

14th Steering Committee Meeting of the Global Partnership

Summary

Dhaka, Bangladesh

24 – 25 October 2017

CONTACTS

Joint Support Team

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For more information on this Steering Committee meeting, please visit:

<http://effectivecooperation.org/event/14th-steering-committee-meeting-of-the-global-partnership/>

OVERVIEW

The Steering Committee reviewed progress for the first time since it agreed the Global Partnership's [2017-18 Work Programme](#) – the agreed plan for implementing the [Nairobi Outcome Document](#) – in April 2017. Deliberations took place in the context of the growing need to realise agreed principles for the effectiveness of all types of development co-operation, public and private. Global Partnership Co-Chair and Minister of Finance of Bangladesh, H.E. Mr. Abul Maal A Muhith, captured this spirit in his opening speech, saying “To attain the SDGs, it is absolutely important to champion our principles.” Uganda’s State Minister of Finance, H.E. Mr. Haruna Kasolo Kyeyune, welcomed the Global Partnership as “The right vehicle to deliver sustainable development and scale up the effectiveness of all types of development co-operation.” Germany’s Co-Chair representative, Mr. Dominik Ziller, encouraged the Committee to strengthen development effectiveness as the third pillar of the global development agenda and key enabler to accelerate progress on the other two pillars: the SDGs and financing for development commitments made in 2015.

The Steering Committee meeting attracted media coverage, including in [Financial Express](#), [BSS News](#), [Daily Sun](#), [The Independent BD](#), [BD News 24](#), [News Today](#), [The Finance Today](#), [Ruposhi Bangla News](#) and [BTV & BTV World](#) and on [social media](#).

The meeting produced a series of agreed actions to guide implementation of the work programme ahead of the next Steering Committee meeting, tentatively scheduled for April 2017 in the margins of BWI Spring Meetings in Washington D.C.

1. DRIVING INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND PLANNING THE NEXT GPEDC MEETING

The Committee reviewed actions taken to sustain political momentum for effective development co-operation since April 2017. It renewed its commitment to continuously and systematically put effective development co-operation at the centre of its members’ and the Global Partnership Initiatives (GPIs)’ engagement opportunities. Taking such shared responsibility was seen as critical to sustain momentum within the membership, notably to deliver on existing commitments, but also to engage with partners, such as the private sector and Southern partners.

References made to effectiveness in National Voluntary Reviews at the 2017 High Level Political Forum (HLPF) and the recognition of the 2016 monitoring findings in the Financing for Development Inter-Agency Task Force were examples of good initial successes, but members agreed that activities should be more regionally balanced and targeted to scale up awareness and buy-in among all relevant actors. The Committee agreed to therefore use the evolving calendar of events and requested an advocacy and outreach strategy to marshal efforts to inform relevant discussions and decisions.

The Committee tentatively agreed to consider organising a senior level meeting (SLM) back-to-back with the 2019 HLPF, pending further feedback from their relevant constituencies. This was based on three proposed options for discussion: holding an SLM back-to-back a) with the 2019 HLPF, and a stand-alone HLM in 2020; b) with the 2019 HLPF, and a stand-alone HLM in 2021; and c) with the 2018 HLPF and a stand-alone HLM in 2020.

The Nairobi Outcome Document (NOD) refers to the possibility of SLMs to keep political momentum high in between stand-alone High-Level Meetings (HLMs), which the NOD moves to an extended cycle. The Committee considered that the SLM would be a meeting of senior officials at Director-General level which will review progress drawing from 2018 monitoring round. The Committee noted that the option for a 2018 SLM is challenging. The Committee agreed that further thinking is needed on how the SLM would contribute to the 2019 HLPF, and how an SLM would complement the next HLM. The timing of a third High-Level Meeting, either in 2020 or in 2021, was agreed to be taken up at a later stage, given the need to further consider the substantive, political, resource and logistical implications for each option, and to involve the GPEDC’s next Co-Chairs.

