



UNITED NATIONS  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GROUP  
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# Guidelines for United Nations Country Team Results Report

December 2024



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(Cover) Photo credit: Shaari/ UNICEF Maldives

In the resolution on the review of the functioning of the reinvigorated RC system, adopted by Member States in 2021, the UN General Assembly “takes note of progress made in providing annual United Nations Country Team reports to programme countries on the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework or equivalent planning framework, urges the entities of the United Nations development system, as appropriate, to invest in and fully utilize the common UN INFO reporting platform to support analysis of system-wide results, [and] requests the Secretary-General, in line with the provisions of resolutions 72/279 and 75/233, to ensure all Resident Coordinators and UN country teams present the results reports annually to their respective programme countries in a consistent and timely manner to ensure accountability and to make these reports publicly available, with the consent of the respective Governments [...];

## Overarching Principles

This guidance on UN Country Team (UNCT) Results Reports produced annually is aligned with and follows the [UN Cooperation Framework Guidance](#), to support UNCTs illustrate their contribution to the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

These guidelines are designed to assist UNCTs in producing high quality, timely and impactful Reports on an annual basis, while reducing transaction costs wherever possible. Beyond advocacy, the Reports are a tool for the UNCT to strengthen the relationships and policy dialogue with Government.

To that end, UNCT Results Reports are guided by the following principles in relation to their scope, content, format, timeline, and quality assurance:

- The UNCT Results Report reports on the status of **system-wide implementation of the Cooperation Framework or equivalent instrument** in support of national policies, plans, priorities and needs and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

- The **primary audience of the UNCT Results Report** is at the country level. The Report is presented to the national Government for accountability. It is also shared broadly with other stakeholders (such as bilateral partners, civil society, parliamentarians, etc.) in country to ensure full visibility of UN results. The Report is prepared in a language and format accessible to relevant stakeholders.
- The UNCT Results Report uses the latest **UNCT-specific data points from UN INFO and other sources** as relevant, which are managed by the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO) on behalf of the UNCT. If done so, this significantly reduces transaction costs at the time of reporting.
- The UNCT Results Report will inform other mandated reporting at regional and global levels, including the **annual report of the Chair of the UNSDG to the Economic and Social Council** on the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO), which showcases the work of the Resident Coordinator (RC) system.
- **The UNCT Results Report may replace reporting by UNCT single entities to their headquarters**, if deemed appropriate by the concerned entity. Amongst other things, this can strengthen coherence, reduce processes and increase efficiencies.

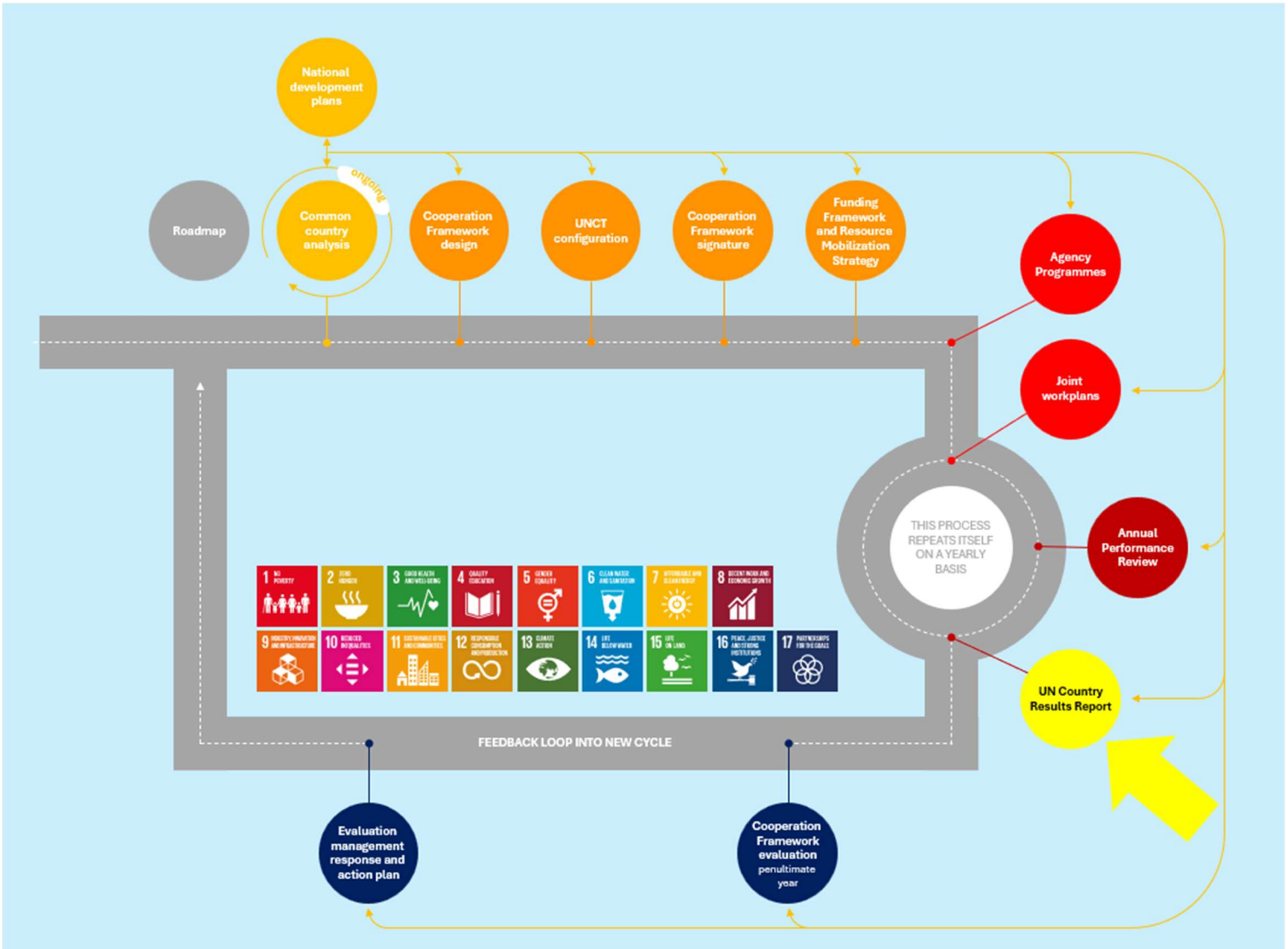
**For specific provisions related to reporting in multi-country office settings, please refer to Annex I.**

Ensuring full transparency and accountability for results of the work of the UN development system is also a foundational element of the [Funding Compact](#) between Member States and the UN development system.

