GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES
Accelerating implementation of effective development co-operation

What are the Global Partnership Initiatives (GPIs)?

GPIs are voluntary initiatives led by different types of development actors (e.g. national governments, international organisations, civil society organisations, trade unions, parliamentarians, local and regional governments, foundations, the private sector, etc.) to advance implementation of development effectiveness principles and commitments agreed through the Busan Partnership Agreement (2011), the Mexico High Level Meeting Communiqué (2014) and the Nairobi Outcome Document (2016).

GPIs test new approaches and spearhead the achievement of development results at country and regional levels. GPIs contribute to the Global Partnership’s vision by directly implementing commitments and by generating evidence, policy-relevant lessons and innovative solutions that can feed mutual accountability and learning into the Global Partnership.

How have GPIs advanced implementation of the core effective development co-operation principles?

To strengthen country ownership, GPIs have:
- Contributed to strengthening public financial management systems through multi-stakeholder country dialogues focused around improving the quality and use of country systems and promoting better integration of development co-operation in the budget cycle.
- Facilitated peer learning opportunities by developing a Peer-to-Peer Learning Guide, a reference framework for peer-to-peer engagement, and by building capacity of different stakeholders in implementing the Busan principles and commitments in-country.
- Supported countries to build statistical capacity and collect better data, by assisting the design, implementation, and monitoring of national strategies for statistical development.
- Increased coherence and harmonisation of co-operation activities through Joint Programming in 34 countries, and advocated for active inclusion of local and regional governments in the dialogue on development co-operation, from definition to implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national development strategies.

To increase the focus on results, GPIs have:
- Supported the design and use of country results frameworks; helped integrate accountability for country-level results to strengthen country-region-global linkages.
- Spearheaded linking development financing with country results by facilitating peer-learning among pilot countries and by informing the Development Finance Assessment methodology developed by UNDP to include an assessment of national development strategies and results frameworks and their linkages with budgeting process.
To help build inclusive partnerships, GPIs have:

- Enhanced the role of civil society in development by: advocating for its inclusion in policy discussions within the Global Partnership and in other international development fora (such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit and the Third International Conference on Financing for Development); developing capacity of country-level civil society organisations (CSOs); undertaking research on multi-stakeholder initiatives; and disseminating evidence of civil society contribution to South-South Co-operation (SSC). See examples here and here.
- Contributed to creating an enabling environment for civil society to maximise its engagement in and impact on development through a CSO enabling framework, which informed the refinement of the Global Partnership Monitoring Framework.
- Ensured civil society engagement in the Global Partnership’s second monitoring round by providing technical and financial support to civil society in monitored countries and conducting analytical work which informed the Global Partnership’s 2016 Progress Report.
- Enhanced the engagement of the business sector in development by facilitating the creation of locally-owned hubs that convene government, business, development partners, the UN and non-governmental organisations (Colombia, Zambia, Mozambique, East Africa, Asia and Pacific).
- Helped governments engage with business as a partner in development through a Roadmap for business engagement, stimulating discussions, providing guidance, policy inputs, frameworks and training to make partnerships effective, and improving the measurement of results of private and public partnerships by sharing best practices.
- Supported governments and foundations to work together at the global, regional and national levels by developing and piloting Guidelines for Effective Philanthropic Engagement in India, Mexico and Myanmar, Kenya and South Africa.
- Produced evidence on SSC by undertaking research on international development co-operation in Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (example here), establishing a Centre for Rising Powers and Global Development to explore new ways of addressing global development challenges faced by BRICS and other influential middle-income countries, and developing a framework for monitoring and evaluating SSC.
- Set up an online facility for learning and sharing experiences on effective partnering to achieve the SDGs, providing access to partnering tools and guidelines and creating ‘safe spaces’ where partnering professionals can meet and exchange concerns and ideas.

To strengthen transparency and mutual accountability, GPIs have:

- Contributed to implementation of the IATI common standard for electronic publication of timely, comprehensive and forward-looking data (publishers increased from 17 in 2011 to 484 in 2016), helping countries build statistical capacity and collect better data, producing and disseminating evidence, and promoting dialogue and knowledge sharing.
- Promoted accountability by developing a capacity assessment framework and tool on mutual accountability in Africa, and supporting young leaders to act as accountability advocates to hold their governments accountable for implementing the SDGs.

How GPIs have advanced implementation of other commitments?

GPIs working on domestic resource mobilisation (DRM) have contributed to increasing financial resources for development by catalysing providers’ support, supporting the assessment of tax systems in partner countries, building auditing capacity, endorsing principles for international engagement by supporting countries in revenue matters and improving the monitoring of international commitments to DRM. Through work on revenue statistics, GPIs have contributed to improved transparency and accountability on revenue systems in 68 countries and facilitated research and analysis on the outcome and results of tax systems development. GPIs also supported the
establishment of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax to assist governments in addressing tax challenges, and supported the launch of the Addis Tax Initiative (ATI) at the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa, July 2015). With the ATI, countries committed to double their support for capacity building on taxation and domestic revenue mobilisation by 2020. One GPI is exploring synergies between climate finance and development co-operation by engaging countries and organisations to share good practices and identify lessons learned around the effectiveness agenda and climate finance.

GPIs have encouraged sustainable development in situations of conflict and fragility by promoting change in the way national and international actors work in these setting; undertaking fragility assessments; organising peacebuilding and state building goals-planning workshops for carrying out country dialogues on use of country systems; and developing a tool for accelerating value chain development.

GPIs have contributed to advancing gender equality by helping to strengthen national systems for tracking resource allocations to gender equality and women’s empowerment; mobilising financial and political commitments for gender equality; supporting countries to promote gender responsive planning and budgeting; and launching the Addis Ababa Action Plan for Transformative Financing for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment.

What now for GPIs?

At the Global Partnership’s Second High-Level Meeting (Nairobi, December 2016), 28 GPIs were confirmed as key contributors to the forward looking agenda of the Global Partnership. The Nairobi Outcome Document recognises their great potential for identifying success factors, sharing lessons and making fuller use of knowledge generated through their efforts to promote mutual accountability and learning.

GPIs will continue to advance implementation of principles and commitments for effective development co-operation, and other commitments agreed in the Nairobi Outcome, with the aim of contributing to the achieving the SDGs. New GPIs launched in Nairobi will:

- Contribute to the 2030 Agenda principle of leaving no-one behind using multidimensional poverty measures;
- Strengthen triangular co-operation, mobilise domestic resources and drive inclusive growth; and
- Support country-level implementation of the SDGs using social dialogue as an instrument.

Learn more about GPIs, including how they contribute to making development co-operation more effective, here. For a list of active GPIs, click here.

How can your organisation register itself as a GPI?

Read more about the process here. Initiatives seeking to become a GPI should submit an application for the Joint Support Team’s review against the application criteria.

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