Agenda item 10 (HSP/EB.2024/9)
Implementation of the UN Development System Reform in UN-Habitat

Executive Board of UN-Habitat: First session for year 2024
06-08 May 2024
UNDS Reform: Key Resolutions & Mandate

GA resolution 71/243 (2016), and 75/233 (2020) on the “quadrennial comprehensive policy review (QCPR) of operational activities for development of the United Nations system”,


GA resolution 76/4 (2021) on the “review of the functioning of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including its funding arrangement”
The reformed UN development system for the SDGs
Strengthened value proposition, capacities, resources and accountability for results

New generation of the United nations country teams
Reinvigorating the role of the resident coordinator system
Revamping the regional approach
Funding the United Nations development system
Strategic direction, oversight and accountability for system-wide results
Following up on the repositioning efforts UNDS at the global, regional and country levels
UNDS reform: Funding Compact
(Potentials)

• GA 72/279 - recognized the importance of significantly improving Member States voluntary and grant-based funding as vital for successfully repositioning of the UNDS, and strengthening multilateralism to better support countries in their efforts towards swift implementation of the 2030 Agenda in line with national needs and priorities in a coherent and integrated manner;

• The above was re-affirmed by Member States recently at the UNGA Summit on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), on 18 and 19 September 2023, where world leaders recognized the urgent need for bold, ambitious, accelerated, just and transformative action on sustainable development, keeping in mind that (i) achieving the SDGs by 2030 requires strong multilateralism, and (ii) and a strong multilateralism requires strong funding;
• **No significant growth** between 2015 and 2022 to the UN’s sustainable development activities funding, despite Member States’ global commitment to the 2030 Agenda;

• **High levels of earmarking**, particularly to specific projects, limiting the UN development system’s ability to respond strategically to national priorities, offer integrated policy solutions, build resilience and reduce risk, and respond to development crises with agility and speed;

• **Increased transaction costs, fragmentation, volatility, and competition among UN entities** – and ultimately undermining the capacity of the UN development system to support SDG achievement effectively, coherently, and efficiently;

• All UN entities, **including UN-Habitat** have been exposed to the above challenges slowing down the progress made so far in the implementation of Vision 2030
UNDS reform: Funding Compact (Challenges)
UNDS reform: Funding Compact

(Key principles)

- Member States and UNDS must recognize the **Funding Compact** as defined in GA resolution **GA 72/279**, as a shared responsibility, containing interdependent and mutually reinforcing actions for each,

- **Flexible funding is a necessary enabler of an effective UN development system**, and an effective UN development system itself serves as an incentive for providing better quality funding.

- **Replenishing the Funding Compact**, effectively and timely remains a **two-ways undertaking** and a **win-win scenario** with the regards to the urgency of accelerating the 2030 development Agenda.

- More detailed info on the Funding Compact may be found on the following dedicated link: [https://open.un.org/resources/un-development-system-funding-compact](https://open.un.org/resources/un-development-system-funding-compact)
• Project-funded approach of UN-Habitat country operations impedes progress, slows down engagement and full compliance with the requirements of the UNDS reform.

• Significant financial implications of UN-Habitat engagement with the UNDS reform, increases pressure on the organization’s incomes mobilization and management at the country level;

• The absence of core funding limiting the ability of UN-Habitat to implement fully UNDS reforms is – generally, directly related to the “shy political support” by Member States for the New Urban Agenda, as urbanization does not feature higher in their national priorities, nor in the outcome documents of the Regional Forums and High-Level Political Forums for Sustainable Development;

• UN-Habitat - joining the senior leadership of the UN in their appeal for renewed commitments to the Funding Compact, and more flexible funding for programming to ensure its full and timely compliance to the UNDS reform;
### UN-Habitat and the UNDS reform

**Compliance with the MAF – UN-Habitat’s regional overview**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ROAF</th>
<th>ROAS</th>
<th>ROAP</th>
<th>ROLAC</th>
<th>EE/CA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>UN-Habitat’s specific guidance</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall UN Guidance</strong></td>
<td>Yes/compliant</td>
<td>Yes/compliant</td>
<td>Yes/compliant</td>
<td>Yes/compliant</td>
<td>Yes/compliant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collaboration with UNCTs &amp; UN/RC</strong></td>
<td>Yes/compliant</td>
<td>Yes/compliant</td>
<td>Yes/compliant</td>
<td>Yes/compliant</td>
<td>Yes/compliant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level of interaction</strong></td>
<td>RR/Senior managers at the regional level</td>
<td>RR/Senior managers at the regional level</td>
<td>RR/Senior managers at the regional level</td>
<td>RR/Senior managers at the regional level</td>
<td>Senior managers at the regional level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UN-Habitat and the UNDS reform

*Contribution to CCA and UNSDCF*

United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSCDF), (former UNDAF) is:

- **instrument for planning and implementation** of the UN development activities at country level, supporting of implementation of the **2030 Agenda**;
- **guides the entire UNDS programme cycle**, driving planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of collective UN support for achieving the 2030 Agenda.
- **determines and reflects the UNDS contributions** in the country and shapes the configuration of UN assets required inside and outside the country.
**UN-Habitat and the UNDS reform**

