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TOSSD Task Force Issues Paper¹
30 January – 1 February 2019
For discussion under agenda item 4

INTRODUCTION

- 1. At the 6th Task Force meeting in Stockholm, the Task Force discussed and agreed on a work plan for the beginning of the year 2019 along three work streams:
 - Work stream 1: Finalising the Reporting Instructions, including through regular Task Force meetings and by integrating feedback from TOSSD pilots².
 - Work stream 2: Collecting and analysing TOSSD data, which is critical to fully revealing the potential of TOSSD as a measurement framework for SDG financing. This will be done through a data survey, followed by analytical papers later on in the year.
 - Work stream 3: Integrating TOSSD in the SDG indicator framework and identifying a custodian (or co-custodian) UN agency: the Task Force will continue to engage with the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG indicators (IAEG-SDGs) and the UN Statistical Commission (UN StatCom). Broader outreach activities will also be planned.
- 2. Several Task Force members also suggested that a Road Map of TOSSD engagement and outreach be prepared, including with the various steps envisaged to have TOSSD recognised in the UN. **Section 1** of this paper presents the planned engagement with the UN StatCom and the IAEG-SDGs. **Section 2** presents a list of various TOSSD-related events where outreach activities could be envisaged.

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² All TOSSD pilots are funded by the European Union.

I. KEY STEPS FOR ENGAGEMENT WITH THE IAEG-SDGs AND THE UN STATISTICAL COMMISSION

TOSSD and the SDG indicator framework

- 3. TOSSD has the potential to inform a large number of targets of the SDG framework.³ In order to integrate TOSSD in this framework, the TOSSD Task Force has been engaging with the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), which was tasked by the UN Statistical Commission to develop and implement the global indicator framework.
- 4. The November meeting of the TOSSD Task Force was a critical opportunity to advance this engagement, notably with the specific TOSSD side-event organised on 6 November. The comments made by IAEG-SDGs members about TOSSD were perceived as broadly positive by the Task Force, while the IAEG-SDGs Secretariat (United Nations Statistics Division, UNSD) perceived them as less so⁴.
- 5. Having the meeting of the Task Force in parallel to that of the IAEG-SDGs facilitated learning about the process and timeline of amendments to the SDG indicators as follows:
 - By March 2019, the IAEG-SDGs will prepare a review framework containing possible deletions, replacements, adjustments and additions of indicators, based on previous analysis and assessments, with assistance from the IAEG-SDGs Secretariat.
 - At its 9th meeting (in March-April 2019), the IAEG-SDGs will conduct a final progress review of Tier III indicators to determine whether they can be maintained in the list or deleted.
 - Between May and July 2019, an open consultation on the preliminary list of possible deletions, adjustments, replacements and additions will be held. The IAEG-SDGs will review the results of the consultation by September 2019.
 - By the end of November 2019, the Group will prepare the final proposal for the 2020 comprehensive review of the SDG indicators and submit it to the UN Statistical Commission for its consideration at the 51st session in March 2020.
- 6. In addition, exchanges with the IAEG-SDGs Secretariat indicated that the formal process followed by the Group in considering indicators has several steps, starting with the submission by the custodian agency of the methodology (agreed by a global intergovernmental body), the metadata, a description of the data

³ In that regard, TOSSD appears particularly fit for purpose for several SDG targets that refer to "total official flows", "international financial flows" or "total official international support" (targets 2.a.2, 7.a.1, 9.a.1, 10.b.1, 17.3.1, 17.9.1).

⁴ See item 2 of the TOSSD Action points of the Stockholm meeting available on the TOSSD Task Force website.

flow and the data. The members of the IAEG-SDGs then consult their national statistical systems and the countries in their sub-regional groups before expressing any views.

7. Discussions with the UNSD are still ongoing, with the next meeting planned early February, to see if the status of development of TOSSD is sufficiently advanced and, if so, how and when a proposal on TOSSD could be submitted for consideration by the IAEG-SDGs.

