Practitioners' Network for European Development Cooperation (Practitioners' Network)

Name: Practitioners' Network for European Development Cooperation

Abbreviation: PN

Logo:

Founded: 23 February 2007

Founding Place: Brussels, Belgium

Organisation seat: Square de Meeus 38-40, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Motto: "Stronger Together"

Purpose: Exchange and coordination between European development organisations with a public service mission and the European Commission.

Focus: European Development Cooperation

Number of members: 22

Website: https://www.dev-practitioners.eu/

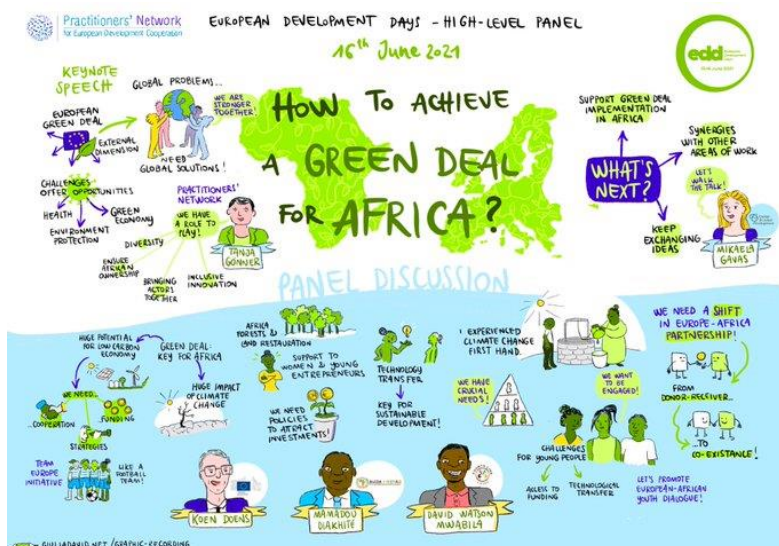Legal Form: Informal, non-profit platform, governed by a Charter

Presidency: co-Presidency of CPMA & GIZ for the term May 2021- May 2022

The Practitioners' Network for Development Cooperation Organisations (hereinafter referred to as the "Practitioners' Network" or PN) is an open platform for exchange, coordination and harmonisation between European development cooperation organisations with a public service mission.[i]

The PN was founded on 23 February 2007 as an informal European network for development cooperation organisations with a public mission. It is an informal, non-profit platform whose purpose is to harmonise and make European development cooperation more efficient through exchange and coordination. It also provides a common communication channel to the European Commission for its Members. The network is composed of 22 organisations – 17 have the status of Members, 4 have the status of Associates and 1 has the status of an Observer (the European Commission), as indicated in the list of Members below.[ii]

Tasks and Purpose

The goal of the Practitioners' Network is to contribute to coherence within the EU donor community and, at the same time, benefit from the wide range of organisations active in this field to encourage an integrated, pluralistic and innovative approach to European development cooperation, implemented as efficiently as possible. The Practitioners' Network aims to strengthen cooperation, links and complementarity between European development actors with a public service mission, creating opportunities for cooperation and synergies at the implementation level. It enables the exchange of information and experience between practitioners and provides feedback on European development policies from a practitioner's perspective, while enhancing the visibility of its Members.[iii]

High-level Panel of the PN during the European Development Days 2021

© *Guiliadavid.net/graphicrecording*

Structure

<u>General Assembly</u>

The [General Assembly](#) is the main body of the PN. It meets at least once a year and is composed of all Members' representatives. The General Assembly is entrusted with strategy and budget decisions.[iv] PN

PN Member's CEOs at the General Assembly May 2021 in Brussel

<u>Steering Committee</u>

The [Steering Committee](#) prepares and implements the decisions of the General Assembly. It is composed of a troika of the past, future and current Presidencies of the PN and three other volunteer members.[v]

<u>Working Groups</u>

The Working Groups (WGs) meet regularly and give Members of the network the opportunity to exchange positions and opinions. In doing so, they focus on topic areas prioritised within the Network. The current working groups include: a Working Group on Effective Partnerships and Implementation, a Thematic Working Group, a Working Group on Contractual and Financial Frameworks (CFF WG), and a Team Europe Task Force.

Under the Working Group on Effective Partnerships and Implementation, the following key topics have been defined: inclusive partnerships, Joint Implementation, monitoring, evaluation and results, communication and visibility, public sector expertise (PSE), gender mainstreaming, climate mainstreaming, and cooperation with international financial institutions and public development banks.

