



Secretariat Report to the Steering Committee Members



Ethnic Miao embroidery cooperative which received training from an MDG-F programme and increased the number of employees.

June 2011

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1.INTRODUCTION

The MDG Achievement Fund (MDG-F) was approved in December 2006 with three overarching priorities including contributing towards the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and its MDGs; increasing UN coordination and joint programmes in line with the UN Reform; and emphasized national ownership and leadership as exemplified in the Paris Declaration and Accra. The initial operating principles of the Fund remain relevant today including the following:

- Supporting programmes anchored in national priorities;
- Building national and local capacities are necessary to ensure greater sustainability of investments;
- Results-oriented quality programming are essential; and
- Encouraging greater inter-agency planning and management through a joint programme mechanism.

In line with the above the MDG-F has contributed to eight One UN Coherence Funds¹ (US\$ 85.8 million) and financed 128 joint programmes (US\$ 699 million) in 49 countries across eight thematic windows in line with the Millennium Declaration including:

- Environment and climate change
- Gender equality and women's empowerment
- Youth, employment and migration
- Democratic economic governance
- Conflict prevention and peace building
- Culture and development
- Children, food security and nutrition
- Development and private sector

The vast majority of joint programmes combine upstream support to public policies, legislation and/or planning processes at national and local levels with downstream concrete actions involving local communities. MDG-F joint programmes are led by national and local partners including national and local governments, civil society organizations and private sector entities and supported by UN Agencies.

The MDG-F Secretariat prepares biannual reports for its Steering Committee composed of the UNDP Administrator and the Spanish Secretary of State for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The last meeting of the Steering Committee was in September 2010 at which time a comprehensive report was prepared by the Secretariat. The current report serves to update the members of the Steering Committee on the progress of the Fund as well as to present the partnership proposals² recommended for approval.

¹ This report does not include progress on the One UN Coherence Funds as reports are not available yet.

² Of the US\$10 million allocated towards knowledge management activities, US\$3.2 million remain. As previously agreed, the Secretariat has accepted proposals from a number of entities whether UN, academic or civil society, for funding under this component.

2. PROGRESS UPDATE

2.1 MDG-F Priorities

2.1.1 MDGs and the Millennium Declaration

Since the last MDG-F report, the MDG Summit was held in September 2010, not only did the MDG contribute to having the theme of culture and development highlighted during the Summit but the Secretariat also launched a report on MDGs and inequalities³ which was written by Dr. Naila Kabir of IDS Sussex and commissioned by the Fund. Seven UN agencies⁴ pursued knowledge management initiatives financed by the MDG-F to bring out lessons learned and best practices at the thematic window level as well as looking at how the Fund has mainstreamed gender issues throughout programming. The Fund has continued to innovate with supporting such advocacy initiatives as the Great Ethiopian Run (advocating for MDGs through sports) and with civil society in the Philippines to hold Government accountable for the implementation of the MDGs.

The above mentioned report highlights the obstacles in reaching the MDGs from an inequalities perspective and made a number of recommendations that the Secretariat considers should be further discussed and debated on how to promote them within the Fund. Prior to doing so, it seems relevant to assess whether the MDG-F joint programmes already address these issues in their programmes and where more could be done.



Box 1: In Colombia, the MDG-F supports a joint programme working to improve the nutrition of children in nine municipalities of the Choco region which includes indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities. A “meeting of knowledge” was organized for the first time ever to build a model which includes these communities (see above photo).

The first two recommendations relate to having responsive states and active citizens, as well as strengthening information policies to tackle exclusion. The MDG-F has been consistent in its principles that the Fund not only works towards the achievement of the MDGs but the implementation of the Millennium Declaration. Policy development, that takes account of the interests of all, is key and the high number of local level policies developed with the support of the MDG-F, is a testament to this. MDG-F joint programmes are developing the capacities of citizens to be leaders not only in their own development but to also be aware of their rights as described in Box 1.

³ Can the MDGs provide a pathway to social justice? The challenge of intersecting inequalities. Naila Kabir, Institute of Development Studies, 2010

⁴ UNICEF, UNWOMEN, UNIDO, UNEP, UNESCO, ILO and UNDP (3)

Two recommendations deal with issues at a macro level most particularly on the economic and fiscal fronts which were not as much a part of the MDG-F priorities or the eight thematic windows.

Affirmative action and legal policies is the subject of the next recommendation. The report refers to affirmative action within national policies and social mobilization for example. While not specifically addressing affirmative action in the terms of reference of the thematic windows, several of the latter did encourage submissions in line with this recommendation. In the culture and development thematic window applications aiming to formulate, implement and monitor socially and culturally inclusive public policies - including for example equal opportunity policies in the recruitment and promotion of cultural minorities and other excluded groups in public sector and other such jobs - were welcome. In the terms of reference for the conflict prevention and peace building window, building the capacity of local and national governments to develop and implement plans that take into account possible drivers of conflict and ensure sufficient inclusion and participation of groups such as minorities in key national processes was an area of possible intervention. Another example is the thematic window on youth, employment and migration (YEM) which encouraged submissions in areas such as employment creation policies that include employment subsidies; and targeted programmes promoting social and economic integration for youth in situations of extreme vulnerability etc. Box 2 highlights an Ecuadorian success story.

Box 2: In Ecuador, the culture and development joint programme, led by the Ministry of Cultural and National Heritage, has supported national partners in a participatory formulation of a National Plan against Racism including the follow up Presidential Decree; and the design of a new law to better coordinate national and native justice systems. Further advocacy by the joint programme resulted in public budget being allocated in 2011 for the Plan's implementation.

Box 3: With youth unemployment at 46% in Serbia, the MDG-F joint programme supports the Government in providing training to 3,272 unemployed Roma and disable youth to get jobs (424 are now employed in companies) or started their own businesses (138).

A fairer distribution of productive assets most particularly related to land reform is the issue raised in the sixth recommendation. Land reform is not tackled by the MDG-F though at least one programme does include activities in this area. Land issues are a major challenge and could have been better addressed by the Fund. However, the pro-poor growth and inclusive markets approach of the development and private sector window is resulting in a better integration of producers to productive value chains and improved access to market opportunities.

The seventh recommendation relates to promoting livelihoods, decent work and access to credit. Many of the joint programmes financed by the MDG-F include activities that improve the skills of marginalized groups (including domestic migrants), support micro-enterprises and microfinance. The topic of decent work is covered in a number of the YEM joint programmes of which one is described in Box3.

Investing in infrastructure and area development: This is the theme covered by the window on economic governance. Eleven joint programmes approved in this thematic area are supporting access to water and/or electricity (see box 4).

Box 4: The water governance joint programme in Angola has either built or rehabilitated water works for over 120,000 community members and 25,000 school children. Hundreds of community water caretakers are trained to maintain the water sources and with a view to sustainability, community associations are formed to manage them.

UN Country Teams could not predict how many joint programmes they were going to be awarded and needs are not the same in every part of a given country. However, there could have been greater effort put into concentrating funds in fewer geographic areas to take advantage of cost savings and the potential for greater impact.

Box 5: Health workers in the Guizhou province, home to the Miao ethnic minority, received training, IEC materials, and funds to add “waiting” rooms for Miao women who must travel long distances to give birth in township clinics. Thanks to the new waiting rooms, the number of women delivering at these clinics has increased by 8% in one and 19% in another, and staff have registered a decrease in maternal mortality rates.

The last two recommendations deal with extending basic services to all groups including physical access, making healthcare affordable, making services relevant and representative; extending access to education; and inclusive social protection. Access to basic social services is part of the majority of the thematic window terms of reference and many of the approved joint programmes. As the Fund addresses inequalities, access to services are often identified as needs whether related to culture (see Box 5), following periods of crisis or general development gaps in a country.

2.1.2 UN Reform

In the last six months, the MDG-F Secretariat has advocated for including the lessons learned of the Fund into various forums including discussions on standardizing results reporting in the HLCM/UNDG expert consultation; the UNDG/MDG group; the upcoming meeting on Delivering as One in Uruguay; and the aid effectiveness meeting in Busan. The UNDG-HLCM joint study on results reporting principles will refer to an MDG-F example. The Secretariat is also expecting to participate in one of the panels in Uruguay to present the MDG-F experience in delivering as one. Early discussions are taking place on MDG-F participation in the post-2015 development agenda discussions by the UNDG, and the Secretariat’s conclusions on UN reform and aid effectiveness from the two regional workshops (see Annex 2 for workshop agendas) in June may well be included in the UN’s presentation in Busan

While the MDG-F is not the only Fund promoting joint UN work, it has over the past four years accumulated lessons learned that in some instances confirm other experiences and in others present new knowledge and information.

UN harmonization: Recent monitoring reports confirm that while UN Agencies are undertaking a higher number of joint actions, there continue to be challenges related to the lack of harmonized UN procedures. Country Teams have been innovative in their solutions, however there are still too many obstacles caused either by a lack of harmonization or procedures that are not favorable to an efficient delivery of development support.

Results reporting: There is still a lack of common understanding of results-based management which then is reflected in a tendency to report on activities and not results. The MDG-F reporting templates emphasize results-based reporting but there are still gaps in this area.

Partners: Both evaluations and feed-back from UN Country Teams favor a maximum of three to four UN agencies signing on to a joint programme and then sub-contracting other UN agencies for specific expertise or activities. With more partners, the time spent on establishing programme management mechanisms, coordinating operational issues and meetings etc. takes away from time which needs to be spent on development work. It is hoped that MDG-F lessons and best practice in this area can be useful for future similar endeavors leading to a shorter start up time.

Spreading the DaO “gospel”: The experience of jointly formulating programmes has facilitated the preparation of the UNDAF in many countries where MDG-F joint programmes are being implemented. The opportunity for technical and junior staff to working jointly has been positively received as they gain greater knowledge and insight into the work and mandates of other UN agencies and see the benefits of UN reform.

Management experience: Some agencies, most particularly the Funds and Programmes, are more experienced in the management and implementation of development programmes. As for the more specialized agencies, the MDG-F experience is that there is no consistency and their lack of universal presence in countries can be complex for joint programme implementation. Some interesting experiences have used “sub-contracting” as an alternative to access the needed technical expertise of non-resident agencies. Joint programme management and implementation was additionally complicated by the lack of planned start up phases and an initial short programme duration of three years.

Geographic convergence: Joint programmes have been useful in coordinating UN agencies that work in the same geographic areas. But still more could be done. The mid-term evaluations point to the need for greater programme presence in the field. Given the possible high costs of implementing this recommendation, alternatives such as coordinating with agencies already having field offices and jointly financing such a presence are to be considered. This could also serve to better coordinate between the MDG-F, UN and other development programmes in the same zone and/or sector. Targeting could be better achieved through concentration as opposed to a scattered approach.

Pass through modalities for fund transfers: The method for the transfer of funds (i.e. through the MDTF Office) for joint programmes has in previous reports been linked to a propensity to revert to individual UN agency implementation as accountability to UN Agency Headquarters takes priority over joint accountability. The Secretariat has discussed whether there is a viable solution to this dilemma for the future and has debated such mechanisms as: (a) funds transferred to the UNRC; (b) pass through one UN agency; and (c) funds transferred to Governments. The three options mentioned all have their advantages and disadvantages but this question could be further investigated by the UNDG.

2.1.3 National ownership/leadership

The national MDG-F governance system was recommended so as to increase national ownership and leadership. The National Steering Committee (NSC) is meant to put the national counterpart to the UN as well as the UN Resident Coordinator in a position to oversee a number of initiatives meant to contribute towards not just the MDGs and the Millennium Declaration but UN reform and increasing

national ownership. Spanish participation in this meeting gives the donor an overview of its support. The NSC definitely plays a more critical role as the number of joint programmes increases. However, with time, one would assume that these issues could be covered with the UNDAF coordination mechanism with Government which takes its oversight role seriously. The Secretariat has noted that the role played by the NSC varies greatly from a rubber stamping committee to one that reviews joint programme progress and provides guidance etc. In a world where development partners cannot devote as much time to monitoring as does the MDG-F Secretariat, the NSC becomes very important.

With time, the Secretariat has noted that national counterparts are playing more important roles in the Programme Management Committees. This is a positive sign and linked to increasing national ownership.

All the MDG-F joint programmes include activities meant to build the capacity of national and local partners. Such actions are more likely to build national leadership and contribute to sustainability when they are of high quality and linked to policy development and/or local implementation.

An area where further progress is needed is in the use of national procedures. Some UN agencies are more likely than others to do so. The UN Funds and Programmes have more experience with national implementation and have set up administrative modalities that could act as models for others. It will be interesting to compare the level of national ownership when programmes are part of sector-wide programmes such as is often the case with the nutrition and food security joint programmes.

