INTOSAI-Donor Cooperation: Semi-Annual Progress Report

September 2016, for the period January-June 2016

1. Introduction

The 2016-2018 Program Document for the INTOSAI-Donor Cooperation foresees periodic progress monitoring. The purpose of this semi-annual monitoring report is to provide the INTOSAI-Donor Steering Committee (SC) with information about progress towards achievement of the 2016 work plan. It also provides preliminary information about budget execution during January-June 2016.[1]

2. Progress Reporting Against the 2016 Work Plan

The table below shows the progress on the overall themes and main tasks on the 2016 Work Plan[2] as per the end of June 2016.[3]

No.	Theme and Task	Priority 2016	Responsibility	Progress
1	**Reviews of Cooperation initiatives; preparation of updated strategies on Global Call for Proposals (GCP), SAI Capacity Development Database and Communications[4], provide input to INTOSAI SAI PMF Post-2016 Strategy**	High	Secretariat, SC Working Groups	Progressing as planned
2	**Increased funding for SAI Capacity Development**	High		Progressing as planned
2.1	Monitoring and final reporting on results of the GCP 2013	High	Secretariat	Progressing as planned
2.2	*(Subject to SC decision)* Implement way forward for GCP, as recommended by WG and approved by SC	High	Secretariat	TBC
3	**Research, guidance and training on donor aid practices and dissemination**	Medium/ Low	Secretariat	Not prioritised
4	**Outreach and Linkages to all high priority stakeholders**	Medium	SC leadership, SC members and Secretariat	Ongoing
4.4	Begin implementation of the Cooperation's communications strategy as recommended by WG and approved by SC	High	Secretariat	TBC
5	**Administration, update and upgrade of the SAI Capacity Development Database and support for the Global Survey**			Progressing as planned

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[1] A complete performance and performance report covering the full year is prepared annually.

[2] Approved by the SC Leadership on 16 March 2016.

[3] The colour coding reflects whether work is progressing according to plan. It shows progress on the main themes and key tasks on the work program. Major activities where the target date for implementation is yet to come are also included.

[4] For details on the work of the various SC Working Groups, please refer to separate ToRs.

No.	Theme and Task	Priority 2016	Responsibility	Progress
5.3	Begin implementation of enhancements to SAI Capacity Development Database as recommended by WG and approved by SC	Medium	Secretariat	TBC
6	**Support for finalizing SAI PMF and future implementation and maintenance strategy**	High/ Medium	Secretariat with relevant stakeholders	Progressing as planned
6a	Finalisation and Approval of SAI PMF	High	Secretariat with WGVBS and KSC, SAI PMF Task Team	Progressing as planned
6b	SAI PMF Roll-Out, Monitoring, and Quality Control incl. Knowledge Centre, Coordination of training and quality review	Medium	Secretariat	Ongoing
7	**Effective Governance and Program Management**	High/ Medium	Secretariat and SC	Ongoing
7.2	Secure financial and in-kind support for phase 3 for the running of the Secretariat	High	Donors and SAIs	Ongoing
8	**Monitoring and Evaluation of achievement of results and objectives, including bi-annual, annual (2015) reporting and development of performance measurement system**	High	Secretariat (plus WG on results indicators)	Progressing as planned

The main focus during the first half of 2016 has been on completing the 2016-2018 Program Document, supporting the development of the SAI PMF Endorsement Version, as well as on strategic reviews of Cooperation initiatives carried out by a number of SC working groups, as follows:

- **Global Call for Proposals** (members: Irish Aid (co-lead), GAO (co-lead), Asian Development Bank, USAID, SAI Sweden)
- **Database** (members: World Bank (co-lead), SAI Mexico (co-lead), Canada DFATD)
- **Communications** (members: World Bank (co-lead), GAO (co-lead), SAI South Africa)
- **Results Framework** (members: World Bank (co-lead), GAO (co-lead), SAI UK)

The working groups on database, communications and results framework have developed draft strategies which were shared with the SC for comments. The working group on the Global Call for Proposals (GCP) has carried out background research and developed a recommended outline of the GCP going forward, which was also shared with the SC. The draft strategy for GCP will be developed ahead of the SC meeting in October.

