

## **Announcing the Launch of the Open Aid Partnership & Endorsements by Czech Development Agency**

Draft Press Release/Announcement

Transparency of development assistance, public budgets and service delivery is critical for citizen engagement. Innovative technologies, such as mapping, provide powerful new tools for strategic planning and for greater transparency and accountability. The newly established Open Aid Partnership facilitated by the World Bank Institute (WBI) brings development partners together to use these innovations to:

- (i) Improve aid transparency and coordination by developing an Open Aid Map that visualizes the location of development programs at the local level;
- (ii) Better monitor the impact of development programs on citizens;
- (iii) Foster accountability by empowering citizens to provide direct feedback on project results; and
- (iv) Strengthen capacity of civil society and citizens to use open aid data.

The Partnership builds on the experience of the World Bank, which has mapped 30,000 activities in all 143 of its client countries ([maps.worldbank.org](http://maps.worldbank.org)), and is based on the premise that the combination of visualization technologies and open data on development assistance can enable a more transparent, inclusive and effective development process.

The Open Aid Partnership will:

1. Map activities supported by development assistance and create a web-based collaborative Open Aid Map that improves coordination, efficiency, transparency, impact and accountability of development assistance.
2. Support developing countries in building national mapping platforms.
3. Promote citizen feedback initiatives for better reporting on development assistance and public service provision in order to enhance transparency and accountability.
4. Build capacity of civil society to act as information intermediaries for citizens and make these maps more accessible, as well as the capacity of public service providers to receive and respond to feedback.
5. Evaluate the development impact of national mapping platforms and feedback initiatives on public services and related capacity building.

The Open Aid Partnership has been endorsed by: Czech Development Agency

The Open Aid Partnership aims to establish a feedback loop between citizens and governments concerning effectiveness of aid programs and the quality of public services. This requires improved access to information and open data on project locations.