

Governance for Sustainable
Development and Poverty
Eradication
in the context of
NEPAD

Naresh C. Singh, Director General
Governance and Social Development Directorate
CIDA, Policy Branch

Context

- **PRSP**
- **CDPF**
- **NEPAD**
- **Monterrey**
- **Johannesburg**

Context (Continued)

Nepad-Governance Issues

-Concept of New Partnership

-Peer Review Mechanism Potential: direct bearing on the practice of citizenship (legitimizes the state both domestically and internationally); PRM allows governance to become “a way of engaging politics, including the need for change in power relations”(Kunle Amuwo)

Challenges

- **Rethink the practices of Governance**
(constitutive politics+consensual politics-free the state from the control of the private interests of state classes) and blend “political statesmanship from above” with “supportive political pressure from below” (Helleiner)
- **African leaders should make the double political dimension of governance dominant (legitimacy and constitutive politics) to create space for non-state actors and establish dialogue with citizenry (give ownership to people) (Kunle Amuwo).**

Challenges (Continued)

- **Need for new paradigms that facilitate continental development (including a more social definition of good governance) while recognising continent diversity (Manji and O'Coill).**
- **Nepad needs to reflect on its comparative advantage on economic and corporate governance; it should not duplicate existing institutions (Barnabas Thondlana).**

Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication (Sustainable Livelihoods):

What have we learned?

- **Use of self-empowerment**
- **Focus on community assets and strengths**
- **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**

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

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 African 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 African 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**
- **Improvement in the standard of living of the people (The focus must be the people)**
- **New goals, skills, resources, transparency and accountability at all levels of government (the role of PRM)**

Good Governance for Effective Development 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**