Where the MDG-F has certainly impacted is in bringing together line ministries and other national/local partners who did not previously work together. Feedback from lead ministries is positive on breaking some ministerial silos. However some refer to the challenges of leading without an official mandate.

2.2 Joint Programme Results

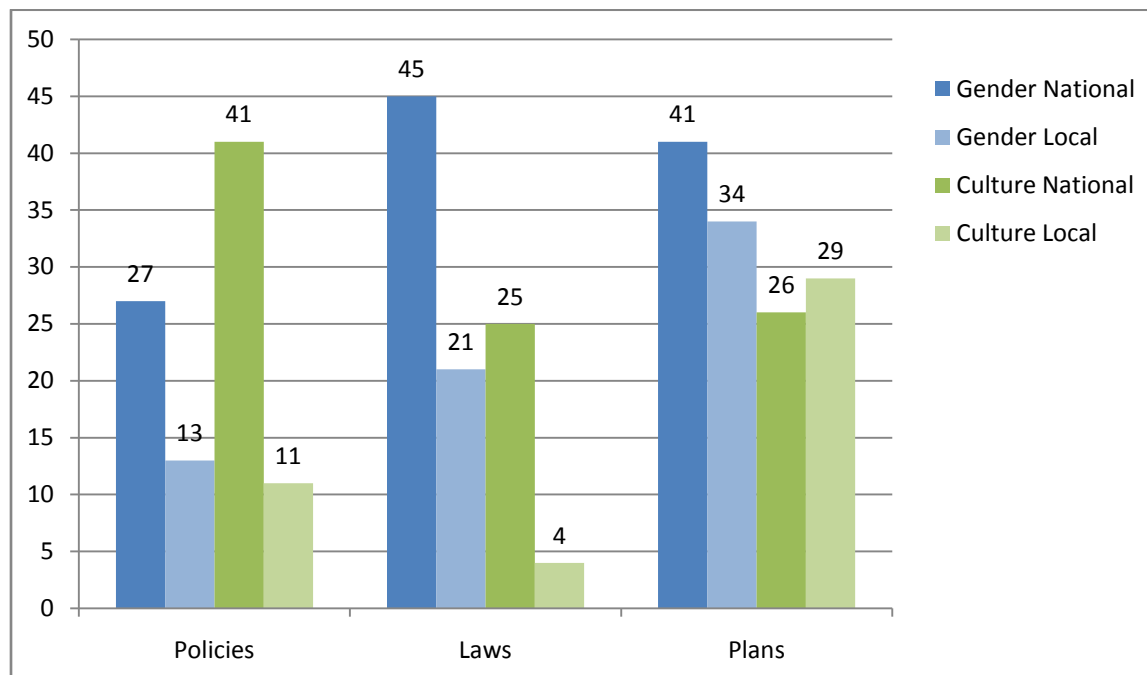
Quality results that can be measured and are sustainable are of high importance to the Fund. Over time, the Secretariat has gained some insight into the complexities of managing relatively short-term (initial three year duration) programmes meant to contribute towards the Funds three priorities mentioned in section 2.1. The Secretariat worked closely with partners to develop the first MDG-F guidelines which were recently updated to better reflect lessons learned and best practice. Through close monitoring as well as mid-term evaluations, the Secretariat has been able to work with joint programme partners to improve on monitoring and evaluations systems, increase communication and advocacy and in some cases to revise programmes to be more realistic and increase national ownership to better achieve development results. Following the agreement of the Steering Committee to exceptionally extend joint programmes for up to one year (with no additional costs), the Secretariat has another opportunity to monitor joint programme implementation and results when requests for the final tranche of funds is submitted together with proposed extensions. The Secretariat was clear on the criteria for both in addition to the number of documents that had to be submitted such as updated M&E plans, new annual work plans that reflect previous accomplishments, and communication and advocacy strategies to name a few. This close monitoring together with the commitment of MDG-F partners in the field are already showing through reported results.

The biannual monitoring reports provide information on a number of issues such as beneficiaries, thematic indicators etc. While the Secretariat is still working with joint programmes to improve the data be presented in these reports, the following portrays a sample of the aggregated information.

Table 1: Joint Programme Beneficiaries

| Joint Programme Beneficiaries ⁵ | Direct | Indirect |
|--|------------------|-------------------|
| Men | 1,177,934 | 9,467,062 |
| Women | 1,458,674 | 9,930,390 |
| Total population | 2,636,608 | 19,397,452 |
| National institutions | 2,261 | 1,961 |
| Local institutions | 7,906 | 4,296 |
| Total institutions | 10,167 | 6,257 |

Figure 1: No. of policies, laws and/or plans developed with the support of the MDG-F in two windows: (1) Gender and (2) Culture and development



Related to the above mentioned thematic windows, joint programmes report having strengthened the capacity of staff in 1,286 public and 378 private sector institutions so that they are better able to take informed decisions on gender issues. Joint programmes under the culture and development window have further developed the capacity of staff in 970 public and 246 private sector institutions while over 1.2 million citizens have improved access to markets for the cultural products.

⁵ Figures are likely to be higher once joint programmes improve reporting on beneficiaries.

Without preempting final joint programme evaluations and thematic window meta-evaluations which will provide in-depth assessments of results, the following are a few joint programmes selected to illustrate progress to date⁶.

Ecuador – Culture and Development: The joint programme on Culture and Development in Ecuador, with the leadership of the Ministry of Cultural and Natural Heritage, has supported the design of the National Plan against Racism and, as a result of the team’s advocacy efforts in 2011, public budget has been allocated for the plan’s implementation. The joint programme has also helped to incorporate a culturally sensitive approach to education, by helping develop an intercultural bilingual curriculum; and to health, by piloting three delivery rooms (for vertical delivery). The JP developed a training module for the general public on “Living Well” (“Buen vivir” or “Sumak Kawsay”) which is the core concept that inspires the National Development Plan (Plan of Living Well) and has supported the first national campaign on self-identification and valorization of national identities. As a result, the 2010 national census included an ethnic variable. The programme is also supporting 28 cultural income generating micro projects in three provinces and their sustainability is strengthened through agreements with local authorities. The contribution of the JP to the improvement of the Ecuadorian legal framework to respond to the needs of the indigenous peoples was acknowledged as a best practice by the Special rapporteur on indigenous issues in his report of June 2010.

Vietnam - Private Sector and Development: Despite an almost 80 percent drop in its poverty rate over the last 15 years, Vietnam continues to struggle with significant inequalities and needs, particularly in rural areas where the vast majority of the country’s poor reside. Promoting a rapidly growing handicraft industry in Vietnam is part of the government’s plan to foster economic development, reducing unemployment (especially in the rural areas) and raising exports. The joint programme on Private Sector and Development is working to increase income and employment opportunities for handicraft producers and the farmers who grow and collect raw materials for these crafts. The programme has focused on strengthening the entrepreneurial skills of small and medium business owners, and teaching them better technologies and cleaner production methods. A team of designers is helping the companies create new high-end sustainable product collections and linking them to more profitable markets. This, in turn, increases the income of producers and growers. Targeting 4,800 households, the programme works in four northern provinces of Vietnam: Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Hoa Binh and Phu Tho.

China – Youth, Employment and Migration: China’s internal migrants number over 150 million and represent the largest movement of people in modern history. These young men and women have contributed to the fast paced economic development of the country. However, while doing so many of them confront challenges including ending up in poor working and living conditions, and lack of access to social protection which compounds their vulnerability. To support the government to promote the implementation of relevant laws and policies, and to promote the protection of the rights and interests of migrant workers, the joint programme on Youth, Employment and Migration provides an integrated response to the array of needs of young migrants and potential migrants. The programme has already

⁶ A more detailed analysis of programme results will be presented in the next report to the Steering Committee following the submission of the June 2011 monitoring reports.

developed an internet portal where important studies and assessments to inform national migration policy are published; as well as key information for migrants on where to access services, trainings and support for a safe migration. The programme has also developed a successful life skills training programme to support migrants in their arrival to urban areas. The training is being delivered both at sending and receiving provinces through different channels including enterprises, community centers and schools. The programme has also designed and is implementing a health model to promote use of appropriate health services by migrant youth. In addition, the programme has worked with local governments in pilot sites to initiate the registration of migrant children, needed to allocate adequate resources to ensure migrants' children's equal access to basic education and health services. This initiative will likely be replicated by other provinces in the country.

Albania - Economic Governance: While access to water in Albania has considerably improved in recent years, one of the persistent issues is poor service. The recent decentralization and commercialization of water supply services has pushed water prices up, but improvements in service are lagging behind. In an effort to address these problems, the joint programme on Economic Governance in Albania has worked with Albanian ministries and regulatory authorities to develop a "model" contract between the providers of water and sewerage services and their customers. The contract's aim is to regulate key aspects of the relationship between the two parties and to educate them on their rights and obligations. It will encourage better service by water operators, provide better consumer protection and increase awareness of the role of providers and users in environmental protection. The model contract was developed using international best practices and in cooperation with all the concerned stakeholders, including the water companies and their association, the consumer associations, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport and the Ministry of Environment. It was approved by the National Regulatory Commission of the Water Regulatory Authority on 4th February 2011. The Water Regulatory Authority and the Joint UN programme will work together not only to introduce the model contract in all the water companies of Albania but also to explain its content to their customers through regional workshops.

Guatemala - Gender Equity and Empowerment: This joint programme supports the Presidential Secretariat for Women (SEPREM) and the Office for the Defense of Indigenous Women (DEMI) in their efforts to institutionalize the "National Policy for the Advancement and Development of Guatemalan Women" and its corresponding Implementation Plan (2008-2011). The programme also aims to strengthen relevant state institutions in the areas of violence against women, economic empowerment and political participation. In the past two years of implementation, the programme supported the establishment and strengthening of DEMI regional offices. Since 2008 the number of cases processed at these offices has increased by 360% demonstrating the success of this initiative, and in the past two years more than 8,000 cases of gender violence were processed.

El Salvador – Private Sector and Development: This joint programme is part of the local development plan that aims at promoting socio-economic development through the restoration of the old city and the use of urban planning. The joint programme operates in the metropolitan area of San Salvador, in two settlements (Santa Tecla, Apopa) adjacent to the old city characterized by poverty, poor living

conditions and social conflicts. In partnership with the private sector, the joint programme is supporting the provision of decent housing to 160 families

After its first year of implementation the joint programme has successfully established public-private partnerships, reached a social consensus among local authorities, private sector, and local communities, and established key base lines for the development of a socio-economic development plan for the areas of intervention. The programme is characterized by its strong alignment to national priorities, national ownership, and its participatory approach where citizens have been involved in the identification of areas of intervention, beneficiaries, design of future construction and restoration activities, as well as in the identification of areas for potential businesses. This programme is expected to have an important and integral impact of socio economic recovery and within the FODM thematic window for private sector it has been highlighted as one of the most innovative ones, and with a better understanding of pro-poor economic development.

Mozambique – Culture and Development: Mozambique’s craft sector is filled with potential. The artisans are imaginative and skillful, the land offers beautiful raw materials with which to work and the country is increasingly attracting more tourists. At present however, the sector has not maximized opportunities for capitalizing on cultural products and coordination at all levels is weak, to the detriment of the thousands of artisans striving to make a living and support their families. The MDG-F Joint Programme for Strengthening the Cultural and Creative Industries and Inclusive Policies in Mozambique is addressing this issue by looking at the challenges related to the ‘profit making’ side of culture. Going forward, it will be important to find a balance to ensure that cultural products and services are locally-inspired and retain a strong Mozambican identity, yet appeal to tourist and local market expectations and the demands of the international market. The development of this sector can only happen if the basic issues of infrastructure are addressed, and strategic support is provided to artisans including 11 certified trainers of artisans and 26 government officials. The Government of Mozambique and the MDG-F are taking important steps to address these issues and ensure that the craft sector in Mozambique is stronger, fairer and more sustainable, and brings real rewards to both the artisans and the Mozambican economy.

Mauritania – Environment and Climate Change: Mauritania faces enormous challenges with the disruption of ongoing climate system. Whilst the supply of water to communities is progressing, sanitation remains very worrying (22% households had access to an improved sanitation in 2008). The Government and communities in Mauritania with the support of MDG-F have embarked to the fight against desertification and support community resilience through pilot initiatives. For example, 4693 Ha of degraded land is being regenerated and prepared for agriculture production; 10,000 plants for mangrove reforestation have been planted. The Ministry of Environment recognizes a clear impact to the landscape and to economic and social development through employment generation by the programme. 6,000 households have increased their revenues and 3,000 people have gained sustainable access to drinking water. The construction of 4,560 latrines by the communities demonstrates their engagement and awareness on the importance of sanitation for their families’ well-being.