Actions

Steering Committee members to:

- Consult their constituencies and provide any additional feedback to the JST (Thomas.Boehler@oecd.org, Benjamin.Morgan@undp.org) on the timing of a possible SLM by **15 December 2017**.
- Once JST shares draft advocacy and outreach strategy, consult constituencies and provide comments, including adding any further specific actions Steering Committee members and their constituents intend to take to strengthen political momentum and engagement.
- Regularly suggest events to include in the GPEDC [event calendar](#) (info@effectivecooperation.org).

Joint Support Team

- Seek the Committee's feedback on the SLM proposal and inform co-chairs.
- Draft an advocacy and outreach strategy identifying specific opportunities and engagement activities SC members and their constituents may wish to support.

2. LEARNING FROM DIFFERENT TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

The Committee reaffirmed its view that the GPEDC needed to consider the broadest possible range of types of development co-operation, including private, South-South, East-West and triangular cooperation, and seek to capture the experiences of different actors and new initiatives and partnerships in ensuring their activities achieve intended results and maximum impact in line with the SDGs.

Actions

Steering Committee

- Organise a specialised policy dialogue in 2018 on innovative approaches and solutions to strengthen the effectiveness of development co-operation
- Make more strategic use of the work of GPIs to learn lessons and seek to engage emerging economies
- Use upcoming opportunities to reach Southern partners, and inform relevant UN processes e.g. at BAPA+40, for greater mutual learning from different types of development co-operation
- Ensure interlinkages across the strategic priorities, including to the knowledge sharing platform

3. GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES

The Committee agreed on the need to increase systematic engagement with the GPIs. As the 'think tanks' of the Global Partnership, they bring together vibrant, substantive communities on issues either closely linked to the GPEDC or contributing in specific areas to development effectiveness. The Committee agreed to provide new ways for GPIs to help to implement the 2017-18 work programme. To this end, the Committee suggested inviting specific GPIs to upcoming Steering Committee meetings where relevant. The Committee reiterated that lessons from GPIs' work should be systematically distilled and shared, to inform policy dialogue and decisions.

Actions

Co-Chairs

- Review pending GPI applications.

Steering Committee

- Support and showcase GPIs' work and use them strategically to engage with communities
- Working Group leads to engage key GPIs, including on knowledge sharing.

Joint Support Team

- Facilitate inclusion of relevant recommendations from GPIs in the work of the four working groups and the forthcoming advocacy and outreach strategy
- Include GPI events in the GPEDC event calendar
- Encourage GPIs to ensure multi-stakeholder nature in their composition, if/as needed
- Propose opportunities to GPIs to brief the Steering Committee on topics under discussion

- Explore possibilities for a joint event for Steering Committee members and GPI representatives

4. IMPLEMENTING SUBSTANTIVE PRIORITIES OF THE 2017-2018 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee received updates on four substantive priorities – country level implementation, unlocking potential & monitoring, knowledge sharing and private sector engagement – from the respective working group leads. The Committee then worked in break-out groups to discuss these priorities in-depth. The JST also presented on the three-track approach for updating the monitoring framework for 2030.

The Steering Committee endorsed the respective concept notes for each strategic priority, as well as the concept note on the monitoring framework for 2030. The Committee underscored its wish to establish synergies across the GPEDC's six strategic priorities. The Committee agreed on the following next steps to advance implementation of work, as follows:

4.A. ENHANCED SUPPORT TO DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION AT COUNTRY LEVEL

The Steering Committee welcomed progress made in defining how to operationalise country pilots, including research and mapping undertaken to inform a shortlist of possible pilot countries. The list will be published when pilots are approved by relevant authorities.

The European Commission and Germany indicated that financial and human resources were available to support these pilots. It was suggested to add a Pacific Island country. This, and other additional pilots may be approached, based on resource availability.

It was proposed that a pilot launch workshop could be held in January 2018, in one of the nine pilot countries. This workshop will finalise country-specific pilot design.

