

For Release: Tuesday April 15, 2014 00:00 GMT

Press Release: Philanthropy's 'Guidelines' for global development cooperation

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At a dedicated focus session of the **Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation** (GPEDC) High Level Meeting in Mexico City today, a group representing international foundations will introduce a blueprint for how the philanthropic sector can engage with governments and other stakeholders in the reality of post-2015 development.

The ***Guidelines for Effective Philanthropic Engagement*** were developed under the leadership of the OECD's global Network of Foundations Working for Development (netFWD), with Stars Foundation, Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support (WINGS), the European Foundation Centre (EFC) and support from Rockefeller Foundation.

The voluntary and non-binding guidelines aim to bridge the communication and collaboration gap between philanthropy and global development policymakers, particularly governments.

Separated under three broad headlines – **Dialogue; Data/Knowledge Sharing; and Partnership** – they assert the comparative advantages of philanthropy and seek to articulate the 'collaboration aspirations' of the sector within international development.

Early results from a **global consultation** reveal that foundations surveyed tend to agree that the Guidelines will increase understanding of foundations' comparative advantages in development, create opportunities for willing partners to come together to support development progress and help shape a role for the philanthropic sector in post-2015 discussions.

The Guidelines are set to be recognised by Ministers in the **GPEDC communiqué**.

In the weeks and months following the GPEDC High Level Meeting, advocates of the Guidelines will work to translate them through **field-level 'country pilots'** in which foundations convene a number of relevant development actors use their respective advantages – insights, resources, reach – to tackle urgent development challenges in a given country.

Muna Wehbe, CEO of Stars Foundation said:

"The Guidelines for Effective Philanthropic Engagement are both symbolically and strategically important.

Not only do they signal that many foundations are ready to be more meaningfully involved in official global development processes, but if applied widely and in good faith, these Guidelines could help to establish better enabling environments for those on the front line of development.

At Stars, our mandate comes from the outstanding local civil society organisations we support. We welcome the Guidelines as a tool to help us cooperate more effectively with other actors – government, civil society, the private sector and our foundation peers – for the benefit of people whose futures rely on a more coordinated, equitable and sustainable development compact.

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Notes to Editors:

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- Read the **Guidelines for Effective Philanthropic Engagement**: <http://bit.ly/1jxNRfh>
- **The Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation** helps nations, business and organisations work better together to end poverty. It brings governments, the private sector, civil society and others together to ensure funding, knowledge and policy produce maximum impact for development

It is a forum for shared advice, shared learning and shared action to support the implementation of principles that form the foundation of effective development co-operation.

The meeting in Mexico City is the first High Level Meeting (HLM) of the GPEDC.

Read more: <http://effectivecooperation.org/about/>

- **The Network of Foundations Working for Development (netFWD)** is based in the OECD and supports the inclusion and engagement of foundations in shaping the post-2015 agenda. Together with the UN and other partners, netFWD has brought into life a global conversation on the role of philanthropy in the post-2015 setting that has resulted in their inclusion in the ongoing deliberations.

Through netFWD support, foundations were granted a permanent observer status at the GPEDC Steering Committee. netFWD will also lead foundations' engagement in the Ministerial Meeting of the Global Partnership in Mexico in April 2014.

Read more: <http://www.oecd.org/site/netfwd/addedvalue.htm>

- **Stars Foundation** invests in organisations and ideas that transform the lives of disadvantaged children and their communities globally. Its philanthropic activities include the flagship Stars Impact Awards that recognise and reward outstanding local organisations on the front line in the fight against poverty and child mortality.

Stars represented foundations on the GPEDC Steering Committee ahead of the GPEDC HLM.

Read more: <http://www.starsfoundation.org.uk/about>