



1. Harmonization of the SP MTRs
2. Common Lessons learned
3. Common Chapter



1. Harmonized Agencies with Harmonized MTRs



Global trends and operating context

- As we start the Decade of Action, the COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented global health crisis with far reaching socio-economic impacts, and challenges for programme countries towards meeting the SDGs, and our efforts to support them.
- Sustainable development, peace, humanitarian and security-related challenges remain enormous and were already presenting huge obstacles to the many off-track SDGs.
- UN reforms seen as a success but too early to attribute specific development results/gains to the reforms.
- Economic uncertainty continues to put social spending at risk, as many countries contend with fragility
- Trust in multilateralism has been seen to waver and in many countries we see shrinking civic space posing challenges to human rights and participation in development. Meanwhile, young people are mobilizing in extraordinary numbers and demanding action to deal with the climate crisis and its effects.



SP MTR Harmonized Process

- Harmonization of the MTRs has been a natural reflection of greater harmonization at all levels of the organizations. Common analysis is becoming easier as we programme more coherently at field level.
- Common MTR process calendar managed by regular technical meetings and culminating on joint MTR briefing.
- Shared areas of review: UN reform, analysis of lessons learned; identification of actions to *accelerate* critical SDG related results
- Evidence based reviews of milestones and targets leading to changes to results frameworks
- Common Annexes: Common Chapter and QCPR annex using a harmonized format



SP MTR Harmonized Methodology

Integrated Results and Resources Frameworks (IRRF)

- Harmonized principles for calculating revisions to milestones and targets
 - All revised milestones and targets are evidence based
 - All revised milestones and targets developed using existing programming and results data as the main source where possible.
- Milestones and targets will be reassessed and the Boards apprised once more as information comes to light on the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Same methodology for the calculation of ‘progress rates’ in relation to output indicators
- Harmonized results scorecard approach and format



SP MTR Harmonized Analysis

Going Forward

- Each of the four agencies has a 'lessons learned' dimension to its MTR and are looking to 'cross-fertilize' the findings with the other agencies to identify key lessons for cross-agency and cross-mandate significance for SDG progress.
- Agencies will continue to collaborate with each other and across the UN system for stronger joined up results for the SDGs, particularly in relation to 'acceleration' for SDG achievement.



2. MTR: Common Analytical Findings and Challenges



Leave No One Behind (LNOB)

- Understanding multidimensional inequalities key to effectively address LNOB
 - Need to better define what equity and inclusion mean beyond equal access to services
 - Data collection also needs to address disaggregation by LNOB categories, quality and equity issues as well as coverage
 - New CCA process highly participatory, placing emphasis on inclusive strategies to *leave no one behind*
- Marginalised groups/populations need to be better engaged as partners and leaders (going beyond engagement as beneficiaries), including young people around the world.
- Social protection programmes evolving to better integrate multiple vulnerabilities (*SDG Fund joint programmes*)



Gender equality and women's empowerment

- 25 years since the adoption of the Beijing Platform, women and girls continue to be particularly disadvantaged
 - Violence against women and girls pervasive and key obstacle to the achievement of a range of human rights
 - Need to explicitly address underlying discriminatory gender norms, especially in early childhood and adolescence
- Programming approaches need for:
 - integrated approaches to advance the realisation of womens' and girls' human rights as a key driver of progress on the SDGs
 - unified action to strengthen gender results by working with non-traditional partners, grassroots women's organizations, youth organizations, private sector, etc.
 - Concrete entry point for gender mainstreaming in the CCA and Theory of Change for the CF.
- Strong/improving Agency accountability/performance against Gender SWAP 2.0 targets



Humanitarian -development -peace nexus

- Strengthen interventions that bridge the humanitarian-development-peace nexus
 - Partnerships and joint programming for both conflict & disaster prevention and peacebuilding are central
 - Joint Steering Committee to Advance Humanitarian and Development Collaboration has led to new approaches
- 20 years on from the adoption of UNSCR 1325 need for women to be equally engaged in peace-building and conflict prevention and across the nexus
- Progress is being made in embedding preparedness, risk mitigation/prevention and resilience in programmes, but more systematic efforts required:
 - Upstream focus to build preparation and risk-management as demonstrated by COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Clearly defined, actionable and measurable resilience agenda,
 - Address systems strengthening and community resilience in humanitarian work consistently and from the outset



