



Water in Africa: Hydro-Pessimism or Hydro-Optimism?

Água em África: Hidro-pessimismo ou Hidro-optimismo

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Is water lagging behind on Aid Effectiveness?

Lessons from Bangladesh, Ethiopia
and Uganda

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Background

Objectives

- To review progress in Aid Effectiveness (AE) in the water sector
- To draw a comparison with other basic social services sectors (health, education)

Study countries

- Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Uganda

Funding Organisation

- UK Department for International Development



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What is Aid Effectiveness ?

- To move away from project aid to aid that is based on governments' national agendas and strengthens government systems
- International guidelines worked out in High Level Fora in Rome (2003), Paris (2005) and Accra (2008)
- There are five aid effectiveness principles (the Paris Principles): ownership, alignment, harmonisation, managing for results and mutual accountability



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Pyramid for greater aid effectiveness



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Are we hydro-optimists or hydro-
pessimists?





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Progress against Paris Principles by sector and country

	<i>Water</i>	<i>Health</i>	<i>Education</i>
<i>Bangladesh</i>	Ownership	Ownership	Ownership
	Alignment	Alignment	Alignment
	Harmonisation	Harmonisation	Harmonisation
	Managing for Results	Managing for Results	Managing for Results
	Mutual Accountability	Mutual Accountability	Mutual Accountability
<i>Ethiopia</i>	Ownership	Ownership	Ownership
	Alignment	Alignment	Alignment
	Harmonisation	Harmonisation	Harmonisation
	Managing for Results	Managing for Results	Managing for Results
	Mutual Accountability	Mutual Accountability	Mutual Accountability
<i>Uganda</i>	Ownership	Ownership	Ownership
	Alignment	Alignment	Alignment
	Harmonisation	Harmonisation	Harmonisation
	Managing for Results	Managing for Results	Managing for Results
	Mutual Accountability	Mutual Accountability	Mutual Accountability

Code:

	Strong
	Moderate to strong
	Moderate
	Weak to moderate
	Weak



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**What lies behind the
apparent trends?**



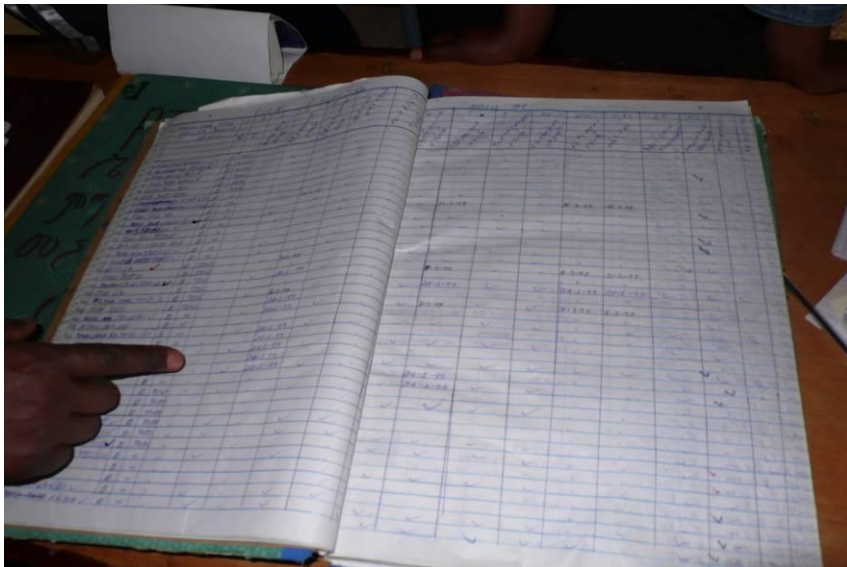
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Commitment to making aid effective matters most – but is often missed

- Political commitment to poverty reduction supports or hinders progress
 - This includes not only formal commitments but also political leadership, capacity and effective institutions to implement policy
 - These are underpinned by incentive structures and power relations



National systems – beyond the sector – largely determine prospects for systems alignment



- Systems are normally the same across sectors
- The way donors perceive national systems for financing and procurement determines whether they use them
- so the degree of systems alignment is likely to be similar across sectors



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Actors who do not adhere to Paris Principles also provide hurdles to AE

- At the global level there are donors who have not signed up to the AE agenda and focus on particular outcomes (vertical funds for HIV/Aids etc)
- At national level in all three sectors the private sector and NGOs can be significant in service delivery



Is water sector AE a case for hydro-optimists or hydro-pessimists?

☺ Water is not lagging behind health and education in achieving greater AE in the three study countries

☺ Sector level aid is receiving greater attention at the international level

☺ Include a broader governance and political economic analysis when seeking to understand sector opportunities and barriers to progress towards AE.

☹ Progress in AE does not automatically translate into better aid outputs and outcomes (more water points and improved access to services)

☺ Develop a coherent set of sector-level indicators which link to development outcomes.