RENEWED COMMITMENT FOR THE REALISATION OF DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES: CPDE ASIA KEY ASKS
STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES FOR HLM3

The Asia-Pacific region is at a critical juncture as it faces the global pandemic, brewing economic crisis, intensified conflict and worsening climate emergency, which further exacerbates inequalities and leaves the marginalised populations behind. In this light, development actors have a crucial role in mitigating the impacts of these crises on the people, upholding commitments and achieving development goals.

CPDE asserts that the EDC Principles, aligned with human and women's rights frameworks, must be refocused, revitalised and accelerated for a better global, regional, national and local response to the urgency of the moment and in order to achieve the SDGs and the Agenda 2030.

We call on all development actors to:

Ensure Democratic Ownership that
- Is aligned with the Human Rights Based Approach and a Feminist Based Approach
- Is driven by democratically formulated national and regional priorities and realities on the ground
- Is aligned to and uses country systems in financing, including in crisis response and COVID-19 recovery
- Guarantees predictable concessional funding that is timely and predictable
- Ensures inclusive and proportionate participation of all genders

Build Inclusive Partnerships that
- Uphold and promote an effective enabling environment rooted in human rights, including women's rights, workers' rights and the rights of environmental activists and human rights defenders
- Strengthen civil society participation in development discourse, COVID-19 recovery, SDG implementation, and beyond
- Ensure ability of diverse CSOs to operate freely from any harm and/or interference

Guarantee Transparency and Accountability by
- Securing oversight and redress mechanisms at all levels
- Offering access to prompt, reliable, and comprehensive information on ODA allocations, especially in times of crisis to all CSOs
- Enhancing the implementation of the GPEDC monitoring framework to secure timely, comprehensive reporting on implementation of EDC principles
Focus on Results that
- Target the most marginalised communities and those left behind, especially women and children, rural populations and Indigenous Peoples, migrants, persons with disabilities, older persons and persons in the informal sector, unpaid care work and the transformative economy
- Contribute in addressing inequalities and all forms of discrimination
- Adhere to transparent, measurable, and time-bound frameworks for assessing progress and results

Truly aspire to Leave No-One Behind by
- Fulfilling and surpassing long standing ODA commitments on quantity and quality
- Upholding solidarity in the form of grants over loans
- Institutionalising the participation or inclusion of CSOs at the national level through dedicated mechanisms or frameworks
- Providing access to essential services for the vulnerable and marginalised
- Ensuring human rights and women's rights at the core of recovery efforts
- Supporting and defending any action against armed conflicts and in favour of peace

ASIA KEY ASKS

Implementation of Effective Development Cooperation Commitments. While the Asia-Pacific region is increasingly seen as an arena for economic growth and geopolitical tensions, development actors must put the effectiveness agenda front and center to sufficiently address the multidimensional crises faced by the region. Development finance must be channeled towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and leaving no one behind.

- In addition to the 0.7% GNI commitment, uphold the 0.2% GNI commitment to least developed countries in the region and beyond
- Provide assistance and debt relief to countries experiencing economic crisis and debt distress
- Support countries in establishing gender-responsive public financing systems
- Abandon conditionalities that forwards donor and private sector interests, at the expense of people's rights and interests
- Ensure sufficient financing for COVID-19 response, without diminishing aid towards other development challenges and attainment of SDGs
- Pursue South-South cooperation (SSC) and triangular cooperation (TrC) initiatives that are based on the principles of democratic ownership, solidarity and people's participation

**A CSO Enabling Environment.** As 22 out of 26 countries in the region experience restrictions on their civic freedoms and attacks on civil society continue, development actors must work together to foster an enabling environment for CSOs. Furthermore, support must be given to local CSOs to implement their own development projects that are effective and rooted in their realities.

- Ensure the adoption and implementation of the *DAC Recommendation on Enabling Civil Society*
- CSOs in conflict-affected states like Myanmar, Afghanistan, and Palestine, which continue to address the needs of the marginalised, must be assured of sufficient resources and provided with security while doing development work
- Solidarity and support must be extended to CSOs in countries where their freedoms and rights are threatened
- Retract laws and policies that limit CSOs' capacity to enact their role as development actors, including gaining access to aid and funding
- Facilitate participation of civil society organisations, community-based organisations and people's organisations in participating in SDG-related processes, such as the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and the Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs)
- Support CSOs in upholding their Action Agenda and commitment to the *Istanbul Principles*

**Private Sector Accountability.** Despite the perceived role of private financing in addressing the gap in development finance, private sector entities' role in development cooperation must be aligned with the Kampala Principles, and governments must continue to exercise their duty in providing services and social protection for the people.

