

# **New Directions in Non-Government Action**

**Doubling Australian Aid Conference,  
February 7, 2011**

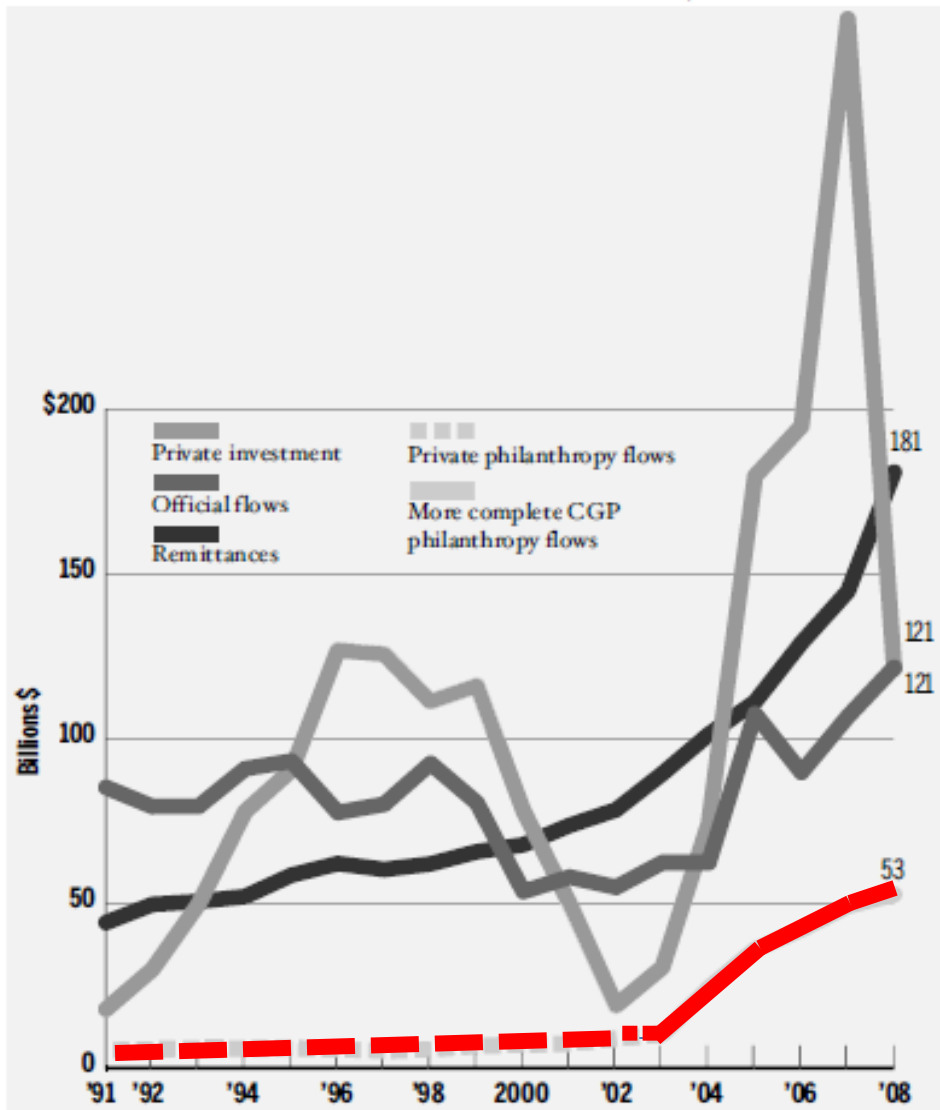
**Chris Roche, Oxfam Australia**

# **What I will focus on**

- 1. Some key Trends in Non-Governmental Aid**
- 2. Some key challenges for the Aid sector**
- 3. Some things that Civil Society actors have to offer in thinking about those challenges**

# **1. Some key Trends in Non-Governmental Aid**

**FIGURE 1**  
**OFFICIAL, PRIVATE INVESTMENT, PHILANTHROPIC, AND**  
**REMITTANCE FLOWS FROM OECD DONOR COUNTRIES TO**  
**DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, 1991–2008 (BILLIONS OF \$)**



Source: OECD; Hudson Institute's remittances calculations from DAC donors to DAC recipients based on data from the World Bank's Migration and Remittances Team, 2009; Hudson Institute, 2005-2010.

