
TRUST FUND FOR
STATISTICAL CAPACITY BUILDING AT 10:
ANNUAL REPORT 2009/2010

TFSCB INTERNAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
AND
TFSCB ADMINISTRATION UNIT



DEVELOPMENT DATA GROUP
THE WORLD BANK

MAY 2010

Summary

The Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB) was set up by the World Bank in 1999 as a multi-donor trust fund to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries and began operations in 2000. From the beginning it has been closely aligned with the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) with whom it shares its overall goal of promoting a culture of evidence-based decision making. The initial impetus behind the Trust Fund was the need to improve the capacity of the statistical systems in developing countries to monitor progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and the need to prepare comprehensive and evidence-based poverty reduction strategies.

Over the first ten years of the twenty first century, the approach to development has evolved and the demand for statistics and evidence to support policy making and to monitor results has increased. In particular, the results agenda – the commitment to improving outcomes for people and for increasing resources for development – has had important implications for national statistics and the international statistical system. Since 2004, TFSCB has been an important instrument for implementing the Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics (MAPS), with a particular emphasis on supporting the development and then the implementation of national strategies for the development of statistics (NSDS).

At its inception, TFSCB was the only global funding mechanism supporting statistical capacity building. As MAPS has been rolled out, however, other instruments and initiatives have been put in place so that by 2010 it has become one of a number of ways that developing countries are able to access the financial and technical support they need. It is clear, however, that it is still fulfilling an important role and meeting the needs of countries. Independent evaluations completed in 2003 and, more recently in 2009, have concluded that the Trust Fund has had a major impact both in terms of what has been achieved, but also in relation to the way that the projects it has supported have been able to contribute to longer term capacity building goals. Trust Fund projects have been instrumental, for example, not only in supporting the preparation of strategic plans, but also in helping countries get support for their implementation.

Since the Third Roundtable on Managing for Development Results in Hanoi, the challenge has been to move from the preparation of strategic plans to their successful implementation. While there is still a need to support the strategic planning process, especially in countries where it has yet to be put into effect, including those emerging from conflict and facing particularly difficult circumstances, there is also a need to ensure that plans are realistic, are properly costed and budgeted and are fully integrated into national planning and budget management cycles. There is also a need to gradually broaden the coverage of many existing plans, both vertically to include other producers and users of statistics and vertically to take into account the needs of government at sub-national levels. Only TFSCB provides the flexibility to address these concerns, while also providing the opportunity to support actions at the regional and global level, where relevant.

In line with the recommendations of the 2009 evaluation as well as the Advisory Panel, therefore, it is proposed that TFSCB should be continued beyond the current closing date of 2012 to 2015 and beyond. Some repositioning is required, however, to ensure that it is better coordinated with other initiatives,

especially the new Statistics for Results Facility (SRF), but also to make sure that it meets the continuing needs of both national and international statistical systems. Key proposals include:

- ✓ Maintaining the current distinction between NSDS and non-NSDS (statistical capacity building) projects, but broadening the coverage of the former and ensuring that the latter is in line with national and international priorities;
- ✓ Ensuring that non-NSDS projects support specifically the implementation of NSDSs and are aligned with and in support of a system wide approach to statistical capacity building;
- ✓ Ensuring that the Trust Fund can effectively meet the needs of countries emerging from conflict and facing especially difficult circumstances, which are not yet able to implement system wide statistical development projects;
- ✓ Maintaining the capacity of the Trust Fund to finance regional and global projects, but ensuring that these are aligned with the Dakar Declaration on the Development of Statistics (DDDS);
- ✓ Continuing to support the participation of statisticians from low income countries in important regional and international meetings, but with increased and regular collaboration with organizing agencies in identifying priorities;
- ✓ Increasing the maximum value of grants in line with the recommendations of the evaluation;
- ✓ Increasing the emphasis on monitoring and evaluation of projects supported by the Trust Fund.

The Role of TFSCB

Background

The Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB) was formally set up in 1999 and began operations in 2000. It is a multi-donor trust fund managed by the World Bank that helps to build and strengthen the capacity of statistical systems in developing countries. It was designed to provide small grants of up to 400,000 US dollars to help developing countries build the capacity needed to collect, process, analyze, disseminate and use good quality statistical data and to promote a culture of evidence-based decision making.

TFSCB was established at a time when the need for statistics was increasing sharply. Following the Millennium Summit in 2000, all countries were expected to collect and publish statistical data on the Millennium Development Goals. At the same time, the poorest countries, especially those that were highly indebted, were required to prepare comprehensive Poverty Reduction Strategies, if they wished to benefit from debt relief. Both these processes placed increased demands on statistical systems that were already under considerable strain. In many countries the domestic resources available to finance statistical activities were very limited and there were significant imbalances between the supply of and demand for statistical data.

TFSCB shares the same vision and mission as the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21), a global partnership of policy makers, statisticians, and users of statistical information that was set up just before TFSCB in 1999. Both PARIS21 and the Trust Fund have been

concerned with strengthening statistical capacity in developing countries and with promoting a culture of evidence-based decision making. Since their inception, efforts have been made to link the work of PARIS21 and the Trust Fund, with close coordination in the way they are organized, their management and their governance.

Since 2000, the demand for better statistics that was generated through the Millennium Declaration and the global initiative on debt relief has continued and strengthened. Building on the International Conference on Financing for Development that was held in Monterrey, Mexico in 2002, a new partnership between developing and developed countries has emerged. This is based on the recognition that developing countries themselves must determine their own path to poverty reduction, that new aid resources are needed, but that all parties must focus on development results. The Managing for Development Results (MfDR) process that emerged following Monterrey calls on developing countries to strengthen their commitment to policies and actions that reduce poverty and stimulate economic growth and requires developed countries to provide more relevant and effective aid. From the beginning the MfDR process – often termed the “results agenda” – has emphasized the importance of better statistical data to highlight issues, to make appropriate policy choices, to allocate resources, to monitor outcomes and to evaluate impacts. Through a series of international meetings, agreement has been reached on the concrete actions that are needed if the vision of the Millennium Declaration is to be achieved by 2015.

The Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics

At the Second International Roundtable on MfDR, held in Marrakech, Morocco in 2004, the [Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics](#) (MAPS) was formulated and agreed. MAPS identified six specific actions to help develop and strengthen both national statistical systems and international coordination. An important development was the recognition that long-term and sustained improvements in national statistical systems could only be achieved if countries themselves took the lead in setting priorities and in managing change. A major focus of MAPS, therefore, was an effort to help countries prepare National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS). Since 2004, both PARIS21 and TFSCB have been re-positioned to support the preparation of NSDSs in developing countries. In particular, the Trust Fund has provided grants to help countries meet the costs of preparing NSDSs, while PARIS21 has prepared detailed guidance and advice on the design of effective strategies. In general, this initiative has been remarkably successful and, in line with Action 1 of MAPS, almost all developing countries have been helped to mainstream strategic planning. The challenge now is to move from the preparation of strategic plans to their implementation.

The TFSCB was one of the first coordinated international efforts to provide resources directly to invest in the statistical systems in developing countries. Previously most aid for statistics had either been provided on a bilateral basis to specific countries, or had been within the context of support for a specific area of statistics such as household surveys, or specific concerns such as training. As the international community moved ahead in the first decade of the 21st Century, following the Millennium Declaration, it soon became apparent that this kind of piecemeal and partial approach to statistical capacity building would no longer be sufficient. If countries really were to take the lead in determining

how they were to develop and if capacity really was to be built and sustained, then it was going to be necessary to address both institutional and technical concerns and to strengthen the demand for statistics as well as the supply. As a result and especially following the adoption of MAPS a number of new initiatives were put in place. The World Bank, for example, established a multi-country funding mechanism for statistical capacity building – STATCAP. Other aid agencies, including, for example, the African Development Bank, mobilized new resources to support strategic planning linked to the roll-out of the 2005 and 2011 rounds of the International Comparison Program and bilateral donors increased their aid allocations for statistics and poverty monitoring. In support of the MAPS agenda specifically, the World Bank established an international partnership and provided long-term funds from its Development Grant Facility to set up the International Household Survey Network and the Accelerated Data Program. It has also supported strategic planning in statistics through PARIS21 and key data programs with other agencies. As a result and after ten years, TFSCB is now no longer the main instrument in place, but is now one of a whole array of interventions designed to help meet global data needs to 2015 and beyond.

Moving from planning to implementation

In practice, the NSDS process has proved to be remarkably robust, being successfully applied in countries with well established statistical systems and clear needs as well as those with only very limited capacity. PARIS21 estimates that of 79 low income countries eligible to receive financial assistance from the International development Association (IDA) in February 2010, only two countries did not have a strategy and were not planning to prepare one. In all parts of the world, but especially in Africa, where to a large extent the needs are greatest, most countries have been able to prepare a strategy and just over half are currently putting this into effect. As highlighted at the third International Roundtable on Managing for Development Results that took place in Hanoi in 2007, however, more needs to be done to help countries not just prepare strategies, but make sure they are implemented.

