

**REPORT ON PAN AFRICAN CSO CONFERENCE ON POST NAIROBI HLM2 7-8<sup>th</sup>  
DECEMBER 2017; NAIROBI SAFARI CLUB HOTEL**





## LIST OF ACRONYMS

CSOs- Civil society organizations

GPEDC- Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation

CPDE-CSO partnership for Development Effectiveness

ROA-Reality of Aid Africa Network

HLM2-Second High level meeting

EDC-Effective Development Cooperation

DE-Development effectiveness

SDGs-Sustainable development goals.

AU-African Union

ECOSOCC-The Economic social and cultural council

ODA-Official development assistance

NOD-Nairobi outcome document.



## INTRODUCTION

CSO representatives from thirty seven African countries met from the 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017, in Nairobi, Kenya, to discuss CSO and government preparedness at regional and national level on the implementation of the Post Nairobi Agenda. The meeting was a follow up from the commitments made earlier during the Pre – Nairobi African CSO Pan African conference in 2016 that among other things recommended for the holding of a Nairobi feedback session as well as strategy development for regional and country engagement with the post Nairobi HLM2 Agenda. The meeting also reviewed and carried out elections to revitalize the African CPDE structure for purposes of taking on the new responsibilities of driving the structured agenda in the context of the Development Effectiveness aligned to the 2030 agenda.

Welcome remarks were made by Mr. Vitalice Meja- Executive director, Reality of Aid Africa Network and the official opening remarks by the Head of development cooperation-Germany, Prof. Dr. Hildegard Lingnau.

Special remarks were also made by the CPDE African representative –Aurelien Atidegla.

At the end of the two day conference, elections were held for sub regional representatives and regional representatives. There were also break out session for the sub regions to come up with CSO priorities moving forward.

This report details the proceedings during the two day conference.

### Background to the conference

As we approach One year after the second High level meeting that took place in Nairobi Kenya, concerns are emerging over the sustainability of GPDEC. Questions around what happened to the commitments, and structures for implementation after Nairobi still linger. At the same time, 5 years have passed since the creation of the African CPDE leadership structure to spearhead the implementation of the African CSO Development effectiveness agenda.

The meeting will follow from the Youth and Children Organisations debrief and planning and will seek to incorporate the Youth and children development effectiveness project into the CSO partnership for Development effectiveness (CPDE), at the sub regional and national level. The meeting will result into inclusion of these groups into sub regional and national action plans to take forward the Development Effectiveness agenda at the national level. At the same time, they will be included into sub regional and national structures for purposes of mobilization of broader civil society involvement in the post Nairobi HLM2 Agenda.



The conference objectives were as follows;-

- Domesticating Nairobi outcome document
- Debrief outcomes of the HLM2
- Development of the African CSO priorities for Development Effectiveness Agenda
- Carry out elections for Sub region and African level positions

## **OPENING SESSION**

### **Welcome remarks by Vitalice Meja-Executive Director, Reality of Aid Africa Network**

He welcomed all participants to the conference. He stated the purpose of the conference which was a follow up to commitments made by CSOs in the Nairobi outcome document during the high level meeting in 2016. He noted that there has been some progress made on the issue of enabling environment for CSOs but more needs to be done especially with the shrinking CSO space. He mentioned the commitment of CPDE to ensure matters of enabling environment are advocated for.

He mentioned the process around the global partnership and the need to trigger discussions around it as well as advocate for it. He noted that it is important to put into practice what was discussed in the global partnership.

He also stated that there is need to reexamine partnerships between CSOs, government and development partners. He added that it is important to advocate for enabling environment and demand regulatory reforms to deliver on commitments.

### **Opening remarks by Prof. Dr. Hildegard Lingnau.-Head development cooperation, German Embassy.**

She began by thanking the host organization, ROA for hosting the meeting. She talked about the German government support to the global partnership. The German government is one of the co-chairs of the global partnership for effective development cooperation. She reiterated the support of the German government for the global partnership process. She also mentioned that the German government will fully support CSO work on development effectiveness moving forward.

