

GPEDC WEBINAR

Effectiveness in Action: Current Perspective on Partnerships, Challenges & Solutions at Country Level

22 October 2020, 8-10 am NYC/2 – 4 pm Paris, via Zoom

BACKGROUND ON THE GPEDC WEBINAR SERIES

The year 2020 marks the beginning of a ‘Decade of Action’ towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. At the same time, the COVID-19 pandemic has fundamentally changed the global context for development and is threatening past achievements and hard-won development gains.

The solidarity that brought the global community together to create the SDGs is needed more than ever. To this end, **improving the quality of development co-operation and the effectiveness of development partnerships to implement the SDGs is imperative.** Learning from the experience of different countries across the globe on how to best partner and work together will be key to enable and encourage all actors to use policies and tools that help achieve national development priorities, and the SDGs by 2030.

The [Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation \(GPEDC\)](#) has a unique role to play in this context. As a global, multi-stakeholder platform, it brings together key development players for the promotion of dialogue and coordination on how to make development co-operation more effective at the country level. It advances and [monitors](#) the implementation of [the four principles for effective development co-operation](#) – country ownership, inclusive partnership, focus on results and transparency and mutual accountability, that are also of critical importance in guiding the COVID-19 response, as was highlighted in a [statement by the Co-Chairs of the GPEDC](#). The GPEDC’s recently launched [Work Programme \(2020-2022\)](#) places partner country needs and realities at the forefront and provides a holistic offer to partner countries across a series of [action areas](#) – from a new focus on impact and data to effectiveness across partnerships as well as a reform of the GPEDC monitoring exercise. It further calls for increased mutual learning and knowledge exchange to accelerate behaviour change towards more effective development co-operation practices.

Against this backdrop and in the lead-up to its next High-level Meeting in 2022, the **Global Partnership is organizing a global webinar series on different aspects of effective development co-operation at country level** to enable mutual learning and sharing of insights across practitioners and policy makers and to cultivate a stronger community of practice on effective development co-operation. The webinars target a multi-stakeholder audience from partner country and development partner governments to parliamentarians, civil society and the private sector who are engaged in development co-operation.

FOCUS AND OBJECTIVE OF THE FIRST WEBINAR

To kick off the series, the first webinar takes place on 22 October 2020, 8-10:00 am NYC/2 – 4:00 pm Paris time on Zoom. It will **focus on partner country perspectives on the most pressing effectiveness issues, challenges and lessons learnt in the evolving development co-operation partnership and COVID-19 landscape.**

On the occasion of this webinar, the GPEDC Co-Chairs will also launch a ‘Country-level Action through Partnership Dialogue’ in support, if needed, of partner country governments and their stakeholders to take action on the most pressing issues. This dialogue could be based on the 2018 results of national multi-stakeholder development effectiveness monitoring, on the challenges related to the COVID-19 crisis and on other relevant inputs of stakeholders, and lead to concrete follow-up actions.

Partner country governments are in the lead of sustainable development efforts at the country level. They are putting in place new plans, policies and systems enabling coalitions of stakeholders to take more effective action to implement national priorities, and help achieve the SDGs. There is a strong sense of moving from whole-of-government to whole-of-society approaches bringing all relevant development actors to the table. In many countries, this has shaped new “implementation architectures” from planning to financing, monitoring, evaluation and mutual accountability, and multi-stakeholder dialogue and learning.

In the face of COVID-19, how partners work together will be key to building back better. This will have a considerable impact on the development trajectories during the ‘Decade of Action’ towards the 2030 SDG deadline. Even before COVID-19, the [latest Global Partnership monitoring report](#) highlighted persistent challenges for making development co-operation more effective. These pertain to, for example, development partners’ declining alignment to partner country priorities and country-owned results frameworks; a deteriorating enabling environment for civil society organisations; the challenging role of private sector actors in development; and mixed progress in making development co-operation more transparent. Mutual accountability mechanisms, while they remain strong in some countries, have not adequately adapted to reflect the whole-of-society efforts needed to deliver the SDGs.