Implementing UNDS reform

- Commitments being put into action:
 - Cost sharing doubled; levy contributions collected and transferred
 - MAF being implemented in job descriptions and performance management systems
 - Increased funding through pooled funds, increasing joint programmes, expanded joint global initiatives
- UNSDCF as key reform driver: supporting country teams for strong engagement in CF processes and quality CFs/CPDs/Strategic Notes
 - Increased alignment between CF outcomes and agency-specific CPDs/Strategic Notes
 - Strengthened coordination architecture - greater support from Resident Coordinators for enhanced collaboration between agencies in-country
 - More strategic, joint and country-led evaluations would strengthen the evidence base for effective collaboration
- Imperatives of UNDS reform require collaboration across the entire system; utility of the common chapter as a separate initiative should be reviewed in that context



Accelerate progress towards the SDGs

- Greater results towards reaching the SDGs are achieved through coordinated action and integrated, multi-dimensional approaches across sectors, partners and programming areas
 - Multi-sectoral and interagency work can strengthen relevance, ownership and results, efficiency, credibility and visibility and is necessary to deliver on the 2030 Agenda.
 - Joint programmes allow support from larger network of implementing partners, larger national presence and credibility, and raise the profile of certain issues to accelerate social-norm change and mobilize community-level engagement.
- Investments in geo and disaggregated data essential for tracking at national level
- Innovation as a way of working becoming part of Agency business models to accelerate progress
 - Digital solutions offer transformative change
 - Knowledge sharing within and among agencies must be diffused faster and wider
 - Out of the box approaches in challenging current development models where they have not sufficiently been addressing sustainability/resilience aspects - especially as more information comes to light on the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic
 - Engagement of young people in new and better ways
- Ambition maintained on 2021 IRRF targets - but impact of COVID 19 continuously assessed



Partnerships and resources

- Long-term, flexible resources (multilateral - Regular and Other, and Private and Domestic) are indispensable for integrated programming, agile responses, holistic systems strengthening and sustainable results
 - Funding Compact commitments and Structured Funding Dialogues critical
 - Incentives and donor practices for greater collaboration could be better aligned
 - Effective engagement to reaffirm the criticality of multilateral institutions in meeting global challenges such as COVID-19
- Agencies systematically investing in partnerships, tools and modalities to encourage the flow of public and private capital towards the SDGs
- Significant new agreements underway with UN sister agencies for targeted, results oriented collaborations
- Collaboration between governments, NGOs and UN partners a key strength in complex, humanitarian environments; however:
 - Complex interagency humanitarian coordination structure may impede partner understanding
 - Partners may face their own capacity and access constraints, creating trade-offs between localisation, efficiency and quality which need to be recognised and managed.



