

2023 Busan Global Partnership Forum
Delivering Better Together for Sustainable Development:
Leveraging Effective Development Cooperation

SESSION SUMMARIES & KEY MESSAGES

Session 1 – Setting the Scene: Effective Development Cooperation in the Context of Global and Emerging Challenges

KEY MESSAGES

- *In the face of multiple crises, we are off track to achieve the SDGs by 2030. With less resources available, emphasizing the importance of how we work together, by upholding the internationally- agreed principles of effective development cooperation is critical to ensuring that every development dollar is maximised for long-lasting results.*
- *The principles for effective development cooperation - country ownership, inclusive partnerships, focus on results, transparency and accountability - remain critical. Representatives from different constituencies expounded upon how the various crises - from climate change to debt distress - have impacted them. In this light, participants highlighted the importance of shared potential solutions for more effective, sustainable development.*

SUMMARY

The objective of session 1 was to set the scene for the Busan Forum by reflecting on current challenges in the development landscape, to hear from different stakeholders on how they are grappling with these crises, and to foster a nuanced understanding as to how the effectiveness principles can help to address these challenges through better partnerships. Opening remarks were provided by **Ms. Ulrika Modeer**, Director of External Relations and Advocacy at the UNDP.

Participants on this panel included **H.E. Dr. Chhieng Yanara**, Senior Minister and Second Vice Chairman of the Council for the Development of Cambodia; **H.E. Mr. Jonathan Titus Williams**, Deputy Minister of Planning and Economic Development of Sierra Leone; **Mr. Hideki Kusakabe**, Deputy Director-General, International Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan; **Ms. Marjeta Jager**, Deputy Director-General, International Partnerships at the European Commission; **Mr. Helder da Costa**, General Secretary of the g7+ Secretariat; **Mr. Henry Cocker**, Engagement lead at Pacific Islands Forum; and **Dr. Stephan Klingebiel**, German Institute of Development and Sustainability.

First, panelists highlighted that it matters how we do things. Sustainable Development Goal 17 on strengthening the means of implementation and revitalising the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development recognises this and highlights how we partner together affects implementation across all the SDGs. It was noted that over the past few decades, the nature of development cooperation has changed. It was suggested that, in practice, ownership and alignment are approached differently in today's context and this is connected to changes in resources allocations that have shifted due to changes and challenges related to the geopolitical and geoeconomic context, managing migration, and climate change.

Second, the discussion underscored that official development assistance alone is not sufficient to meet development needs. The various challenges that countries are facing call for additional resources on one hand, and on the other the need to better maximise the resources that are available. Furthermore, greater engagement of the private sector is essential.

Third, panelists emphasised that the principles for effective development cooperation - country ownership, inclusive partnerships, focus on results, transparency and accountability - remain relevant in their countries and in co-creating better partnerships. Speaking on behalf of fragile contexts, the g7+ shared their role in the original negotiation of the Busan Partnership document 12 years ago and how “the principles remain relevant although the means of implementation are mixed at the country level.”

Panelists underscored the importance of incorporating the tenets of the effectiveness principles into their new development strategies, such as Japan’s revised Development Cooperation Charter, the EU’s Global Gateway, or the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent. Japan called on all participants in development cooperation, including dual providers and the private sector, to incorporate the four principles in their strategy and policy and implement them. Cambodia highlighted that when effective development cooperation and ownership are strengthened it can support the structural transformation of countries graduating from LDC status.

The challenges discussed, and the reiteration of the principles of effective development cooperation as an important lever to spur SDG implementation provided a useful platform for the following panel discussions at the Busan Forum on locally-led development, the CSO enabling environment, the effectiveness of private sector engagement and South-South cooperation, as well as action at the country level through the GPEDC monitoring exercise.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- To what extent is the current state of the SDGs linked to the global challenges converging today (from conflict to COVID to inequality, and beyond)?
- Do current global challenges make the discourse around the effectiveness of international development cooperation more relevant, or less?
- What is the greatest single challenge your country/organization is contending with, and to what extent can the effectiveness principles play a role in addressing it?

