

LA MONDIALISTION ET L'AFRIQUE / GLOBALISATION AND AFRICA

*Atelier DDC – 5 / 6 septembre 2002, Bâle, Suisse
SDC workshop, September 5 – 6, 2002, Basel, Switzerland*

Rapport final / Final report

Gerster Consulting
8805 Richterswil

OPENING REMARKS
Rudolf Dannecker, Vice Director SDC

« After years of deferring to a vision of triumphalist globalisation that believed a rising tide would lift all boats, there is acknowledgement that tackling poverty takes more than that. Sustained poverty reduction and economic growth can only be achieved if it is linked to a set of fundamental reforms at both global and national level. Everybody will agree: there is no substitute for internally led bold reform in African countries. However, African countries alone, with the terms of the global economy tilted against them, will not succeed without enlightened and sustained support.

We are asked to identify blind spots and define new priorities in our agenda:

1. With globalisation the terms of politics, conflicts, national and social identities are being redefined. We need a closer look at political, economic and socio-cultural dynamics that shape political power and local identities.
2. With globalisation questions of ownership and appropriation arise: who are the owners of means of production and consumption? Which group perceives itself as the rightful owner of a space, an intellectual domain, knowledge of any kind, a culture, and a state? Which political constituencies do states seek to serve and prioritise in their decision-making?
3. How does globalisation affect domestic public policy, here and in African countries? How and by what channels does the emergence of transnational actors (both transnational corporations and transnational NGOs) impact upon domestic public policy making and outcomes?
4. How do countries face choices in macroeconomic policy, in political and social policies, as well as in the types of institutions they embrace or reject? How does development co-operation play its role in providing policy alternatives and analysis on tough questions like how best to direct resources and support to the poor?
5. When real success in tackling poverty requires giving the poor both a stake, a voice and real protections in the societies they live, how do we make sure this message is heard, understood and implemented at global, national and local levels? »

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GLOBALISATION AND AFRICA

1 Key Messages

Globalisation – a political project. Globalisation can best be thought as a political project and be understood in the historical global context in which it is evolving. Locating the transformation process as the product of a particular historical and political moment helps to understand for whom the discourse of globalisation works and how.

State sovereignty revisited. Globalisation has certain corrosive effects on the sovereignty of states, but this does not render them politically impotent. The economic changes associated with globalisation in many, but not all cases, continue to be produced by state actions and non-actions. Reaffirming the state's ability to act is important for understanding globalisation and for engaging in debate about the future possibilities of state action for development.

New challenges for the state. Some parts of the state are more subject to the disciplines of global markets than others. New challenges are created where the traditional welfare function of states is subject to global competition. There may be a strong disjuncture between the views of political elites on the merits of globalisation and the people they claim to act on behalf of. This is especially the case in African countries that are still heavily dependent on agriculture and other protected sectors.

Development dilemmas. Development choices, such as decisions on the removal of subsidies and other trade barriers, privatisation programmes, whether to introduce gene-manipulated crops, etc. are increasingly being either settled in international fora or

determined by global financial actors. The state remains the vehicle through which these pressures are mediated, but decision-making autonomy is compromised through negotiation with a broader range of economic global actors.

Biased accountability. The globalisation of the economy and often heavy reliance on development aid lead to distorted incentives. As a consequence, the government may care more about what donors, creditors or foreign trading partners say instead of listening to the concerns of its population, the national industries or the civil society. Globalisation may lead to a biased accountability of governments.

Trade barriers and liberalisation. In the context of SSA it is difficult to identify the effects of trade liberalisation. Investment is low, markets are weak and segmented, institutions are fragile but are increasingly exposed to international market forces. A broad approach is of particular importance for SSA where the livelihoods of the majority are still largely dependent on small scale agriculture.

Relevance of context. African cultural, ecological, and other forms of diversity matter. Mainstream economics, however, take an 'universalist' approach, measure poverty primarily on the basis of income, and are generally positive about the impacts of trade liberalisation on poverty. A wider socio-economic / livelihoods perspective employs multi-dimensional concepts of poverty and arrives at ambiguous results.

Respect for livelihoods. The effect of trade liberalisation on the livelihoods of

smallholder farmers demonstrates the need to understand the linkages between trade and poverty in the context of SSA. Integrating social and economic, market and non-market factors into an analysis of trade and poverty is an important challenge facing development practitioners.

