

Dear netFWD members, associates, partners and colleagues,

Today marks netFWD's third anniversary! Three years ago, the [OECD Development Centre](#) launched netFWD to bring foundations and governments closer together. Why? We believe that efficient and effective partnerships deliver far greater development outcomes and impact. Since its inception, netFWD has supported the critical role foundations play in the development galaxy and helped them enhance their impact by facilitating partnerships with other actors.

As we enter a new phase now in the global development debate with the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), new challenges and new opportunities await us. What is certain is the increasing international recognition of the role and relevance foundations play in development.

On the occasion of netFWD's third anniversary, Bathylle Missika, the Head of netFWD at the OECD Development Centre, penned a Development Post on how foundations can engage in and contribute to the implementation of the new agenda.

→ Read the post here: "[More than money: Optimising philanthropy's potential to fast-track development](#)"

netFWD counts many achievements in its first three years, including:

- netFWD took the lead in developing the [Guidelines for Effective Philanthropic Engagement](#) (the Guidelines), which were discussed at the [High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation \(Global Partnership\)](#) and "welcomed" in the [final communiqué](#) (§17). Built on three pillars -- dialogue, data and partnering -- the Guidelines help philanthropic organisations improve development outcomes through collaboration with governments and other stakeholders. They foster mutual recognition between philanthropic actors and governments given their respective comparative advantages, and they provide guidance on how best to work together at global, regional and national levels.
- netFWD launched three pilots of the Guidelines to test their concrete application in **India, Mexico and Myanmar, with an additional pilot in the making in South Africa**. The pilots are based on the Guidelines' objective of enhancing collaboration between foundations and government to support more impactful development in the country. However, they are more ambitious than that. They collect data and input on the relationship between foundations and governments and help local stakeholders identify concrete steps – in the form of an action plan – for more effective future collaboration. Results will be presented and discussed at the Second High-Level Meeting of the Global Partnership to be held in Kenya in November 2016.
- netFWD gave philanthropy greater visibility at major intergovernmental conferences. At the [Third International Conference on Financing for Development](#) (Addis Ababa, July 2015), netFWD organised a high-level side event with Ministers and several foundations' CEOs ([read more](#)), in conjunction with the governments of Mexico and the Netherlands. netFWD also held a roundtable on philanthropy and the SDGs on the margins of the [UN General Assembly](#) (New York, September 2015), hosted by the Ford Foundation. Such dedicated events help position philanthropy in the global development scene and further highlight philanthropy's specific value-added to other development actors, in particular governments.
- netFWD is launching [Accelerating Impact 2030](#) to concretely demonstrate how philanthropy can help accelerate development outcomes. netFWD developed Accelerating Impact 2030 because we believe that foundations can and must play a critical role in meeting the SDGs and that foundations and governments can deliver far greater development outcomes by partnering more efficiently. Accelerating Impact 2030 will bring together

foundations, governments and other committed actors to align their vision and pool their collective expertise and resources to accelerate achieving the SDGs ([read more](#)).

- **netFWD gave foundations a voice within the Global Partnership by helping them secure a seat on the Steering Committee.** Foundations have enjoyed permanent representation on the Steering Committee since July 2014. This reflects the eagerness of member governments to dialogue and co-operate with the philanthropic sector.
- **netFWD produced knowledge** to share experiences and lessons among its membership and with the wider philanthropic sector. The two studies published to date focus on foundations' efforts to innovate and enhance their impact. They were presented and discussed in Abu Dhabi, Geneva, New York, Singapore, Nairobi and Paris and generated great interest and triggered inspiring discussions across sectors and regions.
 - ***Venture Philanthropy in Development: Dynamics, Challenges and Lessons in the Search for Greater Impact*** unpacks the concept of venture philanthropy and identifies lessons to make foundations' work more impactful.
 - ***Philanthropy and Youth Empowerment: Foundations' Innovative Approaches to Support Youth*** builds on 11 case studies to examine what makes philanthropy particularly well placed to support youth and how foundations can further optimise collaboration with other development actors.

We are sincerely grateful to netFWD's members and associates. Your trust and support have made and will continue to make the work of the network possible and relevant.

We look forward to strengthening our co-operation further and reflecting on how to optimise philanthropy's potential to fast-track development.

With warm regards,

The netFWD Secretariat

To subscribe to our newsletter or to receive more information, contact us at dev.foundations@oecd.org.

netFWD

OECD Development Centre

2, rue André-Pascal | 75775 Paris CEDEX 16, France

dev.foundations@oecd.org | www.oecd.org/site/netfwd/