

# Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda

**Key results:**

- The Joint Fund will bring together UN Country Teams in joint and integrated delivery within the UN Development Assistance Framework on key strategic development goals, under the leadership of the RC, in the local context and ensuring alignment to the national objectives of programme countries in realising the SDGs
- The Joint Fund aims to promote a more coherent and collaborative UN delivery in the field, where fragmentation and duplication of efforts are avoided
- The Joint Fund aims at creating an enabling environment for scaling up and attracting additional investments for financing the SDGs by engaging with the private sector, both globally, and on the ground










**Justification for support:**

- The Fund is one of the Secretary-General's key strategic instruments to implement his reform agenda, particularly promoting a more coherent and collaborative UN delivery on the 2030 Agenda in the field through a reinvigorated Resident Coordinator system. As a leading champion of reform and streamlining of the UN Development System, Denmark has a clear interest in supporting the Secretary-General's agenda, including through flagship initiatives such as the Joint Fund
- Enabling joint UN delivery on key strategic development goals in local contexts and stronger alignment to national SDG development priorities
- Strengthening national capacities for country-led processes and actions in line with the 2030 Agenda, by supporting integrated approaches to multi- and cross-sectorial policies that accelerate the process of achieving the SDG
- Catalysing integrated, transformative policy change and innovative financial investments
- the Joint Fund is foreseen to complement other pooled funding instruments, such as the CERF and PBF in responding to challenges related to the humanitarian-development-peace nexus

**Major risks and challenges:**

- Fund implementation is delayed due to decisions and changes introduced by government counterparts (probability: possible)
- Mitigating measures to manage identified risks have been established

<b>File No.</b>	F2: 2018-42712						
<b>Country</b>	Global						
<b>Responsible Unit</b>	Permanent Mission of Denmark to the UN in New York						
<b>Sector</b>	Multilateral pooled funding						
<b>Partner</b>	UNDP's Multi Partner Trust Fund Office						
	<i>DKK mill.</i>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>Tot.</b>
<b>Commitment</b>	12	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD		12 (T)
<b>Projected ann. disb.</b>	12	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBS		12 (T)
<b>Duration</b>	2019-2023						
<b>Previous grants</b>	N.A.						
<b>Finance Act code</b>	06.36.06.24. Diverse multilaterale bidrag						
<b>Head of unit</b>	Peter Lehmann Nielsen (chargé d'affaires a.i.)						
<b>Desk officer</b>	Casper Stenger Jensen						
<b>Financial officer</b>	Louise Lund Harpøth						

Relevant SDGs					
 1 NO POVERTY	 2 NO HUNGER	 3 GOOD HEALTH, WELLBEING	 4 QUALITY EDUCATION	 5 GENDER EQUALITY	 6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
 7 AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY	 8 DECENT JOBS, ECON. GROWTH	 9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION, INFRASTRUCTURE	 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES, COMMUNITIES	 12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION & PRODUCTION
 13 CLIMATE ACTION	 14 LIFE BELOW WATER	 15 LIFE ON LAND	 16 PEACE AND JUSTICE, STRONG INST.	 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR GOALS	

**Strategic objectives:**

The strategic focus of the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda is to support national SDG policy and investments to accelerate and scale up SDG-progress at the national level, and to do so through joint policy and programme contributions of the UN Country Teams, under the leadership of the RC, and in line with UN Development System reforms.

**Justification for choice of partner:**

The Joint Fund constitutes a new key institutional piece in the UN Secretary General's reform agenda of the UN Development System. The Joint Fund will enable the new and independent Resident Coordinators to mobilize the full range of capacities and cross-agency collaboration required to support the achievement of the SDGs in the local context.

**Summary:**

The Joint Fund is one of the Secretary-General's key strategic instruments to implement his reform agenda. The interconnected nature of the SDGs requires governments – whether donor governments or governments of programme countries – partners and the UN Development System to plan and work together in a different manner. The Fund's development engagements at country level will have a direct link to the UNDAF's, hereby bringing together the UN Country Teams in joint delivery on key strategic development goals in the local context and ensuring alignment to the national objectives of programme countries in realising the SDGs. Through its engagements, the Joint Fund further has the strategic aim of creating an enabling environment for scaling up and attracting additional investments for financing the SDGs by engaging with the private sector, both globally, and on the ground. In this respect, there is a clear link between the objectives of the Joint Fund and the strategic aim of Denmark's strategy for development cooperation and humanitarian action of promoting and establishing new types of partnerships to bring in additional resources with a view to creating joint value and synergies. As the Joint Fund further aims to promote a more coherent and collaborative UN delivery in the field, where fragmentation and duplication of each other's efforts are avoided.

