



# IDAM

Institute for Development  
Assistance Management



**international relations  
& cooperation**

Department:  
International Relations and Cooperation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**national treasury**

Department:  
National Treasury  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# THE COLLOQUIUM

## CONCEPT NOTE

### **SOUTH AFRICA'S CONSULTATIVE FORUM ON DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT: A REFLECTION ON CONTEXTUAL FACTORS**

### **THREE-DAY COLLOQUIUM**

**DATE: 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

**VENUE: International Convention Centre (ICC),  
East London, South Africa**

### **DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT (DAM)**

Development Assistance Management embodies several trans-disciplinary fundamentals aimed at demystifying many unresolved issues in management of development cooperation through the provision of technical support in addressing societal development needs. The introduction of development technical assistance and cooperation is a unique opportunity towards building capacity in the new niche area in Southern African Development Community (SADC) and other African Union (AU) countries.



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**agriculture,  
forestry & fisheries**

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Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

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## PREAMBLE

South Africa has been a favourite of donor nations and multinationals, post 1994. This has been partly due to the donor resolve to “alleviate poverty” on one hand as well as the desire to exercise one of the principles agreed on by most Development Partners (DP), namely to support countries that are emerging from internal conflicts. Another underlying factor is the fact that South Africa is seen as a model of good and stable administration and economic development, an entity on which the rest of Africa can thrive. Pre-1990 Development Aid (DA) was exclusively channeled through Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in South Africa, this changed post-1994 with a complete shift to support the new democratic government directly through implementation of its policies and this was later cascaded down to the provinces and the municipalities.

Whereas Development Assistance in most developing countries contributes directly towards operational budgets, the picture in South Africa is quite different. In South Africa, Development Assistance Management through its various modalities is used to support innovative, new and more effective ways of implementing government policies, mainly in the form of piloting and testing new ideas as well as providing for new innovations and capacity building.

## BACKGROUND

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) defined Official Development Assistance (ODA) as government aid that is intended to promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries (OECD, 2018). It has been an important source of development financing in the developing countries for a long time. South Africa is one of the main recipients of ODA from Development Assistance Committee (DAC) donor countries. In 2016, South Africa received an amount US\$1 181.4 million net ODA, a decrease of 17% compared to a 32% increase in the previous year. In 2017, South Africa's ODA dropped by 14% points to US\$1 014 million (World Bank, 2018). Likewise, a net ODA as the percentage of the Gross National Income (GNI) dropped to 0.4% in 2016 from 0.5% in 2015. In a 2016 publication by the Japan International Cooperation Agency and Research Institute, it was noted that much of what is seen today as Official Development Assistance or foreign end were initiated after World War II (Kato, 2016; Kato, Page & Shimomura, 2016). It is safe to say that multi-lateralism in international Development Assistance began with the establishment of The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 1944 at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference (IMF, 2018).

Following the establishment of the Bretton Woods institutions in 1944, the Allied Powers as part of representatives of 50 countries, came together in 1945 in San Francisco to draw up the UN Charter at the United Nations Conference. It is noteworthy what the Charter promised as the organization's goal, viz: "to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom" and "to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples" (Fuhrer/OECD, 1996).

In the years that followed, these international organizations carried out significant landmark programmes of assistance to several developing countries that were

former colonies in addition to support they gave to countries that were emerging from conflict, particularly World War II, in Europe and Asia. A significant event was the implementation of the Marshall Plan by the United States of America which combined “massive aid to European countries with a framework of a co-operative, agreed, and responsible strategy of reconciliation and reconstruction, thus providing the impulse for a new approach to co-operation in policy-making” (Fuhrer/OECD, 1996). The United States, undoubtedly motivated and buoyed by the overwhelming success of the Marshall Plan, initiated actions through an Act of Congress in 1950 to set up what eventually became the giant bilateral mechanism known as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) whose impact on global development has reached all corners of the world over the more than half a century.

Other bilateral aid organizations also began to mushroom across the Western world around that time. Much earlier, the United Kingdom had launched its own framework for supporting its colonies through the "Colonial Development and Welfare Act" passed in 1929 and modified in 1940. In the case of Japan, the Allied Powers had imposed as a condition for its re-admission into the global system that it pays war reparations for the devastations it caused across the world, leading it to launch the precursor of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) as far back as the early 1950s (Kato, Page and Shimomura, 2016). France on its part, became the first country to establish a cabinet level Ministry for Cooperation with responsibility for assisting its former colonies in Africa.

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

Without question, Development Assistance Management has come under intense spotlight in recent years for a number of reasons. In the first place, with the intensification of globalization, issues that countries have to deal with require more coordination to take place between and among countries. Again, most of the issues that confront countries produce impacts beyond national boundaries and require international action to be successfully addressed. But the proliferation of these mechanisms, alongside the deterioration of living conditions across the world, especially in the developing countries, have created serious coordination problems for both the donor organizations and countries and the recipient countries. For this reason, aid coordination has become an important topic in international development fora.

