CPDE ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR THE GPEDC SENIOR LEVEL MEETING

BACKGROUND

This document presents the Key Findings and Recommendations of the reflection document on SDG national level implementation and the VNR process. The CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE) conducted the study this May-June 2019 in countries whose governments will be presenting their VNRs in the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF). The objective/s of the study was to reflect on the progress of the national implementation of the SDGs and the VNR in reporting countries, and review CSO participation in these process-es. There were 22 respondent CSOs to the study from 17 countries. The synthesis of the results includes reflections and recommendations to help veer the VNR process and SDG implementation in general to the path to progress.

KEY FINDINGS

Significant progress has been achieved in implementing principles of effective development cooperation (EDC) in ensuring CSO participation in pursuing SDG strategies, but this has yet to clearly translate in shaping national policies implemented by governments.This is demonstrated through the following specific findings:

Planning and implementing SDGs

One of the key factors needed to jumpstart the implementation of SDGs is inclusive and multi-stakeholder plan-ning. Such process entails that the position and stance of the stakeholders included in the process should be reflected in the national development policies.While majority of the respondents (73%) reported that their governments have established specific SDG strate-gies, and all respondents reported that a specific government agency in their country has been assigned to spearhead the implementation of SDGs, there were two respondents that were not able to cite a particular agency, with one simply answering "government office." Another respondent said that only a few government bodies were tasked to implement the Agenda 2030 in their country. Another respondent revealed that while a specific agency has been overseeing the pursuit of SDGs since 2015, the said institution was weak in playing the role.Even if most of the respondents were able to pinpoint the agency supervising the implementation of SDGs in their country, it is alarming to note that some countries, even at this point in time, has made little effort

to assign particular agencies to oversee. A deeper study on the effectivity and strength of said agencies in playing the role to oversee implementation.When asked if CSOs and other stakeholders were consulted in their country's SDG planning, implementation, and review processes, majority of the respondents answered in the affirmative. However, most of the answers also had caveats such as "there was very limited involvement," that there was only a "one-time consultation," and that there were "few consultations at the national level." All these point to how CSOs and other stakeholders were indeed involved, it was very minimal to the point of being tokenistic.Some 86% of respondents said that their inputs in their country's SDG planning have been received and incorporated in their government's efforts. These inputs range from consultations, position papers, and the provision of various data for their country's VNR report. It is important to note, however, that several respon-dents answered in the extreme, with some responses stating that "the level of involvement is almost non-exis-tent." Also, only 23% of the respondents indicated that their inputs have been received and incorporated into their government's efforts, with many respondents stating that their inputs were not reflected in final documents.

₄Reporting and impact assessment

About64% of the respondents reported that there is an existing national reporting process on SDG implementation in their countries. However, at the extreme end, a respondent reported that no such process exists in their country, as their government is only beginning to define national targets for the SDGs. Some other respon-dents noted that the national reporting process in their country only started recently. The respondents were divided when asked if the process of SDG implementation provided positive impact in forming/strengthening multi-stakeholder partnership to localise and promote SDGs. About 45% answered in the affirmative, while 36% said no. Some 18% said that they are still in the process of assessing such impact as the process is still in the early phase in their country.About 45% of respondents indicated that the process of the SDG implementation provided positive impacts in national development, including the strengthening of linkages between CSOs and the government, and form-ing/strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships. However, 9% were uncertain about this, with one respon-dent indicating that their government does talk about SDG implementation, but in practice, no strategic plan and program have been in place. Another respondent said that CSOs are still working hard to attain such goals.