# Support for the UN Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda

## 1. Introduction

The Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda is one of the Secretary-General's key strategic instruments to implement his reform agenda, particularly promoting a more coherent and collaborative UN delivery on the 2030 Agenda in the field through a reinvigorated Resident Coordinator system. As a leading champion of reform and streamlining of the UN Development System, Denmark has a clear interest in supporting the Secretary-General's agenda, including through this type of transformative flagship initiatives.

Achieving the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda from 2015 will demand a significant change in both policymaking and sustainable development financing. In the 2016 Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR), Member States requested a United Nations development system (UNDS) that is better positioned to support countries in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in a coherent and integrated manner. As a follow-up to the QCPR, the UNDS, under the leadership of the Deputy Secretary General, has taken steps to lay the foundation for a more coherent and integrated UNDS in the future. The Joint Fund is one of the main new initiatives to bring the UN Country Teams, in developing countries, together in joint development engagements that will support Governments in advancing realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Joint Fund will build on the UN's ability to convene a multitude of stakeholders and help advance national capacity to work across different policy domains in an integrated manner, including stimulating an enabling environment for SDG investments, by using limited UN resources as a catalyst to influence much larger financing flows at the national level.

## 2. Brief summary of issues to be addressed and institutional context

The Joint Fund constitutes a new key institutional piece in the UN Secretary General's reform agenda of the UN Development System. In his report<sup>1</sup> of December 2017, the Secretary General referred to the Joint Fund for 2030 Agenda as a institutional design feature that will enable a UN Development System at country level becoming more coherent, collaborative and efficient in supporting countries in achieving the 2030 Agenda.

In 2018, Denmark together with Algeria co-facilitated the intergovernmental negotiations on the repositioning of the UN Development System to deliver on the 2030 Agenda. This led to the adoption of the landmark resolution 72/279<sup>2</sup> in the General Assembly, which provides the mandates of Member States for reforming the UNDS. A key reform component in resolution 72/279 is the creation of an empowered and independent Resident Coordinator (RC) system. This entails that the functions of the RC will be separated from those of the Resident Representative of UNDP a country level. The new independent RC-function is

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<sup>1</sup> A/72/684 - *Repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: our promise for dignity, prosperity and peace on a healthy planet – Report of the Secretary-General.*

<sup>2</sup> A/RES/72/279 - *Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system.*

envisaged to provide strengthened leadership, prerogative and impartiality in the coordination of the operational activities of the UNDS at country level. In this respect, the Joint Fund will enable the Resident Coordinators to mobilize the full range of capacities and cross-agency collaboration required to support the achievement of the SDGs in the local context. It will provide RC's with required "muscles" in bringing a new generation of UN Country Teams (UNCT's) together in joint operational efforts within the context of the agreed United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and exploring venues for further catalysing integrated, transformative policy change and innovative financial investments.

Resolution 72/279 of the General Assembly invites Member States to contribute on a voluntary basis to the capitalization of the United Nations Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda with a funding target at USD 290 million per annum.

### **3. Strategic considerations and justification**

The overall strategic focus of the Joint Fund is to support national SDG policy and investments to accelerate and scale up SDG-progress at the national level, and to do so through joint policy and programme contributions of the UNCT's, under the leadership of the RC, and in line with UN Development System reforms.

The interconnected nature of the SDGs requires governments – whether donor governments or governments of programme countries – partners and the UN Development System to plan and work together in a different manner. The Joint Fund has at its heart of its goals and efforts to support the inclusive sustainable development agenda. Its development engagements at country level will have a direct link to the UNDAF's, hereby bringing together the UN Country Teams in joint delivery on key strategic development goals in the local context and ensuring alignment to the national objectives of programme countries in realising the SDGs. Through its engagements, the Joint Fund further has the strategic aim of creating an enabling environment for scaling up and attracting additional investments for financing the SDGs by engaging with the private sector, both globally, and on the ground.

