CPDE successfully holds the 2022 All Secretariats Meeting

For the first time since the pandemic, the global, regional, sectoral, and task force secretariats of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) gathered for the All Secretariats Meeting in Paris, France.

The hybrid event featured presentations and discussions on the context of programme implementation, the platform's accomplishments for 2021, results of last year's constituency consultations, workshops on advocacy, membership engagement, and programme monitoring and evaluation around CPDE's work on effective development cooperation agenda.

Capping the event was a brainstorm on the celebration of the 10th CPDE anniversary, happening in December, as well as bilateral consultations between the constituencies and the global secretariat.

More photos are available on pages 2 and 12, and here. #
CPDE kicks off 10th year

At the launch of capacity development materials for civil society organisations, the global civil society platform CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness kicked off the celebration of its 10th anniversary.

“2022 is a significant year for CPDE. It marks the platform's decade-long work in effective development cooperation,” said CPDE Executive Secretary Roberto Pinauin.

CPDE was founded in December 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya, as an open platform to unite civil society organisations from around the world on issues of effective development cooperation.

Today, it is present in 5 regions and over a hundred countries, with regional and sectoral constituencies (Labour, Youth, Indigenous Peoples, International CSOs, ), as well as thematic task forces (Triple Nexus, Climate Finance, CSO Development Effectiveness and Enabling Environment, and Private Sector Engagement)

“As we celebrate 10 years of fulfilling this mission, we hope we strengthen our resolve to advance CSO leadership, positions, and actions on development effectiveness,” added Pinauin.

“Activities are being planned for the rest of the year, to culminate in the grand CPDE 10th anniversary celebration in December 2022, especially alongside the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC) 2022 Effective Development Cooperation Summit or the High-Level Meeting (HLM) 3 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Watch the CPDE 10th anniversary teaser video on YouTube here. #

CPDE ASM 2022 in photos
Last 12 April 2022, the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) launched its capacity development materials for civil society organisations (CSOs): the network management and project management modules, and advocacy toolkit.

CPDE created the modules for member and partner CSOs, especially those working at the national or country level, to support their capacity development efforts. By using these materials in training or learning sessions, CSOs will be equipped with skills in managing programmes particularly for effective development cooperation (EDC) advocacy, in organising and managing networks for EDC based on a human-rights based approach to development and other key CPDE principles, and in launching and sustaining advocacy campaigns especially on development cooperation.

This way, CPDE also promotes CSO development effectiveness, as part of its commitment to the Istanbul Principles.

The activity kicks off CPDE’s 10th year of uniting CSOs from around the world on issues of effective development cooperation.

The CPDE Capacity Development Materials for CSOs are available in English, Spanish, and French [here](#).
CPDE holds learning session on dialogue with development partners

CPDE conducted online Learning Sessions to elaborate on the contents of its guide on Dialogue with Development Partners, last 23 and 27 June 2022. Open to national CSOs doing country work for CPDE, regional and sectoral coordinators, and other interested members, the activity featured the following programme:

**Day 1**
- Session 1 - Evolving trends in donor policies and approaches
- Session 2 – Dialogue with development partners: analysis of the enabling environment

**Day 2**
- Session 3 – Programme guidance in doing dialogue with development partners
- Session 4 – How to develop an engagement strategy and plan

The sessions were led by CPDE Executive Secretary Roberto Pinauin, Network Manager Jodel Dacara, and Deputy Programme Manager Marc Ignacio, with small group workshops in between.

The activity was facilitated by CPDE Capacity Development Coordinator Glenis Balangue and Communications Officer Daniela Sepulveda.
Together with ActionAid, the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) hosted a side event at the Stockholm + 50 People’s Forum on 31 May 2022, in hybrid format, in Stockholm, Sweden.

Titled Bringing gender justice and development effectiveness into climate finance, the event featured sessions on the following topics:

- **Climate Impacts and Gender overview**, by ActionAid’s Global Climate Expert Teresa Anderson
- **Climate Impacts and Gender in Bangladesh**, by Action Aid Bangladesh’s Farah Kabir
- **Climate Finance needs for the Global South**, by IBON International and CPDE Climate Finance Task Force member Jennifer del Rosario-Malonzo

Afterwards, reactors ActionAid Sweden Communications Manager Sara Hjelm and Pacific PIANGO Deputy Executive Program Director Josaia Osborne shared their perspectives on gender analysis of Sweden’s climate finance contributions, and perspectives on climate finance from the Pacific region, respectively.

The full recording of the event is available here.

Images from ActionAid, Ivan Enrile, and Jennifer Malonzo
The CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE), an open platform of civil society organisations from around the world, calls for higher levels of official development assistance (ODA) amid the world’s fragile recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our call follows the release of 2021 figures from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which claimed that members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) allocated USD 178.9 billion to ODA, or development aid.