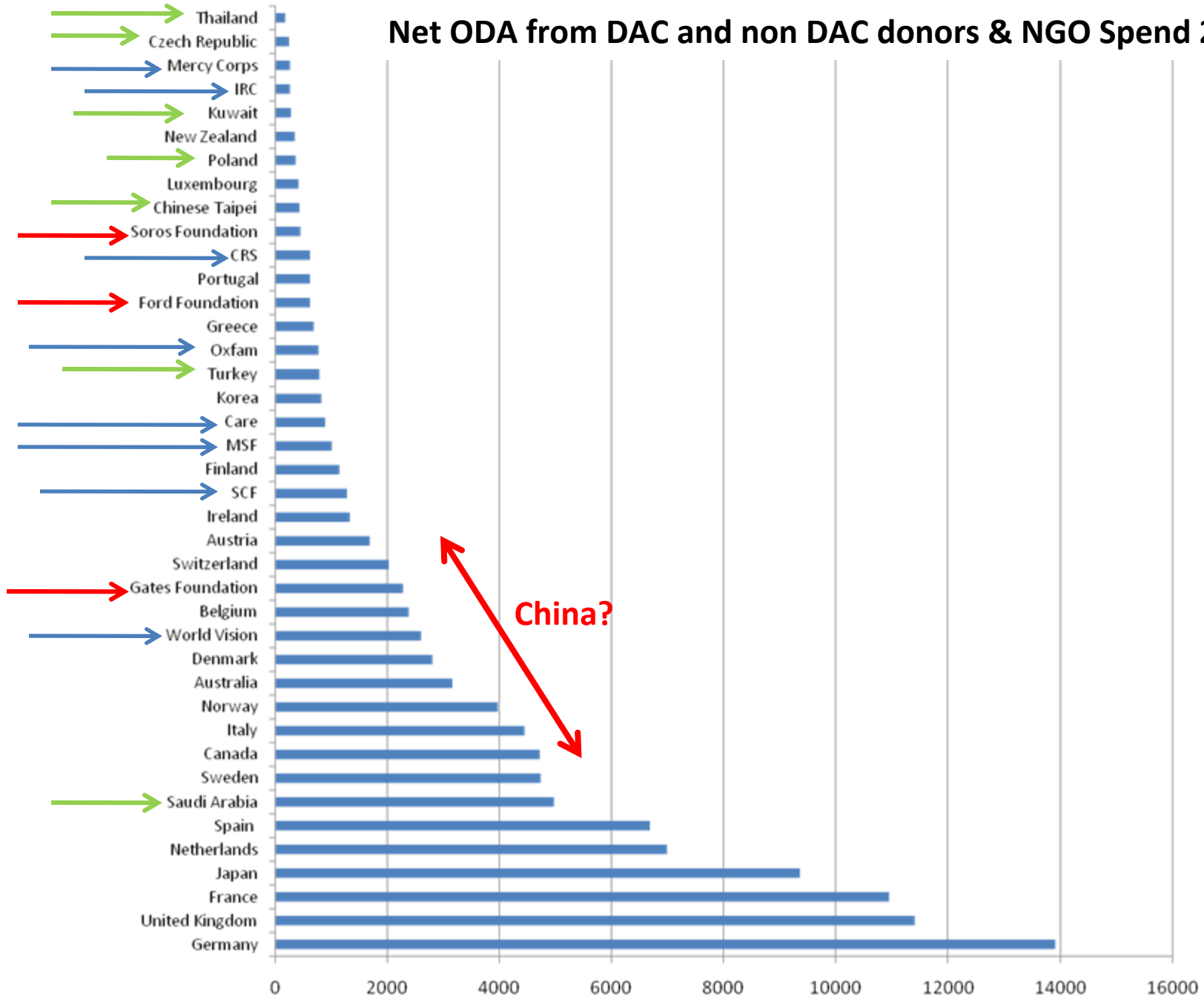
**THE ROLE OF PRIVATE ASSISTANCE IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**HEIDI METCALF LITTLE (2010)**  
 The Hudson Institute, Centre of Global Prosperity

