

Concept note

November 21-22, 2017 | Busan, Republic of Korea

Introduction

The purpose of this concept note is to define the key objectives of the 2017 Busan Global Partnership Forum and outline the main agenda and deliverables. It will be used for consultation with key stakeholders in refining and shaping the 2017 Forum. The government of the Republic of Korea will also take into account relevant objectives of Global Partnership stakeholders and ensure a coherent and useful agenda in line with other critical Global Partnership milestones to enhance the effectiveness and relevance of the 2017 Forum.

Background and Objectives: Annual Busan Global Partnership Forums

The Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation agreed upon at the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in 2011 led to the launch of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC, hereafter the Global Partnership), which is a multi-stakeholder initiative that brings together stakeholders from developed and developing countries, civil society, the private sector, and others. In 2014, the Korean government launched the Busan Global Partnership Forum series¹ to contribute to and measure the progress of implementation of the Busan Principles² at the country level. In conjunction with Global Partnership Global Meetings,³ the Forum provides a unique opportunity to bring together policy makers and practitioners to share country experiences and explore in detail the enabling factors and contexts that led to successful development outcomes.

The overall objectives of the annual forums include:

- Strengthening support for the Busan Principles and commitments
- Reviewing progress in implementing the principles and commitments at the country level and sharing critical knowledge and experiences
- Capitalizing on the work of previous Busan forums, the Global Partnership and the Global Partnership Initiatives⁴ while feeding the annual forum outcomes to the Global Partnership
- Contributing to the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

1) The Forum was held in association with the Learning and Accelerating Program (LAP) by KOICA. However, LAP will not take place this year.

2) The Busan Partnership document highlights a set of common principles for all development actors that are key to making development cooperation effective – the four development effectiveness principles are country ownership, a focus on results, inclusive partnerships, and transparency and accountability.

3) The Global Partnership High-Level Meetings have been held in 2014 in Mexico and in 2016 in Kenya. Stand-alone High-Level Meetings will be held in an extended cycle adapted to the calendar of global level conferences and meetings. Stand-alone High-Level Meetings will be interspersed with high-level segments, to take place in the margins of relevant meetings on development finance and cooperation.

4) Global Partnership Initiatives (GPIs) are voluntary initiatives led by different types of development actors to advance the implementation of development effectiveness principles and commitments including the Busan Principles. For more information, please visit the Global Partnership website (<http://effectivecooperation.org>).

Key Considerations for the 2017 Forum

Following up on the success of the annual forums from 2014 onwards, the 2017 Forum will consider the following:

First, the 2017 Forum will be a venue to reflect on the progress made since Nairobi and to accelerate the action agreed upon through the 2017-2018 Work Programme of the Global Partnership to demonstrate the impact of effective development cooperation and to strengthen its contribution to achieving the SDGs by 2030. It will also provide substantive inputs for the next Global Partnership Global Meeting. It should also align with the following events that are expected to take place in 2017 and 2018:

- BRICS Development Partnership Administrators Meeting in August 2017
- Development Cooperation Forum Argentina High-Level Symposium in September 2017
- Annual Meeting of Senior Officials and Ministers of Foreign Affairs of G77 in September 2017
- World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings to take place in October 2017
- South-South Development Expo to take place in Dubai in October 2017
- 14th Steering Committee Meeting to take place in October 2017
- G20 Development Working Group Meeting to take place in October 2017
- Development Cooperation Forum Symposium to take place in early 2018
- 15th and 16th Steering Committee Meeting to take place in 2018
- 6th High Level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum to take place in New York in July 2018
- Financing for Development Forum and the UN High Level Political Forum to take place in mid-2018
- 13th G20 meeting to take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 2018

Second, the 2017 forum will take into account feedback from key stakeholders, including the Co-Chairs, Steering Committee and Joint Support Team (JST) of the Global Partnership and participants of the 2016 Forum, to make it more integrated and aligned with the discussions held at the Global Partnership and in other international fora. It will also strive to maximise the contribution of the 2017 Forum to enhance development effectiveness and achieve the SDGs by 2030.

