

Sustainable Development

## **Dakar Perspectives on TOSSD**

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## Key points from the 20<sup>th</sup> TOSSD Task Force meeting – March 2023

We, TOSSD Task Force members, convened our 20<sup>th</sup> meeting on 7-9 March 2023 in Dakar, Senegal.

We thank Senegal, member of the Task Force, the Senegalese National Agency for Statistics and Demography (ANSD), its Director General Mr Aboubacar Sédikh Bèye, and his team for hosting the 20<sup>th</sup> TOSSD Task Force meeting.

We also thank our observers for their critical contribution to the work of the Task Force.

After intense discussions during three days, we have made great progress in updating the TOSSD statistical framework, which tracks all official and officially-supported resources to promote sustainable development in developing countries. We have agreed on an updated version of the TOSSD methodology - the TOSSD Reporting Instructions - in a continuous learning process in the Task Force comprised of both development and statistical professionals, benefiting from their broad experience and respective strengths. We have renewed our mandate as a Task Force and further paved the way for the possible establishment of a more formalised governance arrangement of TOSSD in 2024.

As a Task Force, we continue to strive for innovation. We investigated the possibility of using artificial intelligence to enhance TOSSD data quality, discussed methods to facilitate the tracking of Research and Development activities as well as support to biodiversity, gender equality and refugees. We also explored the scope for collecting data from sovereign wealth funds.

We will continue building our capacity through peer learning, leveraging our collective knowledge as experts and representatives from traditional and south-south providers, multilateral organisations and recipients.

To support capacity building in Africa, and in response to a proposal put forward by ANSD, we will explore the possibility of constituting an African TOSSD Group (with national and sectoral statistical offices) that will further anchor TOSSD in the continent, thereby facilitating local ownership, alignment to national systems and use of activity-level data available in TOSSD for the monitoring and advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Task Force invites African countries, agencies, and organisations to join the TOSSD initiative. In particular, we invite them to:

- Use TOSSD data available online at <a href="https://tossd.online">https://tossd.online</a> for SDG monitoring, national and regional development planning, policy analysis and country coordination.
- Join the TOSSD Task Force and the more formalised governance arrangement for TOSSD, currently referred to as the "International Forum on TOSSD", as and when it is created.
- Advance TOSSD in all national, regional and global arenas as an international statistical standard for measuring official support to promote sustainable development in developing countries.
- Join the already 106 TOSSD reporters countries and multilateral organisations when they provide South-South co-operation.
- **Submit data for the SDG indicator 17.3.1** and its initial, globally agreed framework for measuring South-South co-operation led by UNCTAD, and which TOSSD is aligned with.

Year after year, TOSSD is realising its potential as a relevant, inclusive and transparent framework, contributing to leave no one behind. We will continue leveraging our convening capacity and expanding our network of supporters.