

Management Meeting

06 December 2017, 14:00hrs – 15:00hrs CEST
Minutes

Participants

Platform members: Shatanu Mathur and Torben Nilsson (IFAD), Patrick Herlant, Maria Ketting and Conrad Rein (EC), Ueli Mauderli (SDC), Meredith McCormack (USAID), Amrane Boumghar (Global Affairs Canada), Iris Krebber (DFID), Ida Christensen (FAO), Marco Platzer and Stefano del Debbio (IADC), Sebastien Subsol and Oriane Barthelemy (MEFA-France)

Apologies: Vincent Glaesener (LuxDev), Bernhard Worm (BMZ), Julie Delforce (DFAT-Australia), Petra Jacobi (GIZ), Marjaana Pekkola (MFA-Finland)

Platform secretariat: Reinhild Ernst, Marion Thompson, Romy Sato, Martina Karaparusheva, Jedi Bukachi, Christian Mersmann

Agenda

1. Annual General Assembly & Administration (10 min)
2. Quick updates on the work streams (15 min)
3. Discussion on a special topic (30 min)
4. AOB (5 min)

Following the decision to make the Management meetings more interactive, the secretariat shared an annotated agenda with the members prior to the meeting. During the meeting, only highlights from three different work streams were shared and more time was allocated to a discussion on the topic of COP23 outcomes and the importance for agriculture.

Links with the mentioned initiatives and publications will be shared at the end of the document.

Annual General Assembly and Administration

Annual General Assembly

The secretariat informed the participants that the Netherlands have communicated with the team that they will be unable to host the AGA. Following this information, the secretariat approached Stefan Schmitz from BMZ, who indicated interest to host the Assembly. BMZ confirmed to make a final decision in January 2018. Rural youth employment is very high on the political agenda of the German government, which was reflected during the G20 summit, where the youth topic was raised prominently. BMZ has just reconfirmed their continuous interest in this topic by initiating a new youth programme focusing on rural youth employment (for the next five years). While awaiting for the final decision, the secretariat is continuing the work on the topic. Several Board members have commented on the concept note of the AGA. The secretariat, in close cooperation with the co-chairs, started the process to hire a consultant to gather and analyse the different approaches the members of the Platform are using to address rural youth employment, empowerment and inclusion issues. Beyond offering an overview of donors approaches to rural youth, the compendium will also demonstrate within its analysis the trends (e.g which entry points are most often involved in the donor programmes on rural youth), innovative approaches (e.g are there some unique approaches from some donors which stand out that we could learn more), pending questions (e.g gaps?) and also lessons to be

learned (e. is there something Africa can learn from the Asia context). The consultant, Maria Lee, worked on a similar topic for OECD and has previous experience in rural development and agriculture.

EC stressed the need also identify the innovative approaches used by members and partners to foster rural youth employment in Africa. EC urged the members to actively communicate all programmes and approaches they see relevant to the topic with the secretariat and the consultant. The lively exchange will help also design the AGA and make the discussions more suited to what the members identify as gaps or opportunities in the work on this topic. Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs France reported on their difficulties to tailor capacity-building activities to the needs of young rural agricultural producers and suggested adding the topic of education and employability to the list of issue that the AGA can address.

The secretariat will introduce the consultant and the exact scope of the study in a separate email before she starts with her work. The secretariat will facilitate the interviews with the members. The secretariat will also include the study's topic in the agenda for the next Board meeting at the end of January 2018.

Administration:

Regarding contributions for 2018, the secretariat reported on several positive developments. There is a draft delegation agreement with the EC for the years 2018-2019 in the final stages of collaboration. The Italian contribution (IADC) for 2017 is also being prepared and is going through the appropriate administrative channels. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation have indicated their intention to contribute financially to the Platform in 2018. Global Affairs Canada has also shared their interest to re-establish their financial contribution for 2018 and beyond, a draft agreement is in collaboration DFAT-Australia wishes to continue the Australian contribution from 2018 onwards.. The secretariat also had a call recently with the Omidyar Network, a private foundation involved in some of the activities of the Land Group, Omidyar has expressed interest to become a paying member of the Platform. It was agreed that they will officially state their interest to join the Platform in a letter for consideration by the Board. The secretariat will share this letter with the Board for decision upon receipt.

With the year coming to a close, the secretariat is currently working on various reporting items. This includes the yearly progress report of the Platform, which consists of a narrative part that briefly describes the achievements and challenges of the Platform and a financial part that reflects the status of finances including outlook for 2018 and beyond. The report will be ready and shared in due time for the Board meeting in January. The secretariat is also preparing for the annual external audit regarding the 2017 costs and contribution. The audit is scheduled for the end of March 2018. Also, the yearly progress report specific to the BMZ contribution is currently being compiled.

Quick updates on the work streams

The secretariat shared highlights in three areas, namely finance for development and SAFIN, land governance and gender.