For decades, DAC members have failed to deliver on their commitment to contribute 0.7% of their gross national income (GNI) towards ODA, a valuable resource for addressing poverty and inequality in developing countries. The 2021 data simply continues this trend.

Only 33 cents for every $100 of national income were spent as ODA last year. While we acknowledge the increased ODA levels, we note that these came in the form of Covid-related expenses and non-programmable aid. The figures have been inflated with the costs of in-donor refugee and student costs, as well as in-excess vaccine donations, which were not purchased in the interest of development partners.

This reneging on ODA commitment among donor countries cannot continue. We believe it is unacceptable, especially as humanity continues to hurdle the impacts of the pandemic on top of the existing socioeconomic crises. Drawing from our global multistakeholder study on the effectiveness of Covid response, higher levels of aid, made available in more flexible and unconditional terms, will be critical to recovery.

"This reneging on ODA commitment among donor countries... is unacceptable, especially as humanity continues to hurdle the impacts of the pandemic on top of the existing socioeconomic crises."

We especially point to the situation the Global South, where countries face unprecedented levels of extreme poverty, hunger, and unemployment. These challenges demand more urgent, swift, and decisive action from DAC members around boosting their aid contributions. We urge them to uphold the integrity of aid as well as the development effectiveness principles of country ownership of development priorities, results focus, transparency and accountability, and inclusive partnerships, in their use of development aid. We also join the DAC CSO Reference Group in their call to mobilise fresh and much needed aid, and prioritise unconditional grants.

At the start of the Covid outbreak, our platform said that a pandemic calls for international solidarity, and a collective endeavour of looking after each other. Then as now, we ask donors to take the challenge of rebuilding our social fabric, making sure we leave no one behind in our recovery from the pandemic.

“You don’t have to look far to see the moral imperative of aid,” the report states. “It is the most vulnerable in developing countries who will be affected most by the pandemic. They are the ones who need the support and relief that aid can provide.”
13 CSOs launch report on SDGs implementation

Study recommends doubling efforts to address gaps in Agenda 2030 amid Covid-19 recovery

At the online launch of the 6th edition of the Progressing National SDGs Implementation report, 13 civil society organisations (CSOs) from around the world, including the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE), called on governments and other global development stakeholders to “redouble their efforts to address gaps and work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda,” amid the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The report is an annual, independent review and analysis of how governments are implementing the 2030 Agenda. It examines the Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) reports submitted to the United Nations HLPF every year, as well as a sample of related civil society reports. Moreover, it provides an assessment of progress on SDGs implementation, identifies best practices, and suggests improvements to VNR reports and processes.

Specific findings on civic space include the following:

- An enabling environment and open civic space are essential conditions for the effective engagement of non-state actors, including civil society, in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Consistent with previous years, the 2021 Voluntary National Review (VNR) reports were largely silent on the issue of shrinking civic space for civil society, although this is now a clearly established global trend.
- Civil society parallel reports provide important information on how civic space is being closed in different countries, but these reports have no status in official VNR processes at national, regional or international levels.


FEMINIST GROUP

CPDE Feminist Group organises event on rural women empowerment

In time for the 66th United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) session, the CPDE Feminist Group organised a parallel event to discuss best practices in increasing rural women’s economic empowerment last 15 March 2022.

Through this activity, the Feminist Group, composed of Corporación Humanas, PACFAW, Centro de Estudio , Coordinadora de la Mujer, Musonet Mali, Forum of Women’s NGOs of Kyrgyzstan, Beyond Beijing Committee, and New Woman Foundation, aimed to:

- discuss best practice of women’s economic empowerment in 4 countries: challenges, existing mechanisms that support rural women’s entrepreneurship, factors for success,
- share best practices of state support to women-led businesses,
- collecting recommendations in advancing rural women’s economic empowerment.
The CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) and the Reality of Aid Network (RoA) launched the Monitoring private sector engagement in development cooperation: A handbook for civil society organisations last 2 March 2022.

Initiated by the CPDE PSE Task Force, the handbook is a resource intended to equip CSOs with the conceptual and technical know-how in producing monitoring reports. It introduces CSOs to private sector engagement in development cooperation and the Kampala Principles, and provides frameworks and research methods to guide CSOs in developing their own monitoring reports of PSE in their own contexts.

Through the event, CPDE hoped to popularise the resource and to promote dialogue and peer learning among various development actors. The launch also aimed to:

- discuss the importance of monitoring mechanisms for private sector engagement in development cooperation by development actors, focusing on the role of CSOs
- situate the CSO Handbook within the different resources for monitoring PSE, highlighting its role in forwarding effective development cooperation
- share best practices of CSOs from CPDE constituencies, on how they utilised the CSO Handbook in conducting their case study research on PSE in their respective contexts

Watch the book launch [here](#)
The International Trade Union Confederation has published its first SDG country report of the year: “A trade union focus on the SDGs.”

