Draft agenda for the 8th meeting of the International TOSSD Task Force
Ottawa, Canada, 4-5 June 2019

4 June 2019

9h00  Introduction and welcome

The co-Chairs will welcome the participants and outline the objectives of the meeting. The main objective is to complete the first full set of TOSSD Reporting Instructions, so that they can be attached to the proposal to be submitted to the Inter Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) during the open consultation in July-August 2019.

9h15  Item 1. Reporting Instructions for TOSSD Pillar II

The Task Force will be invited to review and validate instructions relating to TOSSD Pillar II on global and regional expenditures in support of development enablers, International Public Goods and to address global challenges. The Secretariat will first make a presentation on Pillar II activities reported in the TOSSD Data Survey and any feedback received from the respondents on the scope or eligibility criteria. It will then present draft text on Pillar II for the relevant sections of the Reporting Instructions.

Documentation: TOSSD Reporting Instructions – Version 1.4 for validation by the Task Force

11h  Coffee

11h30  Item 2. Peace and security

The Secretariat will present the outcomes and recommendations arising from the thematic TOSSD pilot study on peace and security, including the expert meeting held in February and consultations with a number of multilateral organisations active in the area of peace and security as well as a bilateral provider. The Task Force will be invited to discuss the boundaries and safeguards of TOSSD in this area and how they should be integrated in the Reporting Instructions.

Documentation: Summary of the expert meeting held on 5 February 2019
Recommendations arising from the thematic TOSSD pilot on peace and security

13h  Lunch

14h30  Item 3. Climate change

Information on actions to combat climate change and its impacts will be collected in TOSSD through the “SDG focus field”. The Secretariat will present a note examining the relationship between this information and the established reporting systems for climate finance and climate-related development finance. The note will also discuss the eligibility criteria for the inclusion of climate-related support in TOSSD Pillar II. The Task Force will be invited to comment on the analysis and the appropriateness of devising specific eligibility criteria for Pillar II in the area of climate change.

Documentation: Issues paper

16h  Coffee
16h30  Item 4. Research

The Task Force has discussed the treatment of research activities in TOSSD at its 6th and 7th meetings. It has concluded that: i) research, or support for “science, technology and innovation (STI)” (term used by the UN) in TOSSD-eligible countries will be included in Pillar I and do not raise any particular issues; and ii) other research activities would be eligible only if they convey substantial benefits to, and/or are implemented in collaboration with, TOSSD-eligible countries or their institutions. The Task Force has further agreed that basic research could in principle be included in TOSSD, but that more discussions are required on this topic. The Secretariat will present an analysis of the research activities reported in the TOSSD Data Survey. The Task Force will be invited to review and agree on additional text for the Pillar II Reporting Instructions in this area.

Documentation: TOSSD Reporting Instructions – Version 1.4 for validation by the Task Force

18h  Meeting adjourns

19h  Social event

5 June 2019

9h00  Item 5. Results of country pilot studies

Since the last Task Force meeting, the report on the Costa Rica pilot has been finalised and another pilot in Burkina Faso has been carried out. In this session a representative of Burkina Faso will first present the country’s perspective on TOSSD. The Task Force will then be invited to consider the recommendations on TOSSD Reporting Instructions arising from the Burkina Faso and Costa Rica pilot studies. In particular, both pilots suggested that contributing to achieving one SDG target does not seem to be a sufficient eligibility criterion for inclusion in TOSSD; there should also be assurance that activities have no adverse impacts on other targets.

Documentation: TOSSD Reporting Instructions – Version 1.4 for validation by the Task Force

Report on the TOSSD Pilot in Costa Rica
Highlights of the TOSSD Pilot in Burkina Faso

11h  Coffee

11h30  Item 6. Clarification of the TOSSD data cycle and data transmission tools

The Task Force will be invited to review and agree on draft text for Chapter 4.1 – Reporting cycle and data collection and Annex A – Data collection and tools of the TOSSD Reporting Instructions. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will also inform the Task Force of the recent discussions with representatives of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) and the experience gained during the TOSSD Data Survey on using IATI files in xml language to pre-fill TOSSD data forms. The Task Force will be invited to discuss possible synergies between TOSSD and IATI and how these could be conveyed to the upcoming IATI members’ assembly.

Documentation: Issues paper

13h  Lunch: Demonstration of the “EU Explorer”

The European Union will give a demonstration of its new tool for accessing data on development cooperation by the EU and its member states. This new tool may serve as an inspiration for developing the TOSSD visualisation tool.
14h30  Item 7. Update on the Data Survey

The Task Force will be invited to review the preliminary results of the TOSSD Data Survey: participation, TOSSD figures on Pillars I and II and feedback from reporters on areas in the Reporting Instructions that may need fine tuning. The Task Force will also discuss the presentation of the Survey results in i) the proposal to be submitted to the IAEG-SDGs; and ii) communications around important UN meetings on SDG follow-up in July (High-Level Political Forum) and September (UNGA) 2019.

Documentation: Issues paper

15h30  Item 8. Updated Terms of Reference of the Task Force

The Task Force approved its revised terms of reference on 1 February 2019, except for the chairing/co-chairing arrangements, which were to be further discussed. In addition to this aspect, the Task Force will be invited to take stock of ongoing efforts to broaden the membership of the Task Force and the organisation of the Task Force meetings in the second semester of 2019.

Documentation: TOSSD Task Force – Updated Terms of Reference

16h   Coffee

16h30  Item 9. Recent and upcoming outreach events

The Task Force co-Chairs and members will report on the discussions and side-events on TOSSD held during BAPA+40 Conference (Buenos Aires, March 2019), the meeting of the UN Statistical Commission (New York, March 2019) and the Financing for Development Forum (New York, April 2019). Discussion will be invited on the roles for each TF member for the upcoming outreach events, namely the High-Level Political Forum and the UNGA High-Level Dialogue.

This agenda item will also cover the upcoming proposal to the IAEG-SDGs to include TOSSD in the global SDG indicator framework. The UN Statistical Commission took note of the suggestion for the IAEG-SDGs to consider TOSSD during the comprehensive review in July/August 2019. The OECD, as a co-custodian agency of indicator 17.3.1 “Foreign direct investment (FDI), official development assistance and South-South cooperation as a proportion of total domestic budget” indicated at the IAEG-SDGs meeting end March that it would make a proposal to replace this indicator by TOSSD.

Documentation: Communication materials (Flyer and Q & A, TOSSD web pages)


Financing for Development Forum (15-18 April 2019), Draft Intergovernmentally Agreed Conclusions and Recommendations: reference to TOSSD in paragraph 15

9th meeting of the IAEG-SDGs, Beirut, 25-28 March 2019, OECD Update on improving indicator 17.3.1 using Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD)

17h30  Item 10. Wrap-up and next steps

The co-Chairs will conclude the meeting by presenting its main conclusions and outcomes. They will also outline the agenda for the next meeting.

18h   Close