



The Donor Committee for Enterprise Development

## Market Systems Development Working Group MINUTES

Wednesday 4th September 2024 at 14:00 UCT

### Chairs

Margot Lobbezoo (CBI)  
Karen Kimami (Gatsby Africa)

Rana Fakhoury (UNIDO)  
Severin Oman (FAO)  
Sigrid Meijer (MoFA NL)  
Steve Hartrich (ILO)  
Steven Geiger (SDC)  
Susanne Thiard-laforet (ADA)

### Apologies

Andy Hunter (MFAT)  
David Neven (FAO)  
Naho Aizu (JICA)  
Nic van der Jagt (IKEA)  
Rob Skidmore (ITC)  
Ukaly Isaev (IFC)  
Isabelle Gore (DCED)

### Members attending

Alex Kucharski (BII)  
Elisabet Montgomery (Sida)  
Gun Eriksson Skoog (Sida)  
Kristin O'Planick (USAID)  
Marleen van Ruijven (MoFA NL)  
Merten Sievers (ILO)  
Pascal Fabing (LuxDev)

### DCED Secretariat

Mike Albu  
Mike Klassen  
Melina Heinrich-Fernandes

## AGENDA

### 1. Welcome & introductions

Chairs incl. approval of previous minutes & announcements from Chairs

### 2. Agency updates

All members are welcome to brief colleagues on latest news

### 3. Workstream brief activity updates

1.3	MSD Team Leadership brief	Mike K
2.1	BEAM Evidence Review 2024	Mike A
3.1	MSD & Dev Finance	Karen K
3.2	Youth Employment / MSD4E	Mike K
1.4 / 3.4	MiC update & MSD in FCAS	Mike A
3.5	MSD & Trade	Elisabet / Steve

### 4. MSD WG Workplan Budget 2024/5

incl. discussion of budget options for 'Beyond Green' and 'Trade-related' activities

Margot

### 5. Workstream 2.2 prep for DCED Global Seminar 2024

Mike A

### 6. Closing remarks, ideas for next WG Meeting

Chairs

## 1. Welcome & introductions

Co-Chair Margot (**CBI**) welcomed all to the 34th meeting of MSD Working Group. No changes were proposed to the [June meeting minutes](#) and therefore approved. Introductions were made for Severin Oman (**FAO**) who leads a new programme called PISA (funded by Sida); and by Sigrid Meijer (**MoFA NL**) who is based in Benin.

## 2. Member agency updates

Gun (**Sida**) mentioned recent changes in Swedish development co-operation and reorganisation of Sida. In short-term work continues as before. Sida will be well represented at the Global Seminar and hold a follow up meeting at the Embassy. Elisabet (**Sida**) explained that the Swedish media has been scrutinising Sida results very critically recently.

Alex (**BII**) reported that BII will employ a new CEO soon and anticipate some changes in strategy with the new UK government. Results of the Shaping Markets programme, in terms of investment unlocked, are very good. They are gearing up for sessions in Nairobi and an independent evening event.

Marleen (**MoFA NL**) explained that new Dutch Government is making severe cutbacks (22%) in development cooperation, and strategy revisions that are similar to what Sida faced in last two years. They are preparing a session for the Global Seminar, in conjunction with Ghana Embassy staff.

Margot (**CBI**) confirmed that Pauline will be able to attend the Nairobi seminar

Kristin (**USAID**) thanked members for feedback on a short '[Intro to MSD](#)' brief that will be published in multiple languages very soon. The other news relates to launch of the next ex-post evaluation of the Bangladesh Rice & Diversified Crops activity. Two more ex-posts are in the pipeline after that.

Merton (**ILO**) highlighted a training workshop on MSD in Jordan coming up next week in a region where MSD is not well known yet. They are also busy planning for Nairobi including a [half-day workshop](#) on the Friday in collaboration with DAI. Steve (**ILO**) also flagged up a new publication looking at inception phase design improvements, and thanked members who had contributed.