Regional solutions. Between a global outreach and the local dimension there are options of regional cooperation with neighbouring African countries. This potential is more and more harnessed by civil society associations but still is largely untapped at the governments' level.

Inclusive policy making. The need for more democratic processes of policy making are recognised. Initiatives to

widen trade policy reform processes have much to learn from a critical assessment of the experience of PRSP processes. Increasing dialogue between different groups on trade policy is essential to bridge the divide between economic, model-based perspectives and wider context-specific perspectives.

Shaping alliances. Development cooperation should support African efforts and initiatives. Despite such a subsidiary role, SDC can use its experience and influence to enhance negotiation capacity of SSA countries and shape development oriented alliances between Switzerland and African countries in international negotiations.

Messages clés / Key messages

2 Background

Globalisation in the sense of promoting liberalisation, deregulation and privatisation envisions a market driven level playing field at a global scale. An integrated world economy is, however, only instrumental in view of respecting civil, social and economic human rights for all. In the global context, Africa – here usually reference is made to Africa South of the Sahara (SSA) – is at best a footnote to the world economy. At worst it is merely considered as an object of international charity.

Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)

In Africa South of the Sahara 650 million people live in 48 countries, corresponding to 11 percent of the world population. Their Gross Domestic Product, however, equals just the incomes (measured as GDP) of the 7 million people living in Switzerland, or 1 percent of the world's wealth. 25 percent of the world's poor in extreme poverty with less than one dollar a day live in SSA. The African share in world trade in general and in raw materials in particular has been declining during last 50 years. Foreign direct investment remains marginal. At the same time, capital flight and brain drain is at record levels. It is estimated that 30 percent of qualified African manpower live outside the continent. Official development assistance to Africa dropped drastically from US 32 \$ per capita in 1990 to US 9 \$ ten years later. Life expectancy at birth increased from 40 years in 1960 to 52 years in 1990 but since then it fell to 49 years (2000)

and will continue to fall due to the AIDS pandemic.

Does globalisation offer more than illusionary benefits to Africa? Rather small and economically weak markets put Africa at a structural disadvantage. Low levels of training and education make it unattractive for production. Weak infrastructure and regional integration lead to high transaction costs. A rich diversity of cultures and languages and a colonial legacy favour weak nation states which in combination with poverty leads to power abuse and distributional conflicts. How can globalisation contribute to poverty reduction and gender equality?

Swiss involvement

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) as well as the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (seco) are actively engaged in development co-operation and policy making at bilateral and multilateral levels. The overarching goal of all Swiss development oriented efforts is poverty reduction. Some 35 percent (SDC: 40 percent) of regionally classified Swiss bilateral development assistance was allocated to African countries in 2000. The African partners – governments as well as NGOs – are confronted with the effects of globalisation, becoming again a challenge for development co-operation.

3 The road to Basel

On this background, SDC decided to organize a two days' workshop on "Globalisation and Africa" in Basel, Switzerland, on 5-6 September 2002.

A **preparatory group** was formed to take different views and experiences on board during the preparation period. Members of the group were SDC staff of the Division for Southern and East Africa (François Binder, Martin Fässler), the Division for West Africa (Jean-Maurice Délèze, Giorgio Bianchi), of Thematic Divisions (Peter Beez) and an

external consultant (Richard Gerster).

A milestone of the activities of the preparatory group was the elaboration of a **background paper** entitled "Globalisation and Africa: Perspectives for Development Cooperation" (see Annex 1) to the workshop.

SDC entrusted the preparation and **organisation** of the workshop to Gerster Consulting, Richterswil.

4 Concept, programme, participants, evaluation

The workshop was meant to be a window of opportunity to exchange experiences and to rethink globalisation from an African perspective, to identify appropriate policy responses and best practices in development co-operation.

More in detail, the **objectives** of the workshop were threefold:

- A *forum is created to exchange information and experiences of practitioners and academics, of Africans and non-Africans on how the process of globalisation affects Africa in general and development co-operation in Africa in particular, what can be learned from past experience, how alternative policy options look like, and what the different actors could contribute to a brighter future.*
- Participants involved in the co-operation with African partners *increase their competence to effectively link their strategic considerations and their daily work on local issues to the global economic environment.*
- Key elements of consensus as well as of controversy in view of the *elaboration of a forthcoming SDC/Swiss position on globalisation* from a development co-operation perspective are identified.

The **workshop programme** (see Annex 2) provided two different topics for the two working days.

