**1. National development planning and results orientation**

**Overall quality of national results frameworks**
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 average quality of national development planning for least developed countries (LDCs) is high (79%).

- **79%** of LDCs have established national development strategies and results frameworks. Additionally, 67% of LDCs indicated that they use their development strategies to inform dialogue with partners.
- **100%** of LDCs’ strategies and frameworks defined priorities, targets and indicators.
- **98%** of these strategies and frameworks are aligned to the SDGs.
- **67%** of these strategies and frameworks include budget and costing information.

**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 LDCs, development partners align to country priorities to a medium extent (66%). This has not changed when compared to 2016.

**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**
On average in LDCs, representatives from the government, large private sector firms and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) perceive the quality of public-private dialogue as **consolidating**. While representatives from trade unions perceive the quality of public-private dialogue as **emerging**.

**Enabling environment for civil society organisations**...
... was reported as **basic** by government representatives, **basic** by civil society organisations and **moderate** by development partners across LDCs that participated in the 2018 monitoring exercise.

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1 This note has been prepared with a focus on the performance and results of the 43 Least Developed Countries (LDCs) that participated in the 2018 Monitoring Round. Reference to “Other Countries” represents the results of all the other partner countries that participated in the 2018 Monitoring Round.
3. Quality and use of public financial management systems

Strengthening public financial management systems
Strong public financial management (PFM) systems are an essential element of good governance and vital to achieving development goals. LDCs experienced overall progress in the quality of their PFM systems.

Progress reported by 27 LDCs in strengthening PFM systems:
- 15 LDCs have improved the quality of their PFM systems
- 4 LDCs have seen no overall change in the quality of their PFM systems
- 8 LDCs have experienced a decline in the quality of their 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 strengthening of these systems. In LDCs, use of country PFM systems increased from 45% in 2016 to 48% in 2018. However, legislative oversight of the budget has marginally decreased. The share of development co-operation recorded on budgets subject to parliamentary scrutiny in LDCs slightly decreased from 60% in 2016 to 59% in 2018.

Overall use of country systems
- LDCs: 48% (58% in Other countries)
- Median-term predictability
  - Overall: 0% (84% in 2016 vs 88% in 2018)
  - Disbursements as scheduled
  - Aid Information Management System: 80% (44% in Other countries)
  - Debt Management System: 61% (51% in Other countries)
  - Financial Management Information Systems: 59% (61% in Other countries)
  - Procurement systems: 58% (28% in Other countries)

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 84% of co-operation disbursed to LDCs, as scheduled. Mid-term predictability is medium, with 66% of co-operation available in forward looking expenditure plans for the next three years.

5. Mutual accountability

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. Among LDCs, 52% have all five components in place. This is higher than the average for other countries (37%).