

PRESS RELEASE

Civil Society to define its own role in international development

Brussels, 9 June 2011. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) from across the globe will consolidate outcomes of a comprehensive two-year consultation process to define **principles, guidelines** and **external conditions** for CSO development effectiveness at the **second** and **final** [Global Assembly](#) of the [Open Forum for CSO Development Effectiveness](#), **28-30 June in Siem Reap, Cambodia**, in cooperation with [Cooperation Committee for Cambodia](#) (CCC).

At multilateral negotiations during the [OECD 4th High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness](#) (HLF4) later this year, Open Forum will contribute to provide CSO input on what it means for CSOs to be effective development actors in their own right. Throughout its mandate, Open Forum has also been working closely with [BetterAid](#), a parallel CSO-led process monitoring the implementation of the Paris Declaration (HLF2) and Accra Agenda for Action (HLF3) commitments made by governments and donors towards ensuring more effective aid and development activities across the globe.

The first Global Assembly of the Open Forum, September 2010, saw the endorsement of the [8 Istanbul Principles of CSO Development Effectiveness](#) where promoting **human rights, gender equality, transparency, accountability, and long-term impact** became the standards of effective development for CSOs around the world.

This second and final [Global Assembly](#) of the Open Forum this month in Cambodia will be a crucial moment for the CSO sector to finalize the [International framework for CSO Development Effectiveness](#) – the consolidated outcome statement of the Open Forum process and a political statement towards HLF4 and beyond.

One week before the registration deadline for the Global Assembly, over **200 CSO** representatives from all the corners of the world have already confirmed their participation. Open Forum looks forward to engaging in fruitful debates with international NGOs, national and regional CSO platforms, United Nations agencies, grass roots organizations, governments, and donor agencies. **Please see the full participant list to date [here](#).**

Filming and interview facilities will be provided by the Global Assembly organizers – **contact us if you wish to book an interview with a particular participant or get footage of the event:** Olga Kozhaeva on +32 (0)2 743 87 90 or info@cso-effectiveness.org.

Global challenges demand global initiative, and CSOs have taken seriously the challenge to improve the quality and capacity of organizations around the world to effectively contribute to the development of their people, communities and nations.

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