Financial resources that allow the UN to respond effectively to emerging needs, adapt to changing circumstances, and implement development programs efficiently ensures the ability to address unforeseen challenges, and ensure support where it is most needed.

At the same time, the United Nations development system needs to ensure trust and confidence in its development activities, by further strengthening transparency, accountability, efficiencies, and reporting towards collective results.

UNCT Results Reports play a critical role in ensuring full visibility of activities and results of the UN development system in countries.



# REPORT CONTENT

## Focus on system-wide results and evidence in transforming the development landscape

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**Speak to the primary target audiences:** The UNCT Results Report is primarily directed at host Governments, while also informing other national stakeholders and development partners. The focus must remain at the country level. For example, Governments and other development partners often want to know how the UN has supported the country to achieve the 2030 Agenda and other regional intergovernmental strategies, as for examples those for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Countries, Small Islands Developing States and Agenda 2063 for Africa, and what difference this has made for people in that country.

**Note:** *The Resident Coordinator is expected to present the annual results achieved to the joint national/UN steering committee. Thereafter, the UN publishes the results in the UNCT Results Report. Data and information that may be omitted from the Report for various reasons (e.g. Governments' sensitivities, not making it on time for publishing) may be included as appropriate on the UNCT website.*

**Showcase the difference the UNCT has made collectively in transforming the development trajectory in country**, in line with the Cooperation Framework. This means policy shifts, systems transformation and results at scale, tying them to the difference the UN has made in supporting countries with implementation of the SDGs as part of the implementation of the Cooperation Framework. The ultimate focus is on showcasing results that speak to the role of the UN in catalyzing SDG momentum with speed and at scale.

Make the necessary linkages between the output and outcome level results, making a clear connection between the two, and explaining how the UN has contributed to the change in lives of the people, through its contribution of output level results.

- **At output level**, reflect on the changes in policies, skills or abilities, or the availability of new products and services that resulted from the completion of activities within a development intervention, such as support for the formulation or revision of a national policy or capacities built within the Government and/or other partners.

- **At the outcome level**, focus on institutional, behavioral and systems' changes that have occurred. For example, how outputs such as policy support and capacities built have helped to catalyze changes in the enabling environment and people's lives.

**Note:** *Ensure that integrated policy and normative support are clearly highlighted. It is critical to give visibility to the shift of UN Country Teams' work towards high-quality integrated policy support.*

Example 1: "In support of / cooperation with x Ministry, the UN team put forward policy options on leaving no one behind for consideration by the Government, which informed the design of a nationwide social protection policy. The shift in this national policy approach for social protection has impacted the livelihoods of 12 million (80%) vulnerable people, compared to only 4.5 million (30%) protected under the previous legislation."

Example 2: "The UN strengthened government capacity to provide online primary education services to 90% of primary and tertiary schools nationwide, increasing classroom attendance by 3.5 million learners."

Example 3: "I own 20 acres of fertile land. Access to water was a great problem, due to which our crops yielded below average", says XXX, a smallholder farmer from the village of XXX. "The UN and XX enabled the installation of solar energy-based tube wells by XX that improved productivity, as we have access to water now, while minimizing costs as we can count on solar power to keep the wells going."

Example 4: "He is one of the 400 farmers and small business owners who are already benefitting from the UN' renewable energy investment initiative, part of a multi-stakeholder programme involving the Government, and XX, who came together thanks to the funding provided by the Global Environment Facility and transformed energy access for the most vulnerable."

Example 5: "The initiative is changing lives by reaching out to small enterprises and smallholders, who are the backbone of xxx's economy. Thanks to the solar power installation made possible by a shift from a carbon to green energy system, participants have seen their incomes rise by 25% on average, as it reduces costs and boosts productive time. The initiative is preventing more than 600 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually, and beneficiaries are generating 2,025 MWh of clean energy every year, which equals to xx% of the need per year."

**Note:** *Capture UNCT contributions to cross-border, sub-regional and regional frameworks and strategies (where these exist).*

Example: The UN in country X partnered with UN in country Y and country Z to provide integrated policy support to and connect across all governments on youth employment and cross-border labor migration issues. This enabled the three countries to jointly design and implement a strategy for streamlining and enhancing border management systems to foster economic integration, in line with the UN Great Lakes Regional Strategic Framework, and African Union/East African Community objectives.

**Focus on UN system-wide results, not processes, in advancing the 2030 Agenda:** This means (i) focusing how UNCT results are more than the sum of UN entities individual parts, including with contributions from those entities without a physical presence in country and (ii) focusing on impact and outcomes, achieved through outputs, rather than activities. For example, avoid reporting on meetings, workshops and trainings. Report instead on the changes that these meetings, workshops and trainings have brought in enabling change.

Example: Through complementary and mutually reinforcing initiatives led by UNDP, ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN Women and ITC, 5000 youth, 60000 women, and 2300 persons with disabilities have been empowered to pursue gainful self-employment, access reproductive health services, and enhance their active participation in civic and community life, including through better access to digital means.

**Note:** *Visibility of UNCT members should focus on where they have contributed – together with other entities – to system-wide results. In illustrating collective achievements, the entities that were part of these efforts can be mentioned both in the narrative and/or visually. For example, in this infographic the entities contributing jointly to strategic priority results are clearly identified according to their specific mandates and pegged to SDGs.*



STRATEGIC PRIORITY #1:  
**INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
 AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

**1 OUTCOME**

All people, especially the vulnerable, benefit from improved management and state of natural resources and increasingly innovative, competitive, gender-responsive and inclusive economic development that is climate resilient and low-carbon.

by 2027

**Agencies:**



**SDGs:**



**EU Chapters:**



Required budget  
**\$ 5,792,432**



Available budget  
**\$ 5,658,854**



Expenditure  
**\$ 4,584,012**

**Delivery rate: 81%**

**Overall output Indicator progress rate 80%**

**15 output indicators: 80% average progress rate**



■ Fully achieved  
 ■ Partially achieved  
 ■ Not achieved

**Note:** Provide visibility to donors, including Governments, who have made possible collective results at scale through quality resources, for example by providing pooled or thematic funding for joint UNCT programmes to implement the Cooperation Framework, rather than prioritizing funding to single entities based on their own Government's priorities.