Day one (see chapter 2) traced the impact of globalisation in Africa in general and on development cooperation in particular to get an overview and identify the key questions such as:

- Are African countries winning or losing in the globalisation game? Who wins, who loses?
- Is Africa a player or a victim?
- What is the impact of globalisation on ethnic tensions, violent conflicts and the violation of basic human rights?
- Is sovereignty at bay – but what about the legitimacy of governments?

- What are the main impacts of globalisation in agriculture and on public services?
- What are SDC's experiences in co-operation programmes?
- Does global governance offer an adequate voice for Africa in multilateral decision making?
- In what respect do global rules and institutions require renovation?

Day two (see chapter 3) focused on African initiatives and pro poor policies in a globalised context. Pro poor policies are relevant for and shape development co-operation. African initiatives should be taken into account to find appropriate responses at the grassroot as well as at the governmental level. The following questions guided the discussions:

- Are the PRSPs opening up space for the voices of the poor?
- In an African context, what are the best policy responses in agriculture and for the provision of basic services to the globalisation process in view of pro poor outcomes?
- How can Africa strengthen its leverage in the multilateral arena?
- What are the strategic implications for international cooperation?
- In view of globalisation, what could and should be the role of a country like Switzerland in bilateral and multilateral cooperation?

In order to facilitate in-depth discussions, plenary presentations were complemented by group work. Three parallel **working groups** were formed with the following focal points:

Working Group 1: Globalisation and governance in Africa (see chapter 4);

Working Group 2: Globalisation, food production and food security in Africa (see chapter 5);

Working Group 3: Globalisation and the provision of basic services in Africa (see chapter 6).

Participants were to join one of these three groups throughout the entire workshop. There were three working group **sessions** with a different focus each. In the first session, which provided an overview, an input by an African key-speaker was provided. The second session, on lessons learnt in development cooperation with a focus on Swiss involvement, featured an input by SDC field staff. The third session targeted pro poor elements, again with the assistance of the same African key-speaker as in session one. The results – analysis, conclusions, recommendations and open questions – of the different working groups were brought back to the plenary by a presenter of the respective group.

Participation in the workshop was limited to 60 people. In order to give authentic voices a prominent place, all the speakers were Africans, while the participants were people dealing professionally with African affairs.

The list of **participants** can be found in Annex 3. Target audience of the workshop were SDC staff of the two African divisions and the thematic divisions. In addition, staff of the Political Affairs Division IV, the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (seco), and Swiss non-governmental organisations (NGOs) dealing with African affairs were invited.

The participants received an **evaluation** form of which 25 were returned. The results are described in Annex 4. The plenary presentations got a positive rating whereas there is room for improvement regarding the working groups. The structure of the workshop itself obviously was well balanced as only a few people would have preferred to change the percentage of plenary presentations or time spent in groups. From a logistical point of view, the location was highly appreciated and the general arrangements seemed to have satisfied the needs.

5 Findings

5.1 Overall findings

Leading questions:

- a. *Can globalisation work for Africa?*
 - How can globalisation contribute to poverty reduction and gender equality?
 - Are there alternative and more targeted forms of globalisation?
 - What changes are required at the multilateral level (WTO, IMF, etc) and the national level?
 - What are the key policies Switzerland should support in the World Trade Organisation (WTO), in the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank Group and the UN organisations?

The international dimension is not new to Africa; its economies have been integrated

into the world (dis-)order since colonisation. New is the dynamics of change.

Efforts should be made to increase African capacities to negotiate their future in a globalising economy. The voice of the poor in international negotiations on trade etc. has to be strengthened.

To do justice to African values and identity, the relationship between the North and Africa should be seen in more comprehensive terms of society than only in an economic or sectorial way.

- b. *How does globalisation affect indigenous solutions?*

- In Africa, there are myriads of self-help initiatives at the grassroots level. How are

they affected and influenced by globalisation?

- Traditional notions of locality, group identity, culture, and tradition need to be reconsidered. What kind of creative as well as conflictual responses towards influences of globalisation in conditions of scarcity, insecurity, and conflict may emerge?
- What is the appropriate role of Switzerland towards these initiatives and their networks?

There is a big diversity among the countries being part of the globalisation process. Globalisation is not the vehicle for uniformity in values, culture and policies.

Local context in the sense of history and diversity matters. International cooperation should recognize that there is more than one road to development. In other words, there are alternative ways to the dominant model of development.

