

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

Meeting Decisions

31 January 2020

Present: Mr. Peter van Sluijs, CSPPS
Ms. Judith Kaulem, Poverty Forum Reduction Trust
Mr. Hideki Wakabayashi, ADA
Ms. Jean Scrimgeour, Accountability Lab
Mr. John Romano, TAP Secretariat
Ms. Elle Sweeney, TAP Secretariat

Absent: Ms. Florence Syevuo, SDG Kenya Forum

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 16 January 2020.

2. Election of Co-Chairs for 2020

Discussion: The TAP Steering Committee discussed the election of the Global North and Global South Co-Chairs for 2020.

It was decided and agreed that CSPPS would serve as the Global North Co-Chair for 2020 and that Accountability Lab would serve as the Global South Co-Chair in 2021.

The Steering Committee Members of the Global South noted that they had not yet made a decision on which organization would serve as the Global South Co-Chair in 2020 and then in 2021. As SDG Kenya Forum was not present to take part in a decision on this agenda item, the Global South Steering Committee Members agreed to connect offline between now and the next Steering Committee Call to make a decision on the Co-Chair position.

Decisions: It was decided and agreed that CSPPS would serve as the Co-Chair for the Global North in 2020 and the Accountability Lab would serve as the Global North Co-Chair in 2021.

Follow-up:

- The Steering Committee Members of the Global South to connect between now and the next call to make a decision on who will serve as the Co-Chair for 2020 and then in 2021.

3. Synthesis Report from Strategic Consultations in 2019

Discussion: The TAP Secretariat provided an overview of the synthesis report from strategic consultations in 2019.

The Secretariat was encouraged by responses overall. One keep finding was that the Secretariat had expected respondents to note their desire to expand the scope of work of the TAP Network but, surprisingly, respondents turned out to favor the deepening of TAP's existing work instead. It was noted that such responses were a good sign that the TAP Secretariat and past Steering Committee generally know the areas where its members benefit most and see the most value add and have reflected this through its undertakings. It is also a good sign from a strategic perspective as TAP can now look to build upon what it has already done rather than build out something entirely new.

Challenges outlined in the synthesis report were related to membership engagement. It was found that ratings of the Network's work were much higher on projects that had greater membership engagement on, such as the capacity building workshops and resources. As such, these areas were identified as potential areas to strengthen. It was noted that this signals that members want to deepen their direct engagement in TAP's work themselves.

In terms of next steps, the Steering Committee Members agreed to review and approve synthesis report and then send it to the Network with a welcome email from both of the new Co-Chairs. This email will include updates around the steering Committee's transition and what members can expect from steering committee members in the coming weeks.

It was suggested by the Steering Committee that a follow-up validation process be conducted around the findings outlined in the synthesis report and then for draft of the strategic plan to ensure that members recognize themselves in the objectives and workstreams of the Network. The Secretariat to draft a timeline for what this follow-up validation process could be, to then be approved by the Steering Committee.

Follow-up:

- The Secretariat to draft a timeline and process for what this follow-up validation process could be, to then be approved by the Steering Committee.
- The Steering Committee Members to review and approve synthesis report and then send it to the Network with a welcome email from both of the new Co-Chairs. This email will include updates around the steering Committee's transition and what members can expect from steering committee members in the coming weeks.

4. Transition and TAP Strategic Planning Process

Discussion: The TAP Secretariat provided an overview of the documents on the transition and TAP Strategic Planning Process for the new Steering Committee provided in the new google drive folder.

The documents provided and reviewed included:

- All TAP Network funding proposals to date
- All TAP Network donor reports to date
- TAP Network 2017 Governance Review Documents
- Budget Report 2019 (Forthcoming)
- TAP Strategic Planning/Work Planning Background Documents (2016-2019)
- TAP Network ToRs for the Steering Committee, Secretariat, and Regional Focal Points
- Background documents, notes, decisions and follow-up items for 2018 TAP Steering Committee meeting in Nairobi
- Background documents, notes, decisions and follow-up items for 2019 TAP Steering Committee meeting in Bangkok
- Proteus Fund Fiscal Sponsorship Documents

5. Overview of immediate opportunities in 2020

- a. **TAP Network/GIZ Report on VNR/Spotlight Reporting on SDG16+**
- b. **Global Workshop on Reporting on SDG16+, Copenhagen - 4-7 February 2020**
- c. **PyeongChang Peace Forum, Pyeongchang ROK - 9-11 February 2020**
- d. **SDG16+ Post-VNR Consultation Webinar - 27 February 2020**
- e. **Fragility Forum, Washington D.C. - 2-4 March 2020**
- f. **Kathmandu Democracy Forum/TAP Steering Committee Meeting - 16 -21 March 2020**
- g. **Global Festival of Action for SDGs, Bonn - 1-3 April 2020**

Discussion: The TAP Secretariat provided updates on the above immediate opportunities for 2020.