Session 2 – *Locally-led development:* *exploring best practices for promoting agency, accountability and results*

KEY MESSAGES

- *Regional governments are close to communities and understand their context, needs and priorities. If supported with necessary budgetary and technical capacities, regional governments can contribute to the territorial articulation of national development policies, making a positive impact on the territorial development, contributing to the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda.*
- *Consultation processes with local authorities and civil society are key to understand local development needs and design tailor-made development plans for local entities, improving progress at the grassroots level.*
- *Working with local businesses can accelerate the development process, leveraging on the job creation ecosystem. However, leaving no one behind requires emphasis on the common understanding that transformation is about mutual accountability and not just about gaining market share.*
- *Development partners have an important role to play in supporting locally led development: by listening to what partners say, and by being responsive, contributing to shifting the power dynamics to local actors*

and directing funding in a way that generates a paradigm shift in the way we pursue effective development cooperation.

- *To increase the effectiveness and sustainability of development cooperation programmes, partners should promote favourable environments to facilitate collaboration between a wide range of local stakeholders for the decentralisation of international cooperation resources, enabling support to locally led solutions.*
- *Channelling high quality funding as directly as possible to local partners contributes to empowering local development actors, forging effective multi-stakeholder partnerships that guide development cooperation by locally contextualized development priorities.*

SUMMARY

Moderated by **Ms. Andrea Ries Padmanabhan**, Senior Advisor for Development Effectiveness, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Switzerland, and with the active participation from **Mr. Carles Llorens**, Secretary-General, ORU-Fogar; **H.E. Mrs. Judith Suminwa Tuluka**, Minister of Planning, Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Co-chair of the Global Partnership; **Ms. Michele Sumilas**, Assistant to the Administrator of the Bureau for Planning and Learning, and Resource Management, USAID; **Ms. Nancy Silva**, Director of Policy and Programmes, Peruvian International Cooperation Agency (APCI) - Peru; **Mr. Ahmed Youssouf Benjeloune**, President of the Association of Departments of Senegal and Vice-president of ORU-Fogar; **Mr. Towfiqul Islam Khan**, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh; and **Ms. Ulrika Modéer**, Director of External Relations and Advocacy, United Nations Development Programme; the panel examined the practical implications of a locally-led approach to development, drawing on perspectives from relevant partners, exploring best practices for navigating trade-offs, and reflecting on how locally-led development can support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

Development actors are taking action to make development co-operation more effective and tackle inherent power imbalances through strengthened local leadership. Given the urgency to advance SDG progress at the mid-way point of Agenda 2030, the principles of effective development cooperation, specifically on ownership and inclusive partnerships, are a key vehicle to empower national and local actors in strengthening the effectiveness of development co-operation at country level to ensure that no one is left behind.

Hence, development partners have a fundamental role to play by aligning their programming to contextualized priorities of local actors, promoting and empowering local leadership in all phases of development co-operation programmes and projects. Strengthening local government systems can help to spur action toward greater collective accountability to enhance country ownership and locally-led development.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- What does a locally-led development approach look like to you? What are the benefits and drawbacks to such an approach?
- In what ways can a locally-led approach to development support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda?
- What are some best practices when it comes to implementing locally-led approaches to development? How is your organization/agency/government putting these best practices into use?
- What are the challenges to development partners engaging more closely with local actors? What are concrete commitments and actions that can help overcome these challenges?

Session 3 – Upholding civil society’s role and space to ensure inclusive partnerships and locally-led development

KEY MESSAGES

- *CSOs play a crucial role in the assessment of local needs and in bridging local needs and actions to the national development strategy. Therefore, it is crucial to count on institutionalized mechanisms, such as the monitoring exercise, which can support follow-up and policy coherence at all levels and build upon long-term support and partnerships.*
- *In a context where civic space is shrinking and hampering CSO’s capacities to contribute to sustainable development, it’s important to verify the progress made on Geneva Summit commitments for civil society participation. The session highlighted two major objectives for creating an enabling environment: committed legal and financial support, and the institutionalization of CSO participation in decision-making.*

SUMMARY

Hearing from a broad range of stakeholders, the objective of this session is to further unpack the previous session’s discussion by focusing on the importance of trust-building approaches in providing an enabling environment for civil society and their role in multi-stakeholder partnerships, locally and nationally.

