

Governance for Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

Issues in Development Co-operation

Naresh C. Singh, Director General
Governance, Equality and Rights Directorate
CIDA, Policy Branch

Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication (Sustainable Livelihoods):

What have we learned?

- **Use of self-empowerment**
- **Focus on community assets and strength**
- **Improved access to resources**
- **Recognition of the cross-sectoral nature of the approach**
- **Livelihoods as function of activities, assets and entitlements**
- **Emphasis on resilience, economic efficiency, social equity and ecological integrity**
- **Recognition of the linkages between micro action and macro conditions and policies**

Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication (Sustainable Livelihoods):

What have we learned?

- Use the interest from society's capital maintaining its assets base**
- Societies' Capital (human, social, natural, physical and economic)**
- Improve human development while respecting ecological integrity**
- Release "dead capital" into market transactions**
- Weak and strong sustainability**

Clarifying the Concept of Governance

- **Broad enough to be everything and therefore nothing (UNDP example)**
- **Economic, political and administrative governance**
- **Associated with regime rather than state or civil society**
 - **constitution or reconstitution of normative rules that guide public or political actions**
- **In relation to SL (more specific definition):**
 - **One aspect of politics (constitutional)**
 - **Different from policy-making, public administration or project management**
 - **Constitutive (versus distributive) side of politics (*who sets what rules, when and how?*)**

Governance and its relation to other concepts and activities

<u>Level</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Concept</u>
Meta	Politics	Governance
Macro	Policy	Policy-Making
Meso	Program	Public Admin
Micro	Project	Management

Clarification of the Concept of Governance

- **Intimate empirical interconnections; but analytical value of distinctions**
- **Governance might operate from community level right up to international levels depending on the nature of the activity**
- **The conventional needs approach to development relies more on the distributive side-*who gets, what, when and how*- (verus constitutive) and does not ask for changes in the rules of the game**
- **SL relies more on the constitutive side of politics (it calls for changes in power relations by focusing on empowerment and access to resources)**

Governance as a Management Tool

- **Equivalent to strategic management in business administration- big picture, technology, markets**
- **Coping and adapting to uncertainties (caused, in politics, by wishes of groups to change the ruling conditions)**
- **Encouraging leaders to find consensual, positive solutions for their constituents**
- **Engaging politics including the need for changes in power relations**

Role of Donor Agencies

- **Can they become involved in support of changes in the internal political arrangements of sovereign states?**
- **What do existing democracy and governance programmes do?**
- **Need to make governance more than an end in itself**
- **Defining good governance as the successful implementation of rules for specific SD and SL objectives provides a hands-on approach**
- **Demonstrate relationship between democracy and development**

CIDA's Current Support to Governance

- **HRDG one of 6 priorities set by GOC for CIDA**
- **Second largest in disbursements after basic human needs (200-300 projects of 200-300 M/year)**
- **Follows local priorities- chosen in partnerships**
- **Local empowerment- elections, legislative, decentralisation (20-25%), civil society (12-15%), human rights (15%), child protection (5-7%)**
- **Public sector institutions- Policy, regulatory programs, capacity (30-35%)**
- **Conflict/human security/peace building**
- **See details at www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/governance**

Some Emerging GER Areas

- **GER dimensions of strengthening aid effectiveness**
- **Rights-Based Approaches**
- **GER dimensions of building synergies between aid and private capital**
- **What have we learned in supporting “democratic” elections?**
- **Gender Policy Performance Measurement Framework**
- **What do we know about local empowerment? (through decentralisation, civil society, participation, legislation, etc..)**
- **Can we build, rebuild social capital to improve governance?**

Operational Aspects

<u>PowerAspect</u>	<u>Governance Focus</u>	<u>Program Concern</u>	<u>Institutional Issue</u>
Articulation	Self- Organisation	Ownership	Empowerment
Mobilization	Social Capital	Capability	Civic Engagement
Distribution	Social Space	Access	Pluralism
Confirmation	Strength	Rights	Rule of Law

Governance Issues from Monterrey to Johannesburg

- **Good governance as pre-requisite for future aid allocation**
- **Country concentration: Rewarding good performers**
- **Donor support to constitutive issues-underlying structural conditions which shape and constrain the behaviour of political actors**
- **Effective Institutions, Education, Science and Technology for Decision-Making, Access to Information, Stakeholder Participation, Access to Justice**

Definition for Discussion

Governance refers to the following:

- **The steering of societies and organisations to achieve desired and national objectives and goals**
- **The setting of rules for the exercise of power, including who has access to political power, how those in power deal with those who are not, how those in power are held accountable**
- **The capacity of the state to organise social and economic activity according to rules, and to enforce compliance with those rules**
- **Mechanisms and institutional arrangements for articulating the interests of citizens and their involvement in decision-making processes**

Elements of a Caribbean Governance Agenda

Goal:

- **Strong resilient economies with sustainable livelihoods for all**

Challenges:

- **Multiple vulnerabilities both internal and external**
- **How to influence the rules and who makes them at the level of the sources of vulnerability (local, national and international)**

Actions:

- **Local level empowerment-decentralisation, articulation, mobilisation, etc..**

Elements of a Caribbean Governance Agenda

(Actions Continued)

- **Sub-regional local level networks of GO's and NGO's and CBO's**
- **Rebuilding social capital-new levels of trust across ethnic and institutional divides**
- **Managing globalisation for local level opportunity**
- **Having strategic influence in relevant external fora-national and international**
- **Using donor partners for influencing power relations**
- **New goals, skills resources and accountability criteria for the foreign service.**

Good Governance for effective developments Co-operation

Level I: Donor capitals and other donors fora

- **Policy coherence in debt, trade, market access and ODA**

Level II: Good domestic governance in recipient countries

- **Rule of law, Justice system, human rights, democracy, human security, institutional effectiveness**

Level III: The partnership mechanisms

- **from projects to programs to policy and governance relationships**