



The Reality of Aid 2014

An Independent Review of Poverty Reduction and Development Assistance



**Rethinking Partnerships in a Post-2015 World:
Towards Equitable, Inclusive and Sustainable Development**

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Reality of Aid 2014 Report

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Towards Equitable, Inclusive and Sustainable Development

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The Reality of Aid Network

The Reality of Aid Network exists to promote national and international policies that contribute to new and effective strategies for poverty eradication built on solidarity and equity. Established in 1993, the Reality of Aid is a collaborative, non-profit initiative, involving non-governmental organisations from North and South. It is in special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

The Reality of Aid publishes regular, reliable reports on international development cooperation and the extent to which governments, North and South, address the extreme inequalities of income and the structural, social and political injustices that entrench people in poverty.

The network has been publishing reports and Reality Checks on aid and development cooperation since 1993.

These reports provide a critical analysis of how governments address the issues of poverty and whether aid and development cooperation policies are put into practice.

The Reality of Aid International Coordinating Committee is made up of regional representatives of all participating agencies.

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Overall editorial control of the Reality of Aid 2014 Report lies with the Reality of Aid International Coordinating Committee, but the views expressed in the reports do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Coordinating Committee, or of IBON International that published this Report.

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Preface

The Reality of Aid Reports analyse and advocate key messages relating to the performance of aid donors from a unique perspective of civil society in both donor and recipient countries. These Reports have developed a reputation in many donor countries as an important independent comparative reference for accountability and public awareness of development cooperation issues.

As the world transitions from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to a post-2015 sustainable development framework, donors, South-South Cooperation providers, partner country governments, as well as non-state actors, like civil society actors and the private sector, must take stock of their partnerships, in their varied forms. This is why the theme of the 2014 Report is Partnerships and the Post-MDGs.

Some of the key questions that the Reality of Aid Network (RoA) urged civil society organizations to reflect on ahead of 2015 are: What have we learned from previous partnerships? In what ways can diverse partnerships with a broader array of development actors contribute to achieving the post-2015 goals? How do we ensure that these partnerships are consistent with human rights standards and the goals of eradicating poverty, inequality and social injustice? What are the preconditions and the principles to ensure that future partnerships are equitable?

Contributors to this Report explored the following: the principles and practice for inclusive partnership at the global and national levels; new (and existing) models of partnering for positive development outcomes for the poor; and preconditions for equitable partnerships that contribute to sustainable development outcomes for the poor. Comprised of 27 contributions, this RoA 2014 Report provides a global civil society perspective on the issues, with key messages framed by the network's focus on maximizing contributions to poverty eradication, within a framework that is defined by human rights standards.

Rev. Malcolm Damon

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The Reality of Aid Network

