



DCED Market Systems Development Working Group

Meeting minutes, Toronto, 6th June 2018

8th June 2018

Participants

- Susanne Thiard-laforet (ADA), co-Chair
- Silvia Heer (BMZ)
- Julie Delforce (DFAT Australia)
- Michelle McKenna (DFID)
- Siobhan Kelly (FAO)
- Georgina Duffin (Gatsby Foundation)
- Stefanie Springoroum (GIZ)
- Andreja Marusic (IFC)
- Catherine Masinde (IFC)
- Steve Hartrich (ILO)
- Dragan Radic (ILO)
- Anders Aeroe (ITC)
- Toru Homma (JICA)
- Nafis Muntasir (Mastercard Foundation)
- Andrea Inglin (SDC), co-Chair
- Gun Eriksson Skoog (Sida)
- Kristin O'Planick (USAID)
- Tania Begazo (WorldBank)
- Jim Tanburn, Mike Albu, Nick Wilson (DCED Secretariat)

Agenda

1. Introductions, and expectations, agenda
2. Report on BEAM Exchange activities and results
3. MSD WG Workplan & budget for 2018/19
4. Mapping the system around MSD programming

Lunch

5. Group-based activity planning, feedback & highlights
 - Workstream 2.2: Strengthening the MSD training system
 - Workstream 2.3: Strengthening the Evidence base
 - Workstream 2.4: Building members' capacity to use MSD
 - Workstream 2.5: Structural economic transformation
6. Other business

1. Introductions and expectations

Susanne Thiard-Laforet (Co-Chair) introduced the main goal for the meeting: to confirm the work-plan submitted to ExCo, and develop activity plans for the year ahead. Working Group members (many attending for the first time) began by introducing themselves and briefly sharing their expectations for the meeting. These clustered around agreeing on clear activities for the year ahead.

2. Report on BEAM Exchange activities and results

Mike gave a short presentation covering:

- The history of the BEAM Exchange and the rationale for its recent transition to being hosted by the DCED and supervised by the MSD WG.
- A rapid walk-through of the main features of the [BEAM Exchange](#) website
- Results achieved by the platform, especially in terms of visitors, engagement, resource downloads
- An explanation of BEAM outputs since the previous WG meeting in February – including the [MSD Competency Framework](#) and the paper on [principles to guide donor procurement](#)

