



ODA still a crucial source in financing for development

Abstract

Official Development Assistance is dwarfed by other financial flows, but the importance and potential is as high as ever. Wisely used, it can create tools to stimulate sustainable development improving people's lives. ODA can enhance gender equality strengthening democratic systems and institutions, support capacity building, find innovative solutions, and act as a catalyzer for other financial flows. The role of ODA is changing. There are long term, game changing benefits for those who are brave enough to utilize the benefits and see the potentials.

This event will draw on experiences from Ethiopia, Mozambique, Sweden and the United Arab Emirates to show the role that ODA plays, and can play, in various country settings. Introduced by the *Prime Minister of Sweden*, a high level panel will outline and discuss the importance and role of ODA, today and for the future.

Objectives – Key messages and contribution to the conference:

- The importance of ODA for resource mobilisation as well as innovative solutions for poverty reduction.
- ODA has a unique role in development and enables people to improve their own livelihood.
- Traditional and non-traditional donors – all have a role to play

Organising partners:

Sweden in cooperation with Ethiopia, Mozambique and the United Arab Emirates



Event description:

Welcome speech

Prime Minister of Sweden Mr. Stefan Löfven

Addressing the vital role of ODA in reaching the SDGs.

Introduction

Minister for International Development Cooperation, Ms. Isabella Lövin

Sweden has allocated 1% of BNI to ODA for decades based on a strong conviction of the need for, and unique role of, ODA for poverty alleviation and sustainable development.

Country perspective:

Ethiopia

Minister of Finance and Economic Development Mr. Sufian Ahmed (TBC)

ODA as an enabler/catalyser for more resources for sustainable development and contributes to actions against poverty.

Mozambique

Minister of Economy and Finance Mr. Adriano Afonso Maleiane (TBC)

ODA has been crucial for Mozambique's transformation from a country in conflict to what it is today. General Budget Support in combination with capacity building support to institutions like the National Audit Office has resulted in, among others; that an enabling environment for domestic resource mobilisation has been created. The PFM has been strengthened and it has increased efficiency and effectiveness of public spending and led to confidence of foreign investors.

An example how ODA through a development loan has leveraged 585 MSEK for rehabilitation of hydropower plants in Mavuzi and Chicamba will also be presented.

The United Arab Emirates :

Minister of Development Ms. Sheikha Lubna Al Qasimi (TBC)

The UAE is for many a non-traditional donor country and it is unknown to vast majority that in 2013, total net ODA of the UAE amounted to USD 5.4 billion, representing an increase in real terms of 435% over 2012. The ratio of ODA as a share of GNI also rose, to 1.34%, from 2012. In 2013 the Ministry of International Cooperation and Development (MICAD) was created.

This presentation will focus on renewable energy markets and give an example on what can be accomplished by ODA in this sector.

**Discussion and Q&A:**

The case presentation will be followed by a discussion and Q&A session. The cases presented will be discussed as well as the uniqueness of ODA and ODAs vital role in development. ODA still a crucial source in financing for development will be discussed.

Closing/Final remarks

Minister for International Development Cooperation, Ms. Isabella Lövin

Summing up the discussion and once more emphasize the importance and uniqueness of ODA.

Chair of the session:

Ms. Charlotte Petri Gornitzka, Director General Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency