



Market Systems Development Working Group

MINUTES

Conference Call: Tues 8th October 2019 (v. 31st Oct. 2019)

Chair: Andrea Inglin (SDC)
Timekeeper: Susi Thiard-Laforet (ADA)

Members & Secretariat present

Amy Rice (Secretariat)	Kristin O'Planick (USAID)
Andrea Inglin (SDC)	Mike Albu (Secretariat)
Andrew Gartside (DFID)	Mike Klassen (Secretariat)
Arjun Bhoopal (Gatsby Africa)	Nafis Muntasir (Mastercard Foundation)
Elisabet Montgomery (Sida)	Rana El Hattab (USAID)
Gun Eriksson Skoog (ILO)	Steve Hartrich (ILO)
Isabelle Gore (Secretariat)	Susanne Thiard-Laforet (ADA)
Janna Post (GIZ)	Toru Homma (JICA)
Jim Tanburn (Secretariat)	

Apologies

Ali Bardarneh (UNIDO)	Julie Delforce (DFAT)
Anders Aero (ITC)	Matthias Altmann (EU)
Georgiana Pop (World Bank / IFC)	Mehraz Rafat (NORAD)

AGENDA

1. Welcome & introductions (new members, Arjun, Matthias)
2. Minutes of June 2019 meeting for approval
3. w/s 1.1: BEAM Exchange update
4. w/s 2.1: Communications Pack update
5. w/s 3.1: Competency Framework update
6. w/s 3.3: Distance Learning MSD Training discussion of ToRs
7. w/s 4.1: Economic Transformation policy brief update
8. w/s 4.2: MSD & youth employment update
9. w/s 5.1: Communication strategy update
10. Plans for next WG mtg Geneva (4 – 6 Feb 2020)
11. Plans for DCED Seminar in Autumn 2020

1. Welcome & Introductions

Andrea welcomed members, and particularly Arjun Bhoopal from Gatsby Africa, who has replaced Georgina Duffin. Arjun introduced himself. Susi described the recent interest in engaging in the MSD WG from EU; and passed on apologies from new member Matthias Altmann who was unable to attend.

2. Approval of June 2019 minutes

No corrections or other changes have been proposed to the [June meeting minutes](#) which were therefore approved.

3. BEAM Exchange quarterly update (Workstream 1)

Isabelle presented a brief quarterly update on the BEAM Exchange covering engagement with the BEAM Exchange website from users, contributors and participants in webinars.

The overall picture: continued steady growth in levels of engagement compared to 2017 & 2018; a dip in resource downloads over the summer, and a gradual shift of audience locations to less developed countries (now 57%).

Isabelle reminded members about the [BEAM Webinar about the 2019 Evidence Review](#) coming up on October 24th, with Mike, Adam Kessler & Kevin Conroy.

4. BEAM Evidence Communications Pack (Workstream 2)

Mike showed members the final draft of second MSD communication slide-deck covering the ALCP livestock health interventions in Georgia. When completed (with speaker notes) this will join the first slide deck (on [Katalyst's Seeds](#) work) on the BEAM website.

Action: Mike agreed to let members know which projects will feature in the next four decks, to be completed before end of 2019.

Members discussed publication of the extended 'book' of case-studies (submitted by Harald). Mike said he had not yet identified an editor. Members agreed Mike should prioritise completion of the initial six decks.

5. MSD Competency Framework update (Workstream 3.1)

Mike Klassen (for the Secretariat) spoke to members for several minutes covering four points about progress in developing the [MSD Competency Framework](#).

- The [BEAM webinar in July](#) which shared practical insights gained from recent partnerships with iDE, Mercy Corps & Swisscontact
- Upcoming structural changes to the website: a new landing page and 3 new guidance pages focussed on applications of the Framework to recruitment, staff development/mentoring and self-assessment. These will be published in next few weeks.
- Some encouraging early stories of wider take-up and influence of the Framework emerging from Mercy Corps' experience in Ethiopia
- Looking ahead: Mike mentioned the potential influence of the Framework on Gatsby Africa's new organisation-wide competency framework; and work with ILO (which will be discussed in a further webinar about the Framework, which is scheduled for Dec 5th)

Gun asked if there are plans for simplified and shorter guidance. Mike K said yes, this is implicit in the new pages, and we would like to really think about 'boiling it down' further in future iterations.

