Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in times of COVID-19, with its wide-ranging implications, will require, now more than ever, scaling up effective co-operation and partnerships across public, private, international and national stakeholders. In this context, the four principles for effective development co-operation – country ownership, inclusive partnerships, focus on results, and transparency and mutual accountability, are of critical importance.

Many countries and territories have undertaken the Global Partnership Monitoring, tracking progress against these four principles, agreeing on commitments, and taking action for more effective development co-operation. Many of these countries have used the monitoring process and results to directly inform their development co-operation policies and architecture.

The Action Dialogues 2021 will draw upon the evidence, learnings and data from the monitoring of effective development co-operation (where available) and the four effectiveness principles. It will put country-level experience and partnerships at center stage for shaping the global, regional and national agenda on effective co-operation and partnerships.

Why Action Dialogues 2021?

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Why Participate? Benefits to Your Country

- You bolster your ongoing efforts towards the 2030 Agenda
- You stimulate country-led dialogue and mobilise all partners to improve effectiveness of co-operation for more sustainable results
- You strengthen effectiveness efforts and partnerships in the spirit of the “whole-of-government” and “whole-of-society approach” required to achieve the SDGs.
- Your experience and insights will be featured in the Global Partnership’s third High-Level Meeting (HLM3) in 2022

What is an Action Dialogue 2021?

An Action Dialogue is a multi-stakeholder dialogue at the country level, which aims to build a shared understanding and concrete steps to strengthen effectiveness of co-operation and partnerships. It is a dialogue (or a series of dialogues) led by a partner country government as a means to engage with all relevant national stakeholders and partners and reflect on the challenges and opportunities for improving effectiveness of development co-operation and partnerships and what collective actions are needed, in a country’s own development and partnership context (including in the context of COVID-19). Action Dialogues are foreseen to take place throughout 2021.
More specifically, Action Dialogue can stimulate reflections on:

(1) How development effectiveness and partnerships are evolving in the changing landscape and what are challenges, reasons for progress or lack thereof and agreed effectiveness commitments?

(2) What are key opportunities for leveraging the effectiveness principles to drive development co-operation efforts and cultivate stronger and more inclusive multi-stakeholder partnerships?

(3) What opportunities exist and actions are needed to increase the effectiveness of co-operation and partnerships to deliver sustainable development impact?

In the longer term, the outcomes of Action Dialogues are intended to promote policy, system, and behavioural changes, as an integral part of the cycle to advance the effectiveness of development co-operation.

**HOW DOES AN ACTION DIALOGUE 2021 WORK?**

Each country will determine the scope and focus of its Action Dialogue:

- Different forms and shapes are possible: as a standalone dialogue or integrated into ongoing processes; as a virtual e-discussion; or as a combination of all of these.

- Governments are encouraged to plan and undertake their Action Dialogue in a participatory multi-stakeholder process, involving relevant stakeholders such as development partners, parliaments, civil society organizations (CSOs), foundations, the private sector, and/or representatives from sub-national authorities.

- Countries are encouraged to build on existing coordination and partnership mechanisms at the country level. Examples include those established for SDGs' coordination and review such as Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs), and national co-operation and partnership meetings chaired by a ministry in charge of development co-operation, among others.

- Some countries may choose to dive into specific priority issues pertinent to development co-operation. Others may aim to build a shared understanding on why and how the four effectiveness principles matter in current context.

- Countries may also choose to focus the Dialogue to strengthen engagement and partnerships with stakeholders, such as private sector, civil society, foundations, and South-South and triangular co-operation partners, and/or discuss effectiveness issues at sub-national levels or on effective multilateral co-operation.

- Results from the Global Partnership monitoring, where available, will provide critical evidence for these dialogues.

Countries are requested to share the outcomes of their Dialogue to the Global Partnership. A format for sharing the outcomes will be made available. The outcomes shared from the Action Dialogues will be significant inputs to the Global Partnership’s Flagship Report on *Making Development Co-operation More Effective* and will help generate reflections on implementation of the effectiveness principles and bring to light country-level experience and partnerships at national, regional and global levels.
Learning from country and stakeholder experiences helps to facilitate systems and behavioral changes.


2. Identifying other areas of interests from the Global Partnership’s Action Areas (AAs). This will help leverage resources, knowledge and networks of the AAs.

3. Showcasing outcomes of Action Dialogues in Global Partnership meetings, including in the third High-Level Meeting (HLM3) in 2022.

INFORMING VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW (VNR) REPORTING
Results of the Dialogue are valuable inputs for country VNR reporting. The Global Partnership monitoring serves as an official data source for the following SDG indicators:

- **SDG 5.C (target):** Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels

- **SDG 17.15 (target):** Respect each country’s policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development

- **SDG 17.16 (target):** Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries
Participants of the 2018 Global Partnership monitoring round might have already reflected and taken action on their monitoring results but might decide to recalibrate or revitalize their dialogue on effective co-operation and partnerships in light of the new COVID-19 reality. Others may look into structured and comprehensive ways to strengthen the effectiveness of development co-operation for the first time.

For all countries on this broad spectrum, the Global Partnership offers Use of Results tools, guides, and resources to undertake an Action Dialogue:

**ACTION DIALOGUE GUIDE**

A reference guide on key elements of Action Dialogue and guiding questions for undertaking an Action Dialogue.

**USE OF RESULTS TOOLS FOR ACTION**
*(FOR COUNTRIES WHO HAVE UNDERTAKEN THE 2018 MONITORING)*

- Data Profiles for partner countries and development partners
- A self-assessment guide on the use of monitoring results
- Country Profiles

**REMOTE/VIRTUAL HELPDESK**

The OECD-UNDP Joint Support Team will help countries use the tools for the Use of Results and reporting on an Action Dialogue respectively.

**MOBILIZATION OF PARTNERS AND POSSIBLE SUPPORT**

Some countries may undertake self-assessments, dialogues and action planning on their own, drawing on their existing mechanisms and partners’ support at the country level. Others may require additional external support to undertake the dialogue. The Global Partnership Co-Chairs and Steering Committee will strive to mobilise partners and identify stakeholders and networks to engage in the dialogue.

**WHAT SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE?**

All partner country governments, including countries that did not participate in the 2018 Global Partnership monitoring round, are invited. Please register your interest in undertaking an Action Dialogue [here](#), or contact the Co-Chairs at monitoring@effectivecooperation.org.

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**INTERESTED?**

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