



Draft TOSSD Strategy Paper by the co-Chairs of the International TOSSD Task Force¹

TOSSD Task Force Issues Paper - Agenda item 2

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As co-Chairs, our vision is that, within five years, TOSSD should become a pre-eminent measure of resources provided in support of the sustainable development of developing countries. This vision is exemplified by the scope of Pillar I, which covers all external resources to recipient countries, regardless of their nature (financial or in-kind) or their concessionality. It is also reflected in the broad scope of TOSSD Pillar II, which includes for example expenditures on R&D for sustainable development, or climate actions that convey transnational benefits.

TOSSD has the potential of breaking the mould of the traditional aid narrative, moving from a “North-South” or “aid” logic to one of partnerships, where every country can potentially be both provider and recipient. It will also help to bring greater transparency in the financing for sustainable development landscape.

As co-Chairs, we are convinced that a development finance world with TOSSD is better than without it. We invite the international community to join the TOSSD movement and support it, both politically, by creating a strong TOSSD governance structure, and technically, by promoting the availability of reliable data on financing for sustainable development by all providers.

I. A long-term vision for TOSSD

1. In the last two decades, the development finance landscape has seen major changes with the emergence of new actors (e.g. emerging providers, the private sector), the use of new financial instruments (e.g. guarantees) and, first and foremost, a greater focus on sustainable development. In July 2015, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) acknowledged this broad landscape and called for “open, inclusive and transparent discussions” on the new TOSSD measure. Since then, the International TOSSD Task Force² has worked to develop a **broad framework encapsulating all official (and officially supported) resources of financing for the sustainable development of developing countries, much beyond traditional development finance.** (The major achievements of the Task Force so far are recalled in Annex I.)

2. **The vision of TOSSD is exemplified by the scope of Pillar I, which covers all external resources to recipient countries, regardless of their nature (financial or in-kind) or their**

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² For more information on the work of the Task Force, see: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/tossd-task-force.htm>



concessionality. Through Pillar I, TOSSD will provide recipient countries with a comprehensive, additional and useful source of information for their development planning and budgeting processes. TOSSD will support the monitoring of the implementation of the SDGs, in particular by facilitating access to data on all available external resources for sustainable development by the National Statistics Offices.

3. **The vision of TOSSD is also reflected in the broad scope of TOSSD Pillar II, which includes for example expenditures on R&D for sustainable development,** or peacekeeping operations that address a threat to sustainable development. Yet another example is the inclusion in this Pillar of climate actions that convey transnational benefits, acknowledging that these actions may take place in provider countries. In that regard, TOSSD will help to explore uncharted territory – the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has confirmed that efforts made in provider countries have hitherto gone unreported.

4. As co-Chairs, we are convinced that a development finance world with TOSSD is better than without it. In a financing landscape that is growing in volume and complexity, TOSSD will bring **greater transparency** to the full array of officially supported resources provided in support of the sustainable development of developing countries. TOSSD is expected to **facilitate learning and coordination** between all countries about how to access and combine resources most effectively, **build trust** and help **mobilise more private finance** through a better understanding of investment opportunities in developing countries. Importantly, TOSSD will support **more informed policy discussions** on how to **align financing with sustainable development, on the monitoring of the SDGs,** and ultimately **on the effectiveness and impact** of development activities. The measure will provide insights about how the international community is financing International Public Goods. Finally, yet importantly, TOSSD represents **an opportunity for all countries, including recipient countries, to design an international development finance standard** that suits their needs.

5. In this paper, the co-Chairs aim to solidify this vision and provide an answer to the question of how we see TOSSD evolving and, in particular, **where we see TOSSD in five years' time.** The answer to this overarching question will be structured around a series of strategic considerations.

A. Filling gaps or stand-alone measure? Where does TOSSD fit in the development financing landscape?

6. The question of whether TOSSD is a comprehensive measure or whether it should focus on filling the gaps left by the existing measures of development finance has surfaced during the deliberations of the Task Force. This is symptomatic of the need for the strategy to catch up with the reality of what TOSSD has already become and to foresee what it will be in the future. While TOSSD will remain complementary to other development finance measures, it could take one step further and shift focus more explicitly to measuring broader public financing for the SDGs. We argue that, strategically and politically, **TOSSD should become the pre-eminent measure of financing sustainable development of developing countries.**



7. Some of these financing flows are going from country to country (captured in Pillar I), but a lot of it follows a borderless (and non-hierarchical) logic (in Pillar II). To better explain the scope of the statistical measure, however, the starting point should be the overarching concept and only then its division into the two pillars.

