

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: BRICS in Africa Profile Database

INTRODUCTION

AFRODAD is a civil society organisation born of a desire to secure that African countries maintain sustainable levels of indebtedness so as not to compromise the continent's development process. AFRODAD aspires for an African and global society that is just (equal access to and fair distribution of resources), respects human rights and promotes popular participation as a fundamental right of citizens (Arusha Declaration of 1980). In this light, African society should have the space in the global development arena to generate its own solutions, uphold good values that ensure that its development process is owned and driven by its people and not dominated by markets/profits and international financial institutions.

BACKGROUND

Africa has been experiencing several challenges for many years now hence the rationale to ensure that the development process leads to a stable continent where millions realise economic stability with poor people having access to jobs and move away from poverty and fulfil their potential. Africa's experience with traditional lenders such as the OECD countries and International Financial Institutions (IFIs) like the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and Export Credit Agencies, (only to mention a few) has been subject of wide discussions. These include those culminating in the Paris Declaration and the Busan High Level (2011). On the other hand, the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India China and South Africa) appear from the outset to have a different view of the developmental agenda with Africa and therefore a different way of engaging Africa.

As these BRICS countries and Africa continue to deepen their relationships, it is important to adopt processes to guide, monitor and account for their activities. Before exploring the data it is important to give an overall view of the environment of which these donors emerged. Africa, countries have different levels of development, political regimes, political and social modernization, economic growth, primacy of national interests, inter-state and intra-state conflict. The BRICS have also different endowments, needs and capabilities/strengths which meant that each in its interaction with individual African countries differs.

Aid is a broad term but the headline measure for international aid spending is Official Development Assistance. This covers grants and soft loans (with a grant element of at least 25%, calculated using a discount rate of 10%) from government agencies, to support the economic development and welfare of the recipient countries. It does not include other official and private flows such as trade finance, export revenues, remittances, bank lending, foreign direct and equity investment that have increased strongly in recent decades.

Justification

There is no standardised reporting within the BRICS, making collecting and evaluating this data challenging. Making accurate comparisons is a difficult task since the economies activities is not well documented. Data to access and to monitor these activities is not synthesised in one place. BRICS are beginning to move towards making their data publicly available and moving towards transparency and accountability. However country mechanisms to collect data that do exist need to be further developed. BRICS ODA data and other flows are therefore often inconsistent.

There is lack of clarity between new trade, investment and lending agreements, especially in the extractive industries. One of the largest challenges in studying the BRICS is quantifying how much aid they give. Some BRICS such as China perceive this as a politically sensitive semantic debate. Its national policy maintains the country gives “external assistance;” but refuses to term it “aid.” DAC defines ODA as a concessional transaction; a minimum of 25 percent must be a grant (calculated for loans at a 10 percent reference rate). Boundaries between ODA and Other Official Flows (OOF) are drawn through the “gray areas” such as military aid, peacekeeping contributions, debt relief, and foreign direct investment. These definitions are not followed by Emerging Lenders; thus even official estimates may not measure the same financial flows as DAC’s ODA. It is almost impossible to compare the same pools of money between the DAC and BRICS. It is against this background that we see the need to establish a profile database of the BRICS in Africa to try and fill this knowledge gap.

Purpose

The research aims to contribute to a better understanding of the nature and quantity of aid flows between BRICS and six African countries (Mozambique, Angola, Cameroon, Zambia,

Ethiopia and Zimbabwe) between 2005 and 2012 and assess the impact of the aid to these respective countries. Specifically the research will assess:

- 1) Aid flows (including financial flows, in-kind aid and administrative costs), including data on aid planned, pledged, committed and disbursed, disaggregated according to schema by region, country, geographic area, sector, [disbursement/delivery] modality and spending agency;
- 2) Impact assessment of the AID from BRICS during the period under review.

Terms of Reference

- Provide an Profiling of the BRICS in Africa (Angola, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe) including priority development areas
- Present aid flows (2005-2012), data on aid planned, pledged, committed, disbursed, disaggregated according to scheme, sector, [disbursement/delivery] modality and spending agency to Angola, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe)
- Identify the most important emerging lender for each country in terms of total resource flow
- analyse the extent to which development aid from BRICS impact on economic growth and changes in the lives of African people

Expected Outcomes

- Database with data ranging from 2005 to 2012 on development aid from BRICS to Africa. The specific African countries are Angola, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Zambia;
- Deepened understanding on the implications of BRICS aid contribution to Africa by African governments, media, advocacy groups and general public;
- African governments implementing comprehensive strategic frameworks that directly improves the lives of African people
- Provision of better coordinated data on BRICS contribution to Africa at both national and project levels.