In this respect, there is a clear link between the objectives of the Joint Fund and the strategic aim of Denmark's strategy for development cooperation and humanitarian action of promoting and establishing new types of partnerships to bring in additional resources with a view to creating joint value and synergies. As the Joint Fund further aims to promote a more coherent and collaborative UN delivery in the field, where fragmentation and duplication of each other's efforts are avoided, there is a strong link to the UN reform agenda of which Denmark is strongly engaged and adherence to the aid effectiveness agenda.

The design of the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda has taken as its point of departure the lessons learned for the Delivering Results Together Fund (DRT-F), which was launched in 2014 to provide global pooled funding for Delivering as One in programme countries. These lessons learned and responses in the design of the Joint Fund are captured in the documentation in annex 1 (pp. 33-35). A key lesson is the recognition that innovative methodologies and instruments are critical in designing new policy solutions. The Joint Fund seeks to enable UNCTs to go beyond the normative and policy analysis/dialogue level by engaging deeper in the policy cycle, e.g. by piloting policy-related programmes, as well as pursuing innovative efforts in the use of data and statistics.

In terms of the humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) nexus, the Joint Fund is foreseen to complement other pooled funding instruments, in particular, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), and further strengthen the path to development in vulnerable and fragile states. When the Joint Fund supports efforts in the same geographical areas as the CERF and PBF, care should be taken to ensure synergy by focusing on either resilience building or ensuring in-place integrated policies and additional capital flows that can help support a peace dividend.

The overarching justification for the Joint Fund is to strengthen national capacities for country-led processes and actions in line with the 2030 Agenda, by supporting integrated approaches to multi- and cross-sectorial policies that accelerate the process of achieving the SDG. The relevance of establishing the Joint Fund was made apparent in the 2017 Dalberg-report<sup>3</sup>, commissioned by the UN, to provide a system-wide outline of functions and capacities of the UN Development System.

A main conclusion in the Dalberg-report was that the capacity of the UNDS was not only determined by the capacity of individual UN entities, but also by its ability to act as a system in support of national governments and others. UNDS entities would engage in joint planning at country level, but the degree of integration was limited in many cases. Joint programming was also found to be limited, in large measure due to the prevalence of earmarked and single-agency funding.

#### **4. Theory of change and key assumptions**

The UN and its development partners (donors) have traditionally supported policy development by either sector, mandate or by area of specialization. The ambitions of the 2030 Agenda, however, requires an integrated approach to the SDGs that cuts across and integrates economic, social and environmental dimensions of development and incorporates the 5Ps (People, Prosperity, Planet, Peace and Partnerships). This requires a collaborative and effective response by the UNDS, at an unprecedented scale. In addition, a new set of inclusive financing strategies and frameworks is required, enabling governments in engaging with key stakeholders to jointly develop and implement the 2030 Agenda.

If this is to happen, the UN needs to change the way it works by promoting more systemic and catalytic change. Despite past efforts across UN agencies and sectors, work at the country-level continue to often be fragmented and/or duplicative, with agencies continuing to work in “silos” or competing for resources and access to relevant policy fora. UN Country Teams should instead be integrating programming and implementation, facilitating the development of integrated mechanisms, boosting the capacity of domestic stakeholders, and promoting new and existing partnerships with both traditional and non-traditional actors.

By working more closely together, and with a strategic focus on priorities, within the agreed UNDAF, the UNDS can improve its support to developing countries. The Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda is designed to support accelerated catalytic change towards the SDGs at national level by complementing existing funding

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<sup>3</sup> *System-Wide Outline of Functions and Capacities of the UN Development System, Consultant’s Report (Dalberg), June 2017.*

mechanisms. It will incentivize collaboration among UN Country Teams, under the leadership of the RC, in order to support an integrated approach to the SDGs at the country-level and improve collaboration among stakeholders and development partners, hereby improving synergies between their individual efforts and initiatives.

In order to access funds via the Joint Fund, UN Country Teams will be required to engaging in strategic coordination and effective collaboration with domestic and international partners. Joint programmes funded will mainstream human rights, gender, youth, and environment, and be envisaged to operationalize the principle of Leaving No One Behind. The Joint Fund will support demand-driven and context-specific joint programmes that are designed and delivered by the stakeholders involved in the country-context in question. Each Joint programme will have its own Theory of Change aligned with the overall Theory of Change of the Joint Fund, and it will include selected indicators to enable the aggregate measurement of the Joint Fund results at the global level.

