

INPUT FOR THE HIGH-LEVEL DEBATE ON THE MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION FOR A TRANSFORMATIVE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA, 9-10 FEBRUARY 2015, NEW YORK
Task Team on CSO Development Effectiveness and Enabling Environment, 17 January 2015

What actions are needed to scale up mobilization of financial resources from all sources: domestic public financing, domestic private financing, international public financing (including ODA), international private financing (FDI and remittances), trade, and partnerships?

Full text: www.taskteamcso.com/key-documents/the-post-2015-sustainable-development-goals

CONTINUE TO ENGAGE MEANINGFULLY WITH DIVERSE DEVELOPMENT ACTORS TO ENSURE ALL STAKEHOLDERS BENEFIT FROM THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THEM

Development actors possess a range of resources that can be individually and jointly employed to realize a transformative and inclusive Post-2015 Agenda. Civil society organizations (CSOs) have a crucial role to leverage individual & corporate private financial contributions. At the same time mobilisation of non-financial resources e.g. knowledge, expertise & linkages to poor and marginalized populations that CSOs often bring is equally significant. Continued engagement of stakeholders including CSOs in the design and implementation of the SDGs is critical.

PROVIDE & PROTECT AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

To benefit from the resources that diverse actors have to offer, an environment needs to be created that is conducive to the transparent mobilization & utilization of resources. An enabling environment implies law, policy & practice consistent with internationally agreed rights incl. the freedoms of peaceful assembly, association and expression which Ban Ki-Moon recognized as enablers of sustainable development. Freedom of association includes the right of CSOs to seek funding from national & foreign sources. The need for an enabling environment is crucial in light of major challenges CSOs face in many countries where the space in which they can operate is shrinking and restrictions on access to resources are increasing.

ENHANCE FRAMEWORKS TO STIMULATE FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT BY AND FOR CSOS

CSO fundraising abilities can be enhanced through policies, laws and regulations enabling CSOs to leverage domestic and foreign resources. Examples include tax deductions & other incentives to encourage private contributions to CSOs; tax exemption for CSOs; regulations that allow CSOs to engage in income-generating activities and regulations that enable CSOs to access resources internationally.

ENHANCE DRM TO FUND DEVELOPMENT DRM is important for sustainable investment in a country's development and should complement ODA. Sound tax systems are central to DRM to build a tax base, but also as an element of governance & public management. CSOs can contribute to strengthening tax systems and stemming illicit flows through pursuit of transparency and accountability of the private sector, governments (incl. tax authorities) and CSOs themselves

What is required of the different development players/actors to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the use of available resources for sustainable development?

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ODA PROVIDERS AND RECIPIENTS

PURSUE COOPERATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY IN LINE WITH EFFECTIVENESS PRINCIPLES

The SG's Synthesis Report recognizes the need to invest in civil society's capacity to perform their critical independent roles and recommends resources be directed to support CSOs. This can be supported through policies developed with civil society that aim to strengthen civil society; promote CSOs' role in public awareness-raising; facilitate access to capacity building and allow collaboration through policy dialogue. CSO

effectiveness can be further enhanced through standardized reporting requirements that emphasize mutual learning.

ENSURE GOOD FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE INCL. TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FINANCIAL FLOWS

“A central element of good financial governance is proper planning and execution of the budget [&] this should be based on transparency, legitimacy, accountability and participation of citizens.”(ICESDF report). CSOs can hold governments to account by ensuring that public spending is consistent with sustainable development strategies. Shared responsibility must be part of the new global ethic.

CSO

PURSUE ENHANCED CSO DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS through promotion, support and implementation of CSO-managed accountability & transparency frameworks such as the Istanbul Principles for CSO Development Effectiveness (IP). Envisaged activities include: awareness-raising and adoption of practice consistent with the IP; building synergies & mutual learning among CSOs and with governments; advancing CSO transparency with effort to publish to the International Aid Transparency Initiative standard and strengthening CSO capacity to monitor & evaluate their development results.

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LOOK TO THE GPEDC AS A KEY POST-2015 AGENDA IMPLEMENTING BODY AND A MODEL FOR MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIP The SG’s Synthesis Report recommends to consider how the GPEDC can help review and strengthen the global partnership for sustainable development. The GPEDC is a model for multi-stakeholder partnership and a significant source of ideas & experience on how to implement the Post-2015 Agenda, including in relation to effectiveness & monitoring. In addition to ODA, the GPEDC pursues development cooperation partnerships and financing, including through DRM, South-South & triangular cooperation and knowledge-sharing, and involvement of CSOs & the private sector.