

2019 HLPF Side Event on

# Innovating Partnerships with the Private Sector: How to achieve greater SDG Impact?

TUESDAY, 16 JULY, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM  
FORD FOUNDATION, DOLORES HUERTA ROOM  
320 E 43RD ST NEW YORK, NY 10017

***Thematic Focus at a Glance:*** The 2030 Agenda calls for the diverse private sector to apply its creativity, resources and innovation power to solve sustainable development challenges, including through effective multi-stakeholder partnerships. In this vein, the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC) has brought together public and private stakeholders to develop a set of [voluntary principles](#) for effectively engaging the private sector through development co-operation towards SDG achievement. These principles will be launched on the margins of the HLPF and the side event invites participant from different stakeholder groups, particularly from the private and the fourth sectors, to discuss how they can be applied in concrete terms and by different stakeholders at the country level.

## **Background & Context**

Private sector actors provide clear contributions to development in their own right – as engines of growth, innovation and employment. The primary objective of multinationals, domestic firms, small- and medium-sized enterprises is to secure sustainable profits and long-term economic opportunities to prosper.

Facing increasing economic, social and environmental challenges and pressure, a shift in mind set is taking place among entrepreneurs around the world: Investing in more prosperous and sustainable societies is ‘smart business’ that helps to secure operations and markets for long-term growth. There is a growing number of good practise examples on how adapting core business practices and value chains towards sustainability can lead to new business opportunities and greater competitiveness in a fast-changing global economy. Along these lines, a new fourth sector of the economy has emerged, consisting of for-benefit organisations that advance societal and environmental benefit as their primary purpose (like non-profits), and generate income from business activities (like for-profits). These organisations have values-driven features like inclusive ownership and governance, fair compensation standards, and commitment to environmental responsibility This fourth sector provides a space for the private, public, and non-profits sectors to interact, engage, and collaborate in their shared objectives to advance the SDGs.

Many development co-operation actors are scaling up their engagement with private partners to leverage additional resources and foster dynamic and innovative partnerships that drive progress towards sustainability. Experience shows that such partnerships require deliberate action, inclusive dialogue, and a shared understanding of the benefits they bring for businesses and the communities they target.

In many instances, private sector actors continue to have reservations about engaging in relationships with public and civic actors that are perceived as burdensome and bureaucratic. Public and civic actors, in turn, continue to raise concerns about limited transparency and accountability or the lack of safeguards on the use of public resources when engaging the private sector. Both sides note the pervasive lack of trust, which is critical to the effectiveness of partnerships and action. There is thus a need to strengthen country systems for robust monitoring of both public finance and private profits, and to recognize and leverage the emerging fourth sector, to ensure results for the community while curbing harmful externalities.

Recognising the opportunities that effective private sector engagement through development co-operation provides, and in addressing the concerns of all stakeholders through an inclusive process, the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC) has developed the “[Kampala Principles](#)” – a set of strategic priorities for private sector engagement (PSE) through development co-operation, that are launched on 13 July at the Global Partnership’s [Senior-Level Meeting](#).

The five principles promote ownership of private sector engagement (PSE) through development co-operation by partner countries and ensure the alignment of PSE projects and programmes with national sustainable development priorities. They focus on realising sustainable development results and serve as a basis for inclusive dialogue and more effective partnerships. The principles support greater transparency and accountability and address the heightened commercial and other risks for partners involved when targeting those furthest behind. They read as follows:

	<b>PRINCIPLE 1</b>	<b>INCLUSIVE COUNTRY OWNERSHIP</b> Strengthening co-ordination, alignment and capacity building at the country level
	<b>PRINCIPLE 2</b>	<b>RESULTS AND TARGETED IMPACT</b> Realising sustainable development outcomes through mutual benefits
	<b>PRINCIPLE 3</b>	<b>INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIP</b> Fostering trust through inclusive dialogue and consultation
	<b>PRINCIPLE 4</b>	<b>TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY</b> Measuring and disseminating sustainable development results for learning and scaling up of successes
	<b>PRINCIPLE 5</b>	<b>LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND</b> Recognising, sharing and mitigating risks for all partners

In going forward, the Global Partnership will support the voluntary implementation and operationalisation of these principles at the country level to scale up effective private sector engagement in development co-operation.

## **About the Event**

This event, co-organised by the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC) and the Fourth Sector Group, in collaboration with the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD, will bring together senior level officials from governments, business, and civil society for an inspiring discussion on a new generation of partnerships that use public resources in ways that contribute to the realisation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The event will introduce the [“Kampala Principles”](#) for Effective Private Sector Engagement (PSE) in development co-operation. Based on specific examples presented by business leaders and governments, the event will demonstrate how the principles are already being applied in specific partnerships and what is needed to encourage others follow suit and scale up such successful partnerships in different contexts and sectors.

The event will be organised as a moderated panel discussion, comprised of a range of senior level speakers which will be followed by an interactive discussion with the audience.

### **Moderation:**

Ms. Rangita de Silva de Alwis, Associate Dean for International Programs at the University of Pennsylvania Law School

### **Discussion Panel:**

#### Opening Remarks:

- Mr. Monowar Ahmed, Permanent Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh

#### Introduction to the Kampala Principles:

- Mr. Jorge Moreira da Silva, Director, Development Co-operation Directorate, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

#### Panel Discussion:

- Mr. Heerad Sabeti, CEO, Fourth Sector Group
- Mr. Marcos Neto, Director, UNDP Finance Sector Hub
- Ms. Cheryl Dorsey, President, Echoing Green
- Mr. Paulo Roberto Bellotti, Founder and Executive Director, MOV Investimentos and Member of the GPEDC Business Leaders Caucus
- Ms. Jean Case, Founder and CEO of Case Foundation (tbc)

#### Closing Remarks:

Mr. Udo Weber, Deputy Head of Division, Effectiveness, Transparency and Quality Standards, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany

Discussants will share their diverse experiences and perspectives on how effective PSE can be achieved through dynamic partnerships, and they will reflect on the opportunities for shared understanding and action that the Kampala Principles for Effective Private Sector Engagement provide. Discussants

will self-reflect on how they can become more effective partners to ensure that PSE achieves greater SDG impact.

### **Suggested Discussion Questions**

The session will be guided by a set of guiding questions in order to focus and facilitate the panel discussion:

- What are the main opportunities and incentives for public and private partners to work better together towards the SDGs, leaving no one behind? What is the role of the fourth sector in moving the needle on more effective partnerships for SDG achievement?
- What are the main lessons learned from concrete experiences with such partnerships and initiatives between governments, multi-nationals, local businesses, for-benefit enterprises, and civil society regarding the effective use of development co-operation? What challenges were faced and how were they overcome? Who benefitted and why did it work?
- How do we move forward with the concrete implementation and scaling up of private and fourth sector engagement at the country level? How can the Kampala principles inform new partnerships and actions? How can the Global Partnership best support implementation of the principles in the development of new partnerships, and operation of existing ones?

### **Contribution to the 2019 HLPF**

This side event will provide a concrete and action-focused discussion among governments, business leaders and civil society on how to tangibly empower people and communities to develop effective models of engagement with the private and fourth sectors in sustainable development. It will directly provide stakeholder-specific insights on the role of private sector partnerships in promoting the SDGs, including those under review at the 2019 HLPF. It will identify opportunities to strengthen the catalytic power of development co-operation in private sector partnerships and help to chart practical ways forward in bringing innovative partnerships that benefit business and development to scale.