



Progress Update
on the Implementation of General Assembly Resolution 72/279 on
Repositioning of the UN Development System
Information Note for the Executive Board
First Regular Session 2021

*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

UNDP is pleased to provide its Executive Board with an update on its continued active support to the repositioning of the UN development system. This note highlights how UNDP's integrated policy support continues to contribute to the acceleration of the SDG implementation, and how its programmatic response to COVID-19 is firmly embedded within the broader system-wide response under the UN global framework led by UN Resident Coordinators. The note also complements earlier information notes presented to the Board since 2018¹, and provides an update on how UNDP continues to be engaged in all aspects of the reform process, working in close collaboration with the UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) at the global, regional and country level, under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary-General, and with the support of the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO).

Fostering the UN's Collective Response to COVID-19

1. **The COVID-19 pandemic tested the UN system's commitment to deliver better, quicker, and more effective support to programme countries.** As appointed by the UN Secretary-General to act as the UN System's technical lead on the COVID-19 socio-economic response, UNDP co-led the drafting process of the common [UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response](#), through leveraging its SDG integrator role. The implementation of the Framework is overseen by an Inter-Agency Task Team co-chaired by UNDP and DCO, with the participation of IMF and the World Bank.
2. Under the convening role of the UN Resident Coordinators, **UNDP effectively steered the implementation of the Framework at country level**, with its Country Offices closely working with governments, International Finance Institutions (IFIs), bilateral donors, the private sector, civil society, and other UN entities. To date, 128 socio-economic impact assessments have been completed across 93 countries and five regions. These have guided governments in navigating public policy amidst unprecedented complexity. Since July 2020, the UN has tripled the number of Socio-Economic Response Plans (SERPs) – currently at 119 – due to the efforts of UNCTs, steered by RCs and with the technical lead and support of UNDP.
3. **UNDP's development financing expertise helped UN Country Teams (UNCTs) step up their engagement in the SERPs' costing and resource mobilization for COVID-19 response and recovery.** The SERPs have been costed at USD 27.8 billion, and supported with USD 2 billion mobilized by the UN, and USD 3 billion repurposed by the UN agencies in consultation with host governments and development partners.

¹ This is the eighth information note. For previous updates, please refer to:
<https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/executive-board/documents-for-sessions.html>

4. **Under the leadership of UNDP and DCO, a new [COVID-19 data portal](#) has been established** to monitor programmatic results from implementing the Framework. The data portal provides details on joint workplans and programmatic indicators, as well as on the results reported by UNCTs on their COVID-19 socio-economic responses. This has promoted coherence and strengthened UNCT value proposition, also enabling access by governments and other partners to information on the UN's work in country.
5. Guided by the Framework and building on its comparative advantages, **UNDP's [COVID-19 response Beyond Recovery, Towards 2030](#) focused on linking the immediate response to long-term sustainable development needs** by helping manage complexity and uncertainty in four integrated areas—governance, social protection, green economy, and digital disruption. During 2020, UNDP re-programmed and mobilized over USD 982 million in support of the COVID-19 response. Through its first Rapid Financing Facility and subsequently the Rapid Recovery Fund, COVID-19 response efforts were supported in over 140 countries, thereby helping to avert severe socio-economic impacts of the pandemic.
6. As a common service to the UN, the **United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme continues to be closely engaged in supporting UNDS reform implementation**. In 2020, over 9,300 UN Volunteers served with 60 UN partners in 158 countries and territories. Over 1,000 of these directly supported the UN System's COVID-19 response.
7. **UNCDF also plays a role as part of UNDP's broader support to the repositioning of the UN development system**. To support countries' response to COVID-19, UNCDF engaged in the development and implementation of the UN framework for the socio-economic response. UNCDF also collaborates with RCOs and UNCT members on COVID-19 response in more than 20 LDCs, including through an established network of investment advisors in Africa deployed to identify investment opportunities that are both SDG positive and financially viable.
8. **Moving forward in 2021 and beyond, UNDP will continue supporting the UN system-wide efforts to assist countries with their socio-economic response to COVID-19**. Emphasis will be placed on advancing greater coherence between the three pillars of the COVID-19 response, i.e. health, humanitarian, and socioeconomic, further grounding the SEIAs/SERPs in the Common Country Assessments (CCAs) and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (CFs), and supporting countries in financing COVID-19 responses and recovery in an integrated manner.

