

BRIEFING PAPER

GUIDE TO THE WORKSTREAMS OF THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP
FOR EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION (GPEDC)

2017 October, Issue 2

CSOPartnership
for **Development Effectiveness**

I. Rationale of the Global Partnership on Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) Programme of Work[i]

The renewed mandate of the GPEDC or the Global Partnership stipulates a biennial, costed programme of work to guide the work by the Co-Chairs, Steering Committee (SC) and Joint Support Team (JST). The present document was endorsed by the SC at its 13th meeting in Washington, D.C. on 23-24 April 2017.[ii] Based on evidence to date and issues emerging from the current development co-operation landscape, the programme of work (PoW) is focused on six inter-related and mutually reinforcing strategic outputs for 2017-2018:

- Strategic Output 1: Enhanced support to effective development co-operation at country level
- Strategic Output 2: Unlocking potential to effectiveness and updated monitoring for 2030
- Strategic Output 3: Sharing knowledge to scale-up innovative development solutions
- Strategic Output 4: Scaling up private sector engagement leveraged through development co-operation
- Strategic Output 5: Learning from different modalities of development co-operation
- Strategic Output 6: Strengthened high-level political engagement, advocacy, public communication and strategic use of data and evidence

Co-Chairs' responsibilities focus on outreach to ensure momentum at the highest political levels (Co-chairs are responsible for SO5 & SO6). SC members are expected to champion specific workstreams in close consultation and collaboration with their constituencies (SO1-4 are open to members of the SC).

II. CPDE Analysis and Position

The Nairobi Outcome Document (NOD) recognises that much remains to be done to fulfill commitments made since Paris. The 2016 Progress Report shows that although there has been progress towards the development co-operation commitments such as country ownership of development priorities, focus on results, inclusive partnerships for development, and transparency and mutual accountability- this is still occurring at an irregular pace.[iii]

The Global Partnership, in NOD, pledged to renew their full commitments to conclude this unfinished business with the first step being to develop time-bound action plans in relation to these commitments.[iv] This however, including other commitments in NOD such as is either underdeveloped from the current programme of work however or is missing altogether.

It is important that our objectives and messages that we will be forwarding in the workstreams reflect these commitments and prevent them from being swept under the rug.

III. GPEDC Workstreams Issues and Positions

Work Stream 1: Enhanced support to effective development co-operation at country level

Purpose:

- Supporting countries in mainstreaming effectiveness principles into development co-operation practices and strategically managing diverse development co-operation resources; as well as ensuring that country-level evidence on progress and challenges informs multi-stakeholder dialogue at national, regional and global levels to drive political decisions and promote behaviour change

Main area of work:

- Country Pilots: This will pilot the establishment of systematic mechanisms and country-level multi-stakeholder partnership platforms for making the best use of the various forms of co-operation; establish a compendium of good practices related to the policies and institutional arrangements, and help mobilise GPIs to strengthen their focus on greater country level focus.

CPDE Objectives:

- Ensure that time-bound action plans are reflected in this workstream/country-pilots
- Ensure that the commitment to reverse the trend of shrinking spaces for civil society is operationalised and is considered in choosing country pilots

CPDE position:

- Guidelines to support effective development co-operation at the country-level must abide by the 2016 Progress Report's Lessons for making multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms work which underscore the need for a clear, well-guided and institutionalised process with an appropriate time-frame, adequate resourcing and one that involves the right people.[v]
- To ensure that multi-stakeholder dialogues at national, regional and global levels drive political decisions and promote behaviour change, the Global Partnership must put in place measures that will support the recognition of CSOs as independent development actors.

Work Stream 2: Unlocking bottlenecks to effectiveness and updated monitoring for 2030

Position:

- Positioning the Global Partnership as a recognised source of data, evidence and analysis by generating reliable and timely country-level data and un-blocking the bottlenecks that hinder progress on the implementation of agreed effectiveness principles; as well as refining the monitoring framework to reflect the challenges of the 2030 Agenda, including the distinctive contribution of the increasingly diverse actors in development co-operation.

