

Engaging regionally: regional policy influence

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Why regional programmes?

- There is greater cooperation and integration –and inter-dependency
 - Between countries
 - Between donors
- It is **easier** to share knowledge and expertise across borders
- It makes **sense** to share knowledge and expertise across borders

Regional influence for pro-poor change

- “Regional programmes have worked well in building knowledge and infrastructure and less well in reforming policies”
- No clear link between **input** and **output**
- Not about **things** (roads, vaccines, services) but **people** (attitudes, behaviours)
- There are far too many **actors** and **interests**

5 key questions

1. What is a regional programme?

5 key questions

2. Can we act regionally without a national or local programme?

5 key questions

3. Are the resources required for national programmes the same as those required for regional influence?

5 key questions

4. How can regional programmes align with national actors whose interests are local and not regional?

5 key questions

5. How to monitor impact regionally?

...but

1. We do not need every donor to work in the same regions in the same way
2. Nor can we only have regional programmes (and no national ones)
3. Not everyone can have regional AND national resources
4. National/local politics might be affected by the region but will always be local
5. And we cannot know everything that is going on

Donors as networks

- Partnerships between donors are not rare
 - But is it clear to everyone how to work together?
- Alliances between donors are not always possible
 - But what about alliances with civil society?
- How can country programmes integrate into regional programmes?
- What are the benefits of pooling resources through Multilaterals vs. Donor networks and partnerships?
- Can networks provide an answer to sustainability?