This challenge has been widely recognized and a number of new initiatives have been put in place to help. In particular, a new Statistics for Results Facility (SRF) and a Catalytic Trust Fund were launched at the Third High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, which took place in Accra, Ghana in September 2008. The SRF aims to support countries to build capacity by implementing well designed and comprehensive national strategies for the development of statistics based on a system wide approach, putting into effect the principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. During the pilot phase, which is expected to last until 2012, five countries – Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Nigeria and Rwanda – are expected to receive substantial grants from the Catalytic Fund to help implement strategic plans covering the whole of their national statistical systems. The aim of the SRF is to stimulate investment in statistical capacity by promoting a comprehensive system-wide approach based on a well established national partnership, bringing together national agencies concerned with statistics with development partners. The Catalytic Fund has been designed to stimulate investment, by providing grants to help meet funding gaps over the medium term. It is clear, however, that the SRF alone will not meet the needs for investment and capacity building and other approaches, including existing instruments such as TFSCB will also have an important role to play.

The challenge of 2015

MAPS set two key target dates. First, 2010 was identified as the point by which countries should have prepared strategies for the development of their statistical systems and should have improved the availability of key indicators. Second, 2015 is when capacity needs to be in place in order to monitor progress towards the MDGs. Even though substantial progress has been made, especially in strategic planning for statistics, in 2010 in many countries there are still important gaps in data coverage for key areas of development and for a number of the MDG indicators. The experience of recent years has emphasized that building capacity that can be sustained takes time and it is clear there is still much to do if the 2015 target is to be met.

Recent analysis by the World Bank, PARIS21 and the IMF indicates that while a lack of resources is certainly a major factor limiting implementation, there are other problems, especially with the quality and coverage of national strategies. When compared with good practice as defined by PARIS21, a number of NSDSs are incomplete or unrealistic and more needs to be done to help countries prepare detailed implementation plans that take constraints into account and which are properly budgeted. One important concern is to make sure that NSDSs are much more closely integrated into national planning and policy documents, especially poverty reduction strategies, and that they are properly coordinated with budget planning and management processes.

Sustaining improvements in statistics also requires that the demand for statistics within developing countries is strengthened and increased. In part this means that plans for the improvement of statistics must be based on and closely linked with existing and future national strategies and other planning documents. Statistical systems need to be seen to be responsive to demand, developing new data series and anticipating emerging data needs. At the same time, more attention needs to be given to the ways in which statistical data are disseminated and made available to users. A key requirement will be to improve the efficiency of statistical operations, especially making more use of data that have already been collected, but which have not been fully processed or analyzed. New ways of disseminating data avoiding long delays between data collection and publication are also needed. Countries should be encouraged and supported to make use of new tools especially those developed by the International Household Survey Network and the Accelerated Data Program.

A New Approach to Building and Sustaining Statistical Capacity

The new approach to statistical capacity building that is encapsulated in the SRF and which is also reflected in the Dakar Declaration on the Development of Statistics and the revised logical framework of PARIS21, places countries at the center of the process and incorporates good practice in the design and implementation of capacity building programs in other fields. It stresses a comprehensive and system wide approach, making best use of external financial assistance by building on the principles for aid effectiveness set out in the Paris Declaration. In particular, the key principles of country *ownership*, *alignment* of donor support and *harmonization* require an effective and comprehensive national strategy. It also needs a well functioning national partnership for statistics, which brings together users, and providers in counties with development partners.

Where these are in place there is increasing evidence that capacity can be built and sustained and a well-functioning statistical system can be developed. Where there are gaps, however, for example, where national leadership is lacking and where the national strategy does not address systemic problems, then success is certainly not guaranteed. It is clear, therefore, that while new initiatives such as the SRF are very important and will result in a substantial increase in resources for investment in capacity, if this investment is to have a sustained return in terms of better availability and better use of statistics, then other support will still be needed. Many countries, especially the poorest and those with the weakest capacity, are likely to continue to need short-term technical and financial assistance to improve their NSDSs, to build a national partnership and to develop a system-wide approach.

Reshaping the role of TFSCB

The 2009 Evaluation

TFSCB was independently evaluated for the second time in 2009 and the report is available on the TFSCB web-site (See Annex 2). Building on the results of the 2003 evaluation, the 2009 report concluded that *“TFSCB funding of NSDSs and other national capacity building projects has been highly relevant for the developing countries”*. The report also concluded that countries that have received TFSCB grants have been encouraged to prepare national strategies and to link applications for other grants to specific elements of their strategies and plans.

Evidence gathered during the evaluation suggests that the NSDS projects have generally succeeded in achieving their planned outcomes. In most cases this work has been carried out in cooperation with several partners within the statistical or administrative systems of the countries concerned. At the same time, the evaluation found that the technical assistance received was considered to have ranged from satisfactory to excellent. In general an important result of many of the grants has been *“... a proper strategy document outlining priorities and specifying a plan of action”*. When looking at the non-NSDS projects, the evaluators conclude that linking these grants to national strategies, master plans or action plans based on these seems to have worked well. They indicate that grants given in addition to or alongside support for the preparation of NSDSs may have contributed substantially to the sustainability of the results.

The evaluation also considered the relationship between TFSCB and the SRF. While they considered that the SRF is a very important initiative, they concluded that the aims of the two schemes differ considerably and replacing the TFSCB with the SRF does not seem a realistic option for the time being. Thus, while the SRF will finance large projects in a few countries at any one time, there will still be a need to provide smaller grants to a larger number of countries.

TFSCB to 2015

Based on the recommendations of the 2009 evaluation, it is, therefore, proposed to extend TFSCB at least to 2015, but with some changes to the way in which the Trust Fund works to ensure that it is more closely aligned with the SRF and that it continues to provide effective support to statistical capacity in developing countries. Demand for the kinds of financial support provided by the Trust Fund seems to be relatively stable and there is every indication that this situation is expected to continue. In line with the recommendations of the 2009 evaluation it is proposed to modify TFSCB in the following ways.

- ✓ As outlined in the next section of the report, at present TFSCB supports three kinds of projects. It is proposed to maintain these categories, but to broaden and modify their coverage. The NSDS window will remain, but will be broadened along the lines recommended in the 2009 evaluation report. In particular it will not only support the preparation of an NSDS, but also associated activities such as preparing a detailed costs and financing plan aligned with national budget mechanisms and supporting the establishment of a national partnership for statistics.
- ✓ The non NSDS (statistical capacity building) window will also remain and will, as now, be allocated through a semi-annual review of proposals. It is proposed, however, to use this window to support the new approach to capacity building, emphasizing a system wide approach based on a comprehensive NSDS.
- ✓ It is proposed that, through the non NSDS window, TFSCB will help address the special needs of countries emerging from conflict and those with other special needs. It is anticipated that most of these projects will be implemented by the World Bank, while most of the NSDS and non NSDS projects will continue to be recipient executed.
- ✓ The non NSDS window will continue to finance appropriate capacity building projects operating at the regional or global levels. The Guidelines will be updated, however, to ensure that these projects are better aligned with the Dakar Declaration on the Development of Statistics.
- ✓ The third window that provides small grants to enable participants from low income countries to participate in important regional and international conferences will continue much as at present, but will be limited to ten percent of the value of the fund in any one year.
- ✓ In line with the recommendations of the evaluation the maximum size of any one individual grant will be increased from 400,000 US dollars to 500,000 US dollars.
- ✓ Also in line with the evaluation all projects that are to be financed partially or wholly by TFSCB will be required to include an effective monitoring and evaluation component. The Guidelines will be updated accordingly and the design of the in-built monitoring and evaluation mechanisms will be one of the criteria used to evaluate proposals.

TFSCB at 10: an overview of activities from 2000 to 2010

Development of the Trust Fund

TFSCB started operations in 2000 to help strengthen the capacity of statistical systems in developing countries to collect, compile and use statistics in support of development and poverty reduction. It provides small grants of up to 400,000 US dollars over a period of two or three years to low income countries and to appropriate regional or international organizations to implement specific capacity building projects. In line with the priorities identified by the contributing donors, the emphasis is on strengthening statistical systems in support of national poverty reduction strategies and the Millennium Development Goals. From the beginning, but with an increased emphasis following the adoption of MAPS in 2004, TFSCB helps developing countries to set out a medium to long-term strategic vision for their statistical systems and to prepare programs and plans to put this vision into effect.

It is closely coordinated with the work of PARIS21 and is part of the worldwide effort to reduce poverty by strengthening the evidence base for decision making at all levels. In particular, TFSCB has been one of the key instruments aimed at implementing the first and third components of the Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics, that is, to mainstream strategic planning by countries and to increase financing for statistical capacity building.

Over the ten years that the Trust Fund has been in existence, its activities and operations have changed to reflect the evolving international consensus on statistics as well as changes in internal World Bank procedures for the management of trust funds. Other changes have been introduced following an independent external evaluation in 2003; a further evaluation was completed in 2009. These changes have included setting up three individual funds to manage activities and resources – TFSCB I, II and III – as well as modifications to procedures and guidelines (See Annex 3).