8. In light of this, and for the purpose of clarity, it might even be desirable to adapt TOSSD's definition in paragraph 8 of the Reporting Instructions as follows:

Definition of TOSSD

The Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD) statistical measure includes all officially-supported resources ~~flows~~ to promote the sustainable development ~~of developing countries and to support development enablers and/or address global challenges at regional or global levels.~~

This includes i) cross-border flows to developing countries and ii) resources to support development enablers and/or address global challenges at regional or global levels.

9. Aligning the scope of TOSSD with broader public financing for the SDGs would further imply that every country, capacities permitting, could report activities (both under Pillar I and Pillar II) that benefit TOSSD-eligible countries. It would also imply refining the definition of “provider country” in the TOSSD framework by lifting the requirement of being a country with a development co-operation policy in order to report contributions to sustainable development.

10. With this strategic orientation, the Task Force should leave no stone unturned in identifying other areas of sustainable development for which reporting has been lacking so far. After all, the examples of research and development, peace and security as well as climate mitigation are indications of a possibly huge untapped potential for TOSSD to become the statistical yardstick for financing the SDGs.

B. Follower or norm setter?

11. Another area where the vision for TOSSD could expand is in **defining and further refining the concept of sustainability**.

12. The detailed analysis of the TOSSD Data Survey highlighted that some activities, considered as non-sustainable by some reporters and excluded from TOSSD, had been considered as sustainable by others and included in TOSSD, e.g. in the field of non-renewable energy. Task Force members expressed various views on the interpretation of sustainability and the Task Force agreed to further discuss this complex topic. The Secretariat would draft an initial guidance paper on this topic, starting with environmental sustainability.

13. Given the ongoing discussions at the Task Force and beyond, it is clear that there is still considerable scope to refine the operational definition of the concept of sustainability. Overall, one could argue that the practical implementation of the concept of sustainability has not caught



up with the prominent role it plays in the SDGs. In the area of sustainable finance especially, a lot of work remains to be done.

14. The question then emerges of whether TOSSD, as part of its more overarching strategic vision, wants to pro-actively contribute to work to better define sustainability or whether it wants rather to continue following the norms set by others. There are several options in this regard. The TOSSD Task Force can:

- continue building on and applying the work of others (e.g. UN concepts, the OECD-UNDP working group on SDG-compatible finance, the EU Taxonomy for sustainable activities and the ECLAC work on the multidimensional measurement of poverty)
- engage with other norm setters and contribute through the work it is conducting (e.g. developing guidance and refining categories)
- become a discussion leader in norm setting which would imply bringing in more specific expertise.

15. While it is the co-Chairs' conviction that TOSSD can become more ambitious in this area, the different options should be subject to discussion within the Task Force.

C. What is TOSSD's political purpose?

16. By focusing more explicitly on sustainable development as the overarching concept, TOSSD has the potential, from a measurement perspective at least, of **breaking the mould of the traditional aid narrative**. It would mean moving from the provider-recipient, North-South logic to a framework where every country can potentially be both provider and recipient.

17. Following this approach would not only help in further mainstreaming the SDGs, but also in incentivising all countries to better align their financing with the SDGs. This could be politically valuable, as TOSSD would help in a concrete manner the broader movement of **shifting from a logic of aid to one of partnerships**.

18. It would also explicitly contribute to TOSSD's primary purpose of **introducing more transparency in the financing for sustainable development landscape**. A higher number of reporting countries would lead to more knowledge about the different financial flows and resources, and would ultimately result in developing countries having more control of their finances.

II. Implications for TOSSD work

19. Naturally, such an expanded and ambitious vision for TOSSD has major implications for its development, outreach and reporting, products and services, governance and financing.

A. TOSSD development

20. While much of the development of TOSSD will not change for the foreseeable future, the work of the TOSSD Task Force should fully subscribe to the strategic vision. Among other things, this implies that:



- Task Force meetings should focus less on the general principles of TOSSD after agreement on this strategic document.
- Definitions in the Reporting Instructions should be adapted to reflect the strategy.
- The Task Force should place more emphasis on the overarching sustainability concept while maintaining the two-pillar narrative.
- The focus of TOSSD work should shift towards explicitly covering all dimensions of Pillar II and refining the guidance on sustainability.
- The Task Force should seek more input from the broader development community and from other potential reporting entities (e.g. line ministries).
- With the expansion of the scope of the measure and the group of providers, the Task Force should further its thinking on how to best provide support to emerging reporting countries and organisations.

