platforms (including their constituencies), local CSO & LRAs will be selected according to certain selection criteria that will be commonly refined and agreed upon.
3/ Content of the dialogue

- Role of CSO&LA in external cooperation from programming to evaluation
- Complementarity and coherence within the AAA
- EC aid delivery mechanisms

Policy level
Implementation level
WG 1: Role of CSO&LA in external cooperation from programming to evaluation

• On the roles of the actors:

  o The added value of the different families of actors

  o The value of a multi-stakeholder approach and ways to foster cooperation among actors.

  o CSOs as both implementation & governance partners (advocacy, “watch dog”)

  o Role of local stakeholders
**WG 1 : Role of CSO&LA in external cooperation from programming to evaluation - continued**

- **On consultation & participation:**
  
  - EU to facilitate an **enabling environment for local CSO & LRA** at the country level.
  
  - How to organise **genuine consultations** of local stakeholders? (in different sectors)
  
  - On the **knowledge of actors**: Discussion on the methodology to launch a mapping of civil society.
WG 2 : Complementarity and coherence within the AAA

• **CSOs Right of initiative**
  - In Aid Effectiveness Agenda
  - In relations with National Development Strategies

• **Complementarity between European & Southern actors**

• **Division of labour between EC and Member states**

• **Complementarity among EC instruments & within EC development external cooperation**
  - Thematic vs geographic
  - Need for comprehensive strategy?
Overview

Roles of the actors

Consultation and participation

1

Right of initiative

Complementarity between European & Southern actors

Division of labour between EC & MS

Complementarity instruments

New aid modalities

2

3

New aid modalities & Calls

improve, simplify & target
WG 3 : EC aid delivery mechanisms

• New aid modalities in support to & through CS&LA:
  
  o Recent reforms of MS funding of CSOs and LAs in line with the Aid Effectiveness Agenda (i.e. core funding, pool funding mechanisms, etc)

  o Should we switch from a project-based approach to an “actor-based” approach? How?
WG 3: EC aid delivery mechanisms

• **Call for proposals (CfP)**
  o How to adapt CfP procedures, especially local calls?
  o How to make the CfP system more effective?
  o How, where (and when appropriate) to shift to a more strategic, partnership-oriented & sustainable approach?

• **Better targeting**
  o How to simplify procedures?
  o How to improve EC instruments & programmes?
4/Activities & Timetable

• The structured dialogue will officially start on the 23rd of March 2010 (though the preparatory phase is underway since July 2009).

• Based on the outputs and outcomes of the 2010 exercise & the evolution of the EU institutional context, the process will continue in 2011 with a Final Conference and related events which will wrap-up the outcomes of the whole process (likely to happen in Spring 2011, under Hungarian Presidency).

• It will be a global, multi-level process, articulated around live events and on-line discussions.
4/ The process: articulation components

- Online discussions (to allow for a continuous exchange of information)
- Supporting initiatives (to tackle specific issues)
- Regional seminars (to integrate Southern perspectives and foster North-South cooperation)
- European working sessions (to integrate European perspectives)
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<td>European working session 1: Official launch</td>
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On-line tool

Final Conference and related activities

Spring 2011
For more information

http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/dialogue

By the end of March:
• Background document
• Access to the online tool : blog & wiki platform

maxime.montagner@ec.europa.eu