Anchoring TOSSD with the UN Statistical Commission

- 8. Upon advice of the UNSD and the OECD Statistics and Data Directorate, the Task Force Secretariat's engagement with the UN beyond the IAEG-SDGs has focused on the UN Statistical Commission. The major advantage of this path is that the UN Statistical Commission can adopt international statistical standards. The adoption of TOSSD by this body would not only enshrine TOSSD as a development finance standard in its own right, but would make it much easier for any UN entity to volunteer to host or become a co-custodian of TOSSD.
- 9. Based on discussions at the TOSSD Task Force in Stockholm, it appears that the process for recognising TOSSD as an international standard could start at the March 2019 UN Statistical Commission. During this meeting members of the Commission could call for the creation of a "city group" on TOSSD, which could very well be the current TOSSD Task Force, joined perhaps by additional statistical experts from countries represented in the Commission. A sufficient number of members need to support the proposal for it to be accepted.
- 10. Once the city group is created, it could report back to the UN Statistical Commission at its regular meetings. This process is slow however discussions in two or three annual meetings of the Commission may be required before TOSSD could be presented for adoption as an international standard.
- 11. The idea of having the city group called for at the UN Statistical Commission was very much supported by the TOSSD Task Force at its November meeting and was integrated into the Task Force work plan.
- 12. In order to continue the discussion with the UN StatCom, a side-event will be organised at the upcoming UN StatCom meeting from 5-8 March 2019. The Secretariat is also discussing with the UNSD to investigate the possibility of a room document, containing the emerging Reporting Instructions, being circulated at the UN StatCom. Finally, coordination among Task Force members and beyond will also be sought to ask for a city group at the UN StatCom, if Task Force still supports this idea.

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⁵ A "city group" is a group of experts that met initially in a specific "city" and decided to set up a group to define a new statistical standard.

II. DETAILED ROAD MAP FOR OUTREACH

13. The list of TOSSD events and activities is presented in Table 1 below. Most events will give opportunities for engagement and outreach on various aspects of TOSSD. Other key TOSSD-related activities are also included for ease of reference, and are shown in *italics* when they do not represent outreach activities per se. It is proposed that this Roadmap constitutes a standing item at each Task Force meeting.

Table 1. TOSSD events/activities and Road Map for Outreach

Event	Type of activity	Task Force Work Stream	Short Description	Dates in 2019	Location	Status (Tbc / Confirmed / Completed)	Notes	
January								
TOSSD workshop with CAITEC	Workshop	2 & 3	Presentation and dialogue with Chinese representatives about TOSSD and the TOSSD data survey	24-25 Jan.	Beijing, China	Completed		
7 th Task Force meeting	Task Force Meeting	1	TOSSD Task Force Meeting	30 Jan. - 1 Feb.	Paris, France	Confirmed		
	February							
Peace and Security Pilot – Expert workshop	Workshop	1	Expert workshop to inform the pilot study about the boundaries of TOSSD regarding Peace and Security	05 Feb.	Paris, France	Confirmed		
Workshop on TOSSD with the Working Party on Development finance Statistics (WP-STAT)	Workshop	2	This workshop will aim at responding to any questions that providers that participate in the WP-STAT may have on the upcoming data survey	15 Feb.	Paris, France	Confirmed		
OECD DAC dialogue with Latin America and Caribbean countries	Senior Level Meeting	3	Dialogue on issues of common interest, including a discussion on TOSSD	21 Feb.	Paris	Confirmed		
OECD DAC Senior Level Meeting	Senior-Level Meeting	3	Support for TOSSD is sought from OECD providers and key OECD Partners	22 Feb.	Paris	Confirmed		
Costa Rica Pilot Study (final report)	Pilot study report	1	Publication of the Report of the Costa Rica Pilot study	End Feb.	Not Applicable	Tbc		
Launch of TOSSD data survey	Data collection	1	First TOSSD data survey	Feb. – Apr.	Paris	Confirmed		
March								

