

**Association of Asia Pacific GDLN Centers
Governing Committee Meeting
Video Conference: September 28, 2012**

Canberra: 12 noon, Colombo: 7:30 AM, Dhaka: 8.00 AM, Hanoi: 9:00 AM, Seoul: 11:00 AM, Washington DC: 10:00 PM (Tuesday, September 27)

Governing Committee members:

Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury
Dr. Hye-Kyung Chung
Mr. Phil Karp
Ms. Linh Nguyen

Apologies: Mr. Tomoyuki Naito

Others present:

Ms. Maree Tait, Director, GDLN Asia Pacific (audio)
Mr. Juan Blázquez (Washington DC, audio)
Mr. Nishantha Kamaladasa and Mr. Chanuka Wattagama

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 9.15 Hanoi time by Chairperson: Ms. Linh Nguyen

Agenda:

GDLN Asia Pacific Regional Meeting – update by Mr. Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury and agree on next steps

- Meeting dates have been suggested and finalized as January 8-10, 2013 for the conference with the excursion on the afternoon of January 11, Friday – a holiday in Bangladesh. The venue will be BRAC University premises in Dhaka.
- The regional meeting program will include presentations on microfinance, e-education and BRAC University activities.
- The World Bank will provide support for the meeting. World Bank country team has indicated their intention to assist.
- A Planning Committee has been suggested and agreed. The members are Mr. Phil Karp, TDLC representative (to be determined), Ms. Maree Tait, Dr. Hye-Kyung Chung, Ms. Linh Nguyen and Mr. Juan Blázquez. Ms. Catherine Shin on KDI school will coordinate the planning committee activities.
- An announcement is to be prepared within the following week by BRAC and KDI school as the organizer of the meeting, and will be sent out by BRAC following review by Juan Blazquez and Phil Karp.

GDLN Global and GDLN America meetings – reporting by Mr. Philip Karp and Ms. Maree Tait

- Mr. Philip Karp and Ms. Maree Tait participated in the GDLN Global meeting with Mr. Nishantha Kamaladasa joining for few sessions over video conferencing. Mr. Vinod Bhargava was not able to attend.
- The key topic at the meeting was the new GDLN affiliation strategy, which was discussed rigorously over two days.
- With the new affiliation strategy GDLN will be open to a wider network of institutions (not individuals) that can join if they meet certain criteria. The new members should have a development learning dimension in their activities; demonstrate they can bring value to GDLN and they have a commitment to work in partnership. They are also expected to present references preferably (but not necessarily) from the existing GDLN affiliates.
- The new members will have to go through a formal application process. Their eligibility is decided at the regional level, not by the Global board.
- The affiliates will be rated based on their performance. Green (three or more activities for a year), Yellow (two or one) and Red (none).
- Existing members will continue. They need not apply for membership.
- As for who would bring the new members in by spreading the word: the existing centers, the World Bank or basically anybody can. It will be the responsibility of each regional association to manage the membership process.
- A distinction is made between the new affiliation strategy paper (emailed to the Governing Committee before the GDLN Global meeting), which was a background paper to inform the Board's discussion, and the communique that incorporates the outcome and decisions of the discussions at the GDLN Global meeting (emailed by Mr. Phil Karp to the Governing Committee on September 27 – immediately before the meeting.) The second is the one to be referred to.

New GDLN Affiliation strategy: Its impact on GDLN-AP and next steps

- The Governing Committee agreed to discuss this at the next meeting. Final decisions may arrive at the regional meeting in Dhaka, but it was agreed that the Governing Committee should prepare specific proposals or recommendations in advance of the regional meeting.

DLC-Sri Lanka' proposal to refine the Regional Programs and updates on programs calendar

- DLC Sri Lanka has distributed the checklist with mandatory and optional items separated as discussed at the Governing Committee meeting on August 8, 2012. It was agreed that the members planning to offer programs to fill the form. Once filled DLC Sri Lanka upload the forms in the GDLN-AP site with the help of TDLC.
- GDLN AP Programs Calendar: DLC- Sri Lanka has requested to centers to provide an update on the proposed programs for the coming year. It has received responses only partially. The programs fall into three categories: some will be delivered as scheduled; some will be delivered but with a delay and few will not materialize. DLC-Sri Lanka is to distribute the list among the members.

Meeting adjourned at 10.45 Hanoi time.

Next meeting: To be announced.