



JOINT SDG FUND



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE

Multistakeholder Engagement to Implement the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions and the World Bank Social Protection and Jobs Compass (M-GA)

2nd Coordination Council Meeting

Technical Level

Thursday, 12 September 2024, 13.30-15.00 CEST, Online

SUMMARY

Opening remarks and welcoming new members

Ireland was welcomed as a new donor to the M-GA. Ireland made an initial pledge of €1.2 million, which would be split equally between the two funds (the Joint SDG Fund on the UN side, and the RSR-ADSP Umbrella Trust Fund on the World Bank side).

Discussion and endorsement of the Terms of Reference of the Coordination Council

The Terms of Reference were endorsed.

The difference between the M-GA Coordination Council and the GA Steering Group was explained: The World Bank is not formally a member of the GA Steering Group. For the collaboration under the M-GA, the funding is channelled through two different trust funds (the Joint SDG Fund on the UN side, and the RSR-ADSP Umbrella Trust Fund on the World Bank side). As both funds have their own governance structures, the M-GA Coordination Council cannot take binding decisions on the funding. It is all the more important for the Coordination Council to provide strategic guidance for the M-GA, to help ensure that the activities and financing are in line with the M-GA objectives. The work of the M-GA Coordination Council is closely coordinated with that of the GA Steering Group.

Strategic discussion on the M-GA track and beyond

All proposals that were submitted are currently undergoing technical review. Up to 9 proposals will be selected for funding. These will be proposals that already meet the technical requirements, and proposals that the authoring teams will be asked to revise and resubmit. These may still require to be revised based on quality assurance criteria, related to the budget, or UN markers for example. The proposals that will not be funded in this round because they do not meet the technical requirements may be funded in upcoming funding rounds.

The main messages shared by the members of the Coordination Council were:

1. **Alignment with national policies:** Malawi explained the clear alignment between the M-GA proposal and the GA national roadmap, in particular regarding social protection policy.
2. **Quality of the proposals:** Germany and Spain commended the quality of the proposals, in particular in showcasing the complementarity between the UN and the World Bank, and noted that it was an encouraging sign that teams from 11 of the 14 eligible pathfinder countries had submitted proposals. However, reading the proposal

documents, it was sometimes difficult to understand what concrete results would be achieved in two years of project implementation.

3. **Need for more involvement of social partners and more consultations:** Workers' representative from Namibia highlighted that workers' representatives were involved in roundtable discussions with the government but were not kept abreast of ongoing developments of proposals after this. He emphasised that social partners could also support the implementation of the proposals.
4. **Interesting process of proposal development:** UN agencies from Albania, Malawi, the Philippines, Cabo Verde and Senegal shared insights on their collaborations with the World Bank to develop the proposals. Except for in Senegal, the process was conclusive at the country level in terms of finding agreement on issues to address jointly with the World Bank, also based on the GA national roadmaps and on previous collaborations with the World Bank. All speakers noted that the timeline to develop the proposals was relatively short, especially given competing deadlines for the GA.

The results of this discussion will be taken into account for the further development of the M-GA.

Rapid assessment of the M-GA

On behalf of Germany, Oxford Policy Management (OPM) will conduct a rapid assessment of the M-GA process. It aims to provide feedback on stakeholders' participation, accomplishments, and areas for improvement. The rapid assessment will help inform future efforts and ensure that M-GA operations remain practical and goal-aligned.

The OPM team will reach out to M-GA CC members in the coming days and weeks to arrange interviews for the purpose of this rapid assessment.

Next steps

The next meeting of the coordinating council has not yet been scheduled but will be an opportunity to share with CC members proposed knowledge products and inform them of the results of the selection process of M-GA country proposals.