

Emerging Donors and the New Aid Architecture

Chinese Development Co-operation – Better Aid for Africa?

In the last years, China has become an increasingly influential player in Africa. In addition to its strategies to secure access to natural resources, China is also enhancing trade, investment and aid activities. During 2001-2007, trade between China and Africa increased almost tenfold. According to OECD-estimates, China currently delivers around 2 Billion US\$ of official development assistance.

The rapid expansion of China's engagement in Africa involves both risks and opportunities for African countries. The availability of more financial resources can contribute to economic development and poverty reduction and potentially widen the policy space for African governments. At the same time, there are concerns that the Chinese engagement could enhance unequal trade relations, contribute to environmental degradation and lower labour and safety standards.

For the traditional donor countries, the Chinese presence in Africa represents a challenge for their development policy including the efforts to increase aid effectiveness via enhanced co-ordination.

The aim of the conference is to analyse opportunities and challenges posed by the increasing presence of China in Africa, and to discuss implications for European and bilateral development co-operation.

PROGRAMME

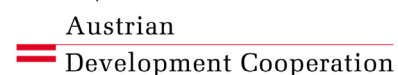
9.30	Introduction: Emerging Donors: Challenges for the Aid Architecture? Karin Küblböck, Austrian Research Foundation for International Development (ÖFSE)	13.00	Lunch Break
10.00	Chinese foreign policy – implications for developing countries Doris Fischer, German Development Institute (DIE-GDI)	14.30	EU, Africa und China – Competition versus Co-operation? Uwe Wissenbach, DG Development
10.50	Break	15.20	Impacts of the Emergence of New Donors for Development Co-operation Efforts - Wu Ken, Ambassador of China to Austria - Anton Mair, Austrian Development Co-operation - Firoze Manji, Fahamu - Johannes Trimmel, Austrian NGO-Platform - Uwe Wissenbach, DG Development
11.20	China in Africa – towards mutual benefit? Penny Davies, Diakonia	16.45	End of Conference
12.10	How are the Chinese strategies perceived in Africa? Firoze Manji, Fahamu – Networks for Social Justice		

Date: November 10, 2008; 9.30 am to 16.45 pm
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Registration: i.pumpler@oefse.at or ++43/1/317 40 10-200
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Speakers:

Penny Davies is policy officer at the Swedish development NGO Diakonia and Chair of the Board of Directors of the European Network on Debt and Development (Eurodad). She worked as a consultant for the OECD ahead of the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Accra, 2-4 September 2008.

Doris Fischer is a researcher at the Department Competitiveness and Social Development of the German Development Institute (DIE-GDI). She formerly worked at the University of Duisburg as Assistant Professor on Chinese Economic Studies and was also visiting professor at the Seikei University in Tokio.

Wu Ken is China's ambassador to Austria. He formerly worked as head of the personnel department of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and as Attaché of China's embassy in Germany.

Karin Küblböck is a researcher at the Austrian Research Foundation for International Development (ÖFSE), working on economic policy issues. She is as well lecturer for development economics at the University of Vienna.

Anton Mair is Deputy Director-General, Austrian Development Cooperation, Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Head of the Department for Evaluation and Policy.

Firoze Manji is founder and executive director of Fahamu (Networks for Social Justice) and editor of Pambazuka News. He has formerly worked as programme director for the International Secretariat of Amnesty International, CEO for Aga Khan Foundation UK, and regional representative for health for IDRC's office for Eastern and Southern Africa.

Johannes Trimmel is Head of Programme Department, Light for the World, Christoffel Development Cooperation and Board Member of Global Responsibility, Austrian Platform for Development and Humanitarian Aid.

Uwe Wissenbach is an official of the European Commission working in the Directorate-General for development policy and relations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific states. He coordinates the Commission's dialogues with China (and other Asian countries) on development policy and Africa. He was formerly posted in the European Commission's Delegation in Beijing.