Projects are identified by statistical agencies, other organizations and, in some cases, by the World Bank itself. They are reviewed and approved by an Internal Management Committee and are usually implemented by the recipient agency, although Bank execution can be allowed in a limited number of special cases. In most cases, the implementation of the grant is supervised by a nominated World Bank Task Team Leader (TTL), who is required to complete six-monthly monitoring reports as well as an annual statement indicating that the funds are being used only for the purposes for which they were approved. The Trust Fund is managed on a day to day basis by an Administration Unit based in the Development Data Group of the World Bank, which is accountable to donors through the Bank's Partnership and Trust Fund Operations Department. Increasingly the regular operations of the Trust Fund have been transferred to on-line procedures, which allow both decentralized operation as well as easier central monitoring.

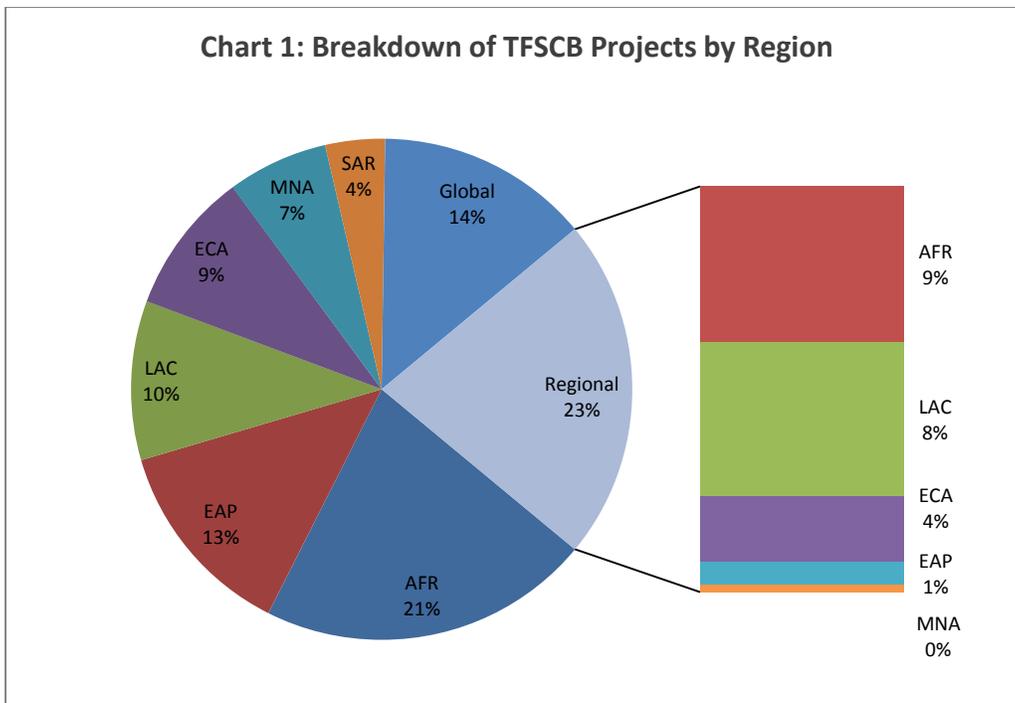
The World Bank is also accountable to donors through the TFSCB Consultative Group, which meets as part of the annual PARIS21 donors' meeting. Activities are reviewed annually by an independent two-person Advisory Panel of distinguished international statisticians, which reports to the Consultative Group.

Review of TFSCB projects

TFSCB has acted as a catalyst for other funds to support large-scale operations for statistical development. For example, out of 6 countries currently implementing a project funded by World Bank's Statistical Capacity Building Program (STATCAP), 5 received TFSCB support for NSDS preparation. Similarly, the NSDS in 3 out of 5 SRF pilot countries was funded by TFSCB and there are other NSDS projects which evolved into large investment projects. A number of countries, supported by regional projects for Central America and Andean Community, have implemented their NSDS with little external support.

Since 2000, TFSCB has allocated about USD 34 million to projects, at country, regional and global levels, aimed at improving country statistical systems (See Annex 1 for a list of projects funded by TFSCB). Most projects have successfully carried out the planned activities and achieved the intended development goals¹.

As the priority is given to IDA countries, the largest recipients of TFSCB in terms of project amount have been Sub-Saharan African countries (21%), followed by countries in East Asia and the Pacific (13%), Latin America and the Caribbean (10%), Europe and Central Asia (9%), Middle East and North Africa (7%), and South Asia (4%). 14% and 23% of projects were of global and regional nature, respectively (See Chart 1).



¹ This is based on the assessment of the task team leaders and the management responsible for the projects.

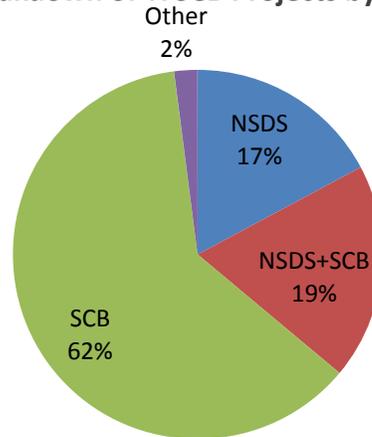
It is worth mentioning that TFSCB has extended its assistance to low income countries under stress, characterized by weak institution and governance, which would not have been able to develop a system-wide approach or roll out a large scale investment project, but required technical assistance in priority areas to meet short-term data needs.

As shown in Chart 2, the majority of TFSCB projects supported statistical capacity building and improvement (SCB) activities, which ranged from country projects designed to strengthen poverty monitoring systems, priority sectoral statistics, and survey programs, to regional/global seminar and workshops.

TFSCB is a quick disbursing fund and has provided timely support to the organization of regional thematic training seminars and international meetings on emerging issues. It has also strived to increase the representation of developing countries in such meetings with a view to aligning international and national practices and bringing their perspectives into the international arena. TFSBC has been funding, among others, developing country participation in United Nations Statistical Commission and International Statistical Institute meetings.

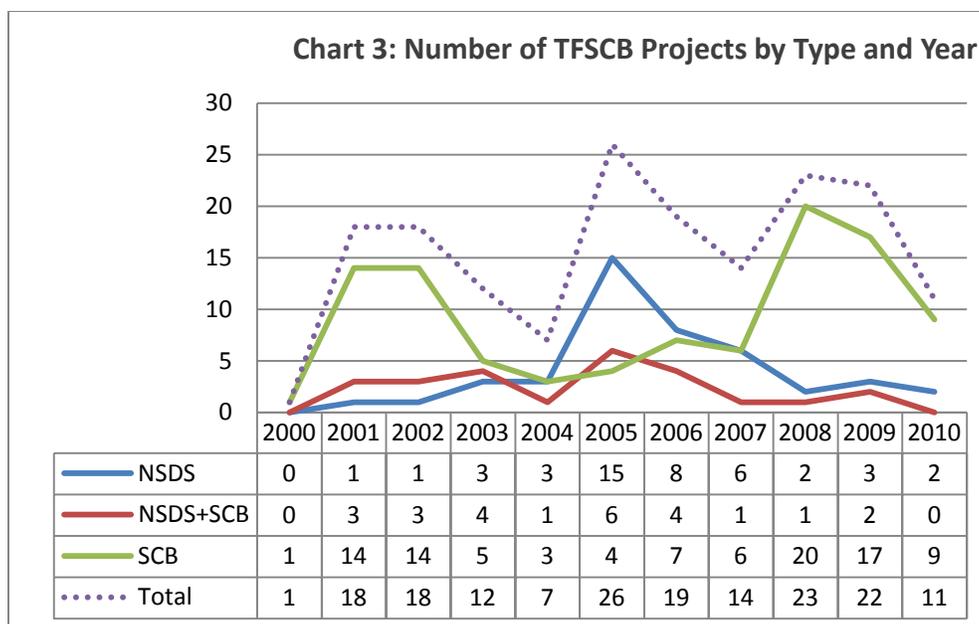
According to the estimate of PARIS21 in February 2010, out of 79 IDA countries, only two countries did not have an NSDS and were not planning to prepare one. TFSCB, with its support for NSDS preparation in 36 IDA countries in collaboration with other partners, was instrumental in making progress to achieve the MAPS' goal to mainstream NSDS in all low income countries.

Chart 2: Breakdown of TFSCB Projects by Project Type



As of May 2010, TFSCB has supported a total of 171 projects. While TFSCB's initial focus was clearly on SCB activities, following the adoption of MAPS in 2004, TFSCB put a special emphasis on helping developing countries formulate their NSDS (See Chart 3). TFSCB has so far funded NSDS projects in 61 countries (of which 36 are IDA countries) and 3 regional projects for Africa, Central America and Andean countries. Although the demand for NSDS and SCB projects changed over time, the trend of the overall demand for TFSCB has been on the rise². This trend is expected to continue given that there is an increasing need for actionable plans and preparatory work in order to obtain support from STATCAP and the newly established SRF.

² Information for 2010 is as of May 2010 and therefore incomplete.



Financial situation

Since its establishment, TFSCB has received over USD 40 million³ in donor contributions from six partners, namely Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. Although the donor composition is different across TFSCB I, II and III, the contribution level has been stable over time and TFSCB III, funded by Canada, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, received the highest contribution.

TFSCB has attracted a broad donor base; donor contributions ranged from less than USD 150,000 to over USD 12 million per donor.