Gaps

The respondents noted that main gaps in SDG implementation include:• Their government's lack of political will in considering and implementing CSO outputs in national policy frameworks – One respondent noted that their "government doens't have a specific and clear vision on SDG and do not involve other development participants." Another respondent noted that "political will to take radical decisions is necessary." • Lack of funding and resources for effective partnerships – Several

respondents noted how lack of funding limit their work on the SDGs and incapacitating them in pursuing several plans and targets.• Absence of inclusive platforms for cooperative SDG implementation and monitoring – A key issue that many respondents raised is the lack of transparency, especially in the decision-making process, which one respondent called a product of "dysfunctional coordination framework." The practice of effective development cooperation is clearly not yet widely in place, as several respondents report that instead of working smoothly with the government, many CSOs serving communities and delivering services for decades were even vilified and marginalised by state agents. The communities they serve are also marginalised in the process. One respondent thus suggested that a "multi-stakeholder consultation mechanism to introduce an integrated policy approach and to balance interests and concerns of social, economic and environmental aspects" should be put into place.• The creeping influence of the private sector in implementing development plans – Several respondents reveal that in their country, the current development priorities and SDGs implementation are "more corporate-driven which are more facilitated by the government through development strategies and policies" rather than focusing on inputs and feedback from sectors directly being served by the SDG strategies.

₅KEY RECOMMENDATIONSOver-all

Create concrete partnership frameworks that will allow meaningful CSO participation in implementing SDG strategies.

Specifics.

Closer partnerships between CSOs and governments should be established to ensure that valuable inputs from various stakeholders are not only considered but also reflected in national policies. Certain guidelines should be set on the international, regional, and national levels to ensure that inputs from CSOs and other stakeholders are not rendered irrelevant and are indeed included in the implementation strategies.• Enhance financing for SDG commitments including the consideration of planning and funding smaller projects that directly address the basic needs of those left behind rather than consistently pursuing bigger development projects.CSOs and governments need to localise SDGs, and develop specific and measurable SDG indicators. Platforms for accountability on part of the government and CSOs should also be in place.

BELGRADE CALL TO ACTION

The Belgrade Call to Action, which calls on all development actors to take immediate and decisive action to reverse the trend of shrinking and closing space for Civil Society, was also shared to respondents, with all of them committing to promote the call to action through various schemes and levels – through policy dialogues,

opening partnerships with other development partners, jumpstart a more proactive campaign at the national level, and many other forms.

6Table 1. List of CSOs which responded to the studyCountry Civil Society OrganisationArmenia Caucasus Research Resource Center-Armenia FoundationBosnia & Herzegovina PRONI Center for Youth DevelopmentBurundi Chambre Transversale des Jeunes Entrepreneurs du BurundiCameroon Africa Development Interchange Network (ADIN)Cameroon Cameroon Youths and Students Forum for Peace (CAMYOSFOP)Ghana Network for Women's Rights in Ghana (NETRIGHT)India Centre for Research and Advocacy ManipurIndonesia Institute for National and Democracy Studies (INDIES) Ireland Social Justice IrelandKyrgyzstan Public Association The Right StepKyrgyzstan Forum of Women's NGOs of KyrgyzstanMongolia Centre for Human Rights and DevelopmentNepal Beyond Beijing CommitteePhilippines Coordinating Council for Peoples Development and Governance (CPDG)Sierra Leone ChildHelp Sierra LeoneSouth Africa Economic Justice Network (EJN) of FOCCISAMacedonia Macedonian Center for International Cooperation (MCIC)Uganda Uganda National NGO ForumTanzania Tanzania Coalition on Debt and Development (TCDD) Zambia ChildHelp Inc, ZambiaZambia Civil Society for Poverty Reduction

7Annex 1: CPDE Questionnaire for National Focal Points of Voluntary National Review CountriesQ1 In what country do you work?Q2 Name of your organisation? Q3 Has your government established a specific SDG strategy or integrated SDGs into national development planning and/or development cooperation policy?Q4 Which government agency is responsible for implementing the SDGs or the specific SDG strategy?Q5 Are CSOs and other stakeholders consulted in your country's SDG planning, implementation, and review processes? If yes, was your organisation able to participate in these consultations?Q6 What type of inputs were you able to provide? Do you believe these inputs have been received and incorporated into the government's efforts?Q7 Is there a national reporting process on SDG implementation and is this reporting publicly accessible?Q8 Has the process of SDG implementation provided positive impact/s in forming/strengthening multi-stakeholder partnership to localise and promote SDGs? What are these?Q9 Has the process of the SDG implementation provided positive impacts in national development outside those identified in item 6? What are these developments?Q10 In your view what are the main gaps in SDG implementation? Are there any elements that hinder your participation in the SDG implementation at the country level?Q11 Do you have any recommendations or priorities?Q12 Here is the link to the Belgrade Call to Action, which calls on all development actors to take immediate and decisive action to reverse the trend of shrinking and closing space for Civil Society. What can your organisation do to promote the Call to Action at the country level in relations to the SDGs (i.e. SDG 1 and SDG 16)? How will you promote this to engage other development stakeholders?

