

## Paving the way for endorsement of the new Global Partnership monitoring

Multi-stakeholder workshop - Republic of Benin, 14-16 June 2022

### Improving the GPEDC Ways of Working and Country-Level Anchoring

Building on the previous day's discussions about implementing the monitoring process at country level, and support needed, this session will explore practical considerations to ensure more demand-driven and member-led action at country level to make development co-operation more effective. In follow-up to the 2021 GPEDC Review, the GPEDC Steering Committee is considering, in its next meeting (July), draft Terms of References for new GPEDC ways of working. The below document is an excerpt of this Terms of References, focusing on new ways of working for the GPEDC.

#### Discussion Questions:

1. Do the proposed new ways of working incentivise governments, partners and other stakeholders at country level to engage with the GPEDC to leverage the outcomes of the monitoring exercise for action, learning and behaviour change?
2. How can GPEDC activities be anchored and integrated within existing country-led processes tasked to ensure effective development co-operation?
3. Beyond different structures and arrangements in individual countries, which partners active at the country and regional level should support the government in making this shift to the country level happen, raising effectiveness as a key enabler of sustainable development in policy dialogue and action at country level?
4. What is needed to strengthen the two-way linkages and connection between global and country-level activities taking place to strengthen effective development co-operation? What role can you foresee for regional organisations?

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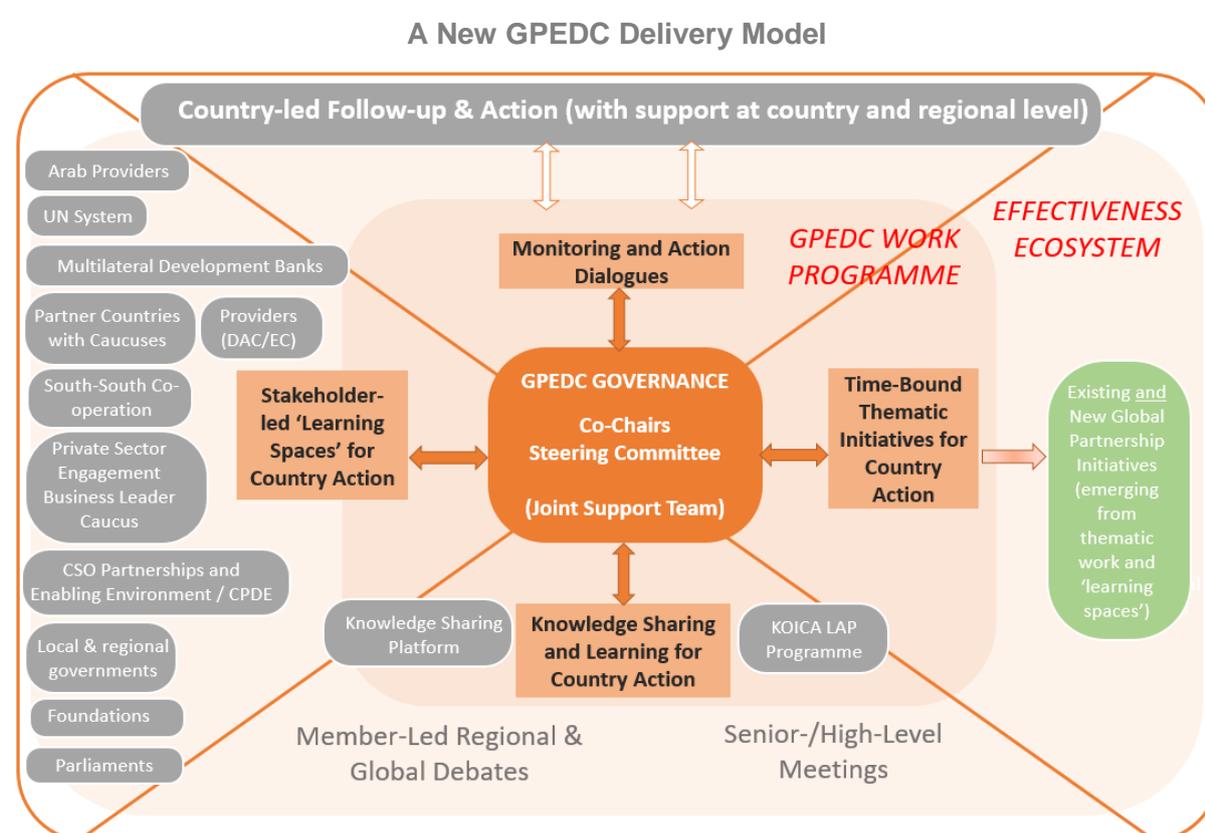
## I. Introduction

