

The Spotlight Initiative

Guidance note on Project reporting requirements

Overview

The [Spotlight Initiative](#) (SI) Secretariat and the SI Administrative Agent (AA or MPTFO), have elaborated the guidance for the SI project establishment and reporting processes as described in the SI [Terms of Reference \(TOR\)](#), [Memorandum of Understanding \(MOU\)](#), signed between UN and MPTFO, [MOU](#) and [MOU Addendum for EU contribution](#) signed between the Recipient UN Organizations (RUNOs) and the AA.

As outlined in the MOU and MOU Addendum (see the Legal Framework Summary), each RUNO assumes full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to them by the AA. Project implementation is to be followed by the individual RUNO's internal rules, directives and procedures. RUNOs are accountable to the SI for results achieved and are obligated to report on their activities and expenditure in line with the SI Operational Steering Committee (OSC) [approved country/regional Programme](#), signed MOU and MOU Addendum.

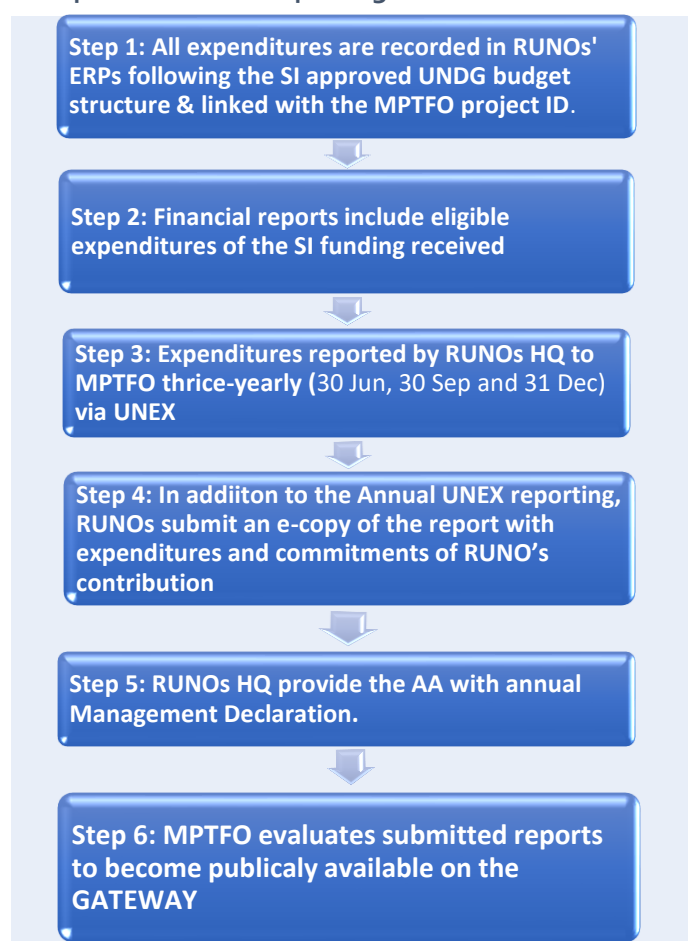
Reporting Requirements

Once the project is operational, all RUNOs have to comply with the following standard and provisional reporting cycles, all reports are to be provided and consolidated via the Resident Coordinator (except UNEX uploading where a copy should be provided to the RC). **There are 3 types of reports for the SI Programmes: 1) Standard (thrice-year - Q2; Q3 and annual) reports; 2) provisional reports joint or individual (triggers disbursement of subsequent installments and/or upon OSC request); and 3) final joint reports. Please see below Reporting Summary Table.**