OUTPUTS AND TIMING

The outputs for the study will include:

A database report (maximum 30 pages including annexes) exhibiting deeper and rigorous analysis of presented data finalised by September 2013. The database should:

- Be well written with references and acknowledgement of sources of materials that are referred to in the database, end notes and bibliography at the end of the database.
- Have a table of contents and list of tables, glossary and list of acronyms if any.
- Contain an executive summary and a general introduction of the BRICS in Africa, their contributions and impact on the African economy
- The Report should contain key findings , conclusions and recommendations for African government on how best to engage the emerging lenders;
- The Report should also incorporate evidence of direct quotes, case studies, boxes and tables where possible to back research findings;
- The Report should be used in coming up with short policy briefs, position papers etc with findings and policy implications targeting different user groups, Government, Media and civil society organisations.

TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Consultant(S)

1. Conduct the desk work putting together information on aid flows.
2. Produce a report exhibiting deeper and rigorous analysis which should match the quality of for example OECD/DAC database, AIDDATA, by reviewing the respective BRICS publications and their documentations on respective recipient countries.
3. Respond to the comments from the peer reviewers and discussion
4. Submit a soft copy of the Report to AFRODAD.
5. Present the Report in a workshop for validation and dissemination of findings.
6. Provide practical conclusions and recommendations that AFRODAD can use in its lobby work with key policy makers such as cabinet , parliament and donors on the BRICS.
7. . The responsibility for writing the Report lies entirely with the consultant.

African Forum and Network for Debt and Development (AFRODAD)

1. Organise for the peer review of the Report by at least two independent technical people to ensure that the database meets the aims and objectives and is of high quality.

2. Will edit and publish the Report of findings in a format decided by the Secretariat.
3. Disseminate the Report in formats in a series of briefs and/or presentations on emerging findings. These outputs should be tailored to specific events and audiences during the dissemination of findings.

Research Methods and Principles

The Research project will use the following tools to carry out the study:

- Desk research
- Field research
 - Interviews with development aid experts
 - Interview with African government officials(Finance, Trade, Mines etc)
 - Interviews with donors(emerging lenders embassies/institutions)
 - Interviews with Academia

Reporting

The consultant will report to the Executive Director. However, for day to day activities the consultant shall work closely with the Policy Officer and the Senior policy research Assistant.

Budget

The consultants will submit a budget proposal in their expression of interest upon which payment will be 40% initial payment paid upon signing of the contract and 60% upon successful completion of the task.

Timeframes

1 – August, 2013 -30 September, 2013(consultant conduct the research)

1- 14 October, 2013 (First submission of the database review and analysis)

15 – 25 October 2013 (Consultants work on comments from review)

31 October, 2013 (Final submissions)

COMPETENCIES

The Consultant should have skills and experience in the following areas:

1. Policy aptitude and experience in aid, trade, development and policy engagement.

2. Have an experience in dealing with audit figures, econometrics and general knowledge of aid effectiveness.
3. Understanding and experience of the African aid management, FDI and development financing.
4. Research/communication skills and experience, with working with Aid transparency issues.
5. Quantitative data analysis skills.
6. Qualitative and participatory research skills.

SUBMISSIONS

Interested consultant should send:

- a) An updated CV for the consultant and her/his assistants (if any) relevant to the task
- b) A write-up of maximum 3 pages indicating the Consultant's interpretation of the terms of reference (ToRs); including how they intend carrying out the study;
- c) A detailed timetable indicating dates for delivery of key deliverables, that is, the first draft of the manual and methodology, expected timelines for feedback, final methodology and final research output.
- d) Highlight a proposed total budget for carrying out the study.

For submissions and more information please contact Eleanor Maeresera, Policy Officer, Development Aid eleanor@afrodad.co.zw and CC taurai@afrodad.co.zw by **25 July 2013**