



Work Programme 2020-2022

Action Area 1.2: Strengthening effective support to statistical capacity and data

Background

There is a need for increased focus on data-driven decision making as a means of effectiveness. Despite a clear recognition that data is a powerful tool for development and accountability, it is yet to be fully harnessed, with challenges around collecting, managing and using data consistently highlighted as a key challenge in the Global Partnership's past country-level work. These challenges are also evident in the most recent GPEDC monitoring results. Only one third (35%) of the partner countries report having the necessary data to track implementation of their national development strategy. Assessment of SDG data availability reveal similar information gaps. There is clear opportunity as an increasing number of actors engaged at country level are generating data and supporting statistical capacity. However, this wealth of data is only of value if a coordinated approach to its sharing and use is taken. The Global Partnership can support efforts to put in place the conditions to close the SDG data gap for countries and population groups otherwise left behind. It will raise political demand for development data and bring together national and international stakeholders for a shared commitment to increase the quality and quantity of data for development as well as to strengthen the use and sharing of statistical data at country level. Right now there is often significant overlap between what is collected by the government and what is collected by various development partners and other country-level stakeholders, especially CSOs. There may be value in finding ways to systematically share data and have it validated by government to reduce overlap in efforts and ensure country ownership over data.

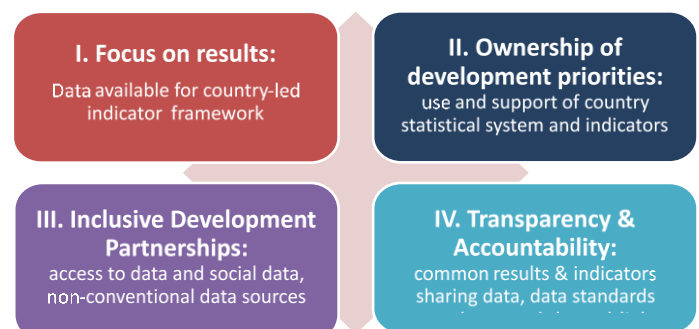
The Global Partnership will use the momentum of the World Data Forum 2020 and works closely with existing international initiatives in this area, as Paris21, the Bern Network, , initiatives at OECD, WorldBank, regional initiative and as well as specialized organizations.

An effectiveness approach to statistical capacity and data

The Global Partnership has in its approach, always recognized the important role of country owned statistical systems and the availability of data. Indeed the need for data and support to statistical capacity of countries is widely recognized in the GPEDC Nairobi Outcome Document 2016.

The need to align, coordinate and guarantee access to accurate and disaggregated data is very much enshrined and linked to the four Effectiveness Principles. However there is the need to better connect development related processes to the area of the statistical system. The Global Partnership has a role to bring in the development lens to the data & statistics discussions and to connect the dots between the various 'Data for Development' initiatives. We will develop, test and implement instruments and mechanisms to strengthen the dialogue around data and statistics. The dialogue will address data availability as well as issues around mobilization of domestic resources, the scaling up of funding, boosting of efficiency, strengthening of collaboration and leveraging of sectorial funding. To do this, we will develop instruments as "data compacts", data clearinghouses or mechanism to assure common data standards. These will have to be developed, tested and promoted as an integral part of the development dialogue at country level. A particular effort is to position and mainstream statistic related issues and bring statistical actors to the table of the development dialogue.

How Effectiveness Principles link to Statistics & Data



Project Proposal Action Area 1.2. Strengthening the support to statistical capacity and SDG data availability

This proposal has been prepared by andrea.ries@eda.admin.ch after a wide consultation with stakeholders before and after the GPEDC program workshop March 17-20.

Action area 1.2

More and better data are required for enabling governments, international organizations, civil society, private sector and the general public to make informed decisions and to ensure the accountability of representative bodies. The data demands of the Agenda 2030 and on “leaving no one behind” require countries to ramp up capacity within their national statistical systems. Current gaps in data are significant and gaps are most severe in the poorest and most fragile countries, where governments lack the resources to build strong statistical systems. Ensuring that statistical capacity and data receive greater support means bringing together a range of stakeholders including governments, external funders, technical agencies and domestic stakeholders as from CSO or private sector, for a shared commitments to increase the quality and quantity of resources for, and the overall effectiveness of cooperation on, data and statistics.

List of lead/s of the action area (in bold) and all participants (from Steering Committee and beyond, including GPIs)

Lead: Switzerland: **Andrea Ries** andrea.ries@eda.admin.ch

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Specialized agencies, thematic and other initiative for cooperation Partner: Paris 21 and “Bern Action Network”: **Jurei.YADA@oecd.org**; Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD): jslotin@data4sdgs.org; OECD DAC D4D: **Ida.McDONNELL@oecd.org**, Simon.LANGE@oecd.org; OECD DAC results community: Chantal.VERGER@oecd.org, Alejandro.GUERRERO-RUIZ@oecd.org; Development Initiative: **Claudia Wells** claudia.wells@devinit.org; WB Groups: chammer@worldbank.org; DorianKalamvrezos.Navarro@fao.org

Objective (capture in one outcome-oriented statement, maximum 100 - 200 words)

Measures of success: Indicator availability of data in GPEDC monitoring

Despite a clear recognition that data is a powerful tool for development and accountability, it is yet to be fully harnessed. Collecting, managing and using data consistently is highlighted as a key challenge in the Global Partnership’s past country-level work as well as by other actors working on data for development. Changes in development

cooperation structures present a clear opportunity as an increasing number of actors engaged at country level are generating data and supporting statistical systems and capacity. However, this wealth of data is only of value if a coordinated approach to its sharing and use is taken.

