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Evaluation

Independent Evaluation Office workplan (2018-2021)

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I. Introduction

1. The present multi-year evaluation plan is the first such plan proposed by the Independent Evaluation Office following the adoption by the Executive Board, at its second regular session 2016, of a new evaluation policy for UNDP (DP/2016/23).
2. The policy establishes the purpose and basic principles of evaluation, and defines the institutional architecture for UNDP and its associated funds and programmes, with the Independent Evaluation Office defined as a functionally independent unit that supports the oversight and accountability functions of the Executive Board and the management of UNDP, the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), and the United Nations Volunteers programme (UNV). Evaluations serve course-corrective decision-making by way of evidential data collection, reflection and analysis, as well as impartial judgement. The Evaluation Office is led by a director who reports directly and is accountable to the UNDP Executive Board. The director is appointed by the UNDP Administrator, in consultation with the Executive Board and the Audit and Evaluation Advisory Committee. Through the Board-approved multi-year evaluation plan, the office is allocated resources to implement its agreed programme of work.
3. The plan builds on expectations set out in the UNDP evaluation policy, as affirmed by decision 2017/12, cementing a resource base for the Independent Evaluation Office of \$42.1 million over the period 2018-2021. As noted in the UNDP integrated resource plan and integrated budget estimates, 2018-2021 (DP/2017/39, paragraphs 22 and 38(c)), “In line with the evaluation policy approved by the Executive Board, UNDP proposes to allocate 0.2 per cent of the estimated combined programmatic resources (regular and other) for the functions of the Independent Evaluation Office, which increases the estimated allocation by \$7 million compared to 2014-2017.”
4. The evaluation plan follows a full annual cycle of consultations with the Audit and Evaluation Advisory Committee, in respect of which the Independent Evaluation Office has presented a series of comprehensive briefing notes and materials. It also builds upon consultations with the new Administrator and senior management team.
5. The evaluation plan is presented upon completion of the evaluation plan for 2014-2017, culminating with evaluation of the UNDP Strategic Plan for that cycle (DP/2017/32). In keeping with decision 2017/21, asking the Independent Evaluation Office to “ensure adequate and comprehensive coverage of all aspects of the UNDP mandate”, the plan provides, inter alia, for again conducting an independent evaluation towards the end of forthcoming Strategic Plan cycle (2018-2021).
6. In the interim, the activities set out in the present plan, together with subsequent annual updates, will provide the Executive Board and UNDP management with a detailed and extensive set of independent evaluation projects covering key policy and operational aspects of UNDP work during the 2018-2021 period.

Lessons learned

7. As a further backdrop to the more detailed workplan, 2018-2021, the Independent Evaluation Office would like to summarize some lessons learned during implementation of the 2014-2017 plan, adopted in January 2014.
8. As noted in the policy, evaluations are important tools for learning from past experience and better understanding which types of development support work well, and which not so well. For such analysis, the determination of influence among multiple causal factors and institutional actors requires the voice of evaluators who are not only seasoned but also outside the line of authority held by those in charge of the subject matter at hand. While monitoring and self-evaluation are necessary functions of organizational management and governance, independence is a further requirement for arriving at impartial judgment as to what constitutes the difference between relative success and failure. The priority and value-added role of the Independent Evaluation Office is to identify course-correction opportunities at the institutional and country programme levels through high-quality, credible assessments of UNDP interventions, using rigorous methods and procedures. Management, for its part, should accept

that evaluators bring critical questions to the logic models or ‘theories of change’ that underpin policy, programme and project plans. Management should stand ready to receive impartial assessments to institutional performance in implementation; and take responsibility for acting upon resulting recommendations.

9. Second, it is to embed substantive validity, competency and legitimacy of independence that the Independent Evaluation Office over the past cycle has emphasised professionalization of the function, giving agency and analytical leadership to the its staff evaluators, displacing the practice of outsourcing evaluation assignment lead roles to external consultants. On the other hand, to supplement core staff competencies and provide quality assurance and enhancement at the level of overarching evaluative perspective, the Evaluation Office has been able to draw on a distinguished panel of global evaluation experts through its Evaluation Advisory Panel. These two initiatives are bedrocks to the reputation gained by the Office within and outside the organization.