Proposed Objectives of the 2017 Busan Global Partnership Forum

The Forum will serve as a platform for discussions by a range of stakeholders including governments, civil society, the private sector and international organisations to significantly enhance efforts by all stakeholders to have an impact at country level; increase high-level political engagement and action across the Global Partnership; attract greater interest and participation from emerging economies and emerging development partners from the South, the private sector, foundations, parliamentarians and local government; secure sufficient funding from across the Global Partnership; and address the way forward for the Global Partnership to contribute to successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

Specifically, the 2017 Forum aims to provide an opportunity for the Global Partnership stakeholders to:

1. Review and assess progress made, remaining gaps, and existing challenges in the implementation of the Busan Principles on development effectiveness
2. Identify a series of development challenges and opportunities related to financing for development, South-South Cooperation, and effective private sector engagement in development cooperation.
3. Provide inputs for discussions on the contribution of effectiveness of development cooperation and the Global Partnership monitoring framework to the follow-up and review of the SDGs and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda
4. Facilitate open dialogue and encourage the sharing of experiences among governments, multilateral organisations, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders to strengthen mutual learning and knowledge sharing on effective development cooperation, enhancing the role and function of the annual Busan Forum in this regard

- Advocate for continued momentum in implementing agreed effective development cooperation commitments in line with previous discussions at the High-Level Meetings and take account of issues and proposals to be discussed at the next global meeting

Deliverables of the 2017 Forum

A comprehensive outcome report with a set of proposals will deliver the key issues, discussions, and conclusions of the Forum. Recommendations will provide inputs to the implementation of the Global Partnership's Programme of Work, focusing on unlocking the bottlenecks in implementing the four shared principles agreed at Busan while strengthening existing commitments to achieve the SDGs and updating the Global Partnership monitoring framework for 2030, as well as strengthening engagement with the private sector and learning from different modalities of development cooperation. The forum will also focus on establishing an outline and roadmap of the Global Action Plan and delivering meaningful inputs to pre-shape the agenda of the next Global Partnership Global Meeting.

Dates for 2017 Busan Global Partnership Forum

November 21 - 22

Note: The Forum will convene over two days, from November 21-22, 2017 (Tue. – Wed.) in Busan, Korea.

Proposed Outline of 2017 Forum

- Day 1** Opening ceremony and plenary review of major progress and challenges in implementing the Busan Principles as well as breakout sessions on selected topics.
- Day 2** Continued plenary sessions on assessing the Global Partnership activities and monitoring tools with special emphasis on the achievement of the SDGs, and a closing session.

Proposed Agenda Elements

The Forum will provide substantial input into the official discussions on progress of the implementation of the Busan principles at the country level and the Global Partnership's contribution to the SDGs. The Forum will include opening and closing sessions, plenary sessions, and breakout sessions.

Day 1 | *Accelerating action towards implementing the Busan Principles and commitments to enhance development effectiveness*

■ Opening session

■ Global context of effective development cooperation

- Reflecting on trends in global policy dialogue on effective development cooperation, including a discussion of the changing context; a recap of the outcomes of Nairobi and what this means going forward; an overview of the Global Partnership's 2017-2018 Work Programme; and how the Global Partnership is contributing to and engaged in global development processes.

■ Plenary session 1

"Reflecting on the progress since Busan and strengthening the momentum towards stronger development effectiveness"

- Progress on implementation of the Busan Principles and related commitments has been tracked by regular monitoring exercises, and the second monitoring round conducted in 2016 generated evidence to highlight where attention is needed to accelerate progress. The Global Partnership High Level Meetings were held in 2014 and 2016 to take stock of the implementation of development effectiveness principles and provide a mutual learning space for various stakeholders.

Notably, a year would have passed since the launch of the 2016 report as well as the 2016 High-Level Meeting in Nairobi by the time the 2017 Forum takes place. It will be effective to share how much progress and political commitment has been made since 2016 to ensure that all stakeholders are on track to implement the principles of development effectiveness. Therefore, the 2017 Forum will recap the discussion outcome of the Nairobi (HLM2) with progress made since 2011 Busan HLF-4 and 2016 HLM2 respectively, and generate critical reflection on the main areas of work that still require utmost effort.

This session will also focus on the key challenges and bottlenecks that block development effectiveness shared by representatives from developing countries, civil society organisations, international organisations, the private sector, and donor countries. The session will round off by sharing innovative solutions to overcome such bottlenecks.

■ Plenary session 2

"Fostering mutual learning from different modalities of development cooperation"

- Since Busan HLF4, a more inclusive and multi-stakeholder approach, including through the Global Partnership, has taken a stronger role in the development cooperation landscape. With the introduction of new donors from the South and the East, as well as from both private and public sectors, the modalities of development cooperation continue to change.

The main objective of this session will be to foster mutual learning from innovative approaches and solutions tried and tested by different modalities of development cooperation by different actors. This session will kick off with a brief introduction of the evolving global partnership modalities and the characteristics of new providers' roles and actions in international development cooperation. It will then focus on the impacts and results across different modalities, engagement with the private sector, mutual learning and the promotion of innovative practices.

