



**UNITED NATIONS
DEVELOPMENT GROUP**

UNDG Human Rights Mainstreaming Mechanism

Summary of the Operational Plan 2011-2013

October 18, 2011

Overview

Human rights, development, and peace and security are the three interlinked pillars of the UN system. Mainstreaming human rights across the work of the United Nations has thus been a cornerstone of UN reform efforts since 1997. Both the World Summit in 2005 and the 2007 General Assembly resolution on Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review reaffirmed that development, human rights, and peace and security are three interlinked pillars of the United Nations that need to be strengthened. World leaders also gave explicit support to integrating human rights within the UN system and into national policies. The MDG Review Summit in 2010 further recognized that human rights are an integral part of effective work towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

These inter-governmental agreements reflect the important progress that has been made over the past decade in bridging the three pillars of the UN's work. The former Secretary General's 'Action 2' Global Programme on Human Rights Strengthening supported more than 60 UN country teams during 2004-2008 and played a major catalytic role in strengthening the capacity of the United Nations on human rights.

The progress of UN reforms in the areas of human rights and development have opened new windows of opportunity to engage and support Member States in fulfilling their human rights commitments and national development goals. The establishment of the Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review process have led to a rise in demand for more technical assistance and support from the UN in this regard. This requires more coordinated and coherent efforts among UN agencies, further building on the achievements and lessons from Action 2 and 'Delivering as One' system-wide coherence efforts.

To help meet these growing demands, the UNDG Human Rights Mainstreaming Mechanism (UNDG-HRM) was established in November 2009 as a successor to the Action 2 programme. It responds to the call from the Secretary General in 2008 to further strengthen system-wide coherence, collaboration and support for Resident Coordinators (RCs) and UN country teams (UNCTs) in mainstreaming human rights.

The UNDG-HRM's overarching objective is to further institutionalize human rights mainstreaming efforts in the UN development system and to strengthen system-wide coherence, collaboration and support for Resident Coordinators and UNCTs on human rights mainstreaming, building on the achievements and lessons from the former Action 2 programme. In contributing to this overall objective, the UNDG-HRM focuses on four broad priorities:

- Promoting a coordinated and coherent UN system-wide approach towards the integration of human rights principles and international standards into UN operational activities for development;
- Providing coherent and coordinated support to Resident Coordinators and UNCTs in mainstreaming human rights;
- Developing a coherent UN system-wide approach, to providing support towards strengthening national human rights protection systems at the request of governments; and
- Contributing to the integration of human rights issues in the overall UNDG advocacy on development agenda and global issues.

Based on these four priorities and guided by the UNDG Strategic Priorities for 2010-2011, the UNDG-HRM has developed a priority and mid-term work plan for 2010-2013. These work plans were approved by the UNDG in November 2010.

1. Expected accomplishments for 2011-2013

The Work Plan is organised under the four broad priorities of the UNDG-HRM. Through the various activities in the Work Plan, during 2011-2013 the UNDG-HRM aims to:

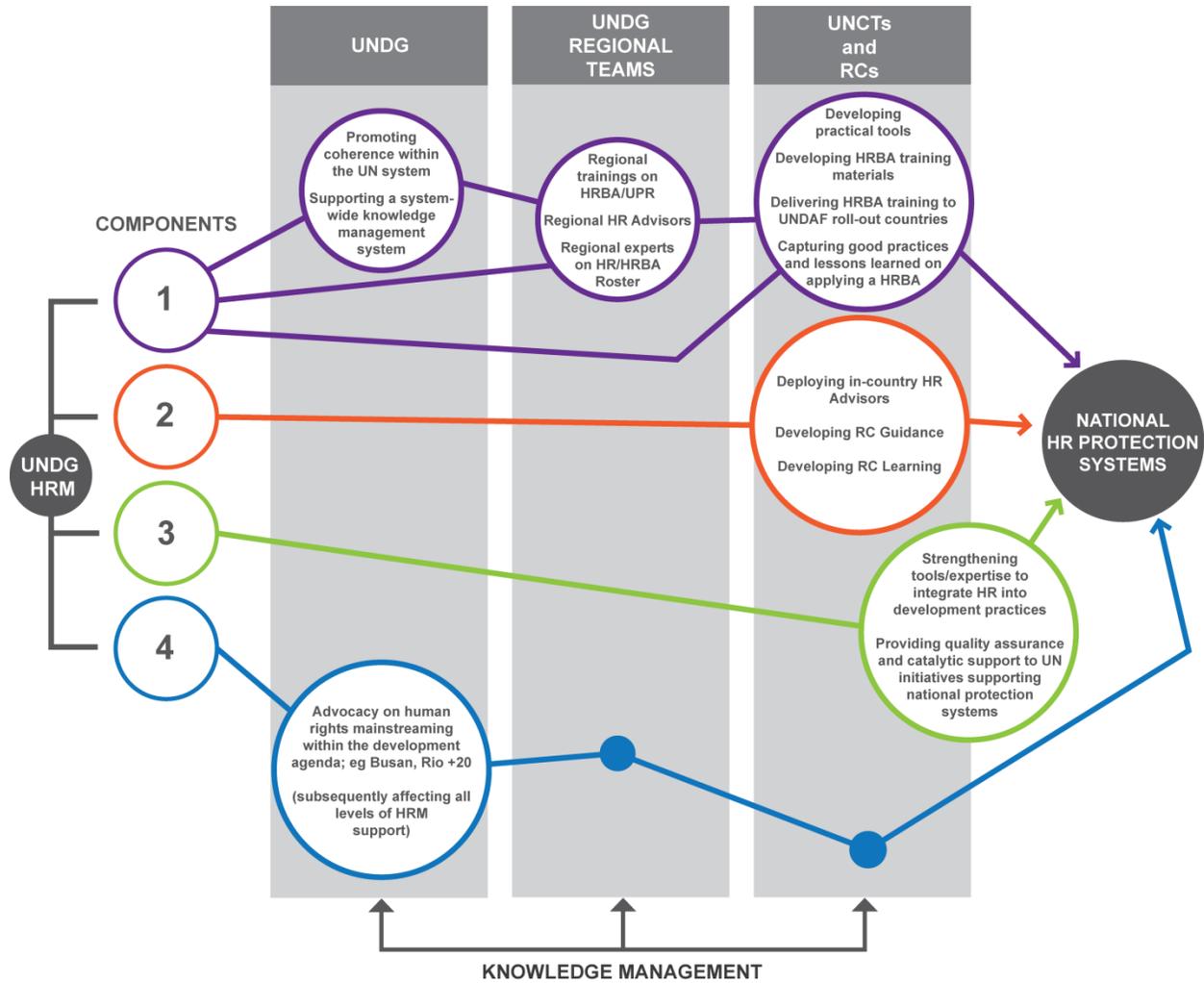
- At the **UN system level**, strengthen system-wide policy coherence, advocacy, knowledge sharing and accountability for results in mainstreaming human rights.
- At the **regional level**, strengthen the role and capacity of Regional UNDG Teams in providing HRBA and technical support to UNCTs.
- At the **country level**, strengthen the Resident Coordinator/UNCT leadership in driving mainstreaming efforts and in supporting Member States fulfill human rights commitments.

Table A: UNDG-HRM expected accomplishments for 2011-2013

<p>Outcome 1:</p> <p>Promoting a coordinated & coherent UN system-wide approach towards the integration of human rights principles and international standards into UN operational activities</p>	<p>Outcome 2:</p> <p>Strengthening support to Resident Coordinators and UNCT agency leadership on human rights</p>	<p>Outcome 3:</p> <p>Developing a coherent approach through enhanced collaboration among UN agencies to support strengthening of national human rights protection systems at government's request</p>	<p>Outcome 4:</p> <p>Integrating human rights into the overall UNDG advocacy on development agenda</p>
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1.1.1 Overall progress on HR mainstreaming in UNDG monitored and guidance provided to other UNDG structures</p> <p>1.2.1 UNDAFs reviewed from HRBA perspectives and trends and good examples identified</p> <p>1.3.1 Regional strategy for HR mainstreaming developed and implemented by Regional UNDG Teams</p> <p>1.4.1 HuriTALK and HRBA Portal supported and expanded as UNDG knowledge platform</p>	<p>Outputs:</p> <p>2.1.1 Guidance note on human rights for RCs/UNCTs updated</p> <p>2.2.1 Learning strategy developed and piloted</p> <p>2.3.1 Strategy for HR adviser deployment developed and implemented</p>	<p>Outputs:</p> <p>3.1.1 Tools, resources and expertise developed to integrate HR into national development policies and processes</p> <p>3.2.1 System-wide resources and expertise developed and made available to UNCTs</p> <p>3.2.2 Quality assurance support provided on country/regional programmes aimed at strengthening national protection system</p> <p>3.2.3 Catalytic support to nationally-led UNCT programmes and initiatives</p>	<p>Outputs:</p> <p>4.1.1 Key messages and advocacy tools developed on the linkages between human rights and development</p>

How the various activities under each of the four components of the UNDG-HRM work plan are linked and the different levels at which they address are illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 1. UNDG-HRM The Four Components of the UNDG-HRM Work Plan



2. Resource Requirements for UNDG-HRM Work Plan Activities

Approximately US\$ 23.5 million will be required from extra-budgetary resources in order to fully implement planned activities that are in the UNDG-HRM work plan for the period 2011-2013. In addition, agencies' funds will be used to support a number of activities which will contribute to the overall goals and objectives of the UNDG-HRM. Activities are organised under the four broad components of the UNDG-HRM with an indication of where agency funds will be used to complement resources provided by the Multi-Donor Trust Fund.

Of the US\$ 23.5 million required for 2011-2013. 65% of this budget is for country and regional-level support, 20% for global (HQ) activities, and 15% for the secretariat and programme support cost.