Work on SAI PMF has mainly revolved around supporting the development of the SAI PMF Endorsement Version, including carrying out two pilot assessments to test the revisions to the SAI PMF Pilot Version. The Secretariat has also responded to queries for support to SAI PMF assessments and independent quality reviews, and organized one Knowledge Sharing and Quality Assurance workshop, but otherwise not organized any standard SAI PMF trainings.

Work on theme 3 (Research, guidance and training on donor aid practices and dissemination), including the training for development agency staff on working with SAIs, has not been prioritized. Other activities have for the most part been carried out as planned, and no particular risks have been identified. With regard to securing financial and in-kind support for phase 3 for the running of the Secretariat, the

funding agreement with the Austrian Development Agency, Irish Aid and Switzerland (SECO) was signed in July. This largely secures financing for 2016 and 2017, but there remains a funding gap for 2018.

3. Time Recording

From 1st January 2016 the Secretariat expanded its time recording system to include analysis of how staff time is spent. The below figure shows the distribution of Secretariat staff time on the main themes in the Program Document during January-June 2016.
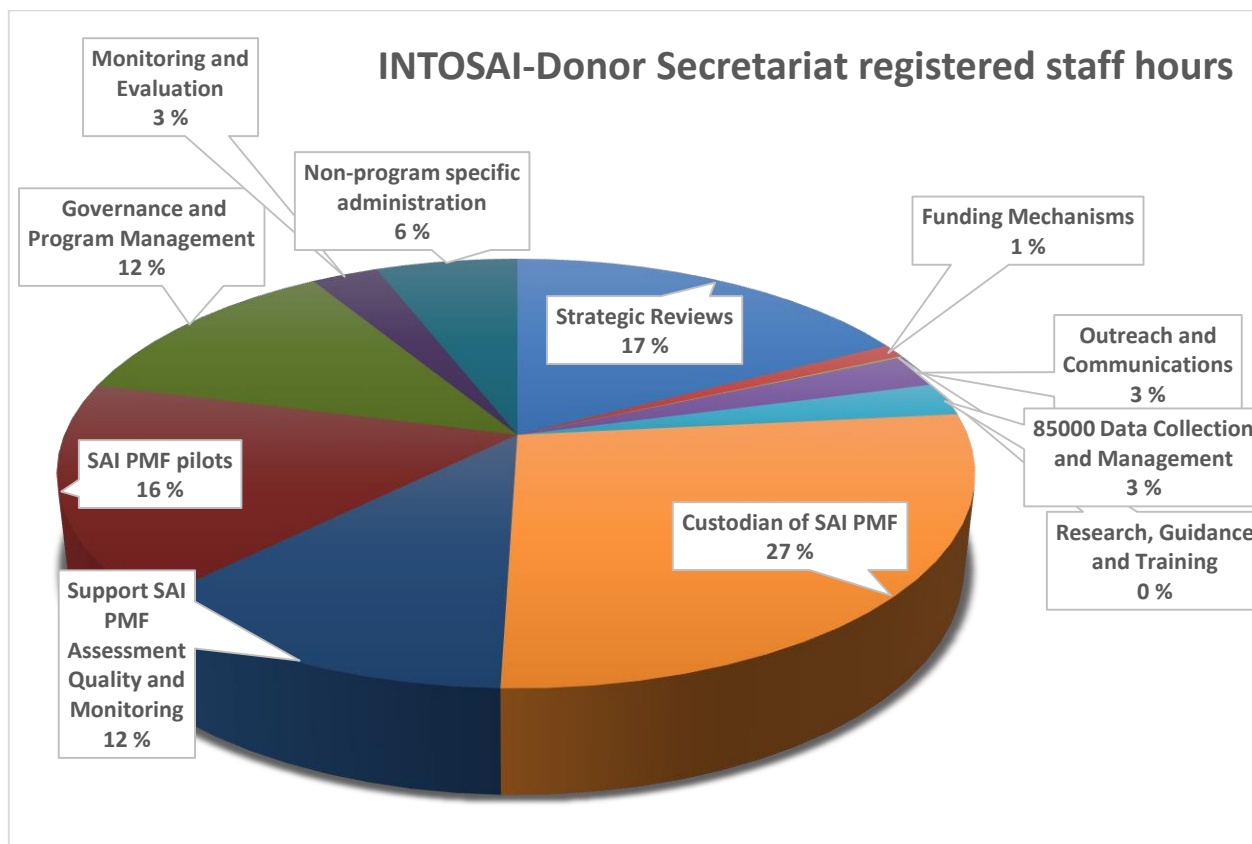
"Custodian of SAI PMF" is the project with most registered staff time (27 %). This project includes all tasks related to the support to the development of the Endorsement Version of SAI PMF, including SAI PMF Task Team work and consultations with stakeholders in the revision process. The two pilots of SAI PMF that were carried out to test the draft revisions to SAI PMF represent an additional 16 % of staff time. The final category related to SAI PMF ("Support SAI PMF Assessment Quality and Monitoring"[5]) includes coordination of independent reviews of SAI PMF assessments, tracking of assessments, ad-hoc support to assessment teams, awareness raising, running the SAI PMF Virtual Community, and workshops on SAI PMF Knowledge Sharing and Quality Assurance. Taken together, the activities related to SAI PMF represented 55 % of the total staff time.

