

2016 UN COUNTRY TEAM STRATEGIC SUMMARY FOR COORDINATION RESULTS

1. Brief Description of Major Development or Political and Economic Events that have had an Effect (direct or indirectly) on the work of the UNCT

Namibia continues to enjoy peace, security and political stability. The country's President, Dr Hage Geingob who was sworn in since March 2015, dedicated his presidency to the eradication of poverty and hunger. During his State of the Nation Address delivered in April 05, 2016, President Geingob declared 2016 as a year of implementation for various planning policies and frameworks. These include the Harambee Prosperity Plan (HPP), a Government Action Plan towards Prosperity for All Namibians and the Blue Print on Wealth Redistribution and Poverty Eradication, a policy framework aimed at advancing strategies for eradicating poverty and reducing income inequality in Namibia. These frameworks are in line with Namibia's vision 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) particularly SDG 1 and 2. Namibia is reported to be among one of the few countries that have affected some of the fastest rates in poverty reduction. Poverty in 2016 stands at 18% down from 28% in 2010/11; while severe poverty has declined to 11% from 18%; inequality, as measured by the Gini coefficient, has reduced slightly from 0.59 to 0.57. However, these declines have not been accompanied by significant job creation.

During the last two quarters of the year 2016, the Namibian Government has grappled with a tough economic situation. In September, the Fitch Rating Agency, revised Namibia's economic outlook from stable to negative, specifically affirming the country's sovereign credit rating at the investment grade notch of BBB. This was largely attributed to the country's growing budget deficit, 8 percent of the Gross Domestic Product in fiscal year 2014/15, which is above the government's 5 percent target. In addition, the country's debt to GDP ratio increased to 38.5 percent, which is above the target of 35 percent. Government resources are strained due to the downturn in global commodity prices, which adversely affected Namibia's exports, depressed private sector activity, water stress leading to decline in contributions from productive sectors, lower domestic revenue and the need to maintain spending on social programmes. Following this, the Ministry of Finance tabled in parliament, a mid-year budget review for 2016 and announced various control measures aimed at tightening expenditure at all ministries which includes cutting unnecessary spending such as overtime, travel etc.

On October 13, 2016, the country also dealt with a nationwide teachers strike against government's refusal to grant them an 8 % salary increment which they had been demanding for several months. The strike took place despite Government's efforts to stop the strike led by the National Teacher's Union (NANTU) through an urgent application to the Labour Court. The application was dismissed. This strike took place at the time schools were starting with national examinations (Grades 10 and 12), and as such, the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture was forced to suspend the examination for a few days. The situation was resolved in October 10, 2016, after the country's President intervened and asked the Trade Unions involved (NANTU and NAPWU) to reach an agreement. Consequently, the Government and the Teachers Unions agreed on a 9% across the board salary increase for the 2017/2018 fiscal year and settled for a

5% for 2016. The case of the education sector also reflects challenges in the labour market in general with other sectors including mining, fisheries, retail and security services with regards to working conditions and wages.

Like other Southern Africa countries, Namibia continues to be vulnerable to environmental shocks and is facing water, energy and food insecurity challenges. Namibia also suffered the effects of the El-Niño phenomenon, for the fourth consecutive year where about 700 000 people reportedly faced survival and livelihood protection deficits as a result of foot-and-mouth disease, increased prices of the staple food basket and severe drought conditions. This prompted a declaration of a national state of emergency, on 24 June 2016, by the Government.

2. Highlights on progress on joint work. Summarize the three most significant achievements in delivering together for development.

2.1 UNPAF Mid Term Review

In 2016, the United Nations Partnership Framework (UNPAF) for Namibia 2014-2018 reached a midpoint, which provided an opportunity to reflect on results achieved over the past two years and any adjustments necessary before the year 2018. The national and global development context has changed since the development of the UNPAF in 2013. This includes the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), formulation of development policies such as the HPP, Namibian Government's Action Plan towards Prosperity for All and the endorsement (by Cabinet) of the Blue Print on Poverty Eradication and Wealth Redistribution, and at the same time, the Government begun the drafting of its Fifth National Development Plan (NDP5).

In light of the above, the UN System, and the Government of the Republic of Namibia commissioned an independent Mid-Term Review (MTR) review of the UNPAF. This review was combined with the assessment of the UN System's capacity to implement the UNPAF.

