Advancing together towards a 2020-2022 Global Partnership Work Programme

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Action area 2.6 - Effectiveness at sub-national level: local and regional governments (UCLG, ORU-FOGAR, UNDP ART)

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This presentation:

1. Background: effectiveness at subnational level
2. Effectiveness challenges
3. Objectives and outcomes
4. Relevance
5. GPEDC niche
6. Engagement
GPEDC’s Work Programme 2020-2022, Action Area 2.6: Strengthening development effectiveness at subnational level to achieve the SDGs

Cities, municipalities and local and regional governments play instrumental roles in implementing the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs

GPEDC help strengthen their engagement with their networks of bi-and multi-lateral, CSOs and private partners, and translate and apply the lessons generated through the global effectiveness effort to the realities of decentralised development co-operation
The domestic development landscape

- (for decades now) development cannot be planned centrally and implemented locally
- national development depends on productive interactions with territories, their administrations, and local stakeholders
- growing salience of territories and cities – notably in SDG implementation
- different “solutions” put in place: decentralization, regionalization...
- fatigue in institutional/constitutional arrangements: trend to softer mechanisms for vertical / horizontal engagement (MLG, LED)
The development cooperation landscape

- less “intervention” in how countries organise the territorial dimension of their national development strategies (decentralisation, conditionality, SDG 17.15)
- but growing salience of cities & international profile of mayors make them attractive development partners
- new development partners and types of aid target cities and territories in new, less “controlled” (effective) ways (not only decentralized cooperation, also nations, multilateral, philanthropies)
- multiplication of interactions
Development cooperation has positive (effective) and less positive impacts on development at the sub-national level

+ capacity building for: CSO engagement and outreach; quality in public policies; political advocacy and participation in the national development dialogue

- dis-alignment with national development policies; poor policy planning, poor predictability and budget integration of aid, poor use of local indicators, poor accountability and transparency (GP progress report)

- fragmentation (lack of coordination mechanisms) leading to waste of scarce resources
Leveraging development cooperation for enhanced effectiveness of development at the sub-national level as an enabler for implementing the SDGs at local level
1. With local and regional governments: build capacity for better development governance and SDG implementation, including internal coherence for development (whole-of-government) and civic engagement (whole-of-society approaches)

2. With LRGs, LRGAs and national authorities: help development dialogue to take place, to be SDG-aligned (inclusive, accountable, etc.) and assure alignment of national-territorial policies

3. With development partners promote harmonization and coordination. Setting up a strategic alliances with (decentralised) cooperation partners and establish clear and productive notions for local/national/multi-lateral engagement
Outcomes:
- we have identified practical ways in which development cooperation, and notably aid targeting directly local and regional governments, reinforces and not hinders effective local development
- we have completed country pilot projects and have a sound idea of how to make them replicable in different conditions (institutional, cultural, legal, resources and capacities)
- we have developed a body of knowledge through research, mapping, identification of good practice, analysis and experimentation. This can grow and is ready to be used in new initiatives, allowing for review and evaluation
- we have global awareness (and political commitment) on the key role of LRGs in achieving development effectiveness

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background</th>
<th>Challenge</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Relevance</th>
<th>GPEDC niche</th>
<th>Engagement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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Effectiveness at sub-national level: Local and regional governments (UCLG, ORU-FOGAR, UNDP ART)
- Cities and territories have a key, instrumental role for SDG implementation
- Effective territorial development is a country / national issue
- Creating coherent political advocacy vis-à-vis national authorities. Unifying messages and doctrine among development partners
- Actively promoting cross-experience and multi-stakeholder engagement for mutual learning
- Better use of scarce development cooperation resources
Effective development cooperation supports local and regional development

- by reinforcing the capacities of local governments and their associations to engage in the national policy dialogue (ownership)

- to generate and contribute quality data (results)

- to promote the engagement of local stakeholders (inclusion)

- to be held responsible before their citizens and provide them with "transparent information on the use of resources" (accountability)
- Conventional, well-known effectiveness problem (coordination, harmonization) allowing our community to productively engage and show results in key present issues

- SDG implementation (teaching and awareness-raising; policy alignment; connection to local results, performance and positive change; to better cooperation; to productive partnerships)

- better decentralised cooperation: the problems describes are felt by the DDC community. There is a need to scale up good practice and engage in productive partnerships, notably with national and multi-lateral partners

- partners are more interested in giving and in showing agency than in effectiveness and coordination. A lot can be achieved with little resources
The proponents of this initiative (UCLG, ORU-FOGAR and UNDP ART) can assure key, strategic alliances with the decentralised and multilateral environments.

- Notably UCLG can mobilize LG associations, at the national and regional level. LGAs are key players to be associated to this initiative. Also UCLG has an important role in policy setting, advocacy and “diffusion” of practice to its members. ORU-FOGAR can mobilize regional donors, whose ODA budgets are sometimes sizeable.

- National “champions” and key sponsors are needed to assure an adequate political level.

- Linkages with other Action Areas: 1.3: Strengthening effective support to statistical capacity and data; 2.1: Private sector partnerships for sustainable development; 2.4: Civil society partnerships: addressing shrinking civic space and reinforcing effectiveness; 2.7: Effective multilateral support; 3.1: Moving beyond generating monitoring evidence to increased use of results.