As mentioned earlier, about USD 34 million has already been disbursed or allocated to ongoing projects. Total available funds, calculated by combining the unallocated funds⁴ from TFSCB I, II and III, amount to USD 7.95 million as of May 2010. At the current rate of demand and project approvals, this amount is expected to be sufficient for NSDS window and another three semi-annual windows until mid 2011. However, new funding will be required in order to carry on TFSCB operations thereafter. There is, therefore, an immediate need to initiate the process of engaging current as well as new partners to achieve the level of funding comparable to the current one.

³ This figure includes investment income.

⁴ Unallocated funds comprise a portion of donor contributions including investment income which was not allocated to projects and undisbursed funds from closed, cancelled and dropped projects.

TFSCB Financial Status⁵

Financial Items	Amount (USD millions)
TFSCB I	
A. Donor contributions including investment income	13.40
B. Total allocation	11.03
Allocation to projects	9.83
TFSCB oversight, proposal review, reporting and monitoring (9%)	1.20
C. Unallocated funds (C = A - B)	2.37
TFSCB II	
D. Donor contributions including investment income	14.04
E. Total allocation	11.42
Allocation to projects	10.72
TFSCB oversight, proposal review, reporting and monitoring (5%)	0.70
F. Unallocated funds (F = E - D)	2.62
TFSCB III	
G. Donor contributions including investment income	18.83
H. Total Allocations from TFSCB-III	15.88
Allocations to projects	12.50
TFSCB oversight, proposal review, reporting and monitoring (2007-2013)	2.40
TFSCB project supervision (2007-2012)	0.60
Administration fee (2%)	0.38
I. Unallocated funds (I = H - G)	2.96
J. TOTAL AVAILABLE FUNDS (J = C + F + I)	7.95

Conclusions and Recommendations

TFSCB continues to play an important role in implementing MAPS and in helping countries to invest in the capacity of their statistical systems. It also is an important financier of regional and global statistical capacity building projects. Its role has evolved over the past ten years and it is now one of a number of initiatives and financing mechanisms that countries can call on. The need, however, for a fast-acting source of relatively small grants that can be integrated with financial and technical assistance remains and will be there for at least the next five years, if not longer.

There is a need, however, in line with the recommendations of the 2009 evaluation as well as the analysis of the Advisory Panel for the guidelines and operations of the Trust Fund to be updated and

⁵ Allocation to projects is the disbursed amount for closed projects and the allocated amount for active projects. In the previous progress reports, committed amounts were used for all projects. TFSCB oversight and project supervision costs are estimated for the lifetime of TFSCB II and III.

modified to ensure that it remains relevant to the needs of countries and that it can continue to work well with other funding mechanisms, especially the SRF.

It is proposed to maintain the basic distinction between NSDS and non-NSDS related projects and to deal with these through separate application mechanisms or windows. NSDS related projects will be reviewed on a first-come first served basis, as now, but with an expansion of coverage to help countries needing to adapt and develop existing strategies to meet the requirements of different financing mechanisms, including the SRF. In particular the Trust Fund will be able to provide support to develop implementation plans, develop budgets and to integrate national strategies into planning and budgeting mechanisms and cycles. The development of a system-side approach advocated by the SRF will be a major focus. At the same time, countries will be able to call on the Trust Fund to support the updating or review of existing strategies, helping to both broaden and deepen the approach.

For non-NSDS projects, funds will continue to be allocated through a semi-annual review of proposals by the Internal Management Committee. National as well as regional and global projects will be financed, as now, but the aim will be to ensure that these are better coordinated to support the implementation of national strategies and are in line with international recommendations, including the Dakar Declaration on the Development of Statistics.

It is also proposed to maintain the capacity of the Trust Fund to support the participation by statisticians and policy makers from low income countries at important regional and international meetings. In line with the recommendations of the evaluation and the Advisory Panel, however, it is proposed to tighten and clarify the mechanisms for approving such support. In principle the maximum amount that can be allocated for this purpose will be no more than 10 per cent of the annual allocation from the Trust Fund. The Guidelines will also be amended so that priorities are more carefully identified in advance and so that applications are only considered from the international and regional agencies responsible for the meetings.

TFSCB has been able to provide some support to countries emerging from conflict and those facing especially difficult circumstances. The need to continue this support is acknowledged since most of the countries yet to prepare an NSDS fall into this category. In principle both NSDS related and non-NSDS projects for these countries could be supported, but it is recognized that any project is likely to incur much higher overheads in terms of supervision and management. It is expected that most projects in this category will be Bank executed, at least initially.

In line with the recommendations of the evaluation and to allow for inflation since 2000, the maximum size of grant that can be supported from TFSCB will be increased from 400,000 US dollars to 500,000 US dollars. As now, however, it is expected that very few grants will be approved at this level.

Finally, the need for more effective monitoring and evaluation of TFSCB supported projects, especially in terms of outcomes and impact is acknowledged. In line with the recommendations of the 2009 evaluation, the Guidelines will be amended to ensure that most projects have in-built mechanisms for monitoring outcomes while the project is in operation and for evaluating impacts once the inputs have been delivered.

Annex 1: List of TFSCB Funded Projects

Country / Region	Name	Approval Year	Financing Amount ¹	Status ²	Project Type ³
Sub-Saharan Africa					
Angola	INE Statistical Capacity Building	2001	260,880		NSDS & SCB
Burkina Faso	Statistical Master Plan	2003	48,391		NSDS
Burundi	Action Plan for Statistics in Burundi	2006	200,000	Implementation	NSDS
Cape Verde	Statistical Master Plan	2005	37,500		NSDS
Central Africa Republic	Strengthening the National Statistical System	2005	180,000	Implementation	NSDS & SCB
Chad	Strengthening Institutional Statistical Capacities	2000	134,949		SCB
Comoros	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics	2006	45,537		NSDS
Congo, DR	DRC Strategie Nationale pour le Developpement de la Statistique	2008	224,650	Awaiting implementation	NSDS
Cote d'Ivoire	Building Local Capacity for Impact Evaluation	2002	63,996		SCB
Equatorial Guinea	Strengthening the National Statistical System	2002	217,296		NSDS & SCB
Ethiopia	Development of National Strategy for the Development of Statistics	2006	140,663		NSDS
Ethiopia	Data Systems and Economy-wide Analysis	2008	167,596	Implementation	SCB
Gabon	Statistical Capacity Building	2007	400,000	Implementation	NSDS & SCB
Gambia	Transformation of the Central Statistical Department into Gambia Bureau of Statistics	2007	144,238		SCB
Gambia, The	Updating of the Statistical Master Plan and Preparation of a Financing Strategy	2006	55,634		NSDS
Ghana	Support toward the Development of Ghana Statistical Service Corporate Plan	2005	332,018		NSDS & SCB
Guinea	Statistical Master Plan	2005	119,000	Implementation	NSDS
Kenya	Development of a Statistical Master-plan	2002	42,341		NSDS
Mauritania	Statistical Master Plan	2005	75,989		NSDS
Mauritania	Statistical Capacity Building	2007	169,100	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Niger	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics	2005	200,701		NSDS & SCB
Niger	Niger: Capacity Improvement of the National Statistical Office on Informal Sector Analysis	2009	150,000	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Nigeria	Development of a Statistical Strategy and Master-plan	2003	156,454		NSDS

Country / Region	Name	Approval Year	Financing Amount ¹	Status ²	Project Type ³
Nigeria	Sub-National Governments' Statistical Strategy and Master Plan	2006	196,546		NSDS
Nigeria	Nigeria: Building Statistical Capacity at State Level	2008	325,000	Implementation	SCB
Republic of Congo	Strengthening the institutional and technical capacity	2003	213,592		NSDS & SCB
Rwanda	Rwanda: National Statistical Institute Capacity Building Project	2008	200,000	Implementation	SCB
Sao Tome and Principe	Strengthening the National Statistical Institute and Elaboration of a National Statistical Strategy	2006	160,000	Implementation	NSDS & SCB
Senegal	Strengthening the Directorate of Forecasting and Statistics	2002	317,769		SCB
Seychelles	Seychelles: Strengthening Capacity for Evidence-Based Policies	2009	376,200	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Sierra Leone	Development of a Strategic Plan For The Statistical System Of Sierra Leone	2005	95,831		NSDS
Sierra Leone	Strengthening Statistical Capacity in Priority Sectors for Implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Statistical System	2008	123,479	Implementation	SCB
South Africa	Development of the National Statistical System	2001	334,479		NSDS & SCB
Swaziland	Preparation of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics	2008	127,450	Implementation	NSDS
Tanzania	Development of a Statistical Master-Plan	2005	153,585		NSDS
Togo	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics	2006	74,717		NSDS
Uganda	Workshop - Participatory and survey-based approaches to Poverty Monitoring and Analysis	2001	46,999		SCB
Uganda	Strengthening and linking quantitative, qualitative and GIS based poverty monitoring in the context of the PRSP	2002	261,347		SCB
Uganda	Development of a National Statistical Development Strategy for Uganda	2005	138,550		NSDS
Zambia	Zambia: Institutionalizing Livestock Data Collection and Analysis in Zambia	2010	297,900	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Zimbabwe	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics in Zimbabwe	2009	120,000	Implementation	NSDS
Sub-Saharan Africa - Regional					
Africa	Development of a Reference Regional Strategic Framework for Statistical Capacity Building in Africa	2005	301,375		NSDS
Africa	Institutional Assessment of the Transport Data in Sub-Saharan Africa	2006	89,998		SCB