The Committee noted the importance of drawing on existing work to complement the results of the piloting process, while feeding this into the Global Compendium of Good Practices. Voluntary reports from countries, as well as studies from GPIs will be solicited.

Actions

Working Group with JST support

- Contact proposed pilot countries to ascertain their willingness to participate
- Organise pilot launch workshop
- Secure funding for country pilots
- Link with other work streams, including knowledge sharing platform and countries overlapping with the private sector work stream.

4.B. UNLOCKING POTENTIAL OF EFFECTIVENESS AND UPDATED 2030 MONITORING

Unlocking potential

The Committee welcomed the proposal to bring together evidence from developing countries and partner efforts to unlock effectiveness bottlenecks. The Committee appreciated the emphasis on building on evidence from country pilots (see 4.A.) and knowledge sharing (see 4.C.).

The Committee agreed to conceptualise the Global Action Plan on unfinished business as a menu of actions, solutions and approaches in order to better address specific, sometimes complex effectiveness commitments that have not been fully met.

It was agreed that the Action Plan would be released in conjunction with the findings of the 2018 monitoring round. This would ascertain that both evidence and proposed solutions could inform country-level action and global policy debate on development effectiveness.

Actions

Working Group with JST support

- Finalise Global Action Plan

Updated monitoring for 2030

The Committee agreed that a successful 2018 monitoring round would require engagement by all. This, as well as sufficient financial support, would be necessary to ensure that data is of high quality, timely, and nationally owned.

The Committee approved the proposed improvements to the indicators, which will adapt the monitoring to the 2030 Agenda and make the country-level monitoring process more effective, inclusive and action-oriented.

Members asked that plans be realistic. They noted the need to strike a balance between updating the current monitoring framework while maintaining comparability and consistency of the indicators, and ensuring relevance of the monitoring for the 2030 era by building on areas of comparative advantage.

The Committee welcomed the proposed timing of the next monitoring round, aligned to SDG reporting and ensuring that evidence is available in time for the 2019 HLPF.

Actions

Steering Committee

- Remain actively engaged in the revision of the monitoring framework.

Joint Support Team

- Implement the revisions agreed.

4.C. KNOWLEDGE SHARING

The Steering Committee recognised knowledge-sharing as one of the GPEDC's critical added values for supporting achievement of the 2030 Agenda, and acknowledged it as a complement to the Global Partnership's work generating knowledge through monitoring, country-level implementation and private sector engagement.

The Committee welcomed work undertaken to date and reiterated the importance of demand-led knowledge sharing to ensure activities from across the Global Partnership are being shared with diverse audiences in more targeted and meaningful ways, leading to systematic learning and sharing of experiences.

Members particularly welcomed the Needs Assessment Survey and Global Mapping Exercise, which were noted to provide a solid foundation for interpreting the Global Partnership's knowledge-sharing niche to shape not only the knowledge platform, but also the GPEDC's broader knowledge-sharing efforts, which mutually reinforce each of the work plan's strategic outputs.

It was noted that there are financial and human resource constraints to carrying out the GPEDC's knowledge-sharing work, including building of the knowledge platform. To this end, Steering Committee members welcomed a phased approach to this work, taking into account these limitations. World Bank and Germany referred to the [Global Delivery Initiative](#) (GDI) which has established an extensive platform and expressed interest in co-operating with GPEDC.

The government of Mexico offered to Chair the Working Group. This proposal was warmly welcomed by the Steering Committee.

Actions

Working group with JST support

- Undertake a more complete analysis of the Needs Assessment Survey responses and Global Mapping exercise to help determine the Global Partnership's knowledge-sharing niche and define the contours of its overall knowledge-sharing efforts; and to ensure that they are demand-driven and fit-for-purpose across constituencies.
- Design the GPEDC knowledge-sharing platform, informed by this analysis, in a phased approach, taking into account resource and human capacity constraints, and ensuring that a critical mass of evidence is available before the platform is launched.
- Consider inviting relevant GPEDC stakeholders and GPIs to join the groups, useful to ensure that groups are representative, and the operationalisation of the work programme is not concentrated in the hands of a few active Steering Committee members across all groups.

