

# Innovations and Sustainable Development within Finnish Development Policy

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# Topics covered



- Big picture – what is happening in the world
- Finland's thematic development priorities
- Definition of innovation for development and key principles
- Why innovations are important
- How – key modalities to support innovations

# BIG PICTURE

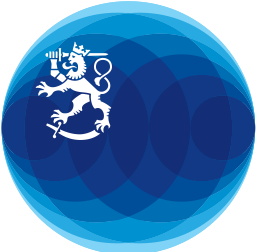


World is changing in a rapid phase affecting in many ways the field of development cooperation

We are experiencing a development paradigm shift

Why?

# Agenda 2030 and sustainable development goals



<b>1</b> NO POVERTY ✓ 	<b>2</b> ZERO HUNGER ✓ 	<b>3</b> GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 	<b>4</b> QUALITY EDUCATION 	<b>5</b> GENDER EQUALITY 	<b>6</b> CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION 
<b>7</b> AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY ✓ 	<b>8</b> DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH ✓ 	<b>9</b> INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE ✓ 	<b>10</b> REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	<b>11</b> SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	<b>12</b> RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION ✓ 
<b>13</b> CLIMATE ACTION 	<b>14</b> LIFE BELOW WATER 	<b>15</b> LIFE ON LAND 	<b>16</b> PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	<b>17</b> PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS ✓ 	

Sources: ILO. 2018. World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2018. International Labour Office, Geneva.



## More players

Private sector has become a key player in the field of development co-operation

Private sector is needed to support achievement of agenda 2030

Private sector has a key role in developing innovative and sustainable solutions

# Megatrends affecting all of us

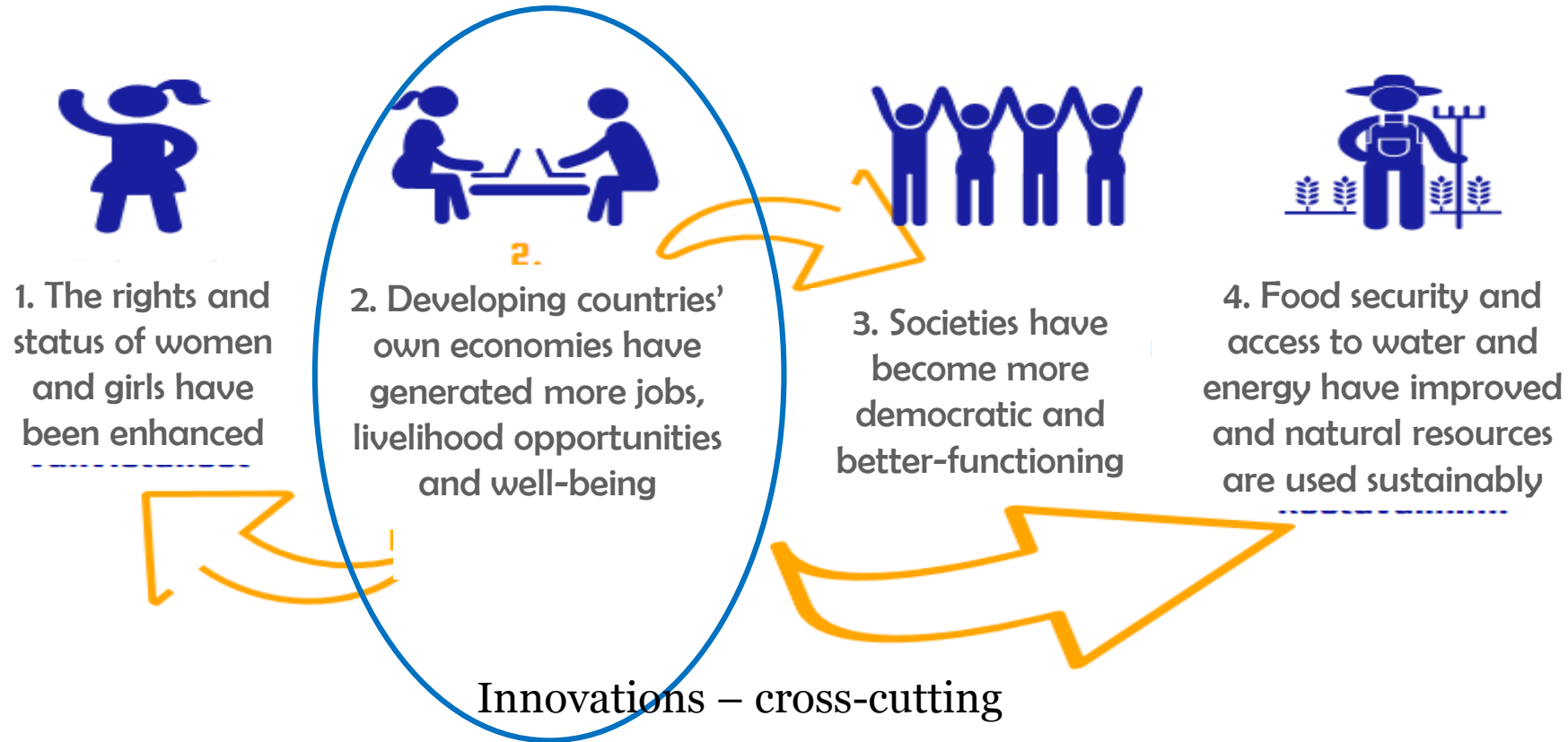


Megatrends such as

- **climate change**,
- urbanization,
- migration,
- **population growth** and
- **particularly 4IR** - digital revolution is changing in a fundamental and unforeseen manner the way we work and live