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[5] This combines hours registered under project numbers 86200 Support SAI PMF Assessment Quality and Monitoring (4,6 %), 86400 Programs to Facilitate SAI PMF Assessments and Use of Results (6,3 %), and 86500 Independent Reviews (1,25 %).

The second largest category is "Strategic Reviews" (17 %), which includes the Secretariat's work and support to the SC working groups on GCP, SAI Capacity Development Database and Communications.

The third largest category is "Governance and Program Management" (12 %), which includes dialogue and coordination with the SC Leadership, securing financial support, developing the Program Document, preparing the annual SC meetings and general management and administration.

The other categories are:

- "Non-Program Specific Administration" (6 %) includes support to IDI internal projects and staff meetings.
- "Outreach and Communications" (3 %) includes work on the quarterly newsletter, webpages, writing articles and other communications pieces, other outreach activities.
- "Data Collection and Management" (3 %) includes data collection and management activities, including work on the SAI Capacity Development Database.
- "Monitoring and Evaluation" (3 %) includes work on the SC working group on the results framework, monitoring and progress reporting.
- "Funding Mechanisms" (1 %) includes work on GCP and SAI CDF (except from the work of the GCP working group). This work has not been prioritized during the first half of the year while awaiting the outcome of the GCP working group. The exception is some activities relating to tracking the results of the 2013 GCP.
- "Research, Guidance and Training" (0 %) includes work on the training for development agency staff on working with SAIs, as well as research activities. This theme has low priority on the annual work plan, and consequently activity has been kept to a minimum.

4. Budget Execution

The Program Document presents the budget on both an administrative basis and a programmatic basis. Below we analyse the actual expenditure in January-June 2016 against both classifications.

