

THEMATIC INITIATIVE GPEDC: DATA MATTERS FOR EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT

Title and Main Objective of the Thematic Initiative

Data matter for effective development – enhancing the support to national statistical systems and the use of data for development

Description of the Thematic Initiative

Robust, age- and gender-responsive and user-friendly national statistical and information management systems, including citizen-generated data and reporting, and respect for privacy rights, are a critical enabler for effective development co-operation. GPEDC members have pledged to support the capacity of national statistical systems, and their ability to improve data quality and disaggregation and increase the use of data, including data generated in partner countries, as a basis for policy making. GPEDC members have also identified critical actions through the Bern call to Action (<https://effectivecooperation.org/BernCalltoAction>) and data has become also a critical issue included in the monitoring. The Partnership Initiative “Data matter for effective development” supports the take up of the Bern Call to action by all GPEDC members including the GPEDC commitments in the Summit declaration on data.

Confirmed partners (countries, organizations and/or individuals)

The “**Bern Network on financing development data**” will be the partner to implement most of the activities. A dialogue with development Partners in the Bern Network includes Norway, Canada, UK, Sweden, Germany, Paris 21, Development Initiatives.

For Partner country work outreach to Somalia (possibly also Madagascar and other) will be done, but others will be explored based on the monitoring calendar.

Contact: andrea.ries@eda.admin.ch, Co-lead yet to be clarified

Submissions of Thematic Initiatives to be included in the GPEDC Work Programme – Data matters!

Proposed activities

1. **Mainstreaming the Bern call to action into founding strategies for statistics:** a dialogue among DAC Donors on strategies for their statistic support aims to help mainstream critical issues into their strategies. The dialogue will be convened by the “Bern Network on financing development data”.
2. Support and engagement to selected **action dialogues to address data** and statistical capacity in country actions and follow up of the GPEDC monitoring.
3. **Analysis of first round monitoring** with regards to indicators on data/LNOB (with JST).
4. **Advocacy for support to data and statistical capacity** also in the multilateral context and (eg. SDG Summit, UN World Data)

Timeline for activities

- Start of dialogue on founding strategies Summer 2023
- Identification of countries for the action dialogue fall 2023
- Analysis of monitoring data first part of 2024
- Advocacy work depending on the multilateral calendar (SDG Summit, etc).

Are resources secured?

Yes No

Annex:

Summit Declaration : Data matters

(1) Results-orientation, inclusive partnerships, country ownership and transparency and mutual accountability are only as good as the data that support them. Timely, secure, transparent, and high-quality disaggregated data are necessary to understand the complexity of sustainable development issues.

(2) Many countries continue to lack data systems that are fit for policymaking and accountability to the people. Furthermore, data systems of partner countries are underutilised by development partners. Robust, age- and gender-responsive and user-friendly national statistical and information management systems, including citizen-generated data and reporting, and respect for privacy rights, are therefore a critical enabler for effective development co-operation.

(3) We will support the capacity of national statistical systems, including efforts for

their digital transformation, and their ability to improve data quality and disaggregation (including by sex, age, race or ethnic origin, disability, migratory status, geography and income/wealth, as well as climate impact and other context-specific issues). We will also support appropriate education, capacity building and training measures for the collection and processing of information, data management and use for statistics in the field of development co-operation as well as data, media and information literacy efforts.

(4) We will increase our use of data, including data generated in partner countries, as a basis for policy making, and to build shared ownership and mutual accountability in a transparent way.

(5) We will support national statistical systems to show development co-operation impact in order to build the evidence base, for increasing investment in sustainable development, including by the private sector.

(6) We will strengthen and use national aid data management systems, and data from Integrated National Financing Frameworks where they exist, inter alia to contribute to and complement other data management platforms such as Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD) and UNCTAD's support to global reporting on South-South Cooperation data, used for the monitoring of SDG 17.3.1, as well as the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI).