

# Managing for Development Results

“Joint Learning Event on MfDR”

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Progress Report July-December 2009

Submitted by **GTZ and MDF Training & Consultancy**  
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### **Executive Summary**

MDF Training & Consultancy was contracted by GTZ to design and deliver ten training courses aimed primarily at senior staff of governments, development partners as well as civil society organisations. The objective of these courses reads: Participants are familiar with the concepts of MfDR and know how to apply these concepts in their personal, institutional and political context.

The previous progress report covered the design and preparation phase as well as two JLE-MfDR pilot courses, delivered in the first half of 2009. The present progress report covers the second half of 2010, during which activities concentrated on:

- Adaptations, carried out based on comments received as well as on the experiences during the two pilot courses.
- Preparations, carried out for courses in 2010. Unfortunately, no events took place during this half year, but significant progress was made in scheduling courses for 2010. An overview of this preparatory work as well as of the scheduled courses for 2010 is included.

## **Introduction**

### ***1.1 Overview***

This Second Progress Report on JLE-MfDR is prepared in compliance with the requirements of the contract between GTZ and MDF Training & Consultancy. The report is structured as follows:

- In this section 1 we present the objectives for this training programme with a summary of progress against the work plan for 2009. An overview of the status of the different upcoming training events is also included in this section.
- In section 2 we present a summary of the financial status of the contract

During this reporting period, no Joint Learning Events were conducted. As a consequence, this report does not include course evaluation and information on participants. All information related to the two pilot courses, which were conducted in Zambia (19-21 May 2009) and Uganda (30 June-2 July), was already covered in the First Progress Report (January – July 2009).

### ***1.2 Objectives of the Joint Learning Events on MfDR***

The objective of the JLE reads: "Participants are familiar with the concepts of MfDR and know how to apply these concepts in their personal, institutional and political context."

By achieving this objective a contribution will be made to further strengthen the MfDR approach within governments and development agencies and to thereby enhance the poverty outcomes and impacts of development initiatives.

The programme for 2009 included course design, conduct two pilot courses (completed in the first half of 2009), update of materials as well as conduct 4 more courses (achievements are presented below).

### ***1.3 Progress against the work plan***

For the second half of 2009, the following activities were planned:

- Incorporate experiences, comments and suggestions
- Discussion core and optional modules
- Additional briefing note
- Design module on PIA/PSIA
- Upgrade training pack (enable "stand-alone" learning)
- Arrangements with in-country lead donors for four courses
- Implementation four tailored courses

The 13<sup>th</sup> of October a meeting of the Executive Committee took place in Eschborn. During this meeting most of these issues were discussed. Progress made during the reporting period is presented below.

*Incorporate comments and suggestions*

The two pilot events were well evaluated. Feedback received afterwards from the Executive Committee was positive and the course design as such was not questioned and therefore maintained. The following suggestions for improvements were received regarding course set-up:

- More attention for the case study/relevant hands-on country specific examples.
- More and better use of country specific documents, e.g. PRSP.
- Enhance input/involvement of resource person (not as facilitator).
- Earlier introduction of personal logbook and personal action plan.
- Ensure that (part of) the personal action plan include realistic, individual goals that can be reached in the next months (and are suitable for a follow up).
- Course documentation should include relevant pinboards/flipcharts prepared during the JLE as well as group exercises.
- Better reference given to communities of practice.

During the preparations for the two upcoming courses, one in Tanzania (January 2010) as well as one in Mongolia (February 2010), MDF is paying more attention to these issues. However, since these courses still have to take place, it is too early to present the results of these efforts.

*Discussion core and optional modules*

In relation to the core and optional modules, above all, clarity of what is available was required. In this context an overview of the overall package was prepared and commented upon by the Executive Committee: "Course Guidance" (5 pages). This is also specifically meant to facilitate the use of all materials as a stand alone package on-line.

Regarding PIA/PSIA, see below.

*Additional briefing note*

Considering that risk management is important for MfDR, but still rather underdeveloped, this subject was elaborated further during the reporting period. MDF contracted a specialist to contribute to development of this subject. The draft briefing note was shared with and commented upon by the Executive Committee.

This process culminated in an optional module on risk management. A briefing note on risk management is added to the training package. A power point presentation is under preparation. Once this presentation is available, the briefing note could/should be made more attractive (some visuals to be included).