She stated that it is important to follow up on the multi stakeholder approach.

She concluded her remarks by talking about the areas of action the co-chairs for GPEDC are focusing on;-EDC at country level, Increase potential for GPEDC, Mutual learning and sharing of knowledge, South-south Cooperation, Efforts to increase our high level political engagement.

### **Special remarks by Aurelian Atidegla-CPDE Africa Representative**

He began by welcoming participants to the meeting. He then proceeded to talk about the importance of having a post Nairobi meeting which gives an opportunity to work towards effective



implementation of results that were achieved during the high level meeting in 2016. He stated that in the last Pan Africa CSO meeting, there was a commitment made to organize feedback to all members and African representatives of the CPDE and to develop engagement strategy at the regional and national level and this formed the basis of the meeting.

He highlighted that Africa faces serious development challenges and therefore CSOs need to double their efforts to mobilize resources and agree on priorities moving forward. He added that CSOs also need to consolidate their structure and organization within the CPDE structure.

He concluded his remarks by saying the major outputs for the meeting were; Ownership and operationalization of the Nairobi outcome document, Adoption of coherent and consolidated workplan for implementation of priority actions of Africa CPDE and Commitments from national, sub regional and regional structures to ensure organizations and countries are kept accountable.

#### **Key note statement and official opening-Monica Asuna, Head development effectiveness secretariat, National treasury, Kenya.**

She began by welcoming participants to Nairobi after which she relayed apologies for the cabinet secretary ministry of finance Kenya, Hon. Henry Rotich. She stated that the Kenyan government was under a transition due to the just concluded election.

She mentioned the need for CSOs to work in a coordinated way in order to dialogue with governments. She spoke about how lack of coordination leads to trust issues on the government end.

She stated that CSOs need to work together with governments to build a framework and see that no one is left behind.

## **PLENARY SESSIONS**

The conference programme provided for plenary sessions, this was to allow discussions that would concretize the action points. The plenary sessions were on the following themes; Placing Africa's key priorities for development effectiveness and Africa's priorities for post Nairobi global partnership-plans and strategies.

The plenary sessions were facilitated by **Memory Kachambwa, Program manager FEMNET**, who took participants through the session and gave a background on the progress so far, she also asked key questions to the speakers on way forward as CSOs come up with priorities moving forward.

### **Plenary 1- Placing Africa's key priorities for development effectiveness**



The plenary session had thematic areas on; - Political and governance implication of Nairobi global partnership on Africa's development, Financing for SDGs and implication of the Nairobi outcome document.

**Political and governance implication of Nairobi global partnership on Africa's development presented by Richard Ssewakiryanga, the executive director of Uganda National NGO forum**

Mr. Richard talked about important elements of the global development agenda during the second high level meeting a process that was looking at how to contribute implementation of SDGs.

He also mentioned that there is a need to reverse the trend of shrinking space consistent with internationally agreed rights.

He spoke about the Nairobi outcome document that calls on CSOs to advance their own effectiveness in keeping with Istanbul CSO DE principles. He mentioned the implications of the Nairobi outcome document for Africa which are;-creating global consensus around development cooperation, less political momentum in provider and recipient countries, show of defiance around aid and development cooperation.

He added that Africa must define its future. The politics of the world hemorrhaging Africa. While in Africa we receive 162 Billion dollars in Aid we lose 203 Billion taken out through tax dodging and Multinational corporations. He mentioned that Africa's economies are running on service rather than dealing with a huge number of people who are unproductive. It is therefore important for Africa to diversify.

He stated that nearly 70%of young people are unproductively employed.

He mentioned that agenda 2030 recognizes effective development cooperation as crucial to achievement of SDGs.

He made a short presentation on the working of AU-ECOSOCC for a better understanding on how CSOs can engage the AU.

