

CONCEPT NOTE

Asia Workshop on the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation: Links to the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Reinforcing Effective Development Partnerships for Better Development Results

Background

The Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness held in Busan, Republic of Korea, in 2011 represents a critical turning point in development co-operation. In Busan, over 3,000 delegates reviewed global progress in improving the impact and value for money of development assistance. They further proceeded to adopt the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) as an agreed framework for inclusive development cooperation embracing traditional donors, South-South Cooperators, BRICS, CSOs and private funders.

The GPEDC is a forum to foster political accountability for the implementation of global commitments at political level, whilst facilitating knowledge-sharing among different stakeholders implementing a common agenda. Regular Steering Committee meetings and inclusive Ministerial consultations stand as key pillars of the Global Partnership's catalytic role to promote strategic and effective political alliances to eradicate poverty. The first Ministerial meeting is expected to take place in the first quarter of 2014 with a view to build consensus around the four shared principles at the heart of effective development cooperation [i.e. (i) Country Ownership; (ii) Results; (iii) Inclusive Partnership; and (iv) Results and Accountability] and propose suitable alternatives to guide 'how' to effectively support the post-2015 development agenda for a wider global partnership for development. Key objectives of the Ministerial meeting include: (i) Taking stock of progress made since Busan, whilst identifying key implementation challenges; (ii) promoting linkages between business and development; (iii) and exploring innovative avenues to scale up development knowledge transfer, especially among developing countries and emerging economies.

In its inception, the Global Partnership is directly linked to MDG 8 (*Develop a Global Partnership for Development*). Following the second Steering Committee meeting held in Bali, Indonesia on 23-24 March 2013, the Co-Chairs of the Global Partnership shared an open letter with the UN Secretary General's High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the post-2015 Development Agenda. This letter highlighted the relevance of the Global Partnership's work and the potential for building positive synergies around a successor to MDG 8 in post-2015 framework.

The open letter emphasizes the notion for the Global Partnership to act as a pivotal enabler in the effective implementation of the post-2015 framework. The letter also makes direct reference to the first Ministerial-level meeting scheduled for the first quarter of 2014 as an extremely well-timed

occasion for the Global Partnership to reflect on the recommendations of the High Level Panel, and calibrate a series of tailored interventions in support of this agenda.

As a member of the Steering Committee for the Global Partnership, Bangladesh proposes to hold a workshop on the implementation of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation to reflect on the unique perspectives of the Asia region vis-à-vis the evolving post-2015 development agenda.

A unified Asian perspective on the implementation of the Global Partnership and its association with the Post-2015 Development Agenda represents an important step forward in enhancing the quality of Steering Committee deliberations, as well as informing the Ministerial level meetings of the Global Partnership.

Scope and Objectives

By bringing together different stakeholders from the Asia region, this workshop seeks to assist Asian countries to **clarify, take stock and devise future actions** to enhance development cooperation particularly in the context of transitioning from the Millennium Development Goals to the Post-2015 Development Agenda. The findings of the workshop will be presented in the upcoming Global Partnership Ministerial Meeting to provide feedback from Asia to influence the post-MDG agenda and strengthen support towards the implementation of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation. Further, the workshop is expected to yield a Common Plan of Action for Asia in support of the principles embedded in the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation at regional level. To this end, the workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss the formalization of a consultative and inclusive regional peer support facility to strengthen mutual collaboration and knowledge transfer between the countries of the Asian region.

Expected Outcomes

The aim of this consultation is to discuss effective implementation of the Global Partnership and its nexus with the Post-2015 Development Agenda. As such, the workshop will focus on (i) taking stock of current development transition and dynamics, on-going successes and persistent challenges in Asia at country, sub-regional, and regional levels; (ii) searching for collaborative approaches to deepen effective development cooperation; and (iii) synthesizing perspectives from Asia to influence the global discourse on the implementation of the Global Partnership and its linkages to the post-2015 Development Agenda.

The major expected outcome of the workshop includes:

- A Common Plan of Action for Asia (CPAA) in implementing the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation that captures key priorities for countries in Asia -

particularly low income countries. The CPAA will effectively support the work of the Global Partnership and contribute to strengthening the link between the GPEDC and the Post-2015 Development Agenda as a direct contribution for the first Ministerial meeting

Notably, the workshop will also be expected to provide participants with an opportunity to discuss **and explore the possibility of establishing** a regional peer support facility to fill the void between the global agenda and oftentimes isolated national initiatives. This peer support facility will also play a key role in fostering strategic links across relevant knowledge sharing platforms, and in developing greater synergies between various regional and global initiatives.

Suggested participation

Expected participants in the workshop are:

- Representatives of Government from the Asia region [*Afghanistan, China, India, Pakistan, Vietnam, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Cambodia, Maldives, the Philippines, Myanmar, Timor-Leste, Lao PDR, Mongolia, and the Republic of Korea*];
- Representatives from the Global Partnership Steering Committee;
- Representatives from regional platforms such as CDDE, PIFS, ASEAN, SAARC, and NEPAD;
- Representatives of the Building Blocks (Results & Mutual Accountability, Aid Fragmentation, CSO Development Effectiveness, etc.);
- Representatives from the OECD/UNDP joint team supporting the global partnership;
- Representatives from the host Government of Bangladesh;
- Representatives from resident bilateral and multilateral development partners.