Strategic Partnerships for Better Results

9. Stronger partnerships are central to accelerating results at all levels in support of Member States' efforts in COVID-19 response and recovery. **Partnerships with IFIs intensified throughout 2020**, with approximately half of the national COVID-19 response plans benefiting from cooperation with the World Bank, and about a third with the IMF. For COVID-19 recovery in 2020, closer collaboration helped UNDP mobilize USD 92 million in contributions from IFIs and repurpose a further USD 45 million from IFI funding received prior to 2020². New standard financial agreements to support partnerships with IFIs were developed, enabling UNDP Country Offices to launch new collaboration and expand existing partnerships, thus advancing UNDP's support for national COVID-19 response plans.

² Preliminary data as of 10 January 2020

10. Furthermore, UNDP led the **adaptation of the well-established tripartite EU-UN-WB Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA)**, resulting in the COVID-19 Recovery Needs Assessment (CRNA) methodology aiming to bring about comprehensive and prioritized government owned recovery strategies.
11. **UNDP is stepping forward to lend its capacities and expertise to ensure integrated, multi-agency and multi-partner support to countries' efforts in financing COVID-19 responses on the ground**, including through the [Integrated National Financing Frameworks \(INFFs\)](#) - a collaborative initiative by UNDP, UNDESA, the EU and other partners, which was advanced significantly in 2020. INFFs are in place for 58 countries to plan financing towards their national sustainable development priorities and the SDGs. Moving forward, UNDP will continue advocating for and supporting governments to align finance to green, equitable and resilient recovery strategies, as part of a joined-up UN effort.
12. **Throughout 2020, UNDP strengthened partnerships with UN agencies to foster joined-up approaches at all levels and to bolster the UN's collective response.** For example, cooperation with UNICEF was strengthened through an Expanded Collaboration Framework for COVID-19, and its implementation steered through the identification and design of new joint flagship initiatives. The partnership with ILO was also deepened, with critical joint programmatic approaches identified at the regional and country levels, as part of the new joint Framework for Action. Collaboration with WHO significantly intensified at the country level, which helped strengthen integrated approaches to multi-dimensional impacts of COVID-19. In addition, a new and strengthened phase of partnership between UNDP and IOM was launched in 2020.
13. UNDP worked in close cooperation with OHCHR and DCO to ensure **a Human Rights Based Approach to the SERPs**. In partnership with UN Women, a [COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker](#) was established to monitor and highlight responses that have integrated a gender lens. In collaboration with UNEP, ILO, UNIDO and UNITAR, a new [COVID-19 Hub](#) was launched to connect policymakers and UNCTs in partner countries with the latest information on the impacts of COVID-19.
14. **A further offer put forward for the UN System is the [COVID-19 Private Sector Global Facility](#)**, an initiative of UNDP, the UN Global Compact and the International Chamber of Commerce's (ICC), bringing together private and public actors at both global and national levels to co-create solutions tailored to the specific needs of countries and support impacted micro, medium and small enterprises.

Support to COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund and Joint SDG Fund

15. **Coherent programmatic approaches and joined-up action help achieve stronger impact at the country level.** UNDP is helping to strengthen the UN's collective response to the pandemic through the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund, thereby advancing joined-up UN action on the ground. By the end of 2020, the Fund had disbursed USD 65 million to 75 projects spanning 61 countries. UNDP also continues to serve as a member of the Fund's Advisory Committee.
16. **UNDP continued its active engagement in the Joint SDG Fund**, including as Chair of the Fund's Operations Steering Committee with a focus on leveraging catalytic funding in support of national financing strategies in response to COVID-19 and the SDGs. In 2020, the Fund approved 62 proposals totaling USD 60 million to reinforce SDG financing architecture at the country level, including support to countries on designing INFFs.