The MTR found the UNPAF to be relevant and aligned with the current NDP 4, proposed NDP5, and the SDGs. The UNPAF outcomes are aligned with 11 out of the 17 goals and 71 per cent of the UNPAF outcomes are aligned with the HPP targets. The MTR report pointed out a number of areas for improvement to ensure effective implementation of the UNPAF. This will form part of the focus areas of the 2017 UNCT agenda.

2.2 The Work of the UNPAF Pillars and other Thematic Working Groups

Namibia is classified as Upper Middle-Income (UMIC), yet despite this distinction, the country faces a number of development challenges that have been documented in the government's Vision 2030 and national development plans, especially with respect to the triple challenge of poverty, inequality and unemployment. In supporting the Government to respond to its developmental challenges, the UN System through its four Pillars (Institutional Environment; Education and Skills; Health; and Poverty Reduction) supports Government to develop

capacities of national institutions, foster multi-disciplinary approaches to development, provide technical expertise, policy analysis, advisory support, and strengthen knowledge generation management. Below is a summary of key achievements by pillars:

a) UNPAF Institutional Environment

The UN System supported the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MoHSS) to develop the 2016-2030 Namibia Investment Case for ending AIDS by 2030 as a public threat. This Framework will guide the Country regarding implementation of high impact interventions targeting the populations in need and in the most affected regions. In addition, UN Agencies; UNAIDS , WHO , and UNICEF provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Health and Social Services to conduct the End Term Review of the National HIV Strategic Framework 2010/11-2016/17. The National Youth Council was supported to produce its National Youth Status Report using available national statistics from the Census and other national household surveys reports.

ILO supported Namibia through the National Statistical Agency (NSA) to implement the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians. The conference adopted five resolutions concerning: Statistics of Work, Employment and Labour Underutilization. Namibia is one of five pilot African countries to start implementing the resolution under the framework of the 2016 Labour Force Survey. Support will be continued in 2017 towards data analysis and report writing. The implementation of the new resolution on measurement of work, will see better reporting of employment and unemployment statistics especially in a context of a growing informalization and actualization of employment.

b) UNPAF Health Pillar and Joint Programme on AIDS (JUTA)

Namibia also made headlines when the country's First Lady, Madam Monica Geingos, was appointed as UNAIDS Special Advocate for Young Women and Adolescent Girls. Madame Geingos's appointment by Dr Michel Sidibé, UN Under Secretary General and UNAIDS Executive Director, is to speak out for young women and adolescent girls in the Republic of Namibia as well as on the world stage. She will champion the "Start Free, Stay Free, AIDS Free", an agenda to put the world on a "Super Fast-Track" to end AIDS among children, adolescents and young women by 2020.

UN Agencies (UNAIDS, UNFPA, UNESCO and UNICEF) supported the MoHSS to host its first ever National AIDS Conference held in Namibia under the theme "Together We Are Ending AIDS in Namibia". The conference adopted "the Swakopmund Declaration of Consensus to end AIDS in Namibia by 2030", which calls for fast tracking the AIDS response by increasing investments and coverage of HIV services to reduce the rate of new infections and AIDS-related deaths. The 2016 Global AIDS Response Progress Report "Get on the Fast –Track, the life –cycle approach was launched during the National conference on AIDS. The Report indicates that more than 70% of Namibians have been tested for HIV and know their status and HIV treatment is widely available across the country, and 67% of infected adults and 90% of infected children are on HIV

treatment. In addition, the Namibian government is reported as funding 65% of the national HIV response.

The UN System provided coordinated technical support to the Government of the Republic of Namibia to mobilise about 65 Million USD from the Global Fund which will be used to support a broad variety of programs to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. The UN System provided support in improving capacity of the Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM) and Global Fund Grant Management Unit to accelerate the implementation of HIV/AIDS Grant in 2017. The Programme will strengthen the HIV response coordination structures in Namibia, thereby ensuring accountability and well-coordinated multi-sectoral mechanisms to reduce the burden of priority disease.

UN Agencies (UNFPA and UNAIDS) also supported the MoHSS to implement a pilot project on Sexual Reproductive Health /HIV Integration. This resulted in Government committing to scale up the initiative throughout the country.

