

Statement of Katalyst on the DCED-Audit

Katalyst has been implementing elements of the DCED Standard since 2008, but only in May 2010 was the process towards full compliance initiated with the revision of the logframe, recalculation of the aggregated targets, and revision of the MRM manual and the intervention plans (results chains, monitoring plans, assumptions, baselines). A mock audit in October 2010 resulted in another round of review of the documentation of around 160 interventions.

In May 2011, Katalyst underwent an independent audit by DCED to analyze Katalyst's monitoring and results measurement (MRM) system. The two auditors, Hans Posthumus and Phitcha Wanitphon, selected four out of the 17 sectors Katalyst currently works in. For each of the four sectors, namely Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Improving Local Government Services (ILGS), Irrigation (IRR), and Packaging (PKT), at least three interventions were reviewed.

The auditors found the results measurement system to be comprehensive and robust, and stated that Katalyst's results chains were well articulated and suitable for guiding staff in making decisions. They found that Katalyst had thorough measurement plans, good research practices, and a comprehensive MRM manual. However, the audit team also made a few recommendations for further enhancements in the MRM system,.

Katalyst found the audit process to be a rewarding and valuable learning experience for its staff and management. For example, the repeated and careful review of results chains helped Katalyst to enhance the understanding of the market systems and the underlying assumptions of interventions. Similarly, application of a continuous monitoring system has allowed for consistent measurement, and valuable feedback for management decision-making. We can confidently recommend the DCED Standard as a practical and useful framework for processes and instruments of monitoring and results measurement in private sector development programs.

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For further information on the Katalyst project, please visit our website: www.katalyst.com.bd

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