

Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation
Latin American Regional Pre-Monitoring Workshop

Mexico City, 5-6 November 2015

KEY MESSAGES

- **The second pre-monitoring workshop was attended by 32 participants, representing a significant increase in regional participation since the 2013-14 Monitoring Round.** The participants included 12 representatives from governments in Latin America, and representatives from civil society organisations, OECD, UNDP, the CLEAR Center for Latin America, UN Women, regional platforms and academia. Representatives from the Mexican co-Chair's team and from the Monitoring Advisory Group were also present.
- **The two-day technical workshop enabled participants with the tools to carry out their respective and differentiated responsibilities during the Second Monitoring Round.** The workshop –carried out in Spanish– introduced participants to the Global Partnership as the multi-stakeholder global forum on development co-operation effectiveness, emerging from the Rome-Monterrey-Paris-Accra-Busan roadmap, and contributing towards the 2030 Agenda and the changing post-2015 landscape. Hands-on sessions focused on discussing how participants could carry out their responsibilities, and two “indicators clinics” discussed the rationale and measurement of each indicator. During the second day, participants engaged in an open dialogue on how to measure “south-south co-operation” and other modalities, given the increasing importance of these forms of development-cooperation in the Region. Finally, participants were consulted on the agenda for the second High-Level Meeting of the GPEDC, and initial reactions emphasized the need to redefine aspects of the Global Partnership to reflect regional realities and concerns. In total, six Latin American countries carried out presentations, describing their aid management strategies and/or the experience and lessons learned during their participation in the First Monitoring Round.

Adapting GPEDC's Monitoring Framework to Stay Relevant in the Region

- **Development flows continue to be significant for the Region, although the concessionality element of these flows changed for an increasing share of countries that needs to be reflected in the scope of the monitoring framework.** LAC countries received about US\$ 27 billion in bilateral and multilateral (i.e. official) development flows in 2013. Using the OECD definition of concessionality, 72% of these flows were non-concessional, reflecting the middle and upper-middle income status of most countries in the Region after a decade-long robust economic growth.
- **Discussions around this changing composition in the nature of regional development flows called for updating GPEDC's monitoring scope and working arrangements in order to stay relevant.** Some key changes may include: (1) expanding the scope of monitored development co-operation flows to reflect these changes (i.e. decidedly including non-concessional multilateral and bilateral development flows); and (2) reflecting the division of labour within governments regarding the management of concessional vs non-concessional flows in selecting and appointing national co-ordinators. In most cases covering both types of development co-operation activities will require more than one national co-ordinator, or strong collaboration between the relevant ministries, in order to collect the data requested by the current set of indicators.

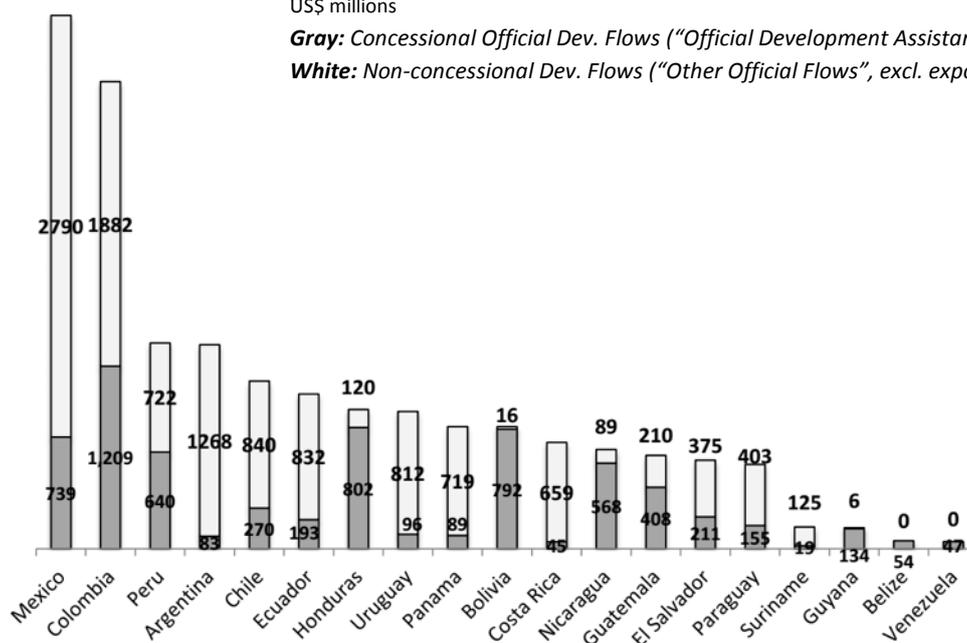
- Given split ministerial responsibilities in managing development flows within LAC governments, the leverage of one ministry in obtaining data from providers that only deal with the other ministry was highlighted as a potential challenge during the 2015-2016 monitoring round. Strong outreach from JST to headquarters of providers, and from headquarters to country offices, might help mitigating the issue. National co-ordinators discussed actions from their side in supporting the intra-government collaboration for the monitoring exercise. Given these constraints, some countries may choose to report only on ODA in order to mitigate coordination challenges.

Regional Composition of Development Finance (2013)

US\$ millions

Gray: Concessional Official Dev. Flows ("Official Development Assistance")

White: Non-concessional Dev. Flows ("Other Official Flows", excl. export credits)



- Several countries in Latin America and from other regions are quickly becoming *hybrids or dual actors*, acting both as recipients and providers of development cooperation. In some countries, these functions are concentrated into recently created development co-operation agencies, while in other countries responsibilities as a provider and as a recipient are still split in between different ministerial entities. While the current monitoring framework can reflect this new reality, further adjustments going forward can help ensure it stays relevant for these countries too by proposing explicit working arrangements for these *hybrid* cases.

