

# Evaluation of the Paris Declaration Phase 2

**”Aid Effectiveness:” What’s in a Name?**

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**by**

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# Why the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness?

In searching examination over 20 years, aid found to be underperforming because:

- Too little co-ordination, often competition, among Donors
- Too many projects and programmes with different procedures

This leads to:

- Low ownership by developing countries
- Less effective programmes
- Developing countries overburdened with Donors' demands

Declaration brought together results of UN conferences, Millennium Development Goals, etc. in one consolidated reform program.

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# What is the Declaration?

- Broad international commitment to new partnerships and ways of working for development results, aid well spent and support for aid volumes (Now 130 donor and partner countries and other actors adhere)
- **56 specific “Partnership Commitments”** under 5 ‘principles’:
  - **Ownership** of strategies and plans by aid-receiving countries;
  - **Alignment** of donors to country plans using their systems and procedures;
  - **Harmonization** of donor actions to cut burdens and costs on countries;
  - **Managing for Development Results**: focus on results and improved decision-making;
  - **Mutual Accountability**, account to their own constituents and to each other for achieving development results.

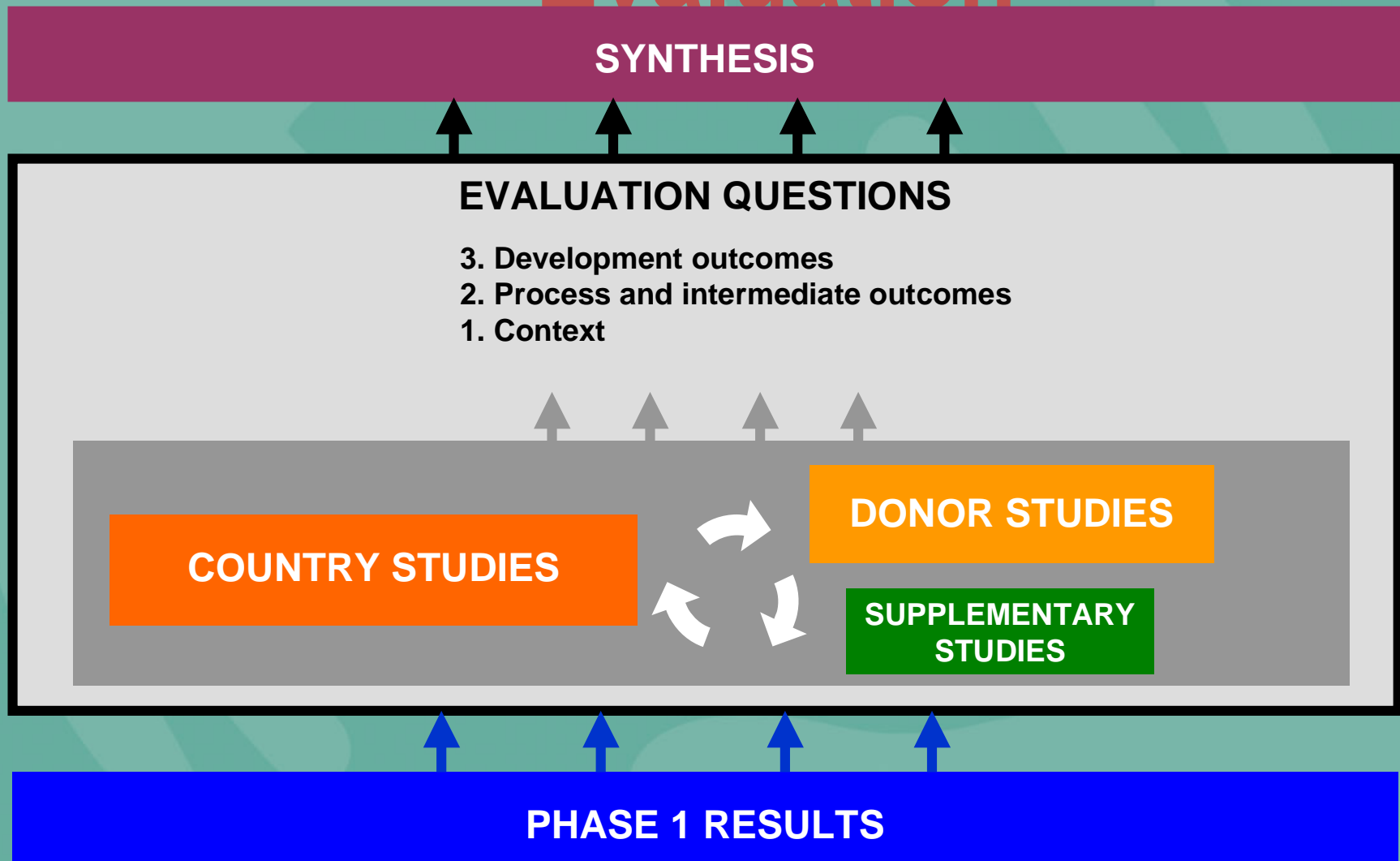
# Why evaluate the Paris Declaration?

