Country-Level Impact and Progress
The Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation is a fervent promoter of multi-stakeholder partnerships for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It supports countries in establishing and strengthening platforms for multi-stakeholder dialogue and bringing together a wide variety actors to collaborate in the spirit of openness, trust and mutual respect.

The Global Partnership’s work is guided by the principles of development effectiveness – a focus on results, country ownership, inclusivity and transparency and accountability. By sharing knowledge and learning from diverse modalities of development co-operation, the Global Partnership helps scale up the impact of development co-operation. Through inclusive dialogue, the Global Partnership helps development partners realise the shared benefit of co-operation.

The Global Partnership also contributes to SDG follow-up and review through its monitoring framework, which assesses progress against a set of 10 indicators that focus on strengthening developing countries’ and territories’ institutions, increasing the transparency and predictability of development co-operation, enhancing gender equality and supporting greater involvement of civil society, parliaments and the private sector. The monitoring exercise generates evidence that supports development actors in maximising the impact of development resources, and reinforces productive, multi-stakeholder dialogue. As illustrated in the following stories from Bangladesh, Tanzania, Kenya, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Mexico, Uganda and Myanmar, the Global Partnership’s work supports countries on their unique paths to realising the 2030 Agenda.

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Bangladesh

The Government of Bangladesh emphasised the SDGs in the priority areas outlined in its Seventh Five Year Plan (2016-2020), and its SDGs Action Plan takes a ‘whole-of-society’ approach to ensure wide participation of development partners, CSOs and the private sector. Bangladesh has finalised and published an SDG Data Gap Analysis, and a National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for SDGs is currently in progress. Also in progress is the government’s ‘SDGs Needs Assessment and Financing’ exercise, and the development of a macro-level data repository to facilitate a result-based monitoring system. Bangladesh is also participating in the Voluntary National Review of the SDGs during the United Nations’ 2017 High-Level Political Forum.

As part of its broader national efforts to realise the SDGs, Bangladesh is working to ensure a coherent policy approach and strong, effective development co-operation, namely through the recently established ‘Development Effectiveness Wing’ in the Economic Relations Division (ERD) of the Ministry of Finance. The government finalised its draft National Policy on Development Co-operation and is currently updating the Joint Co-operation Strategy to guide joint efforts between government and development partners in implementing national development priorities. The ERD’s ‘Professional Certificate Course on International Development Co-operation’ will help create a pool of informed civil servants, and its online Aid Information Management System (AIMS) (http://aims.erd.gov.bd) ensures transparency and accountability of foreign flows in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh also undertook a Development Finance Assessment (DFA), supported by UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub, host of the Asia-Pacific Development Effectiveness Facility (AP-DEF). The government published the results of its DFA, which underscored the important role of public and private investment in achieving the national development agenda.

Tanzania

In 2016, the Government of Tanzania adopted the overarching National Five Year Development Plan and the Zanzibar Strategy for Economic and Social Transformation, which set a national focus on improving the lives of the poor, transitioning into middle-income status and becoming a semi-industrialised nation. Achieving the Five Year Development Plan will require TZS 107 trillion (approximately USD47.8 billion), twice the amount for the Five Year Development Plan preceding it. It is expected to draw on multiple sources of financing, especially the private sector.

With this context in mind, the Government of Tanzania commissioned a facilitation team in 2016 to design a new dialogue framework between the government and broader development stakeholders to explore opportunities and identify obstacles for managing development co-operation effectively. Dr. Donald Kaberuka led the dialogue facilitation exercise, which reviewed existing dialogue structures and relationships between the government and development partners, with the goal of making them fit for purpose. The ‘Kaberuka Process’, as it has come to be known, establishes a multi-stakeholder platform for building trust and discussing broader strategic issues between the government and development partners. It is also expected to spark innovative ideas to further engage the private sector and non-traditional partners in development initiatives in Tanzania.

