

15th Steering Committee Meeting

Summary

Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, DC.

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CONTACTS

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For more information on this Steering Committee meeting, please visit: <http://effectivecooperation.org/event/15th-steering-committee-meeting-of-the-global-partnership/>

OVERVIEW

Held in the margins of the 2018 World Bank Group Spring Meetings at the Inter-American Development Bank, the 15th meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation's Steering Committee underscored the political necessity of revitalising development effectiveness as an instrumental anchor of efforts to realise the SDGs by 2030. Midway between the Nairobi High-Level Meeting and the 2019 Senior-Level Meeting (SLM), the Steering Committee agreed to lend its full support to the effectiveness agenda in all relevant policy arenas, at global, regional and national levels.

The Steering Committee highlighted the importance of the 2018 Monitoring Round as an instrument to demonstrate progress. The Steering Committee will also continue to actively engage on four strategic priorities – country level implementation, monitoring, knowledge sharing and private sector engagement – to carry forward successful implementation of the 2017-18 Work Programme.

KEY CONCLUSIONS

In support of this vision, the Steering Committee took a range of decisions at its 15th meeting and endorsed the contours of ongoing work to promote effective development co-operation, including:

1. Country-Level Implementation:

The Steering Committee agreed to support the development of a **Global Compendium of Good Practices on effective development co-operation**, with concrete solutions to implement effectiveness principles at country level, informed by ongoing work in **ten pilot countries** and complementary evidence from Global Partnership stakeholders.

2. Monitoring:

The Steering Committee endorsed:

- The guidelines to address feedback on the current monitoring framework and the next steps to finalise indicator revisions by May, and to **launch the third monitoring round** by June 2018, in order to provide fresh data on effective development co-operation and feed evidence into the SDG and FfD follow-up and review processes.
- Contours for **adapting the monitoring framework to challenges of the 2030 Agenda**, beginning with a focus on fragility and conflict-affected situations. An open working group will guide this work and report back with initial recommendations and a roadmap at the next Steering Committee meeting.

3. Global Action Plan

The Steering Committee endorsed the broad contours of a Global Action Plan to **address the unfinished business** of development effectiveness, i.e. those commitments from Paris and Busan that have not yet been met.

4. Knowledge-Sharing:

The Steering Committee agreed to establish a virtual **Knowledge-Sharing Platform** to share lessons learned on effective development co-operation and connect policy-makers and practitioners to evidence-based solutions on how to make development co-operation more effective for all Global Partnership stakeholders.

5. Global Partnership Initiatives:

The Steering Committee **endorsed a proposal to strengthen engagement with Global Partnership Initiatives** in order to capitalise on their store of on-the-ground implementation knowledge and strengthen of the Global Partnership's mutual learning loop.

6. Private Sector Engagement:

The Steering Committee expressed their support for the **proposed way forward for developing guidelines for private sector engagement** leveraged through development co-operation

based on ongoing analytical work, in close collaboration with other partners. They also endorsed the establishment and proposed composition of a 12-member **Business Leaders Caucus** to engage the private sector.

7. Learning from different modalities:

To move the cross-cutting work on learning from different modalities forward, the Steering Committee agreed on the usefulness of convening an informal “**group of friends**”, and to explore a topic of common interest to emerging economies, for a specialised policy dialogue.

8. Political Momentum:

The Steering Committee will operationalise the **Global Advocacy and Outreach Strategy** by leading on events and engagement efforts in the run up to the 2019 Global Partnership Senior Level Meeting, to be held in the margins of the 2019 HLPF. To align with the Global Partnership meeting cycle and to ensure the production of high quality deliverables, it also agreed to **extend the current work programme until the 2019 SLM**. The Committee also highlighted the need to **kick-start preparations** for this milestone event, including discussions with the UN System, facilitation of successor arrangements for the role of Co-Chairs and some Steering Committee members, and preparations for a subsequent work programme.

The three Co-chairs – Bangladesh, Germany and Uganda – welcomed progress made to date and are looking forward to leading the Committee and the Global Partnership into preparations of the 2019 SLM with the support of the OECD-UNDP Joint Support Team. A next Steering Committee is envisaged for the final quarter of 2018, exploring possible synergies with other Global Partnership related events.

THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP IN PRACTICE: PROGRESS AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL

1) Enhanced Effectiveness at Country-Level

Decisions: The Steering Committee endorsed the concept for the Global Compendium of Good Practices, which will build on the results of country pilots and other complementary evidence to provide guidance to countries and their development partners on implementation of effectiveness commitments at country level.

Actions: JST will revise the concept note for the Global Compendium in line with guidance received from Steering Committee members. JST will share an overview of the focus and activities undertaken in each of the ten pilot countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, El Salvador, Georgia, Kenya, Lao PDR, Malawi, Mexico, Rwanda, Uganda), based on final concept notes.