- Establish contact with the Global Delivery Initiative (GDI) and explore options for cooperation.

4.D. PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT THROUGH DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

The Committee adopted the concept note on private sector engagement through effective development co-operation. Exploring the opportunities related to the “shared value” model and addressing new challenges relevant stakeholders raise, was seen as a genuinely inclusive and appealing attempt to engage all parties in constructive, evidence-based policy dialogue. Members stressed the challenge in attracting the diverse private sector to a debate that provides space for potentially contentious issues that are not addressed in other fora.

Members appreciated the mapping of almost 70 private sector engagement (PSE) initiatives to sharpen the niche for the Global Partnership in this competitive area of work and welcomed the idea of using synergies with existing PSE efforts at global and regional level, and other GPEDC work streams, in particular country-level implementation.

The Committee also agreed with the proposal of a bottom-up approach in order to identify the specific challenges and solutions and the five priority countries identified: Bangladesh and Uganda already agreed to serve as case study countries. El Salvador and two other countries as per the proposed country selection are being approached to gauge their interest. In case they are not available, other countries from the country assessment (priority 2 countries) will be approached.

To ensure engagement with the private sector, it was also proposed to set up a Business Leader Caucus. While members agreed with the Terms of References, they proposed a realistic approach, starting small, and engaging key players and advocates in the private sector, with strong influence and a far reach, ensuring good gender and regional balance.

Actions

Working group with JST support

- Gauge interest of El Salvador and two other countries to serve as case study country,
- Begin country-level analysis and consultations in up to five countries.
- Share Terms of References for country-level case studies with the Committee
- Establish the Business Leader Caucus and further discuss its scope.

7. NON-EXECUTIVE CO-CHAIR OF THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP STEERING COMMITTEE

The committee addressed the proposal by some non-executive members for a fourth non-executive Co-Chair. The business sector informed the Committee that the current structure of the Committee – chaired by government representatives and composed of governments and stakeholders on an equal footing – works well and should be maintained.

The Committee recognised that further consultation among all six non-executive Steering Committee members would be necessary, in order to enable the Committee to find a solution agreeable to all. The Committee asked the JST to facilitate this discussion. The consultation would be based on the proposal brought forward by five of the six non-executive Steering Committee members and may consider alternative options.

There was agreement that engaging the business sector in the Global Partnership remains a priority. One proposal discussed was to use the business caucus to systematically engage the private sector in the Global Partnership. This caucus was mandated in Nairobi and originally conceptualised as a consultative and advisory body to support the private sector work stream.

The next Steering Committee meeting should then consider option(s) proposed by the non-executive Committee members.

Actions

Joint Support Team

- Facilitate consultation between the non-executive Steering Committee members to agree on a practical way forward on establishing a fourth non-executive co-chair.

ANNEX: DOCUMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- [Agenda](#)
- [Logistical note](#)
- [Concept Note Working Group 1: Country level implementation](#)
- [Concept Note Working Group 2: Unlocking the potential of effectiveness](#)
- [Concept Note Working Group 3: Knowledge sharing](#)
- [Concept Note Working Group 4: Private sector engagement](#)
- [Concept Note “Global Partnership Monitoring Framework for 2030”](#)
- [Proposal for the 4th Non-Executive Co-Chair](#)
- [Calendar of International Events](#)
- [List of Global Partnership Initiatives](#)
- [Presentation: Political Momentum with Options for SLMs/HLMs](#)
- [Presentation: Country-level implementation](#)
- [Presentation: Unlocking potential of effectiveness and monitoring](#)
- [Presentation: Knowledge-Sharing](#)
- [Presentation: Private Sector Engagement](#)
- [Presentation: Global Partnership Initiatives](#)
- [Presentation: Monitoring](#)