- **Evaluation, together with monitoring, is built into the Declaration itself to give some “teeth” and a knowledge-base to the political Declaration**
- **Focuses on what has been achieved and what has not in making aid more effective – and why – the key questions for feedback to Ministers and the international community in 2011, and for the period after the term of the Declaration.**

# A joint evaluation with many actors

- Based on the principles of the Paris Declaration: partner countries and donors develop and carry out the evaluation framework/approach jointly
- The evaluation itself is a tool for mutual accountability:
  - 24 Country-level evaluations led by partner countries and managed in-country
  - 18 donor/agency HQ studies

# Building blocks of the Evaluation



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# Evaluation Model

## Two foci:

- **Implementation focus (Phase 1): How is the PD put into action?**
  - More diverse set of countries + wider range of stakeholders
  - HQ studies by 7 donors not included in Phase I
- **Results focus (Phase 2): What has changed?**
  - Identify PD influence on aid and development effectiveness (outcomes & results)

# Key Elements

- **A common evaluation framework**
- **Country - led country level evaluations**
- **Development Partners – led HQ level studies**
- **Thematic studies to supplement evaluations**
- **Intermediate results fed back to Ministerial and public levels (Accra 2008)**
- **Outcome evaluation fed back to Ministerial and public levels (Seoul 2011)**



# Country Evaluations

- Afghanistan
- **Bangladesh**
- Benin
- **Bolivia**
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Colombia
- Cook Islands
- Ghana
- Indonesia
- Kyrgyz Republic
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mozambique
- Nepal
- **Philippines**
- Samoa
- **Senegal**
- **South Africa**
- **Sri Lanka**
- Uganda
- Vietnam
- **Zambia**

# Country level evaluations

- **The utility of the Paris Declaration itself as a tool for aid effectiveness;**
- **The change of donors' behaviour in terms of alignment of their systems and procedures to implement the PD commitments;**
- **The change of partner country behaviour, with ownership as the key entry-point;**
- **Has the implementation of the Paris Declaration strengthened the contribution of aid to sustainable development results?  
How?**

# Donor/Agency HQ Evaluations

- Asian Development Bank
- Australia
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Luxemburg
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- UK
- UNDP/UNEG
- Austria
- Japan
- Ireland
- Spain
- Sweden
- USA
- African Development Bank

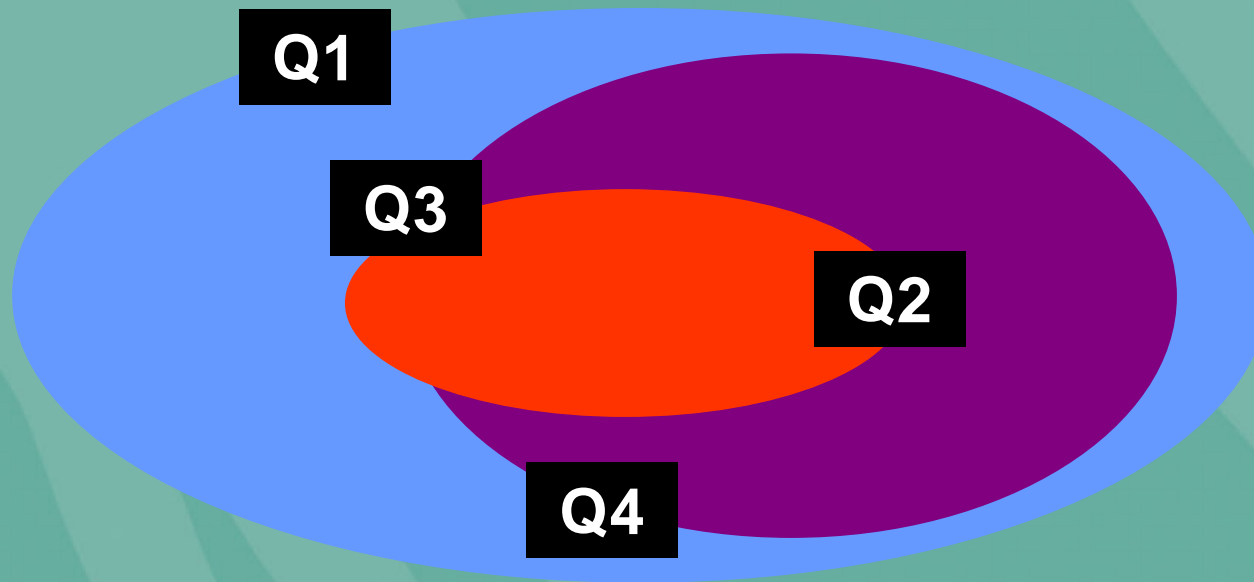
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# Donor HQ level evaluations