The session was moderated by **Mr. Jodel Dacara**, Network Manager of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness. Opening remarks were provided by **Mr. Vitalice Meja**, Executive Director of Reality Aid Africa and Co-chair of the Global Partnership. Participants on this panel included **Ms. Lina Marcela Puentes**, Coordinator of South-South and Triangular Cooperation at the Directorate of International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Colombia; **Dr. Håvard Mogleiv Nygård**, Director of Knowledge at the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation; **Dr. Nurgul Djanaeva**, Representative of the Forum of Women’s CSOs of Kyrgyzstan; **Ms. Jae Eun Shin**, Director of the Policy Center at the Korean NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation; and **Mr. Casey Kelso**, Senior Advocacy Lead of the Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support.

Panelists highlighted the need to uphold CSOs as key members of multi stakeholder dialogues and partnerships to advance country ownership, transparency and accountability in development cooperation. Certain conditions were enumerated for ensuring effectiveness in CSOs contributions as independent development actors to achieve meaningful and sustainable engagement. This includes commitment to legal, financial, and political support and the creation of structures for CSO participation in national processes.

It was noted the importance of CSOs for bridging local realities with national development agendas and how institutionalization of the civil society perspective in national decision-making can help to preserve shrinking civic spaces. The second component of sustaining CSO participation is establishing follow-up mechanisms for CSOs to exert accountability over the government’s progress on commitments.

Panelists also expanded on the role of philanthropy in advancing CSOs participation while highlighting how the excessive requirements to access international resources and donations can hamper efforts and funds aimed at supporting civil society. Finally, countries elaborated on their personal experience with fostering an enabling environment for CSOs through this commitment for inclusive partnerships and locally-led development.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- Since the Geneva Summit, what progress has been made on commitments made regarding upholding and supporting enabling environment for civil society at country level?
- What initiatives have been developed and how can they contribute to address the gaps in development partner commitments towards the civil society enabling environment and effective development cooperation?
- From a civil society perspective, what are the main barriers to realizing effectiveness commitments at the country level?
- How should ideas on ‘partner-empowerment’ and ‘de-colonization’ be integrated into conversations around effective development co-operation and locally-led development?

Session 4 – “Effective Private Sector Engagement for Sustainable Development”

KEY MESSAGES

- *The Kampala Principles provide a powerful new normative framework for private sector engagement through development co-operation.*
- *Private sector engagement should be responsive to country-level demand, inclusive, and relevant to private sector interests.*
- *The thematic initiative on private sector engagement, which includes the Friends of Kampala Principles Network, is available to assist countries as they undertake the Kampala Principles Assessment and implement outcomes from Action Dialogue.*
- *The Kampala Principles, when integrated into country processes, enable GPEDC processes without additional burden.*
- *Session 4 informed a roadmap for countries that choose to adopt the Kampala Principles.*

SUMMARY

The challenges of private sector engagement at the country level vary according to stakeholder perspectives. These challenges include: a need to engage the private sector more actively, gaps in communication, a need for credible data to align interests and allocate risk, the exclusion of certain actors from partnerships, conflicts between private interests and the public interest, a failure to identify broader development purposes at the project level, and the importance of implementing systemic change.

Moderated by **Mr. Kim Bettcher**, Director, Policy and Program Learning, Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE), participants on this panel included **H.E. Mr. Bogat Widyatmoko**, Deputy Minister for Politics, Law, Defence and Security, Indonesia and Co-Chair of the Global Partnership; **H.E. Mr. Joseph Capuno**, Undersecretary for Investment Planning of the National Economic and Development Authority, Philippines; **Mr. Andrew Smith**, Director General, International Assistance Policy, Global Affairs Canada; **Ms. Hanna Yim**, Head of Business Impact, SentBe, Republic of Korea; **Mr. Jason Allford**, Special Representative to Korea, World Bank Group; **Mr. Jodel Dacara**, Network Manager, CPDE; and **Ms. Bing Sibal-Limjoco**, Philippine Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

An ideal partnership should have mutual benefits for participating parties. “For something to be sustainable, it has to be win-win-win.” To achieve this, there must be awareness of the partnership aims and opportunities, an appreciation for different perspectives and modalities of engagement, management of risk based on data, and attention to building trust. The goal of inclusion should go hand-in-hand with achieving scale. Strong partnerships are embedded within a larger enabling environment. Such an enabling environment includes dialogue on strategy and partnership priorities, a predictable regulatory environment that ensures fair competition and the protection of public interest, the integration of partnership instruments with national systems, and the inclusion of affected parties through advocacy and consultation. The panel discussion touched on all five Kampala Principles and demonstrated how the application of the principles can bring better results to development cooperation.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- What is the main challenge for engaging the private sector in development cooperation?
- What is the promise and potential of better private sector engagement in development cooperation? What would it look like at the country level and who would benefit?
- How can we realize this promise?
- What was your vision for private sector engagement? What actually happened and what did you learn?
- What can we do differently to achieve better results? What will it take to put frameworks like the Kampala Principles into practice?

