



**UNITED NATIONS
NAMIBIA**



**NAMIBIA
UNDS
REFORM**



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GENERAL OVERVIEW ON UN REFORM: THREE PILLARS

UN Secretary-General António Guterres made proposals to reform the United Nations since the beginning of his term in January 2017. To improve the delivery of our mandate, the United Nations has made sweeping changes in the following areas:

The UN continued to support economic progression, particularly for the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), namely owned by women and youth, which were negatively affected by the lockdowns, as a result of COVID-19 by exposing them to the opportunities to be derived from access to the African Continental Free Trade Area (Af-CFTA). Efforts to address unemployment continued to be thrust of the UN in sectors, such as tourism and agriculture, including fisheries through initiatives including the Accelerator Lab and supporting the roll out of the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) and the National Employment Policy.



DEVELOPMENT

The 2030 Agenda will require bold changes to the UN development system for the emergence of a new generation of country teams, centered on a strategic UN Development Assistance Framework and led by an impartial, independent and empowered Resident Coordinator.



MANAGEMENT

A new management paradigm for the Secretariat and a United Nations that empowers managers and staff, simplifies processes, increases transparency, and improves on the delivery of official mandates.



PEACE

The overarching goals of the reform are to prioritize prevention and sustaining peace, enhance the effectiveness and coherence of peacekeeping operations and special political missions, and moving towards a single, integrated peace and security pillar.

“The aims of the reform are clear: To focus more on people and lesson process. To become more nimble and effective, and to build a workplace of equality, diversity and integrity.”

United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres

For UN Namibia, the reform involves mainly the area of development operations resulting in changes in the Resident Coordinator system, the UN Country Team and the Cooperation Framework (CF).

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THE UNDS REFORM AT COUNTRY LEVEL

Sustainable development is now at the heart of the UN, with stronger leadership at all levels. The 2030 Agenda has greater emphasis across UN activities.

The United Nations Resident Coordinator (RC) is the highest-ranking UN official in Namibia and represents the UN Secretary General in country. In the spirit of the ongoing UN reform, the new RC system aims to bring together the different UN agencies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of operational activities at the country level. Therefore, all engagements with the UN System at country-level are undertaken in a coordinated manner through the Resident Coordinator's Office in collaboration with the UN Country Team (UNCT). The UNCT comprises all Heads of Agencies working in Namibia. The RC leads the UNCT to facilitate and coordinate the work of all UN agencies in Namibia to achieve agreed results in support of Government's development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

NAMIBIA'S PROGRESS:

The new RC was deployed under the UNDS reform and delinked from UNDP in February 2020. Since December 2022, there is a second RC serving under the UNDS reform, Ms. Hopolang Phororo.

The RC is backed by a RC Office fully staffed since February 2020 with the 5 core positions (strategic planning, economist, partnerships, data and results management, and communication) and fully operational.



Ms. Hopolang Phororo
UN Resident Coordinator to Namibia





The Cooperation Framework becoming the most important instrument to drive sustainable development, pushing UNCTs towards strengthened joint planning and programming, beyond sectoral approaches.

NAMIBIA´S PROGRESS:

The 2019-2023 United Nations Partnership Framework (2019-2023 UNPAF extended to 2024) was formulated under the previous UN guidelines, before the reform, nevertheless, it incorporates relevant features of the reform:

It is aligned to the national development priorities, mirroring through its four pillars (Economic Progression, Social Transformation, Environmental Sustainability, and Good Governance) the National Development Plan 5 (NDP5) and Harambee Prosperity Plan I and II.

The Common Country Analysis (CCA) is the UN system's independent, impartial and collective assessment of Namibia's

situation for its internal use in developing the road map for formulating the Cooperation Framework (CF). The road map was validated by the National Planning Commission (NPC). The road map was revised at the request of the Government to extend the current UNPAF by one year (until the end of 2024) for it to align with the formulation process and programming cycle of the NDP6. The CCA was initially drafted during the second half of 2022 and will be updated in 2023.

The CCA formulation process has been participatory, drawing on the expertise of resident and non-resident agencies, and including consultations with stakeholders.

Enhanced coordination has ensured immediate and long-term UN system-wide responses to unprecedented development challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic to climate change and the global impacts of the war in Ukraine to rescue the Sustainable Development Goals.