B. Outreach and reporting

21. It is clear that for the outlined vision for TOSSD to succeed, TOSSD will need a **broader base of support**. In that regard, it is important to take into account that, even though the statistical concept of TOSSD has been validated, there is still political opposition. We co-Chairs believe that this opposition is grounded in the following:

- First, **TOSSD challenges the traditional “North-South” divide** since it invites all providers to join a single international standard for recording development finance resources. It moves away from a vision with “donors from the North” and “southern providers” to a partnership of all countries supporting the sustainable development of recipient countries.
- Second, the opposition finds roots in **the risk of TOSSD competing with the ODA measure**. TOSSD will not replace ODA, which will remain the measure of donor effort by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC). The TOSSD Reporting Instructions spell this out and were devised by the Task Force with the clear purpose of limiting the risk to the maximum extent possible.
- Third, another possible reason for the opposition toward TOSSD is the **additional transparency** it aims to bring on resources supporting recipient countries. Some stakeholders (whether providers, recipients or the private sector) may be frightened by high levels of transparency, with underlying reasons ranging from security aspects to contractual obligations or reputational risks.
- Fourth, some providers hesitate to support TOSSD because they fear the data collection may be burdensome and **beyond their national statistical capacities**. As TOSSD data will be collected from providers, the burden will be on them and not on the recipients. For providers, it will indeed require an investment, but a critical one to provide transparency to recipient countries on resources invested in their countries and also at the regional and global levels. Reporting to TOSSD is also in the provider countries’ own interest as they are under increased pressure by their citizens to tackle sustainable development challenges, including climate change. TOSSD makes publicly available evidence on resources invested in sustainable development, both at home (e.g. in climate mitigation) and abroad.
- Finally, the opposition is also around **the level of implication of recipient countries** in TOSSD. The Task Force is expanding including with more recipient countries and as co-Chairs we see TOSSD as a unique opportunity for the community of recipient countries to shape an international standard that truly suits their needs.



22. The political opposition means that, in its outreach efforts, the TOSSD Task Force has to become more political as well. Crucially, it would involve broadening the base of support for TOSSD along the following three dimensions:

- Reaching out to key Partner Countries
- Widening the Task Force to achieve critical mass of (developing and emerging) country support as well as buy-in from key international organisations (most notably, UN agencies)
- Convincing the few traditional donors at the DAC who have shown scepticism towards TOSSD.

23. In terms of the content of outreach, it implies continued targeting of recipient countries and major South-South co-operation providers in a self-confident and assertive manner to show the potential of TOSSD. TOSSD should be explicitly marketed as the measure of support to sustainable development of developing countries. It will also mean providing concrete support to providers and recipients alike on TOSSD reporting. For those concerned about their capacity to report, specific missions to these countries should be carried out to help them set up adequate reporting processes.

24. **The communication of the results of the first TOSSD Data Survey and of the first reporting cycles** will play a crucial role in that regard. The data visualisation tool that the Secretariat is developing needs to be fit for that purpose (demonstrate a clear mapping to SDGs, place emphasis on particular types of financing such as climate, etc.).

25. TOSSD reporting will officially begin in 2020. While there is broad agreement and support in the Task Force to start this process, a dedicated outreach strategy will be required for launching TOSSD. This could involve a letter by the co-Chairs to development co-operation provider countries and organisations, supplemented by specific data solicitation by the Secretariat. More broadly, the Task Force should also be equipped with dedicated resources for communication, to address both the strategic aspects and the day-to-day TOSSD-related communications.

C. Products and services

26. Operating the TOSSD framework would require the following core functions:

- **The collection and processing of TOSSD data:** This function mainly entails managing the data collection process and ensuring the necessary quality assurance to verify that TOSSD data received from reporters are in line with the TOSSD Reporting Instructions, before storing these data in a centralised database. This function mainly requires staff and support for the necessary IT System to store the TOSSD data received from providers.
- **The online publishing of TOSSD data, communications and outreach:** This function includes the maintenance of an online TOSSD public portal, where data will be released on a regular basis and accessible free of charge. This portal would also serve as the website for releasing any TOSSD relevant data and information to the general public. Communications and outreach activities will also be necessary, including to engage with the United Nations (e.g. UN StatCom and UN ECOSOC) and to promote TOSSD in other



relevant fora (e.g. African Union, G7 and G20), as appropriate. The function entails staff time, travel costs and other costs related to the organisation of specific events.