Rana (**UNIDO**) mentioned that UNIDO is organising a regional forum in the Middle East on food system security, and invited members to become involved

## 3. Workstream activity updates

### Workstream 1.3                      MSD Leadership Brief

Mike K (**DCED**) noted that the second Brief is 90% completed, and will be wrapped up after the Global Seminar.

### Workstream 2.1                      BEAM Evidence Review

Mike A (**DCED**) explained that the consultant is still open to receiving comments on the final draft Review this week. Work will then begin on finalising, layout out and published the [BEAM Evidence Review report](#) in time for the Global Seminar.

### Workstream 3.1                      MSD & Dev Finance

Alex (**BII**) said he couldn't give many details in Karen's absence, but understands that an output will be presented at the [Global Seminar](#) in Nairobi, and this is linked to Gatsby's work on capturing lessons from various case-studies.

### Workstream 3.2                      Youth Employment / MSD4E

Mike K (**DCED**) explained that over the last 6 or 8 weeks lots of conversations between the BEAM Exchange team, Justin van Rhyn and the BEAM website host have taken place so that we can upload the interventions content of the MSD4E landscape study to BEAM. It will be a bit like the MSP Tools Library and online in October with any luck.

### Workstream 3.4                      MSD in Fragile & Conflict settings

Mike A (**Secretariat**) reported that the Markets-in-Crisis community is under fresh management with support from USAID funding. There are lots of interesting conversations on the MiC platform with a highly active community. In addition the consultant Karri Byrne now has an extended contract to prepare for two sessions at the DCED [Global Seminar](#).

Steve (ILO) reported that the consultants delivered their draft report at end of July. It was circulated for comments and these have been taken on board. One of the authors, Donna will be presenting in Nairobi. It will be important to agree next steps given that budget is available for a further phase. Mike A (DCED) said the [MSD & Trade report](#) will be published end of month.

#### 4. MSD WG Workplan Budget 2024/5

Chair Margot (CBI) reminded members that WG's original budget request in April was trimmed significantly in the final negotiation with ExCo and IFC. She then walked members through a budget comparison sheet.

Mike K (DCED) advised that some of the costs for Workstream 3.2 have been covered by others, so that only \$22,000 is needed, and \$15,000 can be allocated to Workstream 3.3 or 3.5 – so avoiding any difficult trade offs between these.

Gun (Sida) explained that the needs of Workstream 3.5 (Trade) are not yet clear, but she expects ideas to emerge during the Global Seminar.

Pascal (LuxDev) expressed concern that activities (for 3.2 at least) should proceed quickly with less delays in the contracting process. Mike A (DCED) explained some of the contracting process details to members, and reassured them that contracts can be executed pretty quickly once clear ToRs are drawn up.

#### 5. Workstream 2.2 prep for DCED Global Seminar 2024

Mike A (Secretariat) updated members on progress with the Seminar. Applications have now closed as all the places (at least for practitioners) are taken. It looks like a very good representation of donors will be present. Our [Seminar App](#) will be launched very shortly.

Margot (CBI) encouraged WG members attending (she cannot) to arrange a time to gather in Nairobi. There was a brief discussion about timing options.

Mike K (DCED) emphasised the opportunity to progress the 'beyond Greening MSD' agenda (workstream 3.3) through the sessions and related micro-clinics. Kristin (USAID) suggested that the WG take on responsibility for defining a more visionary learning agenda.

Mike K (DCED) emphasised the strand on donor-implementer relationships, which some members are already contributing. He invited members to contribute to the session on '[interpreting the rules](#)'.

Mike A (DCED) also solicited volunteers to participate in the opening Plenary discussing different strands in the Agenda.

#### 6. Closing remarks, ideas for next WG Meeting

Margot (CBI) and Karen (Gatsby) wrapped up the meeting by thanking members for the time and contributions. Margot (CBI) suggested that the next MSD WG is opportunity to reflect on the best new ideas emerging during the Seminar – and asked members attending to take that on as a task. Kristin (USAID) said that this would be wonderful.

**ACTION:** Mike A (Secretariat) will poll members for a next date in November.