The UN System through UNICEF and UNAIDS provided technical support to MoHSS the Ministry of Health and Social Services to carry out an evaluation of the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) programme. The results will inform the development of the elimination of HIV transmission from mother to child plan by 2020 in Namibia. Specifically, support was provided to MoHSS to carry out the End Adolescents AIDS All in Phase 2 bottleneck analysis in the seven high adolescent HIV burden regions of the country. The analysis aims to strengthen advocacy around Sexual Reproductive Health. UN Agencies provided training on capacity building to 17 members of parliament and 30 parliamentary Staff to empower them to issues related to SRHR and HIV.

The Namibia UN Cares program was extended to stress management with in the workplace and prevention and care of Non communicable diseases. The massage and blood donation sessions are popular activities among UN staff members, and up to 146 staff members benefited from the neck and back massage sessions in 2016. 25 UN staff participated in the blood donation clinic session. The session was important for staff as it raised awareness on issues of high blood pressure, which often has no symptoms and goes undetected in a high percentage of people.

UN Cares received 19 Pep Kits in November 2016 and these were distributed to the respective UN Cares Custodians. On the 1st July 2016 UN Cares appointed a new Psychologist Dr. Hermias Strauss to provide psychological support to the staff and their family.

c) UNPAF Education Pillar

The UN System continues to support the Government of the Republic of Namibia in ensuring implementation of policies and programmes that improve learning outcomes at all levels, as part of outcome five of the UNPAF pillar. Despite the fact that Namibia has made great progress in promoting access to education, including making primary and secondary education free, thousands of learners are still at a risk of dropping out of school. In order to address this

challenge, the UN, through UNESCO and UNICEF supported the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MoEAC) to undertake a study in 2015 to assess the magnitude of out of school children in Namibia. The outcome of the study was a report “*School drop-out and out-of-school Children in Namibia: A National Review*”. A National Conference on “School Drop-out and Out-of-school Children-” was held in June 2016 and attended by over 150 delegates from across Namibia, including representatives of youth organizations, organizations of people with disabilities. Key recommendations included: strengthening the implementation of the Prevention and Management of Learner Pregnancy Policy; strengthening and expanding access to the vocational stream to provide for the diverse aptitudes of learners and enable them to acquire practical skills; improving the quality of service delivery within the sector; timely data collection and analysis of the nature and magnitude of the Out-of-school Children challenge, and advocating for the meaningful participation of parents in education. As a result of the conference, an Out-of-school Children Youth Task Force was established, comprising members of the various youth-led organisations which fall under the National Youth Council.

During 2016, the UN System also supported the drafting of the sections on education and skills for Namibia’s Fifth National Development Plan 2017/2018-2021/2022, placing more emphasis on investing both human and financial resources in this sector and strengthening inter-ministerial and multi-sectoral stakeholder collaboration and coordination.

Equally, the UN System provided support towards the Integrated School Health, such support included training of teachers which has resulted in a better understanding of the health needs of learners, in particular the importance of sexual reproductive health, hygiene and sanitation, with a focus on the girl child. The School Health Task Force houses a subcommittee dedicated to honouring the Eastern and Southern African Ministerial Commitment to Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) in which UNESCO and UNFPA supported the MoEAC to roll out the CSE online trainings for teachers. The Subcommittee has been actively engaging regional officials and has conducted trainings on SRH and HIV prevention in the school context.

d) UNPAF Poverty Pillar

The UN System has been supporting the Government of the Republic of Namibia, through the Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare to implement its Blue Print on Poverty Eradication and Wealth Redistribution. UN agencies provided technical and financial assistance for the completion of the Blue Print and its implementation plan. The Blue Print is a guideline on poverty eradication strategies and was approved by Cabinet in August 2016.

In efforts to strengthen monitoring for effective planning, UN agencies provided technical support to the Office of the Prime Minister to strengthen systems for Food Assistance Management and Food and Nutrition Security Monitoring (FNSM). The data collected enabled the production of two FNSM bulletins for 2016 (March and October). A Food and Nutrition Security Training Manual was developed and finalized which will guide the capacity building trainers/facilitators on how to deliver enumerator training on FNSM. Technical support was provided to enable Government to develop and validate the School Feeding Policy and Education Act. The web-based Namibian School Feeding Information System was improved and

is now facilitating timely reporting on the implementation of the school feeding programme including tracking food delivery at school level. A total of 75 staff members of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture received training on how to utilize the system. A feasibility study was conducted on linking school feeding to smallholder farmers. In this regard, the findings were shared with stakeholders and inform the planned diversification of the school meals using food commodities sourced from the smallholder farmers. This cross-sectoral linkage will enhance income for the smallholder while simultaneously improving learners' nutrition.

