



2023 BUSAN GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FORUM

**Delivering Better Together for
Sustainable Development:
Leveraging Effective
Development Co-operation**

**Seoul, Republic of Korea
5 - 6 December 2023**



Concept Note

Background

This year's Busan Forum takes place 12 years after the Busan Partnership Agreement. This historic agreement established four common principles for effective development, which are now espoused within the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation: country ownership, focus on results, inclusive partnerships, and transparency and mutual accountability.

Moreover, this year's Busan Forum comes a year after the Geneva Summit in which thousands of participants came together in-person and online to shift attention to decisive action at country level in line with the established effectiveness principles. As a means of operationalising the commitments captured within the Geneva Summit, the Global Partnership adopted a 2023-2026 Work Programme to "Deliver Better Together to Drive Action for Sustainable Development." This Work Programme highlights the critical importance of generating evidence through effective monitoring, driving informed policy dialogues and action, and fostering political awareness, behaviour change and uptake. At the heart of this Work Programme is the rollout of the Global Partnership's 4th monitoring round to track progress toward effectiveness commitments and drive forward policy dialogue and action at the country level.

Also coming from the Geneva Summit, diverse constituencies in the Global Partnership established five member-led thematic initiatives to help develop guidance and share best practices in the application of the effectiveness principles. Each of these initiatives are being driven by multistakeholder partnerships with direct engagement at country level to ensure they effectively advance development cooperation.

The 2023 Busan Forum will provide the opportunity for senior-level development cooperation policy makers and practitioners to come together and reflect on the efforts that have been made since the Geneva Summit at country level, as well as generate ideas and inputs for key events in 2024, including the Indonesia Summit and the Summit of the Future. Moreover, recognising the current overlapping crises that many are facing around the world, which is resulting in the rolling back of development gains, this forum will put a spotlight on how strong country ownership, effective monitoring, multi-stakeholder partnerships and mutual accountability can be leveraged for long-lasting development results.

Now, as we get ever closer to 2030, there is urgent need for development cooperation that is effective, sustainable, and responsive to shifting country-level needs in a world of intersecting crises.

¹ These thematic initiatives are focused on: enabling environments for civil society, enhancing support for data use in development, private sector engagement, enhancing subnational data to localize the SDGs, and digitalizing the South-South Cooperation self-assessment tool.



Theme

Widespread crises, of varying forms, have increasingly erupted across the globe, exposing vulnerabilities and drawing attention to the need for effective partnerships that are country owned and inclusive. Beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, we have witnessed climate-related disasters, debt distress, violent political upheavals, and cascading migration crises. This unfolding reality points to the need for development cooperation to be nimble and responsive; we need to be able to adapt effective development approaches at country level to swiftly changing global situations. Stepping into this space, the theme of this year's Busan Forum is **Delivering Better Together for Sustainable Development: Leveraging Effective Development Cooperation**.

Operationalising effectiveness commitments at country level has proven challenging over the past decade, particularly in the face of growing crises. There are very real and persistent challenges that development actors continue to tackle as they aim to increase country ownership, strengthen results-focus, inclusivity, transparency, and collective accountability. The Busan Forum will bring partners together to hear diverse perspectives on the challenges faced by different constituencies to uphold the principles of effective development co-operation, as well as share knowledge on innovative solutions and showcase country examples where progress has been made.

The Forum will bring insights from country level on effective partnerships as the GPEDC monitoring exercise is being rolled out, and it will hold space for policy dialogue on advancing strategic partnerships and dialogue, outreach and advocacy, and sustaining the global momentum generated by the Geneva Summit Declaration.

In sum, this year's Busan Forum will take stock of the progress and challenges made in upholding the principles and commitments related to effective development cooperation and it will ground the discussion in a recognition of the growing crises faced by countries around the world. This will enable stakeholders to build from the outcomes of the Geneva Summit and apply a fresh perspective and generate new ideas in order to tackle difficult issues that actors face at the local, country, and global level related to country ownership, results, inclusive partnerships, and transparency and accountability.

Objectives of the Busan Forum

- Exchange on efforts made toward effectiveness commitments and the priorities outlined within the Geneva Summit Declaration and galvanized through the GPEDC 2023-2026 Work Programme, in particular the roll-out of the Global Partnership's 4th monitoring round.
- Explore thematic issues that are critical to strengthening development effectiveness and further discussion on how these areas can contribute to stronger partnerships and sustainable development.
- Shape alliances and generate knowledge around the role and impact of development cooperation actors at the local, country and global level in driving forward the principles of country ownership, results, inclusivity, transparency and collective accountability within an unfolding context of intersecting global crises.

Intended outcome

The 2023 Busan Global Partnership Forum aims to generate ideas and inputs to strategic upcoming fora in 2024. In particular, this includes the Indonesia Summit and the UN Summit of the Future. Following the Forum, a summary of the discussions will be developed and provide a basis for GPEDC input on development effectiveness to upcoming international processes and fora.