- **The maintenance of the TOSSD standard through the organisation of meetings of the governance body (see next section on governance):** This is needed to maintain the TOSSD methodology and to provide technical guidance on the implementation of the TOSSD framework. The function may also include coordination with other relevant technical bodies maintaining databases on development finance (e.g. UNCTAD, IATI and the OECD Working Party on Development Finance Statistics).

27. Additional functions, not currently carried out by the Task Force, could be included as core functions:

- **The production of analytical reports using TOSSD data:** Once TOSSD data are published, it will be important to demonstrate how the data can be deployed in various contexts (e.g. to provide a first landscape of Islamic Finance). This function would give rise to specific analytical reports on various policy issues.
- **The provision of advisory services to recipient and provider countries for collecting and reporting TOSSD data:** This function would allow the building of national capacities and would be demand-driven. For example, recent TOSSD country pilots have shown the needs of recipient countries to build their capacities to collect and manage TOSSD data.

D. Governance

28. The ambition of TOSSD is to become a global measure for sustainable development in support of developing countries. Such a measure needs an inclusive governance structure where all stakeholders are represented, can engage, exchange experience and find solutions for sustainable development.

29. The work of the Task Force and previous experience shows that there is probably a need for both a political body (a “general assembly” type of structure, to decide on the overall direction of the measure and on policy issues) and a more technical body (a smaller Steering Committee, to maintain the TOSSD methodology), supported by a Secretariat. Today, the Task Force covers both functions, but with the Task Force growing the question of the governance is going to become more acute.

30. The natural home for TOSSD as the global measure on support for sustainable development, as norm setter and as instrument for altering the aid narrative, would clearly be at the **United Nations**.



TOSSD governance until 2022

31. In the short to medium term (until 2022), the question of governance will be dominated by **the interaction between the TOSSD Task Force and the Working Group of the IAEG-SDGs** (Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators)³:

- **Engagement of the Working Group with the Task Force.** The initial set-up of the Working Group will be crucial in this respect: at a minimum, it should build on the work of the TOSSD Task Force and the Task Force should be represented in the Working Group by the co-Chairs, Task Force members, as well as the Secretariat.
- **Engagement of the Task Force with the Working Group.** In this respect (and depending on the set-up of the Working Group), there could be two options:
 1. The Task Force invites one or more representatives of the Working Group to the Task Force meetings as member or observer (e.g. UNCTAD).
 2. The Task Force maintains its current set-up and procedures, only engaging with the Working Group ex post (after each Task Force or Working Group meeting for instance).

32. Engagement of the Working Group with the Task Force should prove useful in demonstrating that TOSSD is developed in an “open, inclusive and transparent manner” and should help provide a higher degree of legitimacy to the work.

33. In any case, the Working Group offers a clear opportunity to fully explore and pursue governance options at the UN. In parallel, the Task Force will keep engaging in **other UN outreach activities** (see Annex II).

34. Over this period, however, the Task Force needs to continue its operations. It is needed to provide a forum for discussing TOSSD beyond the SDG indicator framework, including governance issues, the 2020 data collection round, broader outreach efforts, etc.

35. Experience so far shows that the Task Force needs to complete its transformation from an expert group to an inter-governmental body to become a true “**International TOSSD Forum**” where both political and technical aspects of the TOSSD measure can be discussed. This would ensure that TOSSD can benefit from a whole-of-government approach to discuss the measurement of development finance in all its dimensions.

TOSSD governance beyond 2022

36. In 2022, regardless of the inclusion of TOSSD in the SDG indicator framework, the interaction with the IAEG-SDGs or the other UN outreach activities may have culminated in a UN-

³ In October 2019, the IAEG-SDGs took a tentative decision to finalise the TOSSD methodology with a view to including TOSSD in the SDG indicator framework in 2022. The UN StatCom on 3-6 March 2020 is expected to provide a formal mandate for this work, to be carried out by a working group under the IAEG-SDGs including countries from all regions, three UN entities (the UNDESA Financing for Sustainable Development Office, the UN Statistics Division and UNCTAD) and representatives of the TOSSD Task Force.



hosted governance system for TOSSD. Clearly, this option would be preferred as most in line with TOSSD's long-term strategic vision.