10. Third, the scope, design and implementation of evaluations must be geared to generate evidence and reflection that is relevant, cost-effective and timely. Evaluation is not an endeavour of academic speculation; rather, it constitutes the summative judgment of professionals seasoned in their ability to understand varied development contexts and sources of testimonial bias, using triangulation to identify preponderance among conflicting evidential data sets. Evaluations too need to be undertaken within the constraints of time and resources, enabling managers and governments to digest their reflections and take course-corrective action. Even as it expands its coverage and depth of outputs and outreach, the Independent Evaluation Office has endeavoured to compress the timelines and unit costs of its evaluations, reducing the extent of travel, and volume of printed reports. The Evaluation Office has leveraged collaboration with other UNDP oversight units, as well as with the wider community of evaluation colleagues within the United Nations system and beyond.

Organization of major activities

11. The Independent Evaluation Office continues to bring vigilance to fulfilment of all mandates provided to it by way of the Evaluation Policy, guidance from Executive Board and the Audit and Evaluation Advisory Committee; suggestions from its Evaluation Advisory Panel, and consultations with the Administrator and his senior management team. While the purpose of the present report is to outline the substantive scope and coverage of its evaluations during the 2018-2021 period, the Independent Evaluation Office will continue to provide the following auxiliary evaluation support functions as part of its core mandate:

- (a) Developing evaluation standards, procedures, code of conduct, criteria and methodological and ethical guidance and good practices applicable to UNDP evaluations, including decentralized evaluation;
- (b) Bringing leadership to the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) and supporting harmonization, innovation, partnership and coordination of evaluation functions across the United Nations system, the international professional community and beyond;
- (c) Periodic and regular assessments of quality of decentralized evaluations of UNDP, UNCDF and UNV;
- (e) Maintaining a searchable, publicly accessible repository of UNDP evaluations, including lessons learned, recommendations, management responses and resulting actions; and
- (f) Promoting national ownership and leadership in evaluation through country-led and joint evaluations, and expanding national evaluation capacities through training and platforms for global dialogue.

12. A further transcendent aspect of the organization of work will be to actively pursue and extend opportunities to maximize coordination and joint activities with other independent oversight units, within UNDP and throughout the broader evaluation and oversight community.

II. Independent country programme evaluations

13. The UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, reaffirms that UNDP country offices are the programmatic and operational backbone of the organization. A country programme document developed by them at the end of each programme cycle remains the principal document setting forth the strategic direction for UNDP engagement in the respective countries during the following 4-5 years.

14. Known since 2002 as assessments of development results, the Independent Evaluation Office has conducted 106 country programme evaluations to date, providing critical input to country office preparations for a new country programme cycle.

15. Starting in 2019, in response to expectations expressed by the Executive Board for a wider coverage of country programme assessments, independent country programme evaluation will be carried out by the Independent Evaluation Office for all UNDP country programmes prior to new country programme document submissions to the Executive Board. Drawing on lessons learned from the conduct of the previous assessments of development results, both at operational and methodological levels, the independent country programme evaluations will benefit from a sharpened analytical scope, greater efficiency in the operational aspects of evaluation implementation, revamped preparatory research work, and a focus on UNDP core operational principles as underlined in the new Strategic Plan. As with the assessments of development results, the independent country programme evaluations are intended to be forward-looking, providing recommendations that can inform country programming and submissions of new country programme documents.

16. At the second regular session of the Executive Board in 2018, and annually thereafter, the Independent Evaluation Office will provide a synthesis of results and lessons from the independent country programme assessments. The Evaluation Office plans to consult with the Executive Board, the Audit and Evaluation Advisory Committee, and UNDP senior management on topics of interest to include in its analyses.

17. The table below provides an indication of the coverage of all the country programme assessments provided to the Executive Board since 2012, and those planned for submission to the Board during 2018-2021. The Independent Evaluation Office will engage the regional bureaus and the Development Impact Group throughout the year to monitor and update the list of programme cycles for all UNDP countries. The final list will be confirmed during the annual session of the Board each year. Results of the evaluations will feed directly into the corporate and thematic evaluation effort, including the comprehensive Strategic Plan evaluation that will be presented to the Board in June 2021. Meanwhile the cumulative stock of country programme assessments will be leveraged for thematic evaluations and synthesis studies.