Strengthening Joint Implementation and Support to SDG Implementation

17. **The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the need for integrated approaches to development.** In this context, UNDP's role as an integrator, its technical leadership on the SERPs and substantive expertise in INFFs, play a central part in UNDP's support to countries. The focus is on strengthening countries' resilience, response, and recovery by building back better.
18. **Through its [integrated solutions](#), UNDP continued to invest in systems design and integrated analytics to drive evidence-based policy making and navigate complexity.** Leveraging the capabilities of the Global Policy Network (GPN) and the Accelerator Labs, UNDP helped scale up capacity and mobilize multi-disciplinary expertise to help UNCTs and governments design and implement innovative integrated policy solutions. This, for example, helped reframe the challenge of depopulation in Serbia, is helping to shift the economic base from extractives to knowledge in Uruguay, and helping to revive Uzbekistan's Aral Sea region socially, economically and environmentally.
19. In support of evidence-based decision-making by governments, [a study on the impact of COVID-19 on the SDGs](#) was launched by UNDP in December 2020. It analyzes medium and long-term impacts of COVID-19 across the 2030 Agenda and highlights how a set of integrated investments can accelerate SDG progress. Based on UNDP's commitment at the SDG Moment last year, a new [COVID-19 Data Futures platform](#) was launched in support of the UN system and Member States to create portfolios of integrated SDG investments.
20. In collaboration with UNDS entities, **UNDP supported the expansion of the SDG policy space** through capacity building by launching an [e-course](#) on integrated policy for the SDGs in September 2020. A revised UNSDG SDG Acceleration Toolkit is to be launched in the first quarter of 2021.
21. As co-lead of the interagency team and in close collaboration with DCO, **UNDP provided integrated and system-wide policy support through the [Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support for the 2030 Agenda \(MAPS\) engagements](#).** Capturing shifting needs and priorities brought about by COVID-19, UNDP co-led virtual MAPS engagements with UNICEF, ILO and UNCTs in Angola, Maldives, Cote d'Ivoire, Zambia and Congo.
22. Data from UNDP's Partner Survey has confirmed that 71% of partners have been satisfied with UNDP's ability to provide integrated development solutions in collaboration with other stakeholders.

Advancing humanitarian-development-peace collaboration

23. **UNDP's programming approaches at country level have been tailored to specific contexts**, with Country Offices mainstreaming conflict sensitivity and support to social cohesion. In addition, Country Offices are requested to take a cross-pillar approach to programming, through broad coalitions, joint programming, supporting principled approaches and the use of country systems.
24. **UNDP is developing a Framework on Development Solutions for Crisis and Fragility, which will help define and guide UNDP's work in difficult operating environments**, and further strengthen UNDP's positioning within the UN Development System. The Framework is expected to be finalized in March 2021. It will serve as an important input into the next UNDP Strategic Plan.
25. **In 2021, UNDP will focus on three "policy to practice" areas to advance nexus operationalization:** (i) acting as a bridge between the humanitarian, development and peace actors to promote coherent approaches to crises and fragility, (ii) working towards "*Ending Need*" – scaling up development and

peace programming so that humanitarian responses are no longer required, and (iii) helping develop financing strategies for nexus approaches, bringing together international and national, public and private finance to ensure that nexus ambitions can be delivered. Moving forward, it will be important to address the challenge of advancing from policy to action, which will require support from Member States to ensure that funding is fully aligned with the nexus approach.