2.3 Delivery

The first joint programme to begin implementation did so in March 2008 and the last was in April 2010. At this stage, all of the joint programmes have more than one year's implementation and apart from some exceptions are doing well. The delays encountered were mainly due to the challenge of establishing joint working methodologies, procurement/recruitment and collecting baseline data as well as limited consultations with national and local partners and the need for further consensus building. As agreed in the last Steering Committee, such delays justified exceptional requests for no cost extensions and will allow for time to reach the expected results.

The approved budget for the 128 joint programmes is US\$698,909,156⁷. As of May 10, 2011, \$505,486,262 were transferred to the joint programmes and expenditures equaled US\$243,477,549 as of 31st of December 2011 (As per MDTF real-time figures as of 11 May 2011). The Table 2 below provides an overview of UN agency budgets and expenditures. The overall delivery rate comparing expenditures to approved budgets is 35%. The agencies having received the largest amounts of funding including UNDP, UNICEF, and FAO have delivery rates of 34%, 34% and 30% respectively which at this point is acceptable but could be much better.

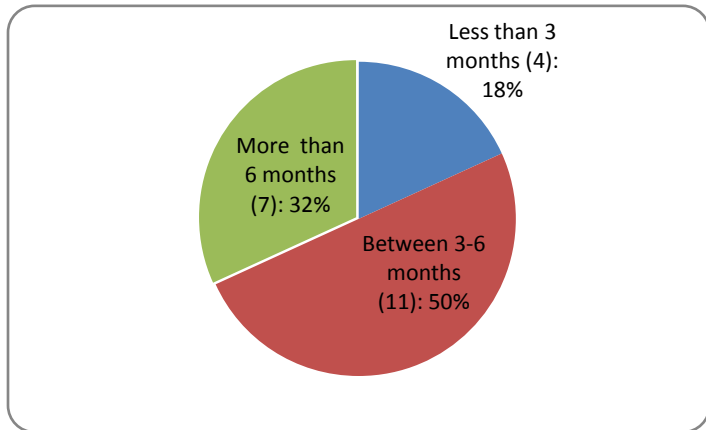
Table 2: UN Agency Delivery

| UN Agency | Approved budget (US\$) | Expenditures (US\$) | Delivery | UN Agency | Approved budget (US\$) | Expenditures (US\$) | Delivery |
|-----------|------------------------|---------------------|----------|-----------|------------------------|---------------------|----------|
| ECLAC | 240,750 | 105,151 | 43.68% | UNEP | 11,206,851 | 6,081,414 | 54.27% |
| ESCAP | 214,000 | 185,375 | 86.62% | UNESCO | 55,482,161 | 24,110,903 | 43.46% |
| FAO | 82,015,914 | 24,581,267 | 29.97% | UNFPA | 39,776,557 | 15,874,604 | 39.91% |
| IFAD | 500,040 | 385,900 | 77.17% | UNHABITAT | 10,367,545 | 4,313,253 | 41.60% |
| ILO | 42,326,657 | 13,636,457 | 32.22% | UNHCR | 3,115,000 | 1,948,070 | 62.0% |
| IOM | 18,005,432 | 6,450,426 | 35.82% | UNICEF | 97,501,445 | 33,040,590 | 33.89% |
| ITC | 2,264,888 | 733,363 | 32.38% | UNIDO | 25,945,404 | 8,876,195 | 34.21% |
| OHCHR | 428,000 | 96,147 | 22.46% | UNODC | 5,868,000 | 1,568,768 | 27.0% |
| PAHO/WHO | 22,040,984 | 5,628,306 | 25.54% | UNOPS | 917,514 | 234,113 | 25.52% |
| UNAIDS | 1,042,727 | 378,356 | 36.29% | UNRWA | 1,436,221 | 687,939 | 47.90% |
| UNCDF | 1,149,170 | 497,084 | 43.26% | UNWOMEN | 23,509,619 | 10,167,082 | 43.25% |
| UNCTAD | 1,215,567 | 392,901 | 32.32% | UNWTO | 7,888,591 | 2,560,694 | 32.46% |
| UNDP | 198,303,000 | 67,836,940 | 34.10% | WFP | 32,136,660 | 8,188,182 | 25.48% |
| UNDP(UNV) | 53,500 | 0 | 0.00% | WHO | 14,031,508 | 4,918,067 | 35.05% |

⁷ This discrepancy with the total amount approved by the Steering Committee of US\$698,806,903 lies in small funds advanced towards the formulation of joint programmes that were not approved (Kosovo and Brazil), and fund requests for budgets that are slightly lower than approved amounts.

Figure 2: Duration of approved no-cost extensions for 22 joint programmes

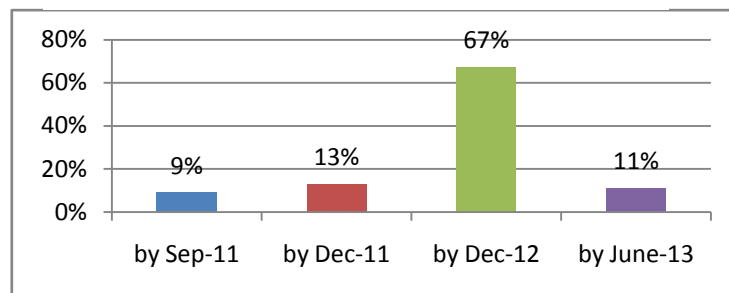
As of 10 May 2011, out of 128 joint programmes, 22 joint programmes have requested no-cost extensions which represent 16.4% of the total of joint programmes. The average number of months of the approved no-cost extensions is six as shown in Figure 2 to the right.



The Secretariat expects 29 joint programmes to finish in 2011. 12 joint programmes will undertake measures to ensure programme closure by 30

September 2011, and we expect the closure of the remaining 17 joint programmes by 31st December 2011. At least 78% of joint programmes will end in 2012 or 2013 so that most programme results will only be reported on in 2012 and beyond (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Estimated programme closures (as at 10 May 2011)



We are still seeing delays in requests for the release of subsequent tranches which in turn causes delays in implementation. At this stage, for example, there are 31 joint programmes⁸ that are due to receive the 2nd year funding and haven't yet requested it. The average number of months delayed for these 31 programmes is 5.7 months.

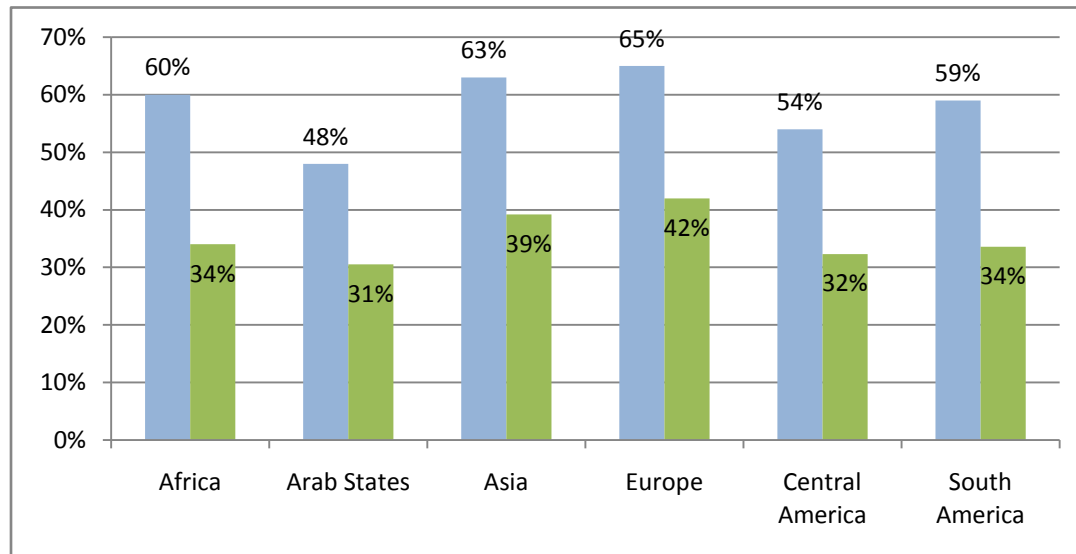
These delays will become more critical at the time of requesting the release of third year funds. Currently 68 joint programmes due for 3rd year funding have not requested the funds and only 29 out of 68 "eligible" joint programmes have requested no-cost extensions. However, the Secretariat is following up closely with all joint programmes to assist them in maximizing their potential to achieve expected results.

With joint programmes having different start up times and being at different points in their implementation, it's always difficult to give a meaningful delivery rate. However, when comparing joint programme expenditure to funds transferred, the overall delivery rate is 58% and 35% when comparing programme expenditure to total approved budgets. Figure 4 gives the delivery rates per region⁹.

⁸ The joint programmes with delays of more than six months in requesting their second tranches include: Mauritania (conflict and culture); Ethiopia (culture); Lebanon (conflict); Sudan (nutrition); Colombia (conflict); Costa Rica (private sector); Ecuador (economic governance and YEM); and Guatemala (economic governance).

⁹ Central America includes those countries in the Caribbean.

Figure 4: Delivery Rates: Expenditure over transferred funds Expenditure over approved funds



With close to two years remaining before the operational closure of all the joint programmes by 30 June 2013, 33 programmes were at less than 20% overall delivery at 31 December 2010. These programmes were flagged by the Secretariat and in the five months since the end of 2010, the Secretariat can report that in most cases the programmes are moving forward. However, the Secretariat continues to be concerned with those programmes that are extremely delayed in their requests for year 2 funding and will monitor them closely. Should solutions not be found, the Secretariat will propose programme closures during the next Steering Committee meeting in 2011.

2.4 Monitoring and evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation unit of the Secretariat has focused its work during the first months of 2011 in five major areas; commissioning and managing mid-term evaluations; raising the quality of the evaluation reports and the instruments to collect data; supporting focus country initiatives; designing new tools to continue with the implementation of the M&E strategy through final summative evaluation; and disseminating results within the United Nations institutions.

Evaluation: The Secretariat has commissioned and managed 79 mid-term evaluations to date of which 60 are complete and 19 are ongoing processes, the remaining 49 evaluations will start before the end of 2011. The mid-term evaluations continue to be an effort to capture independent evidence on the joint programme status; strengthen the joint evaluation culture within the UN and contribute to mutual accountability processes between development partners at national and local levels.

In an effort to raise evaluation quality and ensure a sufficient number of evaluators to undertake overlapping evaluation exercises, the Secretariat has successfully processed a new MDG-F roster of evaluators. The new roster comprises 46 experts of which 13 were retained from previous pool of 34 evaluators. Getting quality evaluation consultants is a continuous challenge.

On-line monitoring application: The on-line monitoring tool was completed and fully operational for the December 2010 monitoring report. This is a major improvement with regards to collecting data on one platform that allows for greater analysis and reporting. Of course, the system is still going through the initial stages of any new system. Refinements are being done and will be ready for the 2011 reporting periods.

Focus countries: The nine focus countries initiatives continues implementation of M&E plans at a different pace. Bosnia, Philippines and Ecuador have submitted their request for a second tranche of resources and progress towards results while others such as Mauritania, Morocco or Timor Leste needed additional support from the Secretariat to start up their activities. The remaining countries (Honduras, Colombia and Ethiopia) are lagging behind because they had to redesign their plans but will accelerate implementation in the incoming months.

During the second semester of 2011, the M&E unit of the Secretariat will concentrate their efforts in accelerating progress in these country initiatives and will provide the support to undertake the necessary steps towards starting at least four country evaluations.

Final evaluations: Final evaluations will be commissioned and managed at country level by the Resident Coordination Office. The Secretariat has designed the tools to ensure a certain level of quality homogeneity among the joint programmes. These tools comprise generic TOR that all programmes will use to implement the evaluation process as well as a guideline document that provide advisory support to the local MDG-F partners.

Institutional dissemination: As part of the Secretariat's efforts to disseminate its products, and share its learning to influence and advocate for institutional change within and outside the United Nations, the evaluation unit is initiating contacts with other UN evaluation units and United Nations Evaluation Group. The aim of this contact and joint activities is to be able to convey the learning on joint monitoring and evaluation that the MDG-F has generated in the last three years to the UN system as a whole.

Among the activities carried out, the unit is actively involved in a joint UN evaluation of joint programming in gender. This evaluation is led by the UNWOMEN evaluation unit and is in its first stages but it will complement the scope and depth of the Secretariat's analysis on the topics of gender and joint programmes.

Lastly, as DGPOLDE's evaluation unit has formally proposed the Secretariat to collaborate more closely in some of the evaluation activities to be implemented during 2011 as part of the Secretariat's M&E strategy, the Secretariat will submit a proposal to the Steering Committee and if approved design a calendar of activities to be started during 2011 and 2012.

