

Concept Note
Working Group : Knowledge Sharing for
Increased Development Effectiveness through Peer Learning and Innovation

Introduction

Established in 2011, the [Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation](#) (Global Partnership) brings together governments, international organisations, civil society and the private sector, among others, to ensure that all development resources are used as effectively as possible. Through its multi-stakeholder platform, the Global Partnership aims to maximise the effectiveness of all forms of co-operation for development through: (i) data and evidence on progress in meeting commitments for more effective development co-operation; and (ii) a country-focused approach that helps developing countries make the best use of diverse forms of development co-operation to realise their national development goals.

The Global Partnership's [Nairobi Outcome Document](#) (NOD), adopted in December 2016 at its Second High-Level Meeting (HLM2), reaffirms the critical importance of the effectiveness agenda as a means of implementation for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The NOD explicitly recognises the Global Partnership's role as a platform for knowledge exchange and learning at country, regional and global levels as one of its key contributions to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), noting that, 'new insights form political decisions and commitments, which drive renewed efforts to innovate and improve the quality of development co-operation'. In its role as a broker of knowledge across constituencies, regions and modalities of co-operation, and by acting as a platform for exchanging ideas and experiences as well as promoting innovation in development effectiveness in support of achieving the SDGs, the Global Partnership is uniquely positioned to act as one of the means of implementation for the 2030 Agenda.

To this end, the [2017-2018 Work Programme of the Global Partnership](#) was endorsed by its Steering Committee at their 13th Meeting, held in Washington, D.C. in April 2017. Its work is structured under six strategic outputs: (i) enhanced support to effective development co-operation at the country level; (ii) unlocking the potential of effectiveness and updated monitoring for 2030; (iii) sharing knowledge to scale-up innovative development solutions; (iv) scaling up private sector engagement leveraged through development co-operation; (v) learning from different modalities of development co-operation; and (vi) strengthened high-level political engagement, advocacy, public communication and strategic use of data and evidence. As a next step, the Steering Committee agreed to organise working groups to lead the implementation of individual strategic priorities, with individual Committee members taking responsibility for leading, co-ordinating engagement and reporting progress at biannual Steering Committee meetings.

Strategic Output Three of the Global Partnership Work Programme

Under strategic output three, sharing knowledge to scale up innovative development solutions, the Global Partnership will intensify efforts to bring together the learning, knowledge and innovation on development effectiveness (bottlenecks, successes, innovations) available across constituencies to help scale development solutions at a faster pace, building on progress demonstrated by various countries, development partners and non-state actors. It will do so by identifying key challenges and innovations at the country-level for all stakeholder groups, focusing on how to best deliver / make progress on the four, internationally-agreed development effectiveness principles. The Global Partnership will also strengthen its mutual learning loop to become a 'go-to' partnership for

knowledge exchange, making fuller use of knowledge generated to promote mutual accountability and learning.

Key activities proposed under output three of the 2017-2018 work programme, sharing knowledge to scale up innovative development solutions, are noted below.

Function: Sharing knowledge and lessons												
Strategic Output 3: <i>Sharing knowledge to scale up innovative development solutions</i>												
Activity	Responsible			Timing 2017-18								
	CCs	SC	JST	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
3.1 Establish a community of practice on effective development co-operation to connect Global Partnership stakeholders to each other and with other stakeholders/partnerships in the development co-operation space.												
3.1.1. Mapping of GPIs and other initiatives to promote effective development co-operation			X									
3.1.2. Outreach and mobilise constituencies to connect with relevant actors and partnerships to share knowledge and lessons around development co-operation		X										
3.1.3. Establish a community of practice for sharing knowledge			X									
3.2. Create an online knowledge exchange platform												
3.2.1. Undertake needs assessment for knowledge exchange and online community of practitioners			X									
3.2.2. Map and collect existing knowledge, policy products, and innovations on effective development co-operation (contents generated from other outputs)			X									
3.2.1. Create online knowledge platform based on Global Partnership stakeholders' technical needs and requirements and setting up a curator function of knowledge products from GP stakeholders, partnerships and groups			X									
3.2.2. Launch the Global Partnership knowledge platform	X											
3.2.3. Promote knowledge sharing through the Global Partnership knowledge platform		X										
3.3. Strengthened knowledge content to position the Global Partnership platform as the go-to-platform on effective development co-operation												
3.3.2 Lead 1-2 online substantive discussion as lead facilitators		X										
3.3.3 Technical support and synthesis of online discussions			X									
3.3.4 Maintain knowledge catalogue			X									
3.3.5. Promote Global Partnership as go-to platform on effective development co-operation	X											
3.3.6 Maintain regular communication between Global Partnership stakeholders, leadership, GPIs, regional/country platforms, and JST			X									

