

Joint Informal Consultation on the Simplification and Harmonization of Business Practices

Presentation on behalf of UNDP, UNFPA,
UNICEF, UNOPS, UN Women and WFP

7 January 2015



United Nations Funds and Programmes

Overview

Introduction

Objectives of the consultation

Simplification and harmonization of Business Practices

Creating an enabling environment

Overview of concrete actions and results achieved to date and ongoing harmonization efforts

Going Forward

A balanced and flexible approach

Addressing challenges together

What are the key drivers impacting harmonization?



Objectives of the consultation

Opportunities and Challenges

- Actions and results achieved to date
- Status of ongoing harmonization efforts (incl. Joint Action Plan)
- Challenges faced by Funds and Programmes
- Opportunities for Funds and Programmes – Key Drivers for Harmonization

Receive Feedback / Guidance

- The way forward
- Suggestions on how to maximize the opportunities and address the challenges



Creating an Enabling Environment



Reduction in duplication of functions and administrative and transaction costs, for operational efficiency and delivery of high-quality services

Incentives for agencies to work together
Enabling environment for improved programme delivery and effective results to our beneficiaries



Actions and results achieved to date

		Milestones achieved	Mandate
Completed Actions / Fulfilled mandates	Strategy on Common Premises	The UNDG has successfully agreed upon a strategy for Common Premises	QCPR OP 161
	Intra-agency rationalization of Business Practices	Intra-agency rationalizations of business practices have been presented to the Executive Boards in the context of Strategic Plans (2014-2017)	QCPR OP 153
	Common Definition of Operating Costs	Funds and programmes have successfully agreed on a broad common definition of operating costs	QCPR OP 159
	Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)	The Standard Operating Procedures have been agreed upon and roll-out is on-going	QCPR OP 155
	Development of Business Operations Strategy	Business Operation Strategy has been agreed upon, and is currently being piloted as a voluntary option for DaO countries	QCPR OPs 152 and 155
	Common Service Centers	Viet Nam Green One UN House; Brazil Joint Operations Facility (JoF); Cape Verde Joint Office; Copenhagen UN City	QCPR OPs 152 and 155
	Coherence / Complementarity in oversight functions	System-wide adoption of Reference Risk Model	QCPR OP 167



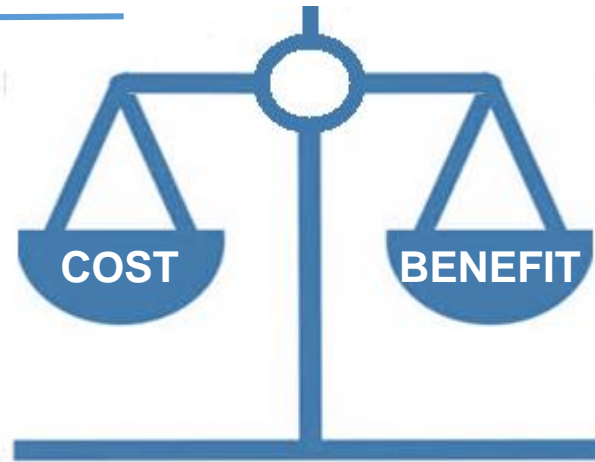
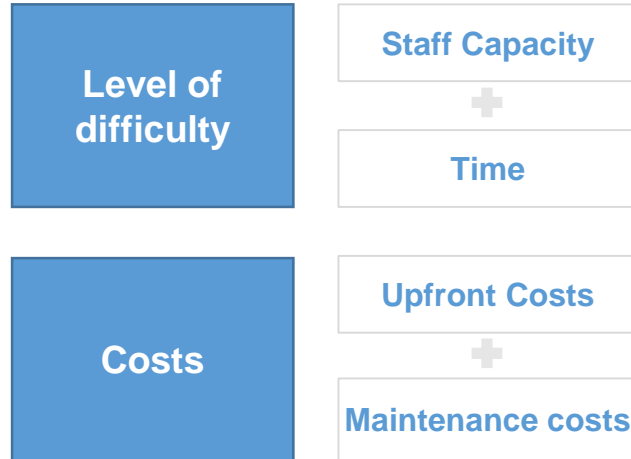
Ongoing harmonization efforts

On-going initiatives: pilots and studies	Inter-operability of ERP QCPR OP 160	On-going feasibility study / pilots	Challenging areas
	Common Services/Share Service Centers QCPR OPs 152, 154, 155; E/RES/2013/5 OP 30	An external consultant firm is carrying out a feasibility and options study for ERP inter-operability, with a result for Q1 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantial upfront costs • Potential high complexity of harmonized system
	Business Operations Strategy QCPR OP 152, 155;	Several common service centers are currently in operation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of challenges and identification of appropriate solutions in achieving standardization in inter-agency service centers (e.g. meeting country, regional or global requirements), while still retaining the flexibility needed by participating agencies • Further assess which delivery model – global, regional or country, is most effective based on specific types of services • Flexibility is needed as a Service Centre may be viable in respect of certain types of services subject to a cost-benefit analysis
	Joint Action Plan QCPR OP 152, 155; ECOSOC E/RES/2014/14 OP 35	The Business Operations Strategy (BoS) Guidance Note have been agreed upon, and (BoS's) are being piloted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent evaluation/assessment needs to be done. • Cost Benefit Analysis needs to be calculated • Multiple <u>system-wide</u> action plans already in place • “Joint Action Plan” specific to Funds and Programmes will duplicate and possibly undermine system-wide action plans