2.5 Knowledge Management

Thematic Window KM: Following approvals by the Steering Committee, UN Convenor Agencies signed off on agreements to undertake KM work in the related thematic windows.

Table 3: Thematic Window Knowledge Management Plans

| THEMATIC WINDOW | CONVENER AGENCY |
|---|--|
| Children, Food Security and Nutrition | UNICEF |
| Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding | UNDP |
| Culture and Development | UNESCO |
| Democratic Economic Governance | UNDP/Stockholm International Water Institute |
| Development and the Private Sector | UNIDO |
| Environment and Climate Change | UNEP |
| Gender as a Cross-Cutting Issue | UNWomen |
| Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment | UNDP |
| Youth, Employment and Migration | ILO |

The duration of plans ranges from two to three years. All convener agencies will have completed their first year of implementation of the knowledge management plans by October 2011. Convener agencies initially carried out needs assessments in order to identify the knowledge management gaps and needs of the joint programmes and to ensure that their planned activities addressed these needs.

To date, 15 knowledge management workshops were organized by the convener agencies, 12 of which were regional in scope and three global. Three further workshops (two regional and one global) are planned for June and July 2011. These workshops bring together the coordinators of each joint programme in the Fund's thematic windows as well as one National Counterpart, with the objective of establishing a community of practice among the joint programmes, sharing best practices and lessons learned, and providing thematic technical support.

Conveners are currently in the process of collecting best practices and lessons learned from the joint programmes through the distribution of a questionnaire to the programme teams. These will then be compiled and analyzed in a synthesis 'lessons learned' product.

The quality of the early knowledge management workshops was inconsistent due to an over-emphasis on programme process-related issues as opposed to thematic technical support. To improve the quality of the workshops, the Fund developed quality assurance checklists for the conveners, organized KM coordination meetings, provided feedback on workshop concept notes and agendas, and participated in the workshops themselves. The Fund has since seen a significant improvement in the workshops, to which participants have responded very positively.

With nine conveners implementing the Fund's thematic knowledge management plans, the Secretariat has made an effort to coordinate between them, to ensure that their ultimate objectives are met, that they are in line with the Fund's development vision, and to support the conveners by facilitating cooperation between them. The Fund has been very pleased to see enthusiastic engagement among the conveners and a rich cross-fertilization between them, which, it is hoped, will greatly enhance the overall quality of the knowledge activities and products ultimately delivered.

Teamworks: After working with a prototype of the Teamworks platform for over one year, the final version was launched in November 2010. This platform functions as a communication, file-sharing and professional networking site. It allows joint programmes in different countries to connect to one another and exchange information more easily. To date, the MDG-F Teamworks platform has attracted many registered members, and we expect this number to increase significantly over the coming months with the recent launch of the joint programme spaces.

Through the Teamworks platform, the Fund has created virtual 'spaces' for each of its *8 thematic windows*, *9 focus countries*, and *128 joint programmes*. The thematic window spaces were set up in 2010 and are being moderated by the respective KM coordinators in the convener agencies. The focus country and joint programme spaces were launched in April 2011, and are to be moderated by the coordinators of the joint programmes or other designated programme team members.

The Fund has faced some challenges in stimulating engagement among joint programme teams on the Teamworks platform. On the one hand, this has been due to delays in the finalization of the tool and some initial technical shortcomings. Yet these problems have been compounded by the reluctance on the part of many programme teams to take the system on board, perhaps because such tools are not yet incorporated into the work culture in many places. In order to address these problems, the Fund has encouraged convener agency KM coordinators to engage members more actively on the platform, and has coordinated with the platform's technical team to provide user trainings and virtual user support forums through UNDP regional centers.

2.6 Communication and Advocacy

The communication and advocacy work of the MDG Fund continues to move forward in line with its original strategy that works to advance MDG advocacy, citizen and civil society participation and communication. The global strategy is actively being implemented at the joint programme, national and global level.

At the joint programme level we are now seeing a firm commitment and increased buy in to the idea of integrating communication and advocacy action plans into programme work. There has been a substantial increase in JPs with strategies as well an increase in requests for support from the Secretariat in this regard. The challenge continues to be the conceptualization and capacity regarding advocacy (which is understood by the Secretariat as a combination of citizen/civil society participation in policy and practices at local and national level), communication and the strategic alliances that should be constructed in order to make our work more impactful and effective. Often, our communication for development approach –innovative within the UN system- is reduced to conventional and mainstream communication that revolves around the production of brochures, pamphlets, and launch events, among others. The Secretariat continues to make advances in promoting a wider and more development based type of communication and several promising examples have mushroomed- independently and/or with our assistance, but challenges do persist.

At the national level, we have continued our work with the nine focus countries who are being provided some extra support to implement advocacy and communication plans at the country level. Some exemplary cases have emerged such as Philippines who have used this opportunity to advance the equity agenda working simultaneously with marginalized groups in order to identify their demands and political agenda as well as with Congressmen/woman in order to open spaces where citizen voices can be heard and their agendas taken into account. The latter took place in early March 2011 when representatives from nine marginalized groups had the opportunity to speak out to Congress and hand over their action agenda in the presence of high level political representatives such as Imelda Marcos who evidently attracted significant media coverage. Other examples include Ecuador who through an alliance with the Order of Popular Radios, spaces have been opened for citizens from marginalized groups to express themselves and speak out at the local and national level. Beyond the Focus Countries, we are also seeing that other countries are taking the initiative to look beyond individual joint programmes and plan for national monitoring, advocacy and communication interventions.

At the global level the Secretariat is bolstering its online presence through the MDG Fund website which has been created as the main public accountability and transparency mechanism where information ranging from financial, evaluation outcomes and vivid stories and images from our work around the world is placed. Between January and June 2011 traffic to the website has doubled reaching over 7,000 visits per month.

Over the past six months increased emphasis was placed on the production of audiovisual materials that can speak about the work of the Fund and the difference it is making to people's lives. With two high quality products produced in the latter part of 2010, the Fund is now supporting the production of five more videos in different countries both about joint programme as well as national level work.

In the coming months, the pressure and for which increased human and financial resources will be necessary. This recommended increase is further detailed in the section on "Unprogrammed Funds" in this Report and reflects areas of advocacy, communication and strategic alliances both within and beyond the UN.

3. FOLLOW UP ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SEPTEMBER 2010 STEERING COMMITTEE

In September 2010, the MDG-F held its Steering Committee meeting. The majority of the recommendations have been implemented as detailed in Annex 1.

4. UNPROGRAMMED FUNDS and KM PARTNERSHIPS

In November 2010, the Secretariat discussed with the principle lines of intervention of the unprogrammed funds during a technical meeting in Spain. These funds include unspent funds from those dedicated to knowledge management as well as interest on income. Consequently the revised estimated unprogrammed funds amount to US\$ 19.3 million which includes the US\$3.2 million from knowledge management. Annex 2 provides terms of reference for the use of the knowledge management funds to develop further partnerships and Annex 3 gives a detailed description of the proposed uses of the estimated unprogrammed funds including monitoring and evaluation, and

communication and advocacy activities. Both these annexes were discussed at length in November 2010 in Madrid.

The Secretariat received a number of partnership proposals that were reviewed by a committee (Annex 4) including members of the MDG-F Secretariat and based on clear criteria including the following:

Prior to be submitted to the MDG-F Partnership Review Committee (PRC), the proposals will have been prescreened based on the following:

- Thematic relevance of proposal
- Demonstrated track record of work in the subject area
- Relevance within the region (if a regional proposal)
 - Consideration of and sensitivity to cultural regional context
 - Use of local language(s)

Consideration will also have been given to:

- Proposals that build on already existing partnerships
- Proposals that are inter-agency in nature
- Inter-regional partnerships
- Participation of research institutions already engaged in the same thematic work as the Fund
- Additional resources leveraged by the partners, including in-kind contributions
- The duration of the proposal should not go beyond 30 June 2013
- Budgets fit the proposal and are less than US\$1,000,000

Following a detailed review of nine proposals the Secretariat makes the following recommendations to the Steering Committee members:

| | | | |
|---|---|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Proposal title #1: MDGs Communication and Advocacy (C&A) | | | |
| Proposed by: Millennium Campaign (MC) | List of partners: MC is an interagency initiative | Duration: 18 months | Agreement type: Programme document |
| <p>Proposal description:By teaming up with the Millennium Campaign, the MDG-F will be able to take advantage of the Campaign’s previous experience and capacity to further advocate on the MDGs. There are three main components to the proposal including working on a UN System integrated MDG advocacy strategy; launching global communications; and country specific actions (Spain, Kenya, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Philippines, and El Salvador). In the first component, the MC will develop a UNDG-wide MDG strategic advocacy plan; build an advocacy partnership with civil society; and generate an advocacy partnership around equity. The proposed activities around global communication include cross platform content partnerships; identifying existing MDG success story initiatives and partnering with them; pursuing a citizen feedback initiative; and ensuring that this is all available on a digital platform. The MC will also undertake C&A activities in Spain (Spanish Cooperation Week and presentations in various for a) and the five other countries mentioned above to strengthen the capacity of citizens to engage, give feedback and have a voice in public service delivery. The latter will be done in close collaboration with UN Country Teams.</p> | | | |
| Total Budget: US\$927,200 | | | |
| Secretariat comments: Recommended for approval with the preparation of a programme document. Emphasis should be on the use of MDG-F success stories, ensuring that Teamworks is used and that the MDG-F Secretariat works closely with the UNDG MDG Group. The MDG-F Secretariat manage this partnership. | | | |

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|---|---|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Proposal title #2: Learning from practical experience in the systemization of culture and development programming | | | |
| Proposed by: University of Gerona (Spain) | List of partners: Bolivar Technical University (Colombia) | Duration: Two years | Agreement type: Grant |
| <p>Proposal description: The proposal brings together two universities with the intent of increasing the role of culture in development. Using the 18 MDG-F joint programmes in the culture and development thematic window, the partners would work to better systematize knowledge, lessons learned and use these to develop models for programme development and implementation. To do so, the partners will make use of existing information; leverage the experience gained through the joint programmes; identify problems at every stage of programme development and implementation; and formalize this knowledge. This is not an evaluation but rather the generation of applied practical knowledge and focusing on the construction of reference and operational materials.</p> | | | |
| Total Budget: US\$364,198 | | | |
| Secretariat comments: Recommended for approval with revisions including a revised document; what type of contributions will be made by the Universities; the linkages with the UNESCO MDG-F KM initiative; and a budget under US\$300,000. | | | |

| | | | |
|---|--|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Proposal title #3: Development of an equity-focused investment case for the multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan (2012 – 2016) in Mauritania | | | |
| Proposed by: REACH - partnership | List of partners: UNICEF, WFP, WHO and FAO | Duration: Two years | Agreement type: programme document |
| <p>Proposal description: REACH is a global partnership committed to meeting the nutrition needs of the world's most vulnerable children and women, through evidenced based analysis and innovative programming that builds government institutional capacity, strengthens policy planning skills and prioritizes scarce resources. REACH was jointly established by FAO, WHO, UNICEF and WFP. REACH proposes to test an equity-focused investment case approach in Mauritania. REACH has already supported Mauritania in developing its multisectoral Nutrition Action Plan (PAIN) and the ultimate goal is to operationalize the PAIN. To do so this proposal intends to review the PAIN so that it is more equity-focused with new targets and delivery mechanisms; cost the revised PAIN; quantify the expected impacts of implementing the PAIN; and identifying the current funding gap. This methodology, once tested, could be then applied in other countries.</p> | | | |
| Total Budget: US\$153,830 | | | |
| Secretariat comments: Recommended for approval following a revised programme document that will also look at the issue of visibility for the MDG-F; take account of another proposed partnership led by PAHO on the same subject and the UNICEF MDG-F KM initiative; further explain how the programme will be managed by the REACH Secretariat given its small size. | | | |