These planned activities build on the outcomes of the Global Partnership Working Group on Knowledge Hub on Effective Development Co-operation, which was established by the Steering Committee at its 8th Meeting, held in Mexico City in September 2015. The Working Group [provided an assessment](#) of the current state of play for knowledge generation and sharing within this Global Partnership, as well as relevant opportunities for knowledge generated by the Global Partnership to inform and support the 2030 Agenda (see Annex 1 for further details).

To this end, the work stream will operate across networks and constituencies to ensure that knowledge generation is demand-driven and reflects the multi-dimensional nature of development co-operation in light of the SDGs; distil results and lessons coming from implementation of commitments for effective development co-operation; engage stakeholders in real-time dialogue on the successes and bottlenecks in achieving more effective development co-operation; and improve tools that can facilitate knowledge exchange, ensuring they are fit for purpose across different stakeholder groups and support achievement of the SDGs at the country, regional and global levels.

The 2017-2018 work programme also specifically calls for the creation of a knowledge exchange platform around effective development co-operation. By providing a space for networks, working groups and initiatives, as well as development practitioners at the country / regional level, it can encourage systematic collaboration through the sharing of knowledge and innovative ideas, online discussions across work streams and highlighting of milestones and events.

Proposed Deliverables for the Working Group

With these considerations in mind, the purpose of the working group is to agree on a way to operationalise the three complementary and mutually reinforcing sub-activities outlined in the Work Programme, under strategic output three.

The proposed deliverables of this working group are the following:

1. In order to establish a community of practice on effective development co-operation, support the design of an engagement strategy for Steering Committee members to help mobilise their constituencies to:
 - produce and share knowledge and lessons around effective development co-operation; and
 - provide inputs to and support the design of a Global Needs Assessment Survey aimed at ensuring the knowledge platform and the GPEDC's broader knowledge-sharing efforts are demand-driven and fit-for-purpose across constituencies.
2. Based on a preliminary mapping undertaken by the UNDP-OECD Joint Support Team, determine an approach to undertake a more complete analysis of current and existing knowledge, policy products and innovations on effective development co-operation; as well as existing networks for knowledge sharing to explore synergies and possible exchanges of knowledge.
3. Based on the outcomes of the Global Needs Assessment Survey, shape the functionality of the knowledge platform, helping to ensure that all stakeholders understand and apply development effectiveness principles, promote vibrant and dynamic knowledge-sharing on best practices for increasing the effectiveness of development co-operation and turn commitments into action.
4. Support the production of a 'road map' for the knowledge-sharing work stream, based on the outcomes of the global Needs Assessment, to identify key milestones for the proposed knowledge platform, highlight linkages with other work streams, and identify knowledge products / services and discussions / dialogues to be provided by the Global Partnership through 2018.

Participation and Timeline

To reflect the multi-stakeholder nature of the Global Partnership, each working group is expected to include members from different constituencies – governments and non-executive stakeholders. Given the deliverables expected from this working session, the majority of engagement is expected in the second and third quarters of 2017. However, working group members are asked to stay engaged in the work stream through the launch of the knowledge platform and completion of key deliverables.

Format

The working group is encouraged to conduct its business by teleconference and electronic means (e.g. email, Skype). Its members will arrange co-ordination of meetings, notes and outputs, under the guidance of the Group Lead.