Session 5 – Strengthening the Effectiveness of Partnerships in the context of South-South Cooperation

KEY MESSAGES

- *While there are many challenges to coordinating effective partnerships for development through SSC, SSC can be strengthened through engaging more stakeholders in collaborative learning models to share innovative, adaptable and cost-efficient solutions to address the development challenges. This collaboration could involve the exchange of knowledge and technology, capacity building in developing countries, mobilization of resources through partnerships, and fostering policy dialogue and coordination for effective implementation.*
- *To ensure the full potential of financing and partnerships, evidence is needed. Therefore, the effectiveness of SSC should be measured so that appropriate areas of intervention by both recipients and donors could be identified to enhance the benefits of SSC. Indonesia, Mexico, El Salvador, Colombia, Kenya, Cape Verde, and Bangladesh have participated in the Monitoring Framework for the Effectiveness of South-South Cooperation 2022, which measured whether SSC implementation was in line with the four effectiveness principles.*

SUMMARY

The main objective of this session was to present the Self-Assessment on the Effectiveness of South-South Cooperation (SSC) as a thematic initiative of GPEDC’s Work Programme 2023-2026, which is led by Colombia and Indonesia. The panel sought to discuss the contribution of SSC to the effectiveness agenda and the challenges facing SCC in long-term measurements and convened a multi-stakeholder dialogue.

The session was moderated by **Dr. Jisun Song**, Professor at the Korean National Diplomatic Academy. Opening remarks were provided by **H.E. Mr. Bogat Widyatmoko**, the Deputy Minister for Politics, Law, Defence and Security of Indonesia, and **Ms. Lina Marcela Puentes**, the Coordinator of South-South and Triangular Cooperation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia. Panelists included **Mr. Farid Aziz**, the Additional Secretary at the Economic Relations Division of the Ministry of Finance of Bangladesh; **Mr. Jaesang Hwang**, the Director General of the Department of Development Strategy and Portfolio Management at the Korean International Cooperation Agency; **Mr. Pedro Bocca**, the International Advocacy Advisor of the Brazilian Association of Non-Governmental Organizations; and **Dr. Xiuli Xu**, Dean and Professor of the College of International, Development and Global Agriculture at China Agricultural University.

The effectiveness of SSC in achieving the 2030 Agenda is confronted by a spectrum of challenges, such as resource constraints in many participating countries, coupled with uneven capacities and expertise. Political and geopolitical tensions may impede the willingness of nations to engage, necessitating efforts to harmonize diverse interests. Challenges in coordinating actions, addressing institutional weaknesses, and ensuring alignment with national priorities require careful attention. Environmental risks, security concerns, and the aftermath of pandemics like COVID-19 underscore the need for resilient and adaptive collaboration. Yet, with reduced financing from traditional donors, there is space for SSC to fill in development gaps. SSC should strengthen its partnership and effectiveness to meet these challenges. To this end, panelists discussed the importance of measuring the impact of SSC, the mutual relationship of support with CSOs, and the role of development partners.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- At the second half of the 2030 Agenda, what is the role and contribution of effective SSC to advance the realization of the SDGs? And what are the main challenges?
- How does your country monitor the sustainability of SSC contributions to development? Do you carry out verifications of installed capacities time after the initiatives have ended?
- What are the interlinkages/complementarities between the effectiveness principles and SSC?
- How can partner countries leverage on the findings of the SSC Self-Assessment to provide inputs to, or to inform policy and national processes at country level, improving the quality and effectiveness of SSC dynamics?
- What lessons learned on SSC measurement would you like to highlight from the point of view of your organization/country that could be useful for other countries? Do you have a system or instrument for collecting and storing information?

