



The Donor Committee for Enterprise Development

**Results Measurement Working Group Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2013, DFID London**

14<sup>th</sup> October 2013

Participants

Simon Calvert, DFID (host)	Love Theodossiadis, Sida
Merten Sievers, ILO	Birgit Seibel, GIZ
Lars Christian Oxe, Danida	Jim Tanburn, DCED
Ben Fowler, Market Share Consultants	Adam Kessler, DCED
Mónica Peiro-Vallejo EC	

*Part Time:* Claudio Volonte, IFC (by phone); Natalie Skerritt, DFID

*Apologies:* Hank van Trigt, NL MoFA; Peter Beez, SDC; Jack Glen, IEG

*A list of action items agreed can be found in the [Annex](#).*

Member Updates

**DFID:** DFID have developed draft guidance for evaluation and the DCED Standard, to advise staff how DFID's evaluation processes best relate to the Standard, and in particular to DCED Audits. It recommends that an evaluator is appointed at the beginning of the programme, reviewing the use of the DCED Standard and the audit report (if one is conducted.) Using the DCED Standard should assist in defining the evaluation's scope of work, and provide good monitoring data which can be used as evidence.

DFID are starting a fund with the World Bank to research under-evaluated areas, including PSD. This will use RCTs, quasi-experimental, and other techniques. Although it has not been signed off, they are looking for other donors to join – Simon Calvert can share more information with the group.

**BMZ/GIZ:** German Development Cooperation have a new institute called [DEval](#) which is responsible for independent evaluation of the performance of German Development Cooperation measures. Five PSD projects have voiced their interest to apply the DCED Standard. Finally, GIZ will add more information on PSD and the DCED Standard to their existing generic M&E guidelines. These guidelines are currently only available in German, but will be translated into English.

**EC:** The EC have developed guidance on selecting indicators and example impact logics for key results areas within PSD. They can share this with the RMWG. The EC are also selecting countries which will have PSD as a priority sector, and will have finalised the selection by January. Jim offered to put them in touch with local contacts and current users of the Standard. There is enthusiasm in the field for using the Standard, and the EC is thinking of piloting it.

**Sida:** Sida is developing country-level 'results strategies', which focus on results rather than on sectors. Sida is also preparing a report on identifying and measuring results for sustainable systemic

change in market development, that suggests evidence, impact pathways, and indicators for different types of PSD programming. Love will share with group – although he warned that it is a dense document with a lot of information, in its current form.

**Danida:** Danida has increased their focus on monitoring and theory-based evaluation. A new 'External Grants Committee' primarily made up of academics, now approves all grants over \$5m. Danida are subjecting new programmes to more scrutiny, and has the mandate to send new programme designs back for further work if they consider it necessary. Danida will have a day on measurement in PSD, including DCED's work, 8<sup>th</sup> October.

**ILO:** Two ILO programmes have had a pre-audit review, and in 5-6 the programme document requires a pre or full audit. ILO are starting a new global programme at head office level, to promote impact measurement in value chain/market development programmes, including the use of the DCED Standard. This programme will contribute to the costs of the RM event in March 2014.

#### Update on DCED audits

Two audits have been conducted recently:

- 1) The AusAID-supported Enterprise Challenge Fund (ECF) - the first audit of a challenge fund.
- 2) MNDP Nepal, a DFID-funded programme that is less than one year old (so audited for 'system in place' rather than 'system in use').

Both have now been [published on the DCED website](#), at the request of the audited programmes (audit reports are treated as confidential to the programme unless they choose otherwise). Several more audits will be conducted in the next few months.

#### Update on Challenge Fund Guidance

Adam Kessler presented a guidance paper on using the DCED Standard in Challenge Funds; the group welcomed it as a very useful and significant document. Discussion points included:

- Systemic change: It is difficult for challenge funds to assess systemic change, if they do not have a prior understanding of the market.
- Loan facilities: The guidance could potentially be used by providers of loans as well as of grants, and this should be acknowledged in the introduction.
- Complexities: The guidance should acknowledge the complexities of measurement, both for companies and for implementers of challenge funds, and not make it sound too simple.
- Attribution: The section on attribution is short, and could give the impression that there is not much to be done. When more challenge funds work on attribution, more will be added to the guidance.

Actions:

- The RMWG should send further comments by Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.
- The guidance will be changed to reflect these and other points, and published on the website next week.

### Update on Market Share Associates Activities by Ben Fowler

Ben Fowler presented the progress of Market Share Associates' work on the DCED Standard, which is now approximately half way through; he also outlined proposed activities for the rest of the contract. These include:

- **Technical capacity:**
  - Develop case studies and guidance on advanced topics (e.g. measuring systemic change) and focused on non-agricultural projects where possible
- **Technical materials:**
  - Prepare internal paper on systemic change to inform future DCED Seminar / advanced workshop
  - Prepare external paper on measuring employment
- **Marketing:**
  - Preparing 3 internal synthesis documents to use when meeting USAID, Gates Foundation and the Government of Canada
  - Conduct follow-up on-site learning sessions (e.g. presentations, learning sessions, other events like book club meetings)
  - Engage with in-country missions
  - Prepare for, attend and present the Standard at North American conferences
  - Target emerging donors and investors where feasible

The meeting discussed the following points:

- The planned actions do not address the shortage of consultants directly. However, it is believed that this will change over time as consulting firms are incentivised to seek training; DCED members can send clear signals that consulting firms who invest in training on the DCED Standard will be better placed to find new work.
- It was agreed that there is sufficient written, introductory documentation. However, it might be valuable to add more introductory training materials, or short videos.
- Overall, the group approved the proposed plan of MarketShare Associates.

Actions:

- Ben will review the time allocated for the remainder of the consultancy, prepare a new workplan to share with the IFC and DCED Secretariat, and proceed on that basis.

### Update on proposed Seminar and Advanced Workshop in Bangkok March 2014

Draft proposals for these two back-to-back events had been shared with the group before the meeting; it was noted that several agencies were planning events for their own staff either side. A training course, for example by Hans Posthumus, might be useful before the Seminar. The following comments were made:

- It would be good if RM WG members can update participants on developments in their agencies
- ILO will finance the venue costs; the RM WG expressed its gratitude, and noted that the contribution should be acknowledged in the programme.

- The conference will again be in Bangkok. There is another option in Northern Thailand, which is cheaper but less accessible, as it requires another flight from Bangkok.
- A field visit might be useful to a market or enterprise
- The group agreed to charge a participation fee of \$600 per person for the three day seminar, offering the advanced workshop (by invitation only) free of charge. The fee will cover speaker expenses, and other costs of the advanced workshop; any remaining surplus can be used to cross-subsidise the audit process (e.g. if a small programme cannot bear the cost of a second auditor).

Actions:

- The Secretariat will start the preparatory process outlined in the draft proposals immediately, as time is now short to plan the events.

Presentation from Claudio Volonte on Indicators in PSD

Claudio presented the IFC's recent work on indicators with IFIs. Key points:

- The IFC has developed 29 common indicators with definitions, agreed by over 20 different IFIs.
- They aim to reduce the reporting burden for clients, and to improve the ability to learn from similar projects.
- Agreeing the indicators has been a long process (5 years), supported by a consultant.
- The IFIs have agreed to use the indicators where possible. However, they are not mandatory and other indicators can be used if necessary.

Claudio proposed that:

- DCED members agree common indicators and definitions for PSD.
- This process would be facilitated by a consultant, and they aim to develop and agree the indicators by June 2014.
- This proposal was supported by the group, although several members noted that the proposed time-frame might be overly ambitious.
- It is estimated to cost 75-80,000 dollars, and contributions from the group will be sought to cover this cost.

Actions:

- Claudio will draft a terms of reference for the consultant.
- All members should explore funding options.
- It was decided not to establish a smaller task force yet; all members should be kept copied on future emails.

Annex: Action Items Agreed

<b>What?</b>	<b>Who?</b>	<b>By when?</b>
Share information with group about new DFID/WB scheme to look at under-evaluated areas including PSD	Simon Calvert	Asap
Share M&E Guidelines of GIZ with group	Birgit Seibel	When in English
Share EC guidance on selecting indicators and example impact logics for key results areas within PSD	Mónica Peiro-Vallejo	Asap
Share draft report on identifying and measuring results for sustainable systemic change in market development	Love Theodossiadis	Asap
Send any further comments on the Challenge Fund guidance to Adam Kessler	RM WG	3rd October
Revise work plan as needed, in light of RM WG comments and share with IFC and DCED Secretariat	Ben Fowler	Asap
Start active planning for the March 2014 Seminar and Advanced Workshop	Secretariat	Asap
Draft ToR and budget for consultant on common indicators in PSD, share with the group	Claudio Volonte	Asap