

ASIA-PACIFIC TRAINING FOR EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION 2023
Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) 4th Monitoring Round
Background paper for Module 5

To meaningfully improve the way development cooperation is measured and managed within a country, the National Co-ordinator should get stakeholders ready to reflect on the results of the monitoring and to devise actions to improve the country's performance in each dimension. This module aims to stimulate thinking about the best ways to promote inclusive reflection, dialogue, and action at the country level, once the results of the monitoring exercise are provided to the National Co-ordinator.

Reflection, dialogue and action: Organizing High-level discussions that lead to behaviour change

Format

The main part of this module is centered on a workshop dedicated to generating ideas for the “Reflection, Dialogue, and Action Phase”. The session will start with a short exposition on the topic by the session moderator, followed by a workshop dynamic and concluding remarks.

Background

This part of the monitoring, the Action Dialogue and the use and discussion of results, is the pinnacle of the monitoring exercise. After all the hard work coordinating and engaging stakeholders throughout the process to generate political momentum and collect data, this phase of the monitoring brings all stakeholders together to discuss, plan and act. **Ownership of the results and actions is strongly linked to how inclusive the previous phases of the process are.** If the process is inclusive and the data collection is comprehensive, ownership of results is higher; if not enough time is dedicated to data collection and ensuring that reporting is comprehensive, ownership and action will suffer.

The aim is to ensure that the monitoring results are collectively owned and crafted into an action plan that leads to ‘behaviour change’. Behavior change can be encouraged when strategic policy frameworks and instruments are adjusted, to take deliberate measures in line with the effectiveness principles. When countries develop their road map to the monitoring exercise, it allows for consideration for when these policy review/drafting processes are taking place, and how to translate the results from the reflection and dialogues into actionable inputs within these documents.

Following the receipt of the **country results brief** within three months of the submission of the final data to the JST, reflection can begin around the following questions:

1. What are the results showing about the behaviour/action of government/development partners/other actors?
 2. What progress/ challenges/bottlenecks toward effectiveness commitments and principles can be identified?
 3. What could be improved and how?
 4. What action is needed and by whom?
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Reflection on the monitoring results should then lead to consideration and planning around how to plan for dialogue and action with all development actors. **Action Dialogues should be regarded as multistakeholder, change-oriented exercises that allow to develop and follow up on an Action Plan based on the monitoring results:**

- Action Dialogues should aim to convene a diverse/plural group of actors. Ideally, every actor with a mandate related to the issues covered in the monitoring should be called upon to contribute ideas and to commit to acting.
- Discussions should start from the monitoring results and look towards identifying implementation challenges or bottlenecks, and translate those reflections into concrete action plans, anchored to existing strategies and mechanisms whenever possible.

As is the case for the High-level kick-off meetings, there is no prescription or a single model to follow for organizing the reflection, dialogue and action process. National Co-ordinators are encouraged to work with the JST and their local stakeholders to adapt this concept to their national priorities in a way that drives collective accountability and ensures inclusivity. For example, this could involve multiple dialogues at strategic and technical levels, or technical workshops in preparation to or as follow-up to the dialogue, potentially going over specific modules with specific constituencies, culminating in a larger, high-level event where the action is agreed upon.

While not previously carried out as part of the monitoring exercise, the [GPEDC Global Dashboard](#) contains examples of Action Dialogues held in 2021-2022 that led to action-oriented outcomes that could provide useful examples on what the Action Dialogue as part of the monitoring exercise could look like:

- In [Cameroon](#), the multistakeholder dialogue led to a road map with 27 concrete recommendations and observations.
- In [Honduras](#), a list of policy commitments corresponding to each of the effectiveness principles spurred a multi-stakeholder platform with yearly follow up meetings, the Forum on the effectiveness of sustainable development cooperation.
- In [Indonesia](#), the action dialogue took the form of a workshop dedicated to drive the implementation of the Kampala Principles at country-level.
- [Peru](#)'s action dialogue reflected on the challenges and roles of multi-stakeholder partnerships, and identified 6 concrete policy recommendations based on national development priorities.
- The [Togo](#) action dialogue's outcome document highlighted key actions, lessons learned and good practices for promoting ownership among government, private sector, CSOs, and development partners.

In support of this process to reflect, discuss and act on the monitoring results, the JST can present information to the National Co-ordinator about key challenge areas identified by results and actions that can meaningfully improve the effectiveness of development cooperation frameworks and practices. The purpose of this exercise is to provide National Co-ordinators with **evidence of country-tested measures**, that can help kickstart the reflection, dialogue and action processes.

Following the exposition, participants will be organized into groups of three, with one of them assuming the role of rapporteur. Each group will be assigned one of three potential discussion topics:

1. **Context for reflection.** Focus on **the process of engaging partners** (including those that might not have reported on the monitoring, such as parliament and other foreign policy committees) **at the end of the monitoring** exercise.
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- a. **What's the most convincing way of presenting evidence**, to spark reflection in your country?
 - b. Which **committees** (*government and non-government*) and **political processes** in your country can benefit from the insights that will be provided by the country brief and other materials discussed in this session?
2. **Discussions that lead to action.** Focus on the task of **organizing a high-level, multistakeholder dialogue** (or series of dialogues at various levels) where results will be discussed, and actions will be agreed upon by all stakeholders
- a. How do you **plan to generate frank and solutions-oriented dialogue** that strengthens ownership between all parties, and builds transparency and accountability?
 - b. Does it make sense to organize dialogues at different levels, or through sectoral lines?
3. **Support and success.** Focus on the **type of support (institutional backing, information, and guidance) you might require** to convene high-level decision-makers, and envision successful behaviour change.
- a. In order to foster collective ownership, how do you **plan to engage stakeholders** such as the UN Development System, Development Partner champions, CSOs, etc.?
 - b. How does **'successful use of evidence from the monitoring'** look like in your country?

After this small group reflection, each rapporteur will have 5 minutes to relate to the larger group the main contents of their discussion. After this training is completed, the JST will provide all participants with a synthesis of ideas that can serve as a collective knowledge product arising from this discussion. At the end of this module, the session moderator will provide a quick recapitulation of the discussion, highlighting common threads described by participants, and specific details that merit attention.