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|--|---|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Proposal title #4: Strengthening knowledge management in programmes fighting mal-nutrition in Latin America | | | |
| Proposed by: PAHO | List of partners: Alliance of 16 Agencies | Duration: Two years | Agreement type: Programme document |
| Proposal description: The objective of this proposal is to strengthen the capacities of teams working on malnutrition in the Latin American region with a focus on using a multi-sectoral approach for nutrition. This alliance would further develop knowledge management systems on factors leading to food insecurity and malnutrition; map intervention strategies through case studies to generate success stories and best practices based on evidence; develop communities of practice; and sensitize political decision-makers on these models and other ways of tackling nutritional problems. | | | |
| Total Budget: US\$298,660 | | | |
| Secretariat comments: Recommended for approval with a revised programme document that will also consider how to include national/local partners in their interventions; and take account of another proposed partnership by REACH on the same subject and the UNICEF MDG-F KM initiative. | | | |

| | | | |
|---|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Proposal title #5: GENERA – Gender Network in Latin America and the Caribbean | | | |
| Proposed by: UNDP – Panama Regional Center | List of partners: None | Duration: Two years | Agreement type: Programme document |
| Proposal description: This proposal is to further expand on the existing gender network – GENERA. The proposal includes three components: information, knowledge and communication. Information would be generated on the perception of women and gender issues through surveys and other methodologies. Knowledge would then be shared using regional virtual platforms and working methodologies would be developed and debated. Finally the results would be shared through various communication medias. | | | |
| Total Budget: US\$450,000 | | | |
| Secretariat comments: Not recommended for approval at this time as the initiative needs to be a joint UN proposal, it would require a clear list of countries to work in, and needs further details on the KM issues to be addressed. | | | |

| | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Proposal title #6: Strengthening the articulation between civil society organizations in Spain and the international development agenda | | | |
| Proposed by: Spanish NGO Alliance | List of partners: Number unclear | Duration: 18 months | Agreement type: Grant |
| Proposal description: This proposal expects to result in the inclusion of the voices of civil society organizations in the global process regarding the new international development agenda. The proposal will create and revitalize spaces for reflection and debate among organizations on the international development agenda focusing on commitments around the Millennium Development Goals and the preparation of post-MDG debate, and, look to the participation of CSOs in the negotiation, formulation and implementation of policies and measures on international cooperation at national, European and international levels. To do so, it would be necessary to hold a meeting to combine the vision with Spanish NGOs to compile best practices for achieving the MDGs, monitoring and evaluation of the major milestones and measures of the European agenda and international cooperation, CSO dialogue in Southern countries as well as in the North. These various activities would enable the Spanish civil society organizations to speak with one voice and then further interact with European civil society organizations to ensure that their perspective is taken account of in future global discussions. | | | |
| Total Budget: US\$ 612,498 | | | |
| Secretariat comments: Not recommended for approval at this time. However the concept is an interesting one that requires more thinking and detailed information as well as a reduced budget. | | | |

| | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Proposal title #7: The post 2015 agenda: Sustainable human development in a challenging environment | | | |
| Proposed by: UNDP on behalf of UNDG | List of partners: UNDG members | Duration: Two years | Agreement type: Programme document |
| Proposal description: This proposal aims to contribute to two key outcomes: (1) The UN building and leading a credible, strategic coalition of partners that can shape the post-2015 development agenda through global, broad mobilization and engagement of government, grassroots, academic, CSO and other stakeholders; and (2) the UN ensuring that this post-2015 development agenda is guided by core UN norms, values and commitments; informed and shaped by the critical challenges of our time, including sustainability and equity; and building on the momentum of lessons learned from the MDGs. | | | |
| Total Budget: None available | | | |
| Secretariat comments: Not recommended for approval at this time. However the concept is an interesting one that requires more thinking and detailed results etc. via a programme document. | | | |

| | | | |
|--|--|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Proposal title #8: Untitled research on water and development | | | |
| Proposed by: SIWI – Stockholm International Water Institute | List of partners: UNDP and possibly others | Duration: Two years | Agreement type: Grant |
| Proposal description: SIWI suggested three potential areas for a proposed partnership with MDG-F: research, capacity development, and a combination of research and capacity development. All the suggested areas of work are in the field of water and development | | | |
| Total Budget: None available | | | |
| Secretariat comments: Not recommended for approval at this time. However the concept is an interesting one that requires much more thinking and detailed results. The committee did favor a research oriented proposal. | | | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Proposal title #9: UN partnership to support advocacy and oversight of MDGs implementation | | | |
| Proposed by: UNDP | List of partners: UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, and MC | Duration: Two years | Agreement type: Programme document |
| Proposal description: The expected outcomes of the proposal are the mobilization of civil society organizations for monitoring the MDGs implementation; the parliaments' engagement through their lawmaking and oversight activities; and the worldwide dissemination of best practices and lessons learned. Three pilot countries are suggested: Mozambique, Ethiopia and Colombia. | | | |
| Total Budget: US\$ 1,000,000 | | | |
| Secretariat comments: Not recommended for approval. This programme was revised from a US\$5 million programme to US\$1 million which is still too high. Several of the activities seem to duplicate activities from the MC proposal. There is insufficient added value for the MDG-F on this programme. | | | |

The Secretariat recommends that proposals #1 through #4 be approved by the Steering Committee. Additionally, the Steering Committee members are requested to approve the proposed budget for activities under the “unprogrammed” funds in Annex 4. KM proposals #5 through #8 as well as the implementation of activities detailed in Annex 4 would then be subject to a non-objection approval procedure. This would be similar to the previous approval process of the joint programme documents. This consisted of the MDG-F Secretariat submitting recommended JPs to the Steering Committee members, who were then given a week to express any objections to the programmes which were then otherwise approved.

5. BUDGET REVIEW

The following table presents estimated expenditures to date for the Secretariat budget as well as other budgets managed by the MDG-F Secretariat. There are no specific points for discussion.

Core/Main Contributions - Annual Income & Disbursement Projections (US \$ million)

| | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | Totals by line item |
|---|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------------------------|
| Opening Balance (528 & 90 million Euros) | \$709.8 | \$791.1 | \$523.2 | \$41.5 | \$16.1 | \$8.4 | \$4.3 | |
| Country Thematic Window (*) | (\$1.0) | (\$237.5) | (\$448.8) | (\$11.6) | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | (\$698.92) |
| One UN Pilots (Δ) | (\$9.0) | (\$26.2) | (\$24.6) | (\$6.0) | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | (\$65.81) |
| Core Contributions | (\$24.1) | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | (\$24.11) |
| Administrative Agent Fee (1%) | (\$0.0) | (\$2.4) | (\$4.5) | (\$0.1) | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | (\$6.99) |
| MDG-F Secretariat Costs | (\$1.1) | (\$1.7) | (\$3.9) | (\$7.6) | (\$7.7) | (\$4.1) | (\$2.9) | (\$29.16) |
| Disbursements | (35.3) | (267.9) | (481.8) | (25.3) | (7.7) | (4.1) | (2.9) | (825.0) |
| Closing Balance | \$674.5 | \$523.2 | \$41.5 | \$16.1 | \$8.4 | \$4.3 | \$1.4 | |

Interest Income - Annual Income & Disbursement Projections (US \$ million)

| | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | Totals by line item |
|---|--------|---------|---------|---------|----------|---------|--------|---------------------------|
| Opening Balance | \$33.0 | \$56.1 | \$57.2 | \$54.3 | \$41.9 | \$27.1 | \$19.3 | |
| JPOs & SARCs | \$0.0 | (\$7.4) | (\$5.5) | (\$5.6) | (\$10.7) | (\$6.5) | \$0.0 | (35.72) |
| Knowledge Management | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | (\$6.8) | (\$2.0) | (\$1.2) | \$0.0 | (10.00) |
| Civil Society | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | (\$1.7) | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | \$0.0 | (1.70) |
| MDG-F Secretariat 2 Regional Workshops Costs (λ) | | | | | (\$2) | | | |
| Disbursements | 0.0 | (7.4) | (7.2) | (12.4) | (14.8) | (7.7) | 0.0 | (47.4) |
| Closing Balance | \$33.0 | \$48.7 | \$50.0 | \$41.9 | \$27.1 | \$19.3 | \$19.3 | |

(*) Excludes the approved concept note from Kosovo

(Δ) Initial available funds were \$75 million, leaving an unspent balance of \$ 9.2 million

Estimated figures from 2011 to 2013

(λ) To be transferred to the Secretariat

Annex 1 – Update on the implementation of the last Steering Committee recommendations

The last Steering Committee was held in September 2010 and below are the recommendations with updates in red.

1. Given the delays encountered in programme implementation, the Secretariat recommends:
 - Considering joint programme no cost extensions of up to one year with the requirement that joint programmes are operationally complete no later than 30 June 2013. The decision to extend a joint programme would be made by the MDG-F Secretariat based on a detailed review of results to date, monitoring reports, the mid-term evaluation and the improvement plan. **Many joint programmes have already requested extensions using the guidelines and formats developed by the Secretariat. These are being reviewed by the Secretariat as and when they are received. Response is in the form of an official letter to the UN Resident Coordinator and includes specific feedback as required.**
 - Extending joint programmes to the end of 30 June, 2013 would also require an extension of the Secretariat's duration by an additional six months to 31 December 2013. **No immediate action required apart from budgetary.**

2. The release of Year 2 funds continues to be based on the criteria of having reached a combined 70% commitment rate of the transferred funds, a review of activities based on the previous annual work plan and the submission of a work plan for Year 2. The release of Year 3 funds follows the same process except that the Secretariat will also review the mid-term evaluation and accompanying improvement plan. Any decisions related to closing down a joint programme should be recommended by the Secretariat to the Steering Committee for a final decision. **The Secretariat continues to review and approve release of funds to joint programmes. The Secretariat is monitoring a few programmes that may be submitted for early closure in the next Steering Committee meeting.**

The SC members approved recommendations 1 and 2 agreeing that the Secretariat would decide on joint programme extensions while recommended programme closures would be submitted to the Steering Committee for approval. The extension of the Secretariat for a period of six months to the end of December 2013 was approved.

3. In view of the challenges posed by a lack of harmonized administrative and financial UN procedures in joint programme implementation and their relation to the Paris Declaration and the UN Reform, and in order to better facilitate joint management and national ownerships, the Secretariat recommends the following:
 - The UNDP Administrator, as Head of UNDG and lead agency of UNEG, will continue to encourage the high level working groups to develop harmonized UN procedures that will allow for improved joint programme implementation, and
 - To ensure that lessons learned and experience on issues (such as joint formulation, administration, evaluation, knowledge management and communication) generated by the

MDTF and the MDG-F Secretariat from MDG-F joint programmes are analyzed and incorporated into overall knowledge on Delivering as One, a tripartite working group (UNDOCO – MDTF – MDG-F) should be established.

*As previously indicated by the UNDP Administrator, the UN Development Group is preparing for a meeting to discuss issues related to the harmonization of UN procedures. Helen Clark requested that the Secretariat prepare a paper to contribute towards this upcoming meeting. The Secretariat indicated that a meeting was already set up to further discussions with UNDOCO and the SC agreed that institutionalizing this partnership through a “working group” was positive. **The Secretariat did provide this paper in a timely manner. On the above-mentioned recommendations, the Partnerships Bureau is also supportive in getting the MDG-F on the UNDG agenda. UNDOCO has undergone a change management process and the Secretariat awaits the finalization of this process to proceed further with developing this partnership.***

4. All evaluation reports should be posted on the MDG-F website. Additionally the Secretariat should begin work on developing the terms of reference for the meta evaluations as outlined in its M&E Strategy. **Done.**

Agreed.

5. The Secretariat will determine criteria for knowledge management proposals to be funded by the remaining KM funds. The proposals will then be approved by the Steering Committee. The Secretariat also looks to the Steering Committee members to suggest areas of work for the Secretariat in both KM and C&A.

*This recommendation was approved and the proposed criteria will be further discussed during the proposed “technical” meeting later in 2010. **A draft proposal was discussed during the technical meeting held in Spain. The draft was further refined and is annexed in this document. The main purpose is to use the remaining US\$3.2 million to fund knowledge management initiatives, research etc. with UN and non-UN partners.***

6. The Secretariat should continue to engage in advocacy, partnership and communication initiatives both at the joint programme, national and global level that keep the MDG high on the political agenda and that ensure that the MDG Fund is well inserted in the global discourse on MDGs. Additionally, opportunities for strengthening national civil society engagement in the development process, particularly as it related to marginalized and disadvantaged groups. **This area is covered in the Secretariat’s work plan for 2011 and in the document on unprogrammed funds (see below). Work is ongoing.**
7. The Secretariat should use the recent publication on Inequalities and MDGs as an advocacy tool in the countries of operation helping country teams and joint programmes to push for more inclusive policies.

Recommendations 6 and 7 were approved and both the UNDP Administrator and the Spanish Secretary of State for International Cooperation agreed that the recent report on MDGs and inequalities offers the Fund an excellent tool for further action in MDG-F countries.