Presenting data from Mali, the material analyses the progress of SDG implementation in the country from a transparency, consultation and social dialogue point of view and through the lens of key SDG indicators. It also includes an analysis of the impact of COVID19 on SDG implementation.

Among other findings, the report states that the contribution of Mali’s trade unions to the country’s SDG plan has led to increased allocations in the national budget to address climate change, social protection, and access to health care. However, the resources available are still insufficient in relation to the scale of the needs.

Download the report here. 

New video: Engaging private sector in development

What are the demands of the global platform CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) to effectively engage private sector in development cooperation?

CPDE has prepared an animated video where it asks all development actors “ensure that the private sector adheres to development effectiveness principles, and standards for human rights, labour, and transparency and accountability.

Watch on YouTube here, and share widely!
There is an emerging constant in the world of development cooperation: if a crisis emerges, the official development assistance (ODA) is reliably there to soften the impact. But at what cost and to whom?

In these last few years of crisis after crisis, we have witnessed two distinct phenomena when it comes to ODA budgets – inflation and diversion. The COVID-19 pandemic and the distribution of excess vaccines being counted as ODA has made ODA figures look much greater than they are. More recently, Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and the resulting refugee crisis has some providers reallocating existing resources as opposed to increasing them. The consequences for Low-Income Countries who depend on ODA in some cases for up to two-thirds of external development financing cannot be understated.

Susanna Moorehead, Chair of the OECD Development Assistance Committee recently said, “Multiple crises mean multiple demands on ODA. ODA must support people in need in all partner countries – those forced to flee because of conflict, those who are hungry and those who are particularly poor and vulnerable, especially women and children who suffer most.” ODA remains the most stable form of external finance to developing countries and its integrity and purpose must be safeguarded.

When the OECD-DAC released its ODA Figures for 2021, there was some relief that ODA had increased to an all-time high. This relief was only due to the earlier perceived risk that ODA might contract as a consequence of changes in country GNI levels being hampered by the pandemic. Yet, the numbers are still far off from the 0.7% commitment and nowhere near the levels needed to meet demands of the moment. CSOs argue that the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, geopolitical, conflict and climate crises, requires the DAC community to considerably increase its ODA levels.

Unfortunately, what we are seeing, when there is fresh urgency to deliver on ODA commitments, are providers missing the mark. Amid the war in Ukraine, some governments have given indications that support to refugees will come at the expense of ODA budgets. This is by no means a way to suggest that Ukrainians fleeing a heinous act of aggression by the Russian government should not be supported, but rather to insist that ODA budgets are not sacrificed.

Beyond the immediate support to refugees and the impact this will have on ODA, in the medium- to long-term significant resources are also likely to support reconstruction efforts. This will have possible implications to public budgets with governments indicating that they will be heightening defense spending as a result of the invasion.

CPDE, and civil society organisations (CSOs) in general, are sounding the alarm bells about the impact of these short-sighted measures on the medium- and long-term development outlooks for countries highly dependent upon ODA. The sustainable development goals (SDGs) were already off-track and under threat due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Further cuts to development financing only worsen the world’s odds of delivering the Agenda 2030. #
The CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness joined the Global Village in this year’s European Development Days (EDD) with a stand titled: Partnering with Civil Society for an Effective COVID Recovery: Why Inclusive Partnerships with CSOs will ensure that the Effectiveness Principles support COVID Recovery. Held 21st and 22nd of June at Brussels Expo, the EDD showcased projects, reports, and activities supported by the European Commission around the world. The theme for this year was “Global gateway: Building sustainable partnerships for a connected world.” The programme consisted of 90+ sessions co-created with the EDD community.

In line with this, CPDE focused on the role of partnerships in responding to the most pressing global challenge we face today: recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic.

CPDE’s stand received many visitors from international development networks, universities, media organizations, development consultancies, and other development actors. When visitors stopped at the stand, CPDE representatives introduced the platform’s work and spoke about the importance of partnering effectively with civil society to ensure robust recovery from the pandemic. They drew on CPDE’s comprehensive research study on the effectiveness of the COVID-19 response that was conducted in 2021. A QR code was displayed for visitors to easily access the study in English, Spanish, or French.

The research study in question, World in Lockdown, Development on Hold: A special CPDE report on the (in)effectiveness of the Covid-19 response, gathers stories from communities bearing the brunt of the pandemic and face the risk of being further marginalized. These stories compiled by our member CSOs expose how measures taken to mitigate the impact of the pandemic have been used to silence critical voices and hinder civil society participation.
We are the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness, a platform that unites civil society organisations (CSOs) from around the world on the issue of effective development cooperation.

We work in 117 countries, and our members come from seven regions and eight major sectors: faith-based, feminist, indigenous peoples, international CSOs, labour, migrants, rural, and youth. Together, we strive for a more effective development, the kind that truly responds to poverty and inequality.