

**Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation inputs into the
2017 High-Level Political Forum
Detailed Substantive Inputs**

Introduction

The Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (the Global Partnership) contributes to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Addis Ababa Action Agenda commitments by promoting effective development co-operation, geared towards ending all forms of poverty and inequality, advancing sustainable development and ensuring that no one is left behind. It promotes mutual accountability for more effective development co-operation through: (i) generation of data and evidence on progress in meeting commitments to more effective development co-operation; and (ii) a country focused approach that helps developing countries make the best use of development co-operation to realize their national development goals.

Data and evidence generated from the country-led process of the Partnership's monitoring now provides evidence to SDG targets on respecting countries' policy space and leadership (SDG 17.15), multi-stakeholder partnerships for development (SDG 17.16), and gender equality and women's empowerment (SDG 5c).

The Second High-Level Meeting (HLM2) of the Global Partnership was hosted by the Government of Kenya from November 30 to December 1, 2016. This meeting brought together over 4,500 people from 154 countries to agree on a common vision on how all development partners can work together effectively to accelerate the realisation of the SDGs. It concluded with a Nairobi Outcome Document (NOD), which includes a renewed mandate for the Global Partnership.

The following inputs are based on the Nairobi Outcome Document's common vision, lessons learned and knowledge generated by Global Partnership stakeholders and data and evidence from the 2016 Global Partnership Progress Report.

An assessment of the situation regarding the principle of "leaving no one behind" at the global level

Meeting the challenge of achieving sustainable development for everyone, everywhere, for all countries and for all groups, particularly the most vulnerable in our societies, calls for strong partnerships and new ways of working together. The universality of the 2030 Agenda requires equal, mutually empowering partnerships for development. The Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation champions this approach. It brings together state and non-state actors and calls for effective co-operation to deliver the impact that no development actor can achieve alone.

The Nairobi Outcome Document (NOD) reaffirms the principles of effective development co-operation – ownership of development priorities by partner countries; a focus on results; inclusive development

partnerships; and transparency and mutual accountability. These principles and related efforts to improve the quality, impact and effectiveness of development co-operation and other international efforts in public finance under the aegis of the Global Partnership have been recognised in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda as critical means of implementation for the realization of the 2030 Agenda.

The NOD and the commitments made therein are based on the recognition of slow progress in reaching those furthest behind, a changing development finance landscape and new opportunities in fostering science, technology and innovation, promoting the rule of law and ensuring equal access to justice for all, and improved policies for women, youth, education and health.

The NOD, inspired by the 2030 Agenda, reaffirms the principle of leaving no one behind as a cross-cutting challenge, calling for specific focus on gender equality and the empowerment of women and youth, as well as on countries in special situations.

The identification of gaps, areas requiring urgent attention, risks and challenges

One of the challenges in achieving the SDGs and ensuring no one is left behind, is identifying and mobilising the trillions of dollars needed while effectively using these resources to meet the SDGs through strong, dynamic and innovative partnerships. The principles of effective development co-operation can guide all development partners to take collective and individual actions, and recognise that each partner will deliver on its respective commitments, specific to their constituency. This effort relates to the target for SDG 17.16 on multi-stakeholder partnerships.

While ODA increased in 2016 to 142.6 billion US\$ by 8.9% compared to 2015, data shows that bilateral aid to least developed countries fell by 3.9% in real terms from 2015 and aid to Africa fell by 0.5%.¹

For ODA and all other sources of development finance to support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, its effectiveness must continue to improve. The results from the 2016 monitoring round show that important progress towards achieving development effectiveness has been made. However, areas where concerted effort is required to remove barriers remain.

Public financial management: The quality of budgetary and public financial management has remained stable at a moderate level since 2010. Yet, only half of development co-operation disbursements to the public sector used country systems in 2015, and the use of countries' procurement systems has decreased since 2010.

Middle Income Countries: The Global Partnership recognises the specific challenges faced by Middle-Income Countries (MICs). The Nairobi Outcome Document acknowledges that ODA and other concessional finance are still important for some Middle Income Countries. The Nairobi Outcome Document also reasserted the need to ensure that development co-operation best contributes to addressing the opportunities and challenges presented by the diverse circumstances and complexities of MICs through discussions in the relevant fora.