- Ensure that the common pitfalls of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), such as the tendency of the public sector to shoulder most of the risks, the lack of positive development outcomes, absence of transparency and accountability, are addressed even before utilising this scheme
- Implement safeguards and accountability mechanisms for private sector-led projects, including those under International Finance Institutions (IFIs), to ensure that these uphold people's rights and protect the environment
● Ensure that multinational and transnational corporations that conduct their business in the region uphold international labour standards, including worker’s right to unionise, and exhibit responsible business conduct in all its activities

● Ensure that development processes are genuinely multi-stakeholder in nature and free from corporate capture

**Coherent and Inclusive Responses to Crises of Conflict, Occupations, and Wars.** In conflict-affected states in the region, especially Afghanistan, Palestine and Myanmar, address the root causes of conflict and provide for the immediate needs of affected communities. Donors’ security strategies geared towards the Asia-Pacific region must not be pursued at the expense of people’s peace and security.

● Enhance capacities of CSOs in addressing immediate needs and long-term impacts of conflict

● Promote the localization of aid to allow for solutions that are based on the communities’ needs and realities

● Urgently implement the DAC Recommendation on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus in conflict-affected, fragile states

● Incorporate climate change-related actions in triple nexus programs to avoid the climate-fragility trap

● Ensure that ODA, as well as public and domestic resources, are prioritized over private sector financing in fragile states

**Effectiveness of Climate Finance.** As the region remains at the frontlines of the climate emergency, commitments to provide sufficient finance for adaptation and mitigation measures and loss and damage must be upheld.

● Provide urgent and sufficient assistance to communities affected by extreme climatic events

● Support decarbonisation and energy transition efforts that secure universal energy access, and promotes democratically-owned, climate-resilient energy systems

● Abandon market-based solutions that lack sufficient evidence and can contribute more negative impacts to the environment

● Realise climate justice by upholding loss and damage commitments and providing the necessary support in the form of sufficient finance, technology transfer and capacity development to developing countries in the region
GLOBAL KEY ASKS

**Implementation of Effective Development Cooperation Commitments.** Place the effectiveness agenda at the centre of development cooperation policies and plans, and ensure that effective development financing, equitably, at all levels, meets the urgency of the moment and contributes to leave no one behind.

- Uphold the centrality of human rights and the practice of human rights-based approach (HRBA) and feminist approach in development cooperation
- Uphold the mandate and integrity of ODA to eradicate poverty, address inequalities and promote economic development
- Reaffirm commitment in meeting 0.7% GNI target and avoid diverting ODA to the private sector and private sector instruments
- Refocus and revitalise the aid and development effectiveness agenda through a robust, gender transformative monitoring framework that regularly tracks progress towards the implementation of existing EDC commitments principles by all development actors
- Uphold principles of horizontal development cooperation – including solidarity, mutuality, human rights, respect for sovereignty, non-conditionality particularly with respect to unequal conditions of partnership that often prevail even within South-South cooperation
- Strengthen application of and accountability for gender-responsive approaches and targeted action for women and girls in the formulation of all financial, economic, environmental and social policies
- Address underinvestment and increase accountability for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls

**A CSO Enabling Environment.** Invest new energy in efforts to provide an enabling environment for CSOs in light of shrinking and closing civic spaces in development, attacks on human rights defenders, increasing violence against women and girls, evolving and aggravated impacts of COVID-19, increasing disinformation and historical revisionism, rising authoritarianism, corporate capture, and widening militarism and conflicts in many countries.