CPDE SLM Webpage

Please refer to the CPDE SLM webpage for information and updates.
https://www.csopartnership.org/slm2019

Background
The Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) will hold a Senior Level Meeting (SLM) this year during the UNs High Level Political Forum (HLPF) at the UN headquarters in New York. More precisely, the SLM will take place the weekend of 13-14 July in between the thematic segment of the HLPF and the Ministerial Segment where Voluntary National Reviews will be presented.[1]

The SLM is an important milestone for the GPEDC to sustain momentum on effectiveness agenda and to showcase the completed work and outcomes of the GPEDCs 2017-2018 Work Programme. Holding the SLM during the weeks of the HLPF is intended also to raise the profile of GPEDC within UN circles, which has long been an ambition and challenge for the GPEDC.

CPDE has been actively engaged in all aspects of the GPEDCs work. This includes in its governance structure, in the implementation of its Work Programme, in the rollout of the monitoring framework, in the Global Partnership initiatives and activities at the national level. The SLM will showcase all of these initiatives and CPDE will participate in a manner equal to its involvement in the GPEDC as a whole.

At and prior to the SLM CPDE intends to: (a) be involved in the preparations and preparatory activities, including agenda setting; (b) to have a high-level profile in the SLM itself participating in panels, parallel sessions, organising side events and holding a CSO pre-forum; and (c) sustain engagement in the follow up of the SLM and the subsequent GPEDC work programme

CPDE Schedule at SLM
12 July - CC meeting (AM), CSO Forum (PM)
13-14 July - GPEDC SLM
15 July - CC Debriefing on SLM (PM)

CPDE's Objectives in engaging the actual SLM:
- Call for stronger commitment to accelerate progress in implementation thru:
  - Engaging the results of the 3rd Monitoring Round and CPDE's own CSO report
  - Getting broader buy-in on the GPEDC Global Action Plan
- Call for concrete actions regarding enabling environment and reversing the trend of closing civic spaces
- Promote effectiveness, accountability principles and human rights-based approaches in the discourse on private sector engagement in development cooperation
- Solicit high level political support for the Belgrade Call to Action and Action Agenda
- Promote the CPDE Manifesto and the Beirut Declaration

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[1] The thematic segment officially ends Monday 15 July and the Ministerial segment begins Tuesday 16 July finishing on Thursday 18 July.

CPDE will develop a CPDE SLM Statement that which will correspond to the GPEDC Co-Chair statement and the issues we want to see included there, and the SLM Program. A drafting group will prepare the statement and will consist of, though not strictly limited to, CPDE Focal Points engaged in the planning of the SLM.

CSO Representation and Messaging in SLM Program
CPDE has been involved in the development of the SLM programme and all of the different session agendas.

There are CPDE Focal Points in each of the Session Planning Groups. These focal points have been advocating for CPDE priorities and representation in the different sessions. They will also support the drafting of talking points where CPDE/CSOs are speaking.

The current slate of CSO speakers and focal points is as follows.