Strengthening System-wide Analysis, Planning and Reporting

26. **UNDP Country Offices are strongly engaged in the development of the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (CFs) and committed to ensuring these are a step change to integrated and context specific support to the SDGs and COVID-19 recovery.** As a UNCT member, UNDP supports tailored analytical tools and approaches, and continues to actively contribute to the analysis and theory of change underpinning CFs.
27. **UNDP ensured alignment with the new CF through revisions to the Country Programme Document (CPD) format and strengthening of programme appraisal processes,** which enables a clear articulation of UNDP's contributions and role in CFs. UNDP's CPDs are informed by the Theory of Change underpinning the CFs and the contribution that the respective programmes will make to achieve joint outcomes, working closely with partner governments. Alignment of UNDP country programmes goes beyond simply adopting the CF outcomes into substantive alignment and coherence in planning, including through joint workplan outputs, joint approaches to implementation, and monitoring of results.
28. Robust guidance for the development of new UNDP country programmes has been developed and is being implemented by our Country Offices. The **principles of national ownership and multi-stakeholder consultations** are foundational for UNDP country programme development and are reinforced through internal guidance.
29. To further improve sequencing and coordination of the CPDs, UNDP, together with other UN agencies and in collaboration with DCO, took **decisive steps to ensure draft country programmes are considered alongside the current draft of the CF or draft outcome matrix,** prior to consideration by the Executive Board for approval. DCO will make draft CFs or draft outcome matrices available for information on a dedicated webpage during the draft CPD commenting period.
30. In line with the Management and Accountability Framework (MAF), **UNDP Resident Representatives will continue to ensure that UN Resident Coordinators are consulted on the alignment of country programmes and Cooperation Framework.** This is reinforced as part of the internal quality assurance processes before draft CPDs are made available to Member States for comment.
31. Moving forward, **it is important to ensure consistencies in sourcing expertise required to help UNCTs deliver on development outcomes.** In this regard, it will be critical to leverage the UNCT reconfiguration exercise during the development of the CF to make best use of UNCT capacities. Moreover, progress on development and implementation of all chapters of the MAF will be critical, including those related to accountability for the mobilization and use of programmatic resources, strategic planning, data management, reporting, monitoring and evaluation.

Advancing Implementation of the Funding Compact

32. **After one year of implementation of the Funding Compact commitments,** there has been progress on 69% of indicators under Member State commitments and 60% of indicators under UNDS commitments. UNDP continued to prioritize the implementation of the Funding Compact commitments and, based on 2019 data, is already **making progress on 76.9% of indicators tracked by individual UN agencies.** **UNDP is also compliant on 94% of UN development system commitments,**

compared to compliance level of 56% for Member States. Once 2020 data on results and funding become available, UNDP will provide an update to its Executive Board through its Structured Funding Dialogues.

33. **Being the most flexible funding modality, in 2020 core resources allowed UNDP to lay the foundational work in programme design that helped attract funding from other sources.** This flexibility allowed UNDP to quickly re-purpose existing core funds to directly support the needs of Country Offices for immediate COVID-19 response and recovery activities. Of the over USD 982 million re-programmed and mobilized in support of UNDP's COVID-19 response in 2020, USD 103 million was in the form of core resources.
34. While UNDP continued to experience challenges in increasing the share of core funding to 30% and broadening its donor base, **UNDP core funding increased in 2020³. UNDP also saw increases in funding** channeled through inter-agency pooled funds and its thematic funding windows, which helped catalyze innovation and partnerships⁴.
35. UNDP is fully on track with regards to commitments to improve transparency and accountability and increase efficiencies. **In 2020, UNDP was once more recognized as the most transparent UN organization by the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI).**
36. **UNDP also continues to strengthen efficiency and effectiveness of its operations.** In 2020, UNDP shared common premises in 83% of its office locations; and 91% of Country Offices implemented at least eight elements of the SOPs.
37. We are working to accelerate results on the ground through dedicated support to our Country Offices, and in close collaboration with UN agencies and national governments so that the Funding Compact commitments are translated at the country level. **Challenges remain, however, especially in relation broadening the donor base and with regards to funding prospects in 2021 and beyond.** Furthermore, there has not yet been a significant shift in total Member State contributions towards core and thematic funding. Also, voluntary contributions to the Joint SDG Fund, the Peacebuilding Fund and the Special Purpose Trust Fund for the RC system remain significantly below target.
38. UNDP and other UN agencies are closely monitoring the impact of COVID-19 on delivery of programmes and developing mitigation measures and will keep its Executive Board apprised.

