

Market Systems Development Working Group

MINUTES

Tues 6th Dec 2022 at 08:00 ET / 13:00 UK / 14:00 CET

WG Members present

Chairs

Andrea Inglin (SDC)
Susanne Thiard-laforet (ADA)

DCED Secretariat

Mike Albu, Isabelle Gore,
Mike Klassen, Jim Tanburn

Members

Ellie Horrocks (Gatsby Africa)
Gun Eriksson Skoog (Sida)
Kristin O'Planick (USAID)
Merten Sievers (ILO)
Pascal Fabing (LuxDev)
Pauline Baars (CBI)
Robert Skidmore (ITC)

Apologies

David Neven (FAO)
Daniel Hailu (Mastercard)
Margot Lobbezoo (CBI)
Mariya Kaigai (JICA)
Steve Hartrich (ILO)
Yan Chen (GIZ)
Urkaly Isaev (IFC)

AGENDA

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|--|------------------|--------|
| 1. Welcome & introductions | Chairs | 5 min |
| Welcome to members; approval of previous minutes | | |
| 2. Update re Workstream activities | | 30 min |
| 1.1 / 1.2 BEAM Exchange activity (& 3-min survey) | Mike A | |
| 1.3 Team Leader competencies knowledge clinics | Mike K | |
| 1.4 Markets-in-Crises facilitators / new website | Mike A | |
| 2.2 MSD Tool Library | Kristin | |
| 3.1 Bridging the Gap (PSD & Dev Finance) | Arjun / Alex | |
| 3.2 Youth Employment | Pascal | |
| 3.3 Greening MSD | Mike A (for Yan) | |
| 3.4 MSD in FCAS | Gun | |
| 3. Scaling Up brief from Dutch MoFA | Rens / Marjam | 10 min |
| 4. Rotating the Chair | | |
| Renewed invitation to members to consider taking the WG Chair | Chairs | 5 min |
| 5. Brief updates and important news from all members | ALL | 20 min |
| 6. Date for next WG meeting & AOB | Susi | 5 min |

1. Welcome & introductions

The co-Chairs Susi (**ADA**) and Andrea (**SDC**) welcomed all to the 25th meeting of the MSD Working Group. No changes were proposed to the [October meeting minutes](#) which were therefore approved.

2. Updates re Workstream activities

Andrea invited each of the task team leads to share a brief report on progress of the different workstream activities.

Workstream 1.1 / 1.2 BEAM Exchange activity

Isabelle (**Secretariat**) gave members a quick report about [usage statistics](#) for the BEAM Exchange website. Numbers are up significantly, especially in the last quarter since we launched the [MSD Tool Library](#). Comparing 2022 data with 2021, the number of 'engaged' visitors to BEAM increased 15%, and the number of resource downloads by 37%.

Members were also asked to complete the short [3 minute survey](#) about BEAM and share the link with donor colleagues.

Workstream 1.3 Team Leader competencies knowledge clinics

Mike K (**Secretariat**) briefed members about progress building on our earlier synthesis of views about [Team Leader's competencies](#). Interest and engagement with the next phase of knowledge clinics exceeded our expectations. As a result around forty MSD team leaders, donors and experts joined the first clinics on 22nd Nov. examining leadership and management structures.

The new series of clinics will run monthly for six months, and is expected to lead to a co-created publication along similar lines to our previous guidance on [procurement and contracting](#) for MSD.

Workstream 1.4 Markets-in-Crises facilitators / new website

Mike A (**Secretariat**) informed members about recent developments in the MiC community. IRC are 'hosting' the MiC community temporarily since the sad demise of the SEEP Network. With renewed funding from USAID, a team of facilitators led by Sasha Muench has now been contracted to support the community of practice. The new MiC website will be launched soon.

Workstream 2.2 MSD Tool Library / collaboration with USAID's MSP

Following a fruitful collaboration with USAID's MSP activity the new [MSD Tool Library](#) feature was launched on BEAM Exchange at end of September. It has already garnered over 6,000 page views and generated over 2,700 downloads. Collaboration with MSP will continue in 2023 with at least a couple of BEAM-hosted webinars.

