



Third High-Level Meeting on
**Country-led
Knowledge Sharing**
Washington, DC March 30-31, 2016



WORLD BANK GROUP



**MINISTRY OF
STRATEGY
AND FINANCE**

Communiqué of the Third High-Level Meeting on Country-led Knowledge Sharing

1. On March 30-31, 2016, more than 400 high-level representatives from 66 countries and 11 multilateral institutions gathered in Washington DC to share experiences and discuss future steps for building country capacities for knowledge sharing in support of global development goals. Co-hosted by the Government of the Republic of Korea and the World Bank Group, participants at the Third High-Level Meeting on Country-Led Knowledge Sharing (HLM3) assessed how country institutions can make a better use of their knowledge and operational experiences as a way of improving the delivery of public services to the most needed.
2. With the adoption of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, the global community has re-committed to ending extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity. Apart from financial aid and technical assistance, knowledge sharing can play a vital role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, especially at the sector level. The Agenda 2030 and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda are encouraging Knowledge Sharing as an accelerator of global development, building on other global processes such as Global Partnership on Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), the G20 Development Agenda and the 17th replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA).
3. Country leadership is the heart and essence of Knowledge Sharing. Country institutions and their change agents have accumulated a wealth of specialized, practice-proven development solutions, which can be replicated and scaled up both within and across countries. As showcased during the HLM3, ministries, sector agencies and local authorities have advanced in their capacities to capture and share knowledge more systematically. Examples can be found in knowledge sharing strategies, new financial and organizational arrangements, as well as innovative knowledge sharing platforms that make relevant solutions more accessible. Overall, from the country perspective, Knowledge Sharing adds value at many levels, for instance in terms of effectiveness of public policies, sustainability of service delivery, partnerships and international recognition.
4. International development partners have started to support country institutions in their leadership for better improving their Knowledge Sharing capacities. Both multilateral organizations and bilateral agencies now offer programs to improve institutional and operational capacities of country institutions to capture and share knowledge in critical development sectors. These support options reflect an increasing demand from country institutions in support of their efforts to strengthen development outcomes in their countries, regionally and globally. This can further benefit from the growing relevance of Knowledge Sharing as a strategic part of broader operations, especially in multilateral organizations.

5. In plenary sessions, dedicated break-out groups and a vivid World Café, the participants in HLM3 recognized the importance of strengthening capabilities of country institutions for knowledge sharing at three levels: (1) within organizations to improve internal procedures and increase institutional memory for enhanced operational effectiveness, (2) with domestic partners to help take successful solutions to scale, and (3) internationally, to strengthen knowledge sharing programs to replicate and adapt solutions beyond national boundaries.
6. The rich exchanges during the HLM3 covered a wide range of country experiences, regional platforms and international support options to develop capacities for knowledge sharing as a contributor to the achievement of the SDGs. The following key messages emerged from the HLM3:
 - a. **Knowledge sharing in support of global development goals:** There is a growing recognition that strong knowledge sharing capacities of country institutions can lead to more effective development solutions which in turn can contribute effectively to realizing the Agenda 2030 and other global development goals.
 - b. **Mutual learning and studies on knowledge sharing:** Mutual learning and studies on organizational knowledge sharing can help identify priority areas for institutional and operational change that is needed for strengthening country capacities for knowledge sharing. The global platform hosted at knowledgehubs.org can provide a space to coordinate “knowledge sharing about knowledge sharing”, and help streamline access to documentation in this field and enabling access to relevant experiences in real time.
 - c. **Knowledge sharing in action:** Knowledge sharing can help accelerate development. Implementing knowledge exchanges in a more programmatic way in many cases facilitates adaptation and replication of solutions. Innovative approaches and tools are needed to ensure knowledge sharing programs are focused on results. All partners are committed to actively engage in knowledge sharing programs and activities that are demand-driven, needs-based and solutions-oriented.
 - d. **Institutional capacities for knowledge sharing:** There is a high demand from country institutions to build their institutional and operational capacity for knowledge sharing which is increasingly met by support options from regional and global partners.
7. To strengthen joint action among country institutions, regional bodies and international partners and enable coordination of available support for knowledge sharing, more than 25 government and other institutions have joined the Global Partnership on Country-Led Knowledge Sharing (GPKS). The GPKS is a flexible platform open to any player interested in positioning knowledge sharing in the global development agenda, engaging in mutual learning and studies, and developing practical tools for building institutional capacities. Apart from face-to-face meetings, the GPKS relies on the existing Community of Practice at knowledgehubs.org to enable and coordinate joint efforts of its member partners.
8. The participants thank the co-hosts, the Government of Korea and the World Bank Group, for a lively and inspiring HLM3, and agree to hold the next High-Level Meeting on Country-Led Knowledge Sharing in mid-2018, with a focus on assessing progress on the key initiatives for strengthening country capacity for knowledge sharing summarized above in paragraph 6.