Country / Region	Name	Approval Year	Financing Amount ¹	Status ²	Project Type ³
Africa	Developing Country Participation in the 2008 Africa STATCOM I and FASDEV III	2008	83,627		SCB
Africa (African Union Commission)	Implementation of the African Charter on Statistics	2010	223,260	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Africa (AFRISTAT)	Africa: Support to the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics / African Regional Schools of Statistics	2008	228,955	Implementation	SCB
Africa (AFRISTAT)	From Data to Information - Communication and Dissemination Strategy for the African National Statistics Offices through Internet (AFRISTAT)	2009	318,235	Implementation	SCB
Africa (FAO)	Workshop on Strengthening Food and Agricultural Statistics in Africa	2001	44,599		SCB
Africa (FAO)	Strengthening Agricultural Statistics for Poverty Reduction and Food Security in Rural Africa	2003	396,701		SCB
Africa (Lussophone)	GDDS, Socio-Demographic Statistics Project	2002	30,749		SCB
Africa (SADC)	Statistical Capacity Building for Poverty Reduction Strategies - First Phase	2001	247,870		SCB
Africa (SADC)	Statistical Capacity Building for Poverty Reduction Strategies	2004	319,841		SCB
Africa (UNECA)	CODI Workshop: Enhancing Statistical Capacity for Poverty Monitoring	2001	52,923		SCB
Africa (UNECA)	Workshop on "Governance for Development – The Challenge for Statistics"	2003	52,670		SCB
Africa (UNICEF)	Africa Evaluation Workshop	2002	52,491		SCB
Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland	Building Capacity for Poverty Monitoring	2006	256,500	Implementation	SCB
East Asia and the Pacific					
Cambodia	Cambodia: Statistical Master Plan Finalization and Capacity Development	2005	204,915		NSDS & SCB
China	Improvement of China's Poverty Monitoring and Evaluation Methods and Indicator System	2002	343,347		SCB
China	Design and Implementation of Services Sector Census, 2003	2003	43,120		SCB
China	Development of a Statistical Master Plan for China	2004	173,285		NSDS
China	Development of a Statistical Master Plan for China	2009	150,000	Implementation	NSDS

Country / Region	Name	Approval Year	Financing Amount ¹	Status ²	Project Type ³
Indonesia	Increasing access to Statistical data for local policy decision making	2002	251,723		SCB
Indonesia	Streamlining Data Flows from Regions to the Center under Decentralization	2005	385,012	Implementation	NSDS & SCB
Indonesia	Development of a Statistical Masterplan	2007	52,867		NSDS
Lao, PDR	Strategic Statistical Development Project	2005	288,244		SCB
Mongolia	Strengthening Institutional Statistical System	2001	357,012		NSDS & SCB
Mongolia	Strengthening the Institutional Statistical System in Mongolia	2005	199,698		SCB
Mongolia	Updating the Statistical Masterplan and Preparing the Financial Strategy	2006	66,973		NSDS
Mongolia	Mongolia: Implementation of NSDS, Census Preparation	2009	400,000	Implementation	SCB
Philippines	Statistical Capacity Building in Rural Sector	2001	376,337		SCB
Philippines	Strengthening Statistical Capacity in the Philippines with National Statistical Coordination Board	2002	39,701		NSDS & SCB
Philippines	Strengthening Statistical Capacity in Priority Sectors (non-NSDS)	2005	100,000		SCB
Philippines	Improving the Quality and Usefulness of the Philippine System of National Accounts	2008	400,000	Implementation	SCB
Thailand	Support to Reform the National Statistical System	2006	150,000	Implementation	NSDS & SCB
Vietnam	Vietnam: Statistical Strategy Development	2009	311,300	Implementation	NSDS & SCB
Vietnam	The Informal Sector and Informal Employment: Statistical Measurement, Economic Implications and Public Policies	2010	43,000	Implementation	SCB
East Asia and the Pacific - Regional					
EAP (FAO)	Workshop on Strengthening Food and Agricultural Statistics in the Pacific in Support of Food Security and Poverty Reduction Policies and Programmes	2003	23,099		SCB
EAP (Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC))	Pacific Survey Program	2009	400,000	Implementation	SCB
Europe and Central Asia					
Albania	Capacity Building and Sustainability of Agricultural Statistical Services	2001	355,479		SCB

Country / Region	Name	Approval Year	Financing Amount ¹	Status ²	Project Type ³
Armenia	Statistical Master Plan Development and technical assistance in strengthening of statistical capacity	2007	100,000	Implementation	NSDS
Belarus	Preparation of National Strategy for the Development of Statistics	2005	99,642		NSDS
Croatia	Developing Statistical Master Plan	2005	84,089		NSDS
Georgia	Georgia: National Statistics System Development Strategy	2010	280,800	Implementation	NSDS
Kazakhstan	Development of the National Strategy for Statistics and Preparation of Statistical Masterplan	2007	81,628		NSDS
Kazakhstan	Update of the SMP for Republic of Kazakhstan	2010	80,000	Implementation	NSDS
Kosovo	Supporting the formulation of a medium-term statistical development plan	2001	39,178		NSDS
Kyrgyz Republic	Strengthening Organizational Structure and Capacity of the National Statistical System	2003	239,393		NSDS & SCB
Kyrgyz Republic	Kyrgyz Republic: Implementation of Statistical Master Plan	2007	300,000	Implementation	SCB
Moldova	Strengthening the National Statistical System	2003	220,326		NSDS & SCB
Russia	Follow-up to Study of Administrative Barriers to Investment	2001	46,036		SCB
Russia	Development of a Statistical Master Plan for Russia	2005	78,751		NSDS
Russia	Russia: Strengthening Subnational Capacity for Analysis of Living Conditions	2009	259,000	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Slovakia	Support to Development of Statistical Master Plan	2005	75,716		NSDS
Tajikistan	Strengthening the National Statistical System	2002	341,185		NSDS & SCB
Turkmenistan	Statistical Capacity Building for Growth and Poverty Reduction	2008	387,500	Implementation	NSDS & SCB
Ukraine	User-Producer Seminar for the Development of State Statistics	2004	28,099		SCB
Europe and Central Asia - Regional					
ECA	Information Needs of Local Governments and Statistical Capacity Building at Subnational Level	2001	307,364		SCB

Country / Region	Name	Approval Year	Financing Amount ¹	Status ²	Project Type ³
ECA (European Centre for International Statistical Cooperation)	Conference on Human Management in National Statistical Institutes (Association of Balkan Statisticians)	2002	53,099		SCB
ECA (Interstate Statistical Committee of the CIS)	CIS Statistical Committee Training Program	2010	375,000	Awaiting implementation	SCB
ECA (UNECE)	Seminar - Application of Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in the Context of Transition	2001	136,099		SCB
ECA (UNECE)	UNECE: Capacity Building Program on New Challenges in Economic Statistics in Central Asia and Eastern European Countries 2009-2011	2009	355,000	Implementation	SCB
Latin America and the Caribbean					
Belize	Belize Statistical Development Project	2006	200,000	Implementation	NSDS & SCB
Bolivia	Bolivia: Statistical Information for Development Planning	2008	200,000	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Chile	Beyond MDGs – MIDEPLAN Chile	2008	150,000	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Costa Rica	Support for the Implementation of the NSDS	2007	179,764	Implementation	SCB
Dominican Republic	Program for the Improvement of Surveys of Living Conditions	2001	229,929		SCB
El Salvador	El Salvador: Updating of the National Statistical Development Strategy	2009	75,000	Awaiting implementation	NSDS
Guatemala	Monitoring of Statistics in the Health and Education Sectors	2007	215,000	Implementation	SCB
Guyana	Guyana National Statistical Strategy	2005	285,000	Implementation	NSDS & SCB
Jamaica	Jamaica: Strategic Statistical Development Project	2009	346,500	Awaiting implementation	NSDS & SCB
Mexico	Strengthening Information in the State of Yucatán	2010	116,900	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Nicaragua	Strengthening Statistical Capacity For Policy Formulation And Decision-Making	2002	365,709		SCB
Paraguay	Statistical Capacity Building in Economic and Social Data	2001	174,156		SCB
Paraguay	Paraguay National Strategy for the Development of Statistics	2007	103,000	Implementation	NSDS
Paraguay	Building Statistical Capacity for Better Economic Evidence-Based Policymaking in Paraguay	2008	398,450	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Peru	Building Economic and Social Data about Afro-Peruvians	2002	45,239		SCB