Example: Thanks to multiyear unrestricted funding from the European Union (EU), the United Kingdom (UK), and USAID, along with co-financing by the national Government, a joint programme aimed at transforming energy access for social protection implemented by UNDP, UNEP, WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA, in partnership with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and local foundations, contributed to a 20% increase in rural solar electrification. This expansion of electrification has, in turn, enhanced the delivery of basic social services, including health and education, in underserved areas.

Example:



Source: Gambia UNCT Results Report, 2024

**Note:** Capture UNCT contributions to cross-border, sub-regional and regional frameworks and strategies (where these exist).

Example: The UN in country X partnered with UN in country Y and country Z to provide integrated policy support to and connect across all governments on youth employment and cross-border labor migration issues. This enabled the three countries to jointly design and implement a strategy for streamlining and enhancing border management systems to foster economic integration, in line with the UN Great Lakes Regional Strategic Framework, and African Union/East African Community objectives.

**Be data and evidence-based:** Stories and summaries are an important way of communicating about the UN's work, and are most powerful when backed up by data. Use evidence – at outcome and output level – to show progress/change at outcome and output level, including through reporting against indicator targets of the Cooperation Framework, or other SDG or national indicators. When using the output indicators, report results against at least 15 UNSDG output indicators (see box).

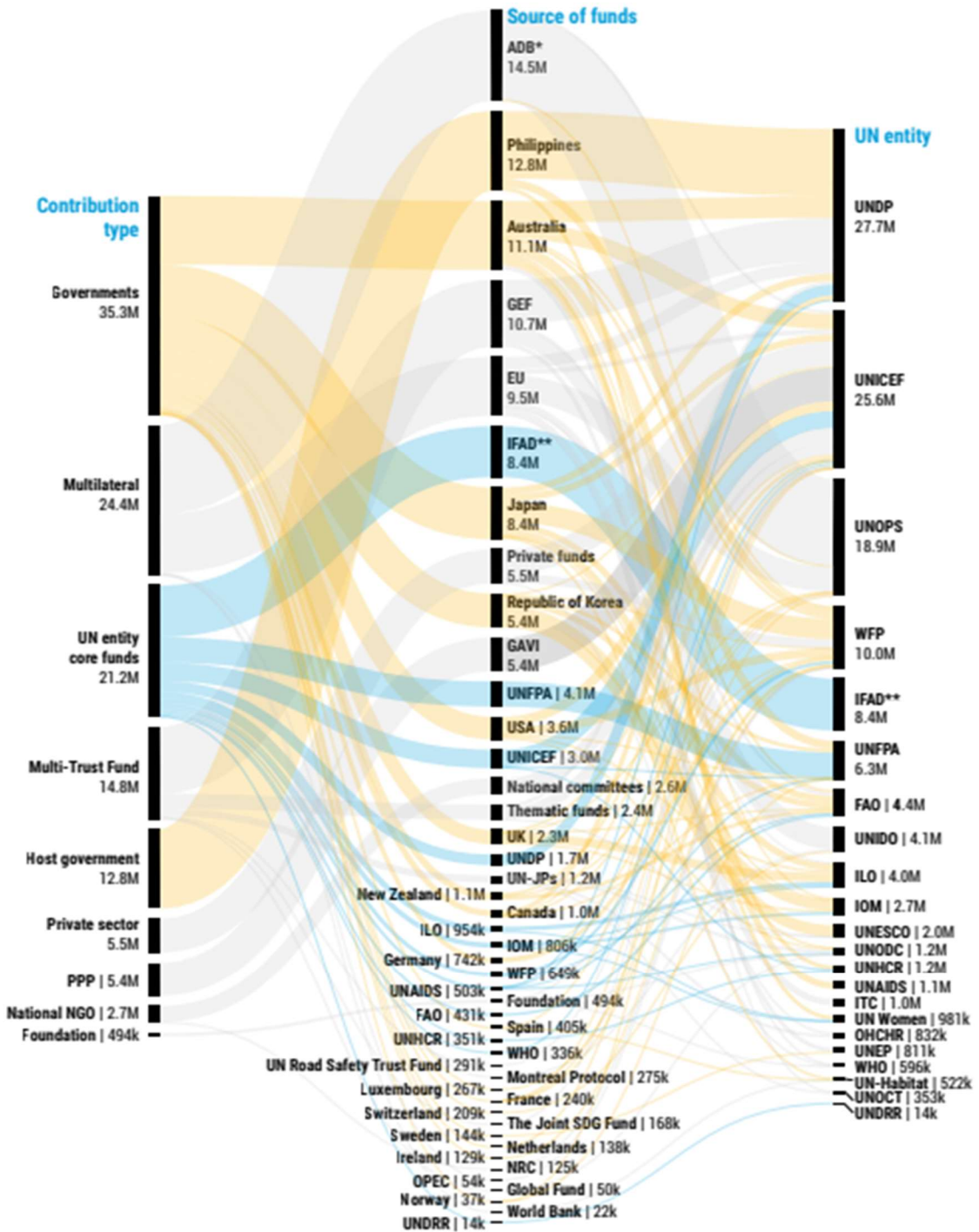
The Cooperation Framework module of UN INFO platform makes reporting easier: it allows users to continuously upload, monitor, and update information on programmes, locations, lead entities, partners, resources and more to implement the Cooperation Framework Joint Work Plans (JWP).<sup>1</sup> UN INFO data and infographics can then be downloaded and utilized to feed the UNCT Results Report, obviating the need for separate requests to UN entities during report preparations, thereby significantly reducing transaction costs.

