

Global Partnership Monitoring Framework – Key Findings

Drawing on data from 46 developing countries receiving development co-operation and 77 countries and organisations providing it, *Making Development Co-operation More Effective: 2014 Progress Report* reviews progress at the half-way point between 2011, when new commitments were made globally, and the 2015 target date for the Millennium Development Goals.

Globally, the results are mixed. Longstanding efforts to change the way development co-operation is delivered are paying off, but much more needs to be done to transform co-operation practices and ensure country ownership of all development efforts, as well as transparency and accountability among development partners.

The report reveals that despite global economic turbulence, changing political landscapes and domestic budgetary pressures, commitment to the Busan principles remains strong. Achievements made on important aid effectiveness commitments that date back to 2005 have been broadly sustained – confirming that political commitment can translate into better practices at the country level, given sufficient time and sustained commitment. More needs to be done, however, to meet the targets that the Global Partnership set for 2015.

Country ownership continues to strengthen. Achievements made in 2010 around strengthening and using country systems – although falling short of the Paris and Accra targets – have broadly been sustained despite unfavourable conditions for development co-operation in many provider countries. This shows that investments in strengthening country systems are paying off in the long term. It is too early to say whether strengthened commitment to ownership is translating into increased use of developing countries' own results frameworks to guide development co-operation on the whole. Stronger dialogue is needed to promote greater alignment with the priorities and systems of the developing countries.

Inclusiveness – the “core” of the Busan Partnership agreement – is translating into stronger recognition and engagement of non-state development actors in national systems and accountability processes. Nonetheless, the development co-operation architecture is still skewed towards a government-centred, North-South perspective. Concerted efforts among all stakeholders are needed to ensure that civil society organisations can exercise their role as independent development actors. Further work is needed to assess public-private dialogue which matters for private sector development and the investment climate. Inclusiveness is also about ensuring that development leaves no one behind; evidence shows strong commitment by an increasing number of countries to track allocations for gender equality to ensure that public expenditure targets both women and men.

The drive for transparency is starting to show results – but these need to be geared towards countries’ needs. While increasingly transparent information is available, high-level political commitment in this area needs to work its way through co-operation providers’ systems and procedures to allow truly transparent and predictable co-operation, where information is geared towards supporting developing countries’ own planning needs and activities. Greater transparency is also needed in country-level review processes to fully reflect mutual accountability among all stakeholders for shared effectiveness principles.

Experience indicates that the shift towards developing country-led monitoring is feasible. Global Partnership stakeholders can advance this shift by supporting individual countries’ and regional structures’ efforts to strengthen country accountability frameworks, embed the data collection for global indicators within these frameworks, and exchange knowledge and good practice. Country leadership needs to be matched by stronger engagement of providers at the country level. This will ensure that reviews of lessons and future refinements within the Global Partnership monitoring framework are guided by the experiences and needs of developing countries themselves.

Ownership and results of development co-operation

Indicators	2015 targets	State of implementation
Indicator 1. Development co-operation is focused on results that meet developing countries’ priorities	All providers of development co-operation use country results frameworks	Too early to assess progress – indicator piloted in eight countries. Preliminary feedback suggests great variation in use between providers but consistent provider behaviour across countries.
Indicator 6. Aid is on budgets which are subject to parliamentary scrutiny	Halve the gap – halve the proportion of development co-operation flows to the government sector not reported on government’s budget(s). By 2015: 85% reported on budget.	Some progress – 64% of scheduled funding is reported on government’s budgets. Only seven countries have reached or are close to reaching the 85% target.
Indicator 9. Developing countries’ systems are strengthened and used	Half of developing countries move up at least one measure (i.e. 0.5 points) on the PFM/CPIA scale of performance. Reduce the gap in the use of PFM and procurement systems (by two-thirds where CPIA score ≥ 5 ; or by one third where between 3.5 and 4.5). By 2015: 57% of funding uses country systems.	Previous achievements sustained but more progress is needed. No overall change in the quality of countries’ public financial management systems. No change in use of country systems: Development co-operation funding using PFM and procurement systems remained at its level of 2010 (around 49%).
Indicator 10. Aid is untied	Continued progress over time	Some progress – 79% of bilateral ODA is untied (in comparison with 77% in 2010).

Inclusive development partnerships

Indicators	2015 targets	State of implementation
Indicator 2. Civil society operates within an environment that maximises its engagement in and contribution to development	Continued progress over time	Too early to assess progress – further thinking needed on measurement due to data limitation. Mixed picture with evidence of positive examples of government efforts to facilitate the work of civil society organisations however, notable challenges prevail in many countries.
Indicator 3. Engagement and contribution of the private sector to development	Continued progress over time	Too early to assess progress – indicator pilot ongoing. Other sources of evidence suggest that the quality of private-public dialogue matters.
Indicator 8. Gender equality and women's empowerment	All developing countries have systems that track and make public resource allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment	A good start – one third of the countries have systems in place with indications of others committed to track gender allocations more systematically.

Transparency and accountability for development results

Indicators	2015 targets	State of implementation
Indicator 4. Information on development co-operation is publicly available	Implement the common open standard for electronic publication of information on resources provided through development co-operation	A good start but more progress needed. The average provider publishes once-a-year data that is six to nine months old and provides information for 50% of common standard data fields. Transparency of forward information is a challenge: 25% of providers do not publish any forward-looking information through the systems of the common standard.
Indicator 5(a). Annual predictability: proportion of development co-operation funding disbursed within the fiscal year in which it was scheduled by co-operation providers	Halve the gap – halve the proportion of development co-operation funding not disbursed within the fiscal year for which it was scheduled. By 2015: 90% of funding is disbursed as scheduled	Some progress – 84% of scheduled disbursements were disbursed as planned (in comparison to 79% in 2010).
Indicator 5(b). Medium-term predictability: proportion of development co-operation funding covered by indicative forward spending plans provided at country level	Halve the gap – halve the proportion of development co-operation funding not covered by indicative forward spending plans. By 2015: plans cover 92% of estimated funding for 2016, 85% for 2017 and 79% for 2018.	A good start but more progress needed. Forward spending plans cover: 83% of estimated total funding for 2014, 70% for 2015 and 57% for 2016.
Indicator 7. Mutual accountability among co-operation actors is strengthened through inclusive reviews	All developing countries have inclusive mutual assessment reviews in place	Some progress - 59% of countries have mutual assessment reviews in place. Encouraging efforts are underway to mutually track progress, but more is needed to make reviews inclusive and transparent.

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