

Management Meeting

09 July 2019, 15:00 h – 15:45 h CEST

Minutes

Participants

Co-Chair David Hegwood (USAID), Julie Delforce (DFAT-Australia), Bernhard Worm (BMZ), Patrizia Labella (FAO), Oriane Barthélemy (MEAE France), Marc Nolting (GIZ), Marco Platzer (IADC), Kidest Teklu (IDC), Torben Nilsson (IFAD), Anouk de Vries (MFA-NL), Ueli Mauderli (SDC), Meredith McCormack (USAID)

Platform Secretariat: Marion Thompson, Romy Sato, Manuel Urrutia, Laura Barrington

Agenda

1. Next steps following the AGA
2. Transition Task Force
3. New co-chair - nominations
4. Secretariat staff – updates (Secretariat)
5. AOB – (perhaps time permitting, member updates)

Agenda Point	Overview, Discussions, Decisions, and Agreements
<p>1. Next steps following the AGA</p>	<p><u>Hosting of Secretariat</u> – the Platform has received expressions of interest by IFAD and IADC-Italy to possibly host the Secretariat as of 2020. The Secretariat is also looking into the possibility of hosting through International Services at GIZ. The related updates were shared:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IFAD’s senior management has had exchanges with BMZ and GIZ, and further meetings will be held next week. However, IFAD needs further exchanges with members on their expectations (member support is essential). They also need time to consider what hosting would imply. They will discuss the possibility with IFAD’s full management. A final decision would need the consultation of IFAD’s board. Further feedback will be given over the course of the month. • IADC has made internal queries to see if hosting the Platform was possible. Initial indications are that hosting is not currently possible. • International Services, the for-profit consulting section of GIZ, has given positive signs in initial conversations about hosting the Platform. They will provide more details in the course of July. This option may be more costly than the current hosting arrangement. It is possible for one Platform member or a consortium of members to engage in a contract with GIZ International Services.

	<p>Ideas of other hosting possibilities should be informed to the co-chair and the Secretariat. Board Members will need to agree on <u>criteria to evaluate the viable hosting options</u> and ensure a smooth transition – this process will be initiated soon.</p> <p><u>Review of work plan</u> – an internal Secretariat meeting will take place this week to see what activities are feasible within the next 6 months and set priorities. As a consequence, the work plan of the Donor Platform will be reviewed (in consultation with the Board) to reflect these priorities. The Secretariat will be in communication with the working groups to ensure realistic expectations regarding the Secretariat service in the next 6 months. Any questions about the work plan and working groups should be addressed to the co-chair and the Secretariat.</p> <p><u>Purpose statement</u> – the Platform’s new purpose statement was finalised by the Board in its meeting following the AGA. Both the AGA report and the Board Meeting minutes were circulated via email and published in the website. Members are encouraged to read them.</p> <p><u>Budget scenarios</u> – the Transition Task Force will develop budget scenarios for 2020 and beyond considering different levels of member contributions, different Secretariat sizes, types and volume of activities etc. The Platform’s budget group will also work on these inputs, which will later be sent to the Board for their consideration.</p>
<p>2. Transition Task Force (TTF)</p>	<p><u>Call for TTF members</u> - It was agreed at the Board that a Task Force will manage the transition to the <i>Platform 2.0</i> – this is open to all members. A few volunteers have already been nominated and further indications should be communicated by end of this week. An initial call of the TTF will take place next week (Wed or Thu). One of the first items for TTF will be to elect its leaders – the TTF will manage a process of great importance for the future of the Platform and members are encouraged to consider this role and express interest. BMZ (Bernhard Worm) has volunteered to integrate the TTF.</p> <p><u>TOR</u> - has been circulated. The primary objective is to produce a report by end of Nov to guide the Board on decisions for the transition, incl. priority activities, work modalities, functions of the Secretariat etc. Members can suggest further tasks for the TTF for their deliberation. IADC suggested to consider the issues around paying and non-paying members under point 1 of the TOR. The preparation of budget scenarios, which are also a task of the TTF, will include 2020 and beyond, as well as the number of paying members.</p> <p><u>Cost implications</u> - BMZ enquired about the cost implications of the Secretariat hosting by GIZ International Services (note: the hosting solution is a task of the Board, not the TTF). The Secretariat informed that the costs would indeed be higher, as International Services is a for-profit company. One of the advantages is that many of current Platform members already have contracts with them, easing administrative transactions. The research on all cost implications are still ongoing (incl. with regard to VAT, indirect support costs, tax provisions), but will be shared soon with the Board. Certain is that these costs will not be covered as they are now.</p>

	<p>It was reinforced the Board will develop evaluation criteria for the different options, and costs is one of them. Likewise, the co-chair reminded that the new hosting is a separate process from the transition, to be managed by the TTF, though both should be developed in close coordination.</p> <p><u>Consultant for the TTF</u> – it remains as an option; the TTF should decide quickly on the need of hiring a consultant to support the transition exercise</p>
<p>3. New co-chair – nominations</p>	<p>The EC’s (Patrick Herlant) term ended at last Board Meeting and now Board is looking for another co-chair. Co-chair USAID reinforced the call for nominations and the importance of co-leadership in this crucial moment for the Platform. Nominations (incl. self-nominations) should be informed to USAID and Secretariat by end of July.</p>
<p>4. Secretariat staff – updates</p>	<p>Manuel Urrutia joined as Junior Advisor on 1 July after six successful months as intern.</p> <p>Romy Sato is leaving her role as Advisor in September.</p> <p>A new intern – following agreement with co-chairs to maintain an intern to support Secretariat staff – has been selected (Octavio de Araujo, from East Timor) and will start on 15 July</p>
<p>5. AOB</p>	<p><u>Updates by members</u> – IFAD informed about their new Rural Development Report on the topic of rural youth, already available on their website. MEAE-France informed about the G7 Ministerial Meeting (Education and Development Ministries) where they agreed on a framework for youth employment in the Sahel.</p>