Contributions to the Regional and MCO Reviews

Regional Review

39. UNDP continued to drive forward the SG's recommendations on the Regional Review. **As Vice-Chairs of the Regional Collaborative Platforms (RCPs), UNDP fully supported the implementation of the new regional mandates.** Under the leadership of the Chair, the UN Deputy Secretary-General, the RCPs were established in all five regions and the transition from the Regional Coordination Mechanisms and the Regional UNDSGs was completed.
40. To operationalize the regional review, each of the RCPs have prepared work plans, structured along the SG's five recommendations, building on the progress made in the regions. More specifically:
 - **In the Arab States**, in light of COVID-19, all Issue-Based Coalitions (IBCs) adjusted their work plans to integrate priority attention to response and recovery. Stronger linkages have been established

³ Based on very preliminary data, \$695.7 million was received in 2020.

⁴ According to the preliminary data, UNDP has received \$391 million from pooled funds and \$275 million through the thematic funding windows in 2020.

between the RCP and the UN Resident Coordinators/UNCTs. Good progress has also been achieved with the establishment of a Knowledge and Data Management Hub, which will include an SDG Gateway platform for tracking data on SDG indicators, an online learning space for development related courses, and an expert roster that is designed to share expertise between agencies.

- **In Latin America and the Caribbean**, the RCP has advanced on all aspects of the implementation of the Regional Review, including the launch of the SDG Gateway. In late 2020, the RCP shifted from COVID-19 response to recovery. In 2021, the RCP is seeking closer collaboration with the UN Resident Coordinators and UNCTs to better target the RCP guidance and technical support from IBCs, and strengthen transboundary collaboration. The RCP results report is being developed to be presented to Member States during the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development.
- **In Asia-Pacific**, central to the work of the RCP in 2020 was the support to regional and national actions in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic. Dedicated dialogues were held with groups of RCs to better match the regional expertise and offer of support with national demands; and a substantive policy discussion was introduced in the RCP bi-monthly meetings to better apply collective technical expertise and advocacy to major regional needs. Through IBCs and other inter-agency groups, regional expertise was mobilized, which resulted, inter alia, in the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Knowledge Management Hub, the first system-wide result report, and the development of a regional offer for SDG data support.
- **In Europe and Central Asia**, a single-entry point to UN system knowledge is being established to ensure access to regional knowledge products, roster of expertise, and data. The regional results report is being developed and will focus on joint results of the UN Development System at the regional level. It will address key development challenges in the region building on the IBCs' work. The RCP launched a Knowledge Hub on Statistics for SDGs in December 2019, and a Dashboard and Database of SDG Indicators in March 2020. A review of the IBCs, led by UNDP and UN Women, was conducted to assess their effectiveness and fitness for purpose. The review underscored that technical support to UNCTs, regional policy development, common positioning and advocacy should remain the core mandate of the IBCs.
- **In Africa**, through its seven Opportunity and Issue-Based Coalitions (O/IBCs), the RCP is pursuing a number of flagship initiatives to support African Union Member States attain strategic priorities of both Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030. These focus on, for example, the establishment of a robust SDG Data platform, debt management approaches, harnessing demographic dividends through investments in youth and women empowerment, as well as enabling digital transitions, and fostering climate action and resilience. In 2020, through the Regional Emergency COVID-19 Action Plan, UNDP worked with regional entities to support business continuity for governments, regional strategies on e-learning, and creating the [Africa UN knowledge hub on COVID 19](#).