It is difficult to recognize and anticipate the interlinkages and impacts of the megatrends

# Finland's thematic development priorities





# Innovations for development – what does it mean?





# DEFINITION OF INNOVATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT

- According to OECD/DAC development innovation is a process, idea, invention, initiative or product that is
  - fresh (new, original) and
  - creates value or more effective solutions in tackling development challenges and delivering development results.
  - is problem driven, needs based

**At the heart lies – or should lie – a commitment of doing development differently and better**

# Innovations for development – important issues



- Innovation is a tool and not a goal itself
- Requires risk taking and partnerships
- Impact can only be achieved when people are in the heart of the innovation process (HRBA and HCD)
- Innovations are not only tech solutions
- Innovations need to be assessed in the human rights framework (positive and negative consequences)

## Principles for Innovation and Technology in Development

These principles are not intended as hard and fast rules but meant as best-practice guidelines to inform the design of technology enabled development programs.

In collaboration with UNICEF, The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, SIDA, USAID, Global Pulse, UNDP, WFP, UNHCR.



**Design with the User**



**Understand the Existing Ecosystem**



**Design for Scale**



**Build for Sustainability**



**Be Data Driven**



**Use Open Source**



**Reuse and Improve**



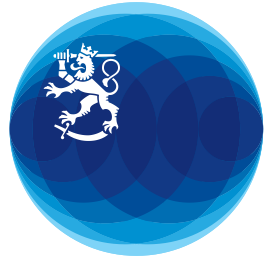
**Do no harm**



**Be Collaborative**

<http://unicefstories.org/principles>

# INNOVATION PRINCIPLES



Digital Principles for Development are the same but no harm is changed into address privacy & security

<https://digitalprinciples.org/principles/>



# Why innovations for development are important?

- Global development problems are persistent, complex and interlinked.
- The problems have remained the same for decades.
- We need to address problems that affect wellbeing of people in their everyday life and need new ways of doing it
- It is obvious that there is a need to find new, innovative ways to address these persistent development problems



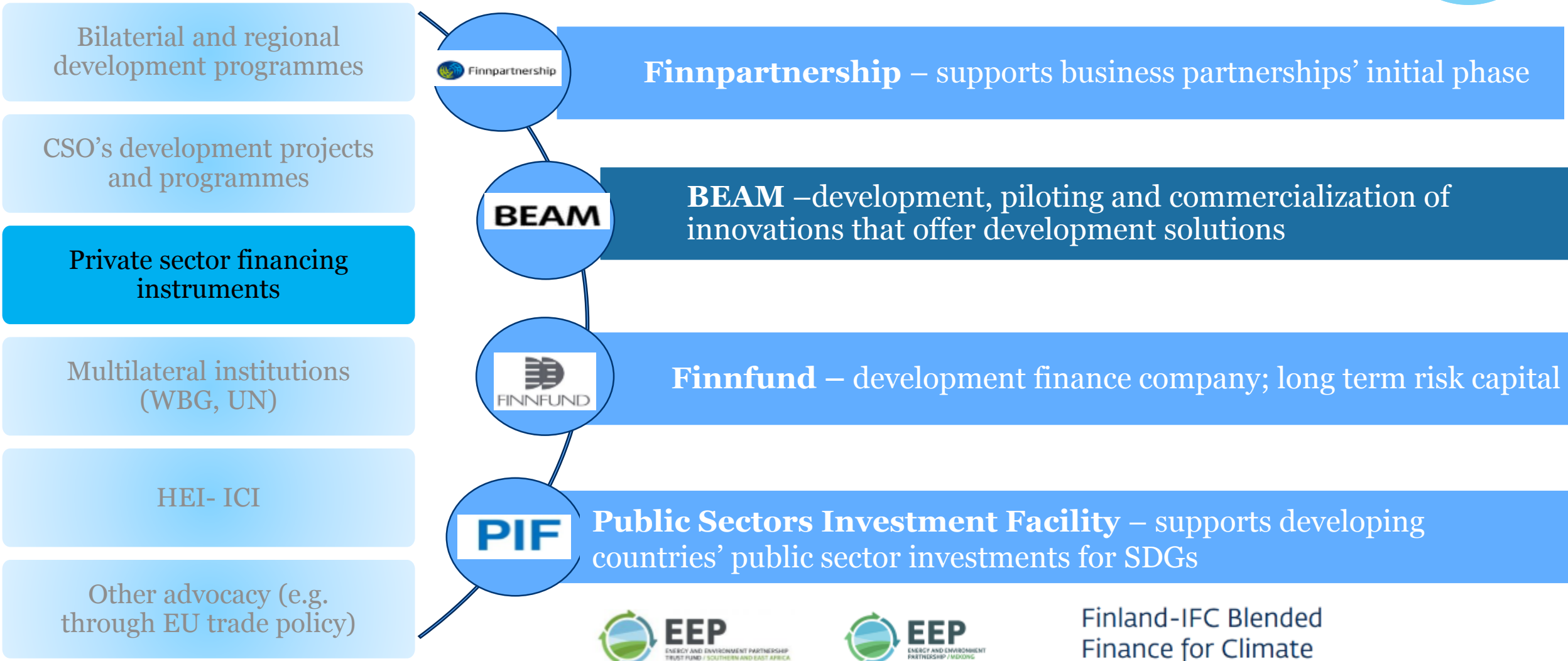
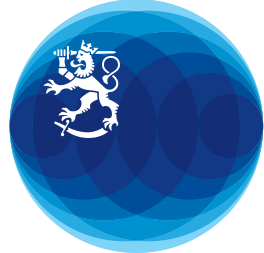
**Business as usual is not an  
option if we want to achieve  
SDGs**



