



Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation



Global Partnership Initiative: Social Dialogue in Development

The **Trade Union Development Cooperation Network** (TUDCN), an initiative of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and member of the Global Partnership's Steering Committee, is proud to announce the launch of a new **Global Partnership Initiative (GPI)** on the role of **Social Dialogue in Development**. A growing body of evidence highlights the contribution that social dialogue can make to effective development cooperation:

- ✓ **Ownership** of development processes: by putting forward policies that are the fruit of consensus with representative organisations;
- ✓ **Transparency** and **accountability**: by including the social partners in negotiations, consultation and information sharing and through their participation in the institutions that will implement negotiated policies;
- ✓ **Inclusive partnerships**: by including workers' and employers' representatives in institutionalised dialogue with the government.

According to the ILO **social dialogue** refers to all types of negotiation, consultation or information sharing among representatives of governments, employers and workers or between those of employers and workers on issues of common interest relating to economic and social policy. It can be bipartite, between workers' and employers' (known as the **social partners**), or tripartite, including government, and can take place at national, sectoral and enterprise level. Tripartite social dialogue brings together the social partners to discuss public policies, laws and other decision making that affect the workplace or interests of workers and employers. It is both a means to achieve social and economic policy and an objective in itself, as it gives people a voice and stake in their societies and workplace.



The contributions that social dialogue, as a **means of implementation**, can make to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The **Decent Work Agenda** has a growing importance in development policies and strategies as a means of enhancing social and economic inclusiveness and fighting inequalities.



Given the increasing prominence of the role of **private sector** in development, social dialogue is especially important to promote accountability and a **rights based approach**.

Social dialogue is a tool for **governance** with particular relevance to political transitions.

This initiative will explore the contributions of social dialogue to sustainable development, especially with regards to the SDGs and guaranteeing the application of the Global Partnership principles and commitments.

We invite all interested GPEDC stakeholders to **join this initiative** by contacting:

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www.ituc-csi.org/SD-GPI



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