Guidance: Expressing its support and appreciation for the progress made, the Steering Committee reiterated the importance of the Global Partnership’s work at country level. The Steering Committee underscored the importance of ensuring that collection of evidence for the Global Compendium be inclusive, engaging all relevant actors, including building on the country-level work of Global Partnership Initiatives. It also called for the Global Compendium to be a “living document.” Members also noted the need to foster linkages between country pilots, the Global Compendium and ongoing work under other Global Partnership work streams, including the Global Action Plan on unfinished business, knowledge management efforts and the private sector case studies and guidelines.

For the update provided by the Working Group Co-leads (Bangladesh and European Commission), see the presentation [here](#).

2) Effective Private Sector Engagement Leveraged through Development Co-operation

Decisions: The Steering Committee agreed to initiate consultations on guidelines for effective PSE based on ongoing analytical work and to invite [proposed candidates](#) to become part of the Business Leaders Caucus to strengthen engagement of the private sector in this work stream.

Actions: JST will continue to work with four countries (Bangladesh, Egypt, El Salvador and Uganda) to finalise case studies and with the BRICS Policy Center on a typology of PSE instruments in emerging economies. The Working Group will initiate consultations and support a focused first meeting of the Business Leaders Caucus.

Guidance: The Steering Committee reiterated the importance of scaling up PSE through development co-operation and will lend its full support to working together on guidelines and principles for the effectiveness of PSE, to be launched at the 2019 HLPF. It welcomed the clear focus on effectiveness of development co-operation in engaging the private sector, ongoing analytical research and the inclusive process to engage all stakeholders. Members highlighted the different nature of issues emerging (quoting the experiences in the four case studies, including from the Bangladesh workshop), the need to link up with other PSE initiatives (building on the existing PSE global mapping) and the FfD Agenda, in particular, by spreading positive examples of shared value creation.

The Steering Committee welcomed the high calibre of candidates proposed for the Business Leaders Caucus and offered to provide additional candidates, as needed. The Working Group Lead reiterated that linkages between the Caucus and the Steering Committee are ensured through ICC's and ITUC's association (see composition [here](#), slide 6). The Committee agreed that Co-Chairs will proceed with invitations to Caucus candidates and the PSE Working Group will support the organisation of a first meeting, which Germany offered to host in Berlin. Caucus meetings should focus on concrete issues of direct relevance to businesses in line with a focus on making development co-operation more effective in engaging the private sector.

For the update provided by the Working Group Lead (Germany), see the presentation [here](#).

THE UPDATED GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Decisions: The Steering Committee endorsed the proposed guidelines to address feedback on the current monitoring framework and next steps to finalise indicator revisions and launch the 2018 round by June. It also provided direction to step-up work to adapt the monitoring to 2030 Agenda challenges, starting with fragility and conflict-affected situations.

Actions:

(1) 2018 Monitoring Round: JST will address feedback received on the proposed refinements to the indicator methodologies in line with the agreed guidelines and feedback summary presented at the meeting. The final indicator methodologies will be shared with respective reference groups and experts, and submitted to the Steering Committee for final endorsement via written procedure in May. The 2018 Monitoring Round will be launched in early June.

(2) Adapting monitoring to 2030 challenges: JST will support the formation of an open working group to guide work to adapt Global Partnership monitoring to fragile and conflict-affected settings. This work will have an initial focus on fragility, with a view to addressing other key areas or contexts in turn, which could include adapting monitoring to private sector engagement in development co-operation and increasing relevance for upper middle-income countries. The Working Group will provide initial recommendations and a roadmap at the next Steering Committee meeting.

Guidance: The Steering Committee expressed strong support for the revisions of the current monitoring indicators, welcoming the strengthened and streamlined methodologies and data collection process.

Committee members highlighted monitoring as the Global Partnership's flagship product, and the 2018 monitoring round was considered an important deliverable for measuring progress and contributing to SDG and FFD follow-up and review. Members reiterated the need for the 2018 round to be fully inclusive and accessible to ensure broad engagement, and highlighted the importance of clear messaging on the incentives to engage in communicating to peers and constituencies. The shared responsibility of all members to exert leadership and help ensure a successful monitoring round was emphasised, including by soliciting support from development partners' country offices and supporting partner countries in the reporting process. This also touched on the issue of language barriers and the question of translation. Members highlighted the importance of linking indicators with other work streams, such as Indicator 3 on public-private dialogue and the PSE work. Members also highlighted the continued importance of managing the reporting burden, complexity and cost, and relying on existing data where possible.

Steering Committee members reiterated the importance of the Global Partnership monitoring framework to remain relevant for the future. To this end, members agreed to adapt the Global Partnership monitoring to the challenges of the 2030 Agenda, starting with fragility and then possibly South-South Co-operation and/or private sector engagement once the PSE guidelines are finalised in 2019. The need to remain agile and to respond to opportunities featured throughout the discussion, underscoring the need to seize openings for advancing on topics beyond fragility should they arise.