Table B: Overview of financial requirements for 2011-2013	
Component Areas	Requested Funds (USD)
Priority Focus 1: Promoting a coordinated & coherent UN system wide approach to human rights integration	4,761,630.00
Priority Focus 2: Strengthening support to Resident Coordinators and UNCT agency leadership on human rights	10,300,000.00
Priority Focus 3: Developing a coherent UN system-wide approach to providing support towards strengthening national protection systems	5,000,000.00
Priority Focus 4: Contributing to the integration of human rights issues in the overall UNDG advocacy on development agenda and global issues	110,000.00
UNDOCO Secretariat Costs	1,545,000.00
Total	21,716,630.00
<i>Programme support cost (7%)</i>	1,520,164.10
<i>Administrative Agent's fee (1% of contributions received)</i>	232,367.94
GRAND TOTAL	23,469,162.04

3. Progress of the UNDG-HRM since 2010

Since the first meeting of the senior UNDG-HRM was held in March 2010, a number of important results have been achieved in implementing the initial UNDG-HRM priorities and work plans, laying a solid foundation for the work of the UNDG-HRM over the next few years. Major achievements since March 2010 include:

Mapping of UN tools and policies on human rights mainstreaming. This has provided an overview of what has been put in place (policies, resources, training materials and processes) by UN agencies to mainstream human rights into their work. The mapping identified many creative and innovative strategies that UN agencies are developing to mainstream human rights. It also brought together more than 400 knowledge products available in the UN system. These have been categorized and made available under the UN HRBA Portal for easy access (<http://hrbaportal.org/>). The mapping provides a crucial first step towards a systemized approach for knowledge sharing on human rights mainstreaming within the UN. A senior level dedicated policy retreat will be held in the first quarter of 2012 to discuss the policy findings from the mapping.

Support needs of 99 UNCTs surveyed and main challenges and opportunities identified. The 2011 Survey of UNCTs' needs on human rights mainstreaming generated a phenomenal response - 99 UNCTs responded collectively to the survey. The findings provided critical insights into UNCTs' needs, challenges and opportunities in human rights mainstreaming. They also show that there is clear progress on mainstreaming human rights within the work of UNCTs and a willingness of UNCTs to engage on human rights. In responding to the UNCTs' needs, the UNDG-HRM has readjusted its work plan to take into account the outcomes of the survey. This should enable the UNDG-HRM to better support country-level actions by RCs and UNCTs.

System-wide approach strengthened in the content and delivery of HRBA support to UNCTs. All HRBA training material was updated and enhanced through the strong collaboration of UN agencies. 34 resource people have also been trained for supporting UNDAF roll out countries, many of which are French or Spanish speaking. Since June 2010, UNSSC has delivered 18 in-country workshops on HRBA resulting in over 500 UN staff and national partners trained on HRBA. Moreover, the HRBA was integrated into the four regional orientation workshops for the UNDAF roll-out countries.

Facilitated knowledge sharing, advocacy and policy discussions in the UN system. In all of the UNDG-HRM activities, the HRBA Portal and the UN Human Rights Policy Network have provided essential tools for system-wide sharing of resources, outputs and information. The senior UNDG-HRM meetings have also created unique opportunities for more regular exchange of views among agencies on policy and strategic issues including advocacy. The UNDG-HRM has made significant efforts to link up with the other UNDG working mechanisms to mainstream human rights within the overall work of UNDG; most recently contributing to advocacy efforts of the UNDG Task Team on Aid Effectiveness in preparation for the fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, Republic of Korea in November 2011.

4. Implementation modalities

Governance mechanism and Secretariat

The UNDG-HRM is co-chaired by OHCHR (Deputy High Commissioner) and a senior representative of another UNDG agency who will rotate annually. The UNDG-HRM meets at senior (ASG/Director) level 3-4 times a year to discuss policy and operational issues of strategic importance, provides guidance to technical experts from member agencies and acts as the decision-making body (Steering Committee) for the Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF).

DOCO, in its capacity as the UNDG secretariat, provides coordination and secretariat support to the UNDG-HRM. The HRM secretariat in DOCO consists of a senior officer at P-5 level on secondment from OHCHR and a P-4 Policy Specialist.

Multi-donor Trust Fund

To mobilize and pool resources for coordinated support on human rights mainstreaming, a Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) for the UNDG-HRM has been established at UNDP. On behalf of the UNDG-HRM, UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Office will administer the funds by: receiving contributions from Contributors; disbursing the funds to implementing agencies for projects approved by the Steering Committee; and providing annual financial and narrative progress reports on the UNDG-HRM's financed activities to the Steering Committee and Contributors.

The UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office has a strong record of transparent and accountable administration of over 40 Multi-Donor Trust Funds operating in over 80 countries with over \$5 billion contributions received from more than 70 donors and development partners.

For additional information on the modalities of the MDTF, please go to:
<http://mdtf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/HRM00>.



