



**CSO Partnership**  
for Development Effectiveness

A DECADE OF CSO SOLIDARITY  
ON EDC ADVOCACY AND PRACTICE

## Civil Society Statement on the 2022 Effectiveness Summit

Geneva, Switzerland

15 December 2022

Civil society recognises the 3<sup>rd</sup> High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), or Effectiveness Summit to have achieved key milestones that can move the agenda forward. We acknowledge:

- the mixed participation which *may signal revitalised political buy-in* of the effectiveness agenda;
- the emphasis on *building trust* to make development cooperation more effective, especially to enable civil society, that was a running theme throughout the Summit; and,
- the *new delivery model* anchored on the *revised monitoring framework* that seeks to rally *multi-stakeholder dialogue and action at country level*.

*Civil society claims its important contribution* to arriving at these Summit outcomes. Throughout the Summit, we were able to convey an array of messages reflecting the diversity of constituencies that we represent. Drawing from the CPDE Key Asks, CSO delegates impressed upon the Summit the need to:

- uphold the importance of the Effectiveness Agenda with the core business as its foundation;
- provide an enabling environment for CSOs in light of shrinking and closing civic spaces;
- hold the private sector accountable based on the Kampala Principles;
- address the systemic causes in reversing the impacts of ongoing conflicts, to prevent an irreversible web of sustained crises; and promote stability and just peace in conflict-affected areas; and,
- deliver on climate finance commitments.

Still, our global advocacy is only as important as the impact it has on changing realities of people on the ground. Whether the GPEDC can regain the necessary momentum to ensure partners take on the commitments, with the dedication and support needed, is yet to be seen.

We set out to inform the discourse on the *need for urgent and extraordinary action* given the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, prevalent conflicts, the cost-of-living crisis, and climate crisis on marginalised people, groups including, especially to women and girls. There is little doubt that the magnitude of the challenge before us is recognised and has been reflected throughout the Summit and its outcome. Despite this recognition, it remains to be seen whether action will follow the discourse. Given the challenges ahead of us, we must remain vigilant and hold the effectiveness community to its commitments and ensure that recognition at the global level translates to action at the country and local level.

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We set out to *place the effectiveness agenda at the centre of development discourse*. The continued relevance of the effectiveness agenda to achieving the Sustainable Development Agenda is clear. With the resource outlook looking tenuous, the emphasis on effectiveness may increase. While on some level, the future of the effectiveness agenda remains uncertain, the renewed focus on collecting evidence towards generating action at the country level gives us some window of hope. It is essential that the evidence includes disaggregated data (by sex, age, race or ethnic origin, disability, migratory status, geography and income/wealth, as well as climate impact and other context-specific issues). This requires strong participation by donors (via the donor profiles) and donor support for data gathering by other stakeholders. Donors should also support the more than 30 partner countries that have committed to do the monitoring in the next round, and encourage others to join.

We set out to *deliver new energy in efforts to provide an enabling environment for CSOs*. Our efforts on enabling environment have been substantial as reflected in the Summit outcome. There is momentum and energy on this fundamental issue for civil society. But we have been here before. Grounding the global commitments on enabling civil society at the national and sub-national levels has always been where the difficulties arise. Following the Summit, we must continue to work for the institutionalisation of multi-stakeholder initiatives that focus on building trust to enable civil society to play its role in effective development.

We set out to *call for ensuring that effective development financing at all levels* meets the urgency of the moment. Throughout this conference, the overwhelming sentiment is that resources are dwindling. The underlying narrative is to do more with less. This is perhaps the most difficult gap that the entire community will need to grapple with. If we were to put the future outlook of the sustainable development agenda and the GPEDC back on track, the quantity and quality of financing must be addressed. It is especially important to enhance public financing streams, including ODA, and not rely on mobilising private sector financing as a stand-alone remedy.

CSOs are known for their determination, optimism and creativity in the face of dire circumstances. We will continue to be relentless champions of the effectiveness agenda and do our part to deliver a just and sustainable development. #

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