| Coverage of country programme assessments submitted to the Board, 2012-2020 | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------------------|
| Year | Country programmes submitted to the Executive Board | Country programmes covered by ADRs/ICPEs* | ADR/ICPE coverage |
| 2012 | 32 | 12 | 38% |
| 2013 | 24 | 8 | 33% |
| 2014 | 14 | 7 | 50% |
| 2015 | 28 | 4 | 14% |
| 2016 | 36 | 9 | 25% |
| 2017 | 19 | 3 | 16% |
| 2018 | 35 | 13 | 37% |
| 2019 | 17 | 17 | 100% |
| 2020 | 37 | 37 | 100% |

*ADRs/ICPEs that covered the most recent country programme cycle prior to the new submission (ADRs = assessments of development results; ICPEs = independent country programme evaluations)

18. The independent country programme evaluations planned for presentation to the Executive Board in 2019 and 2020 are indicated in the table below.

| Year | ICPEs | Countries/territories |
|--|-----------------|---|
| 2018 (for 2019 Board) | 15 ¹ | Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Comoros, Cuba, Guatemala, Madagascar, Mali, Paraguay, Sierra Leone, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Venezuela, Yemen. |
| 2019 (for 2020 Board) | 37 | Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Georgia, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kosovo ² , Lebanon, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Panama, Serbia, Seychelles, Somalia, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Zimbabwe |

19. The 2019 selection includes a large number of countries in Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, providing an opportunity to evaluate these country programmes as a cluster, with examination of country programme performance within the context of some shared development characteristics as well as wider UNDP support to the region. Results are expected to inform UNDP regional policy and programme strategy. Based on this experience, the Independent Evaluation Office will consider further opportunities for independent country programme cluster evaluations.

III. Corporate and thematic evaluations

20. The Independent Evaluation Office will develop an array of corporate and thematic evaluations during this four-year period, culminating in a comprehensive evaluation of the UNDP Strategic Plan for presentation in 2021. Meanwhile, the subjects for interim thematic evaluations will be calibrated to the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, once adopted, including its overarching 'development settings', 'signature solutions', and global and country 'support platforms'. While understanding there is a convergence of agreement on the draft strategy, the Evaluation Office is aware that the development strategies of the United Nations and UNDP will remain in transition and subject to further refinement in accordance with Member State discussions and the Secretary General's proposals for restructuring the United Nations development system, unfolding in parallel to the finalization of the Strategic Plan. The Office therefore plans to retain a degree of flexibility, especially in the latter years of the planning cycle, to enable further deliberation with the Executive Board and UNDP management during 2018 and 2019.

21. The next full series of corporate and thematic evaluations of the Independent Evaluation Office will come before the Executive Board starting at its second regular session 2018. Subject to approval by the Board, the preliminary set of evaluation topics is proposed as follows:

¹ Two of the 17 evaluations (Mexico and the Republic of Congo) have already been completed.

² References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

| Evaluation | Board session* |
|--|-----------------------------|
| <p><i>UNDP inter-agency pooled financing and operational services</i></p> <p>(a) UNDP hosts the United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, established to facilitate United Nations coherence and development effectiveness through the design and administration of pooled financing instruments. The portfolio of the Office includes more than 50 participating organizations and more than 100 contributors, working in over 100 countries, with a combined \$10 billion in deposits. These services have not previously been evaluated by the Independent Evaluation Office.</p> <p>(b) UNDP has recently developed four funding windows, providing pooled, flexible funding for UNDP and partners to focus jointly on common goals in support of country-level programming to achieve the sustainable development goals. The Independent Evaluation Office will analyse the start-up of this new funding mechanism, noting its centrality to the current UNDP service delivery platform.</p> <p>(c) UNDP provides inter-agency operational services around the world through its Global Shared Service Unit, including human resources administrative services, payroll and related services. These services are extended to United Nations partner organizations, including UNFPA, the United Nations System Staff College, United Nations University, UN-Women, and the United Nations Department of Safety and Security.</p> <p>(d) Assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of UNDP inter-agency pooled financing and operational services is both relevant and timely as the United Nations development system undergoes restructuring, the results of which process may alter the scope of the assessment.</p> <p>(e) The Independent Evaluation Office will reach out to the evaluation offices of other United Nations development organizations to consider whether a joint evaluation on this topic is feasible.</p> | Second regular session 2018 |
| <p><i>UNDP support to least developed countries for social protection and poverty reduction</i></p> <p>(a) The intent of this evaluation will be to look in detail at UNDP support for social protection and poverty alleviation among the subset of countries (47 at present) that comprise the group of least developed countries, plus countries that have recently graduated from that status.</p> <p>(b) This evaluation will build on the results of the 2013 Independent Evaluation Office evaluation of poverty-related programming, and responds to Board member interests for the Evaluation Office to pay special attention to UNDP poverty-reduction programming.</p> <p>(c) The Independent Evaluation Office intends this and other evaluations to reinforce relevant United Nations and General Assembly resolutions bearing on UNDP strategies and programming. In this instance, the Evaluation Office notes General Assembly resolution 70/299, on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level, which sets out the 2019 high-level political forum</p> | First regular session 2019 |