In a World Bank meeting held in 1999, representatives of twenty (20) developing countries reviewed and discussed aid coordination to find ways to deal with these coordination problems. The meeting identified a number of issues that are considered to be serious obstacles that need to be addressed to achieve effective coordination of development assistance (UNDP, 2002). These are:

- “Donors were seen to have conflicting goals and stakes, and there exists competition between them on various levels of the hierarchy
- Some donors have fundamentally different paradigms with respect to development in general, and how and when resources should be used
- Differing donor procedures generates a procedural and administrative overload
- Recipient governments are often too dependent on donors for data needed for good aid management such as aid flows and debt levels” (UNDP, 2002: 16).

## SPECIFIC CHALLENGES ON STRUCTURAL COORDINATION

On the basis of anecdotal evidence and preliminary evaluation of recent experience with Development Assistance Management in the country, the following issues have been identified:

- The current methods of cascading Development Assistance from National Government to the coal face Provinces and Municipalities seem defective
- Inability to integrate the recognized Development Assistance Management frameworks in the local projects (initially the Paris Declaration and later on the BUSAN)
- There is very limited community participation and buy-ins
- Absence of comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation Systems in Development Assistance projects
- Relegating Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Civil Society organisation (CSOs) to non-entities in the Development Assistance Management field
- Inability to recognize gender contributions and sensitivities
- Co-ordinate challenges of Development Assistance in the South African context
- Minimum integration of Development Assistance by three spheres of government departments
- Duplication of International Assistance and Management
- Implementation difficulties due to limited capacity for conceptualizing and formulating projects with the result that annually budgeted amounts are often returned to the Treasury unspent.

## THE SOUTH AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

Although Development Assistance Management's contribution to South Africa seems negligible in monetary terms, its significance lies among others in the innovations, piloting, risk mitigation, catalytic initiatives and capacity development it introduces or generates and which need to be correctly exploited, implemented and maximised.

South Africa is particularly prone to some of the afore-mentioned challenges in view of its international development system and aid mechanism within a formal democratic dispensation. Sight must not be lost to the fact that most of the aid infrastructure operating presently were developed and experimented during the 1950s and 1960s and even the 1970s when South Africa was excluded from the international development system on account of the repressive system it operated at that time. Other African countries, including those that are close neighbours of South Africa, provided testing grounds for testing these aid packages and their implications, an opportunity that South Africa woefully lost on account of its exclusion and being regarded as a pariah nation. Developing the capacities for aid appreciation and management is therefore urgent for South Africa and its neighbouring countries. Special systems and procedures are required to deal with multiple institutions and governments at the same time while maintaining the course and direction of national goals and priorities. This calls for a platform to be established for the sharing of views, opinions and experiences of both the donors and the recipient country as well as identifying circumstances under which their relationships are optimized and deliver the much sought after development and growth.

## PURPOSE OF THE COLLOQUIUM

In view of the foregoing, an information sharing session is needed to do the following among others: reflect on the current experiences and practices, in the Development Assistance arena in the first instance within South Africa and also in the SADC countries. Attention should be given to the recognized International Development Assistance Management guidelines with special reference to the original Paris Declaration and the Busan partnership documentation. The session will be organized in the form of a colloquium. It is expected that among its focal issues for discussion and recommendations, the forging of strategic partnerships approach will be central within the realms of the BUSAN partnership documentation. It is expected that the forum will identify and recommend the sustainable co-operation and partnerships that will contribute to shaping the 21<sup>st</sup> Century in which Southern Africa's (SADC) marginalized multitudes will be at the centre of the proposed development efforts.

The roles of the Developing Partner and that of the Partner must be clearly defined without any ambiguities. It is also imperative that both key role players in any project namely the Developing Partner and Partner must ensure that the beneficiaries on the coal face are active participant in the envisaged projects. For this to happen the BUSAN partnership documentation and recommendations must underpin any engagement going forward. This entails capacity building in order for relevant actors to understand contextual constraints and opportunities, as well as to appreciate the difference that effective governance and good management can make on the impact of development projects. Transparency and coordination are key elements in achieving greater efficiency and effectiveness and creating synergy in donor funding. The themes and subthemes to be selected for the proposed colloquium must be aligned to these needs. Similarly, the delivery approach must recognize the need to not only strengthen the capacities of

development practitioners to manage aid but also provide the environment for the continuous generation of knowledge and skills within South Africa to replenish the pool of skills and know-how as well as re-train those who must continue to manage the systems and align them to the new needs and priorities of the society.

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE COLLOQUIUM**

In the light of the foregoing, the Colloquium is billed to address the following specific objectives:

- To profile the Development Assistance Management environment in South Africa in particular and Southern African countries in general.
- To deepen understanding of the trends, challenges and prospects of Development Assistance Management in South Africa and the SADC region.
- To clarify the roles of different categories of donor/aid organizations in the context of the prevailing social and economic conditions in South Africa and the SADC region.
- To create awareness about the modalities for Development Assistance Management in relation to the different types of problem contexts for which Development Assistance is required.
- To identify strategies for enhancing the effectiveness of aid to the host country, including the training needs and the capacity building requirements to develop and sustain competences in Development Assistance Management.

