



PFD Global 2025

Key recommendations since 2023

Basic services are considered public goods and must remain accessible and affordable for all citizens.

Peace and stability are crucial for sustainable access to basic services and must be fostered by all.

Sound financial management underpins all implementation. Public finance management capacities, notably of Local Authorities and CSOs, must continue to be strengthened to enable them to manage and deliver services effectively.

Working in partnership is fundamental

Youth, as a dynamic and diverse demographic, represent both the future and the present, and their inclusion in policy development forums such as the PDF is essential

Women and girls sustain economies through unpaid, informal work, especially in care – a reality that became more obvious during the Covid-19 pandemic. Women are also more often forced into migration often as victims of trafficking and are systematically discriminated against and excluded due to lack of social protection and poor working conditions. In areas of shrinking civic space women and girls' ability to organize and voice issues affecting them is often restricted to suppress their freedom of expression and association

Enabling environment

- Recognise complexity, strengthen the fundamental pillars of civic space and **reinforce democracy**
- Use **trust building**, the power of connectivity, shared narratives and action to reinforce the enabling environment for civic space
- **Increase meaningful consultation, transparency** and inclusion of local realities
- Ensure that civic spaces are **safe spaces**

Fragility and forced displacement

- **Remain mobilized in fragile areas** despite diplomatic and economic constraints
- Strengthen the capacity of local actors
- Enhance **essential infrastructure and basic services**
- Support displaced populations and host communities
- **Improve inclusion and integration of migrants**, including cross community relations
- Raise migrants' voices in policy making
- Recognize **women's face** of migration
- Accompany, support and finance the sharing of experience on these issues

Human Development

- Tackling inequalities in our world requires a systemic and **systematic approach**
- Build a culture of giving with **grants** available at the community level; put **social justice** as the center; integrate local indigenous and **local knowledge**; **value women** in reinforcing social resilience
- **Address the financial architecture** of the global trading system and global governance that is producing inequalities: consider role of IFIs; fiscal reform including tax and corruption; more reliable EU funding; use of SMEs and cooperatives; invest directly in local economics for more tailored approach
- **Support basic services**, local economic development models and build capacity for communities to be involved in decision making

- **Support basic services** (cooperatives, youth job creation, decentralized cooperation; smaller pilot livelihoods support)
- **Strengthen local governance systems** to sustainably deliver public services and implement green local development plans
- **Address the environmental effects of infrastructure investments**, particularly related to the extraction of critical raw materials, to prevent harm to local ecosystems
- Focus on the **intersection between poverty, climate change, and development**, ensuring that climate finance supports a just transition
- Advocate for **gender-specific budgeting and targeted support for women-led enterprises** to ensure that women benefit equitably from green and just transition opportunities
- Ensure digital justice through **open source**, free software/technology; internet access and training; use data to generate policies that fight against inequalities; respect labour rights

Finances and Multi-annual Financial Framework

- Support reinforcing national fiscal systems and **own-source revenue generation**: increase tax base via jobs; progressive tax reforms and incentives; digitalization for simplification; transparency in revenue collection; declare profit where generated/avoid BEPS*
- **Simplify EU funding procedures** and access to resources: make EU financing more accessible to local actors, reducing barriers for funding and implementation of development projects; **maintain and increase grants**; reintroduce **funding lines dedicated to supporting local actors** in community development
- Take advantage of the **opportunity of missing middle finance** (Local authorities and SMEs) to leverage PPPs to provide no-debt and sustainable financing for servicing communities.
- Systemically **tackle information challenges and increasing transparency and public access of information**.



More information: <https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/policy-forum-development>