

ANNEX
TO THE BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE
JOINT BRIEFING WITH UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN WOMEN AND DCO ON CPDS AND
UNSDCF PROCESSES - COUNTRY EXAMPLE OF UGANDA

Questions and Answers

1. Does the Cooperation Framework anticipate joint funding or pooled funding of any kind?

- **The UN Uganda Multi-Partner Trust Fund** has been established in 2020 as a country level pooled funding instrument with the initial allocation of the Government of Norway in the amount of US\$2.1 million under the Emergency Window to respond to Covid-19 impacts under pass-through modality. The MOU has been signed by the UN agencies and AA agreement between the MPTF Office and Norway.
- This Fund seeks to build on its role as a financing catalyzer and to advance complementarities aiming to tap the needs into new funding sources, including the Government, local private sector to catalyze SDG financing at the country level and support UN reform implementation. This will be tapped through the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021-2025) aligned to support SDGs and National Development Plan III. With finalization of the Joint Work Plans for 2021 and finalization of the Funding Framework, currently efforts are in place to develop a programmatic framework to fit the Fund to long-term objectives aligned to the UNSDCF financing needs.
- There are a number of ongoing and new joint programmes that have joint funding components, e.g. the UN JP on Integrating policy and financing for accelerated progress in SDGs in Uganda has co-funding from UNDP, UN Women and UNCDF in the amount of US\$1,036,000 under the SDG Funded Component 1 project (with allocation of US\$1,000,000). [To add few more examples]

2. Has the UN Country Team prepared a Funding Framework and if so, what can you say about the process?

- The Funding Framework drafting is in progress. It has been primarily linked to the finalization of the UNSDCF Joint Work Plans for 2021 which will include both annualized and multi-year funding framework/needs.
- The JWPs will also define key areas for joint interventions and support coordinated joint RM approaches.
- The key challenges and lessons in the JWPs process that inform Funding Framework:
 - The alignment of the JWPs to the NDP III Programme Action Plans led by the Government that inform collective financing needs for certain programmatic interventions

- The agencies especially with humanitarian mandates felt it uneasy to predict multi-year funding indications and as these were also linked to their annual planning processes.
- The JWPs development process has seen a momentum to reveal duplication of efforts and reduce fragmentation thus to also ensure funding and RM efforts are strategically addressed.
- Additional clarifications from DCO on the guidance for Funding Frameworks to also include alignment with the overall SDG financing will be welcome.
- It is critical to ensure the ongoing policy frameworks and programmes with envisaged allocations are integrated in the overall JWPs and funding picture.
- The mapping of the financial landscape under CCA may require a different approach and methods in mapping of the financial landscape against Cooperation Framework outcomes, which leads to two separate processes, more tools for mapping the financial landscape against Cooperation Framework outcomes would be welcome. Critical point remains to align these to the prime role of the NDP III funding needs, which leads to better coordinated Cooperation Framework Funding Framework approaches with the Government and other partners.

3. Did you consult the draft CCA or Cooperation Framework with development partners?

- PDG and LDPG forums have been also closely engaged from the onset of the Cooperation Framework roadmap implementation. This process has started from the joint collaboration on discussing and agreeing collective comments and inputs into the National Development Plan III formulation, this was also framed following the joint UNCT and LDPG retreat held on **11th February 2020**.
- These consultations were also informed by the series of strategic engagements between the Government and the UN Country Team including: (i) The highly acclaimed NDP III Breakfast Series that drew the participation of close to 1,000 subject matter experts from the Government, Private Sector, Civil Society, Development Partner community and the Academia. The series revolved around five strategic thematic areas—human capital development; value addition and inclusive growth; good governance; financing and development cooperation; and cross cutting issues, to shape the strategic direction of the plan; (ii) UNCT technical and financial support to towards the development of the NDP III and Programme Implementation Plans.
- The draft UNSDCF with key UN CCA findings was shared and presented to Partners Development Group Forum (Donors, Ambassadors) and Local Development Partners Group (Heads of Cooperation Offices) on **8th June 2020**. The presentation was made by the RC and three HoAs leading three Strategic Priority Groups (UNDP, FAO and UN Women).

4. What is the process for the Resident Coordinator to review and confirm that agency CPDs are derived from the Cooperation Framework?

- The UN agencies have invited RC/RC and other UNCT members to the CPD consultations with Government and stakeholders. In all presentations UN agencies have reflected how the CPDs were informed by the UNSDCF and how CDPs will contribute to the achievement of the

Cooperation Framework. UN RC was also invited to make remarks at these events. RC would receive the final CPDs for endorsement and signing off the approval letter sent to respective Regional Directors of the agencies. UN agencies have shared the finally approved CPDs with RC/RCO for records.

5. How will the UNCT monitor the implementation of the Cooperation Framework, for a variety of purposes but including the ‘jointness’ of its implementation?

- An inclusive governance and management structure for the Cooperation Framework is the reinvigorated Joint National-UN Steering Committee and established as the highest governing body. It will foster greater national ownership, accountability and enhance the chances of achieving planned results. The Steering Committee is agreed to be co-chaired by the UN RC and PM and presided by the President. The platform will engage DPs, CSOs, private sector, academia among key stakeholders. The other key accountability mechanisms to support the Cooperation Framework implementation include: the UN Country Team, UNSDCF Strategic Priority Groups (3); UN Deputies Team that will be supported by the UN SDG Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation Team, Human Rights and Gender Advisory Group, UN Operations Management Team, UN Communications and Partnerships Group. The UNINFO will be used as a platform to ensure regular monitoring and reporting.
- The UNSDCF coordination will be closely aligned to the new coordination structure being finalized by the GoU on the NDP III aligned to the shift to the programmatic approach.
- Concerning mutual UN and Government accountability, it was recommended by the Prime Minister that the UNSDCF Joint UN – Government Steering Committee be part of the Government Annual Performance Reporting (GAPR) process to enhance review of performance towards SDGs.

6. What were the results of the UNCT configuration exercise? What feedback can you provide about the process?

- The UNCT Configuration exercise has informed the Joint Statement of Accountability co-signed by the UN entities, RC, Prime Minister and Chair of the National Planning Authority.
- The process has seen a great sense of collaboration and collectiveness to support the UNSDCF.
- The mapping has outreached to all UN entities including those not present in the country that had various programmes and projects, this has resulted in the increase of the overall number of UN entities to 29 UN entities.
- The consultation and assessment entailed a review of:
 - The relevance of United Nations entities to the Cooperation Framework focus areas;
 - The execution plan for intended support to the Government of Uganda through the Cooperation Framework;
 - Required technical capacities and financial resource commitments towards implementing the UNSDCF strategic priorities and outcomes;
 - Various innovations that the United Nations entities will offer within the Cooperation Framework;
 - Other activities or changes in the business model for the Cooperation Framework.
- The process has taken some substantive time to collect inputs on the guidance templates, however it was informing to receive the variety of information made available from the agencies for the process
- Provision of the financial resource commitments is challenging for the agencies at the stage before Joint Work Plans are developed

- The practical discussions on the technical capacities (beyond existing and for new interventions under the new Cooperation Framework) may be best to have when Joint Work Plans are formulated.