## BROAD THEMES

1

**Understanding Development Assistance Management: National, regional and continental perspectives**

2

**Development Assistance Management: Institutional structural conditions and practices**

3

**Development Assistance expertise and knowledge transfer**

## SUB-THEMES

### DEFINING THE ROLES OF:

- Development Assistance Partners
- Development Assistance Beneficiaries:
  - Race
  - Gender
  - Youth and children
  - The physically challenged

### DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE CONCEPTS:

- *Projects*
- *Programmes*
- *Pooled Funding*
- *General Budget support*
- *Sector Budget support*
- *Sector-wide support*
- *Twinning as a modern vehicle for Development Assistance delivery*
- *Systems and procedures for Development Cooperation*
- *Delivery mechanisms for Development Assistance and technical cooperation*
- *Capacity building in Development Assistance Management*
- *The politics of Development Assistance Management*
- *Bilateral and Multi-Lateral organizations in Development Assistance Management*

### INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORKS

- *Paris Declaration (Former)*
- *BUSAN ad Post- BUSAN*

## DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE STAKEHOLDER AND PARTNERS

The stakeholders that have been identified to participate in the colloquium fall in four categories, namely National Partners and Institutions, Bilateral Development Partners and Foundations, Multi-lateral Development Agencies, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and these are elaborated below:

<b>NATIONAL PARTNERS:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Institute for Development Assistance Management (IDAM)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Diplomatic Community in South Africa &amp; SADC countries</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Development Assistance Community</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Department of National Treasury</i></li> <li>▪ <i>South African Institute for International Affairs (SAIIA)</i></li> </ul>
<b>BILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Department for International Development (DFID)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>GIZ Germany</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Alliance Française</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Bill Gates Foundation</i></li> </ul>
<b>MULTI-LATERAL AGENCIES:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>World Bank (WB)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>African Union (AU)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>United Nation (UN)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Food and Agriculture Organisation Representatives in South Africa</i></li> <li>▪ <i>New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>African Development Bank (AFDB)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>SADC Secretary in South Africa</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Southern African Customs Union (SACU)</i></li> <li>▪ <i>European Union (EU)</i></li> </ul>
<b>NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>World Vision</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Farm Africa</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Oxfam</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Action Aid</i></li> </ul>

## SPECIAL ATTENTION

### **INTRODUCING THE POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT (PGDIP: DAM)**

#### **- THE FIRST OF ITS KIND**

The Institute for Development Assistance Management (IDAM), University of Fort Hare is considered to be the first Institute in academia within the global configuration, Africa, and South Africa that has developed and presently offering a formal qualification in this special niche area of Development Assistance Management.

The new discipline is made up of a confluence of courses and programmes that originated from several well-established disciplines. Development Assistance Management encourages the new trend in trans-disciplinary approach in research, teaching and learning, and community engagement in academia.

Presently, Development Assistance practitioners specialize in various fields that are related to this niche area. The main positional advantage of the new discipline and career provides direct access towards bridging the gap between theory and practice in new field of study within the global international corporation platform.

### **SELECTED RESEARCH OUTPUT IN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE MANAGEMENT AT THE UNIVERISTY OF FORT HARE**

There have been several research outputs in Development Assistance Management by the University of Fort Hare Staff and Students that range from master's degree dissertation, doctoral thesis and applied research in community engagement.

**Underlisted are the research topics and authors:**

Year	Degree	Faculty	Author	Topic
<b>2011</b>	Masters	Law	Simphiwe Sincere Bidie	The Obligation of Non-Discrimination Under the General Agreement On Trade in Services (GATS) And The Agreement On Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS): A Developmental Perspective
<b>2011</b>	Masters	Management and Commerce	Onceya Siyabulela	Determinants of Foreign Direct Investments in The Motor Industry in South Africa.
<b>2012</b>	Masters	Management and Commerce	Adrino Mazenda	The Effect of Foreign Direct Investment On Economic Growth: Evidence from South Africa
<b>2013</b>	Masters	Social Sciences	Collet Tasaranago	Communication Practices of NGOs in Poverty Alleviation Programmes in Rural Communities of Zimbabwe: The Case of Deutsche Welthungerhilfe German Agro Action in Gokwe South Rural District
<b>2014</b>	Masters	Management and Commerce	Courage Chingombe	New Economic Partnership for Africa's Development and Africa's Quest for Regional Economic Integration, The Case of Southern African Development Community.
<b>2015</b>	Masters	Law	Chidede Talkmore	The Legal Protection of Foreign Direct Investment in The New Millennium, A Critical Assessment with A Focus in South Africa and Zimbabwe
<b>2016</b>	PhD	Management and Commerce	Ivan Lwanga-Iga	Overseas Development Assistance "Issue to Ponder by Partners"

# SECRETARIAT INFORMATION

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