

**AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP**



**OPERATIONS EVALUATION DEPARTMENT (OPEV)  
ACTIVITY REPORT – FIRST QUARTER 2005**

**OPERATIONS EVALUATION DEPARTMENT  
(OPEV)**

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## 1. Introduction

The independent Operations Evaluation Department (OPEV) continued to build on the progress achieved in 2004. With increased staffing level, it has embarked on an ambitious work programme significantly higher in volume and level of evaluations than previous years. Increased attention has been given to higher level evaluations (sector, thematic, country assistance evaluations and operational process reviews) that would draw lessons to be used to improve policies, strategies and programmes.

## 2. Evaluation Work Completed in 2004 -Recapitulation

The department completed most of the activities established in 2004. *Stepping Up to the Future: An Independent Evaluation of ADF VII, VIII, and IX* was completed and used as part of ADF X negotiations. The first *Annual Review of Development effectiveness* Approach Paper was approved by CODE. The *Review of 2001-2002 Evaluation Results* was completed in the course of the year. The department undertook reviews of operational processes, corporate evaluations, and evaluation guidelines of private sector operations. It also completed 16 Project and Programme Performance Evaluation Reports, 14 Country, Sector, and Thematic Reviews, and 4 Country Assistance Evaluations (3 ADF & 1 ADB).

## 3. Deliverables in 2005

The year began with the formulation of the department's work processing schedule to guide the department in managing its work programme. The evaluations planned for the year have been assigned and work is currently at various phases. Highlights of planned products to be delivered in 2005 include:

- Review of Bank Assistance to major sectors in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, and Senegal. These evaluations are being undertaken to not only provide lessons in the selected sectors but also to feed into country assistance evaluations that are ongoing.
- The evaluations of Bank Group operations in Agriculture and Rural Development, Education, and Health are intended to provide a general overview of the Bank's portfolio in the respective sectors.
- Five Country Assistance Evaluations in Ghana, Morocco, Senegal, Tanzania, and Ethiopia are planned.
- Process Reviews include Country Portfolio Reviews, Country Strategy Papers, Bank Group Loan Cancellation Policy and Practices, and Bank Group Supervision System.

- The 2005 Annual Review of Development Effectiveness and 2006 Annual Review of Development Effectiveness (Approach Paper) are being undertaken at the request of the ADF deputies.
- Other evaluation activities planned for the year are the Operations Evaluation Manual (Update), delivery of a Regional Development Evaluation Seminar, and development of the department's Knowledge Management and Dissemination Strategy.

#### 4. 2005 Work Programme Implementation Progress

Work has started on the majority of CODE approved work programme evaluation activities. The activities are at different phases. Approach Papers, Terms of Reference to initiate the evaluations and background papers have been prepared for several evaluation products. To date, six Approach Papers have been issued, two Terms of References prepared, one background paper produced as part of the first Annual Review of Development Effectiveness, and a Country Assistance Evaluation Mission conducted in Tanzania. The department also carried out three internal reviews of draft reports during this quarter.

##### 4.1 Completed Evaluation Activities

###### *a) Country Assistance Evaluations (CAEs)*

- **Mali Country Assistance Evaluation:** The CAE focuses on Bank Group activities during the period 1994-2004. The report has been prepared following OPEV's new guidelines on CAE which was developed in parallel with the preparation of this CAE. The report will be presented to CODE in May 2005 and is expected to be used as input for the Mali CSP.
- **Mauritania Country Assistance Evaluation:** The CAE for Mauritania also covers the period 1994-2002 during which period the Bank supported the mining sector given its strategic role in the economy. The report is expected to be presented to CODE in May 2005.

###### *b) Approach Papers*

- **Health and Education Sector Reviews:** Two approach papers have been prepared for health and education sector wide evaluation. The Approach Paper was presented to the Bank's sector experts and was subjected to detailed review and consultation. The health approach paper served as input for the preparation of the TOR for consultancy services to be hired to perform the evaluation. A letter of invitation has been prepared to short listed firms.

- **Bank Group Supervision System Process Review:** A draft Approach Paper for this major review has been prepared. The draft was transmitted to the Operations Complexes Vice Presidents, POPR, AUDIT, PSDU and PPRU for their comments. Comments and suggestions received have been incorporated in the final version of the Approach Paper. The primary objective of the review is to carry out an in-depth analysis of the supervision/monitoring system and process in place and assess the extent the system and the instruments within the system fulfill their functions. The review will assess the degree to which the instruments used for monitoring and supervision activities and outcomes compare to what was expected in Bank policies, manuals and guidelines and their utility in terms of the information they provide.
- **Evaluation of Bank Group Operations in Agriculture and Rural Development:** The Approach Paper and detailed Terms of Reference have been completed. The draft is now being circulated to relevant Departments in the Bank for comments. The primary objective of the evaluation is to provide an assessment of the ADB's impact on reducing rural poverty, the performance of the Bank in delivering agriculture and rural development programmes and lessons to be drawn from past operations.

#### *c) Working Papers*

- **Changes in ADF Development Indicators:** A working paper on changes in the development indicators adopted by the Bank for the ADF measurement framework was completed as a background for the **2005 Annual Review of Development Effectiveness**. The findings on the changes on development indicators suggest that African countries are making progress in aggregate. However, development pattern and effectiveness are not homogenous in Africa. The geographical locus of under-development is shifting to sub-Saharan Africa, and is evident in the increasing proportion of the population in income poverty, poor health, and relatively short life expectancy.