Development cooperation should strengthen African achievements and remain in a subsidiary role. Rhythm and context of cooperation instruments are too much determined by the foreign partners.

Beyond the formal, modern civil society (NGOs) there is a rich traditional, non-formal civil society in African society.

In the relationship between national and local levels, the emphasis should be on local level to replace the conventional trickle down approach by a bottom-up approach.

Without relying on imported models, a redistribution of power and efforts for power sharing should replace the "winner takes it all" attitude at the local and national level.

c. *What can regional solidarity offer Africa?*

- Is regional co-operation a promising option to overcome fragmentation in Africa?
- To what extent are regional initiatives and networks beyond boundaries already happening among private players?
- What obstacles have to be removed to enhance regional dynamics?
- Is there a critical mass when regional co-operation and integration becomes an alternative to globalisation or is it rather complementary?

There are unexploited opportunities of international cooperation at the regional level among neighbour nations.

A broad consultation of and participation of stakeholders in political processes is key for success.

Relevance for SDC. Negotiation skills are just one side of the coin. Change is required also in the North. SDC should work for a development oriented coherence between development cooperation and international negotiations, in particular in the trade field (agriculture, services, intellectual property).

Peoples' involvement and ownership in NEPAD should be advocated by SDC.

5.2 Governance

Leading questions:

a. *Constraints*

- What are the constraints to shaping a development-oriented governance framework?
- How far is lack of information and resources (human resources, knowledge, finance, reliable statistics, administration) a constraint?

- How far is political will lacking at the national or multilateral level?

To a large extent, a legitimate state is absent in Africa. It has to be reinvented from the bottom up to assure participation of the people.

The evolution of legitimate governance structures is a question of generations. African human capital is required to create a

judicious blend of imported practices with domestic institutional innovations.

b. Aid and governance

- What is the relevance of different forms of governance for poverty reduction strategies?
- What is the experience of development co-operation?
- Are crucial issues of governance adequately addressed in PRSPs?

African leaders govern based on distorted incentives: instead of designing a development strategy responding to the people's needs they follow an externally driven agenda to get access to foreign funds.

In the past, development cooperation often had harmful influence on governance because it set distorted incentives for those in power.

Development cooperation should open space for dialogue and participation between the state and the poor, in particular at the local level.

c. Private sector and civil society

- What is the link between governance and the increasing role of the private sector and of civil society organisations, including transnational enterprises and international NGOs?

- How can these bodies be made accountable to the people of the African host countries?

Governance principles – in particular transparency, accountability, non-discrimination – should also become relevant for civil society (including international NGOs) as well as the private sector.

Fulfilling the rights to food, health, education and other basic services are part of good governance.

d. Shaping global policies

- Good governance is also required of multilateral organisations. What are the possibilities of African countries being able to influence global policies, e.g. in the World Trade Organisation and the Bretton Woods Institutions?

To enhance influence in global negotiations, Africa will have to look for alliances within and outside Africa.

Relevance for SDC. Governance reflections emanating from development cooperation should become part and parcel of multilateral negotiations and institutions. The emergence of a more legitimate state will improve representation of the African people.

PRSPs mostly reflect a top-down approach and as such do not (yet) favour contextually adapted governance structures.

5.3 Food security

Leading questions:

a. Food security

- How can food security be enhanced in a globalising agriculture?
- Are special measures required to promote cultivation systems and crops essential for food security?
- Are such measures compatible with the Agreement on Agriculture?
- What are the options for reform? Can African agriculture be 'modernised' and

become competitive while opting for the family farm as a central element of its agricultural and rural development strategy?

- What are the implications for a wide range of policy measures of placing the family farm enterprise at the heart of agricultural policies?

Food production, food imports and food accessibility determine food security. It is heavily influenced by globalisation. An

explicit food security policy is required by all countries.

b. Liberalisation and agriculture

- Under present conditions in Sub-Saharan Africa, is a strong and productive agricultural sector a pre-requirement for liberalisation or – vice versa – does liberalisation strengthen agricultural production and food security?

Agricultural liberalisation challenges the food sovereignty of the people in general and the smallholders in particular. Access to markets, credit and infrastructure is crucial for family farmers.

Production costs are high in Africa compared to Asia. It is preferable to reduce transaction costs (e.g. by investing in infrastructure) instead of subsidising transaction costs.

c. Poverty reduction

- What are the implications of a strong national poverty reduction strategy for the sector of agriculture?
- In what respect does agricultural globalisation enhance poverty reduction, in what way does it aggravate the problem of poverty?
- What are potential consequences for PRSPs?

