NUMBER 6:

WE NEED MORE PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION

Public-private collaboration consists of long-term agreements between the public administration and private agents, whether commercial companies or social entities.

- Public-private collaboration allows to provide services with better quality or lower costs for the administration. These are situations in which the private sector has resources (capital, knowledge, human resources, etc.) that the public sector does not have.
- We can find good examples of collaboration in the field of education (charter schools), culture (museums, management of civic centers, etc.), health (hospitals) and many other fields.
- Despite the advantages, there is a current of opinion that considers everything to do with the private sector to be negative.
- Many do not understand that in order to strengthen the welfare state and be able to expand public budgets we need to get a private sector that generates wealth and pays taxes. It is a myopia similar to that of those who consider everything public to be negative.

Those Countries that perform better and generate more welfare have very strong public and private sectors and are very committed to public-private partnerships.

- The share of public-private partnerships in GDP in all OECD countries is 14%. In countries that generate more wealth and have a good level of welfare status, the percentage is well above average. This is the case in the Netherlands (21%), for example. In Spain, this percentage is 10%.
- The public sector must control appropriately that the private agent acts in an excellent way as well as complying with the law.

Link: *OECD Principles for Public Governance of Public-Private Partnerships*

How will coronavirus affect public-private partnerships?