FRAMERICAS

MONITORING PROGRESS IN DEPLOYMENT OF ICT, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(Project UN SDG 17)

I. FRAMEWORK

FRAmericas is an independent, non-for-profit charitable organization 501.c.3, devoted to applying latest knowledge and technology achievements to improve living conditions and enhance income generation among low-income groups. In pursuing its objectives, FRAmericas partners with other private and public organizations where each partner's capabilities can result in faster and more solid results.

FRAmericas, a UN-ECOSOC (United Nations Economic and Social Council) Special Consultative Status organization, follows closely the workings of the UN Open Working Group for the development of Sustainable Development Goals, with a particular focus on Goal 17 "**Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development".** FRAmericas considers progress in achieving MDG and SDG the greatest and most significant challenge the world must pursue, and thus is committed to supporting such processes in any way and by any means it can.

In undertaking the proposed monitoring role, FRAmericas follows the UN Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform guidelines (https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgsproposal):

- *The implementation of sustainable development goals will depend on a global partnership for sustainable development with the active engagement of governments, as well as civil society, the private sector, and the United Nations system. A robust mechanism of*

implementation review will be essential for the success of the SDGs. The General Assembly, the ECOSOC system and the High Level Political Forum will play a key role in this regard. (#14)

- *In order to monitor the implementation of the SDGs, it will be important to improve the availability of and access to data and statistics disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts to support the support the monitoring of the implementation of the SDGs. There is a need to take urgent steps to improve the quality, coverage and availability of disaggregated data to ensure that no one is left behind. (#17)*

II. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The objective of the project is to contribute to the monitoring of progress in the implementation of SDG17, particularly in the area of "technology" and its applications to further development objectives. FRAmericas' purpose is to provide independent support to the efforts of the UN's Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), by collecting information on project-based efforts in subject matter pertaining to SDG17 being undertaken by governmental and non-governmental actors worldwide.

The project will also provide organizations willing to contribute their information to feed the Data Base with an opportunity to show-case their efforts, confront their findings with those of others working in the same fields, receive feedback on their activities, and interact with the supply & demand for their products and services –funding sources, commercial enterprises, organized consumers, and special interest social groups.

Specific objectives are:

a. Construct a data base to collect, verify and register activities undertaken by governmental and non-governmental organizations world-wide that respond to the selected target indicators;
b. Create an open platform to which registered organizations can access and contribute their inputs to the data collection effort, and where they can interact with each other, creating synergies and opportunities for collaboration;
c. Collect data that will allow further analyses on innovation products, services and processes that can be replicated and scaled-up;
d. Analyze and report periodically on tendencies, progress and perceived obstacles to the attainment of the targets selected.

III.   SELECTED INDICATORS

Sustainable Development Goals are accompanied by targets and will be further elaborated through indicators focused on measurable outcomes. For SDG 17, the following list of indicator proposals has been generated by IAEG-SDGs, incorporating changes in the goals and targets adopted by the Intergovernmental negotiations and included in their final proposal: "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" published on 1 August 2015. These indicators were subject to an open consultation with Civil Society, in a process that closed on September 7th 2015. FRAmericas's project will adopt the final version of those targets and indicators as soon as they become available.

Technology

17.6 enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation, and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, particularly at UN level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism when agreed

17.8 fully operationalize the Technology Bank and STI (Science, Technology and Innovation) capacity building mechanism for LDCs by 2017, and enhance the use of enabling technologies in particular ICT

FRAmericas's project would attempt to measure the following target-associated indicator:

Technology

Volume, source and channels of world-wide investment in initiatives devoted to: (i) facilitate access to Science, Technology and Innovation; (ii) facilitate Knowledge-sharing; and (iii) enable use of Technology, Innovation and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in a development context.

IV.   DATA COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS

The project entails the creation of two Data Bases.

1.   Organizations Data Base (DB-O)

FRAMERICAS

Managing Director mgr@framericas.org; +1.301.233.3095; Operations ops@framericas.org; Research Group res@framericas.org. www.FRAmericas.org. Main: +1.202.351.1149. 6005 Grove Dr., Alexandria, VA, USA.

Page 3 of 9

DB-O will collect information on those organizations that participate in the field of interest of the project. This DB will feed the collection of information for the second DB (projects). Expected fields in the DB-O include:

- Type of organization
- Geographical location
- Geographical scope
- Number of initiatives by type (programs, projects, other activities)
- Thematic area of interest and work (facilitate access to ST&I; facilitate K-sharing; and enable use of TI & ICT)
- Core funding (government, endowment, membership, sell of services, volunteering)

Data collected in DP-O will allow the project to draw information on the nature of organizations involved in this field; their geographic distribution; and the thematic distribution of efforts within the field of interest of the project.

2. Project Data Base (DB-P) (to be designed)

DB-P will collect more detailed information on initiatives (projects, programs, activities) organizations in DB-O are currently undertaking, or have recently in the past. Expected fields in DB-P include:

- Register of projects, programs, and activities undertaken by the responding organization in the field of interest of the project in the 3 categories: (i) facilitate access to ST&I; (ii) facilitate K-sharing; and (iii) enable use of TI & ICT.
- For each initiative (current):
    o Title
    o Short description of purpose
    o Short description of scope (options: local, regional, national, international)
    o Estimated amount invested by category:
        ▪ Research & Development (R&D)
        ▪ Production of goods and services
        ▪ Distribution of products and services
        ▪ Education and awareness raising
        ▪ Monitoring and evaluation of results.
    o Project cost
        ▪ Project cost by use of funds:

- - - Administrative (funds & process management)
    - Project operation (TA, subcontracts)
    - Direct transfers to beneficiaries
    - Acquisitions
  - Funding:
    - Amount funded by source (own, government funds, international funding, local donations, international donations)
  - Number of expected beneficiaries
    - Gender
    - Age group
    - Income level information if available
    - Special needs
    - Special interest
  - Project outputs:
    - Products
    - Services
    - Processes
    - Other
  - Project impact: (options for measured and expected)
    - Baseline data on project and beneficiaries (Y/N)
    - Data before-project:
      - Access to internet
      - Access to TA
      - Family income
      - Individual income
      - Other
    - Data after project:
      - On baseline
      - Outside of baseline
- For initiatives not yet under implementation (future):
  - Expected field of interest
  - Expected funding (volume and source)
  - Expected year of commencement (year approval; year of starting implementation)

V. EXPECTED ANALYSIS

Based on an analysis of DB outputs, FRAmericas expects to be able to:

a. Estimate the volume of financial resources being devoted annually to the three purposes listed above (facilitate access to ST&I; facilitate K-sharing; and enable use of TI & ICT in a development context)

b. Describe the origin and flow of resources for those purposes: North-to-South; South-to-South; local

c. Describe the type of organizations involved in these activities: (i) governments; (ii) private enterprises; (iii) non-governmental organizations; (iv) international organizations

d. Describe the use of those resources, specifying in particular: (i) Research & Development (R&D); (ii) production of goods and services; (iii) distribution of products and services; (iv) education and awareness raising; (v) investment in monitoring and evaluation of results

e. Number and nature of beneficiaries by gender, age group, special needs and other social indicators

f. Measured impact of these initiatives on family and individual income of beneficiaries

g. Identify opportunities for replication and scaling-up

h. Derive observations on the above processes and results

VI. DATA BASE IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the DB would follow a four-step process:

a. Initial design: FRAmericas will construct the DB-O first. Contents of this relatively simple DB will be consulted with FRAmericas partners until a viable model is agreed upon. Participation in DB-O will be promoted through FRAmericas' cooperation channels. Simultaneously, FRAmericas will construct a first draft of DB-P; part of the pre-design effort will be an analysis of existing databases located in major international organizations, which can be helpful in the implementation of FRAmerica's dedicated DBs.