37. However, recognising that progress at the UN has been slow in recent years and the oppositions mentioned above may not be totally overcome by then, the Task Force should also consider alternative governance options where all interested countries and stakeholders could take part, albeit with enough room for the UN and all UN member states to play a (large) role. Examples of such governance options exist already.

38. For example, the *Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes*⁴ at the OECD is made up of 158 country members and 19 international organisations, including the UN, who act as observers. Another example is the *Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC)*⁵, a multi-stakeholder platform to advance the effectiveness of development efforts. The GPEDC convened its first senior-level meeting alongside the High-Level Political Forum at the UN in New York on 13-14 July 2019 and attracted over 600 policy-makers from different development stakeholder groups, including 100 member states.

39. Such models would have the advantage of ensuring a clear separation of TOSSD from the OECD DAC, while benefiting from the technical expertise of the OECD in the field of statistics on development finance. The Secretariat could still be hosted at the OECD with strong UN involvement (possibly through UNCTAD, given the types of flows captured in the measure). In all possible set-ups a clear authority of the governance body and membership over the Secretariat needs to be ensured.

E. Financing

40. For a statistical framework that aims to treat all countries on an equal footing, and which tries to escape the hierarchical logic of LDCs, MICs and developed countries, the financing should start from the premise that everyone contributes. The following main models could be envisaged:

- **Voluntary contributions model:** This is the model currently used to fund TOSSD. In practice, most of the funds to support TOSSD development and the functioning of the Task Force so far have emanated from OECD DAC members and other members of the TOSSD Task Force, mostly through voluntary contributions and in-kind support (e.g. organisation of meetings). In the future, this could be complemented by staff secondments to the Secretariat.
- **A fee-based model combined with voluntary contributions:** In this model, members of the TOSSD framework would fund the core functions. The levels of the fees would be differentiated depending on the community that the member belongs to: for example, developing countries would contribute a much smaller amount than OECD countries. The fee-based system would be complemented by voluntary contributions to help carry out additional activities as appropriate.

⁴ <https://www.oecd.org/tax/transparency/>

⁵ <https://effectivecooperation.org/>



III. Conclusions and recommendations

41. **We co-Chairs are convinced that TOSSD is a major breakthrough in the development finance landscape. Going forward, work should be focused on the following key dimensions:**

42. **On the political side**, the engagement with the UN, South-South Co-operation providers and developing countries is fundamental to make the Task Force stronger, dispel any myths about TOSSD and attenuate the current geopolitical divide.

43. **On the technical side**, for the coming months and years, efforts should focus on collecting and publishing TOSSD data, so as to show the major potential of this measure for recipient countries, but also various policy communities such as those working on blended finance, refugee issues or climate change. The key success factor of TOSSD will be the data collected and their subsequent use by recipient countries and these various communities. Launching data collection in 2020 is therefore the top priority in the short term, to which all efforts should tend. All providers should be encouraged, and supported, to report their TOSSD data starting 2020 on both Pillar I and Pillar II.

44. Results of these data collection exercises should be made publicly available online and widely distributed for analytical purposes. Finally, the next TOSSD pilot should ideally be carried out in a provider country from the South, so as to consolidate learning on TOSSD, from the South-South Co-operation provider perspective.

45. **As regards governance**, the Task Force – and the subsequent International TOSSD Forum – should continue operating in an “open, inclusive and transparent manner” for the development of TOSSD, in line with the commitment made in Addis Ababa in 2015⁶. The Task Force needs to be further institutionalised with a robust, broad-based assembly of members supported by a well-capacitated Secretariat, with strong UN involvement. The discussion at the UN Statistical Commission in March 2020 and the conclusions of the UN working group under the IAEG-SDGs in 2022 will also help advance the reflection on the governance of TOSSD. The Task Force should seek a strong partnership and regular engagement with these two entities, to ensure that all can benefit from a smooth and mutually reinforcing process. Discussions at the UN and the involvement of a wide range of UN entities will also be important to strengthen the comprehensiveness of the data.

46. **By way of conclusion, we would like to invite the international community to join the TOSSD movement** and to support it both politically, by creating a robust governance structure for TOSSD with strong UN involvement, and technically, by promoting the availability of reliable data on the financing of development by all providers. We expect all actors to build the necessary bridges for implementing TOSSD as the new standard for measuring support to sustainable development. As co-Chairs, please be assured that we will put all our energy into this adventure, driven by our strong determination to advance the sustainable development of developing countries.

