

# **Towards an Inclusive and Accelerated Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through Effective Development Cooperation**

Second High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation  
Nairobi, 28<sup>th</sup> Nov – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016

## **Feminist Constituency CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness**

### **Key Asks: *Never Again, Nothing About Us, Without Us***

We are the members of the **Global Feminist Coordination Group (FG)** of **CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE)** and represent women's constituencies around the world working in diverse fields including human rights, law, labour, youth, activism, research, policy setting, journalism, and academia, from a feminist perspective. Our vision is a world where aid is no longer necessary and development is recognised as a human right.

#### **WE ACKNOWLEDGE** that:

- The 2005 Paris Declaration (PD) identified gender equality as a cross-cutting issue that can be advanced through implementing the principles and partnership commitments of the Paris Declaration.
- The Accra High Level Forum (HLF3) on Aid Effectiveness (2008) intensified attention to gender in the new aid architecture, stating, developing countries and donors will ensure that their respective development policies and programmes are designed and implemented in ways consistent with their agreed international commitments on gender equality, human rights, disability and environmental sustainability.
- In 2011 in Busan, Korea, the HLF4 outcome document stated, “We must accelerate our efforts to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women through development programmes grounded in country priorities, recognising that gender equality and women’s empowerment are critical to achieving development results. Reducing gender inequality is both an end in its own right and a prerequisite for sustainable and inclusive growth.
- Commitment towards gender equality was again emphasized in 2014 in Mexico at the 1<sup>st</sup> High Level meeting of GPEDC.

The world has now also committed to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, 2030 Sustainable Development Goals Agenda and Paris Agreement on Climate Justice. In this changing and evolving landscape, FG reaffirms GPEDC’s critical role in development effectiveness as the only multi stakeholder platform that includes non state actors including feminists and women leaders. FG emphasizes GPEDC to not lose its focus on past commitments from Accra and Busan towards women’s rights and gender equality.

#### **WE celebrate the gains made by women’s movement in the last 40 years and recognise THAT:**

- Women continue to be the largest number of people living in poverty. Women remain food insecure, lack basic health care, access to education, employment opportunities and have little or no social security.
- There is devastating impacts on lives and livelihoods of women as a result of:
  - the changing global economic situation;
  - globalization, privatization, commercialization, militarization, fundamentalism, and religious extremism;

- conflicts and disasters, both manmade and natural;
  - long standing patriarchal norms, values and practices;
  - climatic unpredictability and other environmental destruction; and
  - dispossession of resources including land
- Women, due to prescribed stereotypical gender roles, bear an unfair and unequal burden in providing food, water, fuel and care for themselves and their families. Lack of infrastructure and poor energy, and technology options add to this burden.
  - All women work whether paid or unpaid. Women do a lot of unpaid work within the household and in family farms and enterprises. Despite its obvious economic and social worth, much of the work that women do remains invisible, undervalued, and under-appreciated.
  - Women continue to face worse forms of oppression and violence as workers, as farmers and as women. Pervasive existence of shamefully permissive culture with many different kinds of violence against women remains insidious and invisible. We are witness to increase of pregnancies and forced maternity among girls, femicide/feminicide and hate crimes; we are the main victims of institutional violence, street harassment, stigmatization and attacks by the media, discrimination and segregation in our work.
  - Women from social and economically marginalized groups continue to face multiple forms of discrimination on grounds of caste, race, class, religion, nationality, sexual orientation, ethnicity, language, literacy, disability, and age etc.

**WE need to finish the unfinished business and reaffirms the integrity of the effectiveness agenda. FG asks for a stronger Global Partnership focus on gender equality and demands that all Development Corporations should:**

1. Reaffirm *the vision* of a world where aid is no longer necessary. Where transformed unequal power relations and undemocratic redistribution of wealth counter norms and structures of injustices and war and create new forms of relations based on equal dignity, respect and rights and enhance solidarity, equity, inclusion, non-subordination and justice for all. We also reaffirm the gender analysis as highlighted in all previous Women's Conferences including Beijing Platform for Action is an essential conceptual tool to ensure equality and to end patriarchy in our societies.
2. Move beyond aid effectiveness to realization of human rights of women, men and all genders for development cooperation as elaborated in Busan. Develop indicators from feminist perspective and make it mandatory for development cooperation to ensure gender equality perspectives in all development partnerships. Emphasize that full realisation of women's human rights are essential to any development cooperation framework. Moreover, the implementation of *gender equality and women's rights* commitments are cornerstones for development. The empowerment of all women's and full and *equal participation* of women in all spheres are fundamental for the achievement of social and economic justice, substantive democracy and peace for all.
3. Believe in *redistributive justice* and eradication of all forms of inequalities not just gender inequalities but race, caste, ethnicity, rural-urban, abilities, age, sexual orientation etc. It should ensure inclusiveness, and recognise diversity. Address structural forms of inequalities and

challenge mainstream economic development models based on unsustainable patterns of consumption and production, privatisation of public systems with the individualisation of risk, exploitation and unequal gender and social relations.