**UNCCA/UNSDCF – Regional overview**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ROAF</th>
<th>ROAS</th>
<th>ROAP</th>
<th>ROLAC</th>
<th>EE/CA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2020 - 2025</strong></td>
<td><strong>Various stages</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(expired, extended, completed, under reformulation, or reformulated)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Benin, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Seychelles, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, South Sudan, Zambia, Zimbabwe</td>
<td>Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, KSA, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, UAE, Yemen, Morocco</td>
<td>Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam</td>
<td>Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela, Mexico, Cuba, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Panama, Haiti, Barbados</td>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of North Macedonia, Serbia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Belarus, Türkiye</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UN-Habitat and the UNDS reform

Alignment of UN-Habitat Country Programme Document (HCPD) with UNSDCF

• New HCPD embrace the shift in joint programming and joint programmes adding value to the UNDS reform while opening up opportunities for UN-Habitat to intensify advocacy for sustainable urbanization;

• Under the UN reform, joint programming shall emanate from the CF and JWPs, whereby UN organizations and national partners collectively prepare, implement, monitor and evaluate development activities aimed at achieving the 2030 Agenda and other international and regional commitments.

• Joint Programmes shall therefore be anchored in an approved CF, its theory of change and accountability mechanisms. It answers the need for more coherent, cross-sectoral approaches and it contributes to catalytic change, linked to one or more CF outcomes, country priorities and SDGs.
UN-Habitat and UNDS reform
Regional level engagement

**Substantive front:**
- Regional Collaboration Platforms (RCP)/Peer Support Group (PSG)
- Issue-based Coalitions/IBCs

**Operational front:**
- Common back offices (CBOs)
- Business Operation Strategy (BOS),
- Mutual Recognition (MR),
- Common Premises.
UN-Habitat and the UNDS reform

**Regional engagement – Africa**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>RCP/PSG</th>
<th>IBCs</th>
<th>BOS/MR</th>
<th>CBO</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ROAF</strong></td>
<td>Yes, engaged with RCs to provide guidance and support to countries (e.g. Burkina Faso, Niger, Sudan, Mozambique, Malawi) including attending the Africa SDGs Forum jointly with UNECA on the review of Goal 11</td>
<td>Yes, engaged as a co-convener of IBC 3 on digital development also supporting Botswana, South Africa, and Namibia on smart cities.</td>
<td>Yes, engaged in several countries, e.g. Kenya</td>
<td>Yes, engaged in several countries, e.g. Kenya</td>
<td>Yes – in countries e.g. Somalia.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### UN-Habitat and the UNDS reform

#### Regional engagement - Arab States Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>RCP/PSG</th>
<th>IBCs</th>
<th>BOS/MR</th>
<th>CBO</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ROAS</td>
<td><strong>Yes – engaged</strong> (e.g supports the integration of urban data in the regional data platform Manara, developed by UNESCWA)</td>
<td><strong>Yes – engaged</strong> (4 regional (IBCs) namely (i) Climate, Food Security and Environment, (ii) Gender, Justice and Equality (iii) Youth and Adolescents and (iv) Migration)</td>
<td><strong>Yes, engaged in the regional operations Management Team (ROMT) led by UNESCWA/UNICEF. BOS: Egypt, Lebanon, Tunisia, Iraq, Syria, Sudan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Yes – in several countries in the region, where applicable such as in Amman.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Yes – in several countries in the region, where applicable such as Iraq, Kuwait &amp; Lebanon.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## UN-Habitat and the UNDS reform

### Regional engagement – Asia and the Pacific

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>RCP/PSG</th>
<th>IBCs</th>
<th>BOS/MR</th>
<th>CBO</th>
<th>CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ROAP</strong></td>
<td><strong>Yes, engaged</strong> as co-chair of the Group on Human Mobility and Urbanization together with IOM, (e.g. integration migration into urban development)</td>
<td><strong>Yes, engaged</strong> in issues such as housing, SDG localization, climate adaptation and waste management and urban mobility. Also leading the collection of inputs on SDG 11 for the SDG11 Synthesis Report</td>
<td><strong>Yes, engaged as a active member of both OMT and UNCT mechanisms in countries wherever the agency is resident</strong></td>
<td><strong>Yes, engaged in several countries where the Agency is present</strong></td>
<td><strong>Yes – but only in Bangkok.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCP/PSG</td>
<td>IBCs</td>
<td>BOS/MR</td>
<td>CBO</td>
<td>CP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ROLAC</strong></td>
<td><strong>Yes, engaged</strong> as a co-chair of the working group on “partnerships and communications” with UNDP, and advocating for urban and territorial dimensions to enrich the discussions on the implementation of SDGs across the region</td>
<td><strong>Yes, engaged</strong> (e.g. on “human mobility, migration and integration of migrants into the cities” with IOM and UNHCR, covering ten selected cities in six different countries including Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Bahamas and Dominican Republic.)</td>
<td><strong>Yes</strong>, engaged in several countries across the region</td>
<td><strong>Yes</strong>, engaged in several countries’ (e.g. in Mexico, Colombia, Panama and Brazil/Rio de Janeiro)</td>
<td>In progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCP/PSG</td>
<td>IBCs</td>
<td>BOS/MR</td>
<td>CBO</td>
<td>CP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE/CA</td>
<td>Yes, engaged e.g. on Data and Statistics, building a close collaboration between the UN at regional and country levels and the intergovernmental sphere (e.g. conference of European statisticians)</td>
<td>Yes, engaged e.g. contributing to IBCs on gender equality, youth and adolescents, social protection, large movements of people, displacement and resilience, environment and climate change, sustainable food systems</td>
<td>Yes, engaged in several countries across the region</td>
<td>Yes, engaged in several countries across the region</td>
<td>In progress</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you!