

TAP Network Steering Committee - Transition from 2018-2019 Steering Committee to 2020-2021 Steering Committee

Meeting Decisions

14 February 2020

Present: Mr. Peter van Sluijs, CSPPS
Ms. Judith Kaulem, Poverty Forum Reduction Trust
Ms. Jyotsna Mohan Signh
Mr. John Romano, TAP Secretariat
Ms. Elle Sweeney, TAP Secretariat

Absent: Ms. Florence Syevuo, SDG Kenya Forum
Mr. Hideki Wakabayashi, ADA
Ms. Jean Scrimgeour, Accountability Lab

Next meeting: 14 February 2020 (TBD)

Chairing Meeting: Mr. John Romano, TAP Secretariat

DECISIONS TAKEN FROM CONFERENCE CALL IN GREEN; FOLLOW-UP ITEMS IN BLUE

Agenda Items:

1. Review and Approval of the last Steering Committee Call Notes

Decisions: Approval of Decisions and Notes from TAP Network in-person Steering Committee on 31 January 2020.

2. Election of Global South Co-Chair for 2020

Discussion: The TAP Steering Committee discussed the election of the Global South Co-Chair for 2020. It was decided and agreed that Poverty Reduction Forum Trust will serve as the Global South Co-Chair for 2020.

Decisions: It was decided and agreed that Poverty Reduction Forum Trust will serve as the Global South Co-Chair for 2020.

3. TAP Strategic Planning Process

- a. **Introductory email to TAP Network Membership from Steering Committee, with synthesis report, update on strategic planning process, etc.**
- b. **Update on additional documents related to Strategic Planning, Work plan, budget**
- c. **Update on Kathmandu Democracy Forum and in-person Steering Committee meeting**

Discussion: The TAP Secretariat provided an update on the Strategic Planning Process.

The TAP Coordinator noted that he has drafted the introductory email from the co-chairs to be to the network. This email includes an introduction of the new Steering Committee itself as well as information on the synthesis report, update on the strategic planning process, and a few other additional items. The Steering Committee agreed to review and approve this draft and then two newly elected Co-Chairs would send it out to the Network next week. The Steering Committee to provide edits to this text by the middle of next week.

The TAP Secretariat noted that it is still working on the draft strategic plan and will share this document with the new Steering Committee as soon as possible. It was noted that the Secretariat has received some responses back from the old Steering Committee members regarding the additional information the new Steering Committee requested with the transition. This information will be shared with the new Steering Committee as soon as it finalized. s

The Secretariat noted that ADA, the conference organizers of the Kathmandu Democracy Forum, is potentially looking to post-pone its event in Nepal due to concerns about the Coronavirus. As such, the in-person Steering Committee meeting, which was generously being funded by ADA, will also potentially need to be changed to another location, and new funding found or allocated from TAP's existing budget to cover these travel costs. The TAP Secretariat has begun looking into new venues in the event of this change and has costed out the estimated expenses for each location.

The Secretariat looked into a couple efficient, low-cost options and costed these out, including:

- 1) New York (Total Cost - \$5000-6000). It was noted that Judith has a visa for the US.
- 2) Bonn, Germany around the Global Festival of Action (Total Cost could potentially be \$0 or very low if the Festival organizers are able to cover travel costs for some or all of the participants). It was noted that Judith does not have a Schengen Visa and will therefore need to obtain one for this location.
- 3) Nairobi – (Total Costs - \$7500-8500). It was noted that Judith would not need a visa for this location.
- 4) Adidas Abba, It was noted that Judith would not need a visa for this location.

ADA will keep the Steering Committee updated as soon as possible on if and when the Kathmandu Democracy Forum will be postponed to and a final decision on the Steering Committee meeting will be decided thereafter.

In the event that the Kathmandu Democracy Forum is postponed for too late in the year, then the Steering Committee decided and agreed to go with the most economical alternative options (New York). The Secretariat to follow-up with the not present Steering Committee Members to check that they available to travel to New York during the original dates (week of March 16th)

Decisions: In the event that the Kathmandu Democracy Forum is postponed for too late in the year, then the Steering Committee decided and agreed to go with the most economical alternative options (New York).