Main areas of work:

- Spearheading policy dialogue to unlock the potential of effectiveness commitments to boost progress
- Launching a refined monitoring framework to reflect the diversity of actors and forms of development cooperation;
- 2018 Monitoring Report, including the country monitoring profiles. The data and evidence generated will feed into the UN-led follow-up and review of the SDGs at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

CPDE Objectives:

- Ensure that indicators must be revised with more inclusive methodologies
- Ensure that the revision of the monitoring framework takes into account the recommendations of the Monitoring Advisory Group

CPDE position:

- The current indicators must be clarified with more inclusive methodologies for implementation. The monitoring process is not only the main instrument for the Global Partnership's support to the 2030 Agenda, it is also the GPEDC's expression of mutual accountability, mutual benefit, and mutual learning.[vi] This will help realise the role assigned to the Monitoring Framework in the NOD to improve accountability of all actors and effect behaviour change.
- The Global Partnership should begin with the gaps in progress as highlighted by the 2016 Progress Report. It should take into account the need for a more comprehensive approach to country ownership. This approach would build upon the essential Busan commitment to "deepen, extend and operationalise the democratic ownership of development policies and processes." The current set of technical indicators needs to be reconsidered to better assess democratic ownership.
- It should also take into account the need to develop mechanisms and measurements for the accessibility of aid data at the country level for all interested stakeholders as well as on creating greater rigour in the measurement of systems for tracking gender budget allocations and improve measurements for aid providers' disbursements for gender equality.[vii]
- The Steering Committee should also keep in mind the report of the Monitoring Advisory Group (MAG) which offers guidance for the revisions of the monitoring framework to: (a) improve their relevance to effective development cooperation commitments and to achieve the SDGs; and, (b) promote inclusive accountability, particularly at the country level.

Work Stream 3: Sharing knowledge to scale-up innovative development solutions

Position:

- Bringing together the learning, knowledge and technology available across constituencies to help scale development solutions at a faster pace, building on the progress demonstrated by various countries, development partners and non-state actors across the effectiveness principles; as well as strengthening the Partnership's mutual learning loop to become a "go-to" partnership for knowledge exchange, making fuller use of knowledge generated to promote mutual accountability and learning.

Main area of work:

- Create an online knowledge exchange platform: This includes the Needs Assessment Survey and the mapping exercise

CPDE Objectives:

- Reframe the purpose of the GPEDC knowledge-hub into a repository for 'actionable' information / knowledge that can inform the other workstreams and develop mutual accountability.

CPDE Position:

- Knowledge sharing, and in turn the knowledge being collected must not just become a repository of FYI documents but rather it should be turned into 'actionable' information / knowledge. This can feed into a dynamic and vibrant process that could optimize the 'broker' role of the GPEDC to foster 'actions' that would contribute to behavior changes. We should assert while centralizing info/knowledge is indeed important, GPEDC should still focus on developing mutual accountability. Strengthening accountability should be a central objective in this knowledge-sharing initiative.
- The GPEDC should focus on knowledge along its mandates. Once we better understand the knowledge niche, we should not intend to fill all of it (at least not at once). Instead, we should identify where we can add the most value based on the GPEDC's comparative advantages (inclusive, political forum; monitoring report; GPIs; etc.) and existing resources. Should we focus more at the policy level, or at the practical level? One suggestion is to select one or two annual themes that the knowledge hub would focus on, in line with the role GPEDC is invited to play in the follow-up and review process by the HLPF.

Work Stream 4: Engagement platform and principles for effective public-private partnerships leveraged through development co-operation

Leveraging development co-operation to attract inclusive business investments that generate shared benefit for business strategies and development goals; as well as facilitating specialised dialogue to help development partners adapt their practices and instruments for partnership with the business sector and to ensure the transparency and accountability of these arrangements to effectively contribute to economic development and poverty reduction.

CPDE Objectives:

CPDE Position: The Nairobi Outcome Document follows the overall trend of supporting the private sector in development consistent with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It is alarming that the complex challenge to leave no-one behind is being promoted as an opportunity for private capital to develop markets.

CPDE highlights the alarming Paragraph 23 of the NOD, which reduces ODA as a catalyst for resource mobilisation and allows for its increasing use to cover private sector risks and without adequate regulatory interventions and effective transparency and accountability mechanisms in place. This paragraph highlights that a key purpose of development cooperation should be to attract private investment and blended finance. The steering committee in this meeting should work to clarify how to operationalise clarify this paragraph in lieu with commitments to enhance private sector accountability.

In this regard, we are concerned about the lack of clarity of purpose in eradicating poverty and reducing inequality; and in the use of international public finance for private sector development. We assert that the purpose of ODA to reduce poverty often clashes with business' primary goal of maximising profit.