In 2021, the Steering Committee of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC) agreed to conduct a review to **improve the delivery of the GPEDC's mandate**, informed by the 2016 Nairobi Outcome Document<sup>1</sup>. The **GPEDC Review reconfirmed the relevance of the effectiveness principles and agenda. It recommended to reposition and equip the GPEDC to achieve greater impact by shifting its focus at country level** and to re-energise engagement patterns of all stakeholders.

Drawing on the recommendations, the Co-Chairs propose a new way of working for the GPEDC, to foster member-led efforts to produce policy and behaviour change at country level in line with the effectiveness principles.

## II. A New GPEDC Delivery Model and Ways of Working for Greater Country Action

The following visual summarises the key features of the updated model outlined below. Main emphasis going forward will be on shifting the focus of the GPEDC's work to the country level to bring effectiveness to practice in different contexts and settings while maintaining opportunities for accountability and learning, in line with the original GPEDC functions agreed in Nairobi.



This GPEDC Delivery Model will be organised in two layers:

- The Effectiveness Ecosystem:** With the ambition to drive policy and behaviour change at country level, stakeholders will be expected to launch activities and change practices in line with the effectiveness principles at the centre of their policy deliberations in ways that are sustainable and supported by all relevant stakeholders at country level. For this, the follow-up to the monitoring and action dialogues must be firmly anchored at country level and supported by relevant actors at country (and regional) level. In addition, time-bound thematic initiatives that may be incubated in the GPEDC work programme (see below) may, once tested and promoted during a work programme period, become a Global Partnership Initiative (GPI) that is self-sustaining and rooted in broader support by

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.effectivecooperation.org/system/files/2020-05/Nairobi-Outcome-Document-English.pdf>.

relevant actors. These would be outside the responsibility of the Steering Committee and supported by the GPEDC stakeholders and partners at large.

