Joint briefing on the Strategic Plans of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOPS, UN-Women

Joint Briefing to Executive Boards
13 April 2021, 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. New York
Briefing

Highlights

- Reflection on working together under the current Strategic Plans
- Focus on UNDS reforms
- Building on the COVID-19 response
- New Strategic Plans
- Next steps and timeline
- Discussion
Implementation of the common chapter 2018-2021

Harmonised methodologies and results reporting

Enhanced partnerships beyond the four agencies

Enhanced common approaches and working together
Reflections on success and challenges

**PROGRESS**
- Increase in joint programmes
- Contribution to UNSDCF guidance and roll-out
- Increased joint analysis and planning with UNCTs
- Targeted partnerships across the UN system and beyond
- Growing adoption of common service lines

**CHALLENGES**
- Increased burden on Country Offices, additional reporting mechanisms
- Lack of funding streams supporting joint implementation
- Development support requires collaboration across the UN system
A Focus on UNDS Reform
Common Chapter before the UNDS Reform

The four Strategic Plans, including the Common Chapter, were developed at an early stage in the UNDS reform process and progress and ambition have moved on significantly.

QCPR 2016
QCPR has shifted focus and led UN agencies towards more coherent development support in pursuit of the 2030 Agenda.

Partnerships
The country context has played an important role in identifying needs and partnerships going beyond the common chapter agencies.
Feedback from first-ever joint consultation with RCs

<table>
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<tr>
<th>PROGRESS</th>
<th>BOTTLENECKS</th>
<th>OPPORTUNITIES/GOOD MODELS</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Improvements in joint analysis, planning, policy advocacy and</td>
<td>• Current structures and practices could better facilitate cooperation</td>
<td>• MPTF is a good practice for joint resource</td>
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<td>shared understanding of priorities</td>
<td>• Tension between the direction of the reforms and the incentives</td>
<td>mobilisation (PBF, COVID Fund, SDG Fund)</td>
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<td>• Flagship joint programmes and Results Groups have helped considerably</td>
<td>• Further streamline corporate reporting requirements</td>
<td>• Important to institutionalise collaboration,</td>
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<td>• UN’s COVID response has shown the potential for enhanced joint work and</td>
<td>• Programmatic areas require stronger, more open cooperation</td>
<td>build conducive culture and incentives and</td>
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<td>synergies</td>
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<td>simplify systems</td>
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<td>• Common chapter recognised as a driver of efforts -- call to move</td>
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<td>• Need to go beyond joint programming -- joint</td>
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<td>beyond the “exclusive club of 4”</td>
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<td>communications and advocacy</td>
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<td>• Strengthen collaboration on data to drive and</td>
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<td>better communicate collective impact.</td>
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SparkBlue joint online consultation

First ever joint online consultation on the Strategic Plans of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF and UN-Women

5
Key common areas for discussion

210
Participants engaged

140
Comments received

MOST ACTIVE DISCUSSIONS
- Gender
- Data & Innovation
Building on the COVID-19 Response
COVID-19

Lessons learned from COVID-19

- Shown the need for agility and innovative solutions and to bridge the digital divide
- Demonstrated the importance of flexibility and the need to have real-time data to aid decision-making
- Demonstrated the potential of a whole-of-system approach -- SG’s socioeconomic framework for the UN System and COVID Response and Recovery Fund
- Shown the need to build resilience in societies and communities
Next Strategic Plans
Beyond the Common Chapter
On-going and emerging areas of collaboration that goes beyond the current format and areas of work (e.g. data, climate and gender equality). Need for a country-focused approach where comparative advantages will steer the support of the UNSDCF and the UNCT.

QCPR 2020
Ensuring that the QCPR resolution informs respective Strategic Plan development, especially in the following areas (but not limited to): digital inclusion, climate, prevention of sexual exploitation, LNOB, gender equality, eradicating poverty, sustainable and inclusive COVID-19 recovery. Making use of agencies specific comparative advantage.

Coordinated approaches for joint results
Common/complementary results and indicators taking into account QCPR led by DESA. Linking programmatic work (but not limited to the listed areas above) through a system-wide harmonisation. (process, results-architecture, approach/methodology).

Agenda 2030
Greater results towards reaching the SDGs are achieved through coordinated action and integrated, multi-dimensional approaches across sectors, partners and programming areas.
Principles for identifying areas of collaboration

- Partnerships and areas of direct collaboration are based on strategic considerations and linked with the SDGs, encompassing a wide range of partnerships.

- Each organization uses respective Theories of Change to determine what action is required in each outcome area in order to catalyze/accelerate change, and promote/protect rights.

- Based on the Theories of Change, the organizations engage with each other to work together to best ensure SDG progress and may also reflect this in the Strategic Plans of each respective agency.

- The areas of collaboration, together with the QCPR monitoring framework, also form the basis for the identification of common and complementary indicators in the agencies’ respective Results Framework.
Thinking “Commonality” and “Complementarity” for the new Strategic Plans

Common SDG indicators
Monitor results at the impact level

Complementary Agency Specific results areas and indicators

Common QCPR indicators
Consistent across agencies and UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women and beyond consistent with the UN DESA QCPR monitoring Framework
Next Steps
Timeline for SPs 2022-2025 Development

**April-June, 2021**
- **04-05** UNDP/UNFPA informals
- **05** UNOPS informal
- **05** UNICEF informal
- **04/07** UN-Women informal
- **04/28** UN-Women informal
- **06/07-11** UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS
- **06/01-04** UNICEF Annual Session
- **06/21-23** UN-Women Annual Session

**2021 Q2** First draft of the SP

**July-September, 2021**
- **08** UNFPA EB informal
- **08/30-9/04** UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS
- **08** UNOPS informal
- **08** UNICEF informal
- **08** UN-Women informal
- **09/07-10** UNICEF
- **09/13-15** UN-Women

**2021 Q3** Final draft of the SP
Q&A

Thank you for your attention and guidance.