The Missing Link: Improving the Transparency of Global Statistics for Sustainable Development in a Post-COVID Era

including a presentation of the first dataset of the TOSSD framework ¹

Monday 12 April 2021 - 8:00 am to 9:30 am - New York time
Virtual event organised by the Secretariat of the International TOSSD Task Force at the 2021 ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development

Final concept note

Opening remarks
Mr Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary General
Ms Isabelle Durant, Acting Secretary-General, UNCTAD
Mr Adel Abdellatif, Director, a.i, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, UNOSSC

High-level Panel
Panel moderator: Mr Jorge Moreira da Silva, Director of the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate
Mr Lassané Kaboré, Minister of Economy, Finance and Development, Burkina Faso
Ms Pilar Garrido, Minister of National Planning and Economic Policy, Costa Rica
Ms Erica Gerretsen, Acting Director, DG for International Partnerships, European Commission
Dr Arifin Rudiyanto, Deputy Minister for Maritime Affairs and Natural Resources, Indonesia
Mr Ashwell Jenneker, Deputy Director General, Statistics South Africa
Mr Benigno Lopez, Vice-President for Sectors and Knowledge, Inter-American Development Bank
Ms Julia Sanchez, Secretary General, ActionAid International

The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted the urgent need to strengthen transparency of information on global contributions made towards sustainable development across sectors. This transparency is required both on support provided directly to countries, especially the most vulnerable contexts, but also to contributions made at the regional and global levels.

Without this information, it will remain challenging for the international community to design efficient global, regional and local responses that meet the needs of citizens, ensure equity (for example in the distribution of vaccines), and achieve global goals and targets including those related to climate change.

In March 2021, the first comprehensive TOSSD dataset has been released with activity-level information from about 90 provider countries and institutions in support of sustainable development. TOSSD addresses critical missing sustainable development information gaps and is a product over six years in the making. In 2015, the UN Financing for Development Forum had taken note of TOSSD and since 2017, an international Task Force comprised of provider and recipient countries as well as multilateral institutions has developed a methodology in an open, inclusive and transparent manner to measure support to sustainable development. The TOSSD framework has the potential to capture global efforts for example to support the development of COVID-19 vaccines and to provide visibility and transparency on contributions made by countries to help fight the pandemic. This event will also be an opportunity to discuss the evolution of the TOSSD framework, which would be strengthened by a global governance structure in close coordination with the UN.

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¹ For more information on TOSSD, please see: www.tossd.org.