4. Heed the urgent call to take action to eradicate ***all forms of violence against women***.
5. Endeavour for ***transforming the dominant development*** discourse towards equality, inclusivity, sustainable, and just paradigm that recognises and values reproductive and care work, promotes just, favourable and safe conditions of work, ensuring empowerment, autonomy and emancipation of women and girls. Protect and promote ***decent work and sustainable forms of livelihoods*** that ensures empowerment, autonomy and emancipation of women and girls. Right to livelihood is linked to other human rights such as right to food, right to health, right to work, right to education and right to social security and protection.
6. Women must be recognized fully as key economic agents of development in their own right. Women are not just passive victims in need of protection and rescue, nor are they consumers to be instrumentalised for economic growth. Recognise all ***women as workers, economic agents and decision makers***. Recognises women's work (vs. unpaid work) and reduces and redistributes unpaid work.
7. Recognise information and communications technologies as a critical enabler for women's and girls' empowerment. The mechanisms and plans for action that are adopted must focus on creating policies that build women's digital capabilities, promote women's right to access the Internet and ICTs and invest in a public goods approach to digital infrastructure.
8. Underscore and acknowledge that women, feminists and women's organisations and movements play ***key roles in development at all levels***. Also recognise women as key development actors in their own right and should be part of all decision making processes. ***Support and build leadership, and capacity of women's groups*** at all level. Remember that it is not enough to just recognize women's contributions. We need resources and sustainability for our actions. Should support, strengthen and work closely with women's movements and networks as a core change strategy. Women's rights organisations should be reflected in the membership and governance at all levels. Women human rights defenders are under attack and constant threat. Guarantee a safe secure enabling environment to all women human rights defenders.
9. Implement the 2030 Agenda and Addis Action Agenda with the highest standards of human rights. Recognise development as a right as stated in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the UN Declaration on the Right to Development. This as an inclusive ***country ownership*** process includes recognising the rights of all people to define their own understanding of development based on their local experiences, needs and responses in ways that are sustainable for the planet, and promote human rights, peace and justice for all.

10. Advance ***gender responsive human rights-based*** approach to development effectiveness that recognises historical mistakes and redress and promotes the centrality of women's rights to all development efforts. Place democratic systems at the centre of transformation in which substantive equality and non-discrimination ensures no one is left behind. Women's human rights are not a sector, a core and need to be addressed comprehensively as well as specifically for achieving gender equality and women's rights through development. and recognise their centrality. At the same time, in order for development cooperation to be gender responsive, specific actions regarding gender equality and women's rights should be made mandatory in all sectors. Women lead CSOs should be sought and extend membership in each country to laid the foundation of gender parity in participation of GPEDC architecture should be encouraged (i.e. gender equality and women's rights workshops, developing clear and explicit messages on GPEDC vision and position regarding gender equality and women's rights; distributing regular gender equality/women's rights information, analysis relating to the focus of the GPEDC through communication tools; assess development of gender equality/women's rights specific policy and advocacy documents, etc.).
11. Recognise that international cooperation is crucial for States to fulfil their responsibilities to ensure all people realise all their human rights. Develop, promote and strengthen ***multiple accountability systems*** for women's rights, gender equality. States should be held accountable to all agreed commitments including human rights. All development cooperation ***monitoring mechanisms*** should assess human rights and environmental impacts and risks in a gender sensitive way. Development Cooperation should also monitor all existing and proposed bilateral and multilateral treaties and agreements, and Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs). All monitoring and regulatory mechanisms must be designed and implemented from a South perspective, fully adhering to the development realities of global South and not be based on OECD systems. Have clear feminist indicators and make gender equality indicators mandatory part of all development partnerships. Private sector must also be held accountable to human rights principles. South South Corporation should also be based on principles of development effectiveness and human rights. eg BRICS. Human rights mechanisms such as UPR, and treaty bodies (CEDAW, ICESCR) review process should be used to hold states accountable to impact and outcome of ODA and development policies. Ensure monitoring is result based and goes beyond gender mainstreaming - - eg gender budgeting. Constitute an inter agency mechanism involving women's organisation committed to monitoring development effectiveness.
12. Acknowledge that the countries in situations of fragility and conflict face ***differential and disproportional*** impact of armed conflict on the lives and rights of women and girls. Ensure women's participation in all aspects of peace, and conflict resolution processes as outlined in Security Council Resolution 1325.
13. Develop specific mechanisms to ensure accountability towards gender equality and women's rights within it. Feminist constituency is not only the Feminist Group. As a first step in that direction, it should establish measures to ***integrate a feminist approach*** into all its work and structures. It should develop an action plan to achieve those objectives and design indicators to measure progress towards these desired objectives. A "gender responsive budget" should be allocated.

14. Ensure 'no woman and girl is left behind' and practice reaching the furthest first with the thrust of **Agenda 2030 "Transforming Our World"**, GPEDC should advocate 50:50 by the year 2030 and stand with it and practice as a role model organization as an evidence and advocate the same in development cooperation for equality, peace, and development justice.
15. *Ensure equal participation of women.* The architecture should be inclusive and just and thus also responsive and sensitive to women's rights and gender equality and should be situated within the UN, with full participation of representatives of civil society organisations from the global South, feminists, women's groups, labour groups, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries, and other critical stakeholders.