For the update provided by the Joint Support Team, see the presentation [here](#).

THE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE: WORKING TOGETHER FOR INCREASED DEVELOPMENT IMPACT

1) The Global Action Plan on Unfinished Business

Decision: The Steering Committee endorsed the proposal to develop a Global Action Plan on Unfinished Business.

Action: The Working Group on unlocking the potential of effectiveness, led by CPDE and Bangladesh, will support substantive preparations for the Global Action Plan, linking it with ongoing work on country level implementation and the monitoring process.

Guidance: Members agreed on the urgency to make progress on existing commitments and proposed to focus any political efforts in a way that do not duplicate the monitoring process and link to the work on country level implementation. The Plan should be informed by the next monitoring round and not add additional commitments beyond the unfinished business from Paris and Busan. This will require addressing political issues, and not only technical aspects of the commitments. It would also be critical to clarify which commitments will apply and how the implementation of the Plan would be monitored.

2) Knowledge-Sharing for Increased Development Impact

Decision: The Steering Committee agreed to set up a digital Knowledge-Sharing Platform to (i) showcase and distil results from implementation of commitments for more effective development co-operation; and (ii) engage all stakeholders in real-time dialogue and peer learning on the successes and bottlenecks in implementing practices for more effective and innovative development co-operation.

Action: JST to develop the platform in consultation with the Working Group on Knowledge-Sharing and representatives from the Global Delivery Initiative.

Guidance: Members reiterated the importance of categorising information and making it user friendly, and ensuring that the platform is 'hands-on', and practical in facilitating peer-to-peer learning. It was suggested to use simple language, focus on innovative practices and consider setting up country sub-

pages, to enable national actors to make better use of specific information. The Steering Committee underscored that adequate resourcing, both for the technological implementation of the platform and the human resource capacity to support it, will be critical to ensure its long-term sustainability. They also supported exploration of further synergies with the Global Delivery Initiative in implementing the platform.

The new Monitoring Dashboard was introduced as an example of the Group's work to bring together the evidence, knowledge and innovation on effective development co-operation to help demonstrate progress made by various countries, development partners and non-state actors. The Dashboard enables a user to view and compare results of the 2014 and 2016 Global Partnership monitoring rounds to explore progress of effective development co-operation and discover how countries and organisations are implementing effectiveness commitments.

For the update provided by the Working Group Lead (Mexico), see the presentation [here](#).

To access the Monitoring Dashboard, click [here](#). To see the presentation on the monitoring dashboard made by the JST, click [here](#).

3) Global Partnership Initiatives

Decision: The Steering Committee welcomed the recommendations from the Proposal on Strengthening Engagement with Global Partnership Initiatives (GPIs), in order to increase systematic engagement with GPIs; ensure their contribution to the Partnership's mission; and capitalise on their store of on-the-ground implementation experience.

Action: The JST, under the auspices of the Working Group on Knowledge-Sharing, will begin implementation of the proposal directly after the Steering Committee Meeting. Relevant items (e.g. updating the Guidelines on Becoming or Discontinuing a GPI) will also be consulted with the GPI community.

Guidance: The Steering Committee welcomed the outcomes of the GPI workshop in Bonn and agreed with the need to clarify the GPIs' role within the Global Partnership and better integrate their work into implementation of the substantive work programme. The Committee agreed with the general proposal, including strengthening communications activities with and between GPIs. It was also suggested to present GPI work at Steering Committee meetings when appropriate, and to consult GPIs in the consultation around future Global Partnership work programmes.

For the update provided by Germany, see the presentation [here](#).

LEARNING FROM DIFFERENT MODALITIES / ENGAGEMENT WITH SOUTHERN PARTNERS

Decision: The Steering Committee endorsed the plan to organise a specialised policy dialogue in late 2018 on a topic to be agreed.

Action: Members agreed on the usefulness of convening an informal 'group of friends' to provide inputs on learning from different modalities.

Guidance: The Steering Committee discussed the three proposed topics – effective private sector engagement, effectiveness of triangular co-operation and monitoring and evaluation of the results and impact of different forms of development co-operation – resulting in mixed prioritisation among members. It was highlighted that triangular co-operation could present a unique political opportunity, also in view of ensuring the specialised policy dialogue contributes to the preparations and consultations of the Second UN High-Level Conference on South-South Co-operation (BAPA+40), to be held in Buenos Aires in March 2019. It was agreed to further reach out to Southern partners and work with the United Nations Office for South-South Co-operation (UNOSSC) and other institutional partners to seek their guidance on the possible focus and format of the dialogue in order to ensure buy-in and relevance.