Follow-up:

- The Steering Committee to review and approve this draft and then two newly elected Co-Chairs to send it out to the Network next week. The Steering Committee to provide edits to this text by the middle of next week.
- ADA to keep the Steering Committee updated as soon as possible on if and when the Kathmandu Democracy Forum will be postponed to and a final decision on the Steering Committee meeting will be decided thereafter.
- The Secretariat to follow-up with the not present Steering Committee Members to check that they available to travel to New York during the original dates (week of March 16th)

4. Partnership Updates

a. Review of invitations for TAP from different initiatives

- i. UN Democracy Fund
- ii. UNDP
- iii. UCLG

b. Fundraising updates

- i. KOICA

Discussion: The TAP Secretariat provided updates on current partnership opportunities.

TAP Network has received the official invitation now to join the UN Democracy Fund. The Steering Committee decided and agreed to accept this invitation.

The TAP Network also received an invitation for a national monitoring initiative spearheaded by the UNDP. The Secretariat and the Steering Committee Global North Co-Chair met last week in Copenhagen with UNDP to discuss this opportunity. It is not clear yet what the time commitment will be for this initiative. It was noted that the countries which will receive funding and support from this initiative have already been decided through an application led by UNDP. In the concept note, it is clear that UNDP will largely lead on this work so there is a need to clarify what TAP's role in the initiative would be exactly. From the conversation in Copenhagen, it seems that TAP's role will likely be low touch though the Secretariat will clarify the duties and responsibilities. The Steering Committee decided and agreed that the TAP Network should accept this invitation as well.

Finally, the TAP Network was invited to be a part of another initiative with UCLG and UNDP on data, monitoring and localization. Again, involvement in this initiative should be fairly low touch. More information on the initiative will be gathered by the TAP Secretariat who will then subsequently keep the Steering Committee updated. It was decided and agreed by the Steering Committee that TAP will accept this final invitation as well.

In the realm of fundraising, the TAP Secretariat submitted its proposal to KOICA last week and met with colleagues from KOICA in South Korea at the PyeongChang Peace Forum. These colleagues indicated

that the proposal will be reviewed in the coming weeks and noted that it is likely that KOICA will choose one or two of the workstreams to pursue. It was noted that other initiatives in the SDG16+ community – including Pathfinders and the 16 Plus Forum – have also submitted proposals to KOICA.

Decisions:

- It was decided and agreed by the Steering Committee that TAP will accept this invitation from UN Democracy Fund.
- It was decided and agreed by the Steering Committee that TAP will accept this invitation for a national monitoring initiative spearheaded by the UNDP.
- It was decided and agreed by the Steering Committee that TAP will accept this invitation for the initiative with UCLG and UNDP on data, monitoring and localization.

5. Update on Substantive Work Streams

- a. Update from Copenhagen SDG16 Monitoring Workshop and PyeongChang Peace Forum**
- b. Decade of Accountability Update**
- c. New partners: A4SD, GCAP, Forus, Action Aid, SDG Action Campaign**
- d. Global Festival of Action Event**

Discussion: The TAP Secretariat provided brief updates on recent opportunities including the Copenhagen meeting and the PyeongChang Peace Forum. It is not clear what the outcomes from the workshop will be beyond a workshop report in Copenhagen, however, many connections were gained, especially with regard to TAP’s work around the Post-VNR guidance. The TAP Secretariat made many connections in PyeongChang, including specifically GCAP, and had the chance to showcase a number of TAP’s past and upcoming initiatives, including the Rome Declaration.

The TAP Secretariat noted that it has confirmed four new partners for Decade of Accountability, including A4SD, GCAP, Forus, Action Aid, and SDG Action Campaign.

6. Review of TAP Partner Applications

Discussion: The TAP Secretariat noted that there have been six new partner applications since the last Steering Committee. The TAP Secretariat has reviewed these applications and provided the recommendation that all six organizations should be approved based on the content of their commitments. It was decided and agreed by the Steering Committee to accept all six applications.

Decisions: The Steering Committee decided and agreed to accept all six new Partner applications.

7. AOB

- a. Changing the Steering Committee call to Thursday?**

Discussion: For now, it was decided and agreed that the next meeting will be kept on Friday. The TAP Secretariat will follow-up with all Steering Committee members to determine if they have a preference for Thursdays over Fridays going forward.

Decisions: The Steering Committee decided and agreed to keep the current schedule for calls.