

From Dialogue to Impact: A Practical PPD Prioritisation Approach for Sierra Leone MDAs

'Arghh, this is just a talking shop'

1. **Past challenges in Sierra Leone:** PPDs were sporadic and unstructured, with limited impact.
2. **A big opportunity now:**
 - Excellent recent experience (development partners such as FCDO - Invest Salone and World Bank supported).
 - A new platform is in sight: the BECS programme.
 - New(ish) mandate for investment related PPDs (NIB).
3. **But it's hard to get impact – the “talking shop” risks remain high.**

Avoiding Talking Shops: Two Strategic Questions



How should PPDs prioritise?



How is do we ensure follow-up and action?

Prioritise!

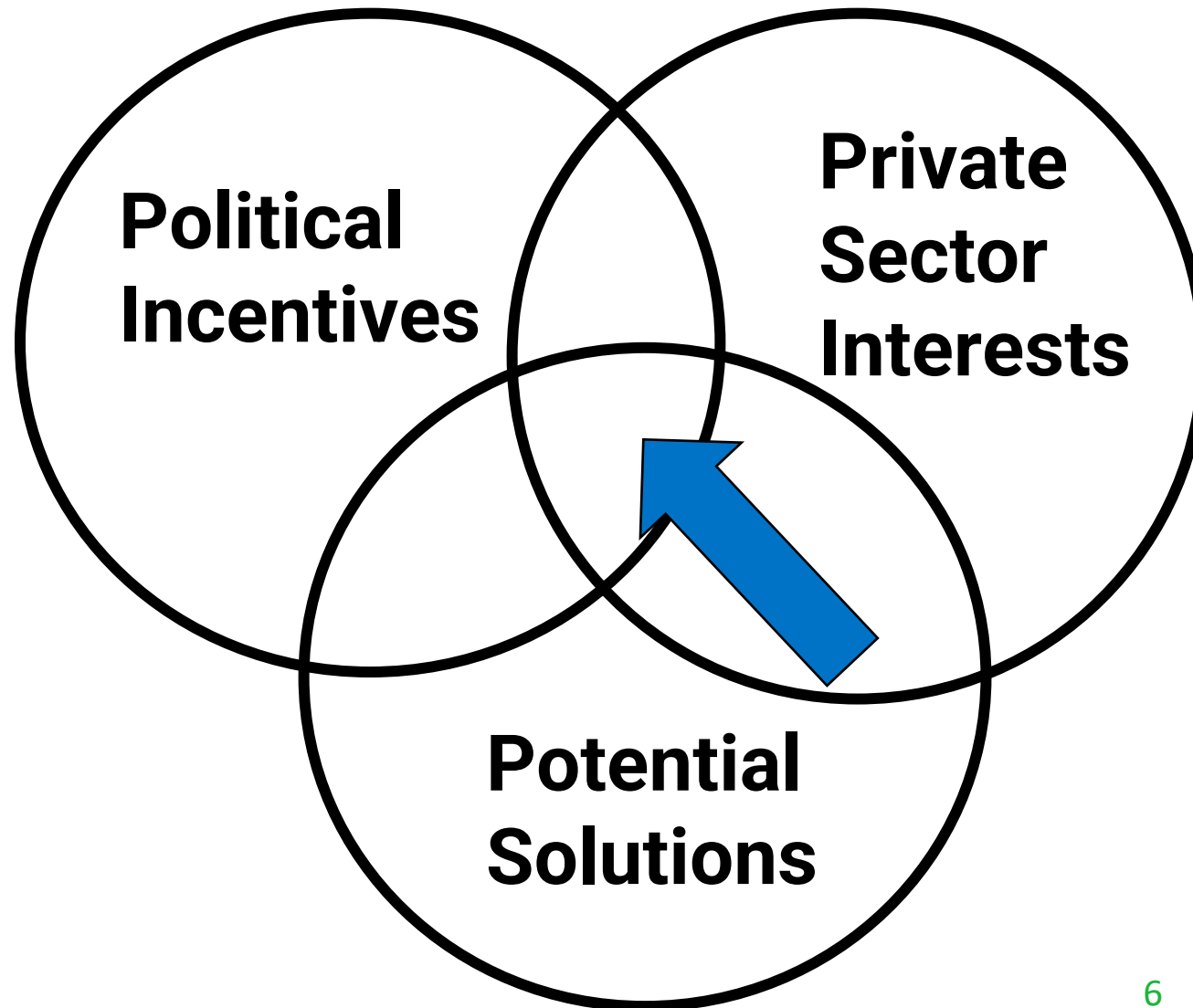


Poor Prioritisation Will Mean No Impact

- Trying to do too much will mean you end up achieving nothing.
 - *E.g., comparative evidence on IPAs should focus on 3-5 economic sectors.*
- Selecting the wrong focus for PPDs will mean no impact.
 - E.g., In Zambia, a Public-Private Dialogue Forum lost goodwill from the private sector (and State House!) partly because it selected issues with no realistic potential for follow-up.

Think about finding “sweet spot” issues for PPDs

Finding Sweet Spots



A Framework: How MDAs Could Prioritise PPDs

Criteria	Key questions
1. Private Sector Interests	- Is this issue or sector/subsector a private sector priority? - Are there potential significant investors/job creation?
2. Political Incentives	- Is there <i>political will</i> within the government to make the decisions necessary to support investors? Elections? - Does the sector structure allow for new entrants/growth? (Political Economy!)
3. Potential Solutions	- Are there viable policy solutions which will overcome barriers/challenges? - Are these possible solutions technically <i>and</i> politically viable?
3. MDA Added Value	- Are other parts of GoSL conducting effective PPDs? - What is the gap which my MDA could fill?

Example 1: ISL's Work on Carbon Credits

Criteria	Carbon Credits
1. Private Sector Interests	- Existing and potential new investors. - Comparative advantage for Sierra Leone
2. Political Incentives	Political motivations: job creation (XX), revenue, NDCs.
3. Potential Solutions	- Comparative assessment (e.g., Ghana, Kenya etc.) suggested viable practical solutions. - Regulation, institutional reforms.
3. MDA Added Value	Significant gaps – ISL supported improved private sector coordination Association of Carbon Conservation and Reforestation – (ACCR), facilitated PPDs and Ministerial meetings (Ministry of Environment and Climate Change and Ministry of Finance).

Example 2: PPDs To Support Investment

- Effective PPD will bring policymakers and investors together to identify and resolve key bottlenecks.
- By collaboratively tackling policy and regulatory obstacles, PPD can create better laws, a stronger investment climate and sustainable growth.
- NIB has a mandate for investment-focused PPDs and growing experience and expertise.
- **But as with all MDAs, prioritisation is critical for investment-focused PPDs!**

What happened?



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Ensuring Follow-up from PPDs

- Lots can be said about this! For example, on the “nuts and bolts” of running effective PPDs can be discussed.
- But two points link to the suggested prioritisation framework:
 - Making good judgements on prioritising PPDs effectively will **massively increase** the potential for securing follow-up.
 - The importance of PPDs being solution-focused and helping generate **workable solutions** to challenges/barriers.
- Often the importance and difficulty of generating technically *and* politically workable solutions are underestimated.

Possible questions to keep in mind today (alongside others!)

What issues (sectors/sub-sectors/crosscutting issues) is/should my MDA **prioritise** holding PPDs on? How confident are you that they represent “sweet spot” issues?

How can your PPDs best support the **generation of workable solutions** to problems, which will help ensure follow-up action is possible?



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