- **Level of leadership and commitment as expressed in policies and strategies;**
- **Development of capacities as expressed in guidelines, procedures, staff training, resources and delegation of authority (to field level);**
- **Conducive incentive systems: e.g., RBM, HRD;**
- **Possible to add questions of special interest to individual donor or “mirror questions” for some questions in the country evaluations;**
- **Possible for Phase 1 donors to update their**

# Why these four core Questions

Other international & national influences & forces



**Q1: PD in context**

**Q2: Effects of PD on aid effectiveness**

**Q3: Effects of PD on development effectiveness**

**Q4: Compared against different or alternative approaches**

Overall development processes

The Aid Partnership

Aid influenced by PD commitments

# Challenges: Making the Evaluation useful

- A results-oriented evaluation, for wide dissemination and use :
  - ✓ Relevant, credible and readable reports for the Seoul 2011 High Level Forum;
  - ✓ The process should spur interest and improvement in countries and agencies involved;
  - ✓ Useful to donor and partner country governments (executive and legislatures), practitioners (official, civil society and private sector stakeholders) & many citizens, in both sets of countries; and
  - ✓ Need to be focused, clear (avoid acronyms and jargon) and on time.

# Governance, management and implementation

- **International Reference Group** (50-plus reps. of governments, international Organizations, CSOs. Co-chaired by Malawi and Sweden)
- **Management Group** (Colombia, Malawi, Netherlands, Sweden, US, Vietnam)
- **Evaluation Secretariat** at Danish Institute for International Studies
- **National/Agency Reference Groups and Evaluation Coordinators** (with specified roles)
- **Core Evaluation Team** (6 Members, from Canada, Denmark, Nigeria, Peru, Sri Lanka, and UK)
- **National/Agency Evaluation Teams** (with specified recruitment criteria, and common generic ToRs)

# Key Evaluation Milestones 2009

- **Pre-evaluation process based on approach paper, involving all key stakeholders**
- **Public bidding and engagement of consulting team**
- **Meeting of International Reference group to agree on generic Terms of reference**
- **Launching of evaluations**



# The Key Evaluation Questions

- **“What are the important factors that have affected the relevance and implementation of the Paris Declaration and its potential effects on aid effectiveness and development results?” (The Paris Declaration in context)**
- **“To what extent and how has the implementation of the Paris Declaration led to an improvement in the efficiency of aid delivery, the management and use of aid and better partnerships?” (Process and intermediate outcomes) – Focus of Phase 1**
- **“Has the implementation of the Paris Declaration strengthened the contribution of aid to sustainable development results? How?” (Development outcomes)**

# Key Evaluation Milestones 2010

- Continuous engagement between core team and evaluation teams and coordinators
- Regional preparatory Workshops with evaluation teams and coordinators in partner countries
- Conduct of evaluations and HQ studies
- Core team produces emerging findings note to be discussed with international reference group
- Management group prepares dissemination plan

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# Key Evaluation Milestones 2011

- **Continuous engagement between core team and evaluation teams and coordinators**
- **Preparation and discussion of draft Synthesis report**
- **High Level Forum in Seoul**
- **Dissemination, nationally and internationally**

Diagram B: The Context for Implementing the Paris Declaration - Complex pathways to change

