

# 'GOING FURTHER, TOGETHER' WORKSHOP

## At a Glance

### PURPOSE

To raise awareness on effective engagement of civil society organizations (CSOs) in development processes and the international commitments that speak to this, by organizing a multi-stakeholder workshop aimed at actors from the Development Partner, Government, CSO communities in Bangladesh.

### TIMING

The workshop will take place on Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 February 2020, at the NEC II conference room in the Planning Commission Complex in Agargaon, Dhaka.

### OBJECTIVE

To generate an understanding of the international commitments on CSO development effectiveness and enabling environment; what this means in practice for different development actors; and the benefits that can ensue through means of good practice examples from other countries. The workshop aims to contribute to SDG 17 (multi-stakeholder partnerships) by providing a starting point for ongoing multi-stakeholder dialogue, and a greater understanding of stakeholders' varied roles in advancing CSO engagement to achieve the SDGs.

### RATIONALE

Although the commitments on the CSO enabling environment and CSO development effectiveness have existed for over a decade, progress in their realization is slow. This is amongst others due to insufficient awareness of the existence of these commitments and what they entail in practice.

### CONTEXT

The scale and ambition of Agenda 2030 requires participation of all development actors, including CSOs, to ensure its implementation. Effective engagement of CSOs in development to achieve the SDGs is a shared responsibility: Governments, Development partners, and CSOs all have a role to play to help maximize CSOs' contributions. In Bangladesh, several systems are already in place that allow for dialogue between the Government, development partners, civil society organizations, private sector and foundations. However, a number of challenges remain including issues of coordination, capacity building, resources, and lack of awareness on relevant international commitments.

### SET-UP

This workshop provides a platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue between the Government, development partners, and CSOs in Bangladesh on effective engagement of CSOs in development processes, and sensitization on international commitments that relate to CSOs' Development Effectiveness and the CSO Enabling Environment.

### ENVISIONED OUTCOMES

- ➔ Sensitization of key development actors in Bangladesh on the importance of effective engagement of CSOs in development processes.
- ➔ A general understanding amongst workshop participants on the international commitments on CSO development effectiveness and enabling environment.
- ➔ A basis for ongoing multi-stakeholder dialogue on the civil society-related commitments.
- ➔ Tailored guidance for effective engagement of CSOs in development processes in Bangladesh.