

## Quality Support and Assurance (QSA) Checklist<sup>1</sup> Country Analysis

### I. PREPARATION PROCESS

1. To what extent have stakeholders<sup>2</sup> been involved in the development of the CCA?
2. Has the UNCT prepared a mapping of stakeholders?
3. Have the UNCT and its stakeholders consider the different options for the CCA, their implications, and reviewed existing analytical processes and products to see how well they meet minimum quality standards?
  - i. UNCT participation in government-led analytical work and use of government analysis, including sectoral reviews and analyses;
  - ii. complementary UN-supported analytical work, with a focus on gaps in the existing analysis;
  - iii. full CCA

### II. GENERAL COMMENTS

1. Does the Country Analysis provide a structured, comprehensive and accessible analysis of the country situation?
  - a) In the case of UNCT participation in government-led analysis or complementary analysis, are there references to the existing processes and reports?
  - b) Is the analysis of the country situation based on reliable data and have data gaps been identified?
2. Does the Country Analysis assess the situation of the country with respect to the standards in the SDGs<sup>3</sup> and other internationally agreed development goals, human rights and treaty obligations?
  - a) Do analytical processes or products (*existing or planned*) provide reliable, recent data related to the SDGs and do they adequately describe issues, trends and gaps?
  - b) Does the analysis take into account the plan (if any) of the Government of alignment of their policies and systems to and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?
  - c) Have important comments by Treaty Bodies and supervisory bodies in the UN system (*i.e. responding to national reports; recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review*) been considered and reflected in the Country Analysis? (*please note that the observations of Treaty Bodies and the UPR are often related to gaps in policies and legislation*)
3. Does the Country Analysis identify patterns of discrimination and inequality, and describe the situation of groups excluded and made vulnerable due to the denial of their rights?
  - a) Are data sufficiently disaggregated (*e.g. by sex, ethnicity, region, religion and language, as well as disability, HIV/AIDS and other status*) to identify excluded groups?

<sup>1</sup> This document pretends to serve the PSG as a tool that facilitates the team to provide effective quality support and advice. In the revision, the checklists included in the [UNDG Guidance Note: Application of the Programming Principles to the UNDAF](#) (Page 8 to 13) should be also considered.

<sup>2</sup> In the UNDAF Guidelines, 'stakeholders' refer to governments, including line ministries; social partners, including workers and employers organizations; other development partners relevant to a country context; civil society; and NGOs.

<sup>3</sup> Please refer to MAPS (Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support) as the common UNS approach for effective and coherent support to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to the guide that covers the first component, "[Mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Interim Reference Guide to UNCTs](#)", UNDG October 2015.

- b) Are there evident priorities among the problems and challenges identified?
  - c) Has a causality analysis been carried out, including the identification of the root causes of these problems and challenges?
  - d) Does the analysis describe patterns of discrimination and the different ways that women and men experience these problems?
  - e) Does the Country Analysis contain sufficient analysis for existing policies in the country to determine whether legislative gaps exist that inhibit people's ability to exercise their rights?
  - f) Is the Country Analysis written in 'human rights language'?
- 4. Does the Country Analysis identify key environmental issues and how they contribute to major development problems, such as poverty and disease?
  - a) How well have environmental targets been addressed, with reference to national and international environmental obligations? (*E.g. SDGs, Multilateral Environmental Agreements*)
  - b) Does the Analysis consider national reports on implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements?
- 5. Does the Country Analysis assess capacity assets and gaps at different levels?
  - a) Does the assessment acknowledge the interdependence of capacity at three levels: enabling environment, organizational and individual?
  - b) Does the assessment identify capacity assets and needs of key actors (duty-bearers and rights-holders) to address the problems and challenges (at national, sub-national, community and family level)?
- 6. Does the Country Analysis involve non-government stakeholders, and ensure the active and meaningful participation of groups subjected to discrimination, including the poor, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS and different groups of women such as indigenous women and women migrant workers?
  - a) Does the Analysis make use of data and reports produced by non-state actors (e.g. alternate reports to Treaty bodies)?
- 7. Does the Country Analysis assess the risks of conflict and natural disasters, as well as the readiness of countries to respond?
  - a) Have risks of humanitarian crises and natural disasters been assessed, and are the groups most likely to be affected identified?
  - b) Have the analytical processes and products considered the readiness of government, civil society and communities to respond to crises and natural disasters?

### III. UNCT COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGES

- 1. Did the UNCT conduct a thorough and objective exercise to define its comparative advantages?
  - a) Did the exercise focus on national challenges where the UNCT is likely to act?
  - b) Did the exercise include a reflection about how the UNS will support the Government to mainstream the 2030 Agenda to the national context?
  - c) Did the exercise involve a range of stakeholders from government, donors, and civil society?
  - d) Has the exercise resulted in information about whether the UNCT is better positioned than others to address the challenges (as demonstrated by results achieved and/or a unique role)?