Administrative classification

Budget	Budget 2016	Actual 2016	(Under) / Over Spend (Pro-rata)	Analysis of Variance
A. Admin. Staff Costs	1 826 051	388 069	- 524 956	Initial budget estimated 36% of staff costs were admin. Updated budget suggest only 26%. Proposed revised budget of 1.3million. Actual expenditure shows a significant underspend in terms of IDI admin staff costs allocated to the Cooperation.
B. Overheads and Other Indirect Costs	1 255 520	343 239	- 284 521	Revised budget suggests 1.1million. Actual expenditure shows considerable efficiency savings in relation to IDI overheads.
C. Contingency (Including Exchange Rate Provision)	-		-	
Total Admin (Cash)	**3 081 571**	**731 308**	**- 809 478**	
Program Staff Costs (Excluding in-kind Support)	3 246 312	1 803 949	180 793	Initial budget estimated 64% of staff costs were program. Revised budget suggests this should be 74%, giving revised budget of 3.8 million and a small underspend.
1. Strategic Reviews	-	26 276	26 276	No budget; negligible expenditure.
2. Funding Mechanisms	80 000		- 40 000	Activities planned for after approval of strategic reviews at October SC meeting.
3. Research, Guidance and Training	87 000		- 43 500	Not prioritised - no activities before completion of strategic reviews.
4. Outreach and Communications	90 400	1 261	- 43 939	Activities planned for after approval of strategic reviews at October SC meeting.
5. Data Collection and Management	45 000	20 040	- 2 460	
of which: 5.1 SAI Capacity Development Database	45 000	10 752	- 11 748	Most activities planned for after approval of strategic reviews at October SC meeting.
5.2 INTOSAI Global Survey	-		-	
5.3 Other	-	9 288	9 288	No budget; negligible expenditure.
6. SAI PMF *	2 183 200	1 157 672	66 072	
of which: 6.1 Custodian of SAI PMF	187 000	93 182	- 318	On track
6.2 Supporting Assessment Quality and Monitoring	811 600	80 353	- 325 447	SAI PMF training courses and QA workshops not prioritised pending completion of strategic reviews
6.3 Conduct Assessments	328 600	552 542	388 242	Secretariat funded partner inputs to Sierra Leone and Cook Islands assessments rather than receiving in-kind support. Also residual translations costs for Burkina Faso assessment, for which additional income due. No further costs anticipated.
6.4 Facilitate Assessments and Usage of Results	37 000	82 576	64 076	Secretariat inputs to PASAI and CAROSAI discussions on use of SAI PMF as part of regional strategies
6.5 Independent Reviews (formerly QA)	96 000	3 660	- 44 340	Majority of reviews done in-house or through in-kind support.
6.6 SAI PMF Regional Employee	723 000	345 359	- 16 141	On track
7. Governance and Program Management	132 900	37 283	- 29 167	Majority of costs will be in October (SC meeting) and December (INCOSAI)
8. Monitoring and Evaluation	30 100		- 15 050	Planned activity replaced by teleconferencing, no costs expected.
Total Program (Cash)	**5 894 912**	**3 046 480**	**99 024**	
Total (Cash)	**8 976 483**	**3 777 788**	**- 710 454**	

All figures in NOK.

Program Classification

Budget	Program Budget 2016	Program Actual 2016	(Under) / Over Spend (Pro-rata)	Analysis of Variance
1. Strategic Reviews	746 511	475 939	102 683	Staff inputs for strategic reviews have significantly exceeded initial estimates - offset by reductions in the inputs to related activities (GCP, Communications, Database, Results)
2. Funding Mechanisms	627 783	25 663	- 288 229	Activities planned for after approval of strategic reviews at October SC meeting.
3. Research, Guidance and Training	487 757	2 763	- 241 116	Not prioritised - no activities before completion of strategic reviews.
4. Outreach and Communications	578 297	70 589	- 218 559	Activities planned for after approval of strategic reviews at October SC meeting.
5. Data Collection and Management	370 095	81 096	- 103 951	
of which: 5.1 SAI Capacity Development Database	302 217	66 287	- 84 821	Most activities planned for after approval of strategic reviews at October SC meeting.
5.2 INTOSAI Global Survey	67 878	3 318	- 30 621	Design of global survey planned for 2nd half of 2016
5.3 Other	-	11 490	11 490	No budget; negligible expenditure.
6. SAI PMF *	4 710 113	2 594 217	239 161	
of which: 6.1 Custodian of SAI PMF	740 681	914 472	544 132	Staff input to SAI PMF revisions significantly exceeded expectations, due in part to additional work on Court model indicators with SAIs from that model.
6.2 Supporting Assessment Quality and Monitoring	2 236 057	229 443	- 888 586	SAI PMF training courses and QA workshops not prioritised pending completion of strategic reviews
6.3 Conduct Assessments	675 044	851 469	513 947	Both time and cost of pilot assessments exceeded expectation
6.4 Facilitate Assessments and Usage of Results	130 890	215 061	149 616	Secretariat inputs to PASAI and CAROSAI discussions on use of SAI PMF as part of regional strategies
6.5 Independent Reviews (formerly QA)	204 439	38 412	- 63 808	Majority of reviews done in-house or through in-kind support. Number of reviews less than expected.
6.6 SAI PMF Regional Employee	723 000	345 359	- 16 141	On track
7. Governance and Program Management	1 159 373	448 155	- 131 531	Staff inputs less than expected, but may increase with SC meeting in October. Likely on-track for year end.
8. Monitoring and Evaluation	296 554	79 367	- 68 911	Activities planned for after approval of strategic reviews at October SC meeting.
Total Program (Cash)	**8 976 483**	**3 777 788**	**- 710 454**	
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All figures in NOK.