# How – main modalities

- 1. Implementing hybrid bilateral/regional STI programmes with partner countries**
- 2. Mainstreaming STI in other sectors of the Finnish development co-operation**
- 3. Global private sector/innovation funding instruments (BEAM)**
- 4. Supporting multilateral agencies (UNICEF, UNFPA, UNTIL, WB)**
- 5. Promoting research and education co-operation:** higher education, development research, FinCEAL etc
- 6. Advocacy and global policy discourses (WSIS +10, UNCTAD, UNESCO, ITU)**

# Financing instruments leverage private finance, support business partnerships, green investments and innovations



- Bilateral and regional development programmes
- CSO’s development projects and programmes
- Private sector financing instruments**
- Multilateral institutions (WBG, UN)
- HEI- ICI
- Other advocacy (e.g. through EU trade policy)



Finland-IFC Blended Finance for Climate

# Forwarding innovation initiatives through multilateral institutions



Bilateral and regional development programmes

CSO's development projects and programmes

Private sector financing instruments

**Multilateral institutions (WBG, UN)**

HEI- ICI

Other advocacy (e.g. through EU trade policy)

UNICEF and UNFPA Innovation Funds

UNTIL Finland

WB Digital Development Partnership



# New management, collaboration, research and pedagogical practices through institutional cooperation in higher education



Bilateral and regional development programmes

CSO's development projects and programmes

Private sector financing instruments

Multilateral institutions (WBG, UN)

**HEI- ICI**

Other advocacy (e.g. through EU trade policy)

The Higher Education Institutions Institutional Cooperation Instrument (HEI ICI) supports cooperation projects between higher education institutions in Finland and the developing world that are designed to enhance higher education provision in these countries. 20 projects ongoing in 16 countries, 2017-2020.

Example project types include:

- Development of innovation services and university-business collaboration as well as regional/international university partnerships ;
- Building institutional capacity of university management and leadership;
- New pedagogical practices;
- Support in developing education and research in a certain sector



# SOME EXAMPLES OF FINLAND'S SUPPORT

# The Southern Africa Innovation Support (SAIS) programme 2011-



- A regional programme with Zambia, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania and Botswana for establishing regional innovation cooperation mechanisms in Southern Africa
- SAIS aims to:
  - Build institutional and operational elements of the systems of innovations at national and regional levels
  - Establish sustainable knowledge-sharing networks for innovation support and partnerships between leading innovation institutions
  - Build strengthened human capacity related to innovation in the four countries
  - Adapt and replicate best practice models, projects and initiatives, that support practical innovation outcomes

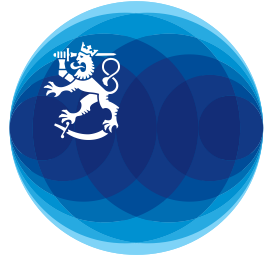
[www.saisprogramme.com](http://www.saisprogramme.com)



# Innovation Partnership Programme in Vietnam 2009-2017 (Phases I and II)

- IPP supports the development and implementation of national strategy for science, technology & innovation in Vietnam
- IPP aims to:
  - Strengthen key Vietnamese institutions to plan and implement innovation policy
  - Demonstrate novel approaches for strengthening innovation capacity and supporting innovation through multi-helix cooperation
  - Promote technology transfer, innovation cooperation and knowledge exchange between Finland and Vietnam
  - Disseminate and demonstrate the value of innovation to business, R&D institutes, universities, policymakers and Vietnamese society at large

[www.ipp.vn](http://www.ipp.vn)



Thank you