Standard Reporting

- In line with the MOU Addendum for EU contribution to the SI ([art. 3.2](#)), provide financial progress reporting twice a year (expenditure as of 30 June; and of 30 September) via AA web-interface reporting tool system UNEX for the financial update and via the Secretariat for the narrative update;
- In line with the MOU signed between RUNOs and the AA ([Sec. IV](#)), the Annual financial report (expenditure as of 31 December) is submitted via UNEX by the 30 of April by RUNOs with respect to the SI disbursed funds;
- The UNEX submission is to be made by RUNO HQs, by referencing the [MPTFO project identification](#) and following UNDG budget structure in accordance with the SI approved country/regional programme;
- In line with the MOU Addendum ([art. 3.7](#)), RUNO HQs will provide the AA with annual [Management Declaration](#);
- Additionally, to the Annual financial report via UNEX, an e-copy of the expenditures reports of RUNO's approved contribution must be submitted to the MPTFO and Secretariat (please see the [template](#)). This report is to be signed by the RUNO's responsible representative in the country/region;
- Submit joint annual narrative progress reports no later than three months (31 March) after the end of the calendar year to the SI Secretariat and MPTFO focal points, the RC office ensures consolidation and transmission.

Steps for standard reporting schedule



Provisional Reporting

- In the event where the RUNOs expenditures and commitments combined reach 70% of the SI previously provided pre-financing payment (plus 100% of any earlier ones where applicable), RUNOs (COs) may request next instalment by submitting provisional joint narrative and [financial](#) reports to the SI Secretariat and MPTFO for further decision of the OSC Chair;
- In line with the MOU Addendum for EU contribution to the SI ([art. 3.3](#)), upon request from the OSC, RUNOs shall provide joint progress reports (both narrative and [financial](#)) to the AA to accompany any requests for release of subsequent EU instalments. Such reports to be provided within a month following the OSC request and should be accompanied by the [Management Declaration](#) (if applicable). The RC office is to consolidate those reports per country.

Final Reporting

- Submit final financial report to the SI Secretariat and MPTFO focal points no later than five months (31 May) after the end of the calendar year in which the financial closure of the approved Programme activities occur;
- Submit final narrative report no later than four months (30 April) after the end of the calendar year to the SI Secretariat and MPTFO focal points;

Steps for provisional reporting



Important Information

- RUNOs are accountable to the SI for results achieved and are obligated to report on their activities and expenditure in line with the SI Operational Steering Committee approved country/regional Programme;
- With the purpose of accurate mapping and expenditure reporting, all financial reports from RUNOs must be aligned with the correct [MPTFO project identification number](#) and follow UNDG budget structure of the SI approved country/regional Programme - present expenditure using the same lines as set out in the approved Budget;
- All costs must meet “eligibility” criteria. For the costs to be considered eligible for the SI funding (i.e. charged to the EU contribution), they must be legally incurred within the Implementation Period. In line with the contractual obligations agreed with the EC, all RUNOs need to ensure that a sufficient level of information is provided in the financial reporting (as per OSC approved Programme) and to assure the eligibility of costs can subsequently be demonstrated ([see Article 18 of General Conditions for the MPTFO/EU contract](#));
- All consolidated reports and related documents will be posted and become public on the [MPTFO GATEWAY](#);
- **Any deviations from the OSC approved Programme during its implementation must follow the established SI Programme/Budget revision procedures** (see [“Guidance Note Programme revisions”](#));
- **No transfer of SI funds between different RUNOs can be made. Any budgetary revision or cost extensions must follow the required procedure described in the TOR and related Guidance Note** (see [“Guidance Note Programme revisions”](#));
- The MPTFO will inform additionally RUNOs focal points (HQ and country levels) regarding the actual opening dates for the AA web-interface reporting system UNEX;
- Unspent balances at the end of the project are to be refunded to the MPTF Office SI account. The transfer notification should be sent to the MPTFO, no later than six months (30 June) after the end of the calendar year following the completion of the activities;
- The indirect cost of the Programme cannot exceed 7 % of the approved Programme cost.

