



Evaluation Completed

Yes  No Date: *dd.mm.yyyy*

Evaluation Report - Attached

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○ Name: Karin Lucke

○ Title: Senior Human Rights Officer

○ Participating Organization (Lead): *OHCHR*

○ Email address: Karin.lucke@un.org

## **FINAL PROGRAMME REPORT FORMAT**

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **I. Purpose**

This project comprised two elements:

- *The updating of the UNSDG Common Learning Package on the Human Rights Based Approach (CLP) sought to ensure that the HRBA, gender equality and women's empowerment and Leaving No One Behind (three of the Guiding Principles) are fully and comprehensively applied by UNCTs when embarking on the process of elaborating the new CCAs and Cooperation Frameworks. An essential first step was the effort of the Human Rights Task Team to update the CLP, ensuring it is fully aligned with today's development context, including the 2030 Agenda and the vision and steps in the new Cooperation Framework Guidance.*
- *HRA Community of Practice meeting: The community of practice meetings serve as an important venue in the monitoring of the implementation and development of the HRA programme (in addition to the regular exchanges with RCs and HRAs). Through the community of practice, opportunities and challenges with the functions and terms of reference of the HRAs and the situation evolving in the countries of deployment are assessed and experiences shared among the advisers. For the community of practice in 2020, particularly relevant was the need to anticipate effects/impacts so far of the UN development system reform and the role of the Human Rights Advisers with a view to support them better. Briefings on guidance and methodologies; capacity building and enhancing thematic expertise are also substantive components of this activity.*

#### **II. Assessment of Programme Results**

##### **i) Narrative reporting on results:**

- *The review of the HRBA Learning Package started with the organization of a first workshop by OHCHR in Geneva on 11-12 September 2019, which has since been followed-up and the materials piloted during an HRBA training in Tunisia facilitated by OHCHR in January 2020. The remaining component of the project envisaged to be implemented in 2020 was the organisation of the 3rd HRAs community of practice, scheduled to take place in Bangkok, Thailand from 10 -14 February 2020.*
- *Due to the COVID19-related challenges in the region, the scheduled community of practice was postponed in early February 2020 to a later date in 2020 in Bangkok (as travels had been already organized and the costs for changing dates was assessed as less costly than cancelling and changing venue) with a preliminary date set for 27 April – 1 May 2020. Due to UN travel restrictions due to COVID-19 the activity ultimately had to be cancelled. As a number of travels for Human Rights Advisers in particular those in Asia had already been processed and part of the itinerary used, tickets could not be amended and returned, hence the costs were incurred. For the other HRAs there were some costs involved for cancelations. The venue cancelation did not incur any costs.*
- *OHCHR supported the HRA community of practice through virtual means throughout 2020.*

- *The Steering Committee, in September 2020, considered that COVID19 travel restrictions will continue in early 2021 and thus did not approve the request for extension. The Steering Committee suggested that OHCHR consider submitting a new proposal for an HRA Community of Practice in 2021 if funds are needed for a virtual engagement or if a face to face meeting becomes possible.*
- *From 2020 the project component to update the HRBA CLP has continued under the leadership of UN Women.*
- **Outcomes:**
- *Enhanced common understanding, messages and practical guidance on integrated approaches to HRBA, LNOB and Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in the context of the 2030 Agenda and UN development system repositioning, which was subsequently reflected in the UNSDG Cooperation Framework Companion Piece on the Guiding Principles, the Operational Guide on LNOB for UNCTs and the ongoing work on development of training materials for UNCTs.*
- **Outputs:**
- *The UNSDG HRM Fund enabled a small group of UN experts including HRAs from across the globe to participate in a workshop where they prepared an initial draft update of the HRBA CLP informed by experience in supporting UNCTs in applying the HRBA. The revised CLP also clarifies the linkages between the HRBA and the principles of LNOB and gender equality and women's empowerment, so that UN country teams are not working on these efforts in siloes but in an integrated and effective way. The revised draft of the CLP will serve as a basis for future training support to be provided in the roll-out of the new Cooperation Framework Guidance. Time was also dedicated to identifying strategic entry points for the roll out of the revised training package at global, regional and country level. The discussions amongst the UN representatives at this expert meeting also informed the development of the Companion Package on the Cooperation Framework, which was initiated by DCO in mid-2019.*

#### **Qualitative assessment:**

- *The UNSDG HRM Fund enabled expert level discussion among key entities of the UNDS to ensure the system seizes the opportunities of the UNDS repositioning to strengthen the integration of HRBA, Gender equality and Women's empowerment and LNOB in an integrated manner in the new CCA and Cooperation Frameworks. It was critical to ensure that experience gained over the last 20 years in mainstreaming human rights and gender equality was leveraged and, in particular ensure that practical, lived experiences at field level and key bottlenecks - including at the political level informed the discussion so as to ensure that the new package can reflect innovative tactics and methods. Finally, the participation of the Danish Institute for Human Rights was critical to leverage the Institute's expertise and ensure ownership of this key stakeholder moving forward.*

#### **iii) Evaluation, Best Practices and Lessons Learned**

- *Engaging a small group of UN experts from across entities and from HQ and country level enabled a rich discussion on areas for strengthening the HRBA CLP – both in terms of conceptual messaging as well as practical steps. It was timely to conduct this workshop in late 2019 as this enabled some of the conclusions to be translated into the Companion Package for the Cooperation Framework, in particular the Companion Piece on the Guiding Principles.*

- *COVID-19 challenges were unforeseen. While remote community of practice initiatives were pursued in 2020 (no funding required), the implementers note that in-person meetings bring additional benefits in terms of strengthened networking and ability to engage a wider range of stakeholders from across the system including DCO and other UNSDG agencies, funds and programmes.*
- *A final programme evaluation has not been undertaken as the work on the HRBA CLP update is ongoing and a significant portion of this programme was unable to be implemented due to Covid-19.*