Participation of the Southern donors, notably India and China, and the private sector will be invaluable in sharing their challenges in engaging with the Global Partnership.⁵ We also encourage developing countries to share their experience in engaging with different types of aid providers (e.g. North, South and Triangular) to promote better mutual understanding. This session will conclude by describing the implications of changing aid modalities and architecture on global partnership.

■ Breakout sessions into 3 groups on the following topics

- The breakout sessions focus on the main areas of global interest in which the different modalities and actors play a significant role and generate both synergies and tradeoffs. The main objective of the breakout sessions are to further expand the discussion from the previous sessions on the unfinished business in enhancing development effectiveness, identification of key opportunities and challenges and learning from different modalities, all of which apply to the three areas. In addition, the three areas play a key role in the 2030 Agenda. Discussion at country-level will contribute to the exchange of ideas, mutual learning and understanding of different contexts.

1. Financing for development:

The Global Partnership, as a multi-stakeholder platform, plays a distinct role as a bridge between global processes at the High-Level Political Forum, as well as the Development Cooperation Forum and Financing for Development Forum, and the application of those discussions at the country level.

5) For example, Xiaoyun Li of the China Agricultural University recently published a paper entitled "Should China Join the GPEDC? The Prospects for China and the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation."

As the importance of financing for development has been recognised with regard to a newly-shaped development landscape, this session will focus on the coordination and alignment of different sources of finance in line with the national development strategies of partner countries while strengthening the management of finance; trends in non-financial development including technical cooperation and capacity development; and global trends and lessons from Development Finance Assessments.

2. 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals – the Role of South-South Cooperation

Background

The 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) vision is one of overcoming poverty and protecting the planet. It focuses on sustainable development that embraces economic, social and environmental dimensions. At the heart of 2030 development agenda is the notion of leaving no one behind. Financing such an ambition will require enormous resources. Adequate resources are available globally. In fact, the six largest Middle Income Countries (MICs) now account for roughly the same share of global Domestic Product as the six largest High Income Countries (HICs). Although, most of the world's extreme poor also reside in MICs. Large amounts of investable resources, mostly private are held in advanced and emerging economies. Domestic resources, even in low income countries can be increased. However, allocation and effective use of available public and private resources to achieve the SDGs will not be automatic. A paradigm shift is required to unlock the resources and approaches including South-South Cooperation (SSC) needed to achieve the SDGs.

Focus and Format:

UNDP will facilitate a break-out session on SSC, an integral approach to achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. Participants will reflect, discuss and act on the global context of effective development cooperation, first plenary on reflecting on progress made since Busan and the second plenary on fostering mutual learning from different actors, types and modalities. In line with the theme of this year's 4th Busan Global Partnership Forum of paving the way forward for the 2030 Agenda and SDGs, the break-out session will address the following key questions:

1. How can finance, technology and capacity building through SSC be effectively adapted to economic, social and environmental transformations necessary for sustainable development?
2. What would a SSC mechanism/system for economic, social and environmental transformations necessary for sustainable development, look like? What are 2 to 3 key elements critical for SSC to deliver lasting development impacts?
3. What is the role of the private sector in SSC and what are the impacts and key considerations for sustainability issues, inclusion and leaving no one behind?

A facilitated panel of participants at the 4th Busan Global Partnership Forum will share their views on these questions, followed by an interactive open and frank discussion with session participants in a Davos-style set-up.

3. Scaling up private sector engagement through development cooperation:

The private sector is a key player in international development cooperation. Efforts have been made in supporting an enabling environment for private sector development (PSD), whilst individual business practices of private sector actors and their value chains are increasingly geared towards being conducive to development concerns and priorities ("Responsible business conduct"). Private sector partnerships deliver specific projects or interventions by combining forces – resources, skills, expertise, etc. – between public development actors and private business. Increasingly, donors directly finance projects implemented by private businesses (through Development Finance Institutions) and financing is mobilised from commercial providers to supply financing needs for sustainable development.

There is a need to ensure that operations that involve the private sector remain focused on development results and demonstrate impact, support country ownership, benefit the poorest and the most marginalised, engage a range of private sector partners and are carried out in a transparent and accountable manner.