Conflict and post-conflict states: It is important to support fragile and conflict-affected countries in accessing the resources and partnerships needed to advance specific development priorities. Building on

¹ <http://www.oecd.org/dac/development-aid-rises-again-in-2016-but-flows-to-poorest-countries-dip.htm>

the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States, the Nairobi Outcome Document reiterated efforts to enhance engagement between development, peacebuilding, security and humanitarian partners and efforts and to promote peer learning between fragile and conflict-affected environments

Gender equality: The creation and application of well-articulated and inclusive budget tracking system is essential to ensure that resources are mobilised and allocated effectively to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment. The results of the 2016 monitoring signalled that tracking budget allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment is improving. 72% of countries reporting on the commitment to establish a budget tracking system for gender equality have in place one of the three basic elements: government statement, a system for tracking public allocation, and central government units providing leadership and oversight. Nearly half of the countries have all three elements in place.

Accountability: Progress made in strengthening mutual assessment reviews at country level remains largely formulated around traditional development assistance models. 46% have not yet sufficiently engaged parliamentarians and other stakeholders while reviewing progress against national targets. Parliament as a powerful political institution should strongly be engaged in development co-operation monitoring.

Civil society: While 88% of reporting countries indicated that they consult CSOs on development planning, project implementation, and project monitoring, the quality of this involvement varies from country to country. Continued efforts are needed to build an enabling environment that will maximise the contribution of civil society to development and implement transparency legislation.

Private sector: There is great potential to partner with the private sector to reach those left furthest behind. It is important to identify shared responsibilities and benefits to drive strengthened co-operation with the business community towards shared goals. Dialogue and partnership between government, the business sector, workers' representatives and other stakeholders can make this possible. Private sector entities and governments are often willing to work together. A lack of champions and scarcity of instruments and resources weakens dialogue. Furthermore, there is a need for development partners to adapt their instruments and policies to more effectively leverage private investment for the SDGs, and for accountability and transparency to ensure that public-private collaboration in the context of development co-operation effectively contributes to economic development and poverty reduction.

Valuable lessons learned on eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity

The evidence and data generated by the Global Partnership reinforces the lesson that eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity is most effective when development interventions are led by developing countries, inclusive, and tailored to specific country needs and context.

Public and private sources of financing are coming from increasingly varied sources. Co-operation can attract finance, but this growing variety of partners and modalities makes it harder for countries to manage their resources. Partnerships for development are increasingly inclusive to meet this challenge. This trend is beneficial.

National results frameworks, budgeting and planning procedures and systems link resources, assets and knowledge to national development priorities. Aligned and integrated instruments and national financing frameworks will deepen the impact of development co-operation.

The Global Partnership helps countries to co-operate effectively and manage varied resources. It facilitates multi-stakeholder dialogue and ensure that, at every level, it is informed by evidence and thus promotes behaviour change.

The 2016 monitoring showed that there are countries, development partners and non-state actors which have made good progress towards putting effectiveness principles into practice. The Global Partnership has significant further potential for sharing lessons in the fight to eradicate poverty.

Emerging issues likely to affect the realisation of poverty eradication and achieving prosperity

The global development landscape is changing. Many countries are already experiencing a shift in types of development co-operation, as the sources of external resources diversify and the number and variety of development partners increases. Realization of the transformative 2030 Agenda will require an approach that understands and builds on this evolution. . If global efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve prosperity for all are to succeed, countries will need to make best use of all types of development finance, and link and mobilise private resources and other forms of co-operation, including South-South and Triangular Co-operation. There are three issues that may affect this work:

1. The need to remove barriers to the observance of effectiveness principles at country level

The new development paradigm calls for effectiveness commitments that reflect the distinctive contributions of the increasingly diverse actors in development co-operation and that ensure all actors have the capacity to implement these comments, particularly at the country level. In this context, the Global Partnership 's monitoring framework is a recognised vehicle for mutual accountability on the effectiveness of development co-operation. It tracks development stakeholders' progress towards more effective development co-operation. The Global Partnership will aim to enhance its monitoring evidence to track progress on development co-operation commitments and promote the Global Partnership's stakeholder taking actions to unblock potentials to implement the effectiveness principles at country level by encouraging the use of monitoring data for evidence-based planning, financing and reporting by both Governments and partners in the spirit of results-informed development co-operation.