Under the Thematic Working Group, several key areas have been defined as a priority: migration and human mobility, education in emergencies, the humanitarian-development nexus, [Green Deal](#), digitalisation, culture for development, and cooperation with the private sector.

The CFF WG aims to ensure that simplified and viable contractual frameworks are established under which Members can efficiently collaborate with the EU.

Launched in the midst of the global pandemic, the Team Europe Task Force was set up to facilitate the contribution of Member State Organisations (MSOs) to the Team Europe approach.[vi]

Presidency and Coordination

The Presidency represents the Network externally to the European Commission and other stakeholders. It rotates among volunteering Members on an annual basis. It is supported by the Coordination of the Network, which carries out strategic, operational, administrative and financial tasks. Together with the PN Coordinators, the Presidency ensures the strategic planning, coherence and coordination of all activities, including general communication planning, coordination of the Steering Committee and General Assembly meetings and monitoring and evaluation of the activities of the network.[vii]

Members

The PN is only financed by annual membership fees. The amount of the fee depends on the size of the organisation and membership status. There are different roles in which institutions and organisations can join the PN. These include the roles of full Members, Observers and Associates. Members can participate in PN activities and take on responsibilities and mandates within the network. They hold voting rights in the General Assembly. Associates can actively contribute to the thematic activities of the PN and participate in PN events. They have no voting rights in the General Assembly. The Observer status is open to intergovernmental institutions. Observers can participate in Network activities and Steering Committee meetings, but have no voting rights.[viii]

Members

Member	Website	Country
Austrian Development Agency (ADA)	Home - Austrian Development Agency (entwicklung.at)	Austria
Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)	Portal Web AECID (Inglés) Presentación	Spain
Agence Francaise de Développement (AFD)	https://www.afd.fr/fr	France
Italian Agency for Development	https://www.aics.gov.it/language/en/	Italy

Cooperation (AICS)		
British Council	https://www.britishcouncil.org/	UK
Central Project Management Agency (CPMA)	https://www.cpva.lt/en	Lithuania
Instituto Camões	https://www.instituto-camoes.pt/en/	Portugal
CzechAid	http://www.czechaid.cz/en/	Czech Republic
Enabel	https://www.enabel.be/	Belgium
Expertise France	https://www.expertisefrance.fr/	France
International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP)	https://www.fiiapp.org/	Spain
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	https://www.giz.de/en/html/index.html	Germany
LuxDev	https://luxdev.lu/fr	Luxemburg
RoAid	http://roaid.ro/	Romania
SNV Netherlands Development Organisation	https://snv.org/	Niederlande
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	https://www.sida.se/en	Sweden
SlovakAid	http://www.slovakaid.sk/en	Slowakia

Observer

Observer	Website	Country
European Commission	https://ec.europa.eu/	EU

Associates

Associate	Website	Country
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (DANIDA)	Danida (um.dk)	Denmark
Republic of Estonia – Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid	Ministry of Foreign Affairs (vm.ee)	Estonia
Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office	Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)	UK
The Netherlands - Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken	Rijksoverheid.nl	Netherlands

Goals and working methods

In order to work on prioritised topics, the Members meet in Working Groups which deal with operational and strategic priorities of the network. The work of the PN is regulated through its charter.[ix] The network recognises various international agreements in the field of development cooperation as a reference framework for its work.[x] These include, among others:

- the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals
- the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the Addis Ababa Agenda for Action on Financing for Development
- the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Busan Global Partnership on Aid Effectiveness
- The European Consensus on Development and subsequent EU policy documents
- The Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy

[i] Practitioners' Network (Ed.): *Revised Charter of the Practitioners' Network for European Development Cooperation.* Brussels 2020

[ii] Website Practitioners' Network, last accessed 30.07.2021.

[iii] Practitioners' Network (Ed.): *Revised Charter of the Practitioners' Network for European Development Cooperation.* Brussels 2020

[iv] General Assembly, Practitioners' Network, last accessed 30.07.2021.

[v] Steering Committee, Practitioners' Network, last accessed 30.07.2021.

[vi] What we do, Practitioners' Network, last accessed 30.07.2021

[vii] Presidency and Coordination, Practitioners' Network, last accessed 30.07.2021

[viii] Practitioners' Network (Ed.): *Revised Charter of the Practitioners' Network for European Development Cooperation.* Brussels 2020

[ix] Who we are, Practitioners Network, last accessed 20.08.2021

[x] Practitioners' Network (Ed.): *Revised Charter of the Practitioners' Network for European Development Cooperation.* Brussels 2020