



WHAT ARE PARTNERSHIPS?

Partnership: joining together for a shared objective. A group of nations, governments or people that join together to produce or obtain a shared goal, by means of a pact, an agreement or a convention¹.

Since the UN was created in 1945, it has driven forward the so-called “global partnership” to enter into a pact based on commitments in promoting development, fundamentally the engagement to designate economic resources to foster development.

The concept of global partnership has evolved over time. Between 1945 and 2000, it entailed “making conditional financial transfers and

providing technical assistance to developing countries, granting trade preferences and according special and differential treatment.”²

Despite **the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) - approved in 2000 - helping to create a new type of global partnership that went further than purely economic terms**, funding continued to be the main concern. This is why the International Conference on Financing for Development was held in 2002, in which the international commitment was renewed to designate the economic resources needed for development, and to **increase Official Development Assistance (ODA)**. ODA is

¹ Entries 1, 2 and 3 of the RAE definition

² *The Global Partnership for Development: The Challenge We Face*. Millennium Development Goal Gap Task Force Report 2013



defined as “the flow of capital from official bodies (States and local governments, etc.), to countries that feature on the list of beneficiary countries designated by the Development Assistance Committee, and which promotes their development”³. It is, without doubt, **“a crucial instrument for supporting education, health, public infrastructure development and food security.”**⁴

Since 2015, the UN has aimed to **revitalise a Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, transforming commitments into actions “based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity”** and which facilitates “intensive global engagement (...), **bringing together governments, the private sector, civil society, the United Nations system”** and **“academia, philanthropic organisations and volunteer groups.”**⁵

THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE

An integrating and inclusive World Partnership for Sustainable Development in the North and South can only be guaranteed if everyone is able to freely and effectively exercise their human right to participation and free association.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights establishes that everyone has the right to take

³ Types of Official Development Assistance, Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECID)

⁴ Doc. A/CONF.198/3, Monterrey Consensus, 2002

⁵ Doc. A/RES/70/1, Agenda 2030, p.10

part in political decision-making (Article 21), as well as in the cultural and scientific development of the community (Article 27). To do this, **the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association is widely acknowledged in international and national texts** (Article 20 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 22 of the Spanish Constitution).

Therefore, ensuring that everyone is part of this global partnership for sustainable development is far from new. In fact, in 1986, Article 1 of the UN Declaration on the Right to Development acknowledges that **“all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realised”**. Article 2 adds **“the human person is the central subject of development and should be the active participant and beneficiary of the right to development.”**⁶

For this to become a reality, Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17 renews the commitment made between 2000 and 2015 in Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 8, which strived to drive forward Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.



⁶ DOC/A/RES/41/128, Declaration on the Right to Development



FROM COMMITMENT TO ACTION

SDG 17 is the broadest goal in Agenda 2030. Its 19 targets highlight the steps needed to revitalise global partnership, encompassing diverse sectors:

→ **Financial Resources (targets 17.1 to 17.5):**

Increased resources are fundamental for development - **in 2016 ODA reached a historical high of 142.6 billion US dollars**. The Northern countries must meet their engagement to designate 0.7% of their Gross National Income to ODA. In 2016 the only countries to do this were Germany, Denmark, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

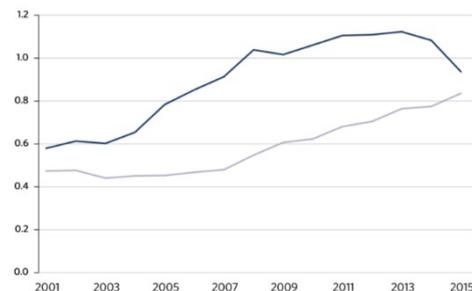
→ **Technology (targets 17.6 to 17.8):** Internet is still inaccessible in many Southern regions. Around 80% of the Northern population has Internet access, compared to 40% of Southern populations. The digital divide will widen each day if North-South and South-South cooperation is not encouraged.

→ **Creating capacity (target 17.9):** This will ensure that the Southern countries can construct their own development.

→ **Trade (targets 17.10 to 17.12):** Promoting exportation from Southern countries is essential to create an open, non-discriminatory trading system. The aim is to double the exportation share of the Least Developed Countries (LDC). However, their contribution in global

merchandise fell from 1.1% to 0.9% between 2011 and 2015.

Graph I. Share of global merchandise and service exports from the least developed countries, 2001-2015 (percentage). Source: SDG Report 2017, UNDP



— Exportation of merchandise — Exportation of services

→ **Systemic issues** linked to greater coherence in policies (17.13 to 17.15); to improved partnerships between the multiple parties (17.16 and 17.17); and finally, the need for accountability so that advances in development can be measured (17.18 and 17.19). However, only 17 countries (11 in Europe and North America) have fully financed national statistical plans capable of truly securing accessible, itemised and quality data.



WHO CAN DO WHAT?

ON AN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL



The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) comprises 29 countries committed to developing a Development Cooperation programme. These countries have incorporated tools to measure efforts and have developed a follow-up and assessment system.

ON A NATIONAL LEVEL



The Spanish International Cooperation for Development Agency (AECID) is the leading management body for Spanish Cooperation. The AECID's priority regions are: 1) Latin America; (2) North Africa and the Middle East; and (3) Sub-Saharan Africa. In total, it is present in 37 countries and territories.

ON A LOCAL LEVEL



Collaborative co-working spaces support local entrepreneurs looking to make an impact on society. Find out about Impact HUB on [FABRE Testimony - SDG 17](#).

AND WHAT CAN YOU DO?



"We are way more powerful when we turn to each other and not on each other, when we celebrate our diversity [...] and together tear down the mighty walls of injustice." Cynthia McKinney

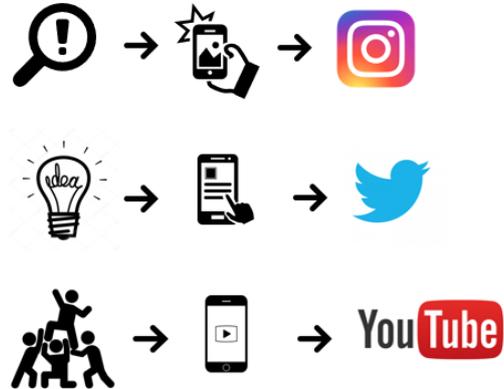
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FABRE Foundation invites you to join the international alliance #iDeas2030. Over 150 children and young people (from Infant pupils to Baccalaureate students) from Spain, Guatemala, Bolivia and the Ivory Coast are undertaking local projects to achieve the SDG in their communities and to spread the word in other schools around the world, closing the North-South digital divide.

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