CPDE believes that there are inherent risks in the overall promotion of the private sector's enabling environment and role in development. There is a broader need for all stakeholders to work together to: (a) monitor implications of human rights commitments with respect to business practices; and, (b) ensure business and corporate accountability and transparency in the context of development cooperation programs. After careful read of the GPEDC's 2017 and 2018

PoW we take note that the commitments made in the NOD have not been reflected operationally and thus is in danger of becoming ideals rather than actual development deliverables. Further, CPDE raises the following points:

- GPEDC's PoW misses several commitments to ensure that private sector participation in development is aligned and accountable to poverty-reduction and sustainable development. It is alarming that a strategic output to attracting private finance through development co-operation is identified without identifying strategies that will adequately provide safeguards to address human rights violations, further indebtedness, tax dodging, and environmental violations. Strategic Output 4.1.2 on 'identify enablers and constraints to scale up public-private partnership (PPP) leveraged through development co-operation,' misses components in the NOD that ensure the operationalisation of effective development cooperation:
 - › For development cooperation to support business in adopting transparent and accountable management systems of public and private funds, and to account for the social, environmental and economic impacts of its value chain. (NOD Paragraph 12)
 - › That the business sector should complement support extended by development cooperation with 'trust-building and efforts for responsible business consistent with internationally-agreed labour and environmental standards' (NOD Paragraph 16). This is alarmingly missing from the programme of work.
 - › Parties to the NOD shall develop capacities for our national tax authorities, enhance accountability mechanisms for businesses and financial institutions, eliminate gender bias in tax systems and help combat illicit financial flows. It also committed to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for transfer abroad of stolen assets and illicit financial flows.(NOD Paragraph 40)
 - › Further, Strategic Output 4.2 speaks on identifying "principles on effective policies and instruments (engagement & checks/balances) for private sector engagement leveraged through development co-operation". CPDE must point out that the same effective development cooperation principles should apply to the private sector as these are consistent with international human rights, decent work, gender equality, environmental sustainability and disability.
- GPEDC's 2017 and 2018 Programme of Work falls short in complying with the principle of inclusive development:
 - › Strategic Output 4.1.1 also only identifies 'likeminded' representatives. This is in contrast to the inclusiveness of the global partnership which recognises the large and diverse array of parts in development (NOD Paragraph 10).
 - › Strategic Output 4.1.3 on the other hand is also ambiguous in terms of calling for a multi-stakeholder process that is 'consultative'. Again, this runs against the inclusiveness, transparency, and accountability principles of the global partnership.
 - › We also take note that the focus given in the Programme of Work for providing a conducive environment for private sector has no equivalent expression for civil society organisations despite the NOD commitment to support civil society in playing its full role as an independent development actor.
- A TOR establishing the Caucus of Like-Minded Business Groups, a structure committed in the has been proposed. It is critical that this TOR should not have advisory and advocacy functions as these are replicating the roles of the workstreams and will potentially lead to dual representation of the private sector in the SC -- one as a member of the SC and another representative for the Caucus. Since this is a deliverable in the NOD, we then proposed that CSOs be part of this Caucus to ensure that this group's remaining function that is analysis is benefitted by the voices of communities.
- Given the absence of major NOD commitments in GPEDC's Programme of Work that may impact the workstream discussions, we recommend for a significant review or extension of the timeframe for Strategic Output 4 on private sector to ensure that all commitments are integrated and all stakeholders are informed in the process.

[i] GPEDC 2017 and 2018 Programme of Work <http://effectivecooperation.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/2017-18-Global-Partnership-Work-Programme.pdf>

[ii] The biennial programme of work defines targets and responsibilities for the implementation of the work of the Global Partnership in any two-year period. To achieve the ambition of the Partnership as outlined in the Nairobi Outcome Document, the Global Partnership needs to generate momentum in 2017 and 2018 to significantly enhance efforts by all stakeholders to achieve impact at country level; increase high-level political engagement and action across the Partnership; attract greater interest and participation from emerging economies and emerging development partners from the South, the private sector, foundations, Parliamentarians and local government; and secure sufficient funding from across the Global Partnership.

[iii] 2016 Progress Report pp. 14, 18., <http://www.oecd.org/development/making-development-co-operation-more-effective-9789264266261-en.htm>

[iv] The Nairobi Outcome Document Paragraph 36., <http://effectivecooperation.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/OutcomeDocumentEnglish.pdf>

[v] 2016 Progress Report Box 4.3

[vi] Nairobi Outcome Document Paragraphs 30-31

[vii] CPDE Reaction to the results of the GPEDC 2nd Progress Report., <http://csopartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/GPEDC-SecondProgressReport.pdf>