

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION**INDICATOR 2 - CIVIL SOCIETY OPERATES WITHIN AN ENVIRONMENT WHICH MAXIMISES ITS ENGAGEMENT IN AND CONTRIBUTION TO DEVELOPMENT****Origins of Indicator 2**

The Busan Partnership agreement called on stakeholders to **ensure an enabling environment for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)** to exercise their roles as independent development actors (§22b), and encouraged CSOs to implement practices that strengthen their accountability and their contribution to **development effectiveness** (§22b).

In order to monitor progress in the implementation of the above commitments, the Post-Busan Interim Group (PBIG) proposal endorsed at the final meeting of the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness in 2012 set out an indicator that would assess how **“Civil society operates within an environment which maximises its engagement in and contribution to development”** (Indicator 2).

What does Indicator 2 assess?

Indicator 2 assesses, in a given country, the extent to which the government and providers of development co-operation contribute to a strengthened enabling environment for CSOs, and to which CSOs are implementing development effectiveness principles in their own operations.

What will Indicator 2 achieve?

The indicator aims at providing a **global snapshot** of the state of play of CSO enabling environment and CSO development effectiveness. It also provides a useful tool to **spark multi-stakeholder dialogue at country level between governments, CSOs and providers**, to identify **progress as well as room for improvement in CSO enabling environment and CSO development effectiveness**.

Indicator methodology

Methodology: The approach consists in collecting primary data through a **country-level qualitative questionnaire** and, in parallel, conducting a **desk review** to complement the questionnaire approach.

The proposed **questionnaire is structured around four modules**, which were identified as key elements of the CSO enabling environment and CSO development effectiveness:

(1) **Space for multi-stakeholder dialogue:** this module focuses on processes enabling effective multi-stakeholder dialogue and engagement in the design, implementation and monitoring of national development policies: do they exist, are they institutionalised, inclusive and accessible?

(2) **CSO development effectiveness:** this module assesses the implementation of Istanbul Principles at country-level: are there mechanisms for CSO accountability, representation and coordination?

(3) **Official development co-operation with CSOs:** this module explores to what extent providers consult with CSOs, and how they promote CSO enabling environment through their CSO policy, their CSO financing mechanisms, their CSO administrative requirements, and their policy dialogue with developing country governments.

(4) **Legal and regulatory environment for CSOs:** this module assesses to what extent the country's legal and regulatory environment is it favorable to CSO formation, registration, operation and access to funding, in particular for marginalized groups.

The questionnaire builds on the work of CPDE working group on Enabling Environment, key messages from the CSO Task Team on CSO Enabling Environment and Development Effectiveness, the Istanbul principles and the OECD-DAC approved 12 lessons on partnering with CSOs.

In order to make optimal use of relevant existing quantitative and qualitative evidence, the Joint Support Team, with the support of partners such as the Task Team on CSO Development Effectiveness and Enabling Environment, the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness, the International Centre for Non-for-Profit Law and CIVICUS, will identify existing main studies. **Relevant information gathered through this desk review will feed into the Joint Support Team's analysis at the global level.**

Process: The Joint Support Team is currently exploring options for a relevant and feasible process to monitor indicator 2 at country level during the second monitoring round. The objective would be to encourage data collection and validation through a multi-stakeholder dialogue coordinated by the country government, while at the same time allowing for flexibility in the process according to country context. As for other indicators of the GPEDC monitoring framework, the Joint Support Team would then be responsible for analysing and aggregating the collected data, and presenting the results and findings in the second Progress Report, which will inform discussions at the 2016 High-Level Meeting of the GPEDC.

Main steps in developing the proposed indicator

The methodology was developed in close consultation with the multi-stakeholder Task Team on CSO Development Effectiveness and Enabling Environment (including the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness, CPDE). The proposed approach was endorsed during the last **Steering Committee meeting** of the Global Partnership in January 2015.

The Joint Support Team has since then been refining the approach with the support of an **informal working group** composed of experts from developing country governments, CSOs and providers. The Joint Support Team is engaging in consultations with relevant stakeholders to finalise the methodology so that it offers a useful tool to support multi-stakeholder dialogue at the country level and political snapshots at global level. The Task Team on CSO Development Effectiveness and Enabling Environment, which has played an essential role in this work, is currently coordinating a **broad consultation** on the proposed methodology among its constituencies. In parallel, the Joint Support Team is **light-testing the approach in a few countries.**

Next steps:

1st semester 2015: finalising the indicator ahead of the next Steering Committee meeting (Sept. 2015)

2015-2016: monitoring indicator 2 in interested countries during the 2nd monitoring round of the GPEDC.