It was noted that the TAP Network has completed its Analysis on VNR and Spotlight Reports on SDG16+ in partnership with GIZ. This report will be released by the end of the month. The TAP Secretariat presented the initial findings of this report at the breakfast meeting in New York hosted by the Norwegian Mission to the UN and the Global Alliance. The findings, which specifically noted the importance of Spotlight Reports, were received positively by the 70+ person audience.

The TAP Secretariat will attend the Global Alliance and Danish Institute of Human Rights workshop in Copenhagen on “Monitoring and Reporting on SDG16+”. The Secretariat will again present its findings from the GIZ/TAP analysis in the opening plenary and will lead and participate in working group sessions on a number of other TAP resource, including its upcoming Post-VNR guidance.

Following the Copenhagen workshop, the TAP Coordinator will attend the PyeongChang Peace Forum to represent the Network and present on a number of its initiatives including its upcoming work around the Decade of Accountability.

Work around the Post-VNR guidance has begun in partnership with UNDP. One upcoming consultation for this work will include a webinar consultation to collect inputs on approaches and case studies to include in the analysis.

The TAP Secretariat is determining its capacity to participate in the upcoming World Bank Fragility Forum in Washington DC. Though its working group session proposal on the VNRs, submitted in partnership with GIZ, the Global Alliance, CSPPS, and White and Case, was not accepted for the formal programming, the conference overall could be an important opportunity for the Network to increase its presence and involvement with the World Bank community, including for fundraising purposes. CSPPS and Accountability Lab will be attending on behalf of their organizations and could also be looked to represent the Network.

The Kathmandu Democracy Forum and TAP Network in-person Steering Committee meeting is tentatively confirmed for March 16-21, however, with the coronavirus outbreak in the region, the TAP Secretariat is monitoring the situation on the ground and looking to potential change the location of the meeting if necessary. The TAP Coordinator will keep Steering Committee Members informed on the situation and announce changes to the event asap. IN the meantime, the Secretariat is working with ADA to make travel arrangements, including securing visas for PRFT.

Finally, the TAP Network has submitted a session proposal for the Global Festival of Action in Bonn in partnership with GIZ, the Global Alliance, CSPPS, and White and Case, and will update the Steering Committee on news back about this opportunity.

6. **Partnership Updates**

1. TAP/UNDP SDG16+ Post-VNR Guidance Funding - \$60,000
2. Confirmation of Mott Foundation Match Funding for UNDP micro-grant - \$50,000
3. Swiss FDFA
4. KOICA
5. Update on Global SDG16+ Community meeting - Thursday, 30 January 2020
6. Review of invitations for TAP from different initiatives
 1. UN Democracy Fund
 2. UNDP
 3. UCLG

Discussion: The TAP Secretariat provided updates on the above partnerships.

The TAP Network has confirmed its \$60,000 contract with UNDP to conduct its project to develop a Post-VNR Guidance. The project will run through the end of March 2020 with the option of a no cost extension.

With the confirmation of the UNDP funding, the TAP Network has been confirmed to access the first \$50,000 portion of the Mott Foundation Match Funding option.

No news has been received back from the Swiss regarding its recent proposal. The TAP Network plans to follow-up with the Swiss for updates on this opportunity.

The proposal to KOICA will be submitted in the coming week, however, the TAP Network Secretariat noted that this funding will unfortunately not kick in until next year.

The most recent meeting of the Global SDG16+ Community took place on 30 January 2020 in New York. A summary report from this meeting will be released in the coming week or so to be shared with the Steering Committee members.

The TAP Secretariat provided updates on invitation to the TAP Network to join initiatives with the UN Democracy Fund, the UNDP SDG16+ national coordination group, and UCLG.

7. Review of TAP Partner Applications

Discussion: There are no new partner applications to review during this meeting.

8. AOB

1. Regular calls going forward
2. Website issues being resolved

Discussion: The Steering Committee Members discussed options for regular calls going forward. It was decided and agreed that the Committee would continue to meet by phone every two weeks on Fridays.

The TAP Secretariat noted that the website issues the TAP's platform was experiencing have been resolved.