Country / Region	Name	Approval Year	Financing Amount ¹	Status ²	Project Type ³
Uruguay	Support to Develop a Statistical Master Plan	2005	83,431		NSDS
Uruguay	Foundations for Statistical Developments	2006	311,608		SCB
Latin America and the Caribbean - Regional					
LAC	Regional Network for Capacity Building of National Statistical Systems	2008	295,000	Implementation	SCB
LAC	LAC - SCA: National Accounts Training course	2008	80,587	Implementation	SCB
LAC	Improving Gender Statistics – Regional	2008	148,950	Awaiting implementation	SCB
LAC	Consortium for Innovation in Statistics	2009	341,500	Awaiting implementation	SCB
LAC	Socio-Economic Database for Latin America & the Caribbean	2010	184,000	Awaiting implementation	SCB
LAC (Andean Community)	Strategic Plans for Statistical Development of Andean Community	2004	395,969		NSDS
LAC (Caribbean Community - CARICOM)	Strengthening Capacity in the Compilation of Social/Gender and Environment Statistics in the CARICOM Region	2003	194,348		SCB
LAC (Caribbean Community - CARICOM)	Programme for Strengthening the Compilation of Social/Gender and Environment Statistics - Phase II	2006	120,000	Implementation	SCB
LAC (Central America)	National Strategies for Development of Statistics for the Central American Countries	2005	381,044		NSDS
LAC (ECLAC)	Harmonization of Price Statistics and National Accounts in Latin America	2009	350,000	Awaiting implementation	SCB
LAC (Organization of Eastern Caribbean States - OECS)	Statistical Development for the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Sub-region	2009	345,000	Implementation	SCB
Middle East and North Africa					
Algeria	Development of Agriculture Statistics in Algeria	2009	367,150	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Djibouti	Capacity Building for the National Statistical Agency	2005	172,299		SCB
Jordan	Development of the Statistical Master Plan	2006	43,371		NSDS
Lebanon	Statistical Master Plan	2005	51,000		NSDS
Syria	National Statistical Capacity Building	2004	121,784		NSDS & SCB
Syria	Syria: Capacity Building for Business Surveys and Economic Analysis	2009	400,000	Implementation	SCB

Country / Region	Name	Approval Year	Financing Amount ¹	Status ²	Project Type ³
Tunisia	Capacity Building for the Management and Coordination of the National Statistical Agencies	2003	196,554		NSDS & SCB
West Bank and Gaza	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics	2007	70,182		NSDS
West Bank and Gaza	West Bank and Gaza: Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building – III	2008	400,000	Implementation	SCB
Yemen	Statistical Master Plan	2003	54,065		NSDS
Yemen	Yemen - Capacity Building for the 2010 HBS and Sector Capacity Building	2010	200,000	Awaiting implementation	SCB
Middle East and North Africa - Regional					
MENA	MED-HIMS: Household International Migration Surveys in the Mediterranean Countries	2010	132,000	Awaiting implementation	SCB
South Asia					
Afghanistan	Afghanistan: Strengthening Capacity for Primary Data Collection	2008	150,000	Implementation	SCB
Bhutan	Strengthening the National Statistical System for Enhanced Poverty Reduction	2006	250,000		NSDS & SCB
India	Karnataka Poverty and Human Development Monitoring System	2001	158,876		SCB
India	Operationalizing the National Statistics Commission Strategy to Modernize the Indian Statistical System	2004	134,170		NSDS
India	Preparation of Statistical Masterplan	2007	339,160	Implementation	NSDS
Nepal	Measuring Poverty in Nepal	2002	188,628		SCB
Sri Lanka	Support to Development of Statistical Master Plan	2005	84,318		NSDS
Global					
Global	PARIS21 Coordinator	2001	121,548		SCB
Global	Poverty Analysis-First and second Phases	2001	795,353		SCB
Global	Governance Data Capacity Building and Monitoring Initiative	2002	257,492		SCB
Global	IAOS-IASS Joint Conference on Poverty, Social Exclusion and Development: A Statistical Perspective	2004	53,099		SCB
Global	Support for the Developing Country Participation to Standard Data Metadata Exchange (SDMX) Conference	2006	23,429		SCB
Global	Supporting the implementation of the scaling-up initiative for SCB	2008	330,000	Implementation	SCB
Global	Development of Strategic Plan to improve Agricultural Statistics	2008	213,450	Implementation	SCB

Country / Region	Name	Approval Year	Financing Amount ¹	Status ²	Project Type ³
Global	SDMX: Funding for Developing Country Participation	2008	23,427		SCB
Global	Developing Country Participation in the UN Conference on Climate Change and Official Statistics	2008	37,239		SCB
Global	TFSCB and PARIS21 Evaluations	2009	400,000	Implementation	Evaluation
Global	WBI Poverty Analysis and Data Initiative	2009	250,000	Implementation	SCB
Global	Global: Measuring Progress	2009	400,000	Implementation	SCB
Global	Global Strategic Plan for Agriculture Statistics -- request for additional funding	2010	91,000	Implementation	SCB
Global	Workshops and seminars	2005	300,000	Implementation	Workshop and seminars
Global (ILO)	Development of a Labor Market Indicators Library Network	2002	352,800		SCB
Global (ILO)	ILO: Participation to the 18th ICLS	2008	73,747		SCB
Global (International Statistical Institute - ISI)	Statistical Conferences Developing Country Support Program	2006	105,288		SCB
Global (International Statistical Institute - ISI)	ISI-Support for Developing Country Participation in Conferences	2009	200,000	Implementation	SCB
Global (OECD)	A Global Project on Measuring the Progress of Societies, the OECD World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policy"	2006	81,054		SCB
Global (UNSD)	Support for the Developing Country Participation in the UNSC 2008	2007	41,083		SCB
Global (UNSD)	Support for the Developing Country Participation in the UNSC 2010	2009	100,000	Implementation	SCB
Global (UNSD)	Support for the Developing Country Participation in the UNSC 2009	2009	33,645		SCB
Multi-country (Georgia, Belarus, Mongolia)	Measurement of the Non-Observed Economy	2002	174,000		SCB

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1. For projects which have not been completed, the committed amount is shown. For projects which have been completed, the disbursed amount is shown.
 2. Projects have been completed unless otherwise indicated.
 3. "NSDS" indicates projects for the preparation of a national strategy for the development of statistics. "SCB" denotes statistical development projects. "NSDS & SCB" are projects combining these two types of activities.

Annex 2: The Executive Summary of the TFSCB Evaluation Report 2009

1. The World Bank and the Consultative Group of the Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB) decided to organize an independent review of the operation and outcomes of the TFSCB in the course of 2009. The evaluation was conducted between June and October 2009. This report presents the findings and recommendations of the evaluation.

2. The TFSCB was established in 1999 by the World Bank in order to build up and strengthen the capacity of statistical systems of developing countries. It has been closely coordinated with the work of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21). Since the adoption of the Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics (MAPS) in 2004, it provides the context for the World Bank's support to statistical systems in developing countries and related activities until the end of 2010. The TFSCB is funded by donors and makes grants for projects aimed at capacity building in official statistics. As of June 2009, the TFSCB had received US\$40 million and committed US\$31 million to specific projects. The current tranche, TFSCB III, is scheduled to close by the end of 2012. The TFSCB is governed by a Consultative Group, and the Development Data Group of the World Bank manages the approval and administration of grants according to well established procedures.

3. The MAPS underscored the policy of laying the groundwork for statistical capacity building (SCB) in each developing country by designing a national strategy for the development of statistics (NSDS). Following the launch of MAPS, the TFSCB was used increasingly for this purpose. Two financing windows were introduced at this stage: an NSDS window and a more general SCB window for various development projects. From the beginning of its operation in November 2000 until mid-2009 the TFSCB gave grants to 149 projects. Of these, 101 went to national authorities in 73 countries, 29 were for funding regional projects, and the remaining 19 financed global projects. Of the grants to national authorities, just under half were for drawing up national strategies while the others were for various capacity building projects.

4. Sub-Saharan Africa has been the largest recipient of the TFSCB grants. For the operational period of the TFSCB as a whole Africa has received 33% of the total disbursement of US\$30.6 million, with Asian countries receiving 20%, Latin America and the Caribbean 16%, Europe and Central Asia 12%, and countries in the Middle East and North Africa region 5%.

5. The TFSCB funding of NSDSs and other national capacity building projects has been highly relevant for the developing countries. They have been encouraged to establish national strategies or master plans for setting out the paths and priorities for their statistical capacity building. National authorities have also been encouraged to link their applications for the general SCB grants to specific actions or parts of their national strategies or master plans. This policy seems to have been fully accepted by the recipient countries. The emphasis placed on laying the groundwork by designing a national strategy or a statistical master plan (SMP) with a concomitant action plan to guide the development of statistical capacities seems also to have been fully embraced by the developing countries. Furthermore, the countries have

been free to set their own priorities and acquire grants on the basis of these priorities or the particular path which each country has paved out for itself.

6. Evidence gathered in the course of the evaluation suggests that the NSDS projects have generally succeeded in achieving their planned outcomes. Thus, the countries have been largely successful in planning and designing an NSDS or SMP. The work has more often than not been carried out in cooperation with several partners within the statistical or administrative systems of the countries. The level of technical assistance or consultative work involved is generally thought to have ranged from satisfactory to excellent. Finally, the work has in most cases resulted in a proper strategy document outlining priorities and specifying a plan of action. The national statistical offices (NSOs) in the countries in question have assumed ownership of the strategies and plans, sometimes in cooperation with other government institutions, and have almost invariably expressed satisfaction with the NSDS.

7. There are some, albeit very few, cases where the countries feel that the NSDS work has been less successful than anticipated. The extent to which the national statistical authorities have been successful in involving other partners within the statistical system varies considerably. In some countries this has been a proper cooperative exercise involving all the main statistical producers and even users throughout the project. In other cases, the participation has been more limited.

