



PHILANTHROPY FORUM

Partnering for Development: A Balancing Act

29 November 2016 | Nairobi, Kenya

Towards a strengthened partnership

The development community is focusing now more than ever on delivering impact at scale. Foundations are playing a key part in this debate as they seek to leverage their resources more effectively and maximise their partnerships with other development actors. Yet, partnering remains a tall order for most development actors, including foundations.

Towards this goal, the **Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation** (Global Partnership) was established in 2012 to improve the way diverse development actors work together. The Global Partnership strives to provide and promote **principles, data and good practice** on effective partnerships. It offers a **platform for knowledge exchange and accountability** (Box 1). It specifically brings the voices and experiences of governments, civil society, trade unions, the private sector, foundations, local and regional governments, and parliamentarians to the table, and benefits from the support of key international organisations such as UNDP, the OECD and multilateral development agencies. **Foundations** are recognised by the Global Partnership as an important development actor. Since obtaining a permanent seat in the Steering Committee in 2014, foundations have increasingly been engaged in the Global Partnership’s work (Box 2).

Why the Philanthropy Forum matters

The upcoming **Philanthropy Forum**, organised on 29 November 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya in the margins of the **Global Partnership’s Second High-Level Meeting** (Box 3) provides a unique occasion for foundations to delve into current trends, challenges and opportunities for effective partnerships. The political momentum of the HLM will also benefit this Forum and allow philanthropy to position itself in the development ecosystem. Foundations will notably be able to dialogue with policy makers and other development actors on issues related to the “how” of the 2030 agenda, such as the enabling environment for philanthropy and modalities for deeper collaboration on shared objectives.

More specifically, the Philanthropy Forum provides foundations with the opportunity to:

- **Identify and articulate key policy messages and expectations of the philanthropic sector** on challenges and barriers that foundations face in working with governments and other development partners (i.e. enabling environment, lack of data, etc.).
- **Agree on concrete next steps** for philanthropy to engage in a more meaningful and a longer term dialogue on effective development partnerships and strengthen its positioning within the Global Partnership.

- **Network and dialogue with other foundations**, showcasing examples of successful philanthropic activities and sharing opportunities and challenges of partnering with other development actors to achieve greater impact.

Foundations participating in the Philanthropy Forum also will be invited to participate in all events of the Second High-Level Meeting, including the **high-level ministerial segment** on 30 November to 1 December 2016 (Box 3).

The Philanthropy Forum will take place over one full day. The Forum will bring together senior representatives of philanthropic organisations and associations worldwide to dive into themes of mutual interest:

- **The contribution of philanthropy to more effective development co-operation:** Foundations' contribution to development goes beyond financial resources. They also offer knowledge, expertise and the flexibility and ability to innovate, as well as deeper grassroots orientation and insights. Consider, for instance, impact investment or venture philanthropy. The Philanthropy Forum will raise awareness about the financial and non-financial contributions of philanthropy for more effective development co-operation.
- **Effective multi-stakeholder partnerships:** As both foundations and governments seek to expand and increase their impact, new models of working together emerge. These models extend beyond traditional strategies of government taking philanthropic innovation to scale or foundations engaging governments to influence public policy. The Philanthropy Forum will highlight concrete examples of how foundations and governments can join forces to address critical development problems more effectively. It will also help convey policy messages on the remaining challenges that foundations face when working with governments.
- **Enabling environment for philanthropy:** The enabling environment for civil society and philanthropy is rapidly changing. Local and home-country regulations, fiscal issues (e.g. discriminatory treatment of foreign donations or tax incentives) or capital controls are common constraints faced by philanthropic organisations. The Philanthropy Forum's discussions will help raise awareness of the potentially harmful effects of these practices on philanthropic giving and explore policies that are more conducive to the international philanthropic sector.
- **Philanthropic data:** The desire is strong for better mapping, monitoring and evaluating the sources and magnitude of philanthropy from developed and emerging economies to the developing world. The Philanthropy Forum will discuss opportunities and emerging models to build data strategy and capacity, how to collect and share data and knowledge more easily and also share lessons among development actors.

Forum partners

The Government of Kenya will host the Philanthropy Forum, which the **OECD Network of Foundations Working for Development (netFWD)** will organise in partnership with other philanthropic networks and organisations, including, among others, the **Aga Khan Foundation (AKF)**, the **Arab Foundations Forum (AFF)**, the **East Africa Association of Grantmakers (EAAG)**, the **Foundation Center**, the **Kenya Philanthropy Forum**, the **SDG Philanthropy Platform** and the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.