# Net ODA from DAC and non DAC donors & NGO Spend 2008

Non OECD Donors

NGOS

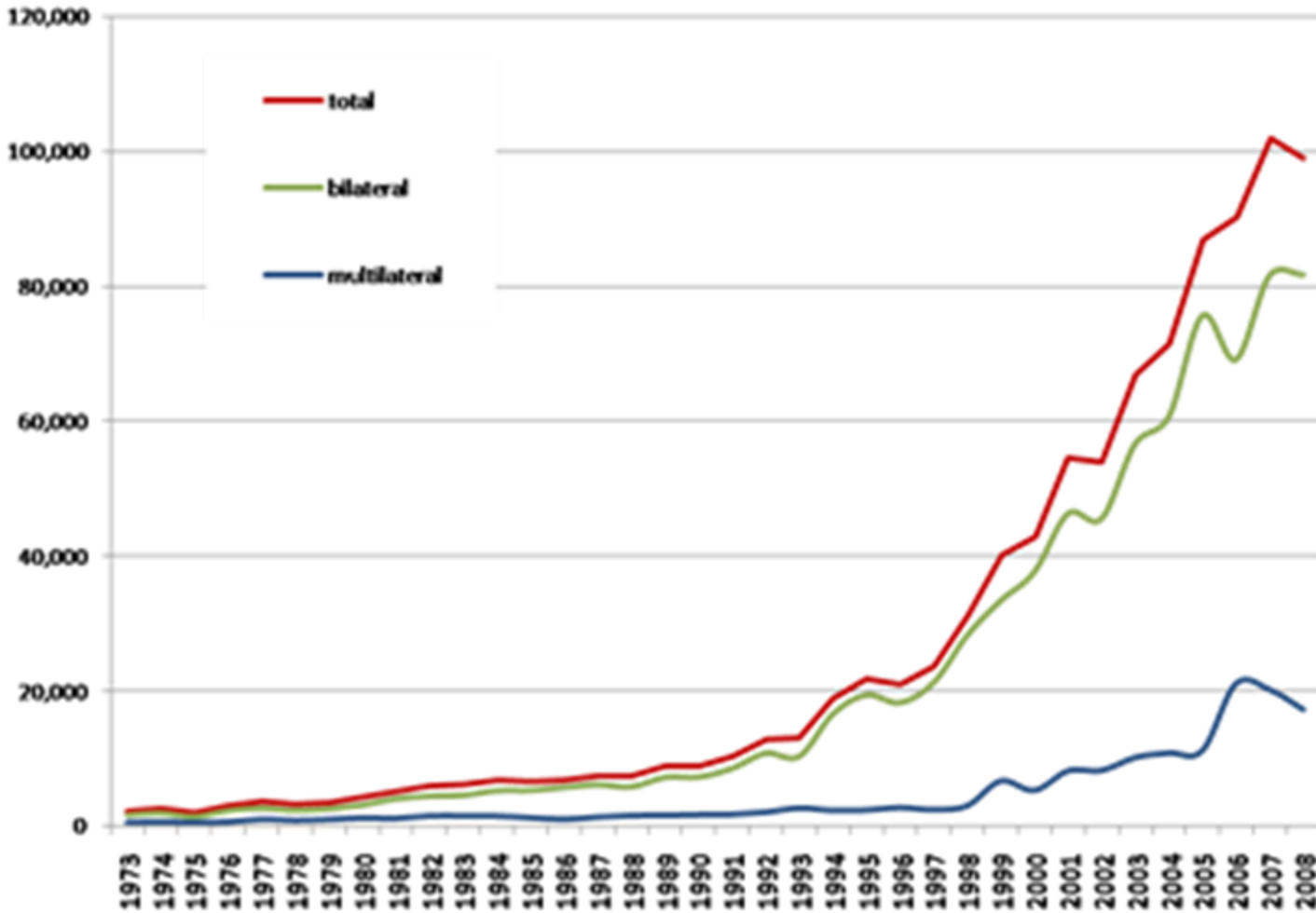


China?

