

Draft Concept Note

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Korea



The 2014 Busan Global Partnership Workshop

6-7 November, Seoul

1. Background

1.1. Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-Operation

In 2011, the Republic of Korea hosted the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF-4), which brought over 3,000 delegates together in Busan to review progress on the implementation of the principles and actions of aid effectiveness which were agreed upon in the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action. The Busan meeting marked a turning point in consolidating efforts to enhance development cooperation among diverse partners, going beyond governments to include business, civil society, parliamentarians, international organizations and foundations as development partners.¹ The meeting culminated in the outcome document, *The Busan Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (hereafter "Busan Partnership Agreement")*, which sets out shared principles, common goals and differential commitments for improving the effectiveness of international development cooperation.

The Busan Partnership Agreement established the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (hereafter "Global Partnership" or "GPEDC") to ensure and strengthen accountability for the implementation of the Busan commitments at the political level.² As per the current mandate, the primary role of the Global Partnership is to promote multi-stakeholder dialogues to exchange best practices and lessons learned, as well as evidence-based analysis, to maximize the impact of development cooperation on the ground through the fulfillment of the principles for development effectiveness: country ownership, focus on results, inclusive development partnerships, and mutual transparency and accountability. At the same time, the mandate is flexible enough to allow the High-Level Meetings (HLM) to address topical and emerging issues relevant for effective development cooperation such as the context of the Post - 2015 development agenda.³

To date, 161 governments and 54 organizations have endorsed the Busan Partnership principles. Furthermore, its Steering Committee brings together representatives from all constituencies: donor, partner and dual character countries, international organizations, multilateral development banks, civil society, private sector, foundations, local governments, and

¹ "About the Global Partnership," official website of the Partnership. Available at: <http://effectivecooperation.org/about/>.

² Paragraph 36, "The Busan Partnership for Effective Development Co-Operation," 1 December 2011.

³ "Proposed Mandate for the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation," approved at the meeting of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness on 28-29 June 2012.

parliamentarian groups. As such, it is one of the most inclusive and multi-stakeholder forums for global development issues.

1.2. Existing Working Arrangements of the Global Partnership

The Global Partnership adopted a “*global-light, country-heavy*” approach, which allows members significant flexibility in determining their priorities and finding appropriate solutions. The Global Partnership works during biannual cycles that include the Ministerial-level meetings (HLMs, every two years), the Steering Committee meetings (SCs, every 6-12 months or as often as required), and other activities organized by the UNDP-OECD Joint Support Team (JST) as well as the members. It also engages in various regional consultations and other relevant global forums and meetings.

Implementation of the Busan commitments is to be tracked by a global monitoring framework, which currently consists of a set of 10 indicators and targets.⁴ The monitoring framework “places particular emphasis on behavior change in development co-operation efforts, which is in turn expected to contribute to the achievement of results as defined in the countries’ development strategies.”⁵ The JST takes the lead in collecting and analyzing the data that is voluntarily submitted by the participating countries, and produces a regular global monitoring report). The first global monitoring survey was undertaken in 2013. The first global progress report, issued in April 2014, captured major trends in progress and challenges, highlighting areas that should be improved to facilitate the implementation of the Busan commitments.

1.3. Lessons Learnt from the Pilot Workshop in November 2013

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea and the UNDP Seoul Policy Center co-hosted an international Workshop (“Implementing Strategies for Effective Development Co-operation at Country Level” in Seoul on 18-19 November 2013, bringing together around 100 policy-makers and development practitioners including those from 30 developing countries. With a broadened global participation, the Workshop provided an opportunity to take stock of the ongoing initiatives, achievements and practical challenges in the implementation of the Busan commitments, drawing on country-level experiences. As such, participants from various constituencies exchanged views and proposed recommendations for making effective development cooperation a reality. The Workshop also provided practical inputs into the work of the SC and the JST. In particular, participants strongly highlighted that there had long been a need for such a forum to help to revive the Busan commitments and consolidate feedback for the HLM of the Global Partnership in Mexico.

2. Korea’s Initiative for the Hosting of an Annual Workshop

Based on such feedback and support from various members of the pilot workshop in November 2013, the Korean Government decided to host a workshop on an annual basis under the tentative title of the Busan Global Partnership Annual Workshop (*hereafter “the Busan GP*

⁴ “Guide to the Monitoring Framework of the Global Partnership—Preliminary Version for Consultation”, available at the Global Partnership website.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p.4.

Workshop”). Korea’s initiative was officially endorsed at the first HLM of GPEDC, held in Mexico City on 15-16 April with the attendance of Ministers and leading representatives of developing and developed countries, multilateral and bilateral development agencies as well as financial institutions, parliaments, local governments, private sector, philanthropic foundations and civil society organizations. The Mexico meeting reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the key Partnership principles, and discussed how the GPEDC could advance efforts to bring about more effective development cooperation, as part of the ‘how’ of the Post-2015 development agenda. In this sense, the Busan GP Workshop was given the mandate in the HLM Communiqué (16 April 2014) to “take stock and bring together partners to review implementation of the Busan commitments at country level, in order to support building up of evidence-based global high level political dialogue and commitment on effective development cooperation”).)