Session 1:
Effective Development Co-operation to achieve the SDGs – Concrete examples of what works
NO CSO SPEAKER

CPDE Focal point: Beverly Longid

Session 2:
Implementation of the Effectiveness Principles: Practical Lessons from Stakeholders and Country Evidence
Mr. Richard Ssewakiryanga, Uganda National NGO Forum

CPDE Focal Point: Richard Ssewakiryanga

Session 3a:
Effective Development Cooperation in Fragile Contexts
 Mr. Diakalia Ouattara, CSPPS Focal Point, Côte d'Ivoire

CPDE Focal Point: Izabella Toth, Siale Ilolahia

Session 3b:
Effectiveness in South South Cooperation
Moderator: Caroline Khamati Mugalla, Executive Secretary of the East Africa Trade Union Confederation (ITUC).
 Ms. Maria Gonzalez, Co-Chair, CPDE

CPDE Focal Point: Lyn Pano

Session 3c:
Whole of Society Approaches towards Development Effectiveness: Enabling Inclusion
Mr. Athayde Motta, ACT Alliance
Kamadji Demba Karyom, UST Chad (ITUC)

CPDE Focal Point: Justin Kilcullen

Session 3d:
Effective Triangular Cooperation
NO CSO SPEAKER

CPDE Focal Point: Lyn Pano

Session 4:
Principles for Effective Private Sector Engagement in Development: A Collective Commitment
Ms. Beverly Longid, Co-Chair, CPDE
Mr. Mamadou Diallo, Deputy Secretary General, ITUC

CPDE Focal Point: Jennifer Malonzo

Session 5:
Effectiveness for Sustainable Development: Exploring Challenges and Potentials for the Future
NO CSO SPEAKER

CPDE Focal Point: Monica Novillo

CSO Participation GPEDC Senior Level Meeting
CPDE would typically organize CSO participation to the SLM based on a principle/ambition that the total number of CSO participants should be 20% of the total participation to the meeting. The level of overall participation to the SLM is expected to be 560. CPDE has asked for a 20% CSO presence in the meeting as a matter of maintaining a principle but realistically expects to mobilise 50-60 CSO Representatives. CPDE believes that the number of CSO participants represents the mobilization required to respond to the political importance of the meeting and available spaces for CSO engagements in the official program. List of participants found in Annex.

Responsibilities for CSO delegates
CPDE delegates will be asked to effectively represent CPDE positions during plenary discussions and side meetings, and must be familiar and knowledgeable on the following:
- CPDE Manifesto and CPDE Strategic Plan
- Basic documentation and concepts related to CSO issues and CPDE positions around ADE
- Agenda of the SLM and the GPEDC
- CPDE positions/statements on the SLM, e.g. CPDE position paper
- Belgrade Call to Action

CSO representatives are not obliged to be proficient English speakers, but they must be able to communicate well to enable proper and smooth constructive exchange in the session environment.

Participants that have been selected to represent civil society at the official meetings of the SLM will bear the following accountabilities to their constituencies at national, regional and international levels:
- Whenever applicable, participate in national, regional, and/or thematic consultations/meetings (as per the case) in preparation for the SLM;
- Take part in preparatory CSO discussions for the SLM and attend the CSO Forum;

- Attend CSO preparatory and debriefing meetings arranged before, after or during the official segment and side events at SLM;
- Whenever necessary, be ready to intervene and participate in the discussions during the official segment and side events to advance CPDE positions;
- Engage and educate own government or any GPEDC stakeholders to champion CSO positions;
- Commit to a timely, thorough, and informative sharing of feedback reports on the participation to the operational and decision-oriented official SLM meetings in order for the Global Secretariat (GS) to coordinate report-back and strategy meetings;
- Ensure timely, thorough and informative feedback to the national, regional and international CSO stakeholders following the meeting, to reflect back the processes and outcomes, as well as the implications thereof for action and advocacy; and
- Whenever applicable, commit to real-time feedback of SLM discussions and events to communication channels, especially local and international media.

CSO representatives are also enjoined to alert the CPDE GS and the CPDE Communications Team whenever the media picks up CSO positions, actions and initiatives.