- Retract restrictive and repressive laws and disabling conditions that hinder the full operation of CSOs, including ending all forms of militarisation and militarism
- Uphold all fundamental rights and freedoms including but not limited to freedom of association, of expression, and political participation, the rights to peaceful assembly and information
Recognise CSO efforts in improving their effectiveness and accountability by supporting and promoting the *Istanbul Principles* and the *International Framework for CSO Development Effectiveness*

Agree on concrete steps and generate political buy-in for joint actions to strengthen the country action for CSO Enabling Environment and partnerships, by drawing on commitments to the CSOs enabling environment that guide how stakeholders should partner together better, including the role of trust-building measures

**Private Sector Accountability.** Ensure private sector entities adhere to the Kampala Principles for Private Sector Engagement and implement labour and human rights standards, and promote and practice decent work, social dialogue, and adopt transparency and accountability standards.

- Comply with international labour standards, apply responsible business conduct instruments and adopt guidelines and binding regulations, underpinned by these tools and the Kampala Principles on Private Sector Engagement
- Refrain from any human rights violations and ensure access to adequate and timely remedies when human rights violations do take place
- Support gender-sensitive Social Enterprises and Micro Small and Medium-Size Enterprises (MSMEs), especially in developing countries for the purpose of supporting sustainable national industrialisation and agriculture toward self-reliance
- Ensure the implementation and compliance of the right to Free, Prior, Informed Consent of Indigenous Peoples in all projects and operations in their lands and territories

**Coherent and Inclusive Responses to Crises of Conflict, Occupations, and Wars.** Address the systemic causes to reverse the impacts of ongoing conflicts, to prevent an irreversible web of sustained crises, and to promote stability and just peace in conflict-affected areas.

- Avoid re-channelling of ODA for humanitarian and security funding and use it to maintain basic public services in situations of conflicts and crises
- Ensure the security of peoples’ rights and lives amidst actions on peace and security
- Uphold obligations under International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law and adhere to the EDC and LNOB principles in the planning, programming, and financing of the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (Triple) Nexus
● Apply a Feminist Development Justice model in all humanitarian, development, and peace programs for transformative change as envisaged by the Agenda 2030
● Actively encourage and support CSO's meaningful participation and initiatives in peacebuilding and crises-resolution, especially among refugees and IDPs, Indigenous Peoples, women, and youth who are the most affected by conflict and crises

**Effectiveness of Climate Finance.** Upscale and deliver on climate finance commitments in order to meet the urgent need for sustainable and effective climate response.

- Realign climate finance with the EDC principles by incorporating democratic ownership, focus on results, transparency and accountability, and the inclusion of CSOs in climate-related discussions and decision-making processes
- Desist from double-counting climate finance commitments as ODA and uphold the separate mandate and integrity of both funding instruments
- Decolonise climate finance in line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) by upscaling commitments from developed countries, incorporating specific financing for loss and damage, and prioritising grants over loans
- Align climate resilience and response policies with the imperative for a Just Transition
- Properly fund climate-impacted climate migration, internal and external displacement, relocation and resettlement
- Refrain from financing unsustainable projects that adversely affect peoples, including indigenous communities and other groups, the environment, and the world's biodiversity
- Increase access to financing and technology transfer for countries in the Global South
- Adapt a transformative and sustainable model for consumption and production
CIVIL SOCIETY ASPIRATIONS FOR THE EFFECTIVENESS SUMMIT

At the end of the Summit, all actors should agree, and include in the Outcome Document, to:

- Implement the revised GPEDC Monitoring Framework, including participation in the national Action Dialogues and provision of evidence of behaviour change in response to monitoring results
- Reiterate the commitment of ODA providers to increase development finance volumes, specifically in realising the 0.7% target by 2030, including the aid levels agreed for the LDCs, and increase donors' share of concessional resources
- Pledge to practice increased accountability for investments to women's rights and gender equality by making gender budget allocations publicly available
- Actively involve CSOs in the national development planning processes, including development cooperation forums, Action Dialogues and INFFs
- Commit ODA providers in setting a clear quantitative target for CSO support and other provisions
- Call on the private sector to pay its part in inclusive recovery through just and fair taxation and contribute to nationally-owned development plans, especially to cover health systems improvement in LDCs and finance climate loss and damages
- Contribute in localising humanitarian, development and peace nexus approach in line with the Grand Bargain agreement by 2025
- Address climate adaptation, loss and damages and increase climate finance directed to impacted target groups and other affected communities