Multilateral Development Banks for More Effective Development Co-operation

For multilateral organisations, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a vision and blueprint for achieving global development.

To meet these ambitious targets by 2030, there is a need for more and better allocated resources for development. Multilateral organisations are entrusted to ensure the most effective and transparent use of development resources at global, regional, national and local levels, and that these efforts are in line with the achievement of countries' national priorities.

These organisations typically have a regional, if not global footprint, with a mandate to join forces with the government and other stakeholders to tackle urgent global issues from climate change to inequality. They are tasked with not only using their large convening power to advocate for the SDGs, but also effectively managing resources, drawing upon their country office networks and commitment to inclusive partnerships at the country level, to achieve development impact.

The Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC), a multi-stakeholder platform of actors dedicated to increasing the effectiveness of their development partnerships, recognises the crucial expertise that these organisations can provide by operating with and for country governments.

Effective development co-operation is defined by four key principles.

In 2011 at the Busan High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, a multi-stakeholder constellation of key actors, including nearly 160 countries and various multilateral development banks, endorsed the Busan Partnership Principles and agreed to:

- Align their co-operation with national priorities and plans, tailored to country-specific situations and needs (country ownership)
- Ensure accountability among partners and provide openly available information on development co-operation (mutual accountability and transparency)
- Foster innovative partnerships with openness, trust and mutual learning that boosts development impact (inclusive partnerships)
- Ensure investments and efforts have a lasting impact on eradicating poverty and reducing inequality for sustainable development (focus on results)

Effective Development Co-operation and the 2030 Agenda

Complementing the enabling architecture of the Agenda 2030:

**The what:** The Sustainable Development Goals – articulating what we want to achieve for planet, people, and prosperity.

**The means:** The Financing for Development process – including the different types of resources needed for the 2030 Agenda.

**The how:** The effectiveness principles – working in more empowered, inclusive, and equal partnerships to develop 'whole-of-society' solutions for more sustainable development outcomes.

Through better partnerships, multilateral organisations can enhance coordination at the country level and work towards delivering development projects and programmes more effectively.

Given their deep and expansive networks, multilateral financial institutions are well positioned to reverse the trend of competition by utilising in-country expertise, focusing on scaling better partnerships, and monitoring and evaluating projects for progress on the SDGs.

As a global partnership, the GPEDC has committed itself to ensure a focus on results and impact, with these financial institutions being represented at the highest levels and making strategic decisions for more effective co-operation.
Consult with your GPEDC Representative

The World Bank Group represents multilateral development banks (MDBs) within the Steering Committee of the Global Partnership. The Bank’s role is to ensure that governments and local stakeholders in the Steering Committee can benefit from the knowledge and expertise gathered through the different operations that MDBs have around the world.

Contact jsb@worldbank.org to speak to your Global Partnership representative.

Explore GPEDC Monitoring Results

The Global Partnership monitoring exercise is a voluntary, country-led and multi-stakeholder process that tracks the implementation of the four effectiveness principles, using 10 indicators. From measuring whether development partners, such as multilateral organisations, are using countries’ own results frameworks and evaluation processes (indicator 1) to whether partners make information on development co-operation publicly accessible (indicator 4), the monitoring exercise has relevant insights for many multilateral institutions. Results for individual countries and partner organisations can be examined over time using the Global Partnership Monitoring Dashboard.

The results of each monitoring round also feeds into the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda. Contact monitoring@effectivecooperation.org for more information.

Use the GPEDC Knowledge-Sharing Platform

Multilateral organisations can now use the Global Partnership’s Knowledge-Sharing Platform – a one-stop digital hub for information, training, and peer-learning. It provides practitioners the opportunity to network around successes, bottlenecks and innovations in effective development co-operation and sustainable development. Organisations can use the Platform to: contribute resources or evidence on what works; create a profile and follow likeminded individuals working on similar, local projects; plan and promote events; start a chat room with other multilateral organisations or host online consultations around a key topic.

Available in June at www.knowledge.effectivecooperation.org.

Effective Development Co-operation at Country Level

Multilateral banks are instrumental in driving partnerships at the local and national level to deliver on the SDGs more effectively. To this end, they can:

- Help meet national objectives: With a great deal of work happening with government counterparts, multilateral institutions are well positioned to understand country priorities and can therefore better support these strategic goals.
- Connect partners: Given their vast networks, MDBs can play a ‘connecting’ role amongst multiple stakeholders on the ground, taking the opportunity to connect different players and encourage peer learning for better delivery of projects.
- Advocate for human rights and accountability: Multilateral organisations have a responsibility to monitor and be held, and hold others, accountable for their actions.
- Avoid duplication of resources: By focusing on their competitive advantages, sharing knowledge and coordinating their activities, MDBs can strengthen the impact of their projects and programmes.

Contribute to the 2019 GPEDC Senior–Level Meeting

The GPEDC is holding its Senior–Level Meeting in July 2019, taking place in the margins of the United Nations High–Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in New York. This Senior–Level Meeting will showcase tools – from and for the country level – for making development co-operation more effective. It will present new approaches to advance effectiveness in different contexts, and chart new ground, in view of global trends, for advancing effectiveness. Multilateral institutions will be invited to engage in such key discussions around effectiveness through different platforms and social media.

Contact info@effectivecooperation.org to find out ways to get involved.