3. Objectives, Opportunities and Outcomes

The Busan GP Workshop will be held in Korea from 2014 onwards, providing a regular, inclusive, and evidence-based meeting for the GPEDC. It will build upon the outcomes of Busan, and will create a global forum to review, assess and improve the implementation dynamics of its commitments at the country level including the monitoring and evaluation system, and will generate critical reflections and recommendations for the bi-annual HLMs and monitoring surveys. By doing so, the Workshop will support the work of the SC and will enhance the process and enrich the substance of the Global Partnership. More specifically, main objectives and expected outcomes of the Workshop are as follows:

- **Provide qualitative evidence and build a lively and consolidated knowledge base on the implementation dynamics of the Busan commitments on the ground.** As the bi-annual global progress report focuses on covering quantitative measures, with data voluntarily submitted by members, the Busan GP Workshop will provide a complementary platform to showcase achievements and best practices, and to discuss bottleneck challenges and lessons learnt. As such, it will help to identify issues that are not captured in the monitoring exercise, and also allow participants to discuss policy issues. It will thereby create a further knowledge base and is expected to contribute to more evidence-based policy work for enhanced implementation of the Global Partnership principles.
- **Provide an inclusive forum for multi-stakeholders across sectors to bring their experiences and insights** gained through their work on the ground and share innovative ideas on how to deliver effective development results. In particular, it will facilitate global political dialogue with development providers from emerging economies and new providers such as private sector entities and philanthropic foundations, together with traditional actors, in order to increase mutual understanding and push for necessary behavior change for more effective development cooperation.
- **Contribute to the work of the SC and biannual HLMs by collecting inputs and recommendations to strengthen the work of the GPEDC.** In particular, the Busan GP Workshop will provide an opportunity for members outside the SC to hold regular discussions on the substance and processes of the Partnership and channel their suggestions for the HLM preparations more systematically.

Provide space for showcasing and intellectual advocacy for key Busan Building Blocks.

Building Blocks require sustained partnership building and coordinated actions from a long-term perspective.⁶ The Workshop will thus provide a forum to share case studies on selected Building Blocks as well as voluntary initiatives out of the Mexico HLM, and to discuss strategies that can maximize their impact. In doing so, the Workshop will galvanize concerted efforts and action-oriented partnerships for these strategic voluntary initiatives. It will also help to create a synergy effect beyond the GPEDC, through outreach, as well as coordination among different modalities and initiatives for development cooperation.

- **Enhance the role of the Global Partnership in the context of the Post-2015 development agenda by facilitating reflections on the agenda in relation to the Partnership principles and commitments.** Participants will examine the way the GPEDC could provide the “how” part of the Post-2015 development agenda, and will also make recommendations on key actions to be undertaken through the GPEDC to accelerate the effective delivery of the post-2015 development goals. The workshop will thereby help to strengthen the GPEDC’s action-oriented role and relevance in the post-2015 era.⁷

Highlights:

The Workshop will support the work of the SC and serve as an institutional bridge among the existing working arrangements of the GPEDC by consolidating suggestions for the HLMs and the global monitoring exercises in a systematic and inclusive manner. In particular, it will allow for GPEDC members outside the SC as well as non-GPEDC participants to hold regular discussions on the substantive issues and processes of the Global Partnership. Discussions will focus in particular on the practical challenges and policy issues which may not be fully captured in the formal monitoring survey exercise.

To further support this function, the Workshop will add a capacity building component, in collaboration with the European Union and the UNDP Seoul Policy Center through the **GPEDC Learning & Accelerating Program**. This program will provide training that will help to bridge the gaps between the GPEDC’s policy agenda and ground-level work, combining the technical and policy perspectives. Those who work in the field and those at the headquarters level will be given an opportunity to share their different perspectives and unique insights, leading to a shared knowledge base within the Global Partnership. This program conducted by KOICA (Korea International Cooperation Agency) will be held back-to-back with the Busan GP Workshop and will be open to the Workshop participants.

⁶ The Busan Building Blocks are voluntary initiatives launched at the Busan HLF-4 aimed to enable development partners and organizations to unite behind (to unite on) pressing development issues and to make concentrated efforts to achieve further progress in areas which may be beyond the commitments of the Busan Partnership.

⁷ Refer to paragraph 3 of the 2014 HLM Communiqué.

4. Format

4.1. Participants

This meeting will bring together around 100 representatives of the Partnership members at the senior and working level, including those of the Co-Chair group of the Steering Committee, SC members, the OECD-UNDP Joint Support Team, as well as a number of eminent political leaders and experts. The Workshop is also open to non-GPEDC members.

4.2. Preparations and Arrangements

Organizers. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea will host the annual workshop in Seoul, in partnership with the Global Partnership Joint Support Team (UNDP and OECD) as well as the UNDP Seoul Policy Center. Inputs and formal participation from relevant institutions and interested members would be appreciated.

Date. The first Busan GP Workshop will take place for two full days on 6-7 November 2014. Beyond 2014, the exact time of the Workshop will be adjusted in accordance with future HLM dates in order to maximize the synergy with the efforts of the HLMs.

Location. The Busan GP Workshop will be held at Ewha Woman's University in Seoul, the Republic of Korea.

Activities. Participants are encouraged to engage in lively discussions and share their experiences and case studies for practical knowledge sharing and technical feedback during the Workshop. The rapporteur assigned for each session of the Workshop will take note of the main issues debated and prepare a report on the session. The main points from each session report will be compiled into a final report as an outcome document, which will be reported to the SC in due course.

4.3. Agenda

The Workshop will comprise of multi-stakeholder plenary discussions, breakout and working group discussions, and parallel thematic discussion sessions, complemented by showcase displays and ad hoc meetings organized by participants as desired. Thematic issues will be selected to meet specific opportunities and needs arising from the emerging Post-2015 development agenda as well as the future HLM agendas. As the 2014 Busan GP Workshop will be held in the same year as the Mexico HLM, it will devote special attention to discussing key achievements, lessons learnt, challenges encountered, as well as follow-up policy issues regarding the first HLM and the global progress report.

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