Alliances for Development: Public and Private Capital Working Together Towards a new Frontier in CSR

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CONTEXT: SCALE

- Local economic development
- Micro-credit
- Small and micro enterprises(small is usually ugly but can be beautiful).
- Economic growth, taxes, and trickle down.
- Poverty statistics-global, Africa, Asia, Americas

PREMISE

- Business of business is business
- Most important social contribution of business in developing countries is its contribution to sustainable livelihoods especially of the poor
- Not by charitable donations but by investment in the costs of doing business and staying in business
- By investment in human, social, natural and physical capital

ROLE OF GOVTS

- Provide policy and institutional framework and incentives that encourage business in this direction.
- Help to build human, social, natural and physical capital base by public investments
- Undertake investment led structural adjustment
- Release dead capital into market transaction

DEVELOPED COUNTRY GOVERNMENTS

- Debt relief
- Market access
- Removal of farm subsidies
- Make ODA responsive to partner priorities
- Policy coherence
- Foreign policy as guide to TNC behaviour

DEVELOPING COUNTRY GOVTS

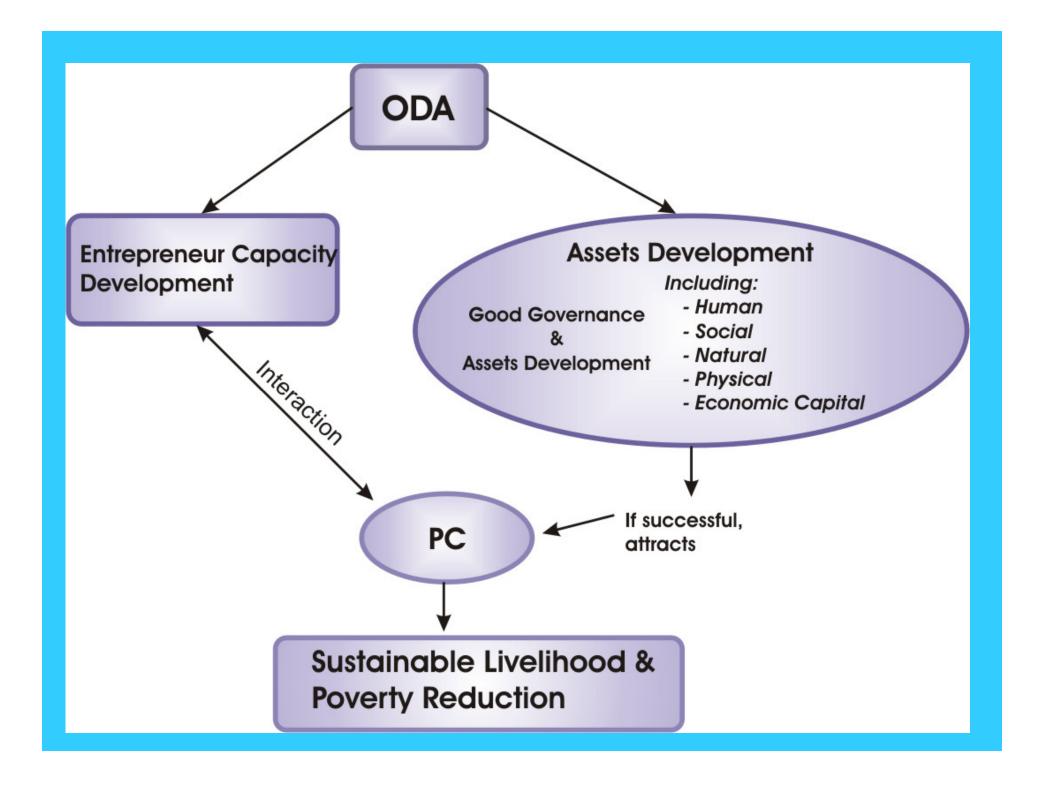
- Good governance- democracy, human rights, rule of law, participation, access to justice and information etc.
- Build market institutions
- Macro-economic fundamentals
- Business incentives
- Peace, security, stability
- Public sector investments
- Investment led structural adjustment.

Developed-developing country government partnerships

- Treaties on harmonization of standards: environment, labour, rights, entitlements etc
- Monitoring and enforcement protocols
- Anti-corruption principles and practices
- International security, crime, terrorism and related issues

South-South Govt Partnerships

- Harmonization among themselves of various standards.
- Including harmonization of incentives for foreign business
- Peer review mechanism such as proposed by NEPAD



Old Alliance: New Working Model

• Focussing on Assets means business while focussing on needs means government.

The new alliance requires that

- Governments ensure and enhance the enabling environment (market institutions, governance and entrepreneurial capacity)
- Visionary corporations are early partners in the process (advice, commitment, demonstration effect and finance)

Old Alliance: New Working Model Implications

• Business, governments and civil society establish the synergetic structures to bring the poor in the mainstream economy and promote sustainable livelihoods

• Use core competencies in tri-sector partnerships

IMPLICATIONS

- Distinguish between CSR (rhetoric) and Corporate citizenship (action)-Gap (importance of monitoring and measuring CSR impact against baseline)
- Understand the link of corporate citizenship with the case for business success
- Take into consideration the market of the poor "the bottom of the pyramid offers unprecedented opportunities"

MAKING IT HAPPEN:USING CHAMPIONS

- CIDA prepared to initiate
- Champion corporations and academia in Canada
- Champion corporations and academia in US.
- Select interested champion developing countries in the Americas (govts, business, etc.)
- Look for other interested partners
- Hold first planning meeting in 6 months