Interested to learn more?

Box 1: The Global Partnership at a Glance

The Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (Global Partnership) was established in Busan, South Korea in 2011 to set the international standard for effective development co-operation. Some 161 governments and 52 organisations endorsed the Global Partnership's principles, including:

- **Ownership of development priorities by developing countries:** Is the development co-operation based on the needs and priorities defined by the developing countries?
- **Focus on results:** Are the resources provided by different development actors making an impact on eradicating poverty and reducing inequality?
- **Inclusive development partnerships:** Are all development actors engaged in an open dialogue on

development co-operation? Do they trust each other?

- **Transparency and accountability:** Are development actors interacting in a transparent and accountable fashion? If not, what can development co-operation do to push for behaviour change?

Three High-Level Co-chairs and a **Steering Committee** made up of 24 constituency representatives lead the Global Partnership. They bring together representatives of governments, private sector, foundations, civil society organisations, parliaments and local governments, multilateral development banks, and international and regional organisations. Foundations, civil society organisation, parliamentarians and the private sector also have seats. Each stakeholder agreed to turn the shared principles into specific actions according to a set of “differential commitments.” This means that traditional donors agreed to implement the principles in full, while other development actors are willing to adhere to them on a voluntary basis.

Box 2: Philanthropy and the GPEDC

The Global Partnership officially recognised foundations as partners in development at its 2014 ministerial meeting (First High-Level Meeting) in Mexico. Its [final communiqué](#) recognises philanthropy beyond its funding capacity as a source also of expertise and knowledge.

Foundations have been engaged with the Global Partnership in a variety of ways since then

- **Guidelines on Effective Philanthropic Engagement:** As a response to the Busan principles, philanthropic actors¹ drafted a document to clarify the co-operation and collaboration aspirations of the philanthropic sector. Under the three pillars of dialogue, data/knowledge sharing and partnerships, these guidelines are a practical and non-binding tool developed to help foundations improve development outcomes through collaboration with governments.
- **Country pilots:** Building on the political acknowledgement at the GPEDC’s First High-Level Meeting, the OECD’s netFWD used the Guidelines on Effective Philanthropic Engagement to broker the dialogue and co-operation between foundations and government in India, Mexico, Myanmar, Kenya² and South Africa. Each country pilot focuses on a specific issue, such as child and maternal health in India or entrepreneurship in Mexico. These country pilots collect data on the relationship between foundations and governments and help local stakeholders identify concrete steps – in the form of action plans – for more effective future collaboration. The results of the country pilots will be presented at the Second High-Level Meeting.
- **Representation on the Steering Committee of the Global Partnership:** Foundations have a permanent and continuous representation on the GPEDC’s Steering Committee. This reflects the eagerness of governments to dialogue and co-operate with the philanthropic sector. Stars Foundation and the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation consecutively have been representing foundations at the GPEDC since 2014. The OECD Network of Foundations Working for Development (netFWD), housed at the OECD’s Development Centre, has been providing ongoing secretariat support to the foundations’ representative on the GPEDC’s Steering Committee.

Box 3: About the Second High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership

¹ Under the leadership of the OECD’s Network of Foundations Working for Development (netFWD), with support from Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support (WINGS), the European Foundation Centre (EFC), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Rockefeller Foundation and Stars Foundation.

² The pilot in Kenya is organised in collaboration with the SDG Philanthropy Platform, and the East African Association of Grantmakers.

The Global Partnership will hold its **Second High-Level Meeting** (HLM2) on 28 November to 1 December 2016 in Nairobi, Kenya. HLM2 will bring together key development actors to set priorities and launch specific actions to improve the effectiveness, quality and impact of all forms of development co-operation for the 2030 era. Preparatory sessions will take place on 28-29 November, followed by the high-level ministerial segment on 30 November to 1 December.

Preparatory days

28-29 November 2016

Two preparatory days provide the opportunity for a range of stakeholders to meet in advance of the high-level segment. Forums are planned for civil society, youth, women, parliamentarians, local governments, foundations and the private sector.

High-level ministerial segment

30 November-1 December 2016

The two-day high-level ministerial meeting offers a unique platform for heads of state, ministers, heads of major international organisations, leaders from civil society, the private sector, foundations and local governments, and parliamentarians to highlight successes and identify innovative approaches. The meetings will include **seven plenary sessions**, a series of **side events** and **marketplace stalls** for showcasing successful innovation or implementation and sharing knowledge.