

Virtual Statistical System Concept

The Virtual Statistical System (VSS) is a new initiative being considered to improve access for developing countries to existing statistical resources. It would provide a consolidated access point using a web portal for the tools, methods, standards and advice that are currently available from international organizations and national statistical offices. The concept was proposed by the World Bank and will be further explored by a task team of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) in collaboration with the Development Gateway Foundation.

The VSS would be a public platform to provide access to existing knowledge, resources and training on statistics.

What would be the purpose of the VSS?

- Provide a “one-stop shop” for access to key tools to build statistical capacity in developing countries;
- Facilitate access to existing statistical capacity-building initiatives;
- Encourage a virtuous cycle of better data collection, analysis, and dissemination to inform evidence-based policy-making;
- Address the major gaps in access to statistical resources.

What would the VSS provide?

- Online training tools (modules, handbooks, online videos, pod casts);
- Software (business registers, survey design/protocol, databases, publishing);
- Best practice guidance and statistical standards;
- An on-line community of practice with interactive tools and applications.

Who would the VSS help?

- Developing country statisticians and policy-makers;
- Technical assistance providers.

The Development Gateway Foundation will leverage its expertise in providing online communities of practice.

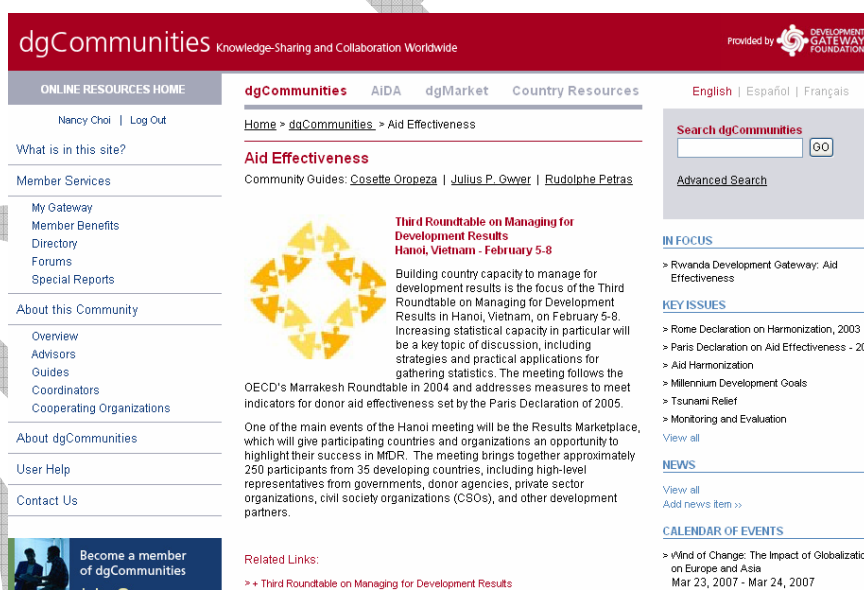
<<http://topics.developmentgateway.org/aideffectiveness>>

Next Steps

The PARIS21 Task Team will bring together key stakeholders to further explore the concept—the Development Gateway Foundation, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, UN Statistics Division, the World Bank and two developing countries. The Task Team will review existing knowledge of gaps and weaknesses in developing countries’ technical capacities and conduct assessments of access to statistical tools and knowledge. The Task Team will oversee the needs assessments, develop a business case for consideration and, should there be agreement to proceed, make recommendations on governance arrangements, design, management and content for the platform.

Feedback

To learn more about VSS, provide feedback, or suggest potential countries for a VSS Needs Assessment, please visit the DGF booth at the Results Marketplace or contact Nancy Choi at nchoi@dgfoundation.org.



The screenshot shows the dgCommunities website interface. The header includes the logo and navigation links. The main content area features a news article titled "Third Roundtable on Managing for Development Results Hanoi, Vietnam - February 5-8". The article text discusses building country capacity to manage for development results and mentions the OECD's Marrakesh Roundtable. A sidebar on the left contains navigation menus like "ONLINE RESOURCES HOME" and "Member Services". A search bar is located in the top right corner.