- **The GPEDC Work Programme:** It will launch priority activities, to be agreed by members, and which drive catalytic policy and practice changes and its progress monitored by the Steering Committee. Its duration will correspond to the period between High-Level- and/or Senior-Level Meetings, approximately every three years. It will cover four inter-related<sup>2</sup> pillars, with the Monitoring and Action Dialogues being most central, and supported by time-bound, member-led, thematic initiatives; knowledge sharing and learning actions and linkages to broader stakeholder-led 'learning spaces'. The Work Programme will be approved and overseen by the GPEDC Co-Chairs and Steering Committee and supported by the JST as follows:
  - ▶ **The new Monitoring, Action Dialogues and Follow-Up:** The new monitoring framework and process will drive the GPEDC and its Work Programmes going forward. It will advance country-level and global/stakeholder-specific engagement, learning and accountability around effectiveness commitments by all stakeholders and leverage results for informed policy dialogue that will generate political buy-in and multi-stakeholder action. The political mobilisation effort around the new monitoring will be led by the GPEDC Co-Chairs and Steering Committee members, with JST's substantive, technical and coordination support.
    - *Operating Modalities:* The main support of the JST will be on this foundational pillar. Its implementation, however, depends on the mobilisation of partners and resources at all levels (*see box below*).
  - ▶ **Stakeholder-driven 'Learning Spaces':** Steering Committee members are expected to provide 'learning spaces' to their constituencies to share insights and good practices to strengthen country level action. This will replace the constituency-focused 'Action Areas' of the 2020-22 Work Programme<sup>3</sup> and provide spaces for other constituencies to drive action. The 'Learning Spaces' can include activities within constituencies, but should focus on cultivating multi-stakeholder dialogue and action at the country level, linking up with other constituencies through the multi-stakeholder GPEDC, and, substantively, to new thematic initiatives (*see below*).
    - *Operating modalities:* 'Learning spaces' are entirely led by Steering Committee members and their stakeholders. The GPEDC Co-chairs and JST will only provide light coordination support across 'learning spaces' to ensure synergies. As part of the Work Programmes, constituencies will indicate how they organise their 'learning spaces', e.g. by docking onto other existing processes, which space/platform to use, and what priorities they have. The Work Programme could have a focus on individual 'learning spaces' on a voluntary basis, e.g. to maintain political momentum or continue technical work in an area of priority.
  - ▶ **Time-Bound Thematic Initiatives:** Co-Chairs and Steering Committee members incubate not more than 2-3 thematic priorities not covered by the monitoring (e.g. climate change) for each work programme. The priorities are decided by and reported back to the Steering Committee. The key purpose of such initiatives is to mobilise and draw important thematic networks into the effectiveness ecosystem and anchor effectiveness across key thematic priorities and international processes. This will position the GPEDC in different sectoral or operational contexts.
    - *Operating modalities:* Two co-leads (Steering Committee members or other) will steer technical work on guidance to make the effectiveness principles actionable in these contexts and ensure dedicated outreach and multi-stakeholder engagement

<sup>2</sup> Action Dialogues, 'Learning Spaces' and new technical initiatives will harmonise efforts at country level to avoid duplicative efforts and ensure policy dialogue is focused on key priorities in line with global ambitions.

<sup>3</sup> Strategic Priority 2: Building Better Partnerships: 2.1. Private Sector Partnerships, 2.2. Triangular Co-operation, 2.3. South-South Co-operation, 2.4. Civil Society Partnerships, 2.5. Foundations' Engagement, 2.6. Effectiveness at Sub-National Level, and 2.7. Effective Multilateral Support.

at all levels, notably with specialised bodies and networks and to bring such guidance to action at country level by promoting dialogue, piloting and collecting good practice. Such a feedback cycle with countries will be critical to ensure relevance. Following the incubation period (duration of a Work Programme), successful thematic initiatives can be transformed into Global Partnership Initiatives beyond the cycle of individual work programmes.<sup>4</sup> This will have very light coordination support by the JST, mainly to ensure reporting back to and oversight by the Steering Committee under the work programme. As such, members must mobilise resources to implement this activity in order to be considered.

- ▶ **Systematic Knowledge Sharing and Learning:** The GPEDC will continue to provide space and tools for systematic knowledge sharing and learning. The GPEDC Knowledge Sharing Platform with a Country Dashboard (including donor profiles) that provide a snapshot on the status of monitoring and action dialogues will be at the heart of this. In addition, the GPEDC Senior-Level Meetings will also involve practitioners and policy makers for dedicated exchanges that are geared towards learning. The KOICA Learning and Acceleration Programme and the Busan Forum will also remain critically important to facilitate exchange among stakeholders and learning from experiences at the country level. This could also be paired with continued virtual thematic dialogues (webinar series) and advocacy events in international processes.
  - *Operating modalities:* The Co-Chairs and Steering Committee members are actively using the GPEDC Knowledge Sharing Platform, Busan Forum and the KOICA LAP Programme and supporting the organisation of member-led regional or global debates and the SLMs/HLMs. The JST provides support to their organisation and maintenance, alongside support to interactions and exchanges across Steering Committee members working on technical issues of common interests (similar to the current Action Area Coordination calls).

