Dear readers,

As we come to the end of 2014, we reflect on progress achieved and the road still to be travelled in order to achieve our objectives as set out in the New Consensus on Effective Institutions. The Annual Meeting of the EIP agreed to pursue the development of learning alliances as an overall framework for the EIP going forward.

This edition of the newsletter is dedicated to examining the **role of multi-stakeholder alliances in supporting reform efforts**. This is a topic that is particularly salient in today's debates on development and on public sector reform efforts across the globe. The global financial crisis has crystallised thinking around reviewing our traditional approaches to reforming public sector institutions- away from reform in silos and towards a new model of collaboration. This entails focusing on **political leadership in the decision to co-invest** with other stakeholders in determining to policies that enable sustainable development; on how best to **leverage public and private actors**, including civil society to spur innovation and ensure reform efforts are owned across society not only the state. We must also **utilise our ability to learn from reform efforts** (both good and bad) to support the transformational potential from sustained investments in science, technology, innovation, and partnerships. Deepen our understanding

The newsletter touches on some of these issues including on the need to support reformers as much as reforms, the need for multi-skilled teams and the importance of broadening our evidence base to support the reformers (David Booth and Jaime Faustino); the importance of engaging citizens in the work of Supreme Audit Institutions and the value of learning in this area; the need to support the capacity of citizens, media, parliaments and government officials to strengthen budget accountability (Paolo de Renzio); and the role of multi-stakeholder groups at the country level (with the example from Burundi).

The EIP has a lot to offer to support partnerships in this area and we are delighted at the response during the meeting hosted by the Singapore Centre for Public Service Excellence to support structured learning on public sector reforms under the EIP. Matt Andrews and Nick Manning are currently working to develop the methodology for future learning alliances and we look forward to sharing with you the results of this work in the new year. Please let the Secretariat know if you would like to be participate more actively in this work, proposing topics for future learning alliances, or sharing views on ways in which peer learning can help in reform efforts.

We hope you will find this newsletter interesting and we look forward to engaging with many of you on this important topic in 2015.

In the meantime we wish you a Happy New Year.

Best regards,

Neil Cole
Executive Secretary
CABRI

Steve Pierce
Special Coordinator for Development
Effectiveness, USAID

Have an idea for the next newsletter? Want to feature an event or new paper? Let us know by contacting effectiveinstitutions@oecd.org