He concluded by saying that our politics has not accepted progressiveness of CSOs yet the language is progressive.

***'While in Africa we receive 162 Billion dollars in Aid we lose 203 Billion taken out through tax dodging and Multinational corporations.'***

***'Agenda 2030 recognizes effective development cooperation as crucial to achievement of SDGs. '***

### Recommendations from plenary

Mr. Richard stated that we need to ensure young people have skills that make them productive. He noted that the ramifications of non-productivity are known.

Mr. Richard noted that the challenge for civil society is creating a space in AU. He noted that there is a need to create usefulness for civil societies in Africa.

### Financing for SDGs

#### **Presented by Alvin Mosioma, Executive Director Tax Justice Network Africa**

Mr. Mosioma stated that the future of Africa lies in our hands, and the ability to raise and finance our agenda. He further added that there is a growing financing gap in Africa which needs a clear framework to finance.

He stated that the Addis Ababa action agenda mentions taxation and domestic resource mobilization as means of implementing the SDGs. He added that there are no clear strategies on how goals will be financed.

He further mentioned that there are key challenges faced by Africa such as growing inequality between the rich and the poor and weak policies. To add to these challenges, he mentioned the agenda on harmful tax competition and wide range of tax incentives.

He concluded by saying that East Africa loses 28Billion annually as a result of tax incentives.

***‘East Africa loses 28Billion annually as a result of tax incentives.’***

### Recommendations from Plenary

Participants noted the need to keep private sector accountable especially because governments tend to give private sector tax breaks. There needs to be clear structures on engaging private sector.

Participants also noted that the capacity of young people needs to be strengthened in order to contribute to GDP of a country.

Participants pointed to the fact that African countries need to collaborate.

### Implication of the Nairobi Outcome Document-An Analysis

#### **Presented by Vitalice Meja, Executive Director Reality of Aid Africa Network**

Mr. Meja began by giving a small background on the previous Pan Africa meeting where priorities were identified by CSOs, then after that identifying how these priorities would fit into the high level meeting agenda.

He stated that Nairobi needed to recommit its efforts in achieving the commitments made by CSOs during the second high level meeting.

He mentioned that effective development corporation applies to everyone. The private sector is being pushed as the main sector for development.

He reiterated that CSOs must be seen as equal development partners and that all development actors are committed to principles of development effectiveness.

***‘CSOs must be seen as equal development partners’***

He spoke about the shrinking CSO space and how governments were opposed to the notion that there is shrinking CSO space. He added that if there is no enabling environment, CSOs will not be able to demand for accountability and effectiveness of governments.

He talked about private sector accountability and use of ODA and stated that it must have a clear development objective.

The Nairobi outcome document made commitments on Youth, women and children and their participation.

He added that there needs to be participation, engagement and creation of structures for women, children and youth to engage in CPDE.

***‘There needs to be participation, engagement and creation of structures for women, children and youth to engage in CPDE.’***

He concluded by talking about the commitment by the global partnership to ensure need for multi stakeholder engagement. He also stated that there have been achievements made by CSOs such as commitment to effectiveness in the context of Istanbul principles and country level ownership.

**Recommendations from plenary**

Participants noted that shrinking space should focus on what to do, CSOs should be high on the agenda. Participants also noted that it is important to look in depth into the trend in several countries of shrinking space.

Participants noted that there should be a deliberate measure put in place to include young people.

Participants noted that young people are being left behind and space needs to be given to the youth.

Participants noted that CSOs need to ensure they are agents of change in DE agenda.

Participants called for self-analysis of CSOs which will be an internal check of CSO effectiveness.

Participants also called for commitment to enhancing gender equality and participation of women in the DE agenda. In addition, participants called for influencing the gender agendas in Aid and





development effectiveness and inclusion of women within CSO and DE structures. Women should be included in decision making.

Participants noted that we need to explore interconnectedness of the work we do.