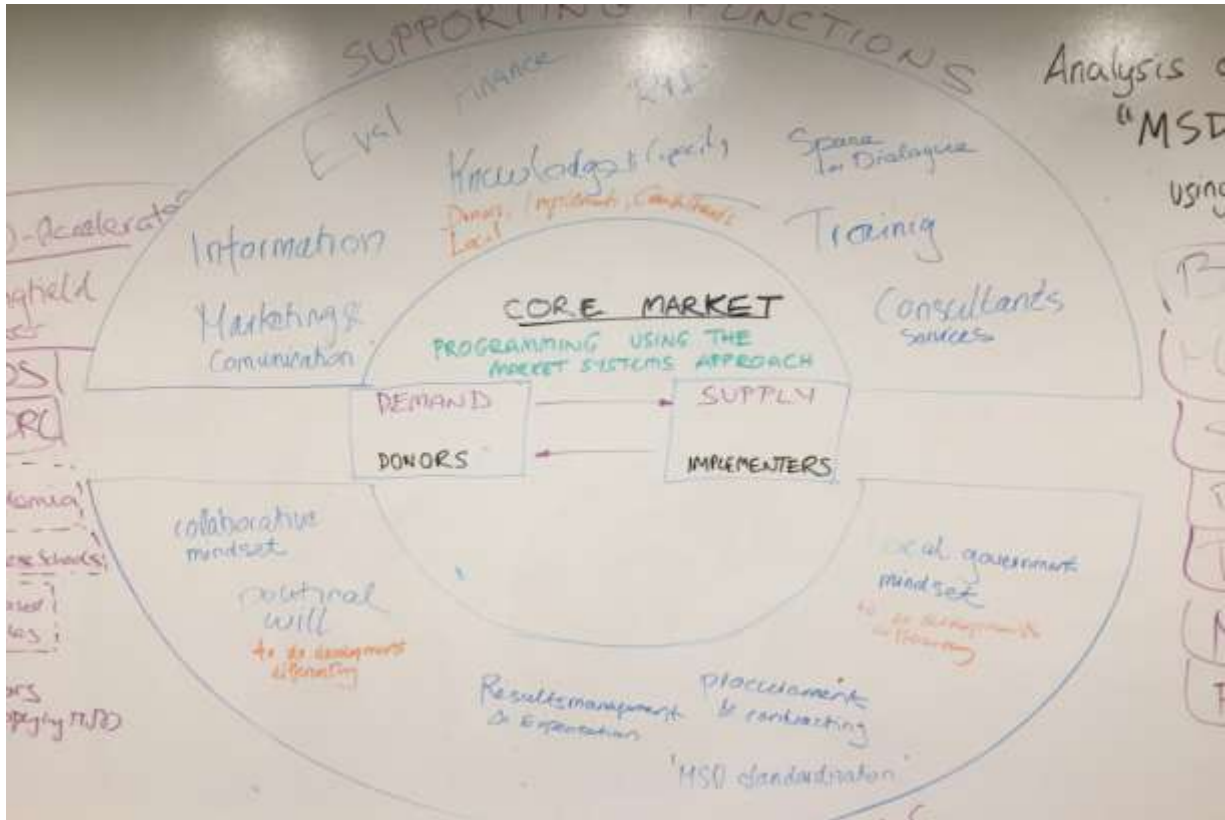
3. MSD WG Workplan & budget for 2018/19

The co-chairs led a discussion about the final draft of the WG activities and budget as incorporated into the DCED Annual Workplan 2018/19, submitted for approval at the [DCED Annual Meeting on 8th June](#). The co-chairs pointed out that while some fields of activity will occupy the WG for longer, e.g. capacity building around the MSD approach, others will be a focus only for one period and then should change to something else, e.g. Structural Transformation. No last-minute amendments were proposed, and plan was approved for submission by consensus.

4. Mapping the system around MSD programming

The co-chairs led a participatory exercise in which members constructed a mapping (using the familiar M4P doughnut) of the 'system' around MSD Programming. The map identified the key functions and key stakeholders involved in the system. This facilitated discussion of the relevant roles for both the BEAM Exchange and the DCED MSD WG in this system.

It was agreed that the WG should avoid inserting itself as an 'actor' in this system – for example by not providing a subsidised training function which might displace existing commercial training providers.



On a related point, the Co-Chairs also emphasised the importance of the WG presenting a coherent and consistent face in public.

Action point: The Chairs particularly requested members to direct all external communications about WG business through the Chairs, and more generally to keep them copied into significant conversations within the group/with the DCED secretariat.

5. Group-organised activity planning

After lunch, the WG embarked on activity planning for the ‘Strengthening the Evidence Base’ work-stream using the Design for Wiser Action (DWA) method and template introduced by Susi.

Workstream 2.3 – Strengthening the Evidence Base

These activities were already essentially agreed in February, and were used to demonstrate the DWA methodology. The **task team** identified as Stefanie (GIZ) [Lead], Mehrnaz (NORAD), Kristin (USAID) and Julie (DFAT). Stefanie reiterated GIZ’s readiness to commission a consultant (or consultants) to undertake the activities proposed in February’s meeting; that is:

- Produce a new MSD Evidence communications pack, for those working to influence senior decision-makers
- Enrich the BEAM Evidence Map by searching for, soliciting and screening new evidence documents supplied by the community

- Produce a new Evidence synthesis report before end Dec 2018.

