



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

EuropeAid Co-operation Office

Evaluation

Brussels, 18 September 2008

AIDCO/03/JLC/vm D(2008)

Disclaimer by the European Commission when using the issue paper on Methodology for Evaluations of Budget Support operations at country level (May 2008)

From 2004 to 2007, 9 evaluations of Budget Support at country level have been done jointly by donors and published. These evaluations have addressed mainly the process and not enough the chain of results of budget support.

The European Commission has commissioned a group of high-level external evaluators who have been involved in these 9 evaluations to produce a paper presenting and analysing methodological issues for evaluating budget support operations at the level of our country partners. As requested, the proposed issue paper for evaluating budget support specifies the main expected outputs of such evaluations:

- An inventory of inputs provided through budget support during a given period.
- An assessment of the performance of these inputs in terms of direct outputs and induced outputs.
- An identification of the changes which have occurred during the period in the partner country and the key causal factors driving those changes related to the budget support.
- An assessment of the extent to which budget support may have contributed to the results identified at the outcome and impact levels.
- An assessment of the overall relevance of budget support arrangements in the light of the evolving country and sector specific context, the aid policy and the related goals.

The experts who prepared the issue paper are Mr. Enzo Caputo from DRN (Development Researchers' Network, Italy), Mr. Andrew Lawson from ODI (Overseas Development Institute, United Kingdom) and Mr. Martin van der Linde from ECORYS (the Netherlands) assisted by Ms. Camilla Valmarana and Mr. Diego Ruiz (DRN) and Ms. Esther van der Meer (ECORYS).

The Issue Paper should not be viewed as a prescriptive document reflecting the point of view of the European Commission. It is published on the website of EuropeAid for debate among EU Member States Evaluation services and OECD/DAC members with a view to come to a joint approach for evaluating budget support.