

Evidence Towards Good Effectiveness Practices

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Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide a substantive update on Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation's Enhanced Effectiveness at Country Level workstream. It looks specifically at the evidence collected to date and where gaps remain in the effort to develop the *Global Compendium of Good Practices*, which will be delivered as a key Global Partnership product in the lead up to the 2019 Senior-Level Meeting.

Background

The Nairobi Outcome Document (NOD), adopted in December 2016 at the Second High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership (HLM2), highlights the importance of country-level implementation of effectiveness principles as an essential driver of development results. Actioning the NOD, the 2017-2018 Work Programme of the Global Partnership names enhanced support to effective development co-operation at country level as a strategic priority.

Under this strategic priority, the Global Partnership aims to strengthen country-level effectiveness, both through hands-on support to effectiveness activities, as well as to through the generation and sharing of knowledge to spur further action globally. A key element of this work is the implementation of nine country pilots, which will strengthen effectiveness in participating countries, as well as shed light on the various effectiveness solutions being explored.

Building on the outcomes of the country pilots and other complementary evidence, the Global Partnership will produce a *Global Compendium of Good Practices*, the purpose of which is to provide guidance to countries and their diverse development partners on addressing common effectiveness challenges.

Context

To achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, countries will need to draw on the different and complementary roles of all actors, forging strong and innovative multi-stakeholder partnerships for development. These partnerships are essential for leveraging a wide variety of financial resources, as well as knowledge and experiences to accelerate development progress.

A number of countries have already made progress in this. Related to policy frameworks, many countries are moving away from more traditional aid management policies towards development co-operation policies that situate development co-operation within the broader context of the 2030 Agenda and Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA). This is essential as the development financing landscape is increasingly characterised by diverse financing flows and new development partners.

Additionally, many countries are focusing efforts to take a more strategic and holistic approach to maximise the combined impact of various types of resources and partnerships to achieve desired impact at country level. One way in which this is done is through the establishment of Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs), as called for in the AAAA.

Sources of Evidence

Identification of common challenges was based on feedback provided by governments representatives at Global Partnership events, including the Enhanced Effectiveness at Country Level Pilot Launch Workshop, held in February 2018 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and a Global Needs Assessment, undertaken by the Global Partnership's knowledge sharing workstream. The challenges areas are:

- Strengthening coordination and dialogue mechanisms
- Collecting, managing and using development co-operation data
- Engaging civil society, local governments and the private sector
- Building the capacity of various stakeholders
- Mapping and understanding diverse financial flows

The following outlines the various sources of evidence that will inform the Global Compendium.

Source: Country Pilots

Country	Challenge Area(s)	Focus
Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strengthening coordination and dialogue mechanisms</i> - <i>Engaging civil society, local governments and the private sector</i> 	The pilot is supporting the strengthening of multi-stakeholder engagement in development cooperation. One of the specific objectives of this work is to discuss how to meaningfully include southern partners, civil society and the private sector in coordination mechanisms.
Cambodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strengthening coordination and dialogue mechanisms</i> 	The pilot is supporting a review of the European Development Cooperation Strategy for the country, evaluating whether it was successful in increasing the effectiveness of European co-operation. It will focus on: (i) facilitating development partners' coherent/common support strategies and having other tailor-made approaches; (ii) promoting evidence-based development management through combining the data on aid management platforms and improving its quality; (iii) facilitating monitoring of the dialogue between the Royal Government and stakeholders (development partners, civil society, private sector), to ensure those mechanisms are inclusive; (iv) enhancing capacity development at both the national and sub-national levels; and (v) improving overall coordination among development partners.
El Salvador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strengthening coordination and dialogue mechanisms</i> 	The pilot has supported the elaboration of the country's new National Agenda for Development Cooperation Effectiveness, which will inform the development of successor strategy. The five key areas of the National Strategy are: (i) increasing alignment to national priorities; (ii) reinforcing dialogue mechanisms; (iii) promotion of transparency; (iv) promotion of South-South Cooperation; and (iv) positioning in global and regional fora.
Georgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strengthening coordination and dialogue mechanisms</i> 	The pilot is supporting a review the donor coordination architecture to reduce duplication between multiple existing mechanisms, while ensuring it still responds to the needs of the country.

Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strengthening coordination and dialogue mechanisms</i> - <i>Collecting, managing and using development co-operation data</i> - <i>Engaging civil society, local governments and the private sector</i> 	<p>The pilot is supporting various areas. It is supporting efforts to improve the country's electronic Project Monitoring Information Management System, as well as supporting development partners' capacity to report to this system which is expected to improve absorption capacity. It is also supporting work to strengthen existing Sector Working Groups and other multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms, ensuring that the full variety of partners, especially county governments, are included.</p>
Malawi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strengthening coordination and dialogue mechanisms</i> - <i>Engaging civil society, local governments and the private sector</i> - <i>Collecting, managing and using development co-operation data</i> - <i>Mapping and understanding diverse financial flows</i> 	<p>The pilot is supporting various areas, including the review of the country's Development Cooperation Strategy to inform the development of a successor. It will also seek to strengthen related dialogue structures and build the capacity of civil society to participate in these coordination mechanisms. Finally, the pilot is supporting increased availability and use of development cooperation data through support to the strengthening of the country's Aid Management Platform.</p>
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Mapping and understanding diverse financial flows</i> 	<p>The pilot is linked to Mexico's participation in the 2018 monitoring round. Mexico has developed and tested a pilot approach to monitoring the effectiveness of South-South Co-operation.</p>
Rwanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Mapping and understanding diverse financial flows</i> 	<p>The pilot is supporting an analysis of the blended finance landscape in Rwanda and will explore how blended finance has been used in other countries in order to provide recommendations on the use of the modality in the country.</p>
Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Strengthening coordination and dialogue mechanisms</i> - <i>Engaging civil society, local governments and the private sector</i> 	<p>The pilot will support an independent review of the current development co-operation architecture, with the view of developing recommendations to strengthen relevant policies and institutional arrangements – including a multi-stakeholder approach.</p>

Source: Call for Evidence & Complementary Research

To collect further evidence around the identified effectiveness challenges areas, the Global Partnership launched a digital “call for evidence” on good practices and innovative solutions for more effective development co-operation in July 2018. The objective of the process was to draw on the experience of country-level practitioners in delivering on the effectiveness principles – the opportunities and bottlenecks they have encountered, the solutions and approaches they have found useful and the situations where progress has been difficult to achieve.

The call for evidence received 95 submissions from 40+ countries and organisations across Africa, the Asia-Pacific, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and North America. Based on a preliminary review of the evidence received, including an initial screening of all submissions according to a set of minimum criteria, only 41 pieces of evidence provided relevant, tangible and sufficient information around increasing the effectiveness of development co-operation.

About 40 percent of the evidence submitted focused on capacity-building or other measures to strengthen multi-stakeholder partnerships or platforms at the country level. Additionally, about 36 percent of the evidence discussed policies and institutional arrangements to enable effective development co-operation. However, relatively limited information on the transparency of information on development co-operation and understanding / managing diverse financial flows was received through the call for evidence.

To complement the resources received through the call for evidence and ensure a base of solutions that responds to the diversity of contextual and geographic challenges, further complementary research is being conducted by the Global Partnership Joint Support Team. At the time of writing, 248 resources had been identified through these processes.

Source: Ongoing Effectiveness Efforts

In addition to this complementary research, the Global Compendium will draw on other ongoing effectiveness efforts. This includes the lessons learned from the undertaking of Development Finance Assessments (DFAs). The DFA is a UNDP tool that assists countries in identifying opportunities to mobilise new sources of development finance and to more effectively manage existing sources. As the scale and diversity of development finance grows, this becomes increasingly important.

The DFA tool has been used within the context of the Global Partnership in support Enhanced Effectiveness at Country Level workstream activities. Emerging messages from DFAs undertaken to date show that the mix of resources available to support development varies widely across country contexts. A synthesis of DFA recommendations will provide valuable, context-specific evidence to be included in the *Global Compendium*.

Further, UNDP’s core work to support effective development co-operation through its country office network will provide another source of evidence on which to draw. This includes support to efforts to ensure national development co-operation policies are increasingly responsive to the changing development cooperation landscape and to strengthen institutional coherence and coordination mechanisms. At the global level, UNDP has already conducted a scanning of this country level work and will use the lessons learned through its support to these efforts to further inform the *Global Compendium*.