

Update on the GPEDC Working Group on Country-Level Implementation of Development Effectiveness Principles

The Working Group on Country-Level Implementation of Development Effectiveness Principles is set out to review and provide recommendations to the Steering Committee meeting 14-15 July on how the GPEDC can better support progress of development effectiveness principles at country-level and strengthen in-country multi-stakeholder platforms in support of the 2030 Agenda implementation.

To accelerate implementation of development effectiveness principles and commitments at country level would be a key contribution to support progress toward the 2030 Agenda. It is important to ensure that all key stakeholders are actively engaged, participating in inclusive dialogues that promote actions and accountability for change. The country focused, multi-stakeholder approach is a key strength of the Global Partnership in this regard. How can the GPEDC best take concrete actions to advance its contribution? The purpose of the Working Group is to make concrete recommendations in response to this question.

The working group consists of representatives of the CSO Partnership on Development Effectiveness (CPDE) Co-Chair, EU, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC), United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and the governments of Madagascar and Samoa. It is led by the European Commission.

As regards country cases, the work builds upon the global scanning of country practices gathered by UNDP for the Joint Support Team through its global network of practitioners (available at the Teamwork platform). This material provides an overview of the progress in different countries and assembles a set of good practices/experiences that can serve as source of inspiration with regard to working methods. The upcoming GPEDC progress report will also include country profiles providing an update on the situation in the countries participating in the 2nd monitoring round.

The group has taken note of the Outcome Report from the 2015 Busan Global Partnership Forum held in Seoul in November 2015. The Forum echoed the critical importance of dialogue among stakeholders and a put a number of proposals forward, such as how GPEDC best can support country ownership, how donors can be encouraged to strengthen the knowledge and capacity of in-country staff to allow them to constructively engage in the monitoring process, and how country-level working groups can be established around 2030 Agenda implementation/development effectiveness matters.

The report to the Steering Committee will be structured around three main topics: policy, country dialogue and use of data. Some questions that will be addressed are listed below.

1) Policy: National Development Plans

- Should National Development Plans be the guiding instrument for planning, budgeting and implementation in partner countries or should there be other policies/plans that steer development? Should National Development Plans be linked to SDG implementation (already/planned)?

- Are these National Development Plans based on inputs from different stakeholders? Do you think they own the document? Are they also using the National Plan for their own operations/projects?
- Is there a reference in the Development Plan to the GPEDC principles? Would there be an opportunity to do so, in the case these principles are not mentioned explicitly?

2) *Country Dialogue*

- Are there multi-stakeholder platforms in your country that discuss effectiveness of development cooperation? Are they functioning properly? What are the lessons learned from these country dialogues? What are main challenges and opportunities?
- What are the key conditions needed to ensure that different stakeholders can engage properly and constructively?
- How to ensure a lively relationship and knowledge exchange between country, regional and global level? How to keep the region/the global level informed of ongoing progress/best practices in your country?

3) *Use of Data*

- Is data available for all stakeholders engaged in the National Development Plan and its implementation? Is data on plans, programmes, results and budgets used by all stakeholders involved?

Focusing on the specific contributions the GPIs can make to advance the impact of GPEDC at the country level, the discussions at the workshop will evolve around the second topic, country dialogue.

The Working Group paper is still in a draft state, about to be circulated among the members for comments. It will be submitted to the JST by end-June. The conclusions from the discussions at the acceleration workshop as presented in the plenary will be taken into consideration in the paper. If you have any further contribution or suggestion to the Working Group as regards the way forward, please contact katarina.tafvelin@ec.europa.eu