African governments & the World Bank promote health and education at the expense of subsidies for agricultural inputs, leading to low productivity and poverty.

The relationship of food crops to cash crops does not resemble black and white. A balance has to be found between food crops and cash crops at the farmers' and at the national level.

The food sector is controlled by women, cash crops are the men's domain: gender aspects have to be taken into account.

The focus must be on the family farm while having a balanced approach for auto-consumption, local production and competitive exports. African farmers share similar concerns with their European colleagues.

Organic agriculture and fair trade may turn out to be formulas for the future.

Increasing the transformation of agricultural produce and their value added merits high attention.

d. Trade reforms

- What reform requests do African governments and NGOs present in the process to revise the Agreement on Agriculture?
- What would be a reasonable coherent Swiss position in the negotiations on the Agreement on Agriculture, translating the experiences of international co-operation in agriculture into WTO options?

The Agreement on Agriculture in the WTO limits the policy options for African governments. In view of the establishment of a development box and other reforms more pressure is required in the WTO.

Relevance for SDC. Rural development and agriculture should remain a top priority for SDC at the policy and the operational level.

Operational experiences of SDC partners should be fed into the Swiss position in the on-going WTO-negotiations on the Agreement of Agriculture (AoA).

5.4 Basic services

Leading questions:

a. Privatisation and provision

- How will the contradiction between the reduced fiscal capacity of the state,

shrinking ODA disbursements and the safety net approach to poverty reduction – including access to basic services for all – will be resolved?

The provision of basic services is the duty of the government and must not be left neither to civil society nor the private sector.

Public – private (civil society, business) partnerships are an option to be considered to mobilise resources beyond the public share.

An overall opening of the economy was said to increase financial resources including private capital and ODA to enhance employment and improve social services. There were contradicting reports from several countries, however.

b. Monopoly risk

- Private sector involvement may in many cases simply replace a public monopoly by a private one. Privatising without simultaneously, or even previously, setting up regulators and strengthening government capacity might in most cases produce adverse effects. It appears that private sector participation is able to develop only in densely populated urban areas. However, where investments are most needed, the private operator has usually no obligation to provide services. Does privatisation of infrastructure proceed to ‘cream-skimming’, thus tending to do whatever is profitable, while leaving the state, communities, NGOs with all the unprofitable parts of services?

The privatisation of basic services has added high quality services which are accessible only for a small better-off community.

Privatisation may lead to the replacement of public monopolies by private monopolies,

rendering services more expensive than cost considerations would require.

The principle of cost recovery for the provision of social services carries the danger to discriminate against the poor. Pro poor policies safeguard access to basic services for all, including the policy option of subsidized or free services for the poor.

c. Local control

- How can decentralisation, user-participation, inter-regional co-operation and other approaches enhancing local responsibilities be reconciled with growing financial needs, technological expertise and the growing power of TNCs?
- What is the best way to manage services (water, health, education) in the age of globalisation, with many powerful corporations having the expertise to do so, while people and public entities increasingly lack the power to make their interests heard?

Respect for the local context (needs assessment, decision making, etc.) is a major concern in basic services also in regard to external inputs.

Locally appropriate and owned visions and mechanisms are required rather than universal blueprint solutions.

Relevance for SDC. SDC should continue to support its partners to develop their own vision on how to provide basic education and health services to the whole population.

6 Concluding Remarks

6.1 A Swiss perspective

(by François Binder & Jean-Maurice Délèze,
SDC)

Finalité de l'atelier

→ quelles sont les voies et moyens de réduire les multiples dépendances (intellectuelles, politiques, financières, ...) de l'Afrique par rapport au modèle dominant de l'Occident ?

Suivi, recommendations / Follow up, recommendations

Messages clés

→ les partenaires – acteurs du Sud ont insisté sur la nécessité de **penser et agir en termes de société** (le rôle crucial des identités, des référents socioculturels, des valeurs, de ce qu'un participant a appelé « notre être profond »... ; éviter les approches purement économiques, techniques..., importées comme prêt à porter ; adopter une approche globale qui prenne en compte les différents aspects de la réalité (univers symbolique, imaginaire social, tout autant que les questions économiques); tendre vers une « social governance » et un nouveau contrat social qui définisse de nouvelles règles du jeu pour un autre « vivre ensemble » ; cela dit, ne pas adopter une approche passéeiste ; affronter les enjeux modernes mais que les africains d'aujourd'hui produisent leurs propres pensées, stratégies et politiques...)