## **2. Some key challenges for the Aid sector**

- **Fragmentation & coordination**

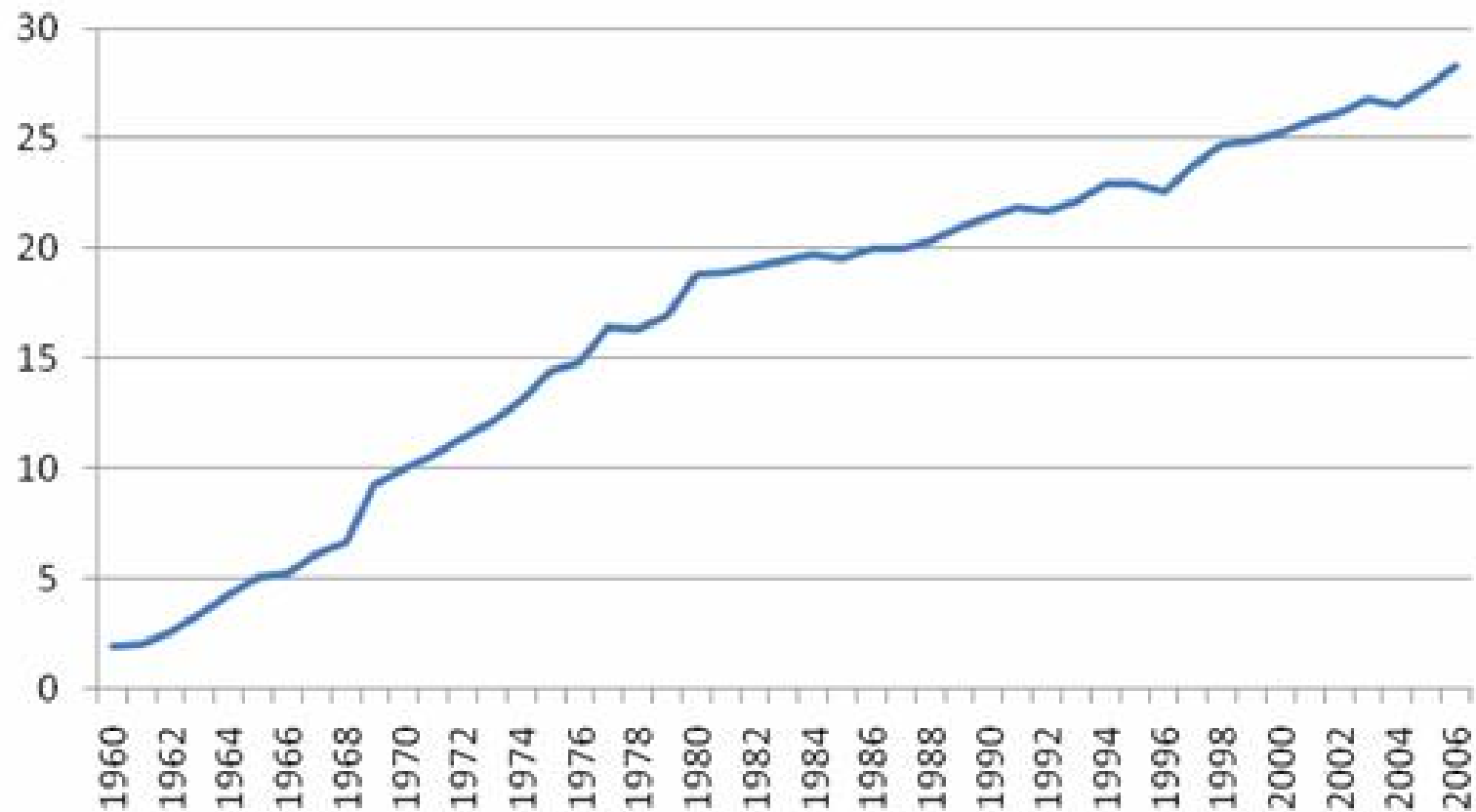
# Aid projects are proliferating



Source: AidData

Owen Barder (2010) [The coming collapse of the development system?](#)

## Average number of donors disbursing aid to a country, 1960-2006



Source: Frot and Santiso (2008)



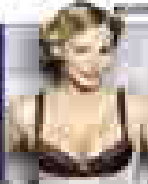
## 2. Some key challenges for the Aid sector

- **Accountability to tax-payers in donor countries, and to those that aid ultimately seeks to benefit.**

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Rooney: Why I am leaving Man United

If Britain is so broke...  
**FOREIGN  
AID BILL  
MUST BE  
CUT TOO**

...and the rest of the world's poor. The aid bill is a disgrace. It is a disgrace that the government has not done more to help the poor in the world. It is a disgrace that the government has not done more to help the poor in the world. It is a disgrace that the government has not done more to help the poor in the world.

## Let's spend aid here

A HOLLAND Park woman has launched a campaign to have international aid funding redirected into the rebuilding of critical infrastructure destroyed by floodwaters across the state. Effie Mourginos has asked southsiders to sign an online petition calling on Prime



**RECALL AID:** Effie Mourginos with her online petition to redirect our overseas aid back to Australia.

ng flooding in Queensland, NSW, and Victoria.

However, the cost for rebuilding flood-affected areas in Queensland alone is expected to go as high as \$5 billion.

