

Donor roundtable:

Monitoring & evaluation of inclusive agribusiness: what room for innovations?

Berlin, 12 June 2018, 14:00 - 17:00h

Back-to-back to **Annual General Assembly** of the Global Donor Platform

<u>Background</u>: The Global Donor Platform for Rural Development offers a space for donors to exchange knowledge, debate and coordinate on their policies and programmes in agriculture and rural development (ARD). The Platform work stream on inclusive agribusiness and trade gathers a group of focal points in donor agencies and international organisations supporting policies and projects on inclusive agribusiness, sustainable value chains, private sector and market systems development, blended finance for agricultural SMEs, policy coherence between trade and development and Aid for Trade – all of them mostly related to agriculture.

Some of past conversations in 2016 and 2017 focused on the lack of synthesis about the impact of inclusive agribusiness as a policy area. The main argument was that there were many initiatives taking place, but their results were not systematically compared in order to provide an overview of impact at the global level. This is particularly relevant in the context of the SDGs and the need to achieve (and report on) goals such as Goal 2 (End Hunger), Goal 5 (Gender equality), Goal 8 (Economic growth) etc.

We now would like to unfold this discussion into the different issues that might be limiting such an overview of impact – which can benefit SDG reporting and beyond. One of the first questions is how impact is being measured and whether the different results can actually be compared. It is also important to know what are the lessons so far with M&E systems and how can they be tailored for inclusive agribusiness and related initiatives in order to provide useful information for adaptation and design of projects and their overarching policies.

Colleagues in donor and implementing agencies express that many of the traditional impact evaluation reports are seldom used to actually inform how initiatives should be adapted/improved. These reports normally focus on sets of indicators of impact to fulfill reporting requirements of donors and to prove the scalability of the initiative. Many argue that a more adaptive type of M&E would cost less if it is embedded in project implementation and it would be more helpful to project management and design.

<u>Objective of the roundtable</u>: To share experiences and lessons with M&E of inclusive agribusiness and related interventions, and consider improvements on how donors are evaluating their own programmes and requiring grantees and implementing agencies to measure results. The assumption is that such improvements will allow for a better understanding of how stakeholders are impacted by initiatives and help increase support by donors, the private sector and civil society to inclusive agribusiness, sustainable value chains and related initiatives.

<u>Targeted participants</u>: This small roundtable (max. 30 participants) will target development practitioners from donor agencies and international organisations responsible for inclusive agribusiness or related topics. There is need to bring together both practitioners working "on the ground", in charge of implementing projects, and those working on the policy level, who are in need of impact data to justify their investments to society.

Agenda:

| Time | Agenda item | Presenter |
|------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 13:30 - | Welcome coffee – opportunity for networking! | |
| 14:00 | | |
| 14:00 - | Opening, introductions & framing | Romy Sato – Secretariat Global |
| 14:15 | | Donor Platform |
| | | |
| 14:15 - | Vale chain development & inclusiveness | Patrick Herlant – EC |
| 14:30 | | |
| 14:30 - | M&E of Alliances for Action | Anders Aeroe – ITC |
| 14:45 | | |
| 14:45 - | Partnering with the private sector: M&E lessons and | Fiona Lynn – DFAT Australia |
| 15:00 | challenges | |
| 45.60 | | |
| 15:00 - | Round of questions/clarifications to speakers | Moderation: Romy Sato |
| 15:20 15:20 - | Short interventions by other organisations | (various participants) |
| 16:00 | Short interventions by other organisations | (various participants) |
| 10.00 | | KOICA |
| | | UN Women |
| | | ADB |
| | | WEF |
| | | Etc. |
| | | |
| 16:00 - | Discussion | Moderation: Romy Sato |
| 16:40 | | · |
| | Some proposed questions: | |
| | | |
| | What are the implications for results | |
| | measurement of the unique features of inclusive | |
| | agribusiness initiatives? (i.e. how does M&E for | |
| | IAB differ from M&E of other agri/food security | |
| | programs; what does this mean in practice (e.g. | |
| | for indicators, data collection)? | |
| | What are the latest innovations in M&E of | |
| | inclusive agribusiness programmes? | |
| | How can donors and international organisations | |
| | support improved results measurement? | |
| | | |
| 16:40 - | Wrap up and next steps | Moderation: Romy Sato |
| 17:00 | | |
| | How to use the Donor Platform to support your | |
| | work with M&E specifically and with inclusive | |
| | agribusiness in general? | |
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