There was some discussion about broadening the scope of the Communications pack beyond the 15 snap-shots (micro-case studies) agreed in February, to include material covering a wider synthesis of the evidence.

Action points:

- a. Mike (Secretariat) will support the task team to draft Terms of Reference for this item.
- b. Once ToRs have been finalised by the task team, Stefanie (GIZ) will circulate to the wider group for their suggestions before the procurement process begins.

Workstream 2.2 – Strengthening the MSD training & capacity-building system

The purpose of activities is to facilitate systemic improvements in the market for MSD-related training and capacity building for MSD practitioners, consultants and donor staff. The **task team** identified as Mike (Secretariat) [LEAD], Kristin (USAID). Georgina (Gatsby) also expressed an interest in linking to Gatsby’s work in this topic.

Discussions by the group produced three “quick-wins” that Mike will implement without the need for any further action by the group.

- Link jobs page to new MSD competency framework (described earlier)
- Reach out to BEAM network for comments and additions.
- Promote the framework to MSD implementing organisations, aiming for them to incorporate into their recruitment processes / job adverts

Workstream 2.4 - Building members’ capacity to use the MSD approach

The purpose to support WG member agency staff to adopt and advocate for the market systems approach, in response to general and specifically expressed needs. The **task team** identified as Julie (DFAT)[LEAD], Andrea (SDC), Kristin(USAID) and Gun (Sida).

Members expressed strong need for this support, but the format was contested: members variously favour face-to-face trainings in-country, on-line orientation courses and/or a help-desk function. However members agreed that a modular system is probably useful to everybody, as it would allow to respond to the individual needs of all donors which face heterogeneous demands within their respective agencies. Also, members agreed that training material for “MSD responsible” donor staff shall be developed to support them when they have to introduce MSD (or give short trainings) to their colleagues.

Action point:

- a. Disseminate a simple training needs assessment among donor staff. Mike (Secretariat) will design an instrument, and this will be circulated by WG members by end July.
- b. Mike (Secretariat) will conduct a rapid stocktaking exercise to identify existing and potential suppliers of donor-specific training content on design, procurement, management of MSD programmes by end July.

c. Mike (Secretariat) will explore feasibility of running a low-cost pilot help-desk function for a trial period (e.g. 3 months) using Secretariat resources.

Workstream 2.5 - Structural economic transformation

The purpose of the activity is to support Working Group members to research and develop guidance or policy briefs for members on Structural Economic Transformation. The task team identified as Georgina (Gatsby)[LEAD], Gun (Sida), Michelle (DFID), Stefanie (GIZ), Anders (ITC), Siobhan (FAO), Catherine (World Bank), Nafis (TMCF), Steve (ILO).

It was agreed that this is a very large topic, and would need to be carefully delineated. Several working group members suggested that the topic requires a discussion of political will, which is not usually a core-concern of MSD.

It was agreed that the group would commission a study initially to examine the implications of structural economic transformation for application of MSD approach. Completion of the study will be followed by a workshop. This would be followed by a policy-note, disseminating the findings of the initial study, if the group agrees that this is a necessary next step.

Action point:

a. Terms of Reference for a study of the will be drafted by the Task Team (led by Georgina, Gun & Catherine). Siobhan agreed to review initial drafts.

b. Draft ToR will be shared with co-chairs, and then shared with the BERWG to check for synergies.

6. Other business / Next steps

Kristin (USAID) made an announcement concerning a request from SEEP Network for members' participation at a SEEP Conference plenary in October 2018. Members agreed that Mike could share their contact details with the organiser for the purpose of sending invitations.

Members agreed that there will be no further face to face WG meeting this year. Conference calls will be organized by the secretariat to announce and discuss next steps in the different working areas (subgroups), the first one probably taking place in autumn 2018.

Action point: members to advise Mike (Secretariat) and co-Chairs if they intend to take up the invitation from SEEP Network.