

PFD informational meeting on  
the Global Gateway and Team Europe Initiatives  
4 October 2022

### I. Key recommendations from CSO and LAs participants:

- Use existing evaluation criteria (for example under EFSD+) to monitor compliance of private sector actors, to ensure human and environmental due diligence.
- Ensure a meaningful role for CSOs, including trade unions, and LAs in consultations, dialogue, decision-making and implementation of public policy priorities, including access to funding.

### II. Introduction and methodology

The Directorate General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA), in the framework of the Policy Forum on Development (PFD), hosted an online information session with 45 civil society organisations (CSOs) and local authorities (LAs) on October 4, 2022. It aimed to provide participants with further information on the Global Gateway (GG) and Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs), with the opportunity for questions and contributions from CSOs and LAs. A presentation on the GG and TEIs by **Félix Fernández-Shaw**, Director of Sustainable Development, Policy, and Coordination (DG INTPA D), was followed by a question-and-answer session where **Félix Fernández-Shaw** responded to questions and provided additional information, complemented by INTPA staff via the chat function.

### III. Presentation on Global Gateway and update on Team Europe Initiatives

**Marlene Holzner**, Head of Unit of LAs, CSOs and Foundations (DG INTPA G2), opened the meeting, welcomed participants, and explained that this session responded to requests from LAs and CSOs to know more about GG and TEIs.

**Félix Fernández-Shaw** gave a presentation on the Global Gateway and Team Europe Initiatives. The **GG** addresses five priority sectors: Digital, Climate and Energy, Sustainable transport, Health, and Education and Research. Each of these sectors has impact across several SDGs. These are underpinned by six principles: democratic values and high standards, good governance and transparency, equal partnership, green and clean, security focused, and catalysing private sector investment. In line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, there is a need for increased private sector investment and technology to meet public policy objectives in certain sectors. The GG framework comprises four aspects of strategic guidance, consultation dialogue and discussion, namely: the Global Gateway Board, the Business Advisory Group, dialogue with civil society, and international fora. Dialogue with CSOs and LAs will take place through existing platforms at national, regional and international level, in particular the PFD. CS and LAs are crucial to ensuring democratic, inclusive, sustainable development with equitable outcomes. **TEIs** are the core implementation tool of the GG, bringing together Member States (MS), European development agencies, banks, CS and the private sector. The aim is to work together better, increase aid effectiveness, influence and impact. An overview of country and regional TEIs per region was followed by examples (including Mozambique TEI on youth, Africa regional on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Ecuador TEI on the Green Deal, and Bangladesh TEI on decent work).

Next steps were summarised, followed by three questions to from Félix Fernández-Shaw as an input to the QA and the discussion: i) What could further improve civil society and local authorities' understanding of Global Gateway? ii) How are you, not least national platforms, engaging EU Member States in relation to the GG and TE and what

further potential do you see? iii) What issues do you see in monitoring the principles underpinning the Global Gateway approach?

#### IV. Discussion

Participants raised questions for clarification and emphasised points for consideration.

##### *Clarifications:*

Participants asked about the **GG in relation to TEIs**. **Mr Fernández-Shaw** explained “We are Team Europe”. Our approach is to organise around TEIs that contribute and connect to the GG. The GG to be implemented through a Team Europe approach as working together can allow greater leverage and coordination, though not all GG will be implemented through Team Europe Initiatives and not all TEIs will be GG. TEIs arise at country, regional and global level, avoiding an overly centralised approach, so the GG Board will not select TEIs.

Questions also arose about **GG funding**. **Mr Fernández-Shaw** confirmed that GG is about coordinating existing funding, which comes from the EU and the Member States. It aims not only to make efficiency gains through coordination of existing funding, but also to mobilise more resources, including from institutional investors and the private sector. Some TEIs have chosen parallel rather than joint financing. Participants also asked about the budget split and beneficiaries, and about the relationship between DFIs and the proposed EU Export Agency.

**Decision-making complexity** was acknowledged, while recognising the potential for greater development impact and added value, in line with both the SDGs and Addis Ababa financing for development objectives. The concentric circle approach to TEI coordination is designed to achieve more development impact in a certain country or region, by thinking broadly about how to work with the different partners, including civil society and governments.

**Transparency and access to information**, including on additionality and implementation, was a key concern of participants. Participants were encouraged to consult the online TEI tracker <https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/tei-ip-tracker/>, which is regularly updated. The EU delegation or thematic focal point in INTPA/EEAS can provide more detailed information on a particular TEI, including stakeholder consultations and documentation. A specific GG webpage is also being developed.

Participants wished to know more about the composition and influence of the **Business Advisory Group**. **Mr Fernández-Shaw** explained that it is being set up to provide forum for the private sector in a way in parallel to what is already in place for CS and LAs with the PFD. Its exact architecture is still being finalised, to ensure balanced and inclusive representation, covering all GG investment sectors, and complementary to existing business fora. Information will be shared once it is established.

Participants asked about **specific regions**: which countries in Africa are included, and whether there are considerations for small island states. **Mr Fernández-Shaw** explained that the Green Energy initiative covers 54 countries in Africa, and includes corridors for a power pool, provision of solar panels and access to financing. The Commission is exploring working with other countries in Africa in addition to those mentioned, as well as how to bring additional resources to small island states that face specific difficulties such as lack of scale. Additional resources will be brought to the Caribbean region to work on energy and sustainable mobility.

##### *Civil society and local authorities emphasised:*

**Monitoring the principles underpinning the GG**: CS emphasised the importance of investment being guided by public policy objectives and sustainable development impact, including the creation of decent jobs, which the Commission confirmed. They also suggested using existing evaluation criteria (for example under EFSD+) to monitor compliance of private sector actors.

**Complementarity:** Participants requested clarity on how the Multiannual and Annual Plans under the NDICI/Global Europe will work with the different components of the GG and TEIs.

**Involvement and consultation:** CSOs, including trade unions, and LAs called for a meaningful role in consultations, dialogue, decision-making and implementation of public policy priorities, including access to a fair share of funding.<sup>1</sup>

**Mr Fernández-Shaw** explained that EU delegations have been asked to work with all CS stakeholders, including trade unions. He confirmed the importance of neither CS nor the private sector being left out of discussions when all are working towards the same policy objectives. He advised CS to coordinate amongst themselves and approach the Commission with concrete questions. Participants were also interested to know more about what technical assistance is available, including for LAs.

**Agriculture:** Several participants asked why agriculture, rural development and agroecology are not one of the five priority sectors under the GG, particularly for Africa. **Mr Fernández-Shaw** explained that food and agriculture remain key to the EU's development objectives. The GG will address value chains, food security and access to finance. Participants were also concerned that the interests of outside private investors and large multinational corporations will not help small-scale producers increase their welfare. The involvement of the private sector will not be without a clear rationale in terms of making technological solutions available to partner countries, and due diligence.

## V. Closing remarks

In his closing remarks **Mr Fernández-Shaw** thanked PFD and INTPA colleagues for hosting and facilitating the discussion. He emphasised the importance of understanding participants' concerns and explained that the Commission is also occupied with addressing those around complexity, multiple stakeholders, transparency and access to information. To this end, dialogue and exchange will continue.

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<sup>1</sup> Eurodad shared this report on Global Gateway: <https://euagenda.eu/upload/publications/eu-global-gateway-report-final.pdf>