**SUGGESTIONS FOR REFORMING THE UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM – Input from UNICEF for the 2016 QCPR**

(This complements the UNDG Proposals for a more strategic & dynamic QCPR)

UN Development System is well positioned to support national governments for the integrated & universal 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, and to deliver results that "leave no one behind".

**Strengthen system-wide transparency and governance**

- Enhance coordination for the benefit of the whole system, increasing trust and collaboration and driving integrated/coherent results
- Increase coherence across development and humanitarian action in support of resilient development, prevention and sustainable peace
- Create efficiencies to maximise resources available for programmatic results
- Empower UNCTs to work together in a coherent and - where appropriate - integrated manner to support SDG roll-out and achievement of results
- Enable the UN to respond to national needs and priorities in a universal manner while staying focused on mandates and comparative advantages

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**Outcomes:**

- Strengthen the QCPR as the central instrument to provide strategic system-wide guidance to the UNDS in support to SDG implementation.
  - Provide both a clear vision for the UNDS, as well as the operational outcomes to be achieved by the system.
  - Emphasise the UN's value in supporting early implementation and measurement of the SDGs, with a focus on integration, coherence, equality, national ownership and leadership, and leaving no one behind.
  - Request the UNDS to develop an implementation plan to track achievement of QCPR outcomes, with accountabilities, supported by UNDS workplans.
  - Provide simple and focused QCPR requests that promote flexibility and empower UNCTs to innovate and make contextual adjustments at country level.
  - Use a simple title for the new QCPR that reflects the strategic and high level policy nature of the evolution.

**See:** UNDG Key Messages for a Strategic 2016 QCPR

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**SUGGESTIONS:**

- A strategic QCPR
- Strengthen ECOSOC
- Integrated approaches across sectors & pillars
- Mechanisms for UNCT coherence
- Strategic use of pooled funds
- Flexible & innovative funding that supports SDGs
- Clearly define functions & clarify roles in different country contexts

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**Vision Statement:**

UN Development System is well positioned to support national governments for the integrated & universal 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, and to deliver results that "leave no one behind".

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**Strengthen the existing role of ECOSOC as the main body for follow-up and monitoring of system-wide initiatives and results.**

- ECOSOC OAS discussions that are substantive and focused on strategic oversight by moving the main session to June/July and exploring new formats for discussions.
- Enhance UNDS engagement with member states through regular informal updates about recent progress made by the UNDS in specific areas.
- Clearly define areas where the existing system-wide reporting (e.g. SDG report) could be strengthened or improved, and use existing mechanisms (surveys, UNCT reports etc) to facilitate this.
- Improve linkages across ECOSOC segments, including across the OAS, humanitarian segment, HLPF etc.

**Strengthen UNCT coherence, led by an impartial RC, in support of national SDG achievement - while avoiding heavy processes or new layers.**

- Conduct systematic common needs assessments.
- Use SDG mainstreaming toolkit & new methodology to support national governments around SDG implementation - especially piloting innovative approaches, data and analytics, etc.
- Use SDG monitoring modalities that can provide seed-funding to UNCTs for integrated policy support to national governments around SDG implementation - especially piloting innovative approaches, data and analytics, etc.
- Increase use of innovative financing methods like Islamic financing, micro-levies and insurance-based mechanisms.

**Expand the use of pooled funds to drive integrated approaches, particularly for cross-cutting issues, resilience building and integrated policy support.**

- Design a pooled funding modality that can provide seed-funding to UNCTs for integrated policy support to national governments around SDG implementation - especially piloting innovative approaches, data and analytics, etc.
- Combine investment in fund design to save time, increase the likelihood of capitalisation, lower transaction costs & increase impact.
- Where possible, small pooled funds should be consolidated into fewer and larger UN funds at the global, regional and country levels.
- Pooled funding should be a complement to (not a substitute for) agency-specific funding.
- Pooled funds should be designed to facilitate coherence across development, humanitarian and peacebuilding work.

**Move towards more flexible, innovative financing approaches that are in the spirit of the Addis Outcome on FfD.**

- Implement the commitments of the Grand Bargain to improve the quality of humanitarian funding and allow flexible funds to be used across both development and humanitarian activities.
- Donor assessments, evaluations and reporting requirements could be simplified and harmonized to strengthen collaborative approaches.
- Consider multi-year funding models in support of strategic plans and fully aligned with relevant SDG targets.
- Increase use of innovative financing methods like Islamic financing, micro-levies and insurance-based mechanisms.

**Recognising the universal nature of the SDGs, enable UNCTs to adapt and innovate with the resources available while being clear about their “offer” to national governments and partners.**

- Use UNDGs and Results Groups to clearly define roles and responsibilities in support of national strategies and priorities.
- Explore differentiated and country-tailored modalities that take an integrated, multi-sectoral & system-wide approach.
- Identify practical steps to move towards a more “multi-dimensional” assessment of country needs, beyond GNI per capita.
- Strengthen South-South cooperation through multilateral platforms for knowledge creation and sharing among a broader range of countries.
- Explore innovative coordination mechanisms in countries where the RC system is not present, with resident agencies coordinating actions through common workplans and joint positioning on key issues.
- Choose a lead coordinating agency could be based on capacity, willingness to take on the role, and efficiency.

**See:** UNICEF powerpoint presentations on financing the strategic plan

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**Make humanitarian and development operations more coherent, complementary and mutually supportive.**

- Deepen integrated situation analysis and planning to allow development activities to address risk preparedness and prevention, and humanitarian activities to support long-term resilient development outcomes.
- This could include bottleneck analysis across the three dimensions of sustainable development, equity and vulnerability analysis, and crisis prevention analysis.
- Develop an online real-time information system that integrates development & humanitarian actions.
- Enable and strengthen UN Results Groups and national coordination mechanisms to transition to “cluster coordination” in an efficient and timely manner - and use clusters for building long-term capacity in support of national systems and structures.
- Deepen coherence of development & humanitarian coordination at country and global levels.

**Strengthen UNCT coherence, led by an impartial RC, in support of national SDG achievement - while avoiding heavy processes or new layers.**

- Design a pooled funding modality that can provide seed-funding to UNCTs for integrated policy support to national governments around SDG implementation - especially piloting innovative approaches, data and analytics, etc.
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