UN agencies supported the National Planning Commission and the Office of the Prime Minister to undertake the Zero Hunger Strategic Review. Following the review, a Zero Hunger Road Map was developed by government, in collaboration with the private sector, Academia, civil society and UN agencies (WFP, FAO, WHO and UNDP). The Zero Hunger Review provided a comprehensive analysis on the underlying drivers of food insecurity and malnutrition in Namibia. Through the Road Map a set of actions that will guide the development and implementation of Zero Hunger strategies are provided. As part of the Road Map initiative, WFP contributed to the development of advocacy tools including the production of two Zero Hunger Newsletters. The Blue Print on Wealth Redistribution and Poverty Eradication has adopted Zero Hunger and calls for the implementation of the Zero Hunger Road Map.

3. Support to National Government in the Advancing the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Activities Related to the 2030 Agenda

The UN System in Namibia prioritized support to government to ensure a strong local ownership and popularization of the SDGs through advocacy as well as strengthening multi-stakeholder partnership. Following the adoption of the SDG roadmap by Government in November 2015, the UN System supported the National Planning Commission together with Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation to launch the Sustainable Development Agenda plus the Africa Agenda 2063, at National level. The national launch was well attended by approximately 171 participants from different sectors, key line ministries (eight deputy ministers from various line Ministries plus four Permanent Secretaries attended), Development Partners, Diplomatic Missions, Civil Society, Youth Representatives, Research Institutions, Media, Academia as well as representatives from the African Union and others. The event was well covered by national local media.

The UN System held orientation workshops for various local media houses in the country and UN Staff members. This has been part of the national efforts to strengthen communication on global development issues and further enhance capacity building and knowledge dissemination on SDGs. The UN Country Team Members participated in a series of national consultations under the leadership of the Government of the Republic Namibia during its national consultations for the development of the fifth National Development Plan (NDP 5) and the SDGs. The objective of consultations was to obtain inputs from regional and local levels on key

issues that will form the basis of the prioritization process of the 17 goals and 169 targets for Namibia.

4. Support to Government and other Stakeholders in Building National Capacity to Implement Human Rights and other Universal UN Norms and Standards, and Progress in Advocacy of Human Rights and other UN System Values, Standards, and Principles

The UN System in Namibia, through its Gender Theme Group chaired by UNFPA, supported the Government of the Republic of Namibia, mainly through the National Gender Machinery - Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare as its main counterpart. Gender being a cross-cutting issue, the agencies in the UN Gender Theme Group also worked with other national partners such as the Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, Ministry of Health and Social Services, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Agriculture and other respective line ministries and inter-ministerial bodies.

This has been one of the areas of best practice by the UN System in that, UN Agencies successfully partnered with stakeholders from civil society and academia, such as the University of Science and Technology, Life Line Child Line, Namibia Planned Parenthood Association and the Namibia Football Association. The following are of the areas of UN collective interventions:

- (1) *Knowledge generation and management:* The UN system through UNFPA, UNAIDS, UNICEF, FAO, and UNODC supported the Government to undertake a number of research, assessments, evaluation and studies to gather data/ evidence and generate knowledge/lessons learned on gender based violence (GBV); Gender and Education, Gender, HIV and TB; Gender and Agriculture, Child online sexual exploitation, Prevention of Mother To Child Transmission (PMTCT) and Namibia human rights treaty recommendations. The data and recommendations that emerged from such reports will be used to guide national policy planning, advocacy and programming in the various areas of development. A Decent Work Country Profile was also developed and published in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation highlighting key trends in working conditions and other key indicators of the labour market.
- (2) *Policy and legal environment:* During the reporting period, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNAIDS, WHO, UN Women, ILO, IOM and UN Department of Political Office provided technical and financial support to the Government for the development of national planning frameworks, strategies and implementation tools, such as 5th National Development Plan, National Labour Migration Policy, Blue Print on Wealth Redistribution and Poverty Eradication, PMTCT strategy, Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security.

