Management response to the Joint Evaluability Assessment of the Global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Well-being for All (SDG GAP)

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UNICEF Executive Board – Informal briefing – 26 January 2022
UNICEF as a member of the Global Action Plan

Stronger collaboration for better health

ENgage: Working with countries to identify priorities and to plan & implement together

AcCElaRate: Acting together to support countries in the accelerator themes and on advancing gender equality

ALIGN: Harmonizing operational and financial strategies, policies and approaches

ACCOunT: Reviewing progress and learning together to enhance shared accountability

Through seven accelerators:

- Primary health care
- Sustainable financing
- Communities & civil society
- Determinants of health
- Fragile settings
- Data & digital
- Research & development, innovation & access

+ Cross cutting - Gender equality
Recommendations

1. **Jointly review and revisit the purpose and shared objectives** to clarify how the Global Action Plan is intended to operate and add value to what is already in place, leading to agreement on specific questions (e.g., the Plan’s positioning as enabler vs. driver of change how the Plan will work at country level generally and in specific countries, and so on).

2. Based on this discussion, **articulate a clear and detailed theory of change** corresponding to the agreed way forward.

3. **Make the Global Action Plan more concrete and accountable** (e.g., by accelerating progress on mapping out the agreed activities for Global Action Plan partners; restarting the process on indicator development; ensuring more consistent involvement of senior leaders across all 12 agencies and following through into workplans and time allocations of their staff).

4. **Review the overall resourcing of the Global Action Plan activities** (e.g., get beyond the ‘volunteerism’-based approach).

5. **Revisit the linkages between and among the accelerator working groups** to help them support each other to full effect, and at the same time clarify what is realistically expected from each group based on Recommendations 1 and 2.

6. In agreement with the 12 signatory agencies’ evaluation offices, **map out the steps to the 2023 evaluation** – e.g., follow-up on these Joint Evaluability Assessment recommendations, addressing technical monitoring and evaluation gaps, mid-term review at the end of 2021 to ensure progress prior to 2023 evaluation – and **ensure these are well understood by all stakeholders**.

All of these recommendations have been agreed & are in various stages of implementation.
I. Jointly review and revisit the purpose and shared objectives

Agreed & Implemented

Country focus and ownership as the basis for Global Action Plan actions by partners;

Positioning the SDG3 GAP for country impact in the COVID-19 era;

“SDG3 GAP: supporting an equitable and resilient recovery towards the health-related Sustainable Development Goals
II. Articulate a clear and detailed Theory of change

Agreed & Implemented

Theory of Change developed by Global Action Plan partners and approved by Principals (November 2020)

Overall goal: Accelerate progress towards the health-related Sustainable Development Goals, leave no one behind, including in the context of countries’ efforts to recover and rebuild from COVID-19

4 Outcomes and 12 outputs.
III. Make Global Action Plan more concrete and accountable

Agreed & Implemented

Global Action Plan Monitoring framework developed and agreed in May 2021

Pilot in progress in identified low-income and low- and middle-income countries

Future Global Action Plan progress reports will be based on the monitoring framework.
IV. Review overall resourcing of GAP activities

Agreed & Initiated

All agencies providing staff time/staff resources to support Global Action Plan implementation at various levels;

Funding and financing arrangements variable, gaining traction initially for equitable, resilience work.

Catalytic funding for Global Action Plan to regional offices and country offices by one agency.
v. Revisit the linkages between and among the accelerator working groups

Agreed & Implemented

Cross-accelerator work at country level e.g., Ghana, Pakistan, Somalia (primary health care, financing, fragile settings, research & development, innovation & access, and data & digital health accelerators)

Equity cluster
Agreed & Initiated

Management response by all agencies

Initiated mid-term review in consultation with all evaluation offices

Independent evaluation in 2023

VI. Map out steps to 2023 evaluation of Global Action Plan
In conclusion:

UNICEF a strong committed partner for Global Action Plan implementation;

Lead primary health care accelerator jointly with WHO

Participate in all other accelerators and working groups.

Implement jointly the Joint Evaluability Assessment recommendations
Thank you.