b. Testing: The draft DB-P which will be tested among a pilot group of participants in DB-O; participation will be voluntary, but FRAmericas will invite a number of participants in an effort to get a geographically (and culturally) significant sample.

c. Final design: The final version of DB-P will be revised according to the input received from the pilot participants. The contents of the target and indicators may also need to be adjusted to IAEG-SDGs results.

d. Full Fledged Operation: DB-P will be operative and running on a trial basis for at least a year. Depending on coverage, results and usefulness, DB-P will be continued and expanded with additional resources.

VII.   PROJECT COORDINATION

FRAmericas will coordinate project design and later on contribute project results to IAEG-SDGs. FRAmericas will also coordinate its efforts with those of other civil society organizations and the UN System agencies, among others: (i) civil society participating in the consultations of IAEG-SDGs itself; (ii) ITU Data and Statistics Division; and (iii) Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform.

FRAmericas will organize and conduct promotional and dissemination events and use social media to further the reach of this monitoring activity and enlarge the cache of registered organizations participating in its open platform.

VIII.   WORK PLAN

FRAmericas is undertaking the following activities:

1. Project coordination activities:

    a. Linkage to UN SDG organized effort, meeting with Open Working Group for the development of Sustainable Development Goals (OWG) members, and ECOSOC assembly (May 26-June 3, 2015) to present the project and establish liaisons.

    b. Participate in the review of originally proposed indicators to measure progress in the implementation of SDG, in the context of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs)'s open consultation on the development of a global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals (August 11 to September 7, 2015).

    c. Consult other NGO involved in the field of technology applications for development to develop partnerships that can further the implementation of the project

FRAMERICAS

Managing Director mgr@framericas.org; +1.301.233.3095; Operations ops@framericas.org; Research Group

res@framericas.org. www.FRAmericas.org. Main: +1.202.351.1149. 6005 Grove Dr., Alexandria, VA, USA.

Page 7 of 9

2. Selection of indicators for the DB-P:

   a. FRAmericas is developing a proposal for sub-targets and indicators, on the basis of IAEG-SDGs proposed and consulted inputs.

   b. Consultation with IAEG-SDG, ITU and other UN agencies, to inform of the operation of the project and establish operative contacts within those agencies. FRAmericas is also expecting the results of IAEG-SDGs consultation and final definition of Target and Indicators to adapt its preliminary design of DB-P.

3. Development of the DB-O and DB-P:

   a. Preliminary design of DB-O and DB-P

   b. Selection of software

   c. Software-based design

   d. Pilot testing, feedback, correction

4. Development of open platform:

   a. Conceptual design and organizational platform

   b. Technical web-based design

   c. Pilot testing

   d. Dissemination campaigns

   e. Registration of user organizations/individuals

5. Consultation to establish baseline:

   a. Design of baseline data matrix

   b. Requests for data from sector governmental organizations, specialized agencies, individual organizations

   c. Data collection of public sources

   d. Promotion of use of Open Platform to collect data from users

   e. Meeting with Technology Bank and Science, Technology and Innovation Supporting Mechanism Chair Rwanda's Romain Murenzi, currently Executive Director of the World Academy of Sciences in Trieste, Italy.

6. Operation of open platform and data-bases

   a. Design of output formats for open data-bases

   b. Collection of data on projects, activities, results

   c. Generation of outputs from open data formats

7. Data analysis and generation of output reports

   a. Definition of output and outcome formats so as to serve the purposes of the UN SDG group and other partners

   b. Bi-annual reports on progress

8. Dissemination events

   a. Presentation of results in ECOSOC meetings, others as required

IX.　PROJECT FINANCING

FRAmericas is self-financing the first phases of the project. Future phases will require fund-raising, once the project has proved itself useful.