

## Recommendations from the new Alliance2015 report: "Fostering Democratic Ownership - Towards Greater Impact on Poverty".

See full report on Aid Effectiveness and Civil Society on: [www.alliance2015.org](http://www.alliance2015.org)

### Recommendations for multilateral and bilateral donors

1. Donors should refocus efforts on improving genuine mutual accountability and democratic ownership by reviewing policy conditionality and leaving policy space for national democratic processes.
2. Donors should support an 'enabling environment' for Civil Society, expanding political space, supporting Civil Society in its efforts to improve its own capacity to deliver and provision of accessible funding for holding governments to account. Funding for local CSO activities beyond the capitals at provincial and local level remains of critical importance.
3. Donors should be transparent and predictable in their aid disbursements and all donors should be urged to align to government plans.
4. Donors should with recipient governments establish a transparent and effective monitoring and evaluation framework that allows Civil Society Organisations engage in the monitoring of aid, government spending and policy decisions.

### Recommendations for aid recipient governments

1. Governments should transparently clarify policy decisions and budgetary data and ensure this information is accessible to all citizens.
2. Governments should foster tripartite dialogue between government, donors and Civil Society Organisations and avoid decision-making between donors and government officials behind closed doors in the capital cities.
3. Governments should accept Civil society organisations as important development actors in their own right and enable participation through a rights and obligations framework.
4. Governments should support ongoing Civil Society dialogue on development going beyond 'consultations' or Civil Society presentations at formal meetings - with a real possibility for incorporating these views into policy decisions.

### Recommendations for international NGOs

1. INGOs should lobby their own governments in consultation with developing country partners in order to improve the poverty and inequality focus of aid.
2. INGOs should support local NGOs' capacity to engage in policy analysis, dialogue, advocacy and coalition-building and respect autonomy of local CSOs' voices.
3. INGOs should act based on sound understanding of the context in the Southern partner countries; socio-political reasons for variations in partner capacity; and the power differentials between actors.
4. INGOs should do more to publicise the added value of all Civil Society impact in development.

### Recommendations for local NGOs

1. Local CSOs should be assertive and evidence-based when advocating for poverty reduction and approach officials in the spirit of co-operation rather than conflict.
2. Local CSOs should be strategic and proactive about using available forums for engagement both by attending and influencing available meetings, and continuously monitor budgets and policy implementation.
3. Local CSOs should group together to bring a common case forward, for example as alliances and coalitions.