### III. Realising member-led implementation at country-level

With the development co-operation and partnership landscape increasingly shaped by a wide variety of different stakeholders, there has been a shift in the development coordination mechanisms in many countries to pursue stronger horizontal coordination (across ministries/sectors) as well as vertical coordination across government levels ('the whole of government', i.e. across levels of government, with sub-national authorities playing an essential role). Many of these coordination mechanisms are making distinct efforts to be inclusive of all types of development partners and stakeholders ('the whole of society'). New coordination mechanisms have emerged in many countries, including SDG coordination and implementation mechanisms, governance mechanisms for implementing Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs), as well as private sector forums, among others. Consequently, many aid coordination mechanisms that once spearheaded aid effectiveness actions at country level have either been dissolved or embedded into a new coordination mechanism. However, not all countries have functioning coordination mechanisms that are led by governments and supported/engaged in by partners. Not all newly established coordination mechanisms embed effectiveness agenda in their work. In some cases, countries struggle to set-up functioning multi-sectoral coordination mechanisms due to resource and capacity constraints, and some are faced with limited political and stakeholder interest to invest in the coordination mechanisms. This has also become increasingly clear through the various GPEDC Action Dialogues held to date, and some countries have used the GPEDC Action Dialogues to reinvigorate the coordination mechanisms.

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<sup>4</sup> Examples of such new GPIs could be the 'impact' and 'statistics' Action Areas (strategic priority 1) from the 2020-2022 Work Programme and future initiatives could include, for instance climate change. GPIs will continue to serve as incubators and knowledge spaces to co-create practical solutions for specific policy challenges. Examples of successful GPIs are the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), the GPI on Triangular Co-operation, the Effective Institutions Platform (EIP) or the Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB). GPIs remain self-governed and administered without support from the JST.

Partner country governments must be the driving force behind such national coordination mechanisms, alongside the proactive engagement of all key partners. GPEDC efforts to anchor effective development co-operation as part of existing and/or new development coordination mechanisms must therefore be done in close and careful coordination with these actors and strengthen dialogue and advocacy across global, regional and country level stakeholders:

Country level. In line with the ambition to ensure 'member-led implementation of the GPEDC Work Programmes, country-level activities will be resourced by GPEDC stakeholders at country-level through a decentralised process. Under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator, the UN development system can play a particularly important role in supporting governments to facilitate the nomination of an (existing) in-country multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism which advocates for, and integrates, effective development cooperation in existing dialogue and action. Bilateral donors are also expected to actively support and resource country level implementation. Where relevant and feasible, multi-donor trust fund and UNDP support projects can contribute to country level implementation. In addition, the implementation of the Global Partnership monitoring exercise requires support and engagement of all partners including development partners, MDBs and IFIs, and non-executive stakeholders under strong national ownership. This also includes mobilisation of resources required for governments to lead and undertake the country-level monitoring exercise, which includes multi-stakeholder dialogues and follow-up actions.

Regional level. Regional organisations and thematic partnerships within and beyond the Steering Committee (i.e. g7+) can support political mobilisation efforts across countries to deepen their engagement in the GPEDC. While there is a clear organisational framework in Africa (NEPAD-AUDA) and in the Pacific (PIFS) to promote and coordinate countries' engagement in the GPEDC, this is not the case for other regions. GPEDC Co-Chairs will consult with relevant regional organisations/platforms to explore their support and leadership.

Global level. The Co-Chairs and the Steering Committee members lead political and strategic mobilisation efforts, including mobilising their own constituencies at country level to engage and support country-level activities and bring their experience and learning to the GPEDC community. To support this mobilisation effort, the GPEDC Dashboard of activities will be established to keep partners and stakeholders informed of the status of country-level implementation efforts. Members can also facilitate regional and global level seminars and debates on relevant topics to ensure ongoing dialogue and learning. In addition, there is a need for strengthened capacity of the OECD/UNDP Joint Support Team with a dedicated capacity in UNDP/JST to intensify the communication, coordination and engagement support with the UN development system and OECD/JST to mobilise development partners to engage at the country level.