⁶ See the paragraph 55 of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.



Annex I. Main achievements of the International TOSSD Task Force to date

After two and a half years of operations since July 2017, the International TOSSD Task Force has reached a number of key strategic objectives.

The Task Force completed the **first set of TOSSD Reporting Instructions** in June 2019⁷. The **data Survey** carried out in 2019 provided a proof of concept for the TOSSD framework. The overall results of this survey were presented in New York on 4 October 2019⁸ and a large subset⁹ of the survey data will be released online in early 2020. The Survey also allowed the Secretariat to set up and test a **database** that can be used to store TOSSD data in the coming years, and to develop an **online data visualisation tool**.

The various **TOSSD pilot studies**¹⁰ carried out in Senegal, the Philippines, Nigeria, Costa Rica, Burkina Faso, Indonesia and on the theme of Peace and Security have greatly helped to demonstrate the **potential of TOSSD for recipient countries**. The pilots planned for 2020 (in Bangladesh and in a provider country) will continue to feed the Task Force with concrete country experiences to further enrich the TOSSD framework. The pilots, together with other outreach efforts, have also helped to increase ownership of the TOSSD framework across various communities, which translates into **gradual expansion of the Task Force** – even though the Task Force has recognisably not yet reached a critical mass of countries and organisations.

In June 2019, with the finalised methodology and a first TOSSD data set, the Task Force submitted **a proposal for including TOSSD in the global framework of SDG indicators** (under target 17.3). In October 2019, the Inter Agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) took a tentative decision to finalise the TOSSD methodology¹¹ with a view to including TOSSD in the SDG indicator framework in 2022. The UN StatCom on 3-6 March 2020 is expected to provide a formal mandate for this work, to be carried out by a **working group under the IAEG-SDGs** including countries from all regions, three UN entities (the UNDESA Financing for Sustainable Development Office, the UN Statistics Division and UNCTAD) and representatives of the TOSSD Task Force (the co-Chairs, some Task Force members and Secretariat).

Other positive developments related to the UN engagement of the Task Force include the **possibility for TOSSD to be discussed in various UN fora in 2020**, such as the UN Development Cooperation Forum (UNDCF) Symposium in Indonesia in March, the Financing for Development (FfD) Forum in April and the UNDCF in May.

⁷ Available at : <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/TOSSD-Reporting-Instructions.pdf>

⁸ See the presentation of the main results of the TOSSD survey at : http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/TOSSD_Data_Survey_Main_results.pdf

⁹ Activity-level data will be released for those providers that have agreed to make their survey results public.

¹⁰ See: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/tossd-country-pilot-studies.htm>

¹¹ See: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/meetings/iaeg-sdgs-meeting-10/10.%202020%20Review.pdf>



Annex II. Main outreach activities planned with the United Nations on TOSSD until July 2020

The main outreach activities and meetings that will take place in the coming months include:

- **3-6 March 2020: 51st session of the UN Statistical Commission in New York.**¹² In this meeting, it is expected that the Commission provides a mandate to the UN working group to study the TOSSD methodology. This meeting will also be an occasion to mobilise additional countries and organisations to join the TOSSD Task Force.
- **20-23 April 2020: Financing for Development Forum in New York.** Preliminary contacts have been made with the President of the ECOSOC and the President of the General Assembly for possible side-events, either at the Financing for Development Forum or on the occasion of other UN meetings.
- **14-15 May 2020: UN Development Cooperation Forum (UNDCF) in New York.** Following a suggestion by the UNDCF Secretariat, the TOSSD Task Force will organise a side-event jointly with the UN entities leading the review process of the TOSSD methodology (UNDESA, UNSD and UNCTAD have already expressed their agreement to do so). The event would build on the possible decision taken at the UN Statistical Commission in March to establish the UN working group on TOSSD.
- **7-16 July 2020: UN High-Level Political Forum 2020 in New York.** The 2020 HLPF, which is the Forum that follows up and reviews the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, will provide political endorsement notably of the decisions taken by the UN StatCom on the global SDG indicator framework.
- In addition, other engagement activities with the UN in New York could include organising **briefings to the UN groupings, both regional groupings (Africa, Asia, etc.) and coalition groupings (LDCs, SIDS, etc.)**. On the development policy side, the Secretariat is also in contact with UNDESA to have TOSSD featured in the **2020 edition of the Financing for Sustainable Development Report** prepared by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, as in previous years.

¹² <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/51st-session/>