"I recently heard we had donated money to Indonesia which is great but I think that money needs to be redirected back into Queensland to help us rebuild the state," said Ms Mourginos. "All those donations and appeals I really don't think

are going to scratch the surface of what's needed."

Ms Gillard told the media last week that it was in Australia's interests to assist its regional neighbours through aid to ensure they remained "peaceful places".

"And I do stress, of course, that the world has also responded to help Australia during our hour of need," she said.

To sign the petition, go to [www.gopetition.com.au/petition/41768.html](http://www.gopetition.com.au/petition/41768.html)

Pure Overseas Development Aid



# Aid

### Warning:

- Stimulates addiction
- Creates bureaucratic cancer
- Reduces economic growth
- Makes you uncompetitive
- Costs lots of (taxpayers) money

## **2. Some key challenges for the Aid sector**

- **Trade policy, immigration policy, defence and foreign policy and the role of the private sector are also critical and often more critical than aid. Tendency to oversell Aid.**
- **Growing Understanding of the critical nature of local political economies and informal institutional arrangements and their relationship with formal political structures in determining development outcomes in general and (gender) inequality in particular.**

### **3. Some things that Civil Society actors have to offer?**

**1. Challenging local power relations and inequalities** (gender empowerment, indigenous rights etc) as well as pushing for **'security from below'** (Women for Kup in PNG,) the **'We Can'** Campaign in South Asia,

# 3. Some things that Civil Society actors have to offer?



**We Can** end all violence against women  
South Asia regional campaign

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## Violence Against Women in South Asia

- 50 per cent women experience violence in their daily lives.
- The incidence of domestic violence is highest in the world.

Violence Against Women

'We Can' Campaign

Change Makers

SHARE SPEAK UP TALK CHALLENGE CHANGE REACH OUT

### MEET OUR PEOPLE

Meet our Change Makers

### INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE

See the change within institutions

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### CAMPAIGN COUNTRIES

- ▷ Bangladesh
- ▷ Sri Lanka
- ▷ India

### VOICES AND IMAGES

- ▷ Documents
- ▷ Audio Clips
- ▷ Video Clips

### INTERACT

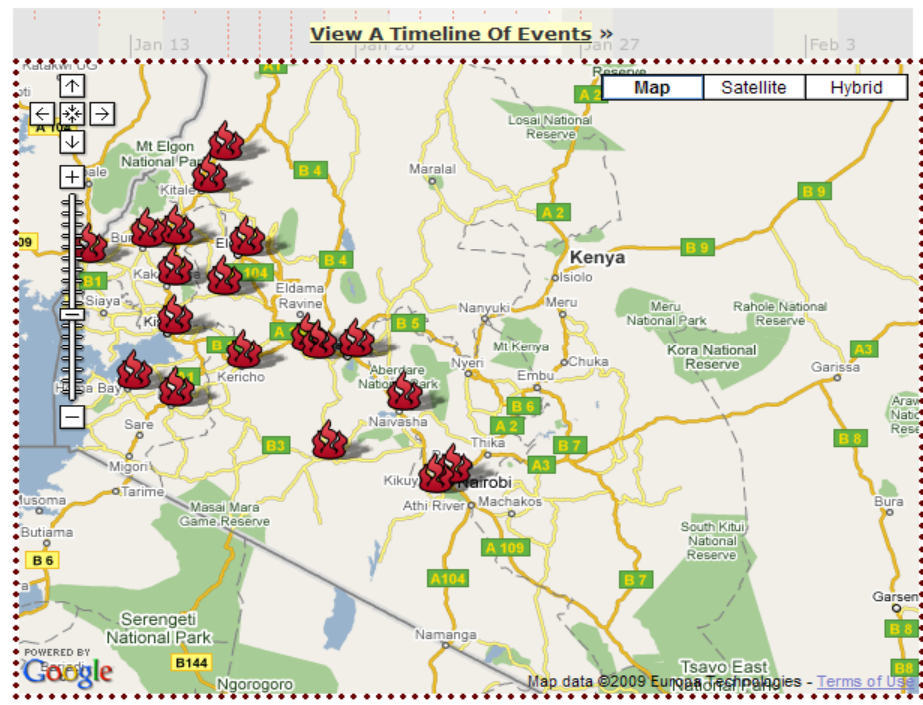
### JOIN 'WE CAN'

### 3. Some things that Civil Society actors have to offer?

**2. Amplifying the Voice and feedback** of those aid and development processes are meant to benefit (**social accountability processes** ) and creating more real time ‘**barometers of change**’ and emergencies using new technologies (**Ushahidi, SMS frontline, Twaweza**) which can help to call governments and aid agencies to account, and be a key part of system wide Monitoring and Evaluation.