8. A number of meetings are recommended:

- Three follow-up regional meetings with joint programme partners and the Secretariat within the next 12 months; ***These meetings are taking place in June 2011. Refer to Annex 2 for further details.***
- A global meeting bringing together UN Resident Coordinators, Government representatives from the National Steering or Programme Management Committees, and other partners in Madrid; and ***Initially this meeting was planned for April 2011. The Secretariat prepared and submitted to Spain (following Partnerships Bureau approval) a concept note for the meeting together with a prospective timeline. The Secretariat awaits confirmation from Spain on a date.***
- A Steering Committee within the next six months. ***The Secretariat proposed that this meeting take place in May 2011 and awaits the proposed date from Spain.***

*In addition to approving this 8th recommendation, the SC members agreed to a “technical” meeting to be held in Madrid (possibly in November 2010). The latter would have a more in depth discussion on the conclusions of the report, discuss options for the unprogrammed funds, and to plan for the global meeting to be held in the Spring of 2011. Helen Clark also suggested the Secretariat’s participation in UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC) regional meetings to review progress and challenges of the Fund with those participating UNRCs. ***The Secretariat has invited UNRCs to attend the regional workshops coming up in June of this year for more a more detailed debate on the Fund.****

9. While the MDTF reporting on financial data should continue, it is recommended that the narrative report be discontinued and replaced by the reports being prepared by the MDG-F Secretariat. ***Done.***

The SC members agreed that it was preferable to have only one narrative report on the MDG-F and that this should be prepared by the Secretariat. Further discussions should be held with the MDTF Office to discuss how this can fit within its agreement with the UN Agencies.

10. Financial related recommendations:

- Approve the 2007 – 2013 revised Secretariat budget at US\$29.16 million;
- Approve the reprogramming of freed up resources from a cancelled joint programme (US\$ 6.461 million) and left over DaO funds (US\$ 9.2);
- Agree that the overall income covers the estimated costs to the end of December 31, 2013, leaving a balance of US\$ 22.84 available for future programming initiatives; and
- Approve the reclassification of a Programme Specialist post (P4) into a Programme Advisor post (P5).

*Recommendation 10 which includes the above four points was approved. After covering the gap in funding for the culture and development window and the increase in the Secretariat's budget following the approved six month extension, the proposed use of the estimated balance of US \$ 22.84 will be discussed in the November 2010 meeting in Madrid. **Budgets were modified accordingly and a draft concept note for the use of unprogrammed funds was prepared and initially discussed in Madrid during the technical meeting. The estimate amount of funding available was revised to US\$ 19.3 million.***

Annex 2 - Agendas for Regional MDG-F Workshops

1. Colombia

Programa preliminar del Encuentro

A continuación se presenta la agenda provisional con la estructura del encuentro. Estará constituido por diferentes tipos de reuniones, algunas de las cuales serán de participación selectiva y otras estarán abiertas a todos los invitados. Los talleres dedicados a monitoreo y evaluación, y comunicación e incidencia, están planificados inicialmente para una jornada de trabajo. Sin embargo, pudiera ocurrir que fuera necesario extender su duración para poder finalizar los productos que se esperan obtener de ellos. En este caso los talleres continuarían en la mañana o tarde del día 8 Junio.

Todos los ponentes y moderadores de cada mesa, taller o seminario pertenecen a países distintos y serán contactados para definir el esquema de trabajo y presentaciones. Los casos seleccionados responden a su especial valor para el análisis de lecciones aprendidas. Dentro de lo posible, en el conjunto del evento, trataremos de visibilizar las experiencias más significativas de cada país.

Con el objetivo de fomentar el intercambio conocimiento y experiencias, se habilitará un espacio para Market place donde se podrán exponer los productos y documentos más interesantes de sus países y programas conjuntos.

Taller
 Mesa de Debate
 Plenario
 Seminario
 Evento Social

| Martes 7 Junio | Evento | Participantes | Sala |
|----------------|----------------------------------|---|------|
| 8:30 AM | Mañana | | |
| | Monitoreo y Evaluación | M&E representantes e invitados especiales | A |
| | Taller | C&I representantes e invitados especiales | B |
| | Comunicación e Incidencia | Taller especiales | |
| | Reunión Coordinadores Residentes | Mesa Debate | C |
| | | C.Residentes e invitados especiales | |
| 12:45 PM | Comida | | |
| 2:00 PM | Tarde | | |
| | Monitoreo y Evaluación | Taller M&E representantes e invitados | A |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--|---|
| Comunicación e Incidencia | Taller | especiales C&I representantes e invitados especiales | B |
| Reunión Coordinadores Residentes | Mesa | | C |
| | Debate | C.Residentes e invitados especiales | |
| Reunión Oficiales de Coordinación | Mesa | | D |
| | Debate | Oficiales de Coordinación | |

5:30PM **Fin de Sesión**

| Miércoles 8 Junio | Evento | Participantes | Sala | |
|-------------------|---|----------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Mañana | | | | |
| 8:30 AM | Inauguración oficial | | | |
| 9:00 AM | Casos de Estudio: Bolivia/PAZ | Plenario | Abierto a todos los participantes | A |
| 9:30 AM | Colombia/GENERO | Plenario | Abierto a todos los participantes | A |
| 10:00 AM | El Salvador/SECTOR PRIVADO | Plenario | Abierto a todos los participantes | A |
| 10:30 AM | Café | | | |
| 11:00 AM | Debate en Grupos | Taller | Abierto a todos los participantes | A |
| 12:45 PM | Comida | | | |
| Tarde | | | | |
| 2:00 PM | Caso de Estudio: NICARAGUA | Plenario | Abierto a todos los participantes | A |
| 2:30 PM | Debate en Grupos | Taller | Abierto a todos los participantes | A |
| 4:00 PM | "Juventud, Empleo y Cultura" | Mesa de Debate | Abierto a todos los participantes | A |
| | Expone: Costa RICA: JEM/CULTURA; Participantes mesa: Honduras/CULT; Uruguay/CULTURA | | | |
| 5:30 PM | Fin de sesión | | | |

| Jueves 9 Junio | Evento | Participantes | Sala |
|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Mañana | | | |
| 8:30 AM | "Infancia y Nutrición" Mesa Debate Expone: Perú/ISAN; Participantes mesa: Cuba/ISAN, Guatemala/ISAN | Abierto a todos los participantes | A |
| 10:15 AM | Café | | |
| 10:45 AM | "Medio ambiente y Gobernanza" Mesa Debate Expone: Ecuador/MEDIOAMBIENTE; Participantes mesa: Panamá y México | Abierto a todos los participantes | A |
| 8:30 AM | Representantes Gobierno de los CDNs | Mesa Debate Rep. Gobierno del CDN e invitados | B |
| 8:30 AM | Reunión Oficiales de Coordinación | Mesa Debate Oficiales de Coordinación (Conclusiones) | c |
| 12:45 PM | Comida | | |
| Tarde | | | |
| 2:00 PM | MDGs | Plenario | Por confirmar |
| 3:00 PM | Conclusiones Monitoreo y Evaluación | Plenario | Abierto a todos los participantes |
| 4:00 PM | Conclusiones Comunicación e Incidencia | Plenario | Abierto a todos los participantes |
| 5:00 PM | Conclusiones y Clausura | | |
| Evento Social: hora y lugar por determinar | | | |

2. Morocco Programme Overview

| Day 1 – June 20, 2011 | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Time | Session | Participants | Room |
| 9:30 – 13:00 Coffer break at 11:00 p.m. | Morning parallel sessions: | | |
| | • UN Resident Coordinators Session | UN Resident Coordinators | Room 1 |
| | • M&E Working Session | Selected M&E Specialist | Room 2 |
| | • C&A Working Session | Selected C&A Specialists | Room 3 |
| 13:00 – 14:30 | <i>Lunch break</i> | | |
| 14:30 –17:30 | Afternoon parallel sessions: | | |
| | • UN Resident Coordinators Session | UN Resident Coordinators | Room 1 |
| | • M&E Working Session | Selected M&E Specialist | Room 2 |
| | • C&A Working Session | Selected C&A Specialists | Room 3 |
| Day 2 – June 21, 2011 | | | |
| Time | Session | Participants | Room |
| 8:00-8:30 | Registration | All participants | Plenary Room |
| 8:30 – 9:30 | Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome remarks by Bruno Pouezat, UN Resident Coordinator, Morocco • Remarks by Minister of Social Development (tbc) • Remarks by Spanish Ambassador • Remarks by Sophie de Caen, MDG-F Director | All participants | Plenary Room |
| 9:30 – 10:15 | Keynote speaker: Stephen Lewis, Co-Director of Aid Free World | All participants | Plenary Room |
| 10:15 – 10:30 | <i>Coffee Break</i> | | |
| 10:30 – 11:15 | First Connections: Networking <i>An introductory session designed to help you make lasting connections that continue well beyond the Workshop.</i> | All participants | Room 1 and Room 2 |

| | | | |
|---------------|--|------------------------------|--------------|
| 11:15 – 17:00 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M&E Working Session | Selected M&E Specialist | Room 3 |
| 11:15 - 17:00 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C&A Working Session | Selected C&A Specialists | Room 4 |
| 11:15 – 11:45 | Setting the scene: presentations from three participants on their experience with MDG-F Joint Programmes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Palestine, Gender JP, Hanna Nakhleh – Ethiopia, – Philippines, Economic Governance | All participants | Plenary room |
| 11:45 – 12:15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to discussion points for working tables • Perception Survey | All participants | Plenary room |
| 12:15 – 13:15 | Discussion session on results achievements/ MDGs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1 | Government Representatives | Plenary room |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 2 | Joint Programme Coordinators | Room 1 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 3 | Coordination Officers | Room 2 |
| 13:15-14:30 | <i>Lunch Break</i> | | |
| 14:30-15:45 | Discussion session on National Ownership: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1: assigned working tables (8) | Government Representatives | Plenary room |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 2: assigned working tables (8) | Joint Programme Coordinators | Room 1 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 3: assigned working tables (4) | Coordination Officers | Room 2 |
| 15:45-16:30 | Discussion session on UN Reform: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1 | Government Representatives | Plenary room |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 2: assigned working tables (8) | Joint Programme Coordinators | Room 1 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 3: assigned working tables (4) | Coordination Officers | Room 2 |
| 16:30 – 17:30 | Tables share conclusions with respective group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1 | Government Representatives | Plenary room |

| | | | |
|------------------------|--|------------------------------|--------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group 2 | Joint Programme Coordinators | Room 1 |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group 3 | Coordination Officers | Room 2 |
| 19:00 | Cocktail | | |
| Day 3 – Plenary | | | |
| 9:00 – 11:15 | Reporting back on conclusions from Day 1 sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conclusions of RC session Conclusions of M&E session Conclusions of C&A session | All participants | Plenary Room |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | <i>Coffee break</i> | | |
| 11:30-13:00 | Reporting back on conclusions from Day 2 Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conclusions of Group 1 Conclusions of Group 2 Conclusions of Group 3 | All participants | Plenary Room |
| 13:00 – 14:30 | <i>Lunch</i> | | |
| 14:30 – 16:00 | Sharing experiences on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability/ Exit phase: Serbia YEM Influence on public policies and innovation: Mozambique Culture (tbc) Replicability: Vietnam PSD | All participants | Plenary Room |
| 16:00 – 16:15 | <i>Coffee break</i> | | |
| 16:15 -17:00 | Visual products contest | All participants | Plenary Room |
| 17:00 – 17:30 | Closing remarks by Sophie de Caen | All participants | Plenary Room |

Annex 3

TERMS OF REFERENCE **MDG-F KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT:** **RESEARCH and DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS** **May 2011**

1. Background and Context of the MDG-F Knowledge Management Strategy

In December 2006, UNDP and the Government of Spain signed a major agreement of €528 million that will provide, through the UN development system, support to programmes oriented towards key MDG and related development goals. In addition, Spain committed \$90 million directed to launch a new window on Children and Nutrition. The Millennium Development Achievement Fund (MDG-F) seeks to accelerate progress towards attainment of the MDGs in participating countries by supporting policies that promise high impact, scaling-up of successful models, and innovative development practices.

The Fund operates through the UN Country Teams and actively strives to strengthen inter-agency coherence and effectiveness with regards to development interventions. The MDG-F uses joint programming as the main form of development intervention in the field. Currently, 128 joint programmes in 49 countries are approved in eight different thematic windows that contribute to progress on the attainment of the MDGs.

Through its knowledge management (KM) strategy, the MDG-F is gathering and systematizing the wealth of experiences generated by the Fund's 128 joint programmes worldwide. The activities undertaken within the framework of this strategy have allowed colleagues from UN Agencies, UN Country Teams, joint programmes and national partners to share data, information and knowledge accrued throughout the joint programme formulation and implementation process. The objective of the strategy is to foster stakeholders' abilities to apply innovative approaches and share practices and skills among partners by providing them access to the knowledge generated through its programmes. The strategy rests on three pillars: 1) nine UN agency-led thematic KM plans, 2) an electronic platform knowledge platform, "Teamworks," and 3) partnerships within and outside the UN system. Activities within the framework of pillars 1 and 2 have been underway since 2009, and the Fund now plans to begin implementation of pillar 3. This Terms of Reference (ToR) outlines the concept for pillar 3.

