

## Summary

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### Better Together?

*A Study on Philanthropy and Official Development Assistance. The Role of Private Foundations and the potential for collaboration.*

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| Keywords:           | foundations, government, collaboration, international aid               |
| Topic:              | Cross-sector collaboration with for profit organizations or governments |
| Research method:    | Mixed methods                                                           |
| Geographical focus: | Multiple countries (Other countries)                                    |
| Type of article:    | Research article                                                        |

#### Summary:

Philanthropic foundations are on the rise. There is not just an increase in the size and number of players involved in development aid, but funding, delivery channels/instruments and strategies are diversifying as well (Van Oijen, 2016).

The emergence of this new, important monetary flow to the international development arena raises the question how the foundations involved in private philanthropy relate and position themselves with regard to the actors involved in ODA. More and more (international) official agencies (ODA) and national governments meet these new social players. A consciousness of interdependency between them grows.

This study aims to shed light on the perceived relationship between foundations supporting international aid and the more traditional donor community, on the strategies, size and intervention principles used by these foundations and hopes to identify barriers and common ground for building mutually empowering relationships.

The study addresses three main topics. First, the study provides a general operational typology of the socio-economic-political models regarding foundations and the role of philanthropy and foundations in particular play in development aid. The study will elaborate and discuss existing models explaining the role of foundations and their relationship vis-à-vis the government. Second, in order to get a better understanding of foundations, the study provides a quantitative mapping of 55 foundations in development aid with regard to their founders, grantmaking, funding, tools,

mission, operating style, target issues and groups, and transparency. The foundations were selected based on their annual budget for charitable support of over one USD million, next, to include foundations from all continents, foundations were selected based on their geographical spread across the globe, with an oversampling of foundations that were not based in the United States (US). Finally, to develop the topic of the potential collaboration between foundations and ODA organizations, the study makes use of theories on collaboration, survey data and five additional in-depth interviews.

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