

Praia City Group Steering Committee Meeting

Friday, October 6th 2017

By Skype

Present:

1. INECV: Osvaldo Borges, Carlos Mendes, João de Pina Cardoso.
2. OHCHR: Nicolas Fasel
3. UNDP: Chris Murgatroyd and Alexandra Wilde
4. PARIS21: Rudolphe Petras
5. INEGI: Oscar Jaimes

Apologies:

1. Transparency International
2. African Development Bank

Points discussed:

- 1) Agreement on the identification of the handbook chapters;
- 2) Identification of leads for chapters;
- 3) Preparation of the Praia Group Work Plan for 2018.

1. Agreement on the identification of the handbook chapters;

Presentation of the results:

1. UNDP (Alexandra) presented the proposal of the secretariat on the nomination of leaders and contributors to each chapter / part of the handbook
2. Overall there was agreement on the structure of the manual and the nine dimensions.
3. Paris 21(Rudolphe) suggested that the dimension currently titled “government efficacy” would be confused with the field of “political efficacy” and proposed a change to “governance efficacy” or “governance capacity”.
4. UNDP (Alexandra) suggested that “government effectiveness” might be an improved nomenclature and would check with colleagues at the OECD on this point and will revert to the steering committee.
5. INE-CV, (Carlos Mendes) asked in which part of the handbook would be dealt with the methodological aspects on how to build the Index of Governance and its methodological framework.
6. INEGI-Mexico (Oscar Jaimes) replied that, from his point of view, the handbook should not include a governance index, since the purpose of the document is to provide NSOs around the globe with methodological guidelines to develop governance statistics.

7. UNDP did not agree with including a section in the handbook on a governance index.

2. Identification of leads for chapters

3. UNDP proposed some amendments to the proposed table including substituting TI for OECD for the chapter on “responsive institutions”; including UNW as a contributor across all chapters and expressed UNDP’s interest to actively engage in the chapter development for the dimensions related to Rule of Law and Safety and Security. See attached for more detailed amendments.
4. For the dimension 6 "responsive institutions" OECD would be more relevant for the position of lead. In addition, there was a question about Transparency International and its role in the Steering Committee, as they have not attended any meeting.
5. OHCHR (Nicolas) promised that he would redefine / readjust the part on human rights
6. OHCHR (Nicolas) proposed that the OHCHR figure as a contributor in the part on introduction and summary
- 7.
8. INECV committed to approaching/communicating with proposed chapter leads to communicate the steering committee’s interest in having them lead the drafting of the chapters.

9. Preparation of the Praia Group Work Plan for 2018 and the UNSC 49th Session.

1. The main focus of the international consultant to the secretariat who will be starting in Praia on 1st November (his name is Khalil El Gazri) is to co-ordinate and facilitate the development of the Handbook.
2. The drafting of the workplan for 2018 will begin soon. UNDP suggested that the workplan be more simple than the 2017 workplan and establish a timeline for the draft handbook

UNSC 49th session (March 2018)

1. The Praia Group has committed to submit the handbook to the UN Statistical Division in November 2019 to be presented to the UN Statistical Commission in March 2020. As part of the reporting requirements to the UNSC, the Praia Group must also provide a short report for information only, not “discussion”, and in summary form. The key will also be to explain the delay in producing the first draft of the Handbook, which was penciled in for “(2017)”, and to indicate how the Praia Group will work to make up the lost ground in time still to deliver the Handbook by November 2019.
2. UNDP (Chris) offered to follow-up directly with UNSD colleagues on the deadline for providing a written update to the UNSC 49th session.
3. Members need to decide soon whether there will be a meeting of the PG in 2018, as some of them need to prepare in the next weeks their 2018 budget. In any case priority should be given to the preparation of the Handbook.