

Publish What You Fund Board of Directors meeting 16th July 2018

Attendees

- Giles Bolton (Chair): GB
- Claire Hickson: CH
- Paul Lenz: PL
- Simon Gill: SG
- Gary Forster: GF
- Catherine Turner: CT (Staff)
- Linda Grimsey (Staff)
- Hetty Kovach: HK

Agenda

Part 1

1. Welcome to Gary & Introductions
2. Overview of the Agenda
3. Minutes from the last Board Meeting
4. Finance and Funding
5. Strategy Update
6. Index Round-Up
7. AOB
8. Date of Next Meeting

Minutes

1. Welcome to Gary & Introductions

GB: Welcomed board. Huge thank you to Cathy for cover over the past three months. Warm welcome to Gary. In our search for candidates, Gary stood out. In particular, his interest and commitment were backed by a solid record and sense of leadership.

2. Overview and Agenda

GB: Gives overview of agenda.

3. Minutes from March 2018 Board meeting

These were discussed and approved.

4. Finance and Funding

CT: Gives update on new Hewlett funding. We are looking at moving more in country, more project work, but feeding back learning to help the global aid transparency movement.

GB: This is important work and great that we have funding to do more.

HK: It's important that we're moving more towards supporting users rather than just testing publishers.

5. Strategy Update

CT: Strategy has been updated to feed into Index. The one pager is now final. The long version has been held for final review by GF. We are keen to launch.

GF: Everyone is behind this strategy, we just need to check on alignment when it comes to the detail.

CT: We had good feedback. Thanks to everyone for your contributions.

6. Index Round Up:

CT: Key highlights of this year's Index process included the fact that 75% of organisations assessed in the Index now publish on a monthly or quarterly basis. Only 3 out of 45 don't publish any IATI data. Also all aid and development actors, regardless of their business model can perform well, including development banks (AsDB came top) but also humanitarian agencies – such as ECHO. However, more data on a more regular basis does not translate into usable data if the basics are lacking – which is still a problem in many cases. Also information critical to assess project and donor impact, eg impact appraisals and evaluations for the performance component, are the most difficult to find – if available at all. Collectively, donors scored only 27% on average for this.

The launch at Brookings on 20 June went really well. Sally managed to pull together a great panel that spoke to the 'new frontiers' of aid and development (DFIs and humanitarian) featured in our Index report / strategy. We also held a policy lunch with USG staff in Washington DC prior to the launch and a UK roundtable in London in collaboration with the ONE Campaign UK, Save the Children UK, Oxfam UK and Bond to address the disparity in DFID and the FCO's results at a higher, political level. Overall, we received good coverage in the international and, particularly UK media, thanks to our collaboration with the ONE Campaign and others on a UK press release.

GB: Real success, thank you everyone. You all worked hard and it was a good index. Index is good for reminding people this is important. Great to build on new strategy.

HK: Looked great, well done everyone. Index is a brand we can use to do more specialized projects, a good spot light.

7. AOB

GB: Continued focus on finance and fundraising. Stability of the staff. Board need to continue to reassure the staff. Thank you for your prep and the positive board meeting.

8. Date of Next Meeting

Next meeting set for September 19th, 2018.