

Eilish McAuliffe, Director, Centre for Global Health

Eilish McAuliffe, Director from the Centre for Global Health Trinity College Dublin themed her presentation around her book *The Aid Triangle: Recognising the Human Dynamics of Dominance, Justice and Identity* which she co-wrote with Malcolm MacLachlan and Stuart Carr due for release later this year.

The aim of her presentation was to provide a new constructive way for the audience to rethink the delivery of international aid. After providing a historical account of how the 'aid industry' has been developed and formalised, Ms McAuliffe explored how we need to change our perspective on aid and its delivery, primarily moving away from equating development only with economic growth.

The main theme of Ms McAuliffe's presentation centres around *how the three dynamics of dominance, justice and identity, interact and shape the relationships of aid as a first step to improving the processes and hopefully the effectiveness of aid development.*

Dominance in aid looks at the size of the donor countries, ie their aid budgets and the potential to perpetuate a power imbalance between funders and recipient countries. The main principles of justice and how those delivering the aid are being viewed as fair are also essential to rethinking aid, while the integrity of identity and the value of the individual should also be protected.

Through the understanding of these relationships and their consequences, particularly the consequence of agendas of different actors within the entire structure of aid delivery, there is opportunity to develop new ways to effectively execute aid delivery for the benefit of recipients and their country.

In conclusion, Ms McAuliffe summarised that if there are aid systems that reinforce dominance and injustice and a disregard for the identity of the people, there can be no meaningful concept of 'development.' The shift of focus from measuring development from economic to human terms needs to be progressed for better outcomes of aid delivery.