The main assumption is that the combination of integrated policies and leveraging of resources from a variety of partners will help national governments developing sustainable solutions that may expand the scale and scope of their interventions in achieving the SDGs. The second assumption is that the UN, through the ongoing reform of the UNDS, which, among others, is to deliver 1) a revitalized, strategic, flexible and results- and action-oriented UNDAF, hereafter constituting the most important instrument for planning and implementing the UN's development activities in each country, as well as 2) a new generation of UN country teams, with needs-based and tailored country presence, will be better positioned to support governments and relevant partners in meeting the needs of the 2030 Agenda through engagements via joint programming in the country contexts.

## **5. Project Objective and summary of results frame**

The objective of the development cooperation among the parties is to contribute to the acceleration of the SDGs by supporting inter-agency, joint programmes of UN Country Teams that facilitate domestic capacity and partnerships.

The Permanent Mission of Denmark will base the actual support on progress attained in the implementation of the engagement as described in the documentation in annex 1. Progress will be measured through UNDP's Multi Partner Trust Fund Office's (MPFT) monitoring framework in line with the standard UNDG MOU/SAA and in accordance with the Terms of Reference for the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda. See Section VI of the Standard Administrative Arrangement.

For Danida's reporting purposes the following key outcome and output indicators have been selected to document progress (as reflected in the results framework 2019-2023 for the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda, pp. 29-30 of the documentation in annex 1):

- *Outcome 1: Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale*
  - # and % of Joint Programmes in which integrated multi-sectoral policies have accelerated SDG progress in terms of scope.

- # and % of Joint Programmes in which integrated multi-sectoral policies have accelerated SDG progress in terms of scale.
- Outcome 2: Additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement
  - Ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged in terms of scope (disaggregated by source of funding).
  - Ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged in terms of scale (disaggregated by source of funding)
- Output 1: Integrated policy solutions to accelerate SDGs developed
  - # of countries which meet their targets for the relevant SDG policy “Readiness” indicators.
  - # of integrated policy solutions for which government actors have taken the lead.
  - # of countries where national capacities to identify integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators has been strengthened.
- Output 2: Financing strategies for SDGs developed and SDG financing partnerships established
  - # of countries which meet their targets for the relevant SDG financing “Readiness” indicators.
  - # of SDG financing strategies for which government actors have taken the lead.
  - # of SDG financing strategies that meet predefined<sup>22</sup> investment standards.
- Output 3: Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented
  - # of innovative solutions that were tested (disaggregated by % successful-unsuccessful).
  - # of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead.
  - # and share of countries where national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators has been strengthened.
  - % of Joint Programmes that have a functioning partnership framework for integrated policy solutions to accelerate progress on SDGs.
- Output 4: Integrated Financing Strategies for accelerating SDG progress implemented
  - # of integrated financing strategies that were tested (disaggregated by % successful / unsuccessful).
  - # of integrated financing strategies that have been implemented with partners in lead.
  - # of Joint Programmes that have a functioning partnership framework for integrated financing strategies to accelerate SDG progress.

Baselines and 2019-2021 cumulative targets for the above indicators are reflected in the documentation.

## 6. Inputs/budget

The Joint Fund will be open to all UN Country Teams, of which the first call for proposals will be launched in January 2019. Proposals will be submitted by UN country teams through the Resident Coordinator on

behalf of the participating agencies based on planned results reflected in the UNDAF. The Joint Fund may also fund global and multi-country initiatives that directly contribute to the fund results matrix.

Contributions to the Joint Fund will be deposited in the bank accounts designated by UNDP. The UNDP MPTF Office charges a standard one-time fee of 1% for pass through services of UN pooled funds, which will be deducted from the contributions to the Joint Fund at the time they are deposited.

As of November 2018, pledges totalling USD 67.2 million has been made from eight donors against the initial target of mobilising USD 100 million in 2018. If the funding targets presented for 2018-2021 are realised, the Joint Fund will be able to support 30 countries per annum in pillar 1 and 2, respectively, totalling 90 countries over a three-year period. In addition, the funding target will include allocation of support for the implementation of six joint programmes in 2019, 31 in 2020 and 46 in 2021. It is estimated that each joint programme will be implemented over a three-year period and receive a total of USD 6 million from the Joint Fund.

The initial contribution of Denmark to the Joint Fund will be of DKK 12 million in 2018, with decisions about possible additional contributions from Denmark in the period of the present results framework (2019-2023) of the Joint Fund to be taken on an annual basis.

<b>Pledges (in USD\$)</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Germany	920,663			
Switzerland	3,052,814			
Spain	10,000,000			
European Union	11,612,580	11,612,580	11,612,580	
Sweden	20,000,000			
Norway	11,200,000			
Ireland	500,000			
Netherlands	10,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>67,286,057</b>	<b>16,612,580</b>	<b>16,612,580</b>	<b>5,000,000</b>
<b>Funding Targets (in USD\$)</b>	<b>100,000,000</b>	<b>200,000,000</b>	<b>290,000,000</b>	<b>290,000,000</b>
<b>Allocation (in USD\$)</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Readiness Phase, pillar 1 (Identify and activate SDG accelerators and SDG strategies)		30*150,000	30*150,000	30*150,000
Readiness Phase, pillar 2 (Reinforce SDG Financing ecosystem)		30*150,000	30*150,000	30*150,000
Implementation Phase, pillar 3 (Catalytic strategic programming and investments)		6* 6,000,000	31*6,000,000	46*6,000,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>45,000,000</b>	<b>195,000,000</b>	<b>285,000,000</b>
<i>Secretariat costs</i>	-	< 3% of the total funding received	< 3% of the total funding received	< 3% of the total funding received

In case funding targets for individual years are not realised, the Strategic Advisory Group (SAG – see section 7 on institutional and management arrangement) will decide on the allocation of available funding. The basis allocation per country receiving support of USD 150,000 (pillar 1), USD 150,000 (pillar 2) and USD 6,000,000 would remain unchanged.

The Administrative Agent (UNDP's Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, MPTFO) will charge an administrative fee of 1% of the Contribution by the Donor. The costs of the Joint Fund Secretariat is a separate budget line within the Joint Fund, and its budget will be financed within contributions to the Joint Fund. An upper ceiling of 3% of total funding received has been established.

Any balance remaining in the Fund Account upon completion of the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda will be used for a purpose mutually agreed upon or returned to the Donor in proportion to its contribution to the Joint Fund as decided upon by the Donor and the Steering Committee.

## **7. Institutional and Management arrangement**

The global governance of the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda consists of a Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) and an Operational Steering Committee (OSC). The Strategic Advisory Group, which is chaired by the UN Deputy Secretary-General and Chair of the UNSDG, is the overarching high-level mechanism that will provide leadership, vision and strategic direction for the Joint Fund. The SAG facilitates consultation among stakeholders of the Joint Fund, including the UN, partner countries, contributing Member States, the private sector and civil society. The SAG will recommend strategic priorities and take stock of overall progress.

The SAG sets the strategic direction and exercises oversight for the Joint Fund through:

- Accountability for the achievement of the Funds objectives, through adoption of the Terms of Reference.
- Leading efforts to capitalize the Fund, through advocacy and mobilization of investments.
- Providing strategic guidance to the Operational Steering Committee on partnership and fundraising strategies.
- Providing a partnership platform for dialogue, coordination, communication and advocacy among stakeholders, and ensure adaptation of Fund architecture and strategies based on evolving priorities.
- Approving concept notes with budgets that exceed an agreed threshold.
- Reviewing the status of the Joint Fund and overseeing overall progress.
- Reviewing the Joint Fund's evaluations and overseeing the management response.

The membership of the SAG consists of representatives on a rotational basis from fifteen Member States, including participation from donor countries and programme countries. A representative from the private sector, a representative from civil society, and a representative from a Foundation will participate as observers. The Director of UN DOCO and the Administrative Agent (UNDP's Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office) as fund trustee will also attend as observers.

