

SECTORIAL APPLICATION OF THE PARIS DECLARATION

COUNTRY LEADERSHIP

Country leadership is not granted only by following the ministers' orientation, but requires effectively incorporating citizens and public servants in the application of policies.

POLICIES AND PLANNING AT THE NATIONAL, SECTOR AND TERRITORIAL LEVEL

Sector approaches must be incorporated in the programs and national policies, so that they need to have clear objectives and performance indicators, without losing an integral and territorial approach.

The coherence between policies and national, sector and territorial plans generates difficulties and tensions that need to be addressed so that the application of sector-wide approaches does not miss the global vision nor distort territorial priorities. On the other hand, the need to assign clear goals and performance indicators was highlighted.

A clear definition of what is included in the sector, who are the stakeholders that form part of it and what are the rules that apply is necessary to work at the sector level.

CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

Cross-cutting themes should be included within a human rights approach. A good way to include cross-cutting themes in sector policies and plans is to define results and indicators in the results frameworks, and that those instances responsible for these themes participate in the planning and evaluation phases. There are examples of operational inclusion of cross-cutting themes such as the contract signed with Civil Society for the protection of the environment in some countries and the gender-informed budgets that has been applied at the municipal level in several countries.

In the documents of table 8, women are qualified as vulnerable, but women are not vulnerable, they are insufficiently included. Their economic and social position needs to be considered.

The framework to address cross-cutting issues are the international commitments that countries have signed. When cross-cutting themes are introduced through pressure from donors, there is no ownership of these issues and policies do not have continuity.

GLOBAL/VERTICAL FUNDS

Aid from global programs may distort sector financing, affecting the implementation of national priorities. AIDS funding, for example, represented up to 70 percent of global health ODA, which was not negative per se, yet reproduction health funds have been dramatically reduced.

The excessive focus of donors on AIDS has led to the perception that it is not the responsibility of the government, but that of international agencies. The lack of clear leadership from the government generates fragmentation, resulting in different actors managing specific issues, which hinders the sector approach.

Global Programs establish parallel mechanisms to the governments. In one case, it was mentioned that the resources of the Global Fund was distributed among different cooperation agents, with AIDS being managed by an international agency, while malaria and tuberculosis were taken care of by NGOs. The absence of country leadership results

in fragmentation in the health sector interventions because there is not a public organization that coordinates all the actors.

CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION

On the role of private companies, it was reminded that they do not have a definition of sector that is directly related to development, and the companies on a national level do not necessarily consider development. They are mostly interested in a specific area such as education, for example. Some civil society organizations are not related to development or territorial approach but they are more linked to sectors.

A civil society representative noted that it is seeking integration between sectors. It feels environmental issues are not being discussed here and that CS seeks to integrate the needs of society with environmental needs and those of the people. We have not had a strong enough impact on sustainability of the environment.

AID FROM COUNTRIES THAT HAVE NOT ADHERED TO THE PD

Most partner countries suggested that all aid is welcome inasmuch as it supports national priorities and is under the government control.

MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES WITH POCKETS OF POVERTY

Clear criteria should be defined for the assignment of ODA to MICs.

PROPOSALS

1. Partner countries should put forth greater leadership and rely on development plans, which will serve as a platform to establish multiannual sector approach. Sector plans need results evaluation tools and ODA alignment of those plans should take place under the leadership of the partner country, based on citizens participation.
2. Sector work requires the clear definition of the sector and its stakeholders;
3. Ensure the consistency between the sector approach and the national plans and policies; Emphasize assessment of territorial work that is being carried out and its impact on poverty. Ensure the inclusion of cross-cutting themes in sector policies based on the human rights approach.
4. Global funds should flow through and be managed by sector institutions.
5. Middle income countries should not be automatically excluded from ODA flows, given the existence of large pockets of poverty and inequalities that require focused and specific interventions.