

G8 Accountability Report A Big Step Forward for Transparency, But Underscores Unfinished Agenda on Global Hunger

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WASHINGTON – ActionAid today called the just released 2012 G8 Accountability a big step forward for accountability and transparency, but cautioned that the large unfinished agenda outlined in the report stood in stark contrast to the inadequate new initiatives taken by the G8 at this year’s summit.

See ActionAid’s full analysis of the Accountability Report [here](#).

Katie Campbell, Senior Policy Analyst at ActionAid USA, and author of the analysis, said:

“The accountability report is a remarkable improvement over past years, with more data and, for the first time, a close look at how G8 donors are supporting developing countries’ own priorities and targeting women smallholders.

“The report also identifies a huge unfinished agenda -- three years after L’Aquila, as G8 pledges are set to expire, half of all poor country agricultural development plans remain unfunded. But the G8 are relying on a false premise that the private sector can fill this gap when in fact sustained and expanded public investment in smallholder farmers is urgently needed.”

Key findings from ActionAid’s analysis include:

- The new report improves upon past G8 accountability reports by expanding the analysis from just financial commitments to also include non-financial commitments on the quality of aid – and it goes much more in depth on quantitative analysis.
- While nearly all funds pledged at L’Aquila have been committed, G8 donors have only disbursed roughly half of funding. These disbursements need to be sped up. Smallholder farmers living in poverty cannot wait another three years to receive the benefits of this funding.
- Agriculture and food security country investment plans are still 50 percent underfunded, which shows that the need for continued public sector investment is still great. This tremendous gap cannot be filled by the private sector alone.
- While G8 leaders self-assess that they are meeting their goal of investing in country-led plans they do acknowledge that the majority of them are failing to target those investments at women smallholder farmers, who grow the majority of the food in the global South. This must be improved going forward.
- While progress on the alignment of donors’ L’Aquila pledges with country plans is promising, G8 donors need to ensure that all aid to agriculture is aligned behind country investment plans.

ActionAid is an international anti-poverty agency working in 50 countries, taking sides with poor people to end poverty and injustice together. Together with more than 2,000 civil society partner organizations worldwide, ActionAid works with and supports the poorest and most vulnerable people to fight for and gain their rights to food, shelter, work, basic healthcare and a voice in the decisions that affect their lives. View the website at www.actionaidusa.org.