Session 6 – Bringing it All Together with Country-Level Action to Deliver Better Together

KEY MESSAGES

- *Partner countries see a clear value in undertaking the monitoring; country demand for, and leadership of, the process is key to ensure the benefits are leveraged.*

- *The recent reform of the monitoring exercise introduced a number of improvements to the framework and the process, and particularly with the enhanced focus on evidence-based dialogue and action at country level.*
- *There are multiple ways to institutionalise the exercise at country level, which can improve inclusivity; ensure that the results lead to action and behaviour change; and drive learning and accountability.*
- *The multistakeholder nature of the monitoring is one of its strengths; it is an incentive for partner countries that wish to engage more with certain stakeholder groups but also requires a proactive approach to ensure inclusivity of the process.*
- *The full potential of this 4th round will be maximised by increasing the total number of participating partner countries as well as by ensuring comprehensive data reporting.*

SUMMARY

Moderated by **Mr. Vitalice Meja**, Executive Director, Reality of Aid Africa, and Co-Chair of the Global Partnership, participants on this panel included **H.E. Mr. Rodolfo Pastor Fasquelle**, Ambassador of Honduras to the Republic of Korea; **H.E. Mr. Joseph Capuno**, Undersecretary for Investment Planning of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Philippines; **Ms. Polydeth Chi**, Director General, Council for the Development of Cambodia; **Mr. Strafort Pedie**, Technical Advisor, Ministry of Economy and Planning, Cameroon; **Ms. Marie Ottosson**, Deputy Director-General, The Swedish International Development Agency, and Co-chair of the Global Partnership; **Mr. Oscar Fernandez-Taranco**, Assistant Secretary-General for Development Coordination, United Nations; **Ms. Ji Hyun Kim**, Research Fellow, Office of sustainable Innovation Policy Research, Republic of Korea; and **Ms. Nurgul Dzhanaeva**, Forum of Women’s CSOs, Kyrgyzstan.

The reform of the Global Partnership monitoring exercise, which took place during 2020-2022, built on the original vision and strengths of the exercise while also introducing improvements. The framework will now generate new evidence on issues critical to achieving the SDGs, such as related to engaging the private sector in development as well as meeting the pledge to leave no one behind, while still retaining all main measurements from the previous rounds, which allows for tracking trends.

The monitoring process has also been further strengthened. The country-level process now focuses more on inclusively engaging with multiple stakeholder groups, and also has an enhanced focus on having, under partner country leadership, dedicated dialogue on the results which in turn lead to action planning and ultimately to behaviour change.

Partner countries have articulated many benefits of undertaking the GPEDC monitoring, and of identifying opportunities to synergise elements of the exercise with other country-level processes and priorities. Partner countries on the panel illustrated this with examples of how they will utilise the monitoring process and the evidence that emerges from it to look at effectiveness considerations in the context of broader SDG efforts; to strengthen accountability of development partners by formulating – and tracking progress on – action plans; and to expand engagement with diverse stakeholder groups by utilising existing dialogue platforms.

The importance of inclusive participation in the exercise emerged clearly from the panel discussions, for example by engaging civil society in the country-level dialogue and action planning aspects. The role of the National Co-ordinator, and the partner country’s leadership in stakeholder coordination more broadly, were highlighted as key to ensuring inclusivity, as well as to garnering political traction for the exercise to increase the chances that the evidence is used for dialogue and action planning.

Panelists also shared reflections on the role of some constituencies not only within individual countries, but also across countries and globally. The OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) has committed at political level to support the exercise, as well as to learn from and take action on monitoring results. The United Nations development system signalled their continued support at country level, based on clear demand from partner country governments, including through participation and support for SDG-related dialogues and exploring opportunities to use GPEDC monitoring data in other UN policies and processes related to SDG implementation and follow up.

GUIDING QUESTIONS

- What actions can partner countries take to concretely ensure inclusivity, institutionalisation, and peer learning through the monitoring exercise?
- How can development stakeholders use the results of the monitoring exercise, once they have been received, to promote increased accountability and dialogue and in the extension a more impactful development cooperation?
- How could the above be done in an effective way in your specific country or constituency related context (which may for example include fragility, private sector engagement, and/or SSC)?
- How could the monitoring exercise serve as an occasion for peer learning at regional level or by constituency?