

# An NGO Response To The White Paper on Irish Aid

Dublin, 23 October 2006

## Document 2: "Key Words – a question of emphasis"

Though not a proven scientific method for policy analysis, word counts do give an indication of the extent to which certain issues are addressed within a document.

The searched for this document was on the basis of keywords in the Dóchas submission on the White Paper, as well as additional words that suggested themselves on reading the White Paper.

Word	No. of references	Context in which the word was presented
<b>Poverty</b>	90	Poverty reduction the <i>overarching objective</i> . Particular focus on health, HIV/AIDS, food security and pro-poor economic activity (ref. EPAs).
<b>Humanitarian/ Emergency</b>	62 24	Key decision area, scaling up response, "distinctively Irish" Rapid Response Initiative, focus on prevention, preparedness, capacity-building, rehabilitation and recovery links.
<b>Partnership</b>	53	References to partnership with programme country governments, NGOs and wider civil society – North and South, private sector, educational institutions, other donors, multilateral/international orgs.
<b>Human rights</b>	53	High priority, engagement with programme countries, civil society, UN bodies, human rights defenders. No rights-based approach.
<b>Security</b>	52	Key references to peace and security, security and development, as well as 18 to food security. One reference only to Human Security
<b>Governance &amp; Corruption</b>	42 27	Including 25 references to Governance/corruption. Key references to corruption, transparency, democracy, southern civil society, Africa, new programme countries. Of 27 addition references to Corruption, 16 in a southern context and 9 in a broad context. Key: strengthening governance, prog. countries, Africa, accountability to Irish taxpayers.
<b>Civil society</b>	47	Key references (32) to southern civil society. Also reference to NGOs, media, human rights bodies, capacity building.
<b>Programme countries</b>	46	Criteria. Malawi. LDCs, activities poverty-focused. Government partner, long-term, mixed modalities, aligned with national planning. Also civil society, media, human rights, private sector support.
<b>Private sector</b>	43	Refers to supporting private sector in south, role for Irish business, novel partnerships, media, volunteering, Private Sector Forum/Traidlinks, private sector support in programme countries
<b>NGOs</b>	43	Key partner but wider approach, policy dialogue, funding high, funding mechanisms, accountability, partnering with southern NGOs
<b>HIV/AIDS</b>	41	High priority, crosscutting issue, funding commitment, child focus
<b>Trade</b>	41	Vital for economic growth, support for fair and ethical trade, Aid for Trade, better trade deal for LDCs; main role through EU/WTO; EPAs must be fair to LDCs; Inter-Departmental Committee - coherence.
<b>Volunteering</b>	32	Main focus of 'Irish Aid and the Irish Public'. Volunteering Centre, Volunteering Corps Unit in DFA, public body and private sector role.

<b>Gender</b>	32	Key references to guiding principle, gender equality, key crosscutting theme, mainstreaming approach, MDGs, strategic partnership with Dutch on GBV
<b>Environment (mostly in bio/climate sense)</b>	32	Key crosscutting issue, poverty link, global threats (climate change), environment and health concerns, Ireland to support developing countries' planning and environment policy, play its part multilaterally
<b>Coherence</b>	30	Included as a principle underlying development. Focus on Irish Aid/DFA, Irish government (new mechanisms) and bilateral activities. Also commits to addressing coherence within the UN (partner agencies and as a specific criterion for engagement) and being a "strong advocate" for EU coherence (little detail). Acknowledges Limerick move as a challenge to coherence.
<b>Multilateral/ Multilateralism</b>	29	Key references to greater finance available for; HIV role, support for UN (key partner agencies/ humanitarian coordination), coherence, hunger/food security, trade agreements, peace and security, Aid for Trade, 5-year funding cycles,
<b>Research</b>	23	References relate especially to health (8) and agricultural (9) research. Also references to planned strategic links with Irish higher education sector
<b>World Bank IMF WTO</b>	14 6 8	Key references to Irish voice for coherence – Dept of Finance role, fair trade (especially for LDCs), Aid for Trade, aim for macro environment conducive to development, debt relief additional to ODA
<b>Principles</b>	21	Key references in relation to Irish Aid principles. Is this a coherent vision? Also humanitarian principles.
<b>MDGs</b>	21	Roadmap that informs Ireland's approach
<b>Evaluation</b>	19	Key references to strengthening Audit and Evaluation Unit for effectiveness, relevance, impact and value. Also more robust engagement with UN, management review to look at systems, and commitment to publish external evaluation reports
<b>Training</b>	14	Refer mostly to providing training for partners (educational, legal, media, humanitarian). One reference to training for programme staff – ref. Limerick move
<b>Sustainable development</b>	13	Environment, governance, democracy, relief, rural development - mostly southern focus, but principles to integrate and multilateral role
<b>(Economic) growth</b>	12	Will facilitate pro-poor growth (rural devt, infrastructure, education, fair trade, ICT) with equity (governance, civil society).
<b>Consultation</b>	11	Key references to White Paper process (5), UN and donor engagement, civil society role with governments in South
<b>Development education</b>	8	Key references in relation to greater public understanding of development and ownership of Irish aid programme; more integration with school system
<b>0.7%</b>	7	Commitment and time-frame set out, but no commitment on legislation.
<b>Decentralisation</b>	5	Limerick move going ahead. Quality hard to sustain given decentralisation and rapid programme growth. Move presents coherence challenges internally and across govt departments.
<b>Dialogue</b>	5	Policy dialogue with NGOs benefits both sides, but no specific commitment to strengthen that. Other refs to ABIA and between different divisions of DFA
<b>Transparency</b>	3	Main references to NGOs and their operating environment
<b>Staffing</b>	3	Key references to Limerick challenge, proposed management review, need to maintain prog. quality
<b>Learning</b>	2	Reference to learning organisation and commitment to lesson-learning