These issues raise **questions that this webinar seeks to address:**

- ✓ What are the biggest effectiveness challenges in your country (reflecting also on the results of the Global Partnership monitoring)? What are the main challenges for staying true to the [four principles](#) for effective development co-operation in today’s new realities? What collective actions are necessary?
- ✓ How has COVID-19 affected any (or all) of these challenges? Has COVID-19 also led to accelerating any welcome development co-operation practises at country level – from the perspective of all partners? If so, how can such change and the momentum be sustained in the spirit of building back better and to fast-track the ‘Decade of Action’ for SDG implementation?
- ✓ How have you been able to mobilize your development co-operation stakeholders to follow up on effectiveness issues and commitments (including in the follow up to the Global Partnership monitoring)? What are the emerging lessons learnt?

Draft Agenda/Run of Show

I. Brief welcome and introduction by GPEDC Co-Chair and webinar moderator (5 minutes)

- **H.E. Mr. Thomas Gass**, Assistant Director General, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

II. High-level remarks by GPEDC Co-Chairs (7 minutes each)

- **H.E. Mr. Mustafa Kamal**, Minister of Finance, Bangladesh
- **H.E. Ms. Elysée Munembwe Tamukumwe**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning, Democratic Republic of Congo

III. Interactive panel discussion (5 minutes each)

- **H.E. Mr. Slamet Soedarsono**, Deputy Minister of Political Affairs, Law, Defense and Security, Ministry of National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas), Indonesia
- **Ms. Catalina Quintero**, Director of South-South Cooperation and Director General a.i., Presidential Agency of International Cooperation, Colombia
- **Mr. Shreekrishna Nepal**, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Nepal
- **Ms. Monica Asuna**, Head, UN Agencies & Development Effectiveness Secretariat, Directorate of Public Debt Management Office, National Treasury & Planning, Kenya
- **Mr. Marc Anglade**, National Coordinator of the External Aid Mechanism, Haiti

IV. Interactive discussion with multi-stakeholder audience (50 minutes)

Discussants:

- **Mr. Debapriya Bhattacharya**, Chair Southern Voice
- **Ms. Máire Matthews**, Senior Development Specialist, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Ireland

V. Final reactions from the panel (1 minute each)

VI. Live polling (5 minutes)

Polling question: What effectiveness topics would you like to discuss further, either in a designated discussion forum on the GPEDC's Knowledge Sharing Platform or as part of a subsequent webinar?

VII. Initial reactions to the polling results and closing remarks by GPEDC Co-Chair (5-7 minutes)

Mr. Vitalice Meja, Non-Executive Co-chair

About the Global Partnership and its 2020-2022 Work Programme

- **The [Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation](#) (the Global Partnership or GPEDC) is the primary multi-stakeholder vehicle** spearheading efforts to maximize the effectiveness of all forms of co-operation for development for the shared benefits of people, planet, prosperity and peace. It brings together governments, bilateral and multilateral organizations, civil society, the private sector, foundations, and representatives from parliaments, trade unions, local governments and others, who are committed to strengthening the effectiveness of their partnerships for development. The Global Partnership will hold its third High-Level Meeting in 2022 (HLM3), at the midpoint of implementation efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda. The HLM3 and the Global Partnership's work in the run up to the Meeting aim at cultivating strong political momentum for effective development co-operation, as a critical enabler for the SDGs, and will provide an opportunity for partner country governments to shape the effective development co-operation narrative in a way that responds to realities, challenges and opportunities at country level.
- **Launched in May 2020, the [Global Partnership's 2020-2022 Work Programme](#) aims to facilitate the fostering of effective partnerships** that help accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and ensure that no one is left behind. To deliver this vision, the Global Partnership is renewing its focus on partner-country realities, opportunities and challenges, placing them front and center in its work. The need for such focus is even greater in the context of COVID-19, given the critical role of of effective partnerships that can respond to and mitigate the pandemic's impact in all sectors and priority dimensions of sustainable