

Invitation

Excessive fragmentation of aid and a large overlap of activities at global, country or sector level impairs aid effectiveness. The EU can make a difference through a pragmatic approach to division of labour, in order to significantly increase complementarity and reduce transaction costs.

Most recently in the GAERC of October 2006, the development ministers of the EU agreed a set of guiding principles for better complementarity and division of labour in European Development Co-operation. This process has been started by the Austrian and the Finnish Presidency in close cooperation with the Commission. Together with our Trio-partners Portugal and Slovenia, and again in close co-operation with the Commission, the German presidency will take up the process and will build on the progress made under the Finnish presidency.

Bearing in mind that donors' existing practices and structures cannot be changed over night and that progress in complementarity needs to be seen in a medium to long term perspective, we nevertheless believe that we have reached a point where we should get concrete and agree on operational principles and first implementation steps. Therefore, the German presidency, together with their Trio-partners Portugal and Slovenia, launched an independent study* on division of labour, to feed the debate with scientific analysis and make concrete proposals how to make progress towards better division of labour in European Development Co-operation. We would like to present the results of this study to you and discuss its political implications.

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ),

in co-operation with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung,

warmly invites you to the

<p>Presentation and discussion of the study „Towards a Division of Labour in European Development Co-operation“</p>

Venue: Hotel Silken Berlaymont, 11-19 Blv. Charlemagne, Brussels

Monday 29 January 2007, 17.00 – 20.00,

followed by a reception

Working language will be English.

* The study was carried out by the German Development Institute (DIE), in co-operation with the Centre of African and Development Studies (CEsA), Technical University of Lisbon and the Centre of International Relations (CIR), Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana.



Bundesministerium für
wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit
und Entwicklung



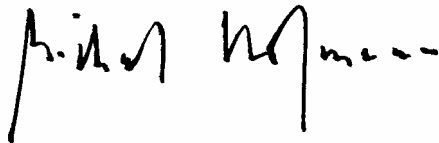
Please confirm your participation until **26 January 2007** by sending back the enclosed reply form to: EU-Office Friedrich Ebert Stiftung , Fax: +32 (0)2 234 62 81

Please find also enclosed the programme of our event.

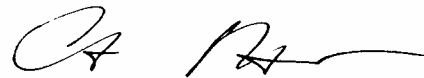
For any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Stephan Thalhofer at the EU-Office of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (stephan.thalhofer@fes-europe.eu; Tel.: +32 (0)2 234 62 93).

We are looking forward to an interesting debate.

Yours sincerely



Dr. Michael Hofmann
Director General
German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation
and Development (BMZ)



Dr. Ernst Stetter
Director EU-Office
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung