

**UNDAF Evaluation
Management Response
December 2022**

The United Nations Country Team in Papua New Guinea welcomes the independent evaluation of the UNDAF 2018- 2023. The independent evaluation covered 2018 to 2021 and was conducted from February to June 2022. The independent evaluation was used to input the lessons learned report prepared from August to September 2022. The lessons learned report also considered agencies' country programme evaluations, programme evaluations and the UNDAF annual results reports.

This management response outlines the UNCT response to the three (3) recommendations from the Lessons Learned Report.

The actions to be taken will be incorporated into the agency's work plan, and progress will be reported through the Annual Results Report, starting with the 2023 Annual Results Report.

Recommendation 1 - Accept

The UNCT should continue to reflect and build on the advantages demonstrated through the current raft of joint programmes into the next UNSDCF cycle. This would continue to increase the efficiency, effectiveness and coherence of UN interventions, in particular around peace (and the reduction of all forms of violence), gender/GBV, social services (health, education and social security/protection), poverty reduction/LNOB and environmental sustainability. Continued pursuit of joint programming at the level of principle would also accelerate the “One UN” approach under a further unifying UNSDCF, including through enhanced provincial coordination. Careful attention by the UNRC and UNCT should also be paid to incorporating smaller UN agencies into collaborative ventures and programming to ensure the full comparative advantage of the UN is secured. Opportunities for advancing UN reform should also be explored through mapping and aiming to reduce the number of potentially duplicative functions employed by each agency, including for example, monitoring and evaluation, finance, communications, human resources, IT, where it makes sense to do so.

Actions to be taken	Responsible Agency/ies	Timeframe	Resource implication
(1) Build on the successes of joint programmes, including	RC and UNCT	2023-2028	Per the existing Funding Framework during the timeframe

<p>Improve the enabling environment that would foster the establishment of new joint programmes that align with the 2024-2028 Cooperation Framework's priorities and cover cross-cutting issues such as gender, human rights and LNOB.</p>	<p>Lead: RC with the support of Heads of Agencies</p> <p>Support: Joint Programmes convening agencies, Priority Working Groups (PWGs) Co-Chairs, M&E Working Group</p>	<p>UNCT meetings to seek opportunities for UN Joint Programmes</p> <p>M&E focal points to capture joint activities for a mid-year progress report and annual results report</p>	
<p>(2) Better <i>utilize the advantages of the PWG mechanism and the Joint Annual Work Plan (JAWP)</i>, for example, on joint missions to provinces and joint UN engagement with Government Departments.</p>	<p>RC and UNCT</p> <p>Lead: RCO and Priority Working Groups (PWGs) Co-Chairs</p> <p>Support: Communications Working Group</p>	<p>2023-2028</p> <p>Regular Meetings of PWG co-Chairs, at least twice a year</p>	<p>Per the existing Funding Framework during the timeframe</p>
<p>(3) Developing <i>UNCT principles for engaging with Provincial administrations</i>, particularly within the parameters of Joint Programmes, to improve coordination among the UN agencies.</p>	<p>RC and UNCT</p> <p>Lead: Joint Programmes' convening agencies</p> <p>Support: PWG Co-Chairs/ PUNOs, Gender and Human Rights Working Group, PSEA</p>	<p>2023-2028</p> <p>Year 1 – Formulation of Principles of Engagement.</p> <p>Remaining years – implementing and refining the Principles</p>	<p>Per the existing Funding Framework during the timeframe</p>

<p>(4) Utilize the Cooperation Framework 2023-2028 and the accompanying funding framework to develop and implement a UNCT-wide inclusive resource mobilization strategy. This strategy can "reduce the number of potentially duplicative functions employed"</p>	<p>RC and UNCT</p> <p>Lead: RCO and identified agency (ies)</p> <p>Support: PWG co-chairs</p>	<p>2023-2028</p> <p>Year 1 – Formulation of Resource Mobilization Strategy</p> <p>Remaining years – implementing and refining the strategy</p>	<p>Per the existing Funding Framework during the timeframe</p>
<p>(5) Update the Business Operation Strategy (BOS) to enable collaboration on programme and operational administration and "reduce the number of potentially duplicative functions employed"</p>	<p>RC and UNCT</p> <p>Lead: Operations Management Team</p> <p>Support: PWG co-chairs</p>	<p>2023-2028</p> <p>Year 1 – Formulation of BOS (2024 – 2028)</p> <p>Remaining years – implementing and refining the strategy</p>	
<p>Recommendation 2 – Accept</p> <p>Within the next UNSDCF the UN can look to further enhance its leadership role in supporting PNG to be the custodian of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This can be done, for example, by the UN promoting a series of national development dialogues in partnership with Government and development partners, on themes closely allied to the SDGs, national priority areas and outcome statements of the next UNSDCF. This would serve to position the UN more centrally within the national development consultative landscape and also launch the various component parts of the next UNSDCF and serve to increase UN influence. Along similar lines, an annual development results conference can be facilitated by the UN in partnership with the Government and close development partners for the purposes of reflecting on lessons learned and for showcasing break-through initiatives that have shown innovation or promise.</p>			
<p>Actions to be taken</p>	<p>Responsible Agency/ies</p>	<p>Timeframe</p>	<p>Resource implication</p>

<p>Provide integrated support to the government in its efforts towards achieving the SDGs through:</p> <p>(1) Developing a data dashboard that tracks PNG's progress on SDGs indicators towards 2030 targets.</p> <p>(2) Assisting the government to obtain financing to achieve the SDGs through implementing the Integrated National Financing Framework; and</p> <p>(3) Enabling an annual national dialogue and advocacy on achieving the SDGs, including helping the government to align MTDP-4 and its monitoring framework to the SDGs</p>	<p>RC and UNCT</p> <p>Lead: RCO and identified agency (ies)</p> <p>Support: PWG co-chairs, Communications Working Group and M&E Working Group,</p>	<p>2023-2028</p> <p>Implementing the project on agreed dates</p>	<p>Per the existing Funding Framework during the timeframe</p> <p>Global Funding windows</p>
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Recommendation 3 – Accept

The UN should seek to engage in a more strategic partnership with the private sector in PNG, for the purposes of pursuing collaborative approaches for economic growth, sustainable development, the transition to a carbon neutral economy, natural resources management, sustainability financing, the blue economy, preserving bio-diversity, as well as on human rights and gender equality. Strengthening the positioning of the UN as a neutral and impartial player at the critical intersection between economic growth and sustainable environmental management may help broker a new series of partnerships necessary for securing a sustainable development pathway for PNGs future, whilst leaving no one behind. This is critical for mobilizing the buy-in of the private sector in PNG for realization of the SDGs.

Actions to be taken	Responsible Agency/ies	Timeframe	Resource implication
<p>(1) Design and implement a partnership strategy for engaging with the private sector, focusing on Micro- Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) on Sustainable Development.</p>	<p>RC and UNCT</p> <p>Lead: RCO</p> <p>Support: PWG co-chairs</p>	<p>2023-2028</p> <p>Year 1 – Formulation of Strategy</p> <p>Remaining years – implementing and refining the strategy</p>	<p>Per the existing Funding Framework during the timeframe</p>