Connecting the Monitoring Framework to the Post-2015 global agendas

- In the changing post-2015 landscape, the international *momentum* around development effectiveness is growing, as a way to help ensure the achievement of the ambitious 2030 Agenda, and also maximise the impact of resources committed in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA). The landscape of development cooperation is quickly changing, and 2015-2016 are key years in specifying indicators and targets for the Sustainable Development Goals, and renew the commitments of the international community going forward.
- Participants expressed a need to flesh out and make explicit the connection between GPEDC's monitoring framework of the Global Partnership with the 2030 Agenda (results) and the AAAA (financing). The monitoring framework can play a fundamental role in connecting both agendas, and help ensure that the inputs are translated into results in the most effective and efficient way.

- **Having broad participation from Latin America and Caribbean countries at the 2015-2016 Monitoring Round is important to get the region's voice heard in the international fora.** The regional needs will be taken into account at the monitoring review and the GPEDC's 2nd High-Level Meeting if there is wide commitment and participation from countries in the Region. Some participants highlighted the relevance of some agenda items (i.e. updating the monitoring framework, and new development co-operation modalities). Other participants indicated a lack of focus on that middle layer of hybrid/dual countries, and indicated that the terminology (e.g. *middle-income countries*) was not adequate to fully capture the issue. Co-chairs' representatives invited participants to continue channeling their views during and beyond the workshop's duration.

Participating in the Second Monitoring Round

- **The process, timeline and set of monitoring indicators were explored, discussed and agreed.** Participants from the previous monitoring round exposed their approach and lessons learned, and options to use existing country platforms and systems were discussed.
- **Overall, countries considered their participation as feasible, with the following considerations:**
 - **In some cases, *in-country* socialization of the Monitoring Round and engagement of focal points (for providers and others) may require additional efforts from the JST and national co-ordinators.** Additional outreach tools (videos, supporting material from the JST) would be mostly welcome in order to help focal points understand their role and engage them in the process at country level –and bring them to the same level of understanding and commitment to the 2nd monitoring round.
 - **Coordinating with the relevant ministries within the government to get relevant data may be a challenge in several cases.** This is particularly important given the mixed composition of development flows in several countries (i.e. both concessional development cooperation and non-concessional development flows). Different ministries are in charge of different types of development cooperation and coordination within the government is not always easy.
 - **Increased support is needed at the country level in the dissemination of results.** Some countries also called for close support in carrying out the implementation of this monitoring agenda at the country level.
- **Participants also called for consolidating a regional online community for policy dialogue on these matters, and including development co-operation managers.** Given the intense levels of south-south and regional co-operation within the Region, the need to consolidate regional views ahead of the second High-Level Meeting in Kenya, and the need to support each other throughout the participation in the Second Monitoring Round, Mexico and several participants called for the creation of a mail list for the community of practitioners attending the workshop.

Early Discussions on South-South Co-operation and Other Modalities

- **Participants agreed that the GPEDC and the Region need to look for ways to include new modalities of development cooperation in the current monitoring framework –including South-South cooperation (SSC), regional co-operation and other alternative modalities.** The development co-operation agencies of Mexico, Colombia and Uruguay described their current efforts to map and track these new aid modalities, reflecting a diversity of methods within the Region. A quick mapping of the relevance of the 10 monitoring indicators was discussed, with

some indicators being fully relevant, other indicators remaining relevant with some adjustments, and some indicators not fully applicable to these new aid modalities.

- **Some current challenges related in measuring these new modalities of development cooperation include:**
 - **Defining South-South Cooperation.** There are several types of activities currently being classified as development co-operation. However, only a share of it can be distinguished as a form of development co-operation that differs from traditional co-operation activities, while the rest of activities only reflect the increasing role of Southern countries in providing development co-operation. An initial consensus is needed around the conceptualization of SSC and other non-traditional modalities before launching a monitoring exercise including them.
 - **The emphasis of SSC on technical and knowledge transfer vis-à-vis a monitoring framework emphasizing monetary flows remains a challenge.** While monetization of these co-operation activities may be possible to some extent (Mexico is attempting to do this), it is not a cost-effective exercise and it still fails to capture the monetized value of diverse technical inputs.
 - **Getting relevant [monitoring] data may be challenging at the moment.** New forms of cooperation are not fully tracked, although initial basic measurements (SEGIB annual reports on quantity of SSC activities) are good stepping-stones.
 - **A crucial aspect is to map all SSC activities by the units/agencies in charge of managing development cooperation, both from the provider side and from the recipient side.** Often, aid management units only oversee a share of all the SSC efforts (e.g. Mexico's aid agency only directly oversaw a third of all SSC activities linking Mexican institutions with other countries).
 - **Measuring the relevance of SSC contributions may require adjustments.** There are methodological challenges in defining the contributions of these co-operation modalities. Two key issues are related to (i) how to measure whether these are *supply-driven* or *demand-driven* activities; and (ii) their limited scope, fragmentation and only-partial contribution towards intermediate outputs or outcomes.
 - **Measuring results:** SSC needs to start tracking actual impact. As the current monitoring framework continues being refined in order to incorporate a focus on result among the indicators, it should also capture the specific nature of results-measurement for these new DC modalities.
 - **Sustainability:** Sustainability of SSC is a challenge, and it needs to be incorporated into the supported activities (accompanying countries transform their institutions and practices to the end). It would be important to reflect on this sustainability dimension in the monitoring framework as well.