Since May 2017, the Government of Tanzania and development partners have started to draw on past achievements and recommendations from the Kaberuka Final Report of April 2017 to propose a new Development Co-operation Framework to be endorsed in July 2017.
In November 2016, the Government of Kenya launched an External Resources Policy (KERP) that guides the effective mobilisation and management of international development finance flows, especially Official Development Assistance (ODA). The KERP was developed based on broad-based stakeholder consultations between the government, development partners, civil society and academia, aiming to strategically link national resource mobilisation with the achievement of the long-term Vision 2030, Medium-Term Plans (MTPs) and County Integrated Development Plans. Through the KERP, the Government of Kenya strives for inclusive dialogue and participatory approaches in national and sub-national development planning, implementation and evaluation, while also formulating a Mutual Accountability Framework. More importantly, it recognises the crucial role of non-state actors in joining ongoing effort towards achieving the national development priorities. One such non-state actor is the philanthropy sector, which, in the post-2015 era, has been increasingly recognised as an essential partner in the country-led sustainable development process. Through the SDG Philanthropy Platform (SDG PP), hosted within the United Nations Resident Coordinator’s Office, the Government of Kenya and the philanthropy sector engage in constructive and innovative discussion, recognising philanthropy’s unique contribution to sustainable development. This includes regular, multi-stakeholder dialogue on leveraging philanthropy in efforts towards national development priorities such as early childhood development and education. For example, through the Social Investment Focused Agenda (SIFA) initiative, the Government of Kenya in conjunction with the SDG PP, UNDP, OECD netFWD, and philanthropic foundations such as the East African Association of Grantmakers and the Kenya Philanthropy Forum launched an initiative to pilot the Guidelines for Effective Philanthropic Engagement in Kenya. The voluntary, non-binding guidelines were developed to maximise the collective impact delivered by philanthropic actors, governments and development agencies, and this pilot demonstrates a multi-stakeholder approach to create and implement an SDG roadmap. Government and philanthropy are also partnering to improve national statistical capacity for comprehensive measurement of SDG progress. The Kenya Data Forum is an example of a multi-stakeholder effort to enhance data collection and analysis. Additionally, with the largest concentration of impact investors in East Africa, Kenya has enormous potential for innovative finance solutions such as blended finance and impact investing, as well as partnerships with the private sector. To unlock this potential, philanthropy and development partners established public-private co-ordination structures such as the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA). KEPSA facilitates the establishment of public-private dialogue platforms, amplifying the voices of the private sector in policymaking, including through bi-annual roundtables presided over by the President of Kenya. To date, KEPSA has held seven Presidential Roundtables.
Lao PDR

It is becoming increasingly clear that Lao People’s Democratic Republic must pursue new forms of partnerships to address its complex development challenges. With this in mind, Lao PDR is actively engaged in dialogue with a range of partners to chart a development pathway to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

Lao PDR’s National Round Table Process aligns government, development partners, the private sector and civil society with the goals of its 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP). Participating partners have common objectives, including poverty reduction, graduation from Least Developed Country status and achievement of the 2030 Agenda – ultimately, to improve the lives of the people in Lao PDR. The Round Table Process is led by the government and co-chaired by UNDP/UN Resident Coordinator, and over the last 15 years, with the continuous support of UNDP, the Round Table Process has evolved from a traditional pledging conference to a multi-stakeholder platform promoting greater national ownership, partners’ alignment with national priorities and better harmonisation among development partners.

The dialogue is putting increasing emphasis on South-South Co-operation, inclusion of business and civil society in the development dialogue and exploring domestic resource mobilisation.

In this context, the Government of Lao PDR recognises the value of building a more integrated and coherent approach to managing various sources of development finance. To this end, the government, with support from UNDP, conducted a Development Finance and Aid Assessment. The assessment provided evidence and analysis for Lao PDR to formulate an Integrated National Financing Framework.

As part of the Round Table Process, the Government of Lao PDR and UNDP co-host an annual Round Table Implementation Meeting to enable a joint review by government and development partners on the progress made in implementing national development policies and to ensure maximum impact of efforts. The November 2016 meeting provided an opportunity for multi-stakeholder discussions on emerging policy issues and national development priorities as well as ways to enhance mutual accountability, predictability and a focus on results. The participants had the opportunity to witness results first hand by visiting actual projects. The critical areas of engagement in 2016 included green growth, climate change and disaster preparedness; food and nutrition security; progress on the SDGs, including the national SDG 18 on unexploded ordinance; and progress on the Vientiane Declaration Country Action Plan on development effectiveness, which addresses the means of implementation under SDG 17.

“Good progress is being achieved in Lao PDR to strengthen the partnership needed for accelerated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. This is resulting in a stronger and more diverse partnership with regional development partners, the private sector and civil society,” said Ms. Kaarina Immonen, UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident Coordinator. After development partners briefed the Prime Minister of Lao PDR, the Prime Minister communicated the results to line ministries, highlighting the importance the government attributes to its partners.
The Government of Uganda’s Program Based Budgeting (PBB), which began this year, seeks to increase development effectiveness through improved budget efficiency and transparency. The PBB, which replaced the previous Output Based Budgeting, helps create a more effectively managed budgeting process by focusing on results/outcomes, establishing clear linkages to national development priorities and enhancing transparency and accountability through a well-defined institutional mechanism. The PBB requires all programmes to be aligned to strategic objectives, thus strengthening resource prioritisation and achievement of budget outcomes. Multiple development stakeholders, including civil society, parliament, district councils and the general public were consulted throughout the PBB adoption process.

Under the leadership of the Office of the Prime Minister, Uganda also established a strategic co-ordination framework for the SDGs. The framework has significantly contributed to more co-ordinated work on various aspects related to SDGs by bringing together various state and non-state actors through the respective technical working groups. Five multi-institutional Technical Working Groups cover: Coordination, Monitoring and Reporting (led by OPM); Planning and Mainstreaming (National Planning Authority); Data (Uganda Bureau of Statistics); and Communication and Advocacy (Ministry of Information, Communication Technology and National Guidance). The Technical Working Groups aim to ensure that development planning and implementation is coherent and avoids duplication of effort. In addition, Government-led Sector Working Groups help inform the Technical Working Groups, thereby ensuring linkages between Uganda’s SDG co-ordination framework and stakeholder implementation. The Planning and Mainstreaming
In 2016, Myanmar participated in the Global Partnership’s second monitoring round for the first time, generating evidence on progress in development co-operation and effectiveness. Four core results emerged: first, the principles of effective development co-operation were integrated into the initial draft of the Myanmar Development Assistance policy; second, the monitoring round facilitated the collection of comprehensive data where all key stakeholders - government, civil society, private sector, parliament, development partners, international NGOs - participated for the first time; third, it collected qualitative information including evidence on the inclusive approach of the government with the private sector and CSOs; and fourth, the results of the Global Partnership CSO Enabling Environment Workshop supported the national working policy paper on Enabling Environment for CSOs.

In the second half of 2016, the government launched a new economic policy and a Development Assistance Coordination Unit (DACU), which enhances linkages between the SDGs and development co-operation efforts. This new unit leads on all development co-operation matters in the government, with FERD co-ordinating among line ministries, development partners, civil society and the private sector on a working level. At the sectoral level, the government-led Sector Working Groups (SWGs) co-ordinate activities among government ministries, development partners, INGOs, CSOs and the private sector to support alignment of development priorities with implementation of the SDGs. The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (UMFCCI) and the Myanmar Business Forum were identified as potential private sector champions for strengthening public-private dialogue for development impact. Development partners such as the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank and UNDP—through the Global Partnership’s second monitoring round—

Myanmar is the fastest growing aid recipient in the region, with a 451% increase since 2012. With aid increasing rapidly, Myanmar recognised the critical need for aid co-ordination and government ownership.
providing capacity building support to enable inclusive participation in public-private dialogue between the government and private sector.

Myanmar has also made progress toward increasing transparency of development finance flows. The Aid Information Management System, known as ‘Mohinga’ (mohinga.info), is fully compatible with the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standard. It enables the sharing of information on development assistance with a wider range of development stakeholders, public and private, within the region and beyond. A variety of open data sources have also emerged, such as the Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU), which is administratively housed within the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office.

To continue its efforts toward maximising the impact and effectiveness of development, Myanmar is currently undertaking the Development Finance Assessment (DFA) with support from UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub, host of the Asia-Pacific Development Effectiveness Facility (AP-DEF). The results of the DFA are expected to provide an overview of the national development finance landscape and contribute to the establishment of a holistic, integrated national financing framework, in response to the call in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.