#### **UNSDG Output Indicator Framework**

In November 2022, to measure the [UN contribution towards the SDGs](#), the UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) launched the Output Indicator Framework. The Framework offers a wide-ranging menu of indicators with the purpose of improving quality and consistency of results, increasing transparency and accountability, while at the same time reducing reporting burden and transactions costs at country level. Reporting against these indicators through the UNCT Results Report improves the quality of Cooperation Framework monitoring and enables more effective programmatic decision-making, while contributing to systematic and harmonized reporting globally through this set of common indicators. UNCTs should integrate a minimum of 15 output indicators – and as many as are relevant to the national context into the Cooperation Framework JWP. Where possible, UNCTs are encouraged to select indicators exclusively from the UNSDG framework.

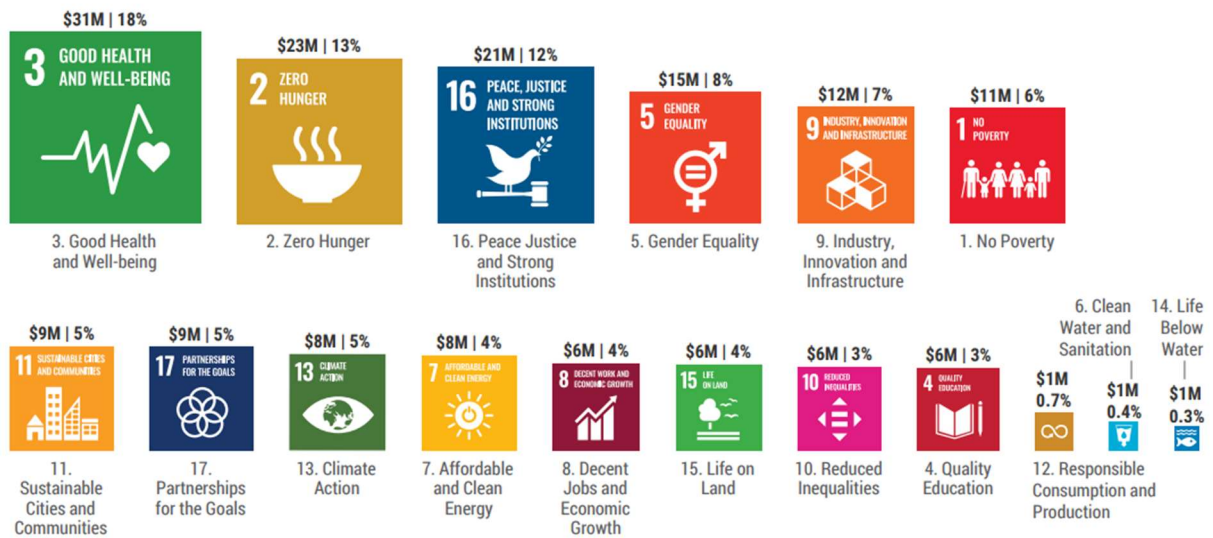
For example, the chart below is easily produced using UN INFO, providing a snapshot of partners, investments, recipients and targeted SDGs in country.

2023 expenditure by contributor and United Nations entity (in thousands of US\$)



Source: Philippines, UNCT Results Report, 2024

**Funding available by SDGs (in millions of US\$)\***



Source: Philippines, UNCT Results Report, 2024

**Share transparently:** Transparency is a vital principle, as underscored by the Funding Compact agreed between Member States and the UN development system for more and better quality of funding. In the UNCT Results Report, therefore, highlight not only the progress achieved but also the challenges and lessons on what is working or not working well.

**Embody the spirit of partnership:** The UN’s work is always done together with host Governments, as well as with many other stakeholders, such as civil society, think tanks, academia, parliaments, the private sector, international financial institutions and bilateral and multilateral partners, as well as women’s, youth’s, faith-based and other groups, including vulnerable people’s groups. The UNCT Results Report must **describe in clear and lively language how these partnerships helped to drive transformative change**. Highlight also new and non-traditional partnerships the UN has forged (e.g., with international financial institutions and the private sector) to leverage their capacities, resources and assets to lift and scale-up sustainable development efforts in the country.

**Showcase better ways of working for the SDGs:** Highlight how the UN development system reform – including enhanced coordination - has increased results. Reflect on the value of coordination, pointing to results enabled by strengthened RC leadership and RCO support to the UNCT, the Government, partners and all stakeholders on the ground. Also reflect on how elements such as the focus on SDG financing, the review of the UNCT configuration, and implementation of the efficiency agenda are enhancing development results. Showcase, amongst other efforts, how the UNCT has:

- (a) Drawn, as needed, upon the capacities, resources and assets of UN entities not physically located in the country, including at the regional level through the Regional Collaborative Platforms, to better support Governments to achieve progress towards the 2030 Agenda.
- (b) Partnered with IFIs and other development financing institutions to support countries on SDG financing.
- (c) Become more joined up and coordinated and coherent in resource mobilization efforts at the country level.
- (d) Worked together effectively to deliver integrated instead of fragmented policy advice.
- (e) Emphasized how global frameworks have been operationalized in country-level programming (e.g., Spotlight, INFFs, NDCs).
- (f) Reduced overlaps in geographical and thematic coverage in programming, and maximized synergies.
- (g) Reduced duplication of efforts and saved costs due to streamlining of operations.
- (h) Reduced transaction costs for host Governments and partners.
- (i) Given visibility to major donors and innovative partnerships.

Note how these achievements were enabled by the RC and the RCO. Keep in mind the RC and the RCO are meant to be facilitators, not implementers.

**Link results to resources:** The UNCT Results Report must include a financial overview of the financial resources required, available, spent, and funding gaps for the reporting year, to ensure full transparency of financial activities and accountability for results. At the same time, identifying the funding gap in the Report is an opportunity for resource mobilization advocacy. UN INFO facilitates a clear overview of the link between resources and results, allowing to download or create charts and other infographics. Please refer to section 2.2 of this guidance on “Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization” for minimum common standards for financial reporting, to ensure coherence across all UNCT teams.

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<sup>1</sup> As per Cooperation Framework guidance, it is mandatory to upload the results framework on UN INFO (United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework Guidance – paragraphs 90 and 91).