#### **4.2 Evaluations nearly completed and being peer reviewed**

- **A Review of Country Strategy Papers (CSP) undertaken during the period 2002-04:** The review of 36 CSPs prepared during the period 2002-04 was completed during the period and is now being peer reviewed. The assessments were made against key dimensions of CSPs: Poverty Focus; Client Ownership and Strategic Partnership; Strategic Selectivity; Self-Evaluation from previous experience in implementing Bank Group Strategy; Governance and Regional Cooperation; and Outcome Indicators. The findings will be synthesized and submitted to CODE in May 2005.

- **A review of Country Portfolio Review Reports (CPPR) prepared since 2000:** The objective of the CPPR review is to assess the extent to which the process and content of CPPRs have been useful in addressing key portfolio management issues. This is the first process review of its kind undertaken by OPEV. The review has looked at 23 CPPRs undertaken since 2000. The draft report was completed this quarter and is now being peer reviewed internally.
- **Review of Bank Group Assistance to Tanzania in the Social Sector:** This study was undertaken to evaluate Bank Group interventions in Tanzania in the Social Sector (health and education operations and micro-finance initiative) . The Sector review has been completed and included major findings and recommendations for future Bank assistance strategy in the social sectors in Tanzania. The report is being peer reviewed and will be used as an input for the Tanzania Country Assistance Evaluation.
- **Review of Bank Group Assistance to Tanzania in the Agriculture Sector:** This study was undertaken to evaluate Bank Group interventions in Tanzania in the Agriculture Sector. The Sector review will be used as an input to the Tanzania Country Assistance Evaluation.
- **Review of BG Assistance to Ghana in the Social Sector:** This study was undertaken to evaluate Bank Group interventions in Ghana in the Social Sector (health and education operations). The Sector review has been completed and is being peer-reviewed. It will be used as an input to the Ghana Country Assistance Evaluation.

#### **4.3 Work nearing Completion**

- **Tanzania Country Assistance Evaluation (CAE):** The department led a Country Assistance Evaluation mission to Tanzania from 10 to 28 February 2005. The objective of the Country Assistance Evaluation is to establish the development effectiveness of Bank operations in the country and to draw relevant lessons from the exercise with a view to influencing the next Country Strategy Paper. The mission programme included discussions with key ministries, government agencies, project executing agencies, donors, civil society members, beneficiaries and other stakeholders. ADB project site visits were conducted both on the mainland and in Zanzibar. Key mission findings include: the need for harmonizing aid coordination, resource mobilization and increased government dialogue. The efficiency and efficacy of the Bank's program in Tanzania were flagged as concerns as well as the need for increased ESW in future.

## 5. Knowledge and Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity Development

**a) Knowledge Management and Dissemination:** OPEV and SEGL organized a consultative session to devise a strategy for scaling-up the dissemination of the department's products. SEGL has affirmed its support in strengthening the dissemination of OPEV's products. The first "OPEV Sharing" has been prepared and circulated. This new product is planned to be issued each quarter.

**b) Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity Development:** In collaboration with the JAI, World Bank, and the Public Service Commission of South Africa, OPEV will be organizing a High-Level Regional Seminar on Development Evaluation in Tunis on April 4-8, 2005. The seminar aims at introducing key concepts, approaches, and methodologies in development evaluation to decision-makers and evaluators in regional member countries and targets key officials engaged in PRSP preparation, monitoring and evaluation. This initial quarter was spent undertaking preparatory work for this regional capacity building event.

**c) Evaluation Cooperation Group Meetings:** Established by the heads of evaluation units in MDBs in 1996, the Evaluation Cooperation Group (ECG) members include the ADB, Asian Development Bank (AsDB), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), the World Bank, and IFC. The UNDP and the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Working Group on Evaluation are observer members. OPEV participated in ECG meetings in London on March 14-16, 2005. OPEV management in attendance exchanged ADB's experience on the use of lessons derived from completed evaluations, the feedback system in place, results of completed evaluations, OPEV's work programme, and ongoing evaluation activities.

## 6. Indicative List of Evaluation reports for Board Presentation in 2005

<i>No</i>	<i>Evaluation Reports</i>	<i>Planned Date for Board Presentation</i>
1.	Mali Country Assistance Evaluation	May 2005
2.	Mauritania Country Assistance Evaluation	May 2005
3.	Review of 2002-04 CSPs	May 2005
4.	Review of Loan Cancellation Practices in BG operations	June 2005
5.	OPEV Feedback/Dissemination Strategy	June 2005
6.	Review of Country Portfolio Reports 2000-04	June 2005
7.	Tanzania Country Assistance Evaluation	June 2005
8.	Egypt –Power Sector Review	June 2005
9.	Operation Evaluation Manual Update	July 2005
10.	Report of the Independence of the Evaluation Function	July 2005

11.	Ghana Country Assistance Evaluation	September 2005
12.	Approach paper for 2006 ARDE	September 2005
13.	Review of BG operations in the Health Sector	September 2005
14.	Ethiopia Country Assistance Evaluation	September 2005
15.	2005 Annual Development Effectiveness Report	October 2005
16.	Review of the Supervision System in the Bank	October 2005
17.	Morocco PPER PBL	November 2005
18.	Mozambique PPER PBL	December 2005