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <p>theme: Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality.</p> | |
| <p><i>Review of the UNDP evaluation policy</i></p> <p>When the Executive Board approved the evaluation policy, 2016, it decided that the policy should be reviewed again in 2019 (decisions 2016/17 and 2016/6). The Independent Evaluation Office will conduct this review in time for consideration at the annual session 2019 of the Board. Should the Board then decide that the policy should be revised, a draft revised policy will be introduced for consideration by the Board at its annual session 2020.</p> | <p>Annual session 2019</p> |
| <p><i>UNDP assistance to vulnerable developing countries for disaster risk reduction and climate change resilience</i></p> <p>The Independent Evaluation Office last considered UNDP support to disaster risk reduction and recovery in 2010. UNDP has since restructured and expanded its disaster risk reduction and climate resilience support. The focus of the evaluation will be UNDP support to countries that are especially vulnerable to climate shocks, including small island developing States.</p> | <p>Second regular session 2019</p> |
| <p><i>UNDP development support services to middle income countries</i></p> <p>While the Independent Evaluation Office has conducted many evaluations covering the work of UNDP in specific middle-income countries, it has not considered this work, or the UNDP value proposition as a provider of development support services to them, in aggregate. This evaluation will consider the types, scale and quality of services being provided, the results of those engagements, and how they fit within the overall strategic focus of UNDP.</p> | <p>First regular session 2020</p> |
| <p><i>Leveraging private sector finance and engagement for development support</i></p> <p>In its response to the Strategic Plan evaluation, UNDP stated that it would “improve its service offer, skills, systems, processes and tools to shift from being solely a direct funding partner towards being an organization that leverages development by helping to create a better enabling environment for private sector funding and providing services to help mobilize private capital and other investments for country development”. This evaluation, to be carried out just prior to the next Strategic Plan evaluation in 2021, will consider the extent to which UNDP is achieving these ambitions, forging effective partnerships with the private sector, and leveraging greater access to private capital in support of national partners.</p> | <p>Second regular session 2020</p> |
| <p><i>Evaluation of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2018-2021</i></p> <p>At the end of the programme cycle, the Independent Evaluation Office will submit to the Executive Board a comprehensive evaluation of UNDP performance and results under the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021. That evaluation will take into account decision 2017/21 adopted by the Executive Board at its second regular session 2017, which expects the evaluation to be comprehensive and requests that it pay particular attention to the work of UNDP in the area of poverty reduction.</p> | <p>Annual session 2021</p> |

22. A series of additional themes and topics derived from the signature solutions, platforms and business models identified in the draft Strategic Plan, 2018-2021, are annexed to this plan, as are possible joint evaluations on programming jointly implemented with partner organizations. Additional themes, arising from the Independent Evaluation Office country programme evaluations, will be identified for consideration. In 2018 the Evaluation Office will further clarify its plans for evaluating the work of UNCDF and UNV during the next strategic planning cycle.

23. The Independent Evaluation Office will provide to the Board at its annual session in June 2018 an assessment of the actions against evaluation recommendations from Evaluation Office thematic and country programme evaluations carried out since 2012.

24. The Evaluation Office will continue to submit an annual report on evaluation to the Executive Board at each annual session, providing salient information on Office activities and achievements from the previous year. Refinements to the present workplan will be submitted to the Executive Board at its first regular session 2018.

IV. Evaluation capacity

25. Further to provisions under the evaluation policy, and as directed by the Executive Board, the Independent Evaluation Office provides wide-ranging support to decentralized evaluations carried out by UNDP programme and policy units. This includes revising guidelines and trainings, holding regional training workshops, providing oversight by monitoring evaluation implementation against evaluation plans, and offering high-quality assessments of the plans.