# REPORT FORMAT

Use clear and concise language, as well as images and design to attract your readers' attention

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Photo credit: FAO Tajikistan /Shodibek Sharipov

**Focus on people and tell stories:** Focus on people from start to finish, linking them to strategic outcomes. For example, don't say "The UN procured vaccines for the Health Ministry of the National Government to distribute to hospitals in five states with the greatest need." Instead say, "X [number] of children at hospitals in the regions most in need of the country can benefit from Y [number] of vaccines that the UN delivered to support Government efforts" or "The Government now has greater capacity to save children's lives, following X [number] of vaccines that the UN delivered to national hospitals; UN support contributed to reduce the rate of Z infections from X% to Y%."

**Use great design, more images, fewer words and more data:** Make use of data visualizations, infographics, photos, storytelling, with a good balance between narrative and visuals. Good graphic design makes the difference between a bland-looking report that few people will pick up and read, and an engaging one that speaks to them. A nice photo with a concise caption is usually better than a long and wordy description with or without a photo. Please see an example below derived from UN INFO data and analytics.



Source: Mexico UNCT Results Report, 2024



**Limit your report to 25 pages maximum or no more than 10,000 words: The longer the report is, the fewer people will read it.** A World Bank paper [noted](#) that nearly one-third of its reports were never downloaded. Your readers don't need to know every last detail about the UN's work. Much of the detail can be visualized, as for example in data snapshots, or saved for annexes. Supporting materials can be made available on the UNCT website or by other means. Keep your overall narrative concise and strategic. Do not crowd too much text onto any given page.

**Communicate your results broadly and use your content for various target audiences through different channels:** Extract the most important elements of your report **for multimedia communications and outreach, including an infographic-rich social media strategy** that highlights results and data, for transparency and accountability to a wider audience. Each Resident Coordinator's Office will be expected to share with the DGC regional communications advisor at least one story, blog or press release, highlighting a key result achieved in country, which will be featured globally on the UNSDG website (and can be used locally on the UNCT website). Please refer to the guidelines [storytelling and blogging](#) and the [templates for press releases](#).

**Consider going eco-friendly and not printing your report at all:** Explore this option in consultation with your senior leadership (RC/UNCT) and Government counterparts. **E-reports or short infographic-filled PDFs may suffice. Another option is to publish a full report online** and print just a flyer or brochure tailored for target audiences. Templates are available [here](#) (please download a copy and work on your local drive).

**Cater to the people we serve using local languages:** Prioritize the use of the local languages to maximize accessibility by the Government, development partners, and the general public. All Reports will be included on the UNSDG global website along those produced in the UN official languages.

# REPORT TIMELINE

**Resident Coordinators are expected to release UNCT Results Reports by 31 March of each year and present the Report to the national Government.**

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**Serve the needs of Government, partners and the UN:** The timely release of UNCT Results Reports has multiple advantages for all parties. In country, the national Government and development partners get relevant snapshots and timely accountability of UN accomplishments; this becomes a useful basis for discussion of future UN support to the country as well as partnership and UN resource mobilization for the next planning period.

At the global level, the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) gets a full account of the results of the RC and the UN on the ground. UN Country Teams enjoy greater visibility, reputation, and support at both country and global levels for their accomplishments.

**Note:** *In those contexts where the Government is particularly involved and may wish to co-sign or sign off on the report before the document is released publicly, you can still consider your task completed and upload the report on the UNSDG Information Management System by the 31 March deadline, selecting “draft” from the menu options and marking the Report as “private.” This will count your Report as having been produced, while also allowing the Government to take the time needed for final sign-off.*

# QUALITY ASSURANCE

**Country and regional bodies shall use this guidance**

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Quality criteria for the UNCT Results Report are included in Annex II of this guidance. These criteria shall be used by the UNCT and the DCO Regional Office in assuring report quality.

The identification of the best examples of UNCT Results Reports is premised on this guidance and quality criteria.

Good examples of UNCT Results Reports are the winners of the yearly Awards for Best UNCT Results Reports.

All UNCT Results Reports, including winners of yearly Awards for Best UNCT Results Reports, can be found here: <https://unsdg.un.org/resources/annual-UNCT-results-reports>.



Photo credit: Nebojsa Petrovic.jpeg / UN Serbia

# ANNEX I

## UNCT Results Report Template

### Report cover/title

- Insert title and subtitle, as relevant
- Specify the country
- Include the year

### Foreword by the Resident Coordinator

Reflect on how the UN supported the country towards its 2030 aspirations in an evolving country context, as well as how reforms in the country enabled results.

- This is also the place to acknowledge partnerships with the Government and other key stakeholders.
- The Resident Coordinator should sign and date the foreword. If relevant, a Government counterpart may co-write or co-sign the foreword or provide their own foreword. Co-signing the report with the Government is not a requirement, but it is welcome since the report presents results of the Cooperation Framework, which is jointly agreed with the Government.

**Note:** *This section is best written after completing the substantive reporting.*

### UN Country Team

Illustrate the overall composition of the UNCT, distinguishing between those entities that have physical presence on the ground and those that do not. This should include changes in the composition of the UNCT during the reporting year in response to gaps and emerging priorities. Identify any changes in related business models (e.g., addressing a reduction of in-country entity presence with new advisory capacity in the RCO).

## Key development partners of the UN development system in the country

Illustrate the major development partners supporting the UN's work.

- This will comply with the Funding Compact commitment to enhance the visibility of donors that contribute through better funding mechanisms (such as pooled and thematic funds).
- Some of the major partners may not make a financial contribution to the UN, but their work may synergize with that of the UN. For example, a partnership with the World Bank may not necessarily be of a financial nature but could result in greater coverage of vulnerable or marginalized groups in the country.
- Acknowledge key government ministries and the areas of collaboration with the UN as relevant.
- Use creative means to depict this information, such as through logos or a graphic of financial contributions to the UN.



Photo credit: UNICEF Gaza, Eyad El Baba

# CHAPTER 1

## Key developments in the country and regional context (maximum 1 page)

***Drawing from updates of the UN Common Country Analysis (CCA) throughout the year, reflect on the aspects below, while integrating the guiding principles of the Cooperation Framework to leave no-one behind, advance gender equality and women's empowerment, foster sustainability and resilience, and promote a human rights based approach:***

- Key development trends, emerging issues, and new/evolving risks in the year and their implications for national SDG priorities, the progress towards the 2030 Agenda and the ambition of Leave No One Behind.
- The most significant challenges that arose and advancements made.
- Major implications of contextual developments for UN development support in the year, including adjustments in UNCT configuration (whether new entities have joined and/or left the UNCT during the year) and changes in the nature of UN support, such as a shift to more short-term emergency response because of various emerging issues.



