

Experts Meeting: Assessing the prospects of a Global Fund for Development Data

Thursday, 4 October 2018

OECD Boulogne Building, Room BB3015
46, quai Alphonse Le Gallo
92100 Boulogne-Billancourt, France

I. Context

The 2030 Agenda has set an ambitious objective for monitoring and implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Despite an increasing demand for data, international aid for statistics remained low in 2016 at USD 623 million (PARIS21, forthcoming), measuring only 0.30% of Overseas Development Assistance.

With the publication of the OECD Development Co-operation Report 2017, the debate on more and better funding has intensified, exploring different funding options and modalities in the data sector. Over the past decades, global funds have emerged in other sectors to address financing needs and respond effectively to development challenges. For example, the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria has contributed to a significant increase in funding for health, while the Global Fund for Children supports initiatives for youth and children, particularly for girls and young women, in 48 countries. Global Fund instruments are being considered today in other sectors, including nutrition, sanitation and infrastructure.

In this context, PARIS21 and the Swiss Agency for Development Co-operation (SDC) have commissioned a study to explore the feasibility of setting up a global fund to support the implementation of the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data (CTGAP). The study will provide an assessment of the financial needs and existing financing modalities for the implementation of the CTGAP. It will also explore the opportunities and challenges of setting up a Global Fund for Development Data and provide insight into the design and implementation of the mechanism.

This study will feed into the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (HLG-PCCB) process and will be presented at the forthcoming UN World Data Forum 2018 in Dubai.

II. Objectives

The Experts Meeting on 4 October 2018 will bring together representatives from the data and statistics community, development finance, global funds and academia to discuss the initial results of the study. Authors of the report will present their findings on the “State of Play”, including a costing estimate for the

sector and a mapping of existing financial mechanisms, and provide the first elements on assessing the feasibility of establishing a Global Fund for Development Data. The meeting will provide an opportunity for interested stakeholders to discuss the main findings of the report.

The meeting has three main objectives:

- Discuss costing estimates and provide an analysis of the existing financing instruments for the implementation of the Cape Town Global Action Plan
- Present an initial assessment on the feasibility of establishing a Global Fund for Development Data, exploring the challenges addressed (e.g. fragmentation of donor approaches) and the appetite among donors for this type of structure
- Discuss the potential design, governance and operational aspects of the instrument and identify next steps in view of increasing funding for data

A draft of the study will be shared with participants prior to the meeting.

Preliminary Agenda, Thursday, 4 October 2018

8:45 - 9:15	<i>Registration</i>
9:15 – 9:30	Welcoming remarks and introduction
9:30 - 10:45	I. Costing CTGAP implementation
10:45 - 11:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:00 - 12:30	II. Comparing funding mechanisms for development data
12:30 - 14:00	<i>Lunch (provided for all participants)</i>
14:00 - 15:30	III. Exploring the feasibility of a Global Fund on Development Data
15:30 - 16:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:00 - 17:00	IV. Discussion and Next Steps for Global Fund study
17:00 - 17:15	V. Concluding remarks
17:15	<i>End of meeting</i>