→ promouvoir la **maîtrise d'ouvrage africaine**, publique et privée, à tous les niveaux (maîtrise qui s'exercerait aux niveaux de la gouvernance locale, de la gestion des affaires publiques et privées, de l'élaboration des politiques et des cadres législatifs et réglementaires, de la mobilisation des ressources, en priorité africaines ; favoriser un apprentissage de la maîtrise vers un renforcement des capacités, en maintenant la coopération dans un rôle subsidiaire, démarches d'empowerment..)

→ parvenir à une **masse critique de propositions alternatives** (dépasser les esquisses de solutions actuelles, embryonnaires, partielles, dispersées... ; atteindre un niveau de crédibilité suffisant ; documenter les enjeux, en mobilisant davantage les capacités africaines de recherche ; alliances autour de propositions élaborées de sorte qu'elles puissent atteindre une masse critique et alimenter le dialogue des politiques...)

Comment la Coopération peut-elle apporter ses appuis ?

a) contribuer à promouvoir des **alternatives crédibles**, telles que celles évoquées lors du Séminaire :

- au niveau de l'agriculture familiale : des modes de production adaptés à l'environnement, valorisant les savoirs locaux et les référents socio-culturels africains, enrichis des savoirs exogènes ; des politiques agricoles favorables à l'agriculture familiale
 - au niveau de l'éducation de base : des systèmes d'éducation basés sur les valeurs et savoirs des sociétés africaines, mais des systèmes ouverts sur le monde actuel
 - au niveau de la santé : des systèmes qui valorisent les savoirs locaux et qui soient en rapport avec les ressources locales et l'imaginaire social
 - au niveau de la gouvernance locale : des règles du jeu définies par les gens, dans l'apprentissage de la citoyenneté
 - au niveau de la transformation du secteur informel : des artisans organisés, capables de peser sur les conditions cadre, et des entreprises à même de répondre aux exigences du marché
 - ...
- b) promouvoir des **politiques pensées par les acteurs africains**, nourries par des pratiques alternatives rendues crédibles (expérimentations locales, recherches actions, approches documentées..., maturation des propositions dans des interactions public - privé)
- politiques agricoles adaptées aux enjeux et intérêts de l'Afrique
 - politiques d'éducation qui fassent du sens pour les populations, propres à préparer une insertion fructueuse dans la société et l'économie
 - politiques de santé mieux en rapport avec les sociétés et les économies locales
 - politiques macro-économiques mieux adaptées à la base économique prévalant en Afrique, sauvegardant mieux les intérêts africains
 -

c) appuyer les réseaux Sud – Sud et Sud – Nord en favorisant les échanges entre acteurs, les concertations, la documentation des enjeux, l'accès à l'information, aux formations, aux financements... ; faciliter l'accès des réseaux du Sud aux réseaux créés dans le Nord, sur des thématiques semblables

d) travailler davantage au niveau régional : s'investir sur les enjeux régionaux (à savoir sur les questions qui doivent être traitées à ce niveau : échanges de tous ordres entre les pays, y compris commerciaux, dialogue des politiques [macro-économiques, sectorielles...], financement du développement... ; parvenir à des positions communes des pays d'une région donnée sur ces enjeux (un pays seul a peu de chance de rendre crédible une nouvelle politique ; si un consensus se dégage au niveau régional, l'initiative peut avoir plus de poids) ; la coopération suisse, avec ses avantages comparatifs, peut favoriser ces processus de concertation (comme elle le fait déjà, par ex. sur la politique agricole avec le ROPPA [Réseau des organisations paysannes] en Afrique de l'Ouest

e) jouer de façon plus déterminée un rôle de plaidoyer (advocacy) au niveau international :

- aider les réseaux à documenter les enjeux, mobiliser les centres de compétences au Sud comme au Nord, favoriser les échanges Sud – Nord, préparer les échéances en vue des négociations, renforcer les capacités africaines de négociation
- mieux thématiquer certains enjeux cruciaux : la « development box », les questions de souveraineté alimentaire, de propriété intellectuelle...

6.2 An African perspective

(by Taoufik Ben Abdallah, ENDA, Senegal; there is no manuscript available, what follows are unauthorized notes.)