Photo credit: UNICEF Ukraine

# CHAPTER 2

## UN development system support to national development priorities through the Cooperation Framework (maximum 19-20 pages)

### 2.1. Overview of Cooperation Framework Results in 202X (maximum 1-2 pages)

With reference to the national SDG development plans and priorities for the Cooperation Framework period/year (as appropriate), provide a brief assessment of UNCT's performance on the UN's joint work plans and Cooperation Framework responsiveness to the evolving country situation and priorities, including UN regional strategies where they exist.

- Include a reflection on trends and cumulative results achieved since the beginning of the Cooperation Framework cycle, including how results achieved contributed to reducing risks identified in the CCA.
- Include an assessment of results achieved in response to unforeseen changes, which may have required repurposing of the Cooperation Framework.
- Reflect UNCT results achieved by implementing global initiatives and partnerships such as Secretary-General's priorities, recommendations of major intergovernmental Summits, and global partnerships such as the Spotlight initiative to eliminate violence against women. You may capture this in a separate text box or factoid in the Report, or through other creative means.
- Integrate the overarching Guiding Principles of the Cooperation Framework Guidelines throughout the reporting on priorities and outcomes.
- Reflect on "Chapter 3: Into the future", and summarize the key achievements of the 'big-ticket' results that the UN committed to achieve during the previous year related to coordination and joint advocacy.

**Note:** This section is best written after the priorities and outcomes section below is completed.

## 2.2. Achieving Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes and outputs (*maximum 6 pages*)

### **Reflect on results achieved and how much was spent, and include:**

- Outputs achieved by the UN under each outcome, with a narrative that includes achievement of output indicators and corresponding disaggregation (e.g. by sex, age etc.) – including the selected indicators from the global [UN Sustainable Development Group \(UNSDG\) Output Indicator framework](#) – plus photos and graphics. Use consistent application of the writing flow starting with the Cooperation Frameworks outcomes achievement (where there are visible results), followed by explaining how the UN contributed to the achievement of the outcomes through the output results, supported by evidence (outcome indicators, and where relevant, other national or SDG indicators). In addition to the narrative, include quantitative results achieved during the year, and baseline and target data to the extent possible.
- SDGs supported (graphics) and cross-pillar linkages, as relevant.
- Key challenges (3 bullet points).
- Graphic/logo of UN entities contributing to outcomes.
- Funding information at results level, captured creatively. For example, use pie charts to capture outcome-level funding requirements, available, spent, and funding gaps.

### **Reflect on overall progress on the promise to “leave no one behind,” and include:**

- Overall national progress in reaching those left behind, including numbers and infographics.
- Efforts and results in building and supporting national statistics office capacities to move beyond national averages, with a strengthened focus on inclusion and tackling inequalities.
- Any outstanding concerns on the issue of leaving no one behind.
- Scores and reflections related to the gender, youth and disability scorecards and existing markers (e.g. UNCT-Gender Equality Marker, Human-Rights Marker, Peace Marker, etc.)



### **Link to other priorities/plans in country**

- Make references and linkages to national development priorities and plans, and related regional priorities (including UN regional strategies where applicable).
- Make references and describe linkages to humanitarian response plans, refugee response plans and/or other emergency plans and priorities. Please ensure you do not double count/report results and/or financial information that has to be reported under a different framework (e.g. Humanitarian Programme Cycle Tools), but describe how the Cooperation Framework connects with the humanitarian/emergency response plans and how it has supported the reduction of needs, risks and vulnerabilities or helped to support the provision of essential services that build resilient communities (for example, point to UNCT efforts for food security through increased capacity for household income generation (ILO, UNDP) and agricultural production (FAO, UNDP), in contribution to reduction in malnutrition levels complementing supplementary and therapeutic feeding interventions of the Humanitarian Response Plans). Consider including a reference or a summary, either in a dedicated box, in the narrative or in a visual, of results achieved by UNCT members under those other plans, in consultation with humanitarian coordination leads)

**Note:** *This information should already be available through UN INFO, if it is updated regularly. The Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Group should follow up and ensure regular updating and completeness of progress and results-oriented reporting in UN INFO.*

### **2.3. Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda (maximum 3 pages)**

Reflect on major development partnerships that the UN forged that helped advance the SDGs or leveraged financing for the 2030 Agenda in the country. This includes:

- Examples of innovative partnerships in advancing transformative efforts for SDG acceleration.
- Examples of key multistakeholder partnerships leveraged by the UN for an enabling environment and increased financing for SDG achievements.
- Examples of south-south or triangular partnerships to advance the 2030 Agenda/SDGs.
- Infographics and results related to UN's support to financing the 2030 Agenda.

- Examples and reflections on how, as a result of UN support:
  - The current government expenditures towards the SDGs have been realigned, such as by eliminating fossil-fuel subsidies, being climate-sensitive, or making gender-sensitive budget reforms.
  - Future government expenditures were avoided to free up resources for investment in essential areas, such as through investments in climate action or disaster risk reduction.
  - Financial resources of government were delivered more effectively, for example by strengthening public procurement.
  - Other domestic, international, private and public financial flows of other stakeholders have been realigned with the above.

**Note:** *The data for this section can be obtained from multiple sources, including UN Results Group reports and UN INFO, as well as from government agencies coordinating development partners in the country (e.g., Ministry of Finance/Planning).*

## **2.4. Results of the UN working more and better together: UN coherence, effectiveness and efficiency (maximum 2 pages)**

Reflect on how the reform is shaping up in the country with positive results and benefits for the UNCT, the Government and partners. Include reflections on the results brought by the shift towards increased UN entities' collaboration and coherence in the country, including:

- Tailored UNCT configuration and how this resulted in more relevant and effective delivery on the Cooperation Framework.
- Derivation of UN entity programmes from the Cooperation Framework or how this was sustained throughout the year with new entrants and benefits to UNCT and Government or other national stakeholders.
- Use of joint work plans, results groups, joint programmes and other innovations to reduce transaction costs and redundancies and increase coherence and results.
- Use of UN regional and global level assets.
- More and better integrated policy advice by the UN to the Government.

