Tonga

Tonga is an upper middle-income country and a Small Island Development State (SIDS) with a GNI of 4,010 USD per capita (2017) and a population of 110,000 inhabitants (2017). In the 2018 Monitoring Round, Tonga reported on 51 million USD in development co-operation flows.

1. National development planning and results orientation

Overall quality of national results framework
High-quality, inclusive and results-oriented development strategies are critical for countries’ ownership over their development and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The quality of national development planning in Tonga is medium (79%).

Extent of use of country-owned results frameworks by development partners
Development partner alignment to country-led development priorities is at the heart of country ownership. Global Partnership monitoring assesses whether interventions: draw objectives from national development strategies; draw indicators from country results frameworks; use government data and statistics for monitoring; and involve government in evaluations. The first three elements provide the official data to report on SDG indicator 17.15.1. In Tonga, development partners align to country priorities to a high extent (76% - SDG indicator 17.15.1).

2. Multi-stakeholder engagement

Recognising that successful development efforts require the inclusive and equitable participation of all actors, the 2030 Agenda calls for collective action by the whole of society. Global Partnership monitoring examines the engagement of civil society and the private sector from both the perspective of the government and representatives of these stakeholder groups.

Quality of public-private dialogue
In the 2018 Monitoring Round, government representatives and representatives of large firms, SMEs and trade unions in Tonga did not assess the quality of public-private dialogue.
3. Quality and use of public financial management systems

Strong public financial management (PFM) systems are an essential element of good governance and vital to achieving development goals. Tonga did not assess progress in the quality of its PFM systems.

Development partners’ use of country systems

Development partners’ use of these systems to deliver co-operation both lowers transaction costs but also helps to accelerate their strengthening. In Tonga, use of country PFM systems increased from 36% in 2016 to 61% in 2018.

Further, legislative oversight of the budget has improved. The share of development co-operation recorded on budgets subject to parliamentary scrutiny increased from 69% in 2016 to 100% in 2018.

Systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment

Adequate and effective financing is essential to achieve gender equality and to empower all women and girls. Tonga has not assessed whether elements of a system to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women’s empowerment are in place (SDG indicator 5.c.1).

4. Predictability and forward planning

High-quality and timely information on development co-operation helps governments in planning and managing resources for results and can guide development partners in coordinating their support with other providers, as to avoid fragmentation and duplication of efforts.

Annual predictability of development co-operation is high, with 100% of co-operation disbursed as scheduled. Medium-term predictability was not assessed in Tonga in the 2018 Monitoring Round.

5. Mutual accountability mechanisms

Mutual accountability underpins the efforts of development actors to meet joint commitments, improve how they work together and increase their development effectiveness. Mutual accountability mechanisms are made up of multiple, reinforcing components that can help enhance transparency and accountability at country level. Global Partnership monitoring defines and assesses mutual accountability against five components. Tonga has one out of five components in place.

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