ANNEX 1

Background

Efforts to bring together the learning and knowledge available across constituencies engaged in both North-South and South-South Co-operation, recognising their unique characteristics and respective merits, can help scale development solutions at a faster pace. In addition, mutual learning from innovative approaches and solutions tried and tested at the country and regional levels are valuable in making development co-operation more effective and intensifying development impact. In short, knowledge is one of the means, and sustainable development the end goal.

How does the Global Partnership generate knowledge on effective development co-operation at the global, regional and country levels?

Currently, the Global Partnership has three key avenues through which it generates knowledge:

1. The biennial [Global Partnership global monitoring exercise](#) generates evidence on efforts to implement commitments around the internationally-agreed development effectiveness principles (country ownership, inclusive partnerships, a focus on results and transparency and mutual accountability) on the ground. The framework is country and territory-led, based on developing countries and territories' own data and information systems, involves the full range of development stakeholders (including civil society, the private sector and other actors) and contributes to strengthening mutual accountability for implementing commitments and promoting country and territory-level dialogue between development partners.

Monitoring data is complemented by a [Global Progress Report](#), which gives a global state of play and analysis on the results and lessons learnt from implementation efforts, and beginning with the second monitoring round (2016), also by [country and territory-specific profiles](#) on monitoring results.

2. [Global Partnership Initiatives](#), which are voluntary and led by diverse development actors (national governments, international organisations, civil society, the private sector and others), are also producing results, lessons and generating evidence around specific commitments and innovative areas of effective development co-operation. Through their work, they are helping to generate greater understanding on using and strengthening country systems through all co-operation modalities; harmonising the efforts of providers of development co-operation and aligning them with national priorities; and ensuring greater transparency in development co-operation, among many other things.

3. **Regional and country-led implementation efforts** also generate evidence on how countries are making development co-operation more effective through strengthening of aid management and institutional frameworks, data management, holistic planning and multi-stakeholder partnerships for country-led determination of development priorities. This evidence is presented in Global Partnership country briefs, compendiums and other knowledge products [available on the external Global Partnership website](#).

How does the Global Partnership share knowledge on effective development co-operation at the global, regional and country levels?

The knowledge generated by the Global Partnership is currently shared through technical exchanges and policy dialogue, which happen both face-to-face (meetings) and virtually (through online tools).

1. Meetings

- *International meetings*: Ministerial-level meetings (HLMs), Steering Committee meetings, Busan Global Partnership Fora (hosted by the Republic of Korea), Learning and Acceleration Programme (hosted by the Republic of Korea).
- *Regional meetings*: regional pre-monitoring workshops, post-monitoring workshops, meetings organised by regional platforms (e.g. Arab Co-ordination Group, Asia-Pacific Development Effectiveness Facility, AU-NEPAD, Pacific Island Forum etc.).
- *Side events at key international meetings* (e.g. UN General Assembly, UN DCF, UN ECOSOC meetings, World Bank-IMF Annual Meetings, OECD Global Fora on Development etc.).

2. Online tools

- Global Partnership [website](#), [blog](#) and social media ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), etc.).
- Global Partnership newsletter (monthly) and monitoring newsletter (quarterly).
- Monitoring webinars, videos, helpdesk and support material.

How can Global Partnership knowledge sharing be strengthened?

Between May and June 2016, the Joint Support Team conducted several consultations on the mandate and working arrangements of the Global Partnership. With regards to knowledge generation and knowledge sharing, preliminary results of consultations with Steering Committee members show that they would like the Global Partnership to strengthen its focus on:

- The core effectiveness principles and delivering on all existing commitments from Paris to Busan (for all actors).
- Helping to ensure that all stakeholders understand and apply development effectiveness principles and turn commitments into action.
- Enhancing efforts on implementation of effective development co-operation, but with a view to sharing knowledge and providing guidance to all relevant stakeholders at all levels.
- Developing guidelines and promoting knowledge sharing on best practices for increasing the effectiveness of development co-operation.