Support was also provided for the development and enforcement of three legislation namely the Human Trafficking Bill, Electronic Transactions and Cybercrime Bill and 2015 Child Care and Protection Act. The support has resulted in the integration of issues related to trafficking in persons, Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission, poverty, GBV, Violence Against Children in these frameworks; as well as enhanced capacity to develop and

implement a plan of action directly related to women, peace and security and legislations. The ILO supported the building of the capacity of the labour inspectors from the Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and employment Creation and the Inter-Ministerial Committee on child labour; to monitor, inspect and report on child labour as well as the enforcement of the Domestic Minimum Wage Order

- (3) *Advocacy and communication:* As part of advocacy and communication efforts, UNFPA, UNDP, UNODC and UNICEF supported government and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to convene and participate in national and international events that promoted gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls during the International Women's Day, Africa Day of Decentralization, 16 Days of Activism against GBV, and the Launch of the 2016 African Human Development Report. Messages shared during these events aimed at increasing awareness on the human rights of women and girls and engaging men and boys as agents of change. Equally, the UN System through UN agencies; UN Women South Multi-Country Office, UN Department of Political Affairs Office through the SADC Liaison Unit and UNDP Namibia supported the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare to host a High Level Consultative Workshop on Lessons Learned and Experiences to Develop and Implement National Action Plans for Women, Peace and Security.
- (4) *Capacity strengthening:* UN Women, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO and UNESCO provided technical and financial support to strengthen institutional (Government and UN) and individual (policy makers, managers and implementers) capacity to deliver services. This has resulted in improved platforms, knowledge, skills of the UN Gender Theme Group members and non- members and government institutions personnel on Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB); programming on gender and coordination, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and Sexual Violence (SV); Schools safety, Child sexual abuse, Menstrual and Hygiene for the girl learners Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE). It is anticipated that this enhanced capacity will be translated into improved protection, education and empowerment for women and girls in Namibia.
- (5) *Service delivery:* In partnership with government and partners, achievements under this strategic area, focused on contributing to improved service and product delivery in the areas of health, education and women and girls protection. This includes a) the adaptation of the Clinical handbook on Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and Sexual Violence (SV) for health care workers. b) National Action Plan on CEDAW to guide the work of both government and stakeholders. c) Training of social workers on GBV to provide social services including counselling to victims and families. d) Development of guidelines, training manual and teaching aids/tools to assist teachers in delivering quality, evidence based CSE throughout the country. These activities were supported by UNFPA, WHO, UNICEF and UNESCO.

5. Progress on Preparedness, Crisis and Post-Crisis Transition Results Achieved in Cooperation with UN Peacekeeping, Peace Building, Political, and Humanitarian Actors

The El Nino weather phenomenon affected Namibia which led to the declaration of the state of emergency by the Country's President on June 24, 2016. The drought left 700 000 people facing survival and livelihood protection deficits. In response, the government established a technical committee to develop a Comprehensive Drought Response Plan which highlighted gaps and needs in order to tackle the situation. The UN system is supporting the Government through high-level advocacy on preparedness and emergency response to mitigate the impact of El Nino. In particular, the UN System provided technical support to finalize the Drought Response Plan and disseminated regular situation reports to relevant stakeholders. Upon request from Government the UN System provided a technical advisor on DRM to help in implementing the Drought Response Plan. To this end, the Resident Coordinator, through OCHA sourced a Stand by Partner at P4 level who has been seconded at the Office of the Prime Minister, Directorate for Disaster Risk Management for a period of six months.

Various UN Agencies such as FAO, IOM, UNDP, WFP, UNICEF and UNFPA have been implementing capacity building and resilience type activities which indirectly support the drought response. In this regard, FAO interventions, worth USD 961,280, focused on livelihoods, livestock, water, coordination and analysis. At the same time, WFP is providing technical assistance to the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) in food security monitoring and analysis, worth USD 150,000 to inform appropriate response options for the droughts, while WHO is engaging/engaged in activities related to leadership and coordination of Health Sector Response, coordination, information management of health risks, technical expertise and guidance in diagnosis and management of malnutrition, as well as core services like logistics and human resources. In addition, the UN System mobilized seed funds such as a 100 000 USD secured from UNDP to strengthen coordination and information management, preparedness towards early recovery as well as integration of DRR and CCA into recovery frameworks. UNICEF mobilized about USD 1.4 million from USAID to support procurement of water tanker trucks and WASH activities.

The UN system in Namibia, in collaboration with the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) provided technical support to the Government in undertaking an Inter - Agency comprehensive national capacity assessment of the disaster risk management