Participants noted the challenge of language as a barrier for participation.

## **BREAK OUT SESSIONS**

### **Break out session 1: Africa's CSO priorities for post-Nairobi global partnership-plans and strategies**

The breakout sessions were divided by sub regions; we had Eastern and South Africa, Central Africa and West Africa. The breakout sessions were moderated by **Elsie Masava from Reality of Aid Africa** and chaired by **Gezahegn Gebrehana, Act Alliance regional office, Africa**

The sub regions were to come up with key priorities for the region in the context of post Nairobi as a way forward.

#### **Sub region 1: South and Eastern Africa**

The session was chaired by Patrick Nshindano, CSPR Zambia.

#### **Key priorities for the sub region**

Countries represented were (Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Swaziland, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Uganda, and Mozambique)

1. Youth & Child Participation - Indicators for youth and children included in the monitoring framework. Pilot initiative to test as module.
2. Enhancing Inclusivity in CSO operations and advocacy (gender, youth)
3. Institutionalize decision making CPDE
4. Prioritizing Illicit financial flows, promoting country level analysis, domestic and international, (political)
5. CSO shrinking space; self-reflect on our work as CSOs effectiveness/ self sensorship / funding modalities, moral tune. Incorporating faith based org more strategically, nature of partnership. ( enhance CSO implementation the Istanbul principles)
6. Promote conducive enabling environment; Multi-stakeholder engagements (instituted both on government, private sector and CSOs, deliberate legal and regulatory frameworks. CSOs should institutionalize programs bringing government and private sector together.

7. Regional Bodies inclusion (ECA, SADC, COMESA) spaces available
8. Regular interaction, country actions and updates.
9. Enhancing visibility of the CPDE work
10. Capacity building of CSOs on CSO effectiveness and other issues which include Illicit flows

### **Sub region 2: Central Africa**

The session was chaired by Christine Andela, COSADER -Cameroon.

### **Key priorities for the sub region**

The central Africa sub region has about seven States (Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo Brazzaville, democratic Congo, Chad, Sao Tome and principle)

1. Use satisfactory and inclusive of the French in the actions and projects of the Africa CPDE
2. Carry out a plea that the CPDE acquires an observer status within the African Union
3. Capacity building of regional coordination in setting up a permanent secretariat which will be responsible for development at the national level in accordance with the vision of the CPDE on national priorities.
4. Identification of activities specific to the Central Africa region
5. Involve the Governments of the States in the implementation of the commitments of the CPDE by establishing a country coordination committee which meet the CSO-Government private sector

Furthermore, integrate these priorities with other priorities that Central Africa came up with in 2015 namely:

Regional integration

-Peace and security

-Enabling environment for CSOs

-Work with our regional institutions

Also in accordance with the agenda 2063 AU;

-Mobilization of domestic resources of our region by working to accompany our States in this initiative by doing an audit of our potential to achieve development for Africa from its human and natural resources.

-Inclusive economic transformation brought by citizens and the resources of Africa from a mobilization for South-South cooperation that goes through the intra-African trade and technical cooperation

-Training of young people and women to provide a better participation in the African development process

-Strengthening peer review mechanism.

To accompany the implementation of these priorities, the following strategies have been developed;

-Identify potential carriers of pleas from our institutions on national and continental level

-Use ECOSOCC strategically to better carry CSOs awareness on the CPDE at the level of institutions and donors

-Advocate for the CSO enabling environment issue at the AU level.

### **Sub region 3: West Africa**

The session was chaired by Aurelien Atidegla, REPAOC-Benin

#### **Key priorities for the sub region**

The West Africa sub region has about 17 states (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Saint Helena, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo)

1. On agenda 2030/2063; Increased budgetary allocation to SDG; Gender mainstreaming and Youth Participation; Private sector commitment and support for Financing for Development, Shared strategic framework for inclusive growth and sustainable development.
2. Inclusive participation of all stakeholders.
3. Advocate for CSO enabling environment; Availability of favorable laws and policies for CSO operation. Strengthened CSOs engaging government in accountability for results.
4. Improve efficiency of CSOs through advocating for Istanbul principles; capacity building of CSOs on Istanbul principles; Ownership and internalization of Istanbul principles.
5. Managing and financing for development; Accountability mechanism are in place at national level; Private sector commitment to support government financing for Development.

