



# UNIVERSALISING EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

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The CSOs' Asks  
for a stronger  
Global Partnership

**CSOPartnership**   
for **Development Effectiveness**

 **HLM2**  
Nairobi 2016  
Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation

Nairobi  
28th November – 1st December  
2016



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## For a successful High Level Meeting: building on past efforts to address future challenges.

The CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE)<sup>1</sup> is committed to a successful Second High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC). The HLM2 will be a milestone in the implementation of the effective development cooperation commitments and possibly in the realisation of the 2030 Agenda and the AAAA as well--if the international community comes together in Nairobi to:

- Take action to address areas of limited progress highlighted in the Second GPEDC Progress Report and reaffirm the integrity of the effectiveness agenda centred on the principles of democratic ownership, focus on results, transparency and mutual accountability, and inclusive partnerships
- Consolidate robust monitoring framework and progress reports based on genuine multi-stakeholder dialogue at the global, regional, and country levels
- Commit to behaviour change, consistent with evidences from the progress reports
- Bring all actors, including the private sector, in line with all Development Effectiveness principles
- Reiterate the recognition of CSOs as independent development actors in their own right and commit to an Enabling Environment for CSOs in all countries, consistent with agreed international rights and accountability criteria such as the Istanbul Principles
- Recognise Human Rights-Based Approaches (HRBA) including decent work, gender equality and women's rights, and environmental sustainability as the core operating principle of any aid and development policy
- Improve the GPEDC governance to translate into practice the multi-stakeholder nature of the Partnership

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<sup>1</sup> *The CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) gathers a broad coalition of community organisations, trade unions, faith-based organisations, youth groups, feminist movements, indigenous groups and NGOs, which are all committed to turning the promise of an effective development cooperation into concrete actions by governments, international organisations, business and any other development actors.*



CPDE will bring more than 300 CSOs from around the world to the GPEDC HLM2 to actively participate in the plenaries, fora, workshops and the marketplace of ideas. These CSOs carry with them the voices of their sectors (agricultural and rural development, labor, feminists, youth, indigenous peoples, international CSOs, faith-based organizations, and migrants) and countries (from Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa, North America, and Pacific) about critical issues such as mutual accountability, civic space, poverty and inequality.

The full implementation of the effective development cooperation principles is our contribution to achieving the aspirations for development results that are sustainable from an economic, social and environmental perspective, as recalled by the 2030 Agenda.

Over the past few months, CPDE has actively participated in official discussions for the HLM2 by submitting recommendations to address the most pressing issues for discussion and decision, from transparency & accountability to a renewed GPEDC mandate, from the women rights development agenda to the role of the private sector. The CSOs' Asks for a stronger Global Partnership focuses on two overarching challenges: trust among development partners and the full implementation of the effectiveness agenda.



## Trust and accountability among development partners, the full implementation of the effectiveness agenda and developing the civic space

The GPEDC must proceed to develop its unique multi-stakeholder nature by building the accountability of all development actors to ensure their compliance with development effectiveness principles and to guarantee positive and significant results. It is essential that the GPEDC's working arrangements are informed to the highest transparency and inclusiveness standards, including the Global Partnership Initiatives (GPIs).

In particular:

- The mandate of the GPEDC should be based on realising the effectiveness agenda through behaviour change informed with evidence on progress and challenges in the implementation of the agreed commitments; GPEDC's working arrangements should be built around a reliable framework that includes a robust monitoring of the effectiveness agenda as well as technical senior and high level meetings to take place every two years to assess, take stock and appraise progress to promote best practices.
- GPEDC should focus its efforts on work plans to address bottle necks and move forward; the monitoring framework should be enhanced to improve transparency and accountability of all development actors
- All partners should have equal ability to meaningfully engage in the governance of the GPEDC at all levels; the co-chairs of the Global Partnership should include representatives from the non executive constituencies, CSOs in particular
- Governments and development providers in the GPEDC should address the continued closing of civic space, which undermines CSOs' ability to advocate for human rights, for marginalized groups, and for greater accountability on the part of the governments and international institutions. They should commit to making substantial progress over the next two years toward fully realizing an enabling environment for CSOs consistent with agreed international rights



## **Donors need to live up to effective development cooperation commitments to ensure that competing priorities do not leave anyone behind mired in poverty and inequality.**

Each of the four effectiveness principles - democratic ownership, focus on results, transparency and mutual accountability, and inclusive partnerships - mutually reinforces each other. While it is understood and appreciated that different development actors will implement the effectiveness commitments according to their capacities and responsibilities, this is no excuse for undermining the integrity of the agenda.

In particular:

- All development actors should commit to the implementation of the four effectiveness principles as a single framework, from governments to CSOs, from Parliamentarians to the private sector. In this regard, the CPDE is expecting the Nairobi HLM2 Outcome Document to address the bottlenecks hampering progress, on the basis of the results achieved with the Rome, Paris, Accra, and Busan conferences;
- GPEDC should take action to bring the effective development cooperation framework to the level of the countries and local communities, which are the most affected by challenges to sustainable development. In this regard, it is vital that the HLM2 set the path for progress in critical areas such as expanding the use of country systems and country results frameworks, as well as enhancing enabling space for CSOs to play their diverse roles in development;
- The global community should acknowledge that the effectiveness agenda offers the potential to address the challenges encapsulated in the notion of Leaving No One Behind. It does so through the stringent calls outlined in the Busan Agreement to focus on results, to direct development cooperation where it is most needed and to uphold commitments on peace and development especially in countries in fragility and post-conflict situations; and
- Consequently, the HLM2 Nairobi Outcome Document should call on donors to focus their aid and development resources on poverty eradication, sustainable development (including human rights and good governance), and additional and sustainable climate finance. There must also be a stop to diverting development assistance from cases such as the refugee crisis to cover in-donor costs and new tools to support the private sector (whose impact, development orientation and transparency are still to be tested). Situations such as the refugee crisis should instead be funded through other instruments.

For more information on CPDE:

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The Key Asks are a rallying point and guidepost for CSOs engaging in the process of transforming the development co-operation system through universalising effective development co-operation, which entails addressing both symptoms and structural causes of poverty, inequality, and social marginalisation.

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