- Efforts for more efficient operations and efficiency gains (for example through implementation of the Business Operations Strategy, common premises, shared services, etc.). Try quantifying as much as possible the efficiency savings of the UN during the year.
- Efforts to communicate and advocate together.

## 2.5. Lessons Learned and Evaluations (*maximum 1 page*)

Strategic learning encompasses the processes by which knowledge influences the decisions, objectives, structures and processes that will govern the design and implementation of the UNCT's work. Briefly reflect on:

- How knowledge has been acquired and informed any adaptation, improvement and growth of the UNCT's work and approach.

The evaluation of the Cooperation Framework is mandatory and constitutes an important part of UN accountability to countries for its results and contributions. Briefly reflect on:

- The Cooperation Framework evaluation report conclusions, key lessons and recommendations.

**Note:** *This is applicable only for the UNCT Results Reports of the year the evaluation was conducted.*

- The UN programming adjustments made in the year through the implementation of the management response action plans.

**Note:** *This is applicable for all reporting years until all the recommendations are completed.*



Photo credit: UNDP Rwanda/Alice Kayibanda

## **2.6. Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization** *(maximum 2 pages)*

### **2.6.1. Financial Overview** *(maximum 1 page)*

In line with the [Funding Compact](#) requirements, provide an overview of disaggregated UNCT expenditures and development partner contributions. UNCTs using UN INFO will be able to autogenerate visuals and infographics for use in the report, tagged to different SDGs. Data on UN key activities should be entered into UN INFO by UNCT members in order to generate visuals and infographics.

Financial data should include, at a minimum:

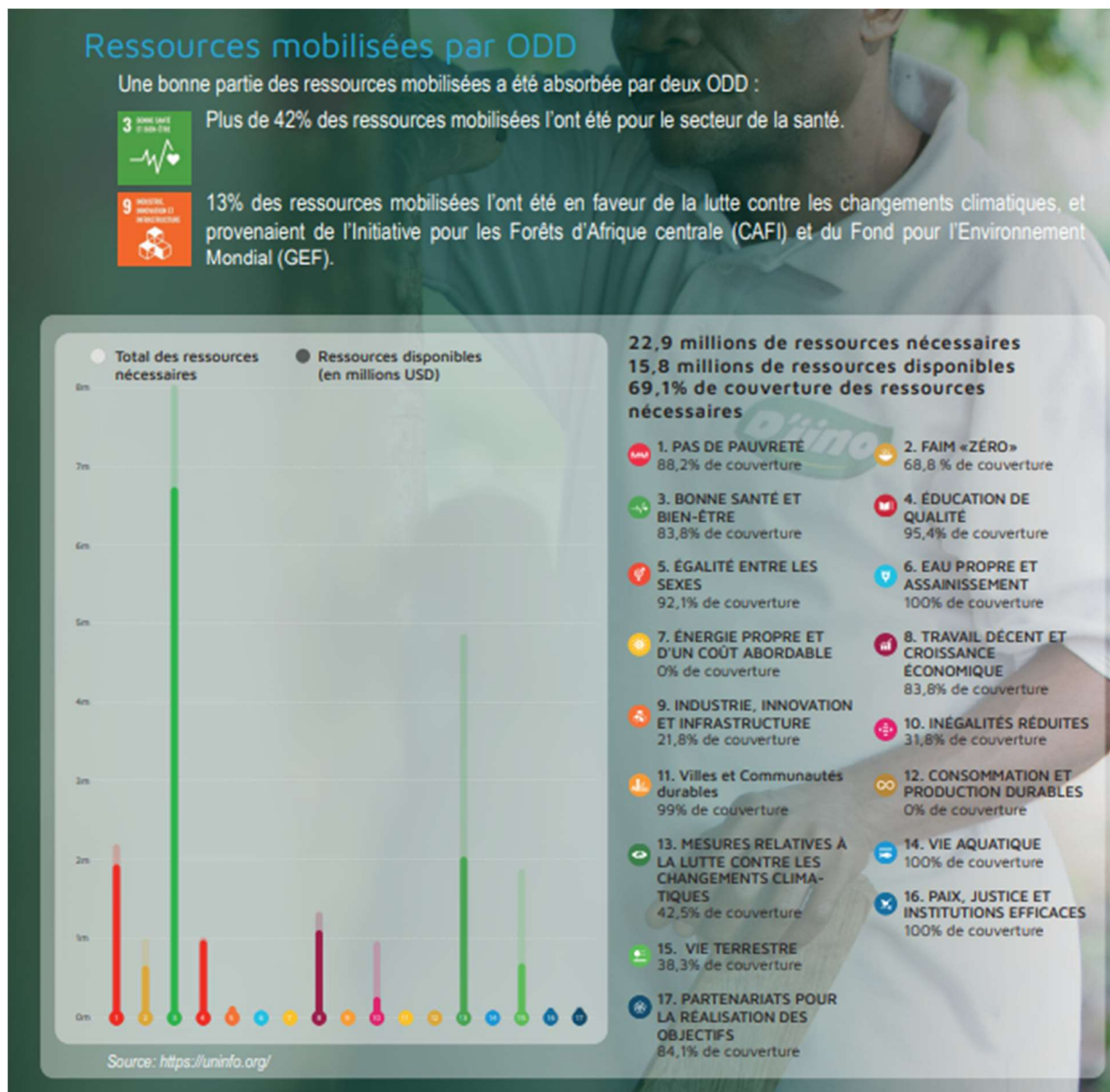
- Total Required (Budgeted) resources, Available resources, Gaps, and Expenditures by Cooperation Framework outcome for the duration of the full Cooperation Framework.
- Total Required (Budgeted) resources, Available resources, Gaps, and Expenditures, annualized.
- Expenditures by funding type (Country Level Pooled Funds, Thematic Funds, Vertical Funds, etc.).
- Contributions by funding source.

Additionally, and according to context and availability of data, financial data will include:

- Expenditure or budget breakdown between development-related expenditure and humanitarian assistance.