6. Ownership of the Nairobi outcome document; West African CSOs understood the commitments undertaking in NOD and develop concrete action to monitor engagements.
7. Enhancing participation of women and youth.
8. Regional secretariat to help summarize priorities for Africa CSOs. Help share information, coordinate, learning from each other.



## **DAY 2**

### **Towards implementing the new CSO partnership for development effectiveness structure and program**

#### **Global program and structure, Vitalice Meja, CPDE co-chair**

Mr. Meja gave a background on CPDE to familiarize participants with its origin and purpose.

CPDE is an open platform that unites CSOs from around the world on the issue of development effectiveness. CPDE aims to make development more effective by reshaping the global aid architecture and empowering CSOs working on the ground.

CPDE works to promote development effectiveness in all areas of work, guided by a human rights-based approach.

#### **Why CPDE?**

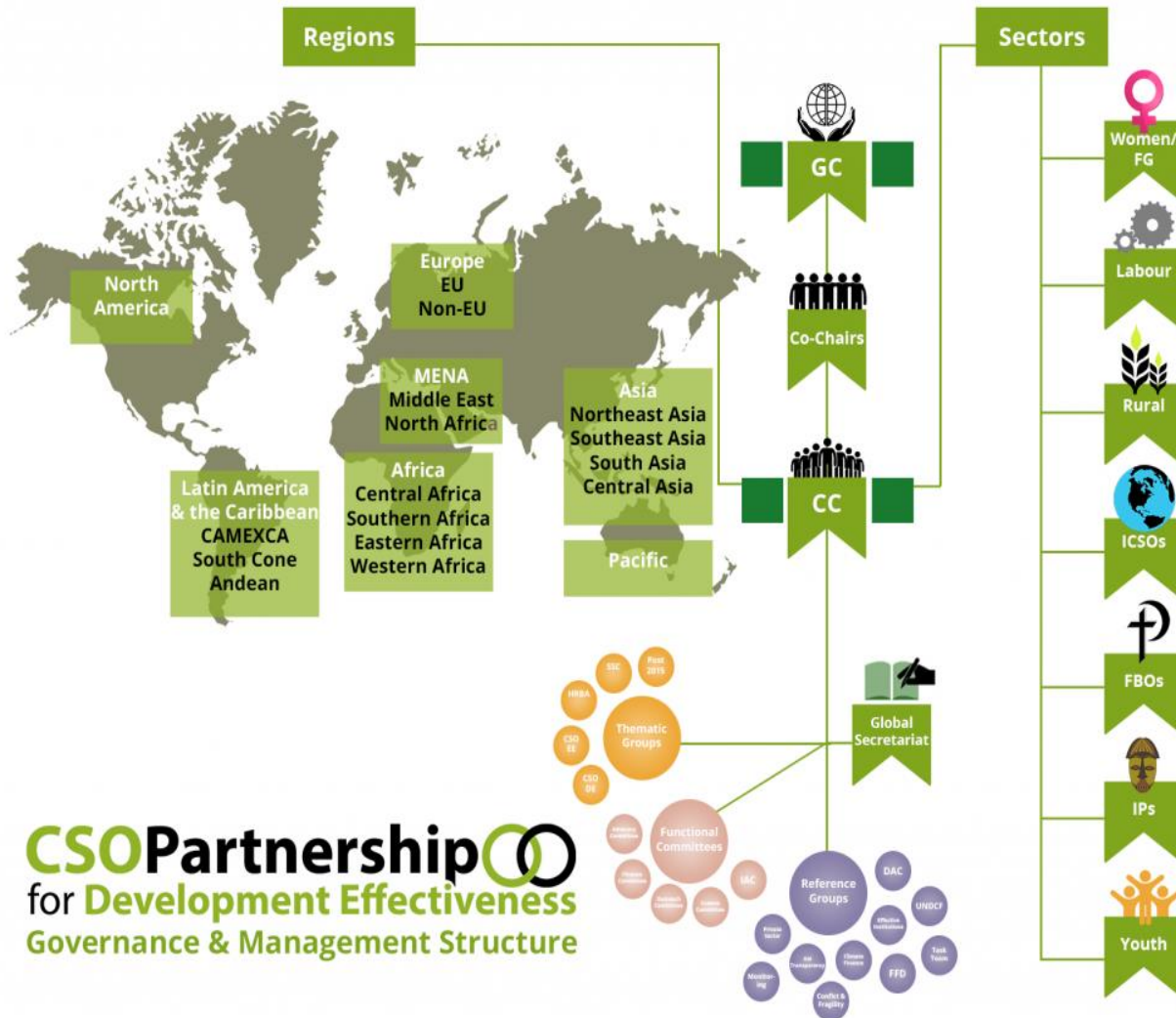
1. Development and Aid discussions are evolving; the look east policy, how do we engage with this? How do we monitor and demand accountability from private sector.
2. CSOs are seen as independent development actors
3. There has been a noted increasing shrinking space for CSOs in our countries. Therefore CPDE ensures harmful things to our work are advocated for.
4. CSO role in development actions is recognized.
5. CSOs are effectively mobilized to implement DE agenda.
6. Advocates for human rights based approach. Empowerment of youth, women and citizens.