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TAGS: [ALL](#), [Riots](#), [Deaths](#), [Property Damage](#), [Government Forces](#), [Civilians](#), [Looting](#), [Rape](#), [Peace](#)

Incident	Location	Date	Description	Images
<a href="#">Anxiety increases in IDP Camps as supplies dwindle</a>	Mathare	Apr 7, 2008	Food and other essential supplies are fast dwindling in the camps for Internally Displaced People (IDP) in Nairobi without any significant...	
<a href="#">A call for Peace: Makutano Junction</a>	Nairobi	Apr 6, 2008	Makutano junction is a group of artists and performers who are using film and theatre to explore the causes of post-election violence, and b...	

### 3. Some things that Civil Society actors have to offer?

**3. Developing Innovative partnerships** linked to longer-term processes of social change.

Oxfam America, WFP and global reinsurer Swiss Re, and other partners, are piloting a **weather linked micro-insurance program** in Tigray, Ethiopia.

This has adapted ‘food-and-cash-for-work’ programs into an “insurance-for-work (IFW)” innovation.



### 3. Some things that Civil Society actors have to offer?

4. Pushing for **transparency** through for example **Extractive Industry Transparency, Publish What You Pay and Fund initiatives, Development Bank Inspection Panels** as well as exploring new forms of transparency for themselves (**Admitting Failure website, Grievance and Redress Mechanisms, Keystone reporting**),

# Admitting Failure

*“Learning from what's not working.  
Creating space for what is.”*

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Why Admit Failure?

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“All my successes have been built on my failures.” – Benjamin Disraeli

The development community is failing... to learn from failure. Instead of recognizing these experiences as learning opportunities, we hide them away out of fear and embarrassment.

No more. This site is an open space for development professionals who recognize that the only “bad” failure is one that’s repeated. Those who are willing to share their missteps to ensure they don’t happen again. It is a community and a resource, all designed to establish new levels of transparency, collaboration, and innovation within the development sector.

Get involved – share failures, build knowledge and encourage others to do the same – so we all benefit, today.

Launched, January 14, [Engineers Without Borders Canada](#) (EWB)

### 3. Some things that Civil Society actors have to offer?

**5. Developing connections** which provide illustrations of how one might create shortened routes of accountability (**Kiva, Global Giving**) and build social and economic relations (**Fair Trade, Climate Change**).

These are potentially less vulnerable to fluctuating opinion than compassion, foment important discussions about changing life-styles in developing countries, and build an understanding on inter-dependence and in that in many areas 'we are in this together'.



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Lenders



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Entrepreneurs



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### [Maria Arenas Chipana](#)

Peru

Animal Sales

Maria is a member of the "Flor Huancarani" Community Bank in Cruz Pata in the Juli district of Chucuito province,.... [more >>](#)

\$25

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\$350

0% raised

### 3. Some things that Civil Society actors have to offer?

6. **Drawing connections** between aid, trade, immigration, defence policies and exploring the trade offs, contradictions and innovative solutions, as well as lobbying for more joined-up and coherent approaches where appropriate and disentanglement where not (**Afghanistan, Remittance matching, Seasonal worker schemes, Refugee policies**)

### 3. Some things that Civil Society actors have to offer?

7. Developing **trans-national relationships and campaigns** which contribute to building norms and standards which:

- communities can use to draw down from the international sphere to hold people to account locally (**Sphere & HAP, Gender Equality, Rights Based Approaches, ICC, Extractive industry standards & Equator principles, PWYP,**),

- bring local concerns to the global arena (**land-mines, blood diamonds, Access to ARVs, Darfur**),

- help shift moral agendas and discourse, and subsequently policies (**Debt Relief, Robin Hood Tax, Make Poverty History**)

# Conclusio

- The Aid system <sup>n</sup> faces numerous challenges. Civil society groups and processes are part of the problem, but also offer important lessons and insights into addressing these, over and above the usual roles that are usually suggested for them.

Any rethinking of International Cooperation needs to recognise this.

- The push for measureable results and larger programs risks instrumentalising civil society and NGOs and ignoring small, yet transformational initiatives.