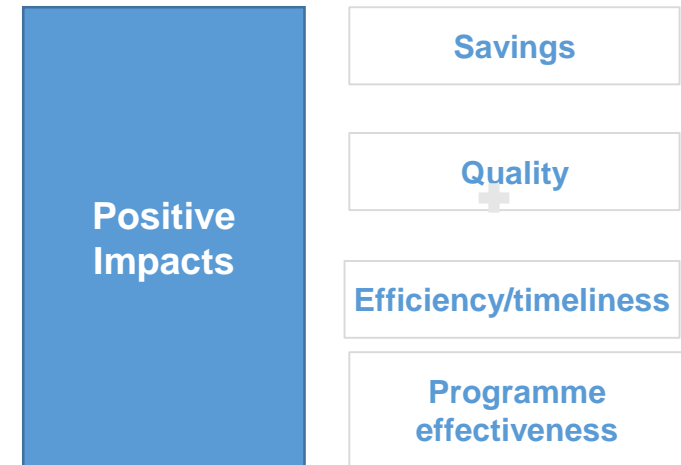


A balanced and flexible approach

Costs: UN, Government, other partners



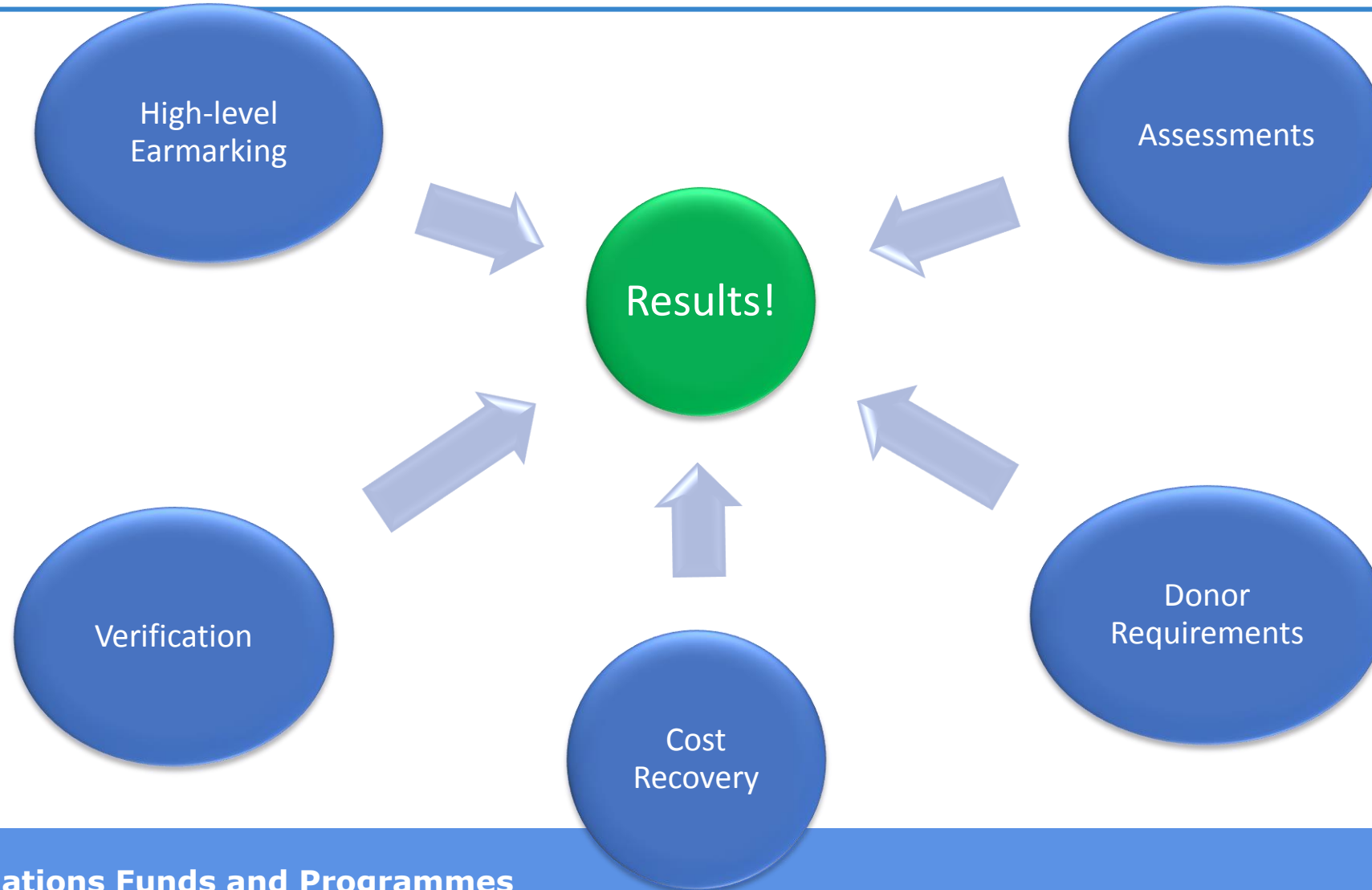
Benefits: UN, Government, other partners



Decisions need to be made on comprehensive cost-benefit analysis



Addressing limiting elements to harmonization together



Key drivers for harmonization

**1. Programme
Centrality**

**2. Uniqueness of
Business and Funding
Model**

**3. Demonstrating
Gains
“quality and
efficiency” of services**

4. Cost Effectiveness
(for partners,
agencies
and system
as a whole)

5. Evidence-based

6. Sustainability