Workstream 3.1 Bridging the Gap (PSD & Dev Finance)

Ellie (**Gatsby Africa**) reported progress with the next phase of trialling and implementing recommendations from April's [Bridging the Gap](#) report. ToRs for two interlinked aspects of this work (a coordination function and a technical assistance for investors function) are nearly completed and will be shared with WG members shortly.

Workstream 3.2 Youth Employment

Pascal (**LuxDev**) advised members that activities to promote uptake of the [Rough Guide to MSD for YE](#) have started following re-contracting of Justin van Rhyn. A popular [BEAM webinar](#) on Nov 24th contributed to over 500 downloads of the guidance. Justin will be delivering targeted presentations to donor audiences on request.

Workstream 3.3 Greening MSD

Completion of the first phase guidance notes on 'greening MSD' was unavoidably delayed, with a first complete draft now expected on Dec 15th. A final draft will now be shared with WG members for comments in early January.

Workstream 3.4 MSD in Fragile / Conflict-affected Settings

Gun (**Sida**) reported that following the appointment of Karri Byrne as the facilitating consultant, the work to build policy coherence between PSD and humanitarian departments within three DCED

member agencies (ILO, USAID, Sida) has started. Kristin (**USAID**) remarked on the high level of interest and engagement she has encountered from colleagues on this opportunity.

3. Scaling Up brief

The Chair, Andrea (SDC) invited Rens (Dutch MoFA) and his colleague Mirjam to present their recent work on ‘[Scaling for decent work and economic growth](#)’. Rens explained how this brief has been rather influential within their Ministry. This prompted a lively conversation among WG members about similar policy conversations in their own agencies about scaling pathways and the important distinction between scale as an outcome and scaling mechanisms within economic systems.

4. Rotating the Chair

Andrea (SDC) reminded members that her co-Chair Susi (**ADA**) will be standing down in January, and that all members are invited to propose themselves or others as replacement. She emphasised how well supported she is in her role by the Secretariat, so it is far from being a demanding responsibility to take on.

5. Brief updates and important news from all members

Gun (**Sida**) reflected on implications for Sida’s aid policies of new right-leaning government in Sweden. Picture is still unclear. Aid is likely to be directed more to humanitarian assistance (e.g. Ukraine) and the links between aid & trade will be emphasised. A formal policy statement will be published soon.

Pascal (**LuxDev**) said studies on MSD in Niger and Senegal are ongoing, and Mali is also on their horizons. Also developed an ‘umbrella’ policy instrument that will enable the agency to work on various MSD initiatives (studies, PSD engagements) without getting individual approvals.

LuxDev are also involved in an emerging informal francophone network of MSD practitioners and aiming to build more contacts. Mike A (**Secretariat**) mentioned he will be meeting one of the leading practitioners on Dec 12, and will ensure WG members are looped in. Kristin (**USAID**) noted that USAID have some strong people in Senegal, and there is also lots of interest among colleagues in the DRC.

Rob (**ITC**) updated members about ITC’s recent critical reflections on its capacity for delivering work with the MSD approach, and thanked Susi (**ADA**) for her support.

Kristin (**USAID**) mentioned that USAID just published a foundational policy document about [local capacity strengthening](#) which is deeply about local systems, and fits closely with many MSD principles. Particular interest in how to shift power dynamics between donor/implementers and local markets actors.

Isaac (**ILO**) informed members that ILO will start at least three MSD initiatives in francophone west Africa soon. He also mentioned two new value-chain development resources: on [cross-border contexts](#) and [gender-sensitive approaches](#) that members may find useful.

6. Date for next WG meeting & AOB

Andrea (SDC) thanks members for their participation and enthusiastic conversation.

Action ALL: please complete [the poll](#) for next meeting in late Jan/early Feb
<https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/elxw9X7e>

Gun (**Sida**) made a final impassioned closing point about the MSD Working Group. She said “this working group has really evolved into an effective interactive, discussion space. Our conversations are so fruitful, and I am so happy to be part of it”