Reporting Summary Table

Type of Report	Format	Mode	Report date	Submission Date	Joint or RUNO report	Ultimate Recipient
Standard	Financial: UNEX eReport by HQ	UNEX Upload only	30-Jun	by 15 August*	RUNO	OCS
Standard	Narrative using the template:	Submission to the Secretariat by RC office	30-Jun	by 31 July	Joint	Secretariat
Standard	Financial: UNEX eReport by HQ	UNEX Upload only	30-Sep	by 15 Nov*	RUNO	OCS
Standard Annual	Annual Financial: UNEX eReport by HQ + "Outside UNEX" Report	UNEX Upload + "Outside UNEX" Report with Commitments and RUNO Contribution	31-Dec	by 30 April*	RUNO	OCS
	Annual Narrative through RMS:	Submission to the Secretariat by RC office	31-Dec	by 31 March	Joint	OCS
Provisional Reports	Financial: "Outside UNEX" Report	"Outside UNEX" Report with Commitments and RUNO Contribution	On the OSC request or if Programme reaches 70% threshold	Within one month of the OSC request or if Programme reaches 70% threshold	Joint	OCS
	Narrative	Submission to the Secretariat by RC office				

* MPTF Office will notify RUNOs' HQs additionally regarding the exact dates of UNEX open/closure

RUNOs HQ focal points

FINANCIAL			PROGRAMME		
NAME	RUNO	EMAIL	NAME	RUNO	EMAIL
Oliver CHAILLET	ILO	chaillet@ilo.org	Alethia Jimenez	UN Women	alethia.jimenez@unwomen.org
Eric BRODIER	OHCHR	ebrodier@ohchr.org	Alka GULATI	UN Women	alka.gulati@unwomen.org
Kai KEONG LEONG	UNDP	kai.keong.leong@undp.org			
Ahmed IBRAHIM	UNESCO	ah.ibrahim@unesco.org			
Salman Zafar	UNFPA	zafar@unfpa.org			
Lakshmi KULATHUMANI	UNHCR	kulathum@unhcr.org			
Simon COPE	UNICEF	scope@unicef.org			
Mee Seun KIM	UNODC	kim42@un.org			
Benevolence MBWERA	UNWOMEN	benevolence.mbwera@unwomen.org			

SI Key focal points and contact details

Fund Administration

Administrative Agent (MPTF Office)
 Mr. Pierre Bardoux-Chesneau, Senior Portfolio Manager, pierre.bardoux@undp.org
 Mr. Andrei Dementiev, Programme Analyst, andrei.dementiev@undp.org
 Ms. Lula Sherif, Portfolio Focal Point, lula.sherif@undp.org

Global Spotlight Secretariat

Management Unit
 Ms. Olga Aleshina, Head of the Management Unit, olga.aleshina@un.org
 Ms. Sonya Thimmaiah, Reporting Specialist, sonya.thimmaiah@un.org
 Ms. Teresa Benito Lopez, Coordination Specialist, teresa.benito@un.org
 Ms. Laura Ann Martin, Coordination Specialist, martinl@un.org
 Ms. Arleen Verendia, Administrative Associate, arleen.verendia@un.org

Technical Unit
 Ms. Erin Kenny, Head of the Technical Unit, erin.kenny@un.org
 Mr. Philippe Lust-Bianchi, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, philippe.lustbianchi@un.org
 Mr. Koye Adeboye, Communications Specialist, koye.adeboye@un.org
 Ms. Heran Ayele, Capacity Development and Knowledge Management Specialist, heran.ayeale@un.org
 Ms. Olga Beshpalova, Programme Associate, olga.beshpalova@un.org

Useful Links

- [SI TOR](#)
- [SI MOU with RUNOS](#)
- [MOU Addendum for EU contribution to the SI](#)
- SI project progress narrative update reporting Template
- [SI project progress financial update reporting Template \(incl. UN Agencies contribution\)](#)
- [Management declaration template](#)
- Annual SI project narrative reporting Template
- Final SI End of Project Narrative Template