DLGN Learning Project
Local Governance Assessment LGA

Purpose Statement

Assessing local governance is an essential – and at the same time also complex – task for local and national governments as well as for international donor agencies. An assessment may cater different purposes ranging from diagnosis to monitoring, evaluation or dialogue. UNDP's "User's guide to measuring local governance" presents not less than 22 tools serving different objectives. SDC and its partners have experienced some of this tools, but there is a lack of overview on the different instruments, their scope and limits, their advantages and disadvantages, and which may serve best the intentions of SDC and its partners.

The learning project on LGA defined as its objective to dispose of a roster of validated tools that may serve both local stakeholders and SDC in the PCM cycle (analyses, planning, monitoring, reporting) as well as participatory learning for inducing changes.

Process Description

A two page conceptual outline was established in March 2010, including the rationale, objectives and a time-table. As a next step, an inquiry was started among the members of the learning project on experiences in LGA. In total three tools were reported, where members have been involved. A second question inquiring on concrete plans for implementing an assessment with a specific tool did not find a concrete answer as yet.

Presently, the learning project is in the process of mandating a capitalization exercise on SDC and partners' experience in LGA. Another mandate shall provide the group with a commented selection of relevant and applicable tools. At the same time, we pursue the search of a concrete case where an assessment on local governance will be conducted.

Expected Results

- Document on Capitalization of SDC experience in LGA (3-5 cases) – corresponding to mandate 1
- Roster of validated tools, selected for serving best a specific purpose – corresponding to mandate 2

Milestones and time table

- Learning event (1 day workshop) on results of capitalization of experience (Oct.)
- Learning event (1 day workshop) on prioritized LGA tools (Oct.)
- Follow-up of concrete assessment – in case that it materializes
- Presentation of results and experiences at the next F2F (March 2011)

Members

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Members: Abdul Bari, Benil Thavarasa, Celestine Krösschel, Christian Disler, Djo Narmbaye, Ephrem Tadesse, Erika Schläppi, Ibrahim Ba, Ibrahim Mehmeti, Matthias Boss, Oksana Garnets, Romana Tedeschi, Rudi von Planta, Swati, Ursula Läubli, Vesna Dimcovski, Zoran Gligorov, Silvio Flückiger.