NAMIBIA´S PROGRESS:

As COVID-19 began to unfold in Namibia in March 2020, the RC led the UNCT to act strategically on two fronts to support the Government and the Namibian people. Firstly, the formulation and implementation of the UN Country Preparedness and Response Plan (CPRP) to support the national health response through 11 pillars, involving most of the agencies in the UNCT under WHO technical advice. The CPRP mobilized over USD 2,8 million, in addition to technical assistance and human resources provided to support the Government’s efforts. Second, to ensure the continuation of development services for the most vulnerable through a three-pronged approach a) undertaking a Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of COVID-19 for analytical and policy advice; b) formulating the Socio-Economic Response Plan; and c) reprogramming of the UN Partnership Framework and its annual joint work plans. Under the RC leadership, by May 2020 up to USD 3.7 million under the UNPAF, UN Namibia had reprogrammed activities to respond to the pandemic across its four pillars in dialogue with Government and civil society partners. This was an example of maximizing existing resources and mandates of UN agencies under the existing cooperation framework.

In this context, the UNCT continued to support the Government in the continuation of development programs and services, such as nutrition programs of children aged 6-59 months (148,320 children), vaccination programs (198,582 children), early and primary education programs (582,612 children), newborn health quality of care services (59,894), Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services reaching 246,786 people, personal protective equipment and IPC capacity building for 2,000 front-line health workers, food assistance schemes (389,992 persons), cash for work schemes (79), and MSMEs and private company schemes (5,119 businesses).

In response to the impact of the war in Ukraine, the RC led the UNCT in a discussion with the Government to discuss its impact on Namibia (July 2022) and the roll out of the Joint Program “Support to strengthening resilient food systems in Namibia”, funded by the J-SDG Fund Emergency Modality, and implemented byWFP, FAO, and UNDP.



UN response becoming more integrated and effective, focusing more on policy advice and integrated programmatic support and less on single projects.

NAMIBIA'S PROGRESS:

Increasingly, UN Namibia is moving towards more joint programming in the context of the UNPAF/CF. This includes the integrated response to the drought in 2020 through funding of the UN Central Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) with four agencies (UNICEF, FAO, WFP, and UNFPA).

The Joint UN Team on AIDS (JUTA) has also provided a joint and integrated response to the implementation of global commitments on HIV and AIDS through the national health policies and programs.

In 2023, one joint program with four agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, ILO, and UNFPA) supports the formulation of the Integrated National Finance Framework (INFF) under the leadership of the Ministry of Finance and NPC, while a second addresses the impact of the Ukraine war on vulnerable livelihoods (WFP, FAO, and UNDP). Both joint programs are funded by the Joint SDG Fund.

The UNCT has committed in 2023 to prioritize specific areas for joint programming: youth employment, climate change and environment, gender, and data and are being developed. In addition, there is a joint program to develop the Area-Based Program approach in Osire refugee camp.

In line with the Secretary-General's UN reform targets, Namibia has designed a Business Operations Strategy (BOS) in support of more effective program delivery on the 2030 Agenda. This BOS was developed in 2019. It regularly goes through an annual monitoring cycle until 2024. The BOS is primarily focused on efficiency gains and cost avoidance, while simultaneously improving the quality of services, including cost savings on externally sourced goods and services, and eliminating duplication of efforts. UN Namibia has achieved benefits, in terms of cost avoidance for an amount of USD 141,079.00 2019-2022, the target over the five-year period is USD 982,403.00.

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GLOBAL HIGHLIGHTS ON THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM REFORM (QCPR REPORTS)

Key feedback on the UN development system from host governments in 2022: Country team programming and policy support is increasingly well regarded by host governments, with stronger alignment to national needs and priorities.

94%

of host governments agree that Cooperation Frameworks enabled them to ensure that UN activities effectively respond to national priorities, an increase from 89% since the inception of the reforms.

93%

of host governments agree that UNCTs operate collaboratively

93%

of host governments said UNCTs have the right mix of capacities to support national development efforts (from 76% since the reforms).

87%

of host governments consider UNCT configuration adequately tailored to meet their challenges and needs, an improvement from 81% in 2021.

92%

of host governments agree that the UN adequately provided evidence-based policy advice in 2022, compared to 88% in 2021.

90%

or more of host governments say that technical support, support for capacity and data, and support to leverage partnerships for national priorities is adequate.

89%

of host governments say that the UNCTs provide adequate support to financing for the SDGs.

78%

of host governments say that UNCTs are more focused on common results.



Key feedback on the reinvigorated RC system from host and donor governments and UN country teams in 2022: Resident Coordinators are doing more than simply coordinating. They are utilizing their convening power to bring the development system together to deliver effective, efficient and coherent support to national priorities. Through effective coordination, the work done by the UN system at the country level is greater than the sum of its parts.

90% of host governments agree that RCs have the needed profile and skill sets, increase from 88% in 2020

87% of host governments say the RC serves as a strengthened entry point to the UN offer, a 35% increase from perceptions pre-reforms

85% of host governments note that RCs provide strengthened leadership compared to before the reforms, a 30% jump since 2019.

92% say RCs contributed to leveraging partnerships in support of national efforts to advance the 2030 Agenda and achieve the SDGs, compared to 85% in 2020.

84% of host governments point out that RCs have increased focus on common results, compared to 60% since the reforms.

80% of host governments agreed that RCs displayed strengthened/increased impartiality vis-a-vis UN entities than before the reforms.

88% donor governments agree the RC system stepped up collective and coherent action and helped leverage the comparative advantages of UN entities.

88% of host governments confirm that RCs effectively lead the delivery of strategic support for national plans and priorities, as indicated in 2021.

76% of host governments note that RCs contributed to building stronger synergies across development, humanitarian and peace building interventions, as in 2020.

UNCTs value the support received from RCOs: Strategic planning: 90% – Economic analysis: 62% – Partnerships: 77% – Communication and advocacy: 87% – Data and results reporting: 86%

The road ahead in four key areas:

- UNCTs must be fully equipped to support countries to advance the SDGs, by aligning individual program documents with the Cooperation Frameworks and a UN footprint in line with evolving country needs.
- The dual accountability model between RCs and UNCTs requires continued attention by UNSDG Principals and governing bodies for full implementation of the Management and Accountability Framework.
- Securing funding for the RC system and delivering on the Funding Compact commitments require a step change, to enable and build incentives for collective UN work.
- Culture change and reform ambition must be consolidated, particularly at regional level through real-time expertise and support to RCs and UNCTs, [HP1] as well as excellence and efficiency of business operations.



UN SYSTEM IN NAMIBIA

Namibia joined the United Nations on 23 April 1990, as its 160th member state. The UN has been a trusted partner to Namibia dating back to the time of independence. The United Nations in Namibia, through its specialized agencies, funds and programs work in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Namibia (GRN) and Development Partners towards ending poverty, reduction of inequality and a path towards sustainable development.



2019-2024 UNPAF

In 2018, a total of 17 UN Agencies, funds and programs (UNICEF, WHO, FAO, UNFPA, UNAIDS, WFP, UNDP, UNESCO, IOM, UNODC, ILO, UNWOMEN, UNIDO, UNHCR, UNEP, OHCHR, UNDESA) signed the UN Partnership Framework 2019-2023 (UNPAF) as their main strategic partnership with the Government of the Republic of Namibia. In 2020, the roll-out of the reform facilitated UN Namibia's response to national priorities, maximizing the specialized technical assistance existing within the UN family. This included the contributions by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), UN World Tourism Organization (WTO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and UN-Habitat.



UNPAF ALIGNMENT TO NDP 5

THE FOUR PILLARS OF NOP 5:

- **Economic Progression**
- **Social Transformation**
- **Environmental Sustainability**
- **Good Governance**

Outcome 1.1

Inclusive development and poverty reduction

NDP 5 Goal 1

Inclusive, Equitable & Sustainable Economic Growth

Economic Progression



Environmental Sustainability

NDP 5 Goal 3

Sustainable Environment

Outcome 3.1

Resilience to natural disasters & climate change



Outcome 2.1
Health

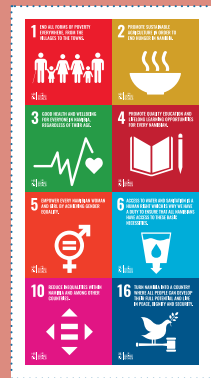
Outcome 2.2
Education & skills

NDP 5 Goal 2
Capable & Health
Human Resources

Outcome 2.3
Protection against
violence

**Social
Transformation**

Outcome 2.4
Social protection



**Good
Governance**

NDP 5 Goal 4
Good Governance

Outcome 4.1
Accountability transparency, decentralization and
statistical system





**LEAVE
NO ONE
BEHIND**