

REPORT on a
UN General Assembly Side Event:

How to make it happen: shaping International Development Cooperation for the effective implementation of the Post-2015 development framework

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This side event was held during the 2014 session of the General Assembly, on 26 September, 9.15-10.45 am, in Conference Room 6 at UN NY headquarters.

The Sponsors were:

Mexico Secretary of State Jose Antonio Meade and Netherlands Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation

Objectives and Discussion Questions:

- What are lessons learnt from multi-stakeholder partnerships to advance common development goals?
- How have the principles of effective cooperation, including country ownership, results focus, inclusiveness, transparency and accountability worked in practice to strengthen development partnerships on the ground?
- How have development cooperation partnerships been used to leverage other resources for development, including domestic resources, in developing countries and how can this be further supported?
- How can the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation's focus on enhancing the effectiveness of development cooperation contribute to accelerating the implementation of post-2015 development objectives?

Panel

Speakers:

Jose Antonio Meade, Mexican Secretary of Foreign Affairs

reiterated that goals and resources are absolutely imperative and that it is sometimes good to identify the resources available first, before moving towards goals, and mentioned that there is space in the bargaining power between government, civil societies and communities in order to be successful.

Emilia Pires, Minister of Finance, Timor-Leste

highlighted the importance of communication and the problem of ‘bullying’ government officials to put their signatures on contracts and release monies without proper due-diligence. Such an experience had just occurred. What is essential: communication, monitoring and feedback.

Hugette Labelle, Chair, Board of Transparency International

mentioned that if there is no good social and economic structure, trade would be difficult and advised that civil society organizations play their role by being a bridge between those bringing development to the country and its grassroots. She further advised that the multi-stakeholders must be open about their experiences regards what they face during their daily interactions.

She said that TI Mexico had set up a social witness program where accountants,engineers,forensicexperts and all other persons involved in development partnerships on ground are watched by civil society groups. Red flags are drawn if there are any lapses, for example where correspondence which emanates from one source ends up being totally different at the end and where implementation of the said programs are non-existent.

Reeta Roy CEO Mastercard Foundation

referred to Emilia Pires' statement about the issue of ‘bullying’ and said this was not a new scenario and advised that regardless, the conversation of partnerships must shift to more inclusive and people must return to the basics.

She explained that the Mastercard Foundation independent actors and that the philanthropy sector has given out more than \$59 billion until now.

She added that it is important to:

- listen to the clients and the communities they serve
- include everyone in the evaluation process
- be innovative by creating new models and disciplines
- invest resources in the ‘knowledge gap’ - education and learning
- have ‘staying power’ no matter the challenges

Ted Chu, Chief Economist International Finance Corporation

was of the opinion that boosting shared prosperity would end poverty and that he often told his students that it was ‘easy to make a buck, but not easy to make a difference’... much to their dismay, but that it is the truth.

Maria Eugenia Casar, UNDP

said that there must be delivery and results in global partnerships and it is important that civil societies are included in:

- country ownership
- monitoring
- impact and evaluation

There must be partnership of all stakeholders in this global game and remarked that it is more difficult to partner with private development partners than with government.

H.E. Dr. Mothae Anthony Maruping, Commissioner for Economic Affairs African Union

advised that women and youth be taken into consideration, and that while negotiating development programs, it is important to remember that substance is more important than numbers.

Masami Tamura, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Japan

emphasized the issue of gender equality, ownership and participation and that roles of all stakeholders must be defined.

George Chabonda, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Malawi

said there is no success without good partners and that the multi-stakeholder partnerships have done quite well in Malawi and that it was good to learn from failures and bad experiences and not dwell too long on them but to move forward.

His opinion was that human development is an important issue and eradicating poverty and the access to social protection is now a priority in the global agenda.

Peace and security, good governance and fighting corruption are very important to ensure the success of global partnerships.

Lilianne Ploumen Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands ended the session by saying there must be a level-playing field for everyone involved in multi-stakeholder partnerships.