*Design module on PIA/PSIA*

MDF prepared a PIA/PSIA power point presentation, which was added to the package. Since MDF considered that a specific MDF-prepared briefing note would not have added value compared to the already available OECD/DAC material ("Promoting pro poor growth. Ex-ante poverty impact assessment", June 2007), it was decided to include this as reading material in the package for participants.

During the above mentioned EC meeting of October 13<sup>th</sup> in Eschborn, GTZ organised a presentation and discussion on PIA/PSIA. This clarified the background of the discussions on incorporation of a PIA/PSIA module in the JLE. In case a country expresses specific interest in this subject, GTZ is willing to make a resource person available, particularly to ensure hands-on PIA/PSIA experience

*Upgrade the training pack*

There was a clear request to make the training package more accessible, particularly to enable stand-alone use on-line.

In this regard the MfDR “Course guidance” was prepared. This document provides a brief overview of definitions, milestones and some key MfDR tools. The document includes references (links, once on-line) to the different briefing notes and presentations to enable further study. Comments of the Executive Committee on this course guidance were incorporated in the final version.

Planning is to upload the complete package to the website after the JLE in Tanzania, scheduled end of January 2010.

*Prepare and implement 4 courses*

For this reporting period, initially 4 events were planned. One JLE was scheduled in Tanzania (September 2009), but was rescheduled for January 2010. Although, several countries showed interest, this demand did not materialise during this reporting period.

Since this programme is meant to be demand driven, events do depend on country demand as well as the commitment to take the responsibility for logistics, mobilization of course participants, etc.

Half way the reporting period, several countries showed interest and discussions started. This resulted in 4 confirmed courses in 2010 and several requests. This information is presented below.

*Overview scheduled events 2010*

The following table present an overview regarding scheduled events. Furthermore, interest from other countries, like Bolivia and Palestine, have been expressed in an informal way.

<b>Country</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>1. Tanzania</b>	<b>27-29 January</b>	<b>Preparations on track</b> (Resource person contracted, venue known, tailoring discussed, etc.)
<b>2. Mongolia</b>	<b>23-25 February</b>	<b>Preparations on track</b> (Contact with resource persons, lead facilitator known, tailoring discussed, etc.)
<b>3. Malawi</b>	Second half of April, dates to be confirmed	<b>Preparations on track</b>
<b>4. Cameroon</b>	Second half of May, dates to be confirmed	<b>Preparations on track</b> (Translations to French were started)

*Miscellaneous*

To enable proper distribution of information in the French-as well as Spanish speaking countries, GTZ translated the general information on the JLE as well as the 4-party agreement in both languages.

## **2 Financial status**

### **2.1 Total budget**

The total budget for the JLE-MfDR is managed by GTZ International Services. The basket is jointly financed by eight bilateral donors which all signed agreements with GTZ International Services covering their individual contributions. By July 2009, commitments up to the total sum of EUR 481,000 Euro have been made to finance the JLEs-MfDR.

The eight co-financing donors are: Austria, Belgium, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Germany.

In accordance with the EC meetings the contributions are used for:

- Tendering process and coverage of travel costs for presentation of proposals.
- Preparation and facilitation of training courses through the sub-contractor MDF Training & Consultancy.
- GTZ administrative expenses and overheads.
- Fee GTZ International Services.

### **2.2 Sub-contract to MDF Training & Consultancy**

According to the contract with GTZ and in close cooperation with the Executive Committee, the sub-contractor MDF Training & Consultancy is responsible for:

- Preparation and subsequent revision of the training design and modules
- Organization and facilitation of a total of 6 courses in 2009/10 ( based on demand four more courses in 2010) in close consultation with the respective in-country lead donors
- Evaluation of the workshops
- Documentation of the workshops
- Preparation of half-yearly progress reports

Until to-date MDF Training & Consultancy performed all its contributions in time. The contract of 2009 has been extended in time into 2010.

### **2.3 Future prospects**

So far, not all agreements have been submitted countersigned and not all of the financial commitments of the co-financing donors have been transferred to the account of GTZ International Services. This has to be followed up.

An extension for the organization of an additional four learning events during 2010 will be considered upon satisfactory service of the consultant and existing demand for the course.