Members also recommended holding the dialogue back-to-back with another Global Partnership or other high-profile meeting to ensure attendance and pointed to linkages with the Global Advocacy and Outreach Strategy and potential future linkages with the Knowledge Sharing Platform.

DRIVING POLITICAL MOMENTUM ON EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION

(1) Political Outreach and Advocacy

Decision: The Steering Committee endorsed the [Global Advocacy and Outreach Strategy](#).

Action: Members will inform JST of events and outreach opportunities they will lead on in the run up to 2019 SLM.

Guidance: Members reiterated the importance of the strategy and highlighted different linkages, in particular with the FFD process, and the need to inject messages on the Global Partnership's work in all relevant global, regional and national forums, and through members' networks. The Republic of Korea who participated in the Steering Committee meeting as an observer reiterated its commitment to the Global Partnership and its willingness to host alternating Busan Forums and Learning and Acceleration Workshops. The Business Sector will identify local activities and engagement opportunities and Germany will support private sector outreach activities for 2019. Bangladesh proposed a high-level side event during the High-Level week of the 2018 UN General Assembly.

(2) 2019 Senior-Level Meeting

Decision: The exact timing and format of the 2019 SLM, to be held in the margins of the 2019 HLPF at Directors-General level, will require a swift decision. The 2017-18 work programme will be extended until this time to allow for completion of ongoing deliverables.

Action: Co-Chairs to engage with UN Secretariat to discuss potentially holding the SLM in the margins of the 2019 HLPF.

Guidance: Members discussed the pros and cons of hosting the SLM in or around the 2019 ECOSOC session of the HLPF, with some raising concerns about being subsumed by an event on the scale of the HLPF and the importance of making a specific contribution. Others noted the benefit of synergies with other international meetings as well as attracting additional high-level participation.

(3) 4th Non-Executive Co-Chair

Decision: No decision has been taken.

Action: Co-Chairs will write a joint letter to the Steering Committee members with specific options in reaction to the proposal for a 4th Non-Executive Co-Chair to come to a consensus.

Guidance: The non-executive Steering Committee members presented their joint proposal. Philippines and Bangladesh expressed reservations, based around questions of the 'added value' of a fourth Co-Chair, and the possibility of added transaction costs. Members discussed some of the pros and cons and although the Nairobi Outcome Document provided clear guidance to consider this governance issue, no decision could be reached. Members proposed various alternative ideas, such as a 'consultative' Co-Chair, or appointing one of the three governmental Co-Chairs as a focal point for non-executive stakeholders. CPDE requested Co-Chairs to lead next steps in this process.

Annex: Session documents

RELATED MATERIALS

- [Agenda](#) revised 17 April
- [Logistical Note](#)
- [1.1 Concept Note for a Global Compendium of Good Practices \(Session 1\)](#)
- [1.2 Business Leaders Caucus List \(Session 1\)](#)
- [2.1 An Updated Monitoring Framework: Refinements to the Current Indicators \(Session 2\)](#) revised 13 April
- [2.2 Summary of Feedback and Way Forward to Finalise the Strengthening of Current Monitoring Indicators \(Session 2\)](#)

[2.2.1 Key Messages](#)

[2.2.2 Appendix I. Summary of Feedback by Indicator](#)

[2.2.3 Appendix II. Summary of Country Visits](#)

- [3.1 Concept Note for a Global Action Plan \(Session 3\)](#)
- [3.2 Terms of Reference for a Knowledge-Sharing Platform \(Session 3\)](#)
- [3.3 Proposal on Strengthening GPI Engagement \(Session 3\)](#) revised 12 April
- [4.1 Substantive Proposal for a 2018 Specialised Policy Dialogue \(Session 4\)](#) revised 13 April
- [5.1 Global Advocacy and Outreach Strategy \(Session 5\)](#)
- [7.1 Terms of Reference for a 4th Non-Executive Co-Chair of the Global Partnership \(Session 7\)](#)
- [List of Participants](#) revised 20 April

PRESENTATIONS

- [Enhanced Effectiveness at Country Level \(Session 1\)](#)
- [The Effectiveness of Private Sector Engagement through Development Co-operation \(Session 1\)](#)
- [Renewing the Approach to Monitor Effective Development Co-operation \(Session 2\)](#)
- [The Updated Global Partnership Monitoring Framework \(Session 2\)](#)
- [Global Partnership Working Group on Knowledge-Sharing \(Session 3\)](#)
- [Making Better Use of Global Partnership Initiatives \(Session 3\)](#)
- [Learning from Different Modalities of Development Co-operation \(Session 4\)](#)
- [The Global Partnership's Contribution to the SDGs: Strategic Deliverables \(Session 6\)](#)
- [Global Partnership Monitoring: Enhanced Evidence for the 2030 Agenda \(Session 8\)](#)
- [Global Partnership Monitoring: Data Dashboard](#)