

Influencing the Management & Governance of Aid Multi-Stakeholder Workshop - Guidance Note

Overview

- This document suggests an approach for engaging with broad stakeholder groups to identify and understand shared experiences, needs and aspirations for improved aid effectiveness
- Workshops should be tailored to relevant contexts – national, regional or thematic area - but to gain an international perspective, all facilitators are asked to address the **key questions** that will inform the development of an *ActionAid International Aid Influencing Strategy*

Suggested external workshop participants

- Representatives of NGOs, peoples groups and networks
- Government, regional, or theme-related officials
- Academics and research professionals

Workshop outcomes

At the end of the workshop, participants should have a shared understanding of the following in relation to their specific workshop context. The perceptions and experiences of diverse stakeholder groups will inform, and be reflected in, ActionAid's aid influencing programme.

- Recent trends and experiences in international aid (+ve and –ve)
- Issues (nationally, sub-nationally, sector, projects) on the agenda now
- Conditions under which international aid can be effective
- Issues set to dominate the aid environment over the next 10 years
- Opportunities and strategic entry points to address emerging and persistent issues
- Drivers of change in aid policy and practice (what and who)
- Next steps, engagement, and feedback (as agreed) with ActionAid International

Suggested workshop outline (1/2 day workshop)

Time	Activity
10 minutes	Welcome and introductions
20 minutes	Workshop outline <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Purpose - Session content - Participant questions / clarification - Next steps and follow up communications / activity
Key questions	
20 minutes	Trends in, and nature of, international aid in [<i>country, region, theme</i>] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify major trends over the last 20 years - How has this aid been used, or been useful for [<i>country, region, theme</i>] development and for poverty reduction? - What has been the overall impact of international aid in this [<i>country, region, theme</i>] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the major benefits / improvements - Identify the major drawbacks / pitfalls
20 minutes	How has international aid shaped [<i>national, regional, thematic</i>] domestic and external economic, social and political policy? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What are the implications of these policy changes for [<i>national, regional, thematic</i>] development and addressing poverty? What has been the overall impact of these policy changes in this [<i>country, region, theme</i>] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the major benefits or improvements - Identify the major drawbacks or pitfalls
20 minutes	Issues (nationally, sub-nationally, sector, projects) on the agenda now
20 minutes	Issues set to dominate the aid environment over the next 10 years
30 minutes	Opportunities and strategic entry points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where should we start?
20 minutes	Identifying the drivers of change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What and who are the drivers that we must influence?
10 minutes	Agree next steps and follow up communication / activity

- It may be necessary to break out into smaller working groups to address all or some of the questions if with larger workshop groups