Main items that should be kept in mind:

- promouvoir une meilleure cohérence des politiques au niveau suisse.

f) tirer un meilleur parti des PRSP / Cadres Stratégiques de Lutte contre la Pauvreté : ce sont autant d'espaces de concertation, des opportunités de drainer plus de ressources pour les budgets sociaux... ; mais il convient aussi de contribuer à combler les déficits évoqués lors du Séminaire : développer la dimension plus stratégique des PRSP en termes de valorisation des bases productives, de promotion de politiques macro-économiques et sectorielles mieux branchées sur le potentiel et les initiatives des socio-économies locales ; des politiques davantage « pro poor ».

g) au niveau du NEPAD, d'adopter une démarche du même type, en favorisant tout particulièrement une interaction entre pouvoirs publics et secteur privé / monde associatif.

La DDC devra tirer les conclusions du Séminaire à son niveau (**homework**) :

- comment concrétiser les appuis mentionnée ci-dessus (cf. sous 3. dessus) : que retenir plus particulièrement du Séminaire ? quelles priorités ? quelles articulations au sein de la DDC en termes de collaboration entre les Divisions (E, F, M) ?
- comment promouvoir une approche plus globale (entrée par les sociétés, rôle des identités, meilleure prise en compte des référents socio-culturels...) ; des initiatives nouvelles de la DDC en la matière ?

Globalisation leads to necessary readjustments of activities.

Players may have different interest and make different choices.

Globalisation leads to redefinition of all policies/roles of various players (states, social sector, peasants, craftsmen, NGOs, private sector,...)

New way of networking.

Economic aspects are not an end in themselves, ultimate objective is improvement in living of the poor.

Recommendations to SDC:

SDC has the advantage that it is able to listen, it knows how to listen to what people need and want.

SDC can work over a long time to support a company/partner – keep doing that. Long-term partnership as situation is much more volatile than before.

COOFs are close to the players, this presence must also be felt on sub-regional level. Tackle these sub-regional issues also from headquarters in Berne.

Food sovereignty should be upheld as a basic right. It cannot be subordinate to trade constraints.

Better understand the "new stakes" that are linked to globalisation: intellectual property, agriculture, NEPAD,... How can the players be best supported (e.g. research institutes – should be supported and trained)? Support African negotiators.

Importance of sub-regional institutions: they need SDC support.

Specific forms of support of different players like researchers, sub-regional institutions,...

Pay attention to alternative solutions, also when they come from players that are not expected (not institutionalised).

Issue of decentralisation: new framework that will be favoured by multilateral players. Process is not fully compatible with some interests: Who does what? What is the interest of the State? Decentralisation needs to be defined and it needs a real content.

Financial questions: few funds to decentralised bodies.

Emergence of a truly African vision! SDC should help Africa to define its vision and bring it into negotiations.

NEPAD: SDC can help to broaden the scope of consultations. Instrument e.g. financial aspects.

7 Follow up recommendations

A follow up menu consisting of five subsequent dishes is recommended:

1. **Dissemination:** To share the proceedings and results of this workshop with all those interested, SDC will disseminate the print version of the report and make it also available on its website (<http://www.deza.ch/>).
2. The **creation of a working group** on “Globalisation and International cooperation with Developing and Transition Countries” should be considered in view of drafting a SDC position on globalisation. Such a working group would have to deal with the following key areas:
 - Deepen the understanding of issues of overlap between globalisation and development cooperation;
 - Identify local (African) and blended alternatives to mainstream answers to the challenge of globalisation;
 - Link SDC experience in agriculture and rural development with negotiations in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in view of coherent positions taken by Switzerland;
 - Link SDC experience in health with negotiations on Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs) in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in view of coherent positions taken by Switzerland.
3. The SDC working group on globalisation would define a **transparent and inclusive process** that gives a voice to other parts of the administration (secos), of the Swiss society (NGOs, private sector, Universities), and SDC's partners. Public hearings are an option.
4. SDC should consider of hosting an **international symposium on “Globalisation, the Millennium Development Goals and Development Cooperation”** in **2004/05**. Switzerland adopted the Millennium Development Goals as did the international community. 2004/05, halfway between 1995 and 2015, a stocktaking is required and will open a window of public attention to the MDGs in Switzerland.
5. Based on the preliminary steps, SDC elaborates and publishes a **white paper on “Globalisation and Development Cooperation”**.

Suivi, recommendations / Follow up, recommendations