Annex List of CSO Participants

	Name	Gender	Organisation	Country
	SENIOR-LEVEL MEETING			
	New York, NY			
	13-14 July 2019			
	Name	**Gender**	**Organisation**	**Country**
1	Beverly Longid	F	Indigenous Peoples Movement for Self-Determination and Liberation (IPMSDL)	Philippines
2	Monica Novillo	F	Coordinadora dela Mujer	Bolivia
3	Maria Del Carmen Gonzalez	F	Confederación General del Trabajo de la Repúb	Argentina
4	Richard Ssewakiryanga	M	Uganda National NGO Forum	Uganda
5	Justin Kilcullen	M	CPDE	Ireland
6	Blanche Simonny	F	Dynamique OSCAF Gabon	Gabon
7	David Tola Winjobi	M	CAFSO-WRAG for Development	Nigeria
8	Eugene Rwibasira	M	Rwanda Development Organisation	Rwanda
9	Hannah Forster	F	The African Center for Democracy and Human	The Gambia
10	Andrew Ambrose	M	Borneo Dayak Forum	Malaysia
11	Farida Abdyldaeva	F	Public Association The Right Step	Kyrgyzstan
12	Jay Hung	M	Taiwan Aid	Taiwan
13	Kasia Hanula Bobbitt	F	CONCORD	Belgium
14	Simona Ognenovska	F	Macedonian Center for International Cooperation	Macedonia
15	Zaur Akbarov	M	Youth Atlantic Treaty Association Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan
16	Aníbal Cabrera Echevarría	M	POJUAJU	Paraguay
17	Liliana Rodriguez	F	CCONG	Colombia
18	Addys Then Marte	F	Alianza ONG	Dominican Republic
19	Laura Becerra	F	Equipo Pueblo	Mexico
20	Anas El Hasnaoui	M	Espace Associatif	Morocco
21	Marie-Noëlle AbiYaghi	F	Lebanon Support	Lebanon
22	May Makki	F	Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND)	Lebanon
23	Emele Duituturaga	F	Pacific Islands Association of NGO (PIANGO)	Fiji
24	Emeline Siale Ilolahia	F	PIANGO	Fiji
25	Vani Catanasiga	F	Fiji Council for Social Sciences	Fiji
26	Eva Ekelund	F	ACT Alliance	Sweden
27	Catherine Wangui Njuguna	F	ACT Alliance	Kenya
28	Elias Szczytnicki	M	Religions for Peace Latin America and the Carib	Peru
29	John Isack Hillary	M	Waking the Giant Initiative	Tanzania
30	Azra Talat Sayeed	F	Roots for Equity	Pakistan
31	Luca de Fraia	M	ActionAid Italia	Italy
32	Nurgul Dzhanaeva	F	Forum of Women's NGOs of Kyrgyzstan	Kyrgyzstan
33	Patricia Akakpo	F	NETRIGHT	Ghana
34	Mama Koite Doumbia	F	MUSONET	Mali
35	Jiten Yumnam	M	Forum for Indigenous People of Action	India
36	Josefina Villegas	F	Foro Latinoamericano y Caribeño de Juventude	Argentina
37	Eugene Ngalim	M	CAMYOSFOP	Cameroon
38	Jenison Urikhimbam	M	Youth Forum for Protection of Human Rights	India
39	Aaron Ceradoy	M	Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants	Hongkong
40	Mandeep Bela	M	UNEMIG	New Zealand
41	Mohammed Niel La Dode	M	Immigrant Workers Center	Canada
42	Lyn Angelica Pano	F	Reality of Aid Global	Philippines
43	Jennifer Malonzo	F	IBON International	Philippines
44	Tariq Ahmad	M	OXFAM	USA
45	Bridi Rice	F	ACFID	Australia
46	Nerea Craviotto Ortega	F	Eurodad	Belgium
47	Brian Tomlinson	M	AidWatch Canada	Canada
48	Amerina Padilla Ac-ac	F	IBON International	Philippines
49	Reileen Joy Dulay	F	CPDE	Philippines
50	Roberto Pinauin	M	CPDE	Philippines
51	Matthew Joseph Simonds	M	CPDE	France
52	Jodel Dacara	M	CPDE	Philippines
53	Athayde Motta*	M	Brazilian Institute for Social and Economic Analy	Brazil
54	Diakalia Ouattara*	M	FNDP	Cote d'Ivoire
55	Shannon Kindorna	F	Canadian Council for International Cooperation	Canada
56	Eleanor Maeresera	F	Oxfam International	Zimbabwe