

# DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS

Development efforts take place across the world with the shared aim of lastingly improving people's lives. They have varying levels of success and are all too often measured in terms of amounts spent. However, an important body of work has focussed on the qualitative component of this work – what makes a “good” development approach. The issue of development effectiveness has emerged in a bid to maximise the impact of development.

## INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Openness, trust, mutual respect and learning lie at the core of effective partnerships, recognising the different and complementary roles of all actors.

## TRANSPARENCY AND MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability to the intended beneficiaries, as well as to those impacted by development initiatives. Transparent practices form the basis for enhanced accountability.



In 2011, the landmark Busan Partnership Agreement was signed, which set up the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation and recognised four key components core to an effective development approach:

## OWNERSHIP

Developing countries should be in the driving seat of development initiatives.

## FOCUS ON RESULTS

A lasting impact on eradicating poverty and reducing inequality, and on enhancing developing countries' capacities, aligned with their own priorities.



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# TRADE UNIONS

Trade unions play a central role in people-centred models of development. Through their everyday work in upholding freedom of association and collective bargaining rights, engaging in social dialogue and promoting decent work, they are essential to achieving sustainable development. In order to strengthen this role, many trade unions are involved in their own solidarity initiatives.

In a bid to make these as impactful as possible, trade unions have adapted the lessons learned from development effectiveness and produced a set of principles which strengthen the impact of their initiatives.



# TRADE UNION DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS PRINCIPLES

The Trade Union Development Effectiveness Principles are a set of eight principles which tackle development

effectiveness through a trade union focus. They were elaborated by the Trade Union Development Cooperation Network (TUDCN) through different consultations with its members, including the regional organisations of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and national affiliates. The Principles were endorsed by the ITUC General Council in February 2011.

The Trade Union Development Effectiveness Principles are implemented in trade union partnerships through the Trade Union Development Effectiveness Profile (TUDEP). The TUDEP is a tool that was developed by the labour movement to encourage dialogue amongst trade union partners working

on development cooperation. It assesses the extent to which the Principles are incorporated in the cooperation amongst unions, allowing partners to better understand each other and promoting more balanced partnerships with mutual respect and accountability. This approach to development effectiveness entails a horizontal approach to trade union partnerships in which partners hold each other accountable to common principles approved by the trade union movement.

*Find out more:*

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# 1 DEMOCRATIC OWNERSHIP

Respect for the objectives and priorities determined by trade union partners within their democratic structures and elected leadership. These are based on the needs of their members and their organisations.

# 2 AUTONOMY

Independence of trade union partners from the political strategies of governments, employers and international donors. This is required to safeguard their needs, interests and priorities, which ensue from democratic processes with their membership.

# 3 PARTNERSHIP

A participatory form of cooperation amongst equals based on mutual respect, trust and understanding with shared long-term values and principles in which solidarity and mutual learning are essential.

# 4 TRANSPARENCY

Openness and access to information for equitable relations between partners. Financial and organisational transparency and information sharing are necessary to guarantee coordination, coherence and complementarity.

# 5 ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability towards the members (downward) and leadership (upward), towards donors (governments and agencies) and between trade union partners. Trade union partners should be mutually accountable at the political, operational and financial level.

# 6 COHERENCE

Consistency and complementarity of trade union interventions in compliance with their national, regional and global policies. Coordination amongst trade union partners to avoid duplication and ensure complementarity while contributing to their strategic directions.

# 7 INCLUSIVENESS AND EQUALITY

Acknowledgement of the diversity and plurality of workers in the trade union movement and commitment to practices that support equal treatment and opportunities to improve the representation and participation in decision-making of groups with less presence in trade unions.

# 8 SUSTAINABILITY

Long-term viability of the outcomes of interventions and trade union organisations, in terms of: democratic sustainability, political sustainability, organisational sustainability, financial sustainability and environmental sustainability.

## Trade Union Development Effectiveness Principles