8. Implementation of the strategies and action plans seems to give the largest cause for concern. Asked in the Team's survey about the stage of implementation of the NSDS, national authorities gave widely differing answers; in some cases implementation was ongoing while in others it was at a standstill or hampered by lack of funds. This reflects the fact that statistical needs have to compete for finance with other urgent needs under the very severe budget constraints of the developing countries. Asked about the major factors affecting implementation, national agencies most commonly cited insufficient funding.

9. Regarding the impact of the non-NSDS grants, some of the early ones were connected to larger projects funded by other sources, such as poverty measurement projects and PRSP (Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper) programs. There is evidence that such supporting funding has provided good results. More recently, several projects focused on solving specific needs, for example in national accounts, price statistics and survey methodology, are reported to have been very successful. Linking non-NSDS projects to national strategies, master plans or action plans based on these seems to have worked well. It seems very likely that the grants given in addition to or alongside the NSDS grants may contribute substantially to the sustainability of the results achieved through the NSDS work.

10. The evaluation revealed both limited and good outcomes of regional projects funded by TFSCB grants. The limited success has been experienced for instance in projects on sectoral statistics where low development levels of one or more of the countries, or political instability, prevented the countries in question from benefitting from the project. On the other hand, success has been reported for outcomes of regional projects of a more general capacity building nature, training in particular, which have enjoyed effective leadership and organization by the agencies which implemented the projects.

11. All the stakeholders whom the Evaluation Team either met or heard from through its questionnaires expressed satisfaction with the TFSCB scheme. Although small, the grants are considered very useful. The national strategies or master plans are very effective starting points for the statistical capacity building effort, both for mobilizing concerted action within the government administration to generate and make use of statistics and for facilitating cooperation with donors. The NSDS work is seen as being very important for raising the awareness of statistics and the need for a properly functioning national statistical system (NSS). At the same time it underscores the role of the government body specialized in statistics, the NSO, for coordinating the statistical capacity building process.

12. One of the underlying assumptions of the TFSCB is that the financing of NSDSs and the linked projects will help the developing countries to acquire donor funding for a more comprehensive statistical capacity building effort, as well as facilitating the use of development loans for that purpose. Many stakeholders have contended that having an NSDS has proved decisive in raising new or additional donor funding. Furthermore, there is good evidence that donors are ready to accept the prioritization and plans of the NSDSs and to coordinate their assistance accordingly.

13. Although the countries fully accept the importance of developing their official statistics, many of them balk at accepting loans for that purpose in view of their precarious economic and budgetary situations. This lessens the chances for the smooth or continuous progress of statistical capacity building based on the NSDS and for the sustainability of the actions put in place. Hence, there has been – and still is – a need for some rethinking and reorientation in this respect, in particular involving increased emphasis on assisting the implementation of the SCB plans of the countries.

14. The World Bank has responded to this by designing a so-called Statistics for Results Facility (SRF) and a supporting SRF Catalytic Fund, in particular aimed at extending large grants to countries for accelerating statistical capacity building. The development of the SRF – still in its early stages – could be an important step forward. However, as the future relationship between the SRF and the TFSCB is still unclear and the aims of the two schemes differ considerably, replacing the TFSCB with the SRF does not seem a realistic option at the present time. Thus, while the SRF could be invaluable by financing large projects in a few countries at any one time, there will still be a need to provide small grants to many countries for statistical capacity building purposes.

15. Notwithstanding the creation of the SRF the Evaluation Team finds that some reorientation of the TFSCB is called for. That should in particular recognize the present need to provide a better bridge between the development of national strategies and their implementation.

16. Most of the TFSCB-funded projects seem to have been carried out in a timely manner within the foreseen budget and using inputs of high professional standard. The formulation and approval of projects work well following well-established procedures, helped by recent World Bank grant requesting systems. Two factors beyond the control of the World Bank administrators delay and hamper smooth project implementation: the time required in some countries to formally approve an externally funded project, and the difficulty faced by many implementing agencies, especially in Africa, in applying the complex World Bank procurement and disbursement rules. Monitoring of project progress is the

responsibility of Task Team Leaders (TTLs) using a central computerized system which – at present – is not very suitable for management reporting. The TFSCB Administration Unit may give additional guidance to TTLs to promote uniform, timely and results-oriented progress reports. In the absence of a substantial completion report it is recommended that a short terminal report be introduced highlighting tangible results and lessons learned.

17. The Team makes several recommendations on the future operation of the TFSCB:

- ✓ First, it recommends that donor funding continue to be mobilized for the operations of the Trust Fund.
- ✓ Second, it is recommended that the Consultative Group of TFSCB address the issue of financing the implementation of NSDSs and the action plans based on them with the aim of securing the gains achieved through the formulation of the national strategies.
- ✓ Third, it is recommended that not less than 60% of the TFSCB's resources are allocated to the NSDS process including the formulation of NSDSs, their updating and particularly the financing of their implementation.
- ✓ Fourth, it is recommended that the maximum amount of the SCB grants and their duration be reconsidered, not only to adjust for inflation but more particularly because more substantial grants are likely to be needed to start the implementation of NSDS action plans.
- ✓ The Team makes several recommendations on project management and reporting, in particular on promoting progress reports and completion and evaluation reporting for the benefit of future projects, on facilitating the execution of TFSCB projects by UN agencies, and on the TFSCB becoming more proactive in disseminating information about its key features.

Annex 3: TFSCB Guidelines and Procedures

The purpose of these guidelines is to help task teams prepare TFSCB funding proposals. TFSCB proposals are expected to be self-contained and should provide all the necessary information for a full consideration of the funding request.

Overview of TFSCB

Purposes of the TFSCB

The Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB) has been established by the Development Data Group of the World Bank to strengthen the capacity of statistical systems in developing countries. It is closely coordinated with the work of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) and is part of the worldwide effort to reduce poverty by strengthening the evidence base for decision making at all levels. In conjunction with national governments, the aid programs of bilateral donors as well as other international initiatives, TFSCB provides a practical mechanism to achieve the PARIS21 vision, that is, to develop effective and efficient national statistical systems and to promote a culture of evidence-based decision-making. In line with the priorities identified by the contributing donors, the emphasis is on strengthening statistical systems in support of national poverty reduction strategies and other national and international development goals. In particular, TFSCB helps developing countries to set out a medium to long-term strategic vision for their statistical systems, to prepare programs and plans to put this vision into effect and then to implement specific capacity building projects.

TFSCB finances two main kinds of projects. The first type supports the preparation of National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS). In line with the Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics (MAPS), TFSCB is working with PARIS21 to ensure that all low income countries have an integrated and comprehensive plan for the strategic development of their national statistical systems. The purpose of an NSDS project is to define a national long-term strategy to develop an efficient and sustainable statistical system in the recipient country. Strategies will differ from country to country due to differences in the political and cultural environment, the administrative structure (e.g. federal or centralized) and economic situation. NSDS should be adopted at the highest political level after having reached a consensus among all stakeholders of the statistical system. PARIS21 has developed guidelines and recommendations for the production of NSDSs and these should be used wherever possible⁶.

The second type of project (non-NSDS projects) supports capacity building activities in specific priority areas. For instance, these projects may target the implementation of one or more critical components of an NSDS. All non-NSDS projects are expected to be based on a formal assessment of the statistical system and must demonstrate how they will address the main capacity weaknesses. If a country does

⁶ A Guide to Designing a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) is available at: <http://paris21.org/documents/1401.pdf>.

not have an NSDS it is strongly encouraged to prepare one before applying for a non-NSDS project. Project proposals are required to set out specific targets for capacity development. The resources provided must be additional and cannot be used simply to replace national budgetary resources. For example, while it may be possible to use funds to meet some of the costs of data collection activities, especially where new activities are being tried out, projects that are just concerned with maintaining existing systems are unlikely to be approved.

In all proposals, recipients are required to demonstrate their commitment to the project by providing some contribution to the overall costs, which may be in kind or in cash.

Given that the preparation of NSDS is a priority for developing countries TFSCB allocates up to 60% of its resources for this purpose. The remaining funds will be used to fund non-NSDS projects.

Key Features of TFSCB

- Aims to achieve the PARIS21 vision and is a key component in supporting the implementation of the Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics.
- Foster evidence based policymaking and effective monitoring.
- Promotes a strategic approach to the development of statistical capacity, supporting the preparation and implementation of nationally prepared and owned strategic statistical development plans.
- Provides an intervention mechanism to help initiate changes in policy and decision-making through improved availability and use of information and statistical data.
- Most projects operate at the national or sub-national level, but the trust fund can also support regional and global projects where there is a case for intervention at this level.
- Improves the use of resources for development through better-informed decision-making resulting from improved statistical systems and hence better data quality and analysis.
- Promotes partnerships and improves coordination among local and international agencies and civil society organizations.

