

TAP Network Steering Committee

Meeting Decisions

25 January 2019

Present: Mr. Rukshana Nanayakkara, Transparency International
Ms. Coco Lammers, Namati
Mr. Zia Ur-Rehman, ADA
Mr. Louis Busingye, HRFRA
Mr. John Romano, TAP Secretariat
Ms. Elle Sweeney, TAP Secretariat

Not Present: Ms. Florence Syevuo, SDG Kenya Forum

Next meeting: 8 February 2019

Chairing Meeting: Ms. Coco Lammers, Namati

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

Agenda Items:

1. Review and approval of last Steering Committee call notes

Decision: One minor change was requested to the Notes from TAP Network Steering Committee Call on 11 January 2019. Thereafter, approval was taken by the Steering Committee of the Decisions and Notes from TAP Network Steering Committee Call on 11 January 2019.

2. Partnership updates

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator provided a brief update on fundraising activities. As a reminder, the Coordinator noted that he and the former TAP Steering Committee Co-Chairs spoke back in the fall with GIZ regarding potential funding opportunities for TAP's national workshops in 2019. After this meeting, the TAP Secretariat submitted a formal proposal to GIZ for funding, which subsequently evolved into a joint funding proposal from TAP and a partner network, A4SD. Since the submission of this proposal, the Coordinator noted that he spoke with GIZ last week and received positive feedback, though specifics on the amount of funding and when it will be disbursed is not yet clear. As such, in terms of timing and next steps, the Secretariat will be in a holding pattern until more information is provided by GIZ. It is likely the case that GIZ's funding will not be available in time to support TAP/A4SD's 2019 workshops, but funding should be approved in time to fund workshops in 2020.

In addition to submitting this pitch to GIZ, the TAP Coordinator noted that the Secretariat and A4SD have begun to shop this same national workshop proposal around to other potential funders and are receiving positive feedback. Further pitches will continue to be made to other prospective donors in the weeks and months ahead.

The TAP Secretariat noted that it also working to put together a second joint funding request to GIZ—this one for SDG16 VNR support in collaboration with the Global Alliance. The TAP Coordinator met with Lucy Turner, the Coordinator for the UNDP’s Global Alliance, last week to discuss this potential project and then sent a preliminary message about the idea to GIZ. GIZ provided positive feedback but, again, noted that funding may not come through until 2020. However, GIZ also mentioned that it has some remaining funding for 2019 that could possibly be allocated to this project proposal, depending on national budget negotiations taking place in Germany soon. As such, the TAP Secretariat is putting together a second proposal for this project and will submit this to GIZ as soon as possible.

In regard to both of these pending projects, the TAP Coordinator noted that MOUs will be put into place with A4SD and the Global Alliance in order to formally delineate tasks and responsibilities should the proposal be approved.

Despite the potential delays in receiving funding from GIZ and other donors, the TAP Secretariat assured the Steering Committee that plans for the national workshops and other activities leading up to the 2019 HLPF can still be executed with the budget at hand. However, the Coordinator suggested that a discussion on re-prioritizing workstreams and, in turn, budget allocation needs to be had between the TAP Steering Committee, especially given some of the developments and changes that have occurred since the last budget talks in the fall in Bangkok. **It was decided and agreed that a budget discussion would be added to the agenda for the next Steering Committee call.**

Finally, the TAP Coordinator noted that the Secretariat is working with both TAI and Proteus Fund to connect with other potential donors for 2019 and 2020. Beyond these networking possibilities, the Secretariat has upcoming conversations with the Omidyar Network next week and then with the Ford Foundation in a couple months or so. The Ford Foundation is going through a restructuring at this time and will have a changing approach to its governance work. The TAP Secretariat has a conversation planned with these colleagues pending the adoption of their new governance structure.

Decisions:

It was decided and agreed that a budget discussion would be added to the agenda for the next Steering Committee call.

3. Review and discussion of 2019 workplan

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator walked the Steering Committee through updates on the Secretariat's ongoing workstreams, specifically around the SDG Accountability Handbook, HLPF planning, national workshops, advocacy, communications and outreach, and fundraising.

The Coordinator reviewed the three documents provided to the Steering Committee, including a month-by-month workplan, a timeline showing workstreams, and schedule for upcoming events/opportunities.

During this discussion, it was noted that all or at least a couple of the Steering Committee members should plan to attend the launch of the SDG Accountability Handbook event, when and where-ever this ends up taking place. Planning for this launch is still pending. **It was decided and agreed that a planning discussion for this launch event—particularly in regard to the budget—should be added to the agenda for the next Steering Committee Meeting.**

In regard to the Handbook, it was noted by the TAP Coordinator that both a copy editor and a designer have both been hired. The designer will be provided a small consultancy fee and tasked with putting together 1) the print version of the Handbook, 2) the digital version of the Handbook, and 3) the website redesign, with a particular focus on building out the TAP Partner pages. The copy editor will start next week, pending the finishing of the Handbook content, and the designer will start the first week of February.

It was decided and agreed that the TAP Secretariat will continue to collect case studies from the Network and add these to the digital Handbook.

It was decided and agreed that the Steering Committee would have a standing agenda item to review the workplans in the months ahead.

It was decided and agreed that the TAP Secretariat would put together a revised draft budget for the next Steering Committee Meeting, with particular focus on pending staffing capacity needs.

Decisions:

- It was decided and agreed that a planning discussion for this launch event—particularly in regard to the budget—should be added to the agenda for the next Steering Committee Meeting.
- It was decided and agreed that the TAP Secretariat will continue to collect case studies from the Network and add these to the digital Handbook.
- It was decided and agreed that the Steering Committee would have a standing agenda item to review the workplans in the months ahead.
- It was decided and agreed that the TAP Secretariat would put together a revised draft budget for the next Steering Committee Meeting, with particular focus on pending staffing capacity needs.