Event	Type of activity	Task Force Work Stream	Short Description	Dates in 2019	Location	Status (Tbc / Confirmed / Completed)	Notes
1 st 2019 TOSSD Pilot study – Burkina Faso	Pilot mission	1	TOSSD pilot Study in Burkina Faso	3-15 March	Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso	Confirmed	
UN Statistical Commission & Task Force side event	Proposal for a city group, Room Document & Side-event	1	Interventions by members at the UN StatCom; Room document; and side-event to present the methodology of Pillar I.	5-8 March	New York, USA	Confirmed	There is still a funding gap at this point in time for organising this event. The exact date/time of the side-event is tbc. Possibly presentation of a room document that would include the Reporting instructions. Proposal of creation of a city group by members.
Peace and Security Pilot – International organisations	Pilot study mission	1	Pilot mission to inform the pilot study about the boundaries of TOSSD on Peace and Security	5-8 March	New York, USA	Confirmed	In parallel of engagement activities at the UN StatCom (e.g. DPO)
Peace and Security Pilot – Provider mission	Pilot study mission	1	Pilot mission to inform the pilot study on the boundaries of TOSSD on Peace and Security	Tbc	Paris, France	Tbc	
Peace and Security Pilot – International organisations	Pilot study mission	1	Pilot mission to inform the pilot study about the boundaries of TOSSD on Peace and Security	Tbc	Vienna, Austria	Tbc	e.g. UNODC, IAEA, UNODA.
BAPA + 40	Participation	3	Presence by the Secretariat and Task Force members	20-22 March	Buenos Aires	Confirmed	Members are invited to ensure that their senior representatives talk about TOSSD in the events they participate in.
TOSSD data survey – workshops with multilateral organisations	Data collection	1	First TOSSD data survey	Feb., March, Apr.	Geneva and New York	Tbc	
9 th meeting of the IAEG-SDGs	Participation	3	Meeting objectives Review the tier classification Review Tier III work plans and updates Discuss 2020 comprehensive review and additional indicators and develop detailed timeline Discuss data disaggregation of SDG indicators Share experiences on implementing monitoring of the SDGs Other related issues	25 -28 March	Beirut, Lebanon	Confirmed	https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/meet ings/iaeg-sdgs-meeting-09/

Event	Type of activity	Task Force Work Stream	Short Description	Dates in 2019	Location	Status (Tbc / Confirmed / Completed)	Notes		
April									
Financing for Development Forum – Task Force side event	Side-event	3	TOSSD side-event at the FFD forum to continue informing about the progress of TOSSD	15-18 April 2019	New York	Tbc	There is still a funding gap at this point in time for organising this event, which will take possibly with representatives from LDCs.		
TOSSD data survey – Follow-up with respondents	Data collection	1	First TOSSD data survey	Feb. – Apr.	Paris	Tbc			
	May								
TOSSD visualisation tool	Data Presentation	2 & 3	Development of the interface of TOSSD	Tbc	Not Applicable	Tbc	There is still a funding gap at this point in time for setting up the TOSSD visualisation tool.		
8 th Task Force meeting	Task Force Meeting	1	TOSSD Task Force Meeting	Tbc	Tbc	ТЬс	There is still a funding gap at this point in time for organising this event (funding of partner country travel).		
2 nd 2019 TOSSD Pilot study	Pilot study mission	1	TOSSD pilot Study (country to be confirmed)	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc			
			June 2019 and beyond						
3 rd 2019 TOSSD Pilot study	Pilot study mission	1	TOSSD pilot Study (country to be confirmed)	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc			
High Level Political Forum side- event	Side-event	3	Presentation of the results of the first TOSSD data survey and of the progress made by the Task Force	9-18 July 2019	New York	Tbc	There is still a funding gap at this point in time for organising this event		
UN General Assembly	Senior Level Meeting	3	High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development	26 September 2019	New York	Tbc	The detailed nature of the activity to be carried out is still to be confirmed		
9 th Task Force meeting	Task Force Meeting	1	TOSSD Task Force Meeting	September / October	Philippines / Indonesia / Other country tbc	ТЬс	There is still a funding gap at this point in time for organising this event (funding of partner country travel).		
Other events yet to be scheduled									
1 st Canada-funded TOSSD Consultation	Workshop	2 & 3	Presentation of TOSSD and dialogue with Latin America representatives about TOSSD	Tbc	Panama or Trinidad & Tobago	Tbc			
2 nd Canada-funded TOSSD Consultation	Workshop	2 & 3	Presentation of TOSSD and dialogue with regional representatives about TOSSD	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc	Possibly South Africa		

Issues for discussion

- Do Task Force members agree with the specific engagement activities to be undertaken with the IAEG-SDGs and the UN StatCom?
- Do Task Force members have any comments on the above Road map for TOSSD? In particular, are there any additional activities to include in the Road Map?
- Are there activities in the Road Map that members would wish to specifically contribute to?