#### **CPDE structure**

Africa has regional representative/alternate who sits at the global council

Africa also has 4 representatives from sub regions

Figure 1-CPDE Structure from; <http://csopartnership.org/structure/>



CC-Coordinating committee

GC-Global Council

ICSOs-International civil society organizations

FBOs-Faith based organizations

IPs-Indigenous people

FG-Feminist groups

## **BREAK OUT SESSIONS 2: Nomination and Election of Sub regional Representatives and Co-Coordinating committees**

In this session, respective sub regions got an opportunity to elect the new officials to CPDE. The elected officials are as below;-

### **Regional representative-Africa**

Blanche Simonny Abegue-Gabon

### **Alternate**

Dr. Tola Winjobi-Nigeria

#### **1. East Africa**

##### **Sub regional representative**

Eugene Rwibasira-Rwanda

##### **Coordinating Committee members**

Margaret Mwaniki-Kenya

Ben Omillo-Kenya

Agnes Umutesi-Rwanda

#### **2. Southern Africa**

##### **Sub regional representative**

Kryticous Patrick Nshindano-Zambia

##### **Coordinating committee members**

Dumisani Mnisi-Swaziland

Humberto Zaqueu-Mozambique

Macdonald K Munyoro-Zimbabwe



### **3. West Africa**

#### **Sub Regional representative**

Aurelien Atidegla

#### **Coordinating Committee**

Ahmed A. Salami

Dr. Tola Winjobi

M. Comlan Pedro

### **4. Central Africa**

#### **Sub Regional representative**

Christine Andela

#### **Coordinating committee**

Godefroy Mokamanede

Jean Pierre Mackita

#### **Way forward**

1. ROA Africa to produce and circulate a report to participants
2. ROA to communicate actions on plenary to Global Secretariat.
3. ROA to hold an Africa CC meeting to finalize the work plan
4. Address issue of shrinking CSO space: create multi stakeholder structure.
5. NOD domesticated in our work and regions
6. Understand importance of agenda 2063.
7. Committed to reduce widening inequality in our countries
8. Incorporate women and youth in development structures
9. Work in solidarity as CSOs.