PRIVATE SECTOR PEER LEARNING: PARTNERSHIP PROFILES

Dutch Post-2015 Charter Initiative

Objective: Since 2014, over 60 Dutch organisations from the public and private sectors and civil society have signed onto the SDG Charter (Charter on the role of business, civil society and cross-sector partnerships in the Post-2015 Development Agenda), the result of the Dutch Post-2015 Charter Initiative. The charter represents a voluntary commitment by signatories to contribute to the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and take joint action by creating partnerships.

Partners: The Worldconnectors, a cross-generational network of opinion leaders from across society that develops strategies and visions for international issues based on their different areas of expertise, was a driving force behind the development of the SDG Charter. Initially a working group was formed to discuss the potential role of the private sector and civil society in realising the post-2015 agenda. Following consultations, the Worldconnectors drafted the charter to provide a comprehensive vision for private sector and civil society contributions to the SDGs.

Signatories to the charter, which is not legally binding, acknowledge the importance of an active role by business and civil society in a global development agenda, endorse the contents of the charter as to what the role of business, civil society and cross-sector partnerships can be in global development, and express the intention to contribute to shaping a national multi-stakeholder strategy to further the SDGs and join related national and global partnerships.

Key activities: Priorities include commitment to the charter, development of specific contributions that companies can make as part of their business operations, and preparation of case studies of cross-sectoral partnerships that show the success of co-operation, including listing actual activities included in a partnership (e.g training, building a school, providing technical support for bus modernisation, etc.).

Results: The initiative has mapped out areas of common interest and gathered input for a national agenda. New partnerships corresponding to emerging global development priorities have been founded and successful partnerships have been showcased through the Charter website.

Monitoring and evaluation: No systematised information on the overall initiative was found. However, the showcased partnerships include some information on results.

Insights: According to Worldconnectors, the Dutch Post-2015 Charter Initiative is unique, in part because the SDG Charter was launched by non-governmental stakeholders with the government of the Netherlands joining later. The charter may serve as a good example of how to begin building a national strategy for realising the SDGs through multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Development Assistance Committee member: Netherlands

Budget: Not available

Duration: 2015-30

Location: Global

Sector: Open

Activities: Various

Beneficiaries: Various

SOURCES:

SDG Charter (2014), "Charter on the role of business, civil society and cross-sector partnerships in the Post-2015 Development Agenda", www.globalgoalscharter.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/Charter.pdf.

SDG Charter (n.d.), "SDG Charter: We are ready", http://globalgoalscharter.org (accessed 1 July 2016).

Worldconnectors (21 April 2015), "Dutch charter for new development goals unique in world", www.worldconnectors.nl/en/nederlandse-charter-voor-nieuwe-ontwikkelingsdoelen-uniek-de-wereld.

Worldconnectors (2014), "Signatories", www.worldconnectors.nl/en/29-september-tekenen-ruim-50-bedrijven-ngos-en-worldconnectors-convenant-nieuwe-ontwikkelingssamenwerking/.

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