



Gearing up for the 2018 Development Cooperation Forum

New York, 21-22 May

Development cooperation plays a strategic role in implementing the 2030 Agenda, leaving no one behind. At global level, advances are made through dialogue among the different actors, based on the latest data, information and analysis, and focused on results.

How does development cooperation feature in your work on the 2030 and Addis Agendas, on the Paris Agreement? How are you aligning development cooperation with national sustainable development strategies? Strengthening the contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation to sustainable development? Engaging the private sector and philanthropic foundations in development cooperation? Reinforcing multi-layered monitoring and review of development cooperation for better results? What is the next big challenge you see on the development cooperation horizon?

As the principal global forum for policy dialogue on development cooperation, the DCF is open to all Member States and engages all stakeholders. Read more here on preparations for the 2018 High-level Meeting of the Forum, and how to get involved.

We are now accepting applications for side events, please send your proposals to dcf@un.org by **Friday, 6 April 2018**.

[Website](#) | [Video](#)



DCF Argentina Symposium on South-South cooperation brings practical orientation to preparations for BAPA+40

The three-day high-level symposium gathered 120 experts from all regions to discuss challenges and opportunities in South-South cooperation, within the frame of sustainable development. The event generated findings on issues from multi-stakeholder approaches and inclusivity to climate change, the New Urban Agenda, science, technology and innovation, and the role of multilateral development banks in South-South cooperation. It also identified five functional areas for further work in the run-up to the United Nations High-level Conference on South-South cooperation (BAPA+40), to be held in Argentina in March 2019: (i) adjusting to the new context and global sustainable development frameworks; (ii) knowledge management and knowledge sharing; (iii) institutionalization; (iv) systematization of data and information; and (v) capacity development. Click below to read the findings and recommendations.

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[Website](#) | [Video](#)



DCF Survey: Supporting developing countries to assess how effectively their development cooperation works, and why

UN-DESA has launched its 2017/2018 DCF Global Accountability Survey. The exercise enables developing countries to undertake a structured assessment of their development cooperation: how it works, boosting its effectiveness, and achieving better alignment with national development priorities. Questions address national policies for development cooperation; use of measurable targets through country results frameworks and alignment with national processes; dialogue platforms that engage partners and stakeholders; information systems for timely and accurate data; and related capacity support for the institutions and actors, including parliamentarians and citizens.

The DCF **Global Accountability Survey** is a **practical, evidence-based tool promoting better policy and decision making** – for government, stakeholders, the United Nations and other international fora. The Survey closes **Friday, 2 February 2018**, for more information click below.

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The sustainable development agenda – how it impacts development cooperation

The 2030 Agenda requires increasing the volume and quality of development finance, making larger-scale investments and providing longer-term budget support. It also calls for new and significantly stepped-up non-financial forms of development cooperation. Think new evidence-based tools; strengthening domestic and regional institutions, including in data monitoring and review; and broadening multi-stakeholder partnerships at all levels.

In her address alongside the opening of the 72nd session of the United Nations General Assembly, ECOSOC President, H.E. Marie Chatardová, unpacked these and other aspects of how the Sustainable Development Goals are shaping up development cooperation.

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A United Nations development system fit for purpose

The 2016 DCF called for global institutions to adapt their priorities, corporate strategies, operational approaches, funding and capacities to the 2030 Agenda. It stressed the need for the United Nations development system to adapt to the broader, integrated agenda, and respond to the strong demand for country ownership of national sustainable development strategies. In a raw and revealing wrap-up session, one participant emphasized, and many echoed, the need for a Secretary-General "...who is absolutely committed to the new agenda and willing to shake up the system to deliver on it."

Fast forward to 2018 and Secretary-General António Guterres has released, in June and December 2017, two major reports on the repositioning of the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda. The reports respond directly to the landmark December 2016 General Assembly resolution on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review (QCPR) of UN system operational activities for development. The Secretary-General presented the latest report to Member States for their consideration on 22 January 2018. Click below for more information on the reports, repositioning process and ongoing follow-up to the QCPR.

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Prioritizing development cooperation in the wake of natural disasters

In October 2017, ECOSOC convened a Special Meeting on the “Aftermath of recent hurricanes: Achieving a risk informed and resilient 2030 Agenda”. Many states affected by climate disasters have high-level exposure leaving them vulnerable in all aspects of their sustainable development - social, economic and environmental. Yet, they have inadequate access to the concessional development finance and other international support needed for recovery and resilience building. The meeting tackled issues of access to financing and the vital cross-linkages between the 2030 and Addis Agendas, Paris Agreement on Climate Change and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

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Blended finance and PPPs: national capacity-building in LDCs

The investments needed to achieve the 2030 Agenda have brought broad attention to blended finance as a modality of financing for sustainable development. Among developing countries using these instruments, capacities to prepare bankable projects, engage with private investors, evaluate the social costs and risks associated with the investment and negotiate public-private partnerships (PPPs) are often limited – which raises the question of if/when these instruments should be used over public investment.

Responding to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development has investigated a subset of existing PPP guidance, assessing it against the PPP principles contained in the Agenda; the Task Force is currently collecting best practices in the catalytic use of ODA. This past September, participants of the DCF Argentina High-level Symposium on South-South and triangular cooperation also explored how institutional and legal frameworks can be strengthened for private sector engagement more broadly (read the findings [here](#)).

What type of capacity support do you think is most needed in this area of blended finance and PPPs for sustainable development? How is your country active in this space? To share your thoughts and best practice, please email dcf@un.org .

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Upcoming Events

30-31 Jan Youth Forum + Read more on youth in development cooperation, [here](#)

2 Feb DCF Global Accountability Survey closes +

27 Feb–1 Mar Operational Activities for Development Segment +

4 Apr Partnerships Forum +

23-26 Apr Financing for Development Forum +

21-22 May Development Cooperation Forum +

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