Uses of the Fund

- TFSCB finances two kinds of projects as outlined above: those concerned with the preparation of NSDS; and other, non-NSDS projects that aim to strengthen capacity in key priority sectors.
- TFSCB grants may be used either to finance country-based activities or global or regional programs. However, TFSCB grants cannot be used to supplement the administrative or logistical needs of these projects.
- Regional and global projects will only be financed where there is a clear case of intervention at this level and where a single implementing agency is identified. In general, regional projects will be linked to the follow up of PARIS21 regional workshops.
- It is also important to note that the Trust Fund has been set up to build statistical capacity and not simply to fund data collection activities. Applications must indicate where there are presently capacity weaknesses in the statistical system and how the proposal will address them.

Illustrative Activities

In light of above discussion of statistical capacity building the following is an illustrative list of activities, which might be proposed for financing under TFSCB.

(a) For NSDS projects

Supporting the preparation of NSDS is a major activity of TFSCB. More detailed information on good practice in the preparation and implementation of NSDS can be found on the PARIS21 web-site. In summary, the process is expected to involve the following steps.

- A detailed assessment of the current statistical system, for example, using an assessment framework such as the GDDS or DQAF, identifying strengths and weaknesses and looking at all aspects of activities from the quality of the output to aspects such as finance and management.
- An identification of all the main stakeholders in the statistical system and the establishment of processes and procedures for regular consultation.
- The development of a medium-term strategic vision, setting out where the statistical system expects to be within the next five to ten years.
- The identification of the main priority actions that will be needed to address the weaknesses and achieve the vision. This will generally address at least five areas, including: the regulatory and managerial framework; statistical infrastructure; statistical operations and procedures; human resources; and physical infrastructure.
- Putting together a detailed implementation or master plan, with a time-bound and budgeted set of actions, identifying what will need to be done and when.
- Establishing an implementation mechanism, including a financing plan, mechanisms for monitoring and reporting on progress at regular intervals, and a process for review and evaluation.

A well-developed NSDS could provide a basis for a larger, more comprehensive project for instance financed by a STATCAP lending operation.

(b) For non-NSDS projects

Non-SDS projects can support activities to strengthen statistical systems at sub-national, national, regional, and global levels, including but not limited to improvements in the following areas:

- Management, institutional framework and coordination;
- Data user-provider dialogue;
- Human resource capacity, including training;
- Statistical methodologies;
- Data processing and management methods;
- Data quality;
- National capacity for poverty analysis;
- Sector-specific capacity improving activities;
- Special areas of economic and socio-demographic statistics;

- Dissemination of comprehensive, timely, accessible, and reliable economic, financial, and socio-demographic statistics; and
- Development of a framework for evaluating needs for data improvement and setting priorities in this respect.

How to Apply

It is expected that project proposals will come from a number of different sources, including statistical agencies of member countries, international and regional development organizations, NGOs and donor agencies.

It is strongly recommended that agencies interested in preparing an application make contact with the TFSCB Administration Unit or the local World Bank office at an early stage. All proposals need a Task Team Leader (TTL) from the Bank staff who will make sure that the pre and post-approval procedures (Annex 1) are followed. The respective Country or Sector Management Unit will assign the TTL or contact person.

For a country-specific proposal, the TTL seeks endorsement from the appropriate Country Director or Sector Director, as needed. For a regional/global proposal, the TTL seeks endorsement from the relevant Sector Director and where necessary from the concerned Country Directors or from his/her own unit. This will ensure the proper supervision and management of the project. The Internal Management Committee then reviews the proposals. On approval, the TTL makes necessary arrangements for preparation of the required legal documents and other administrative activities to disburse funds. At an early stage, and in consultation with the Administration Unit, TTLs should identify whether they will be submitting a proposal for funding under the NSDS or the non-NSDS windows.

All proposals must be submitted using the standard web-based Grant Funding Request tool. Proposals to support the preparation of a strategic statistical development plan or a statistical master plan can be submitted at any time and will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. For all non-NSDS projects, the Chair of the Internal Management Committee (IMC) will make an announcement on the availability of funds twice a year, in February and August. Depending on the availability of funds applications may be invited to be submitted within a specified period of time. All such proposals will be reviewed simultaneously by the IMC and will be approved based on the quality of the proposal and the availability of funds. Proposals that are considered to meet the selection criteria, but which can not be financed immediately because of the unavailability of funds may be held over for funding in the next period.

Application Conditions

The following conditions are requirements for all projects to be financed from the Fund.

- All member countries of the World Bank are eligible for the TFSCB funding, however, PRSP/IDA countries will have priority.
- All TFSCB funded activities should be compatible with national and regional development objectives as set out in Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers, World Bank Country Assistance Strategy reports, and other strategy documents and should be in line with and support the

PARIS21 consortium, the World Bank and other donors' poverty reduction and MDG-related activities.

- All projects financed under TFSCB should be demand driven (demonstrated through an official request letter from recipients) to contribute to the development of the statistical system of the recipient country and should not be used to cover the administrative or logistical cost of these projects.
- All non-NSDS country proposals should indicate how they relate to the national statistical development strategy. Priority will be given to projects that are based on an existing national statistical strategy and which are in line with the priorities already identified. In countries without an NSDS, non-NSDS projects will only be financed where there is a clear justification of the need for immediate capacity building before an overall strategic framework can be developed and where the project will contribute to the development of a more strategic approach to official statistics.
- In line with the overall PARIS21 approach, coordination with other development projects must be set out in detail. TFSCB funded projects should promote coordination and collaboration with local and international agencies, civil society and NGOs, should help to develop partnerships and to strengthen mechanisms to share knowledge and experiences.
- TFSCB funded activities should focus on the most urgently needed components that will make most direct impact on the statistical system, and so eventually improve policy and decision making and monitoring. For non-NSDS projects in particular, priority will be given to projects that are innovative and are unlikely to be financed from other sources. Applications should indicate what other funding sources, if any have been approached to finance the project and what the response has been.
- Project proposals may originate from a number of different sources, including staff from national statistical agencies and other data providers and users as well as staff and/or consultants from donor agencies. However, all proposals should define the ways in which the project is linked to the national statistical system and specify how activities will be coordinated.
- TFSCB financed projects are to be implemented by an appropriate national or regional agency that may be a government department, a civil society organization or other national or regional agency. Projects may also be implemented by third parties such as donor agencies or, in exceptional circumstances as explained in OP 14.40, by the World Bank itself.
- All implementing agencies must be able to sign legal contracts and should demonstrate financial soundness and a capacity to manage and account for funds.
- Implementing agencies are required to follow World Bank standard procedures for procurement, disbursement and accounting. For each project the Bank will nominate a Task Team Leader, who will take responsibility for liaison with the implementing agency, supervision and ensuring compliance with trust fund procedures.
- Proposals should define the mechanisms planned for identification, establishment and monitoring of priority beneficiaries, and arrangements to ensure that the proposed interventions will reach the targeted beneficiaries.
- Proposals should provide assurance of proper project execution including the necessary resources for supervision and management, and should provide for the standard level of World Bank Group accountability and oversight for such activities.

- Proposals should list the performance indicators to monitor and evaluate the proposed activities, including measures of implementation progress and the outcome or impact. They should describe the performance monitoring and impact evaluation systems that would be used or established for these purposes.
- The maximum budget for any one proposal is US\$ 400,000 and the maximum duration is three years. For NSDS proposals the upper limit is determined case by case based on the size and the needs of the recipient country, but past experience suggests that most projects require much less support and are normally completed within one year.
- Procurement of goods is allowed in recipient executed grants; and the maximum amount allocated for goods cannot exceed 20% of the grant amount.

Criteria for Selection

All project proposals will be reviewed to ensure that they satisfy the basic conditions as outlined above. Projects will then be assessed by the Internal Management Committee using the following criteria.

(a) For NSDS Projects

- The quality of the approach proposed to develop a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics, and the extent to which this is in line with good practice as set out, for example, by PARIS21.
- The effectiveness of the mechanisms proposed to ensure consistency and alignment with the PRSP, other national strategy and MDG monitoring processes.
- The feasibility of the timetable and the adequacy of the budget.
- The quality of the consultative and participatory process proposed involving both data users and providers and the extent to which the views of the key stakeholders have been and will be taken into account.
- The level of commitment to the process demonstrated by government and other stakeholders, including other donor agencies, as demonstrated, for example, by the level of contributions in cash and in kind.
- The adequacy and feasibility of the mechanisms proposed for project management and supervision.
- The adequacy of the reporting process and the monitoring indicators proposed.

(b) For non-NSDS projects

- The extent to which the project is in line with the priorities identified in the NSDS or where such a plan does not yet exist, the extent to which the project will lead to a more strategic approach to statistical capacity building.
- The extent to which the approach proposed is in line with internationally accepted good practice and recommendations.

- The need and suitability of the project for funding from this global trust fund; innovative projects that are unlikely to be financed from other sources will have priority, provided they are assessed to be technically feasible and financially sound.
- The feasibility of the timetable and the adequacy of the budget.
- The quality of the consultative and participatory process proposed and the extent to which the views of the key stakeholders have been and will be taken into account.
- The level of commitment to the process demonstrated by government and other stakeholders, including other donor agencies, demonstrated, for example, by the level of other contributions in cash and in kind.
- The adequacy and feasibility of the mechanisms proposed for project management and supervision.

The adequacy of the mechanisms proposed to monitor and evaluate progress and to report to stakeholders.