Multi-Country Office Review

41. The COVID-19 pandemic has once more highlighted the vulnerabilities that many SIDS face. **UNDP's continued support to the implementation of the MCO review reflects the organization's commitment to provide strong and coherent support to SIDS' development priorities**, with an estimated annual value of USD 300 million delivered through a strong presence across SIDS.
42. Following up on our commitments, UNDP has been offering more tailor-made support to countries and territories serviced by MCOs. **UNDP's new SIDS offer ("*Rising up for SIDS*")**, a key element of the organization's fulfillment of its MCO review commitments, has been articulated to allow UNDP to effectively respond to the most pressing needs of SIDS through a variety of tailor-made

development solutions. In the context of COVID-19, the offer was instrumental in supporting SIDS through the socio-economic crises triggered by the pandemic with their efforts towards a green recovery. Under the offer, UNDP is expanding its physical footprint in SIDS, and is strengthening technical expertise in two key areas: Digital Transformation and the Blue Economy, with additional specialist staff posted in some SIDS. In addition, UNDP is expanding its Accelerator Lab Network, with a total of 10 Labs to be placed in SIDS, covering 76% of total countries and territories.

43. **UNDP supported the establishment of a new RC Office in the North Pacific based in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM)**, which is expected to be operational by mid-2021, covering the FSM, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru and Palau. UNDP's presence in the North Pacific is expected to be operational by mid-2021.
44. **UNDP is also furthering UN inter-agency cooperation in countries and territories serviced by MCOs**, including through partnerships with FAO and IRENA. Furthermore, UNDP is leading on exploring, with other agencies, **the set-up of an "Innovative Finance Design Knowledge Platform/Innovative Finance Facility"**. This finance facility is designed to enable SIDS' access to financing for development through addressing SDG costing, developing investment pipelines, catalyzing large-scale integrated investment options, and identifying region/subregion-specific ways to access private sector financing for the SDGs.

Supporting the Reinvigorated RC System, including through Efficient Business Operations

45. **The UN Board of Auditors (BoA) noted UNDP's strong commitment and engagement in all the inter-agency workstreams related to the UNDS reform, with a completion rate of 97.8% of the myriad of administrative steps required by the delinking**, while recognizing that the reform was a highly complex process that affected UNDP disproportionately due to its previous role as the host and manager of the UNDS coordination function and given the related legal, financial, and human resource matters involved.
46. **As the principal operational services provider to the RC System, UNDP remains fully committed to providing high-quality operational services and supporting its operational transition in 2021.** In 2020, UNDP administered USD 131.3 million of the UN Special Purpose Trust Fund (SPTF) resources, of which USD 82.6 million were utilized as of 23 December 2020. Services are being provided in human resources, finance, procurement, general operations, and administrative services to RC Offices (RCOs) in 130 countries and three DCO regional offices (Amman, Panama and Turkey).
47. **As of December 2020, 53 senior UNDP staff were seconded to the UN Secretariat for RC duties**, of which 26 are female, and 26 from the South. Since January 2019, UNDP has recruited 383 National Officers for RCOs. UNDP is also currently managing the contracts, payroll, benefits and entitlements of 700 RCO staff.
48. **Since the rollout of the UN RC System Service Portal in June 2019, the portal has had 2,542 active users from all UN RCOs and UNDP Country Offices (COs).** Over 33,000 on-line requests have been submitted so far with a current completion rate of 77%. Quality assurance tools have been incorporated and further improved to monitor turnaround time and client service satisfaction, which currently stands at an average of 4.18 out of 5 stars.
49. As part of the assessment of UNDP's service provision to the RC system, **a Joint UNDP-DCO Global Survey was conducted to solicit feedback from both Clients and Service providers.** With a 90% response rate from UNDP and RC offices across 131 countries and three regional offices, **73% of all respondents considered UNDP services either satisfactory or very satisfactory.**