In its knowledge management strategy, the Fund is collaborating with other development partners, both within the UN system and beyond -- all of its 128 joint programmes are implemented in collaboration with other UN agencies as well as government and civil society counterparts. In line with this approach, the Fund is currently working with nine other UN agencies in the implementation of each of its thematic window KM plans, and has launched Teamworks, the electronic knowledge sharing platform, which brings together its diverse partners in one integrated online forum.

Objective of the Initiative

One of the cornerstones of the Fund's development work is the promotion of multi-stakeholder engagement and the development of strategic partnerships addressing key development issues that at the heart of the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs. To date, the Fund has actively promoted a variety of partnerships at global, regional, and country levels with UN agencies, national governments, local authorities, and civil society organizations.

As a next step in its KM strategy, the Fund will explore new partnerships to ensure that knowledge reaches beyond the MDG-F Secretariat and its 49 programme countries to the wider global development community. The overall objective of this initiative is to make a meaningful contribution to the international debate on key areas of global development, on progress towards the MDGs, the Paris Declaration, and UN Reform. It aims to foster knowledge in areas where research gaps exist, and to further develop the capacities of research institutions, alliances, and inter-university research programmes. Through this initiative, the Fund hopes to contribute to effective development programming in work related to its eight programme areas and make the impacts of its joint programmes more sustainable.

Specifically, the Fund plans to forge strategic partnerships with research centers, universities, and other development initiatives to a) produce ground-breaking research , and b) support innovative initiatives aimed at strengthening capacity for development. To this end, the Fund will identify partners with experience in development research, capacity building, and advocacy. In addition, it will invite proposals from interested institutions. These two types of partnerships would contribute a range of products:

a) Development Research Partnerships

Selected partners will develop research papers within the scope outlined below and may additionally conduct seminars and forums in conjunction with the research process. The Fund may also organize seminars or lectures for dissemination of completed research papers. These papers may also be shared at the Fund's global KM workshops to be held between 2011 and 2013, as well as other relevant global events.

b) Strengthening Capacity for Development

The Fund will support existing partnerships and initiatives as well as the establishment of new ones to carry out assessments of capacity-building and research needs, develop poverty reduction and MDG indicators, conduct trainings, and create discussion forums. A further objective of this component is to build and strengthen networks between institutions and initiatives working on similar issues.

2. Thematic Scope

The Fund's joint programmes are aimed at accelerating attainment of the MDGs in developing countries. The research and capacity development work undertaken will either pertain directly to the Fund's main scope of work related to progress towards the MDGs, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, or UN Reform, or the Fund's eight programmatic areas. Alternatively, it may address a relevant cross-cutting issue, such as inclusion of gender dimensions in development, addressing the needs of minority groups, or questions equity of programme impacts. The geographic scope of the work should be regional or inter-regional.

3. Potential partners

The Fund is seeking partnerships with institutions currently engaged in research related to the work of the Fund and the thematic scope outlined above. Partners may include universities, research centres, think tanks, and global and regional development initiatives. The Fund plans to work with a range of partners from developed and developing countries alike, with both practical and theoretical experience in the field of development.

While the Fund will explore develop partnerships beyond the UN Family, it will also consider proposals that are inter-agency in nature or include an inter-agency dimension, and that address development issues that are relevant at the national or regional level.

The Fund will also support existing regional networks and interagency initiatives (such as REACH, the global initiative on nutrition and food security, GENERA, the regional platform on gender equality and women's empowerment, or the Pan-American alliance on nutrition and development). Participation of research centres already engaged in the Fund's joint programmes is also encouraged.

4. Partnership Arrangements

The expected timeframe of each partnership plan will be within the average remaining implementation period of the Fund's joint programmes -- approximately one to two years. The Fund will consider budgets of up to US\$ 200,000-300,000 for each proposal (in exceptional cases, the Fund may consider proposals of up to US\$1,000,000).

While partners are expected to carry out the planned work outlined in their proposal, the Fund will be involved throughout the work process, by providing input into the selection of topics and feedback in the various stages of research or concept development, coordinating between partners, convenor agencies, and joint programmes, and managing the communication and dissemination of research and other products.

5. Submission of Proposals

a) Development Research

Outline of submission template:

- 1. General information on institution*
- 2. Research topic selected/ background and context/ relation to the Fund's work*
- 3. Purpose and objective of the research*
- 4. Description of research questions and analysis*
- 5. Products*
- 6. Target audience*
- 7. Research methodology*
- 8. Workplan*
- 9. Detailed budget*
- 10. Advocacy strategy for proposed partnership (if already developed)*

b) Strengthening Capacity for Development

Outline of submission template:

- 1. General information on institution*
- 2. Description of proposed activity/ context and relevance/ relation to the Fund's work*
- 3. Purpose and objective of the activity*
- 4. Planned objectives and outcomes*
- 5. Products*
- 6. Target audience*
- 7. Workplan*
- 8. Detailed budget*
- 9. Advocacy strategy for proposed partnership (if already developed)*

6. Criteria for selection

The Fund will consider the following criteria in its selection process:

- Thematic relevance of proposal
- Demonstrated track record of work in the subject area
- Relevance within the region
- Consideration of and sensitivity to cultural context
- Use of local language(s)

Consideration will also be given to:

- Proposals that build on already existing partnerships

- Proposals that are inter-agency in nature
- Inter-regional partnerships
- Participation of research institutions already engaged in the work of the Fund
- Additional resources leveraged by the partners, including in-kind contributions

Annex 4

MDG-F Un-programmed Funds

May 2011

Summary

The MDG Achievement Fund is a financing instrument that supports countries in their efforts to advance towards the achievement of MDGs and the values embedded in the Millennium Declaration. In doing so, the MDG-F has been bold in pushing Paris and Accra principles and the UN system to provide integrated and multi-sector responses to multi-dimensional development challenges.

The MDG Achievement Fund has been operational for the last three years. During this time, the Fund has evolved and unleashed valuable experiences. The Fund is dynamic in nature. It is constantly being enriched through the attainment of results in each thematic window, the implementation of the three main Fund strategies including communication and advocacy, monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management, and the roll out of the 9 focus country initiatives.

At this stage, the Fund counts with the amount of approximately US\$16 million resulting from savings, un-programmed resources and interested generated over the recent years. Proposals over the use of un-programmed funds are to be reviewed and approved by the MDG-F Steering Committee. In the last Steering Committee meeting last September, it was decided that *“The Secretariat will determine criteria for knowledge management proposals to be funded by remaining KM funds. The proposals will then be approved by the Steering Committee. The Secretariat also looks to the Steering Committee members to suggest areas of work for the Secretariat in both KM and C&A.”*

This paper for discussion aims to identify the strategy for allocation of future funds and the priority areas for further investment to ensure that the core objectives of the Fund are met. The paper will also introduce potential venues to be explored in discussing the legacy and future of the Fund.

The strategy to programme \$16 million (un-programmed funds) consists of a two pronged approach:

- 1) to reinforce and scale up current areas of work including C&A, M&E and KM; and
- 2) to introduce new initiatives that aim to bolster the core objectives of the Fund and respond to the evolving nature of the Fund

The timeframe for the implementation of approximately \$16 million is 2 years and a half.

I. Background and rationale

The MDG Achievement Fund is a financing instrument that supports countries in their efforts to advance towards the achievement of MDGs and the values embedded in the Millennium Declaration. In doing so, the MDG-F has been bold in pushing Paris and Accra principles and the UN system to provide integrated and multi-sector responses to multi-dimensional development challenges. The MDG-F mobilizes national governments, civil society, participating UN agencies and provides a platform to unleash processes that accelerate economic and social development. The Fund supports the development national policies, legal frameworks, piloting innovative approaches and scaling up national programmes and interventions. The Fund has unleashed multiple dynamics at the programme, country and global level.

Whilst the majority of Funds have been allocated to the implementation of 128 joint programme in 49 countries; and the implementation of the MDG Achievement Fund key strategies, and the roll-out of the 9 focus country initiatives, the allocation of remaining Funds aims to further reinforce ongoing initiatives and to respond to emerging needs and current international development cooperation context.

II. Strategy

The strategy to programme the estimated \$16 million (un-programmed funds) consists of a two pronged approach:

- 1) to reinforce and scale up current areas of work including C&A, M&E and KM; and

The Fund's key driving strategies communication and advocacy, monitoring and evaluation, and knowledge management are wide-ranging and present multiple challenges given the magnitude of the tasks and the multitude of actors participating in their implementation. The proposed interventions will intend to reinforce some aspects that were initially under budget, to respond to emerging opportunities and expand the current scope of work. Details on the proposed indicative activities are discussed in the following sections.

- 2) to introduce new initiatives that aim to bolster the core objectives of the Fund and respond to the evolving nature of the Fund.

Based on the last 3 years of the Fund's experience in formulating, implementing and monitoring the implementation of joint programmes, the Funds has identified opportunities for potential partnerships and alliances with key actors at the regional level, academia/research and development, development partners, etc.

III. Priority areas of support

The identified priority areas of support are broad categories in which proposals already exist or are to be developed. Therefore, the proposed modality for funding allocation and the timing to generate and submit proposals will vary greatly depending on the nature and category of support.

The proposed categories for funding allocation are:

- **Creating and sharing knowledge**
- **Communication and advocacy**
- **Research and development**
- **Monitoring and Evaluation**

(i) Creating and sharing knowledge and experience

In addition to the existing MDG-F knowledge management strategy supporting 8 UN agencies knowledge proposals, and the platform of team works, it is proposed to devote additional resources to disseminate results of the MDG-F at the regional and global levels. A peer to peer support facility could also be establish to encourage the sharing of successful initiatives. It is also important to start designing a process for transferring the lessons learnt, results to ensure the sustainability of interventions once the Fund closes.

Regional meetings

At the last Steering Committee meeting in September 2010, it was approved the preparation of regional meetings to bring together the MDG-F partner. The purpose of these meetings would be manifold including:

- Sharing of lessons learnt and development and development of products;
- Show case successful initiatives;
- Identifying those initiatives that demonstrate high potential for continuation scalability/ replicability of the initiatives by the government and/or other partners/ donors;
- Targeting of different audiences through back to back political and technical meetings; and
- Partnering with key stakeholders in the organization of these events, for example UNDOCO, UNEG, UN regional director teams, interested development partners, etc.

Global dissemination of results

The idea of the meeting is not a new one, as this was originally mentioned during the first MDG-F Steering Committee as a key element of transparency and accountability to the civil society, and public and private stakeholders of the Spanish Cooperation in relation to the largest contribution from Spain's Multilateral Development Cooperation through the UN. This idea emerged at the political level from both Secretaries of State - Leire Pajin and Soraya Rodriguez, and was always welcomed by the UNDP Administrators. The idea has always been present and discussed at different Steering Committee meetings and the meeting with parliament in October and December of 2009, and finally agreed on at the last Steering Committee meeting in September 2010.

The following are the objectives that had been set out from the beginning for this meeting:

- Sharing lessons learned, achievements, and challenges of the MDG Fund among stakeholders and Spanish constituents, acknowledging the existence of a rigorous monitoring and evaluation system that that aims to keep track of the progress made by the Fund in terms of Human Development.

- Raising awareness about the importance of the MDGs as a minimum common framework for the Human Development agenda, and the relevance of the multilateral cooperation to achieve this agenda.
- Highlight the Fund's support to the implementation of the Principles of the Paris Declaration and to the UN Reform by fostering joint work and collaboration among the agencies.
- Promote a climate of continuity of Spain's Official Development Assistance and other donors who can incorporate into their policies positive experiences derived from the MDG-F.

Peer to Peer support facility

This facility would be managed at the Secretariat and would stimulate the sharing of successful initiatives among participating countries.

Process to discuss the legacy and sustainability of the Fund as an instrument for supporting development interventions.

(ii) Communication and advocacy

The following draft proposal for Advocacy and Partnerships responds to the request of the MDG Achievement Fund Steering Committee to bolster interventions in this area over the coming period from 2011 to 2013 inclusive. This request was made based on some of the initiatives that the Secretariat has already been implementing through the approved Advocacy & Communication strategy during 2009/2010. The MDG-F Steering Committee request was reiterated in November 2010 during the technical meeting between UNDP and Spain with a request for a draft concept note and budget increase.

This proposal is divided into interventions at the joint programme, national and global level as has been the modality for strategy implementation to date. The three lines of action of the MDG-F strategy are found at all three of these levels (i.e. strengthen broad-based support and action on the MDGs, increase citizen and civil society participation in MDG policy and practice and increase accountability and transparency). Advocating for further action on the Millennium Development Goals remains the foremost priority of the Fund's advocacy work. Emphasis will also be placed on demonstrating how a significant chunk of Spanish aid is making a difference for people around the world.