26. In October 2017, the Independent Evaluation Office completed its work, together with the UNDP regional bureaus and the Development Impact Group/Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, on a series of regional workshops to strengthen decentralized evaluation at UNDP. The workshops were designed to encourage regional evaluation support staff and country office monitoring and evaluation focal points in identifying decentralized evaluation challenges, guidance requirements and training needs. The process helped clarify evaluation planning and implementation requirements. Extracting lessons from those workshops is a priority for UNDP, as they are highly relevant to the ongoing efforts to strengthen decentralized evaluation and results-based management functions more broadly. The lessons will be factored into a new set of guidance documents and a new online evaluation certification course, both scheduled for completion in 2018. Concurrent with this multi-year evaluation plan, the Evaluation Office has submitted to the Executive Board its report on the continuing efforts to assess the decentralized evaluation function in UNDP.

27. The Independent Evaluation Office will continue to assess the quality of evaluations that UNDP offices commission on their programmes and projects, which in any given year amounts to more than 250 evaluations. An assessment of 'decentralized' evaluation quality will be provided to the Executive Board at its annual session each year, within the annual report on evaluation.

28. The Independent Evaluation Office is continuing to enhance the usability and utility of the online repository of evaluation (Evaluation Resource Centre), including access to best-practice evaluations, a database of evaluators, and programmatic lessons learned.

29. UNCDF and UNV evaluations are now subject to the same quality assessment process as UNDP evaluations, and the Independent Evaluation Office will report 2017 findings to the Executive Board in 2018.

30. The Independent Evaluation Office has played a review-and-comment role in the recent efforts of UNCDF and UNV to evaluate their signature programmes and results under their respective strategic plans. It is expected that, recognizing the 2016 evaluation policy expectations, this oversight role will continue and deepen.

31. *National evaluation capacity.* From 18-20 October 2017, the Independent Evaluation Office, in collaboration with the UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth

of Independent States, and with Turkish national authorities as hosts, held its fifth global conference on national evaluation capacity in Istanbul, Turkey, following similar conferences in Bangkok (2015), São Paulo (2013), Johannesburg (2011) and Casablanca (2009). The 2017 conference, themed “People, Planet, and Progress in the SDG era”, drew together 500 participants from more than 110 countries, as well as United Nations and international organizations, to discuss how evaluation can be enhanced in support of national sustainable development goals and the 2030 Agendas for Sustainable Development.

32. The Fifth International Conference on National Evaluation Capacities marked completion of full ‘regional cycle’ of staging such events; and the Independent Evaluation Office is working with UNDP regional bureaus and national partners to consider what has been achieved, and the gaps in evaluation capacity where further support from the Evaluation Office would be most helpful.

33. *Evaluation diagnostic tool.* While the national evaluation conferences have been a flagship activity for the Independent Evaluation Office, there are other capacity initiatives that it will carry out. In 2017 it developed a diagnostic guide for countries on evaluating national development programming in the sustainable development goals era. This tool will be piloted in 10 countries in 2018, and once revised it will be made available to all partner countries.

34. *Colloquiums and other platforms for sharing evaluation expertise.* UNDP intends to continue efforts to promote knowledge sharing and partnership building, with a sharp focus on the sustainable development goals, independent oversight and related challenges. Included in this effort will be a series of colloquiums, the first of which will take place at Wilton Park, Steyning (United Kingdom) in 2018. The Wilton Park conference will bring together a group of global thought leaders in the fields of development assistance and evaluation research to reflect critically on important dimensions of evaluating the work of multilateral institutions.

V. Other activities of the Independent Evaluation Office

35. *United Nations Evaluation Group.* The Independent Evaluation Office supports United Nations reform through UNEG, a voluntary network of 47 units responsible for evaluation in the United Nations system including funds, programmes, specialized agencies and affiliated organizations. The Evaluation Office plans to continue hosting the UNEG secretariat during the next four years, with the Director of the Independent Evaluation Office serving as vice-chair and the Deputy Director serving as executive coordinator. The Office will staff the UNEG secretariat with a full-time programme specialist and provide additional operational support.

