

DIIS EVENT

Aid for Private Sector Development in Africa

What Works and What Can be Achieved?

This seminar focuses on the impact of development assistance for private sector development in Africa. Despite more than a decade of economic growth, progress on job creation and poverty alleviation have been limited in most Sub-Saharan African countries. Although extreme income poverty has declined, the absolute number of poor is higher today than in 1990. Unemployment – especially among the youth – is high. By 2020 more than a third of the working-age population in sub-Saharan Africa will be below the age of 25. The private sector is central to dealing with these problems.

Development assistance is indeed increasingly used to promote private sector development in recipient countries. Furthermore, donor countries increasingly look for synergies between aid and their businesses at home. Most recently, the Danish government's new strategy for export promotion and economic diplomacy, "More trade. New jobs", seeks to combine development goals with support to export and to the internationalisation of Danish companies.

However, these shifts in priorities have caused controversy. More often debates have been based on preconceived ideas than on knowledge about what works and what does not. Evaluation experience is rarely shared systematically among actors within the field. The basic idea behind the seminar is to look at the impact of aid for sector development based on evaluations. To what extent can support to private sector development create jobs, promote economic transformation and reduce poverty? What role do donors and recipient states play? In short, what works and what can be achieved?

The seminar is organized by DIIS in cooperation with IDA Global Development and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Speakers

[Nanna Hvidt](http://www.diis.dk/en/experts/nanna-hvidt) (<http://www.diis.dk/en/experts/nanna-hvidt>), Director, DIIS

[Tony Addison](http://www.wider.unu.edu/aboutus/people/resident-researchers/en_GB/addison-tony/) (http://www.wider.unu.edu/aboutus/people/resident-researchers/en_GB/addison-tony/), Chief Economist/Deputy Director, UNU-WIDER, Finland

[Mushtaq Khan](https://www.soas.ac.uk/staff/staff31246.php) (<https://www.soas.ac.uk/staff/staff31246.php>), Professor, SOAS, London

Flora Nankhuni, Independent Consultant

[Sunil Sinha](http://www.nathaninc.com/company/staff/sunil-sinha) (<http://www.nathaninc.com/company/staff/sunil-sinha>), Managing Director, Nathan Associates London Ltd

[Werner Raza](http://www.oefse.at/en/about-us/staff/research-department/mr-werner-raza/) (<http://www.oefse.at/en/about-us/staff/research-department/mr-werner-raza/>), Director, ÖFSE, Austria

[Per Kirkemann](http://www.ncg.dk/per-kirkemann) (<http://www.ncg.dk/per-kirkemann>), Partner, Nordic Consulting Group (NCG)

[Mads Bugge Madsen](http://www.ulandssekretariatet.dk/content/loff-council-introductionthe-loff-council-danish-trade-union-council-international) (<http://www.ulandssekretariatet.dk/content/loff-council-introductionthe-loff-council-danish-trade-union-council-international>), Director in Danish Trade Union Council for International Development Co-operation (Ulandssekretariatet)

Morten Elkjær, Head of Danida's Green Growth office

[Marie Gad](http://di.dk/english/aboutdi/whoswho/pages/employeeprofile.aspx?cid=536128) (<http://di.dk/english/aboutdi/whoswho/pages/employeeprofile.aspx?cid=536128>), Chief Adviser, Confederation of Danish Industry (DI)

Kirsten Hjørholm Sørensen, Policy Advisor, MS/ActionAid

Moderator: : Nils Boesen, consultant, former director of UNDP's Capacity Development Group, Nils Boesen A/S

Programme

09.00- Welcome

09.15

[Nanna Hvidt](http://www.diis.dk/en/experts/nanna-hvidt) (<http://www.diis.dk/en/experts/nanna-hvidt>), Director, DIIS

09.15- Overview, Aid for Private Sector Development

09.45

Based on the RECOM/UNU-WIDER position paper [Aid. Growth and Employment](http://recom.wider.unu.edu/sites/default/files/Position%20paper%20on%20Aid.%20Growth%20and%20Employment.pdf) (<http://recom.wider.unu.edu/sites/default/files/Position%20paper%20on%20Aid.%20Growth%20and%20Employment.pdf>) (2014).
[Tony Addison](http://www.wider.unu.edu/aboutus/people/resident-researchers/en_GB/addison-tony/) (http://www.wider.unu.edu/aboutus/people/resident-researchers/en_GB/addison-tony/), Chief Economist/Deputy Director, UNU-WIDER, Finland