Indicative activities

The following interventions cover three calendar years from 2011 to 2013.

** For further detail on the aforementioned lines of action, see strategy and work plan for Advocacy, Communication and Partnerships.*

Global Advocacy

MDG Film Festival

The MDG Achievement Fund will be partnering with the Millennium Film Festival for the second consecutive year to support the production of the third edition of the Festival to be held in Brussels in June 2011. The rationale behind this partnership is to support advocacy on the

MDGs through the medium of documentary film making utilizing the Festival and its mobilization and outreach ability to influence public opinion and action related to the MDGs particularly as it relates to national and European development policy/ Official Development Assistance allocations.

Given our experience with the 2010 Film Festival, there are some areas that could benefit from reinforcement in order to fulfill the objectives behind this partnership. This includes stronger and more targeted MDG messaging through the Festival, media outreach and involvement, strengthened participation from the South, usage of films post Festival etc.

Web Site

The MDG Fund global website is the Fund's main mechanism for accountability and communication with the wider global public as well as the principle repository for information on the history of the Fund and its ongoing activities. It was designed to be a dynamic and interactive space where programmes can upload their stories and communication products to share globally. In order to the site to fulfill this purpose, a greater investment needs to be made. Consequently the Secretariat will allocate increased human and financial resources to ensure it achieves its goal.

Equity Agenda follow up and action:

- National level advocacy (e.g. focus group discussions, inequality analysis workshops, advocacy tools for social justice, national launches, media debates, citizen mobilizations, partnerships)
- Analytical work (accountability frameworks, equity adjusted MDGs for 2013 global meeting, equity analysis tools)

Studies and Analysis: Contributions to development discourse

- New studies (e.g. inequalities and MDGs, youth)
- Policy papers (follow-up to inequalities recommendations, policy recommendations for MDG-Fund thematic areas):

Communication Products: Multi-media

- MDG-F brochures (design and print)
- Thematic window one pagers (design and print)
- Photo documentations/Photographs
- Video productions (approximately 20-25 videos of varying lengths over next three years representing the five regions and main objectives of MDG-F)

National Advocacy: (part of this budget will be covered by the inequality work proposed)

- **Great Ethiopian Run:** support to the Great Ethiopian Run to focus its races on the MDGs Grant support to civil society groups and to the building of partnerships at the national level for MDG advocacy
- Workshops and trainings
- Support to self starter focus countries

Joint Programme countries

- Direct support to advocacy and communication in select JPs (direct funds, technical expertise. Based on tentative of 20 JPs with \$50,000 extra)

Increasing the scope, activities and budget of the Advocacy and Communication section of the MDG Fund will require an increased capacity for implementation both at the national and Secretariat level. As such support in terms of human resources will be needed: Staff/Consultant Secretariat: US \$ 300,000; Interns: US \$ 75,000; and National/ International short term consultants: US \$225,000

(iii) Research and development

In order for the MDG-F to promote research and development, it is proposed to strategically partner with universities, research institutes, development organizations that are currently working on development studies and MDGs to conduct landmark research, forums, exchanges, seminars, among others. Strategic alliances could also be built between universities in developed countries and those universities/research centers in partner countries.

The concept is that selected amount resources for research and development allocated to leading institutions and departments identified by the Secretariat within the work undertaken in a region, country or thematic area of interest. This approach is to take further the idea that the Fund promotes and strengthens alliances for development. For example, proposals could be reviewed to support new or scaling up existing Regional networks, interagency initiatives (for example the global REACH initiative on nutrition and food security, the regional platform GENERA on gender empowerment and equality, the Pan-American Alliance on nutrition and development, the establishment of a network to work on indigenous and the millennium development goals agenda, among others.

The criteria for selection of proposals to be funded will be along the following lines:

- Innovative contributions to the development discourse
- already established regional networks ;
- related to one or more MDG-F thematic windows and based on the knowledge produced by the JPs in a given region;
- inter-agency in nature or expanding towards an inter-agency dimension;
- added value in addressing needs and demands at the regional level;
- complementary to on-going MDG-F KM initiative;
- experience in addressing problems with cultural sensitivity and in official languages in the region;
- timeframe: within the average remaining implementation period of the JPs (1-2 years);
- budget: between 200.000USD-300.000USD per proposal;
- sustainability should be clearly described; and
- funding of human/other type of resources should be co-shared.

Alternatively, a call for proposals could be organized to appeal to several institutions and based and competitive process.

(iv) Monitoring and Evaluation

The strategy for Monitoring and Evaluation identifies a final evaluation and 8 meta evaluations as critical elements to measure the impact of the MDG Achievement Fund. The Final evaluation was under budgeted in the initial budget of the Fund's Secretariat and the 8 meta evaluations were only introduced and approved in the Steering Committee meeting of February 2009.

Final evaluation

The general objective of the MDG-F final evaluation will be to determine and measure the contribution of the instrument to international development and to what extent it was useful to the 3 objectives of the MDG-F, especially in comparison to other mechanism working in the same fields (MDGs, UN reform, Paris Declaration). This exercise will include the preparation of terms of reference in consultation with cutting edge evaluation expertise, the identification of a highly qualified evaluation team to undertake a complex evaluation of the Fund over a period of 8 months

Eight Meta-evaluations

The Meta evaluations will provide an opportunity to complete a profound analysis of the thematic windows of the Fund, and offer evidence of the main achievements at the thematic level with linkages to the Millennium Declarations and the MDGs. The Meta evaluations will generate specific and general knowledge (knowledge generation) and secondly, measure the thematic results of the Fund (accountability). In order to capture a complete vision of the thematic results of the MDG-F windows, it would be necessary to incorporate and study the joint programme final evaluations. Therefore the Meta evaluation should be conducted through a two round approach. A first round to be carried out as soon as the majority of the mid-term evaluations of a specific window are available, this is the case for the already mentioned (Culture and Development and Environment and Climate Change). And a second round should be conducted in order to incorporate the results from the final evaluations of a specific window and the nine country participatory case study evaluations.

The Meta evaluation will be undertaken by a highly qualified team of expertise with a demonstrated career of excellence, capacity and prestige in the Trans discipline of the evaluation and specifically in Meta evaluation. The possibility to engage the services of a university or think tank will be explored. The selected team will design the studies and methodologies to be applied during the Meta evaluation, ensuring that all specifications are fulfilled in order to construct internal and external validity. The Secretariat will play a role in the facilitation of partners and ensuring the quality of the products and processes.

Indicative activities:

1. Establish an evaluation reference group
2. Draft Specific TOR for the Meta evaluations.
3. Identification of partner institutions (university or think tank) and individual experts.
4. Procurement process and signature of the MOU and contracts.
5. Compilation of the information and preparatory meetings.
6. Undertake the first round of Meta evaluations; 2 windows (Environment and Climate Change and Culture and Development).
7. Undertake the first round of Meta evaluation for the rest of the MDG-F windows and start the second round for the thematic windows that have already completed their implementation period.

IV. Budget for 2 years ¹⁰

| Indicative Budget Categories | Indicative activities | US\$ |
|-----------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Creating and generating knowledge | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional meetings (June 2011) • Global meeting (October 2011) • Peer to peer support facility • Fund wrap up and reporting | 4,000,000 |
| Communication and advocacy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MDG Film Festival • Website expenditures • Equity agenda and follow up • Communication products • Studies and analysis | 5,150,000 |
| Research and development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected strategic partnerships | 5,000,000 |
| Monitoring and evaluation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 meta evaluations • Final Fund evaluation • Issue specific assessments | 1,850,000 |
| | | |
| Total budget | | US\$ 16,000,000 |

V. Duration

The initial indicative budget does not cover the totality of available funds. It is proposed that funds are not allocated at once, but broad categories are identified for support. An initial amount of approximately \$16 million has been earmarked against identified priority areas for further support. The proposed programmed interventions are to be implemented over the coming two years.

The remaining funds not programmed will enable the MDG-F to have the flexibility required to respond to emerging needs in the coming two years.

¹⁰Please note that the estimated budget amounts for C&A and M&E need to be reconciled with the existing approved amounts in previous steering committee meetings.

Annex 5: Process/mechanism for the review of global/regional strategic partnerships

Prior to be submitted to the MDG-F Partnership Review Committee (PRC), the proposals will have been prescreened based on the following:

- Thematic relevance of proposal
- Demonstrated track record of work in the subject area
- Relevance within the region (if a regional proposal)
 - Consideration of and sensitivity to cultural regional context
 - Use of local language(s)

Consideration will also have been given to:

- Proposals that build on already existing partnerships
- Proposals that are inter-agency in nature
- Inter-regional partnerships
- Participation of research institutions already engaged in the same thematic work as the Fund
- Additional resources leveraged by the partners, including in-kind contributions
- The duration of the proposal should not go beyond 30 June 2013
- Budgets fit the proposal and are less than US\$1,000,000

Following a pre-screening by MDG-F staff to ensure that the proposed partnerships are in line with the above-mentioned criteria, they will be submitted to the MDG-F Partnership Review Committee.

The MDG-F PRC is composed of the MDG-F Secretariat Director, Senior Advisor, Programme Advisor and the Knowledge Management Specialist.

Each proposal will be available to the MDG-F PRC members to read and will be presented briefly by a member of the MDG-F Secretariat. The following sheet will be used to determine whether the proposal will be recommended for approval by the MDG-F Steering Committee:

| Partnership Title: | | |
|--|--------|---------------------|
| Partnership Entities – Lead and Other partners: | | |
| Duration: | | |
| Total Budget: US\$ | | |
| Criteria | Yes/No | Comments |
| Relates to one of MDG-F's three priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievement of MDGs/Millennium Declaration • UN Reform • National ownership/leadership | | |
| Relates to one of MDG-F's eight thematic areas | | If so which area? |
| Global proposal? | | |
| Regional proposal? | | If so which region? |
| Does the partnership bring some added value to the work of the MDG-F? | | |
| Does the proposal include clear results? | | |
| Does the proposal include a monitoring and evaluation plan? | | |

| | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| Does the proposal include a communication and advocacy strategy? | | |
| Does the proposal include a work plan? | | |
| If the proposal relates to research, does it include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research questions and analysis • Research methodology • Target audience • How the research will be used and disseminated | | |
| If the proposal relates to capacity development, does it include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of capacity development • How this will be sustainable • Does the proposal build knowledge • Does the proposal create or build on networks | | |
| Is the role of the MDG-F Secretariat clear within the proposed partnership? | | |
| Is the proposal inter-agency? | | |
| Is the proposal from an institution? | | |
| Is the proposal from a civil society entity? | | |
| Do the proposed partners have experience in the area of the proposal? | | |
| Is there a detailed budget? | | |
| Is the budget in line with proposed results? | | |
| Are other resources being mobilized? | | If so how much/from whom? |
| Is the duration less than two years? | | |
| What type of instrument is being proposed (see below) | | |
| Recommended for approval? Yes/No Signatures: Sophie de Caen Jose Antonio Gonzales Sara Ferrer Olivella Nurit Bodemann Ostow Date: | | |

Partnership instrument: Determine the type of most suitable instrument to formalize the partnership in accordance to the purpose of the partnership and category of partner in consultation with the Partnership Bureau the appropriateness of the selected modality to formalize the partner.

| Purpose of partnership | Category of partner | Partnership instrument |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| A statement of intent and commitment between the partners focusing on potential areas of cooperation in pursuit of common goals. It does not involve the transfer of monetary resources | Governments UN entities NGOs/CSOs Private Sector Academic institutions | Memorandum of Understanding |

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| | Foundations, etc. | |
| The potential partner is going to implement a project/proposal on behalf of the MDG-F Secretariat. Transfer of monies is required. | Non-for-profit organizations Governments | Project Document (Project Cooperation Agreement) |
| The types of activities are supported by grants for non-credit purposes: Strengthening the institutional capacity of local NGOs and CBOs; Supporting community-based self-help initiatives, which may include income-generating activities designed to alleviate poverty; Promoting advocacy activities and networking between civil society organizations (CSOs), government and donors; etc. (Grantees are responsible parties and partners (RPP) who have direct responsibility to implement a set of activities resulting in outputs that will contribute to specific project results.) | Non-for-profit organizations ie NGOS, and CBOs | Grant agreement (\$300,000 per grant) |
| Delegated provision of services from UNDP to another UN entity | UN entities | Service Level Agreement |
| Provision of goods and services (competitive bidding is required, a waiver is a possibility) | Governments NGOs/CSOs Private Sector Academic institutions Foundations, etc. | Contract |