

Centre for Policy Dialogue and Southern Voice led research project to be presented at the Third GPEDC High Level Meeting

The Centre for Policy Dialogue ([CPD](#)) has been invited by the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation ([GPEDC](#)) to organise and co-lead a Spotlight Session at the 3rd GPEDC High-Level Meeting. Titled the [2022 Effective Development Cooperation Summit](#), it will be held from 12-14 December 2022 in Geneva, Switzerland. The other partners are the Joint-Support Team from OECD and UNDP.

The session, called *The Illusive Impact of Development Cooperation: towards a new understanding of the application of Effectiveness Principles*, will be held on Monday, 12 December 2022, from 9.00 to 10.30 am (GMT). The session has three objectives viz. (i) to share the findings of frontier research on aid effectiveness and its impact, (ii) to update our understanding of the impact of effectiveness at the country level and (iii) to understand the implications of new research findings for the GPEDC framework. [Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya](#), Distinguished Fellow, CPD and Founding Chair, Southern Voice will be moderating the session.

The first keynote presentation will be delivered by [Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan](#), Senior Research Fellow, CPD. It is based on the collective work of over thirty researchers engaged in the global research project titled “Exploring “Development Effectiveness” at the Sectoral Level in Southern Countries”, of which Dr Debapriya is the Team Leader. The

presentation includes findings from studies conducted by CPD (Bangladesh), [FUSADES](#) (El Salvador), [Vanguard Economics](#) (Rwanda), [University of Dar Es Salaam](#) (Tanzania), [IPAR](#) (Senegal) and [EPRC](#) (Uganda). The research project was funded by the European Commission and co-lead by CPD and the Group for the Analysis of Development ([GRADE](#)) as the secretariat of Southern Voice.

The second keynote presentation will be delivered by [Dr Rachel Gisselquist](#), Senior Research Fellow, UNU-WIDER. It is informed by the data and analysis presented during the recently held International Research Conference jointly organised by [UNU-WIDER](#) and the [European Commission](#), in Brussels.

The panellists include Ms Karla de Palma, General Director of the [International Cooperation Agency, El Salvador](#), Ms Blanche Simmony Abegue, Regional Representative of the Dynamique OSCAF-Gabon and Ms Laura Aghillarre, Deputy Director General for [Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy](#).

The expected outcomes of the session are (i) a shared evidence-based understanding of the impact of effectiveness based on effectiveness principles, (ii) a basis for informing the GPEDC delivery model in the future and (iii) a point of departure for further discussion on the concerned issues.

CONCEPT NOTE: SPOTLIGHT SESSION NO. 1

The Illusive Impact of Development Cooperation: towards a new understanding of the application of Effectiveness Principles

12th December from 10:00hrs to 11:30hrs (CET)

Background

Tracing the impact of effectiveness and its approaches represent the critical *problematique* permeating the development co-operation discourse—in terms of the transmission of impact, its distribution across varying factions of society and the various factors that catalyse a more synergistic and inclusive process. Indeed, the effectiveness of the approaches, methods and measurement tools in this respect have been continuously challenged and rearticulated. This forms the basis of conducting this session in the context of the availability of new evidence and analysis on the concerned issues.

International development co-operation is a powerful tool to help countries realise their own development goals and contextualised priorities. In an era of intertwined systemic challenges—a post-pandemic recovery, the climate emergency, and socioeconomic shocks—effective development co-operation is more urgent than ever, to effectively mobilise the efforts and resources of domestic and external actors, from government, bilateral and multilateral donors, NGOs, CSOs and philanthropies, the private sector, and other development actors, to deliver better and more impactful results with the resources available.

Closing the gap between academic analysis and policy praxis, interventions in this session seek to reflect on the challenges, opportunities and lessons learned from evidence-based research findings on how the application of the effectiveness principles in development co-operation have the potential to contribute towards delivering better development results for people and the planet, building stronger capacity, and helping to reduce aid dependency while representing better value for money. In the midpoint of Agenda 2030, achieving and sustaining development impact to accelerate progress towards the SDGs will require that development actors work better together, guiding multi-stakeholder partnerships by the imperative of effectiveness in development co-operation.

Purpose of the Session

The purpose of this Spotlight Session is to (i) get a *snapshot* of how the effectiveness principles of development co-operation translate into actions on the ground; and (ii) from that *snapshot*, explore how to—in terms of moving forward—strengthen the effectiveness of development cooperation in the current context.

CONCEPT NOTE: SPOTLIGHT SESSION NO. 1

Objectives

1. To share the findings of frontier research on aid effectiveness and its impact.
2. To update our understanding of the impact of effectiveness at the country level.
3. To understand the implications of new research findings for the GPEDC framework.

Expected Outcomes

- A shared understanding of the impact of effectiveness based on the evidence presented during the session.
- A basis for informing reflections at the GPEDC on its delivery model in the way forward.
- Provide a point of departure for further discussion on the impact of aid effectiveness to transition towards concrete actions.

Keynote Presentations

- **Dr. Rachel M. Gisselquist**, Senior Research Fellow, United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER)
Presentation titled *Relating development cooperation to outcomes: Evidence from an International Research Conference*
- **Mr. Towfiqul Islam Khan**, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)
Presentation titled *Exploring 'Development Effectiveness' at the Sectoral Level in Southern Countries*

Panelists

- **Ms. Laura Aghillarre**, Deputy Director General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy.
- **Ms. Karla de Palma**, General Director of the International Cooperation Agency of El Salvador (ESCO)
- **Ms. Blanche Simonny Abegue**, Regional Representative, Dynamique OSCAF-Gabon (CSO)

Session Focal Points:

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