09.45- Aid for Business Environment

10.15

Based on the book chapter [Governance and Growth. History, Ideology, and Methods of Proof](http://eprints.soas.ac.uk/17299/1/Governance%20and%20Growth%20History%20Ideology%20and%20Methods%20of%20Proof.pdf) (<http://eprints.soas.ac.uk/17299/1/Governance%20and%20Growth%20History%20Ideology%20and%20Methods%20of%20Proof.pdf>) in A. Noman, K. Botchwey, H. Stein and J. E. Stiglitz (2012).
[Mushtaq Khan](https://www.soas.ac.uk/staff/staff31246.php) (<https://www.soas.ac.uk/staff/staff31246.php>), Professor, SOAS, London

10.15- Debate with Tony Addison and Mushtaq Khan

10.55

10.55- Coffee Break

11.15

11.15- Aid for Agriculture and Agribusiness

11.45

Based on the IFC/World Bank [Meta-Evaluation of Private Sector Interventions in Agribusiness. Finding out What Worked in Access to Finance and Farmer/Business Training](http://54.206.24.51/sites/default/files/cdi_agribusiness_meta_evaluation.pdf) (http://54.206.24.51/sites/default/files/cdi_agribusiness_meta_evaluation.pdf) (2013).

Flora Nankhuni, Independent Consultant

11.45- Aid for Financial Services

12.15

Based on the SIDA-evaluation [What works for market development: A review of the evidence](http://www.sida.se/globalassets/publications/import/pdf/sv/what-works-for-market-development-a-review-of-the-evidence_3702.pdf) (http://www.sida.se/globalassets/publications/import/pdf/sv/what-works-for-market-development-a-review-of-the-evidence_3702.pdf) (2013).
[Sunil Sinha](http://www.nathaninc.com/company/staff/sunil-sinha) (<http://www.nathaninc.com/company/staff/sunil-sinha>), Managing Director, Nathan Associates London Ltd

12.15- Sandwich Lunch for Speakers and Participants

13.00

13.00- Debate with Flora Nankhuni and Sunil Sinha

13.40

13.40- Aid in the Form of Soft Loans: Export Promotion or Development Policy?

14.10

Based on *Export Promotion or Development Policy? A Comparative Analysis of Soft Loan Policies in Austria, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands* (2014).

[Werner Raza](http://www.oefse.at/en/about-us/staff/research-department/mr-werner-raza/) (<http://www.oefse.at/en/about-us/staff/research-department/mr-werner-raza/>), Director, ÖFSE, Austria

14.10- Aid Through Business-to-Business Programmes

14.40

Based on [Evaluation of Danida Business-to-Business Programme 2006-2011](http://um.dk/da/~media/UM/Danish-site/Documents/Danida/Resultater/Eval/B2B-ToR.pdf) (<http://um.dk/da/~media/UM/Danish-site/Documents/Danida/Resultater/Eval/B2B-ToR.pdf>) (2014).

[Per Kirkemann](http://www.ncg.dk/per-kirkemann) (<http://www.ncg.dk/per-kirkemann>), Partner, Nordic Consulting Group (NCG)

14.40- Coffee Break

15.00

15.00- Debate with Werner Raza and Per Kirkemann**15.40****15.40- Panel Debate and Finishing Remarks****16.45**

[Mads Bugge Madsen](http://www.ulandssekretariatet.dk/content/loff-council-introductionthe-lofft-council-danish-trade-union-council-international) (<http://www.ulandssekretariatet.dk/content/loff-council-introductionthe-lofft-council-danish-trade-union-council-international>), Director in Danish Trade Union Council for International Development Co-operation (Ulandssekretariatet)

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Kirsten Hjørnholm Sørensen, Policy Advisor, MS/ActionAid

Morten Elkjær, Head of Danida's Green Growth office

Practical information

The seminar will be in English.

Participation is free of charge and includes lunch, registration is required. Please use our online registration form no later than **Friday, 28 November 2014 at 12.00 noon**.

[Sign up](https://conferencemanager.events/AidforPrivateSectorDevelopmentinAfrica/sign-up.html) (<https://conferencemanager.events/AidforPrivateSectorDevelopmentinAfrica/sign-up.html>)

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