Under the direction of the SAG, the OSC ensures management and coordination of operational and technical aspects of the Joint Fund. The OSC will oversee calls for concepts and the development of full proposals and agree budgets for fund allocation. Based on allocation decisions by the OSC the Secretariat will request the transfer of funds from the Administrative Agent to Participating UN Organizations, subject to United Nations regulations, rules, policies and procedures. The OSC will be chaired by UNDP. The Fund's Secretariat and Administrative Agent will be ex-officio members of the OSC. The OSC will also convene an



annual stakeholder event, as a larger partnership and dialogue forum, on the Joint Fund's focus areas and results.

The operational coordination and technical support unit for the Joint Fund will be the Joint Fund Secretariat. The Secretariat will be hosted by UN DOCO and provides operational and administrative support to the SAG and OSC. The Secretariat will be responsible for reporting on the implementation of funded joint programmes through periodic progress updates, which include consolidated annual narratives and financial reports. The Secretariat will present an overview of progress to the SAG, OSC and Annual Stakeholder meeting and ensure that lessons learned feed into relevant fora.

Anti-corruption measures applied are defined in the section VII ("Fraud, Corruption and Unethical Behaviour") of the Standard Administrative Arrangement for the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda, including the commitment to take all necessary precautions to avoid and address corrupt, fraudulent, collusive, coercive, unethical, or obstructive practices.

Investigations of allegations of wrongdoing by Individuals/Entities involved in the Joint Fund, which are contracted by the Administrative Agent or a Participating UN Organization, will be carried out by the Investigation Service of the UN organization with which the potential subject of investigation is contracted, in accordance with that UN organization's internal policies and procedures. In the event that an allegation is credible enough to warrant an investigation, the Steering Committee and the Administrative Agent of the Fund will be promptly notified. In the case of such notification, it is the responsibility of the Steering Committee and the Administrative Agent to communicate promptly with the relevant anti-fraud offices (or equivalent) of the Donor.

## **8. Financial Management, planning and reporting**

The Administrative Agent will make disbursements from the Fund Account in accordance with decisions from the Steering Committee, in line with the approved programmatic document. The disbursements to the Participating UN Organizations will consist of direct and indirect costs as set out in the Fund budget. Each Participating UN Organization will establish a separate ledger account under its financial regulations and rules for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it from the Fund Account. Each Participating UN Organization assumes full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to them by the Administrative Agent. The separate ledger account will be administered by each Participating UN Organization in accordance with its own regulations, rules, policies and procedures.

The Joint Fund Secretariat will prepare consolidated narrative progress and financial reports. The narrative reports will compare actual results with expected results at the output and outcome level, and explain the reasons for over-/underachievement. The Secretariat will provide these reports to the Administrative Agent who will provide these to each donor that has contributed to the Joint Fund, as well as the SAG and OSC, in accordance with the timetable established in the Administrative Arrangement.

The Administrative Agent will further provide each donor with 1) a certified annual financial statement, to be provided no later than five months after the end of the calendar year, and 2) a certified final financial

statement, to be provided no later than seven months of the year following the financial closing of the Joint Fund.

The Administrative Agent and Participating UN Organizations will be audited in accordance with their own Financial Regulations and Rules and, in accordance with the Framework for Joint Internal Audits of UN Joint Activities.

Each Participating Organization will take appropriate measures to publicize the Joint Fund and give due credit to the other Participating Organizations. All related publicity material, official notices, reports and publications, provided to the press or Fund beneficiaries, will acknowledge the role of the host Government, donors, Participating Organizations, the AA, and any other relevant entities.

The monitoring and quality assessment will be undertaken by the OSC with the support of the Joint Fund Secretariat. The UNCTs receiving funding allocations from the Joint Fund must submit data, information, and quality/timely reports as required by the SAG and OSC for the purpose of monitoring and evaluation.

An annual meeting with key stakeholders, including all donors to the fund, will be conducted prior to, or in direct conjunction with the Operational Steering Committee. This meeting will review progress and discuss significant changes in circumstances and major risks including any substantive revisions to the Fund.

An independent evaluation report to assess the progress of the Joint Fund will be conducted in 2021.

## **9. Risk Management**

In annex 1 of the documentation (pp. 20-21) a risk management matrix is enclosed, capturing the hierarchy of risks identified, their impact/probability, and mitigating measures/countermeasures.

