

IATI MAG Meeting
13 November 2015

Attendees:

Alasdair Wardhaugh (DFID), Colby Silver (UNDP – minutes), Annelise Parr (UNDP, IATI Secretariat), Carolyn Culey (Development Initiatives, IATI Secretariat), Jamie Attard (Gates Foundation), Sarah Johns (Bond), Samuel Blazyk, Horia Sohir Debbiche, (AFDB)

Agenda:

1. Feedback on draft MAG paper on vision & strategic direction
2. Feedback on draft governance structure document
3. Feedback on hosting/strategy document

Meeting Notes:

Draft MAG paper on vision & strategic direction:

- The group discussed the updated document and considered the form of a possible statement of values moving forward.
- The group agreed on some changes in relation to the order of questions, and further agreed that the agenda should address governance first as the highest priority.
- There was some discussion around the term ‘branding’ which had different connotations in different country/contexts. ‘Branding’ perhaps doesn’t encompass the issues being considered, i.e. the identity and positioning of IATI moving forward.
 - The MAG agreed to clarify the supporting paragraph in question 3 to explain more specifically the aspects of rebranding that are being considered.
- The group discussed the structure and format of the SCM (small group discussions and plenary). The following points were considered:
 - It is important that the collective body feels empowered to make decisions at the SCM. It is argued that separate table groups could prevent the larger group from reaching a collective consensus and could result more in feedback rather than decisions.
 - The format would allow all members to feel they had an opportunity to discuss the issues and provide feedback. Smaller groups will also allow for real dialogue and discussion.
 - Without changing the proposed format (small group discussion) the language in the meeting agenda can make it clear that the goal is reach decisions on the questions raised.
 - It is agreed that every subgroup should have the opportunity to consider every question.
 - All groups should be organized to be multi-stakeholder taking care to ensure every constituency is represented at each table.
 - MAG agreed on the need to make it clear that every group is expected to come back to plenary with a consensus and therefore to focus on decision-making within the subgroups.

- Agreed that each table discussion should be facilitated by a member who has experience in the MAG process.

Draft Governance Paper

- Comments from the Budget Sub-Group meeting the previous day were conveyed to the MAG including:
 - Clarifying the responsibilities of the Secretariat as outlined in Appendix A.
 - The possibility of a mechanism being developed whereby the executive board could alert the full membership whenever there is a potentially contentious decision/recommendation and allow members to provide feedback virtually within a certain amount of time.
 - Suggestion to remove the 'Funding Support' row of Appendix A since it appeared to remain from an earlier version and was no longer relevant.
 - The Chair of the TAG should sit on the board, but this is not clearly reflected in the draft document – this should be changed.
 - Overriding concern was regarding the responsibilities of the Board vs. the Member Assembly.
- The document should be amended to take these concerns into account, and would be recirculated within the following week in time for distribution together with other SC papers.