SAFIN

The secretariat was present at the workshop organised by SAFIN (Smallholder Agriculture Finance and Investment Network) on 27-28 November in Rome. The secretariat of SAFIN is hosted by IFAD. The secretariat will [share the BTOR](#), where you will find all the presentations from Day1 of the different initiatives and finance activities. On Day2 the participants discussed the workplan of the network. The summaries of this day will be also included in the BTOR. The topics of discussion were very much in

line with the work in our workstream Agenda2030 on ODA and future financial flows. Therefore, the secretariat suggested serving as an intermediary between the SAFIN community and the Platform. SAFIN has already started sharing presentations and documents through the Platform's website. The secretariat is looking forward to establish a more focused exchange with interested members once the workplan is agreed upon.

Land Governance

The secretariat reported on the highlight that on 11.11.2017 there was a meeting of the Inter-Agency Expert Group on the SDG indicators and the land indicator under SDG1 was re-classified from Tier 3 (missing methodology, unclear data) to Tier 2 (established methodology). The secretariat supported the efforts of the so-called Friends of the Custodians (comprised of GDWGL members and partners), who actively advocated for this re-classification and supported the World Bank and UN-Habitat in establishing the missing methodology. You can find more information on this on the [Platform's website](#). The next step is to work on the classification to Tier 1, which means an established methodology that can be used by the statistical agencies in the majority of countries to report on the indicator.

Gender

The gender work stream is gearing up for the Committee on the Status of Women (CSW). The mandate of the CSW covers the monitoring of the implementation of the Beijing declaration, mainstreaming of gender within UN activities and more recently following up gender under the Agenda 2030. The CSW meets annually at the UN headquarters in New York. Next year it will take place from 12-23 March in New York under the theme "Empowering rural women and rural girls." Many members have indicated their interest in participating in the event, so there are two activities the work stream is working on. The first is a donor meeting on the sidelines of the event. The gender work stream leaders at FAO has offered a room at the FAO offices in New York. The secretariat is preparing the agenda of the meeting and will shortly reach out to all interested members to work on the concept of the meeting. The second activity is the organisation of a side-event. The secretariat is still in communication with different members, discussing different ideas, but nothing can be confirmed at this point.

Discussion on COP23 and climate resilient agriculture

COP23 requested subsidiary bodies to act in agriculture. The secretariat posted a web article on the decision on agriculture. This is the first decision on agriculture of the UNFCCC. It is about the two subsidiary bodies on implementation and scientific and technological advice, which will now work together on issues related to agriculture. The article and the decisions were shared with the members in attachment to the invitation.

FAO is working on the issue of climate-smart agriculture and has created a great knowledge hub - <http://www.fao.org/climate-smart-agriculture/en/> - where you can find all relevant information on policies regarding climate smart agriculture, publications and practical experiences. FAO also published a [new sourcebook on climate smart agriculture](#). Another useful source is the ASAP programme of IFAD that channels funding to farmers to make investments in climate resilience.

Due to the importance of the decision at COP23 and the call for solid work programme to support the negotiations on agriculture in preparation for COP26 in 2020, IFAD suggested to organise a donor meeting to discuss the members' experiences and gather examples of initiatives that support climate resilient agriculture. IFAD will be willing to host such as meeting in February 2018 in case there is interest from other members of the Platform. Possible topics to be discussed during the meeting include – climate finance for NDCs, climate and agriculture programmes and institutions landscapes,

definitions and demands, interconnectivity and indicators used to mark programmes and initiatives as climate-smart (based on the example of IFAD's SECAP - <https://www.ifad.org/topic/gef/secap/overview>).

EC welcomed the idea and will reach out to the DG-DEVCO climate unit to discuss possible contribution to the event. Canada, Italy, Switzerland and Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs France also welcomed the idea of the event and are looking forward to the closer exchange on the issue. France also reported on the inter-ministerial multistakeholder group on food security, which published a paper that explores the interconnection between climate, food security and agriculture. (https://www.donorplatform.org/oriane-barthelemy.html?file=files/content/Media/Climate/Publications/20161027_EN_GISA-CLIMAT.pdf)

AOB

The secretariat reported on several changes in Focal Points. Alexander Jones from FAO has moved to another position within FAO, so the new Focal Point for the Platform is Mohamed Manssouri, who is part of the Investment Center of FAO. Marie Paviot has taken on a position with the World Bank and the new Focal Point from the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs is Oriane Barthelemy.

The secretariat is already planning the next virtual Board meeting end of January and will send a doodle to coordinate the most suitable date for the Board members. EC introduced Conrad Rein, who will be working with Maria Ketting and Patrick Herlant as a contact point for the Platform in the European Commission.

EC reported on the Maputo event in November on rural transformation and rural youth employment. The report from the event will be shared with the members once it is finalised.

Next steps

Task	Responsible	Deadline
Secretariat to announce the work of Maria Lee on donor programmes for rural youth employment	Secretariat	beginning of January 2018
Facilitate interviews with members and Maria Lee	Secretariat, members and Maria Lee	January 2018
Add the Rural youth employment study as a topic for discussion during the Board meeting in January	Secretariat	12.01.2018
Progress report	Secretariat	15.01.2018
Share BTOR from SAFIN	Secretariat	As soon as possible
Develop a concept for the climate change meeting in February	Secretariat and IFAD	As soon as possible