

**GPEDC Working Group on Country-Level Implementation
of Development Effectiveness Principles**

In light of a set of outstanding questions related to the future mandate of the GPEDC (as identified in the annex), the Working Group has identified a number of recommendations for a successful implementation of development effectiveness principles at country-level.

1. Policy

- a. National governments should adopt a strong and adaptable national development and sustainable development strategy for implementing all relevant development cooperation commitments and principles after an inclusive and participatory process involving parliament, local governments, providers, private sector, civil society organisations and foundations, respecting the principles of broad-based domestic accountability.
- b. This national development and sustainable development strategy should support policy coherence between effective development principles and other country-owned plans to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Alternatively, the national development cooperation policy should be annexed to the national development and sustainable development strategy, to show the role of development cooperation.
- c. The national development and sustainable development strategy should ideally be preceded by a development finance assessment to provide governments with a clear picture of the various sources of development finance available and the necessary policy and institutional adjustments for the realisation of development policies. The national development and sustainable development strategy should also factor in the commitments emanating from all Global Partnership Initiatives that may be operating in the country.
- d. The design, review, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of a national development and sustainable development strategy should be inclusive and include consultations with a wide range of stakeholders (government entities, parliament, local governments, providers, private sector, trade unions, civil society and foundations).
- e. To ensure a transparent process, the national development and sustainable development strategy as well as all related documents should be published and easily accessible by all stakeholders and citizens.
- f. National governments should finance adequately their institutions to build up development effectiveness management capacity and act as catalyst to support all stakeholders and improve global country performance.

2. Country dialogue and enabling environment

- a. Partnership and long-term development relations are vital for effective development cooperation at country-level. Stakeholders shall enter into multi-level, multi-stakeholder partnerships with a sense of mutual respect and understanding. A strong and inclusive partnership among equals is a precondition for engaging all stakeholders in successful and effective deliberations.
- b. When implementing financing for sustainable development, countries shall set up multi-stakeholder platforms to strengthen coordination between national and local governments, parliamentarians, civil society organisations, academia, private sector and providers, particularly with respect to policy formulation, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national development and sustainable development strategies.
- c. Such multi-stakeholder platforms should be guided by strong country ownership and commitment, and a clear delineation and coordination of the roles of national stakeholders. The objectives and rules of functioning should be clearly defined. The representatives should be legitimate; the incentives for individual stakeholders to engage should be identified and taken into consideration. Stakeholders' capacity to engage in the initiative should be strengthened.

- d. The GPEDC Steering Committee should consider recommending that these multi-stakeholder platforms be appointed as a national steering committee to function as the country-level counterpart to the GPEDC Steering Committee. The GPEDC Steering Committee should consider issuing regular guidance to national steering committees as part of its global mandate.
- e. The GPEDC Steering Committee should issue guidance to countries as to how a national steering committee for development cooperation may be constituted. Guidance and support should also be provided to design, monitor and implement national development and sustainable development strategies.
- f. Providers should give their staff training in development effectiveness principles and practice, and ensure that their representatives at country level participate actively in the multi-stakeholder platforms and that actions undertaken at the country level are consistent with global commitments as well as HQ policy.
- g. National governments need to ensure that a framework is in place to allow local governments to play their role in country dialogues, as layer of government closest to the citizens and to implementation of national development and sustainable development strategy. In order to facilitate a true contribution of local governments in country dialogues, local governments should be further supported. This support can be given mainly through capacity building initiatives initiated at national level, by providers or peer local governments.
- h. GPEDC should continue to monitor and evaluate development effectiveness commitments, ensuring full participation of all stakeholders. All stakeholders should also engage actively in following up the findings of the upcoming 2nd progress report at country-level.
- i. The Global Partnership Initiatives contribute to supporting the implementation of Busan commitments at country-level. They test new approaches, generate evidence and develop innovative ways of implementing the principles of development effectiveness. GPEDC should further strengthen the Global Partnership Initiatives' contribution to country-level implementation.

3. Use of data

- a. To improve capacity development and commitment to data and thus the sense of ownership, partner countries should develop local and user-friendly Aid Information Management System (AIMS). Data should be accessible for all stakeholders engaged in the national development and sustainable development strategy and its implementation and used as an analytical tool. AIMS data should be easily exportable to usable formats.
- b. Governmental and non-governmental stakeholders should be able to collect relevant and credible data.
- c. Sustainable Development Goal indicators assessing development effectiveness, such as indicators 17.15 and 17.16, should be taken into account in the GPEDC monitoring round.
- d. Governments should strengthen their central planning, budgeting, monitoring processes to organise better the existing as well as the new information flows and queries and integrate data needs around the core process of planning/country systems.
- e. The sense of ownership at country-level needs to be enhanced through trainings and by raising awareness on the benefits of using data at country-level.
- f. The GPEDC should encourage a shift from data production and publication to data use by developing countries, providers, civil society and other stakeholders.

4. Requested guidance from Steering Committee members

These recommendations focus on what partner countries and development partners should do to improve the implementation of development effectiveness principles at country-level. The GPEDC itself should play a role in supporting these actors on the ground. In order to identify how best to do this, please consider which of the recommendations above should be supported by:

- GPEDC Joint Support Team (JST) globally;
- Regional development effectiveness platforms;
- Global Partnership Initiatives;
- GPEDC membership.

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General questions relevant for the implementation of development effectiveness principles at country-level to be discussed related to the mandate of the GPEDC.

1. What should be the scope of development cooperation in the GPEDC mandate?

- All of the means of implementations in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, including domestic resource mobilisation and policies, to achieve the SDGs;
- All financial means, both public and private coming to a country as well as the interaction between domestic flows and international flows;
- Solely international public finance.

The below graph/spectrum illustrates the existing types of development cooperation. The GPEDC should make it clear what its mandate encompasses.



2. How should development effectiveness principles be translated at country-level?

- Through the mainstreaming of these principles into the national development plan for implementing the SDGs;
- Through a national development cooperation plan, which could be annexed to the national development plan, to show the role of development cooperation as defined above in supporting national objectives.

3. How should country dialogue take place at country-level?

- Through an inclusive single multi-stakeholder platform in which members represent their respective constituencies;
- Through multiple and smaller platforms that have formal rules and procedures adapted to national context to enhance dialogue (i.e. committees organised by type of stakeholder or by sector) which would report to a national GPEDC Steering Committee.

4. Should the GPEDC go beyond producing data and also enhance data use?

- Concentrate on encouraging all development partners to publish data.
- Encourage a shift from data production and publication to data use by developing countries, providers, civil society and other stakeholders.