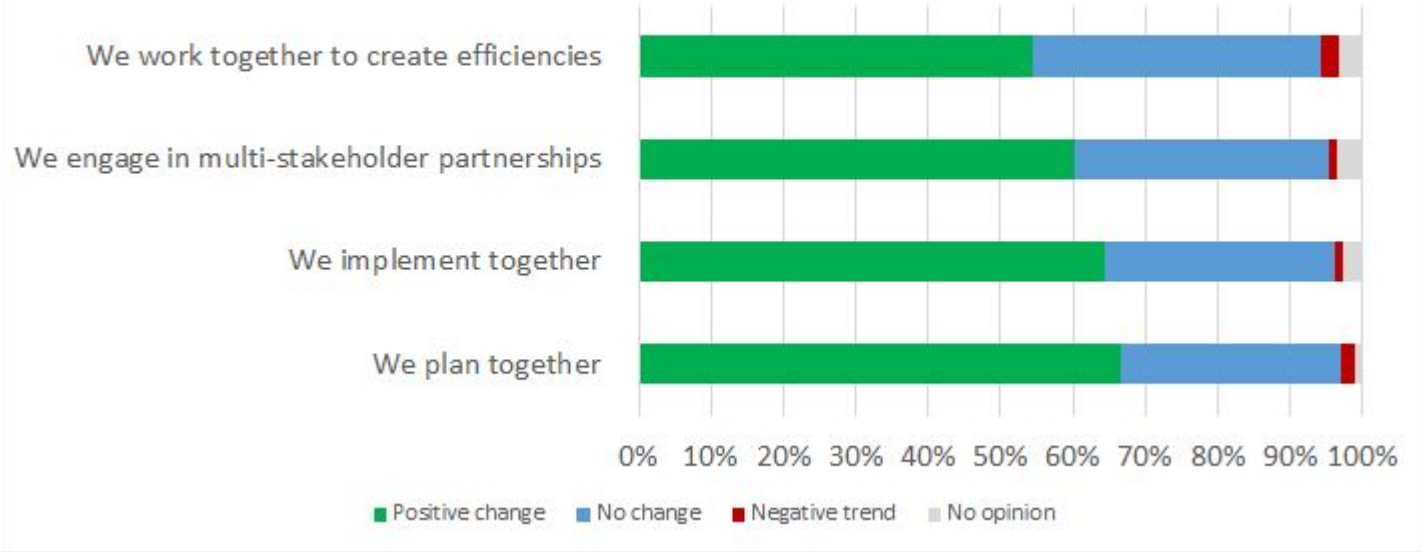
3. Common Chapter Implementation



Common Chapter

Positive change from working together

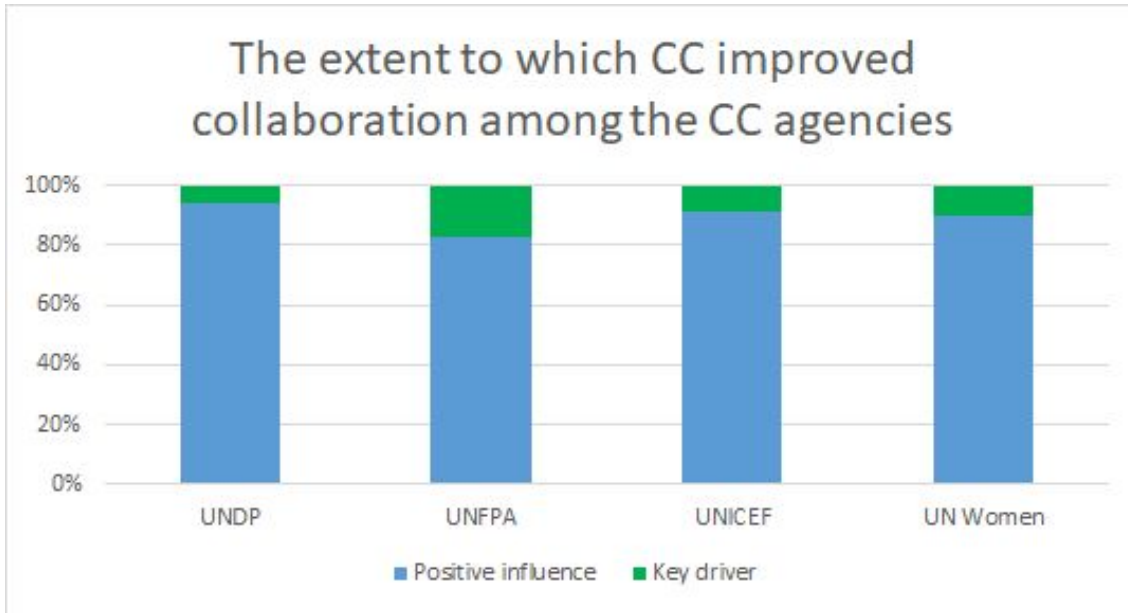
Changes of collaboration of the common chapter agencies, since 2018



Source: Common Chapter Evaluation Survey of Field Staff



The impacts of the Common Chapter



Source: Common Chapter Evaluation Survey of Field Staff



Common Chapter

- Building from a strong base, collaboration has increased and will continue
- We continue to build on 'Delivery as One' models at country level, which is a key way for UN agencies to align delivery of results, both geographically and programmatically, and one on which current UN reforms rest.
- Expanded, targeted partnership agreements amongst the 4 agencies and beyond in areas of collaborative advantage
- In 2019, the flagship Spotlight Initiative started implementation in five countries in Latin America and in eight countries in Africa. Initial activities are promising
- UNDS reform ambition and implementation has overtaken the Common Chapter - collaboration across the entire UNDS driving agency efforts



4. Looking Forward



Conclusion

In Summary: Looking Forward

- The four Strategic Plans, including the Common Chapter, were developed at an early stage in the UNDS reform process and progress and ambition has moved on significantly.
- But there is clear evidence that change is happening and the agencies are committed to working together as never before. This will continue - all four MTRs see no going back.
- The assumptions that underpinned much of the analysis in the Agencies' MTRs have now been put in grave doubt by the COVID-19 pandemic. We face greater uncertainty now than ever, and all at a time when we are already struggling as a global community to rise to the challenge and ambition of the SDGs.
- As we overcome this current global health crisis, and we certainly will, Member States will be faced with a choice: to double-down on multilateralism and international institutions as the way forward, or retreat into unilateralism and disinvestment in global cooperative models for solving shared problems.
- Despite all setbacks, UNDP, UNFPA, UN-Women and UNICEF will be staying the course on the SDGs and the Decade of Action. We urge you to join us and commit the political will and resources where they are needed to make this a more resilient planet.