Annex 1. Indicative annual budget for the Independent Evaluation Office, 2018-2021

1. As noted in paragraph 3, above, the planning of the Independent Evaluation Office for the period 2018-2021 is based on budget projections derived from the UNDP integrated resource plan and integrated budget, 2018-2021 (DP/2017/39), presented to a special session of the Executive Board in November 2017. The budget plan establishes a resource envelope for the Evaluation Office of \$42.1 million for the 2018-2021 period. The Office is aware this constitutes an indicative budget, and that actual funding may fall short of, or exceed, this initial planning. At the beginning of each fiscal year, the Office will set new budget projections based on actual income figures from the previous year.
2. Apportioned equally, \$42.1 million over four years provides an annual budget of just over 10.5 million. Subtracting the annual cost of office rental and utilities, approximately \$10 million would remain for staff salaries and programme expenditures.
3. At the end of 2017, the Independent Evaluation Office made a significant personnel shift, adding seven temporary appointments (three P-3, two P-2, one G-7 and one G-6), providing an increase in personnel from 23 to 30 managers, evaluators and support staff. The Evaluation Office expects that the temporary posts will, in time, be replaced by fixed-term appointments, establishing and maintaining a post table of 30.
4. In 2017 the Independent Evaluation Office established three programmatic sections: Independent Country Programme Evaluations, Corporate Evaluations, and Capacity Development. In addition, there is an Operations Team, and there are five personnel (two P-3, one P-2 and 2 G-6), assigned to the Office of the Director and Deputy Director, which includes the UNEG secretariat. Considering the cost of salaries, plus variable costs for travel, consultants and miscellaneous expenses, the indicative annual breakdown by section, including general expenses, is as follows:

| Section | Annual budget (\$ millions) | Percentage of annual total budget |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ICPE | 2.9 | 28% |
| Corporate and Thematic | 2.8 | 27% |
| Evaluation Capacity | 1.65 | 16% |
| Directorate | 1.6 | 15% |
| Operations | 0.7 | 7% |
| Operating expenses | | |
| <i>Premises</i> | 0.5 | 5% |
| <i>General operating expenses</i> | 0.25 | 2% |
| <i>Other/miscellaneous</i> | 0.1 | 1% |
| | \$10.5 m | 100% |

ICPE = independent country programme evaluations

Annex II. Submission timing of independent evaluations and reports to the Executive Board, 2018-2021

| | 2018 | | | 2019 | | | 2020 | | | 2021 | | |
|--|------|----|-----|------|----|-----|------|----|-----|------|----|-----|
| | FRS | AS | SRS | FRS | AS | SRS | FRS | AS | SRS | FRS | AS | SRS |
| <i>Corporate and programmatic reporting</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Multi-year evaluation plan | ● | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Annual costed programme of work | ● | | | ● | | | ● | | | ● | | |
| Annual report on evaluation | | ● | | | ● | | | ● | | | ● | |
| Synthesis and lessons from independent country programme evaluations | | ● | | | ● | | | ● | | | ● | |
| Revised evaluation policy (as necessary) | | | | | | | | ● | | | | |
| <i>Corporate and thematic evaluations</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP inter-agency financial and operational services | | | ● | | | | | | | | | |
| UNDP support to least developed countries for social protection and poverty reduction | | | | ● | | | | | | | | |
| External review of the UNDP evaluation policy | | | | | ● | | | | | | | |
| UNDP assistance to vulnerable developing countries for disaster risk reduction and climate change resilience | | | | | | ● | | | | | | |
| UNDP development support services to middle-income countries | | | | | | | ● | | | | | |
| Europe and the CIS ICPE cluster | | | | | | | | ● | | | | |
| Leveraging private sector finance and engagement for development support | | | | | | | | | ● | | | |
| UNDP performance and results under the Strategic Plan, 2018-2021 | | | | | | | | | | | ● | |

FRS = first regular session; AS = annual session; SRS = second regular session

Annex III. Other evaluation themes for consideration

Thematic/programmatic (UNDP signature solutions)

- (a) Impact of UNDP support to countries using energy efficiency and alternative energy development;
- (b) UNDP nature-based programming and partnerships; and
- (c) UNDP support to conflict prevention and recovery.

Institutional/operational

- (a) UNDP as an innovative, knowledge-driven organization; and
- (b) The institutional framework for UNDP country-level support

UNCDF and UNV

Effectiveness and impact of UNCDF and UNV under their respective strategic frameworks, 2018-2021

Joint evaluations

- (a) United Nations response to human migration: Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (Syria conflict); and
 - (b) United Nations Development Group mainstreaming, acceleration and policy support for the 2030 Agenda ('MAPS')
-