The Global Partnership has been mandated at the Nairobi HLM to facilitate an inclusive engagement process with stakeholders to address these issues and examine how effective private sector engagement in development cooperation can be scaled up. By the end of 2018, it aims to: (i) produce inclusive evidence on different aspects of effective private sector engagement; (ii) support inclusive dialogue with all stakeholders to address concerns and promote effective private sector engagement; and (iii) develop inclusive guidance for governments, the private sector and civil society, in particular to adapt donor policies and instruments for more effective private sector engagement.

This session provides an opportunity to engage in a dialogue with private sector representatives to identify good practices and key challenges and opportunities for more effective private sector engagement, as well as the needs SMEs and larger companies have in contributing to sustainable development and how the international community can support them.

■ Feedback from breakout sessions

- This session will begin with brief presentation on key discussion outcomes by the rapporteurs (or moderators) from each breakout session. Then, the panelists will discuss the interlinkages among the three breakout session discussions. The interconnectivity should include both synergies and tradeoffs, as well as avoiding duplications. Then, the panelists will discuss the implications of the discussion outcome on the Global Partnership and development effectiveness.

Day 2

Sharing critical reflections on the 2016 monitoring report and strengthening the monitoring framework to support the SDGs

■ Plenary session 3

"Strengthening the Global Partnership monitoring framework and making the country-level monitoring process more effective"

- Day 2 will specifically concentrate on monitoring, in terms of improving data and indicators to enhance the relevance of its monitoring evidence and renovating the monitoring framework.

The Global Partnership monitoring framework is recognised as an inclusive tool to follow up on and review the SDGs and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. To take a further step in monitoring progress on the implementation of the Busan Principles, the GPEDC seeks to strengthen and update the monitoring framework to reflect the challenges posed by the 2030 Agenda.

This session will focus on strengthening the existing monitoring framework and building capacity to implement the monitoring exercise and utilise its results. The latter in particular will help make the country-level monitoring process more effective, inclusive and action-oriented. This session will review the challenges in monitoring development effectiveness under the current framework. Then, it will pay special attention to issues such as the roadmap for refining the monitoring framework; the methodology used; the links between the Global Partnership monitoring framework, data, and the potential results of the 2030 Agenda; the utilisation of the monitoring framework in partner countries through capacity building; and the involvement of the diverse actors such as philanthropies and private enterprises in monitoring. Lastly, this session will focus on the work being undertaken to adapt the Global Partnership monitoring framework to the changing global context. The Forum will discuss key issues to be addressed by the framework, including systematic issues (gender, state fragility, and climate change), private sector engagement, and others.

■ Roundtable

"Innovative means to overcome challenges for stronger global partnership and effective development cooperation"

- This session was specifically designed to promote in-depth discussion on some of the major challenges facing global partnership and effective development cooperation. The panelists will provide insight into these challenges and discuss creative ideas, innovations and potential solutions to overcome such obstacles. This session may also draw forth key questions that weren't answered during the forum.

■ **Wrap-up session**

“Paving the way forward to achieve the SDGs”

- This session will wrap up the two-day discussions, preferably by the representatives of the Global Partnership Steering Committee countries. Key points of discussion will include strengthening the Global Partnership's outreach with all types of stakeholders; strengthening the link between the Global Partnership's work and the SDGs; and changing the role and contribution of the annual Busan forum and Global Partnership meetings so it remains relevant even as it addresses the potential tensions that may arise in promoting such changes.

Key Input Documents to Inform Sessions

- Agenda
- Concept note on the 2017 Forum to share key objectives and guide discussions with the stakeholders, session speakers, and participants
- Background document for the plenary sessions and brief synopses for the breakout sessions to be used and/or developed by session moderators in close consultation with the organisers and Joint Support Team. The documents will contain key findings and guiding questions to promote structured and productive discussion.
- Roadmap on updating the Global Partnership monitoring framework (prepared by JST)

Participants

Around 100 participants will attend the 2017 Forum. They will be from both the public and private sector. Participants will include, but are not limited to:

- Representatives of the Global Partnership Co-Chair countries
- Global Partnership Steering Committee members and leads of GPIs
- Representatives of international organisations and UN agencies
- Representatives of aid or development cooperation ministries & agencies in donor countries
- Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Ministries of Finance and Planning in partner countries
- Local governments and their associations
- Development practitioners with high-level expertise in relevant fields
- Korean experts on development effectiveness, including from within MOFA and KOICA
- Civil society organisations
- Senior-Level Representatives of the private sector from developing countries
- Senior-Level Representatives of foundations/philanthropic organisations
- Academic institutions and think tanks
- The Joint Support Team (representatives from OECD and UNDP)

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