6. Distance Learning MSD Training discussion of ToRs (Workstream 3.3)

Mike Albu reminded members that a final draft of the ToRs for DCED to commission MSD distance learning for funders was circulated and thanked Gun & Elisabet in particular for detailed comments.

Kristin announced that she is still working to make a few spaces available on the next USAID-sponsored distance learning course (delivered by EcoVentures).

Mike asked members how many spaces their organisations were likely to want in 2019/2020 and initial responses suggested 'a few' from each. (**Action Mike** to conduct a more systematic survey poll).

Members confirmed that they want to proceed with the DCED procurement (**Action: Mike**)

Mike also noted other recent training opportunities specifically for funders, such as [Agora Global's UK-based course](#) in February 2020, and [CGAP's Gateway Academy free online course](#) for funders. Susi asked Mike to provide links to these and other relevant MSD training providers on MSD WG's own Training Resources page (**Action: Mike** to update)

7. Economic Transformation policy brief update (Workstream 4.1)

Mike spoke on behalf of Gun (no audio) to announce that our lead author (Matt Ripley) has been contracted and is ready to begin. There have been some delays in contracting on the BEWG side (for Dirk Willem), but the work is expected to start later this week. Final delivery is expected mid-November.

8. MSD & Youth employment study update (Workstream 4.2)

Mike spoke on behalf of Nafis & Steve (no audio) to describe the work proposed by Mastercard & ILO in a set of draft ToRs. The study will be contracted directly by Mastercard, with ILO providing inputs in-kind.

The ToRs will be circulated this week.

Action ALL: to provide feedback on the draft ToRs within a few days of receiving them

9. Communication strategy update (Workstream 5)

Susi reminded members of discussion in Vienna (Janna's presentation). No work has been undertaken on a written strategy, however, some interesting and positive developments can be reported. In September, Susi ran a one-day workshop on MSD for ten UNIDO staff from various departments, and has been invited to repeat this in December.

Similarly Matthias Altmann (EU) has been corresponding with Susi and Mike on how to influence the EU. Susi said ADA is an implementing agency for EU, and is preparing a programme in Mozambique that will (perhaps) be the first EU-funded programme to use the MSD approach.

10. Plans for next WG meeting in Geneva (4th Feb 2020)

Andrea regretted that the communications difficulties today prevented members from having a detailed discussion of the agenda / themes for February's meeting. Susi asked (**Action: Mike**) that we poll members to confirm attendance, and express preferences for particular topics e.g. MSD & Youth Employment and / or MSD in Conflict Affected. Janna said she is keen to use the meeting as opportunity to launch the latter (Workstream 4.3)

Steve noted that ILO are assuming the MSD WG meeting will take place on Feb 4th. He added that ILO are planning a thematic day on Youth Employment on Feb 5th (**Action Steve:** please share ILO's agenda as soon as available, in early November)

Gun said that the Economic Transformation task team are also aiming to have a wider consultation around the ET Synthesis / Policy Brief (see item 7 above), so this should be taken into account.

11. Plans for DCED/BEAM Seminar and DCED Annual Meeting

Mike said the DCED Secretariat is now thinking the DCED/BEAM Seminar will take place in Nairobi in late Sept / early Oct 2020 – following a similar format to 2018 (i.e. parallel tracks to Results Measurement WG themes). **Action Mike** to consult members and others more widely on the themes for MSD / BEAM tracks.

Andrea confirmed that DCED 2020 Annual Meeting will take place in **Bern, June 2nd – 5th**

AOB

The Chairs thanked members for their contributions and patience with the technical problems.