

Feedback from Group on Mid Term Review of FNDP and Pro Poor Service Delivery

Chair

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and National Planning

Mid Term Review of FNDP – way forward

- Draft report of the MTR presented to Stakeholders meeting 17th to 19th June
 - Over 300 participants at the workshop, with group work and recommendations on improving the report
 - Social Sectors
 - Economic Sectors
 - FNDP Management
 - Cross Cutting Issues
 - Macroeconomic Issues
- All groups also made recommendations on the way forward for the SNDP
- MoFNP will work with the Consultants on finalising the report before submission to cabinet for endorsement
 - Final report to be distributed to all stakeholders later in the year (by September)

Critical Issues for Pro-Poor Service Delivery

- Develop an inter-sectoral strategy on **Rural Investment and Development**
- Identify and implement better strategies for Staff Retention
- Improve **Statistics** as a means of measuring pro-poor service delivery
- Strengthen the **M and E** function in all sectors to better demonstrate performance and Results
- To improve service delivery – **decentralise** and implement the DIP
- Specific Issues to address in Social Protection
- Specific Issues to address in Education

Develop an Inter Sectoral strategy on Rural Development focusing on pro-poor spending

- Many of the rural development targets missed again this year

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| Not Met | <p>Land brought under irrigation</p> <p>Adoption of Agricultural Marketing Acr</p> <p>KMs of feeder roads rehabilitated and maintained</p> <p>Immunisation coverage in worst districts</p> |
| Part Met | <p>Local Authorities using new finance and audit procedures</p> <p>Proportion of population with Financial Access</p> <p>Consistency of Budget Releases in MACO and MTEF</p> <p>Water Supply Coverage in Rural Areas</p> <p>Pupil Teacher Ratio in Worst Districts</p> |
| Maet | <p>Ministry of Health Releases to Districts</p> <p>Districts with a Net Enrolment Rate below 80%</p> |

- The focus of the rural strategy should be to improve the rural investment climate in a consolidated manner
- Of particular concern is **Infrastructure and rural roads** which has performed particularly poorly, yet it is essential to all other elements of the rural strategy
- There is a need for better **Targeting** to ensure pro-poor outcomes can be attained

Retention of Staff

- Need to provide the **right** incentives to motivate people to live in rural areas, and consider issues such as *how do the missionary schools hold on to qualified people?* No single action will work, need to address this on a number of fronts
 - Wage reform – is a 5% increase on rural hardship enough to attract people?
 - Consider how we recruit people into training colleges – should we give preference to those who will go to rural areas?
 - Recruit people from their own locality for certain jobs, will reduce the desire to leave
 - Consider allowing schools to recruit teachers, rather than doing it all from Central Level.
 - Offer improved Career Prospects for those who have spent a minimum amount of time (two to three years? – but to be discussed further at sector level) in rural areas
 - Improving Living Conditions, such as housing and electricity (this needs to be linked in to Rural Electrification Master Plan)
- To inform the process
 - Consider cross learning on this front (from GRZ to Missionary).
 - Need a study with young teachers on what they want to keep them in the area

Improve Statistics to measure pro-poor service delivery

- Government must consider the availability and **funding of statistics** as a fundamental means of measuring pro-poor service delivery.
 - Last poverty data available is from LCMS 2006. This is also last survey that measures access to various service (water and electricity) across the population
 - Need to support CSO to carry out an LCMS in 2009 to allow evaluation of FNDP and set baseline for SNDP. This will include an update of food basket to recalculate the poverty line and align with current consumption patterns.
- Collaboration between Civil Society, Private Sector and GRZ on statistics

Strengthen the M and E function in all Sectors to better demonstrate performance

- There is an agreed need to **Strengthen the M and E function** in all sectors and demonstrate performance and results for MPSAs to justify additional resources. This entails
 - Have a strengthened MIS System in each sector (data collection and management)
 - Build capacity for programme evaluation at sector level
 - Build capacity to compare costs of inputs and outputs at sector level
- This will all contribute to **Managing for Development Results.**

To improve delivery of services we need to decentralise

- **Decentralisation** cuts across most of the sectors, the **delayed approval of the DIP is presenting difficulties**, but progress can still be made
 - **Fiscal Decentralisation** and the way forward
 - Has to consider the needs in each region rather than across the board transfers (equalisation)
 - Integrate planning, budgeting and financial management at the district level and build capacity on these
 - There is work being done on Fiscal Decentralisation, such as the IFA and strengthening the revenue base of local authorities, now needs to be operationalised.
 - At **deconcentrated level**, lessons from Ministry of Education can act as best practice
 - using information at district level (District Education Profile) this would benefit all sectors
 - improving the relationship between service providers and the local communities
 - at sector level there are systems in place to transfer resources to deconcentrated level
 - Issues of the relationship between central and decentralised government / dual administrative structure at lower levels, needs to be ironed out.
- Conclusion – even though progress can be made the **approval of the DIP by Cabinet** is essential to moving Decentralisation forward.

Specific Issues in Social Protection

- There is a need for a broader approach to **Social Protection** – it is not just the responsibility of one ministry but rather consider it as a cross-cutting issue.
 - Scale up of school health and nutrition programmes, in coordination with other stakeholders, such as Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health, NFNC, for inclusion in the SNDP.
 - Consider issues of sustainability and long term funding options for Social Cash Transfer schemes. In particular, Government's own contribution to the scheme in light of demands to upscale coverage.
 - Need to show that beneficiaries can graduate from programmes such as FSP and MBT.
 - Consider whether the budgetary allocations, releases and expenditure for the sector (Social Protection) are adequate – and tie this in to results.
 - Clearly identify what is Government's Social Protection Strategy (consider whether this includes Pensions and Disaster Management).

Specific Issues in Education

- Specific to the **Education** sector
 - Funding slow to get to the Ministry, both from Government and the CPs.
 - Problem of targeting in the allocation of new teachers to schools and districts,
 - Refine the criteria (not just using coordinates, or proximity) for the identification of schools as being (a) remote and (b) rural. This is to be done in an inclusive manner including between Cabinet Office, Ministry of Local Government Housing, Ministry of Education.
 - Address outstanding issues connected to Community Schools, including the legal framework, access to funding for classrooms and deployments of teachers.
 - Not enough infrastructure, teaching and learning materials to cater for all children – always an issue of resources.

And finally.....

- The group was disappointed with the **Non-representation of certain Ministries earmarked for presentation** (Ministries of Health, Agriculture and Cooperatives, Local Government and Housing, Works and Supply, Labour and Social Security).
- In addition, dialogue could have been enhanced through:
 - More widespread CSO participation. Though CSOs were present, for which government is commended, there is a need to consider the additional representation of those CSOs directly involved in delivering services.
 - Better input from a number of lead CPs active in the absent sectors.
- In the Longer Term this can be addressed through better preparation and harmonisation with the revised budget cycle, and sector level reviews.
- This also entails strengthening the functioning of the Sector Advisory Groups as a forum for discussion.