Together 2030 Core Group meets to Strategize on the next steps of the Initiative

January 25-27, Bogota, Colombia

The Core Group\(^1\) of founding organizations of Together 2030 has met in Bogota (Colombia), with some participants engaging remotely, to discuss and define the strategies, scope, outreach and fundraising approaches for Together 2030.

Hosted by CEPEI, the Face-to-Face meeting focused on a few objectives:

- **The WHAT** – drafting a clear understanding of what Together 2030 is and priorities and principles for partnership engagements.
- **The WHY** – discussing on what success would look like, the comparative advantages of the new Initiative and risks associated with the non-engagement.
- **The WHO** – including discussions on clear parameters for participation and strategies to promote and engage organizations and what governance and other structures would be needed.
- **The HOW** – strategizing on the necessary structure, funding and outreach initiatives for the new Initiative.
- **The WHEN** – a timeline for implementation of key initial milestones (events and actions) for the year 2016 considering the available capacity and resources.

The meeting counted with the participation of few external partners, including: Lotta Tähtinen, Stakeholder Engagement Programme Coordinator, UN DESA; Sanjeev Khagram, Global Partnership on Data for the SDG; and Paula Caballero, Senior Director, Environment, World Bank. There was also a presentation from Leo Williams, Beyond 2015 International Director, on the outcomes of the Beyond 2015 external evaluation and recommendations for Together 2030.

The Core Group also had the opportunity of meeting with the NGO Profamilia. A breakfast with representatives of the government of Colombia (specifically from the Colombia’s National Department of Planning) was organized to discuss their plans for implementation of Agenda 2030, especially the efforts made by the High-Level Commission created to lead the SDG implementation and monitoring in the country.

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\(^1\) The initiative was started by the following organisations who make up the “Core Group”. The group of founding organisations is currently comprised by: CEPEI (Colombia); Justice, Development and Peace Commission – JDPC Ijebu-Ode (Nigeria); Philippine Social Enterprise Network (Philippines); Save Matabeleland (Zimbabwe); Sightsavers (Global); World Vision (Global).

Meeting with Felipe Castro, Director of Public Policies Monitoring and Follow-up, from Colombia’s National Department of Planning, about the efforts made by the High-Level Commission in Colombia, in charge of leading the SDG implementation and monitoring in the country.

Meeting with Fabrizio Hochschild, Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for the UN in Colombia, about the ways of collaboration between the UN, the government and other actors to reach SDG implementation in Colombia.

Meeting with Lotta Tähtinen, Stakeholder Engagement Programme Coordinator, UN DESA; Sanjeev Khagram, Global Partnership on Data for the SDG; and Paula Caballero, Senior Director, Environment, World Bank.
implementation and monitoring at the country level. The Group also met with the UN Humanitarian/Resident Coordinator in Colombia to discuss the role of the United Nations at the implementation of Agenda 2030.

The Group will be prioritizing the drafting of a fundraising proposal to support the advancement of the work of Together 2030. Plans for an improved approach for communications and outreach were discussed as well as ideas on strengthening joint work and governance structures. The Core Group will be sharing more details with the whole membership of Together 2030 as actions unfold.

Meeting with Felipe Castro from Colombia’s National Department of Planning, representatives of NGO Profamilia and Elementa, and members of the T2030 Core Group.