2. The need to help development co-operation to attract inclusive private investment

The SDGs call for "urgent action to mobilise the transformative power of private resources to deliver on sustainable development". They signal the need for the public sector to set a clear direction, monitoring frameworks, regulation and incentive structures to attract private investment that reinforces development objectives. The Global Partnership will facilitate inclusive dialogue about barriers and drivers of public-private partnerships (PPPs) leveraged through development co-operation.

3. The need to learn from different modalities of development co-operation.

Intensified efforts to bring together the learning, knowledge and technology available across constituencies can help scale development solutions at a faster pace. The Global Partnership aims to foster mutual learning from innovative approaches and solutions tried and tested by different modalities of development co-operation into its way of working. The Global Partnership will help partners engaged in in North-South, South-South and Triangular Co-operation, East-East and other co-operation modalities to

share innovative approaches and solutions by facilitating specialised dialogues and an engagement platform.

Areas where political guidance by the high-level political forum is required

The High-Level Political Forum can underscore shared commitment to make development co-operation as effective as possible. This is critical both to ensure that much-needed ODA is spent well, and public-private collaboration achieves its potential.

We welcome guidance by the HLPF in relation to the critical importance of effectiveness principles such as national ownership, results, inclusive partnerships and mutual accountability and transparency, and embrace transformational new modalities for development co-operation.

Policy recommendations on ways to accelerate progress for those at risk of being left behind

Evidence and data generated from the Global Partnership monitoring in 2016 and the Second High-Level Meeting held in Nairobi in December 2016 produced the following recommendations:

- There is need to ensure all development interventions are country led and are responding to specific country needs and context. It is also essential that renewed focus is put on strengthening and using country systems, including country results frameworks and public financial management and procurement systems. Development partners need to ensure that using country systems is not only a political choice, but rather a commitment to country ownership, which they need to observe. This requires not only enhancing development partners' alignment to country results frameworks throughout the programme cycle, but also using information on results to guide further decisions and efforts.
- In line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, establishing and strengthening comprehensive and holistic frameworks to manage the totality of diverse development finance flows is a key to ensure all resources are used to address the challenge of leaving no-one behind. Such a framework can also foster multi-stakeholder partnerships and mutual accountability at country level.
- Transparency in development activities is essential for fostering strong multi-stakeholder partnerships and accountability to ensure no-one left behind in achieving SDGs. Transparent practices allow partners to work together in open and trusting environment. Transparency in gender tracking systems, development planning, mutual assessment reviews, as well as on development co-operation is critical for effective policy formulation and for accountability.
- Removing barriers to effective development will depend on honest dialogue between countries and development partners to address persistent constraints, including devising new, innovative ways of jointly managing risks. Strong institutionalised partnerships at the country level supported by the quality of dialogue can build mutual trust and underpin transparency and accountability.
- There are countries, development partners and non-state stakeholders that demonstrate the capacity to progress on effectiveness principles. There are also diverse innovative solutions and actions taken to enhance the effectiveness of development co-operation in accordance with the relevant mandate and based on their respective assets and capabilities. It is important to promote concerted

effort by all partners to capture lessons learned in implementation of effective development co-operation and to actively engage in available knowledge-sharing platforms to exchange lessons and innovative solutions to development challenges.

- Equally important, drawing on the potential of multi-stakeholder partnership mechanisms that strengthen complementarities among governments, development partners, business sector and civil society, removing traditional barriers between state and not-state actors, may multiply our joint results and progress towards more inclusive development progress.

The Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation can support this effort with its renewed vision and mandate endorsed at the HLM2 in Nairobi.