



1. AN ACCOUNTABLE AND TRANSPARENT GLOBAL GATEWAY WITH EQUALITY AT THE CORE

Inequality reduction must be a principal objective in Global Gateway actions, with dedicated targets and tools, coordination mechanisms and clarity on roles and responsibilities. Those actions should be embedded in the regional and country-specific NDICI action plans. The orientations of Global Gateway should be based on a wide-ranging consultative process. There must be regular reports on achievements and Global Gateway must be transparent, with detailed information easily accessible to all stakeholders.



2. FULLY IMPLEMENT THE INEQUALITY MARKER AND EFFECTIVELY REACH THE BOTTOM 40%

The I-Marker must be applied to all Global Gateway actions, with a target percentage of projects or funds or alternatively a percentage of projects for which the Distributional Impact Assessment (DIA) must be conducted to ensure that the most marginalised are targeted. Adequate funding is needed for the Commission and implementing agencies to conduct DIAs. A qualitative DIA tool should be integrated into the set of I-Marker instruments in order to complement quantitative analyses, enhance the quality of information, and therefore improve targeting.



3. BEYOND NUMBERS: UNDERSTANDING INEQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY NEEDS THROUGH QUALITATIVE ANALYSES

The DIA qualitative tool is a new instrument that analyses the distributional impacts of policies or programmes. It assesses the effective targeting of the most socio-economically disadvantaged groups in international cooperation programmes. DIA assessments allow for a self-reported understanding of programmes affecting the poorest and most marginalised people and provide insights into drivers of inequalities. The tool should be used to support the design of inequality-reducing solutions and assessment of results, and its implementation must be supported by CSOs and local organisations.



4. ENSURING THAT PROGRAMMES PRIORITISE ACCESS FOR THE MOST MARGINALISED OVER PROFITABILITY

Grants must be increased over loans. The EU should identify successful approaches and innovative solutions to effectively target the poorest 40% and mainstream these solutions. Extend the parameters of disadvantage to reach as many disadvantaged individuals and groups as possible, while ensuring the poorest 40% is adequately reached.

5. ENGAGING WITH LOCAL, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE BUSINESSES

Local companies in partner countries must be identified and prioritised in project implementation, with an emphasis on sustainable and inclusive businesses in line with the EU's commitment to promote them as part of Global Gateway. This would also be in line with the EU's Social Economy Action Plan and the 2023 resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on promoting the social and solidarity economy for sustainable development, which highlight the strong potential of the social economy to tackle inequalities.



6. COMMUNITIES AND CSOS AS CO-DESIGNERS OF PROJECTS

CSOs should be actively involved during all phases of the project as co-designers of Global Gateway programmes. Small grants could support NGOs working with the most marginalised groups and individuals to conduct qualitative analyses that reflect their realities. These analyses should inform the design, implementation and evaluation of Global Gateway projects.