50. **In 2021, select operational services will be transitioned from UNDP to the new UN Secretariat service providers.** UNDP will continue managing USD 60.2 million SPTF resources with a reduced scope of services to the RC System. In line with its commitment to the reinvigorated RC System, UNDP is providing extensive support to DCO to ensure a flawless and smooth transition of services.
51. **Within the development pillar, the UN system is making important strides towards achieving more effective and efficient operations.** UNDP is fully engaged in this work through direct engagement with the Business Operations Task Team and other related teams. UNDP is also advancing on its internal operational measures, which aim at consolidating UNDP's business practices into a more agile, efficient and effective model. UNDP is committed to further supporting and advancing the efficiency agenda, including through seconding staff as part of the HQ based inter-agency Common Back Offices (CBO) core team.

UNDP and the reinvigorated UNSDG

52. The reinvigorated UNSDG, under the Chairmanship of the UN Deputy Secretary-General, lies at the heart of the efforts to steer and provide more effective strategic direction, oversight, and accountability to the collective contributions of the UNDS to the 2030 Agenda. Since the 2018 restructuring of the UNSDG with a reconstituted membership spanning all entities in the UNDS, the UNDP Administrator has served as both the Vice-Chair of the UNSDG as well as the Chair of the UNSDG Core Group.
53. In support of the achievement of the SDGs at country-level, the UNSDG Core Group advances the mission of the UNSDG by ensuring the integration, coordination and accountability of policies, guidance, and practices. The UNSDG Core Group is thereby committed to delivering on the expectation of Member States that the UNDS convene at a high level to coordinate systems and working arrangements to achieve joint results and strengthen global leadership and accountability of the UNDS to enhance its impact in the field.
54. UNDP remains committed to providing strategic support and substantive contributions to the UNSDG, the Core Group and its task teams, and to supporting the UNSDG Vice-Chair and Core Group Chair. Such support has been made possible through the multisectoral and multidisciplinary foundations of UNDP being put forward for the benefit of the entire UNSDG.

Conclusion

55. Since the launch of the UNDS Reform by the UN Secretary-General in 2018, UNDP has played a leading role to ensure its successful implementation. Despite budgetary constraints, as well as the significant impact of the reforms given UNDP's previous role in the system, UNDP has devoted a significant amount of financial and human resources to provide quality support to the implementation of the reinvigorated RC system, in close cooperation with DCO, UNCTs and other UNDS partners.
56. With a majority of the reform strands implemented, it is now important to collectively demonstrate the full potential of a coherent, effective, re-positioned UN Development System. Consolidating gains of the UNDS reforms and advancing on the implementation of its remaining strands will continue as priorities for UNDP in 2021 and beyond. UNDP is committed to ensuring that lessons learned from two years of implementation of the UNDS reforms, including associated costs and impact, inform how we approach our work at all levels.
57. UNDP will be strongly focused on delivering results during this last Decade of Action on the Sustainable Development Agenda and in this regard welcomes the new Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR). Through its strong focus on thematic and cross-cutting issues affecting the 2030

Agenda, the new QCPR helps shift our collective focus from process and architecture to delivering tangible results and generating impact. UNDP will advance work in 2021, including through the UNSDG, to prioritize the mandates of the QCPR, which will also inform the development of the new UNDP Strategic Plan 2022-25.

58. In 2021, UNDP will intensify efforts to help reverse the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on SDG implementation by putting forward its technical expertise and knowledge, including in SDG integration, socio-economic response plans to COVID-19 and their implementation, and integrated national financing frameworks. We will continue efforts to strengthen and expand our partnerships within and outside of the UN System, to ensure credible UN responses and integrated programming approaches that are responsive to programme countries' needs.