Emerging Donors and the Changing Landscape of Foreign Aid: Public Perceptions of Development Cooperation

South Africa report

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The public faces of development in South Africa

South Africa is setting up SADPA yet there are no public development discourses, which raises questions:

• How important is the South African historical context?
• Why look at South Africa’s development role now?
• Why are there no public development discourses in South Africa?
• What does this tell us about the positioning of South Africa in international politics?
History of Development co-operation in South Africa

- 1968-1994  Apartheid Development co-operation
- 1994-1999  Post apartheid moment
- 2009-present The Zuma government
Humanitarian Aid 2009: Given: US$1  Received: US$7m

Total Aid 2009: Given: -    Received: US $1.1bn

- In 2008 South Africa received US$1.1 billion in aid; 34% (US$378.7million) was from the United States
- South Africa’s humanitarian aid allocation is regionally focused on African countries, each year since 2000 an African country has been the top recipient
- Between 2000 and 2009 Zimbabwe has been the largest recipient of humanitarian aid, at US$24.9 million
- All of South Africa’s peace keeping operations are in Africa, with its largest troop contribution in 2009 – 1,173 – to the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC)
Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, DIRCO Foreign minister in her speech 31 May 2011:

“You will recall that in our 2010 Budget Vote, we made mention of efforts to create the South African Development Agency (SADPA), which intends to drive a development partnership programme in order to build innovative, proactive and sustainable partnerships to advance African development. DIRCO is currently finalizing a Bill, and we envisage that SADPA will be operational during the last quarter of 2011.”
Public perceptions of Development co-operation

- Segmenting South African publics
- South African stakeholders in Development
- Public development discourses in South Africa – Media analysis
Key findings

- Development is sensitive issue in South Africa
- Partnership language
- An emerging ‘Development market’
- Regional and Middle power behaviour