**Note:** System-wide guidance on financial standardization, “the UN Data Cube,” was adopted as a living document to provide a platform for further financial harmonization for HQ-level reporting. The UNCT Results Reports should likewise follow adopted taxonomies for UN entities and, to the extent possible, use definitions when categorizing expenditures (e.g., for development-related and humanitarian assistance). The UN Data Cube is available [here](#).

Use graphics to present financial information succinctly.



Sources: Gabon UNCT Results Report, 2023

## 2.6.2. Resource mobilization and quality of funding (maximum 1 page)

Reflect on:

- Mix of funding partners.
- Multi-year vs. annual funding
- Types of funding
- Funding gaps and implication for achieving results.
- Key opportunities and challenges of resources mobilization in the reporting year.

**Note:** Use graphics to present resource-mobilization information succinctly.

# CHAPTER 3

## Into the future - UNCT key focus for next year (max.1 page)

**Draw on discussions from the Annual Performance review, where the latest CCA updates were reviewed and key results for the following year were proposed.** The final UNCT Results Report should reflect the key results brought to the attention of the national-UN Joint Steering Committee. Reflect on:

- The programme cycle/Cooperation Framework timeline – starting new cycle or consolidated or winding up the current cycle.
- Key UNCT priorities as well as risks for next year, in light of development in country contexts in current year and expected in next year, e.g., elections, population census, climate impacts, etc..
- Planned UNCT configuration changes to support the evolving priorities.
- A reflection on what the UNCT will aim to do differently to overcome outstanding challenges, and how this informs a prevention and proactive risk management approach.
- Expected UNCT configuration changes to achieve results.
- Key UNCT collective resource mobilization strategy for the following year.-

**Note:** This section should focus on big-ticket results that the UN aims to achieve in relation to the outcome areas. Use infographics to present this information.

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# ANNEX II

## UNCT Results Reports in Multi-Country Office settings

**Country-specific annual results reports, based on Country Implementation Plans and generated through UN INFO, are expected to be shared with the national Government of each country serviced by a UN multi-country office (MCO).** This is in line with the Guidance on Country Implementation Plans in the context of CCAs and Cooperation Frameworks in MCO settings.

In MCO settings, therefore, results reports will be prepared for the Government of the country hosting the MCO as well as for the Governments of countries serviced by the MCO.

**The guiding principles of these Guidelines on content, format, timeline and quality assurance of the UNCT Results Report remain valid for UNCT Reports produced in MCO settings.** However, the following provisions apply:

- The UNCT Results Report of the country hosting the MCO, in a context in which a multi-country Cooperation Framework exists (i.e., Barbados, Fiji, Jamaica, Micronesia, Samoa, Trinidad and Tobago), will include:
  - a common chapeau to report on the overall regional progress in the implementation of the multi-country Cooperation Framework;
  - reference to results achieved across the various countries and territories serviced by the MCO hub for a full regional review as relevant, based on the annual results reports of countries serviced by the MCO;
  - results achieved in territories serviced by the MCO, should any activities exist in such territories.
- In an MCO context in which countries hosting or serviced by the MCO hub are guided by individual country Cooperation Frameworks (i.e., El Salvador, Malaysia, Mauritius, Seychelles), the UNCT Results Report will report exclusively on results in the implementation of such Cooperation Framework.

- In an MCO context in which RCOs are present in a country serviced by the hub (e.g., Belize and Suriname), a UNCT Results Report will be prepared and presented to the Government on results achieved in country.
- In an MCO context with limited, mostly non-programmatic activities in the countries serviced by the MCO hub (i.e., Malaysia vis-à-vis Brunei and Singapore), a UNCT Results Report can be limited to the activities and results of the hub.
- Reports on results achieved in territories are at the discretion of the Resident Coordinator, depending on level of activities and available capacities to do so.

**The template of annual results reports of individual countries serviced by an MCO, based on Country Implementation Plans, will not be required to be fully-fledged as in the case of UNCT Results Report.** For example, these reports may be much shorter (with a minimum of 5 pages in total), depending on the programmatic activities in country.



Photo credit: Mónica Suárez / UNDP Peru



# ANNEX III

## Quality Criteria for UNCT Results Reports

The quality of the UNCT Results Report will be determined by compliance with the criteria listed below. UN Country Teams are expected to utilize these criteria in conceptualizing, drafting and finalizing the Report. DCO Regional Offices will utilize these criteria to assess the quality of the Reports upon their release.

### 1. Target

Extent to which the content and language of the report is written appropriately for Government as the primary target.

### 2. UNCT Contribution

- (a) Extent to which the report reflects output level changes (attributable to the UN development system) as contributions to Cooperation Framework outcomes.
- (b) Extent to which the report reflects collective UN system-wide rather than fragmented UN contributions.
- (c) Extent to which the report highlights how UN collective system-wide contributions were greater than the sum of their parts.
- (d) Extent to which the report covers any emerging priorities that may require repurposing of the Cooperation Framework.
- (e) Extent to which the report covers results with linkages to the SDGs.

### 3. Partnership

- (a) Extent to which the report reflects a partnership between UN and programme Governments.
- (b) Extent to which the report reflects a strong partnership between the UN and a diverse range of stakeholders in driving transformative changes.

#### **4. Data and Evidence**

- (a) Extent to which the report has a strong disaggregated data and evidence base.
- (b) Extent to which UN system results are linked to financial resources invested, disaggregated by type and source of funding.
- (c) Extent to which the report specifically mentions voluntary core fund contributors, pooled and thematic fund contributors, and program country contributions.

#### **5. Reporting format**

- (a) Extent to which the report focuses on people and tells a story.
- (b) Extent to which the report has a good balance between narrative and visuals.
- (c) Extent to which the report respects the suggested length.

#### **6. Reporting Template**

Extent to which the report captures the essence of:

- (a) Key developments in country and regional context.
- (b) UN system support to national priorities through the Cooperation Framework: *(Progress towards Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes and outputs; support to partnerships and financing of 2030 Agenda; results of UN working more and better together; evaluations and lessons learned; and financial overview and resources mobilization)*.
- (c) UNCT focus for next year (direction of key results, anticipated risks and risk management; any changes to UNCT configuration and resource mobilization targets).



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