4. Discussion on TAP Regional Focal Points for 2019 and next

Discussion: The TAP Secretariat noted that the 6-month funding for the RFPs has now expired. There is still budget allocated for the national workshops in the months ahead, as well as funds for the current RFPs should the Steering Committee chose to renew their contracts. It was recommended by the TAP Secretariat that the Network re-sign the current RFPs given the good work and strong commitment they have shown in the past 6-months, as well as the shared work that these RFPs are doing with other networks in the regions. **It was decided and agreed by the Steering Committee that the current RFPs would be maintained going forward. This update will be included on the update email from the Steering Committee that is set to go out to the Network in the coming weeks.**

Decisions: It was decided and agreed by the Steering Committee that the current RFPs would be maintained going forward.

Follow-Up: The TAP Secretariat to include an update that the current RFPs would be maintained going forward in the upcoming draft of the Steering Committee message to the Network.

5. Discussion on soliciting voluntary funding commitments from TAP Members

Discussion: It was decided and agreed that this agenda item would be discussed at the next meeting during the budget conversation.

Decisions: It was decided and agreed that this agenda item would be discussed at the next meeting during the budget conversation.

6. Update on Secretariat and co-chairs call

Discussion: The Global North co-chair provided an update regarding the recent welcome co-chairs call with the Secretariat, which happened last week. It was noted that the new co-chairs made the decision to hold regular co-chair calls with the Secretariat in the weeks between the official Steering Committee calls.

7. Update on HLPF 2019 planning (10 minutes)

Discussion: The TAP Coordinator provided an update on the 2019 HLPF planning. On the global side, the Secretariat is looking to book the Church Center to host TAP events at during the week of the 2019 HLPF. As of now, the Coordinator is working to get in contact with the venue coordinator and will continue to do so until this space, or another, is confirmed.

During the Global Alliance meeting last week, it was decided by that the GA Steering Committee would not create a working group for HLPF Planning, as had previously been discussed, but would instead hold more regular Steering Committee meetings—every two weeks—so that full group, as well as other outside parties as needed, can participate in planning discussions.

A concept note for the SDG16 Civil Society Storytelling event will be put together by the TAP Secretariat in the coming week. Thereafter, a campaign to collect stories from the Network will be implemented.

In regard to national workshop planning, the RFPs put together priority country lists to host workshops in. These lists are as follows:

For Africa

Workshops with TAP Funding

- Ghana (In partnership with A4SD)
- Sierra Leone (In partnership with CSPPS and the broader SDG16 community)
- South Africa (In partnership with the broader SDG16 community)
- Rwanda (In partnership with the broader SDG16 community)

Workshops without TAP Funding

- Chad (To be led by CSPPS with TAP content)
- Ivory Coast (To be led by CSPPS with TAP content)
- The Central African Republic (To be led by CSPPS with TAP content)

For Asia

Workshops with TAP Funding

- Pakistan (In partnership with A4SD and ADA)
- Cambodia (In partnership with ADA and the broader SDG16 community)
- Fiji (In partnership with A4SD and ADA)
 - o Potential to expand into a wider Pacific region workshop
- Timor L’Este (In partnership with CSPPS)

Workshops without TAP Funding

- Mongolia
- Myanmar

For Latin America

Workshops with TAP Funding

- Guatemala (In partnership with A4SD)
- El Salvador (In partnership with A4SD)
- Chile (In partnership with A4SD)
- Brazil (In partnership with A4SD)

The TAP Secretariat will be working with A4SD, and other partners, in the next months to determine the final logistics for hosting these national workshops. This will include putting together an MOU, as stated before. 4US may also be joining in the hosting efforts for some these workshops.

In terms of next steps with the RFP, the TAP Secretariat plans to set the final dates of the workshops and then begin coordinating with national partners on planning agendas, logistics, expectations, and outputs for each event. All national workshops will be hosted sometime between March and May 2019.

Next, the TAP Coordinator provided an update plans for the upcoming UN DESA SDG16 Global Conference Meeting in Rome. An initial conversation has been had between the TAP Coordinator and UN DESA officials, and another follow-up conversation is planned for next week. During the first conversation, UN DESA asked for assistance from TAP to ensure that the Rome conference is as inclusive as possible, meaning ensuring that key civil society players are invited and attend. It was noted that the Secretariat agreed to help with determining such attendees. In turn, the TAP Coordinator requested that UN DESA back and help TAP coordinate a civil society event in Rome the day before the start of the conference.

Finally, the TAP Coordinator provided an update on plans for TAP's participation in the Global Festival of Action. The TAP Coordinator noted that TAP is no longer planning to apply as an Action Partner (as the deadline has passed) or nominate itself for the Mobilizer award (as winners in the past have all been individuals, rather than organizations). Instead, the Secretariat request to serve as a partner in the whole event. **Rukshana agreed to help the Secretariat apply for such a partnership opportunity at this event.**

Follow-Up:

- [Rukshana to help the Secretariat apply for a partnership opportunity at the Global Festival of Action.](#)

8. Review of TAP Network Partner applications (5 minutes)

Discussion: There have been no new TAP Partner applications since the last SC call.

9. AOB

Discussion: Coco noted that there is unfortunately no space for TAP to be represented at the upcoming event in Somaliland, however, it was suggested that the Secretariat coordinate with Safer World to ensure that TAP messaging is presented at the event in the Network's absence.

Follow-Up:

- [TAP Coordinator to connect with Safer World to share TAP messaging for the Somaliland event.](#)