The Global Partnership aims to **support efforts to put in place the conditions to close the SDG data gap for countries and population groups otherwise left behind**. It will **raise political demand for development data and bring together national and international stakeholders for a shared commitment to connect demand and supply of data for development**, building on and **in co-ordination with existing initiatives in this area**. GPEDC supports the development and implementation of instruments as “data compact” that mobilizes an effective support to statistical capacity and systems by development partners and stakeholders at country level.

Sub-objectives (if needed, maximum two)

1. Country level: Support the statistical system to produce data for development which are fit-for-purpose.
2. Global level: Providing guidance to development partners how to effectively support the statistical system and the use of data for development.

List of specific activities and expected outputs (contributing to the relevant objective/sub-objective, to describe specific expected achievements at the end of the implementation period)

1. Analysis of existing case studies conducted in order to **compile lessons learned, recommendations and to identify instruments** for better coordinate and support statistical capacities and availability of data
2. **Scoping Paper: “A development effectiveness perspective on support to statistical systems”**: this paper maps out the key entry points and strategies to increase the effectiveness of the support to statistical system. It identifies concrete instruments and recommendations for a better inclusion of the statistics perspective in the development dialogue at country level based on the data needs of national and international decision-makers, current knowledge and empirical evidence. The paper constitutes a framework for country level testing. It clarifies the scope clarifies links to process as the VNR and development finance related aspects.
3. A selected number of 3-4 **country pilots to test out instruments and approaches** and to link countries strategies for statistical capacity building with the development cooperation dialogue.
4. **Present evidence and experiences at the World Data Forum 2020**.
5. Produce and approve **GPEDC Guidelines on “effective support to statistical systems and capacity”**
6. Operational guidelines and support to specific instruments are tested and rolled out and promoted: e.g. “data compacts”, data clearing house, better development partner alignment and support to data, etc.

Risks, assumptions & other reflections

Interest the interest and awareness by all actors for the need for better data is rising. The World Data Forum 2020 in October presents an opportunity to boost and reach out to a larger constituency. Currently various related initiative are under way (eg. Bern Network, D4D and Results community DAC, increased WB funding and regional initiatives). GPEDC has an added value by targeting and linking the regular development partner’s coordination mechanism with the ministries of finance with the processes related to the National Statistical Office. There is a fairly good knowledge and evidence on good practice to support statistical capacity. The link to development effectiveness principles is also evident. However to implement these at country level, easily understandable practical instruments for a “non-statistical community” will have to be developed, tested and promoted.

Proposed timeline (either to reflect in log-frame below or, activities in chronological order)

April 2020	Analysis of existing case studies and compilations of recommendations and instruments
May 2020	Scoping Paper: “A development effectiveness perspective on support to statistical systems

June - August	Start of country pilots in country where a process of statistical capacity building is under way. Possible entry points are work (to be confirmed; other options may be added by the JST). Madagascar and Ghana expressed interest. Other in-country works will be explored with other partners (DAC D4D, DAC Results Team, Paris21, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data)
September 2020:	First evidence from country pilots
October 2020	Presentation at World Data Forum 2020
Mid 2021	Draft GPEDC Guidelines on “effective support to statistical systems and capacity” and start consultation
End of 2021:	Approval of Guidelines
Beginning 2022	Draft Operational guidelines with communication outreach and learning process
Optional as required	Input to Monitoring Review depending on time table of the review

Fundraising strategy (to explain how to mobilise resources)

- Seed money to start scoping paper by Switzerland (SDC)
- Additional finance for the facilitation of the process and outreach will be sought from interested development partners.
- Maximum synergies will be sought with other processes.
- Country Evidence: development partners who are active at country level will be contacted to support country pilots.

Contributions/ inputs to foundational elements

1. **How do you ensure that the activities are anchored at country level?** The focus of the activities will be to test out instruments at country level and generate country evidence.
2. **How do you strengthen the constituencies and/or engage with GPIs?** Outreach to the GPI Results and mutual accountability is planned. For the work at country level, engagement of the different constancies’ will be thought as data constitutes a relevant element of domestic accountability and non – state actors are also a potential source of non- traditional data.
3. **How do you mainstream learning?** Learning and outreach is a step both in the county process as well as later in the outreach
4. **How do you enhance stakeholder-led outreach and advocacy?** (see above)

2) Results Framework: Please insert ‘headlines’ in line with the narrative in the below log-frame, indicate contributions of outputs to foundational elements in the strategy paper as well as envisaged timelines.

Action area: [.....]	Indicators / source of verification	Required budget and Resources	Proposed timeline					
			2020		2021		2022	
			S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	
Output 1¹: Country evidence and tests	Development partner support to statistical capacity is increased							
Activity 1.1 ² First Country Pilot		50'000 \$	x	x				

¹ Expected outputs, supporting the objective/sub-objective, e.g. country level analysis, peer learning, normative standards

² Supporting activities (if distinct/required, e.g. mappings, studies or workshops in x countries, global events, etc.)

Activity 1.2 second country Pilot		30'000 \$		x			
Activity 1.3 third country pilot		30'000\$					
Activity 1.3 Country workshop		20'000\$			x		
Output 2: Guidelines developed and communicated	Guidelines approved and communicated – evidence of uptake in countries						
Activity 2.1 scoping paper and framework for country work		20'000\$	x				
Activity 2.2 scoping paper and framework for country work		10'000\$					
Activity 2.3 presentation of evidence WDF		15'0000		x			
Activity 2.4 Draft guidelines incl. consultation		40'000			x		
Activity 2.5 Operationalisation and test of instruments		40'000				x	
Activity 2.5 Outreach and communication		40'000			x	x	x