The risk management matrix identifies seven risks:

- i) The Joint Fund is not able to mobilize sufficient resources from contributors to reach optimal operational levels;
- ii) ii) Weak involvement of participating UN organizations (PUNOS) in the Joint Fund;
- iii) iii) Fund implementation is delayed due to decisions and changes introduced by government counterparts;
- iv) iv) Fund implementation is delayed due to constraints with PUNOS;
- v) v) Fund implementation is delayed due to constraints with implementing partners;
- vi) vi) Joint Programmes and UNDAF Results undermined due to poor quality of policy support provided through Joint Programmes; and
- vii) vii) Joint Fund Joint Programme funding is mismanaged.

On a probability/likelihood scale from 5 (very likely) to 1 (rare) and with correlating impact from 5 (extreme) to 1 (insignificant), risks 3-6 are identified as with a possible likelihood (scale 3) and having either a major (scale 4) or extreme (scale five) impact. Countermeasures for addressing these risks are identified, including ownership within the governance structure of the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda.

## **Annexes:**

**Annex 1: Terms of Reference for the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda as endorsed by the Strategic Advisory Group (including Results Framework 2019-2023, Budget details, Risk Management Matrix)**

**Annex 2: Standard Administrative Arrangement for the Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda**

**Annex 3: Signed Quality Assurance Checklist**

## Annex 9 - Quality Assurance checklist for appraisal of programmes and projects<sup>1</sup>

File number/F2 reference: 2018-42712

Programme/Project name: Joint Fund for the 2030 Agenda

Programme/Project period: 2019-2023<sup>2</sup>

Budget: DKK 12 million

Presentation of quality assurance process:

*The applicant organisation is found to be legally established and have audited annual accounts and annual meetings; relevant documentation received and filed.*

The design of the programme/project has been appraised by someone independent who has not been involved in the development of the programme/project.

*Comments: The establishment and purpose of the Joint Fund for the 2030 was pre-determined, as it constitutes a new key institutional pillar in the Secretary-General's reform agenda for the UN Development System. Donor countries have, however, been consulted in the finalisation of the design of programming and governance structure of the Joint Fund.*

The recommendations of the appraisal has been reflected upon in the final design of the programme/project.

*Comments:*

The programme/project complies with Danida policies and Aid Management Guidelines.

*Comments:*

The programme/project addresses relevant challenges and provides adequate responses.

*Comments:*

Issues related to HRBA/Gender, Green Growth and Environment have been addressed sufficiently.

*Comments:*

Comments from the Danida Programme Committee have been addressed (if applicable).

*Comments: N.A.*

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<sup>1</sup> This Quality Assurance Checklist should be used by the responsible MFA unit to document the quality assurance process of appropriations where TQS is not involved. The checklist does not replace an appraisal, but aims to help the responsible MFA unit ensure that key questions regarding the quality of the programme/project are asked and that the answers to these questions are properly documented and communicated to the approving authority.

<sup>2</sup> Timeframe of current results framework. The Joint Fund will be operational until 2030.

The programme/project outcome(s) are found to be sustainable and is in line with the partner's development policies and strategies. Implementation modalities are well described and justified.

*Comments: Programme proposals receiving funding from the Joint Fund will need determined through competitive calls for proposals and to be aligned with the relevant UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) that is to be aligned with the national development priorities of the partner country in question.*

The results framework, indicators and monitoring framework of the programme/project provide an adequate basis for monitoring results and outcome.

*Comments: The results framework covers the initial period 2019-2023. At the end of 2021, the results framework will be reviewed and adjusted to capture lessons learned from the 2019-2020 operationalization of the Joint Fund.*

The programme/project is found sound budget-wise.

*Comments:*

The programme/project is found realistic in its time-schedule.

*Comments:*

Other donors involved in the same programme/project have been consulted, and possible harmonised common procedures for funding and monitoring have been explored.

*Comments:*

Key programme/project stakeholders have been identified, the choice of partner has been justified and criteria for selection have been documented.

*Comments:*


The executing partner(s) is/are found to have the capacity to properly manage, implement and report on the funds for the programme/project and lines of management responsibility are clear.

*Comments:*

Risks involved have been considered and risk management integrated in the programme/project document.

*Comments:*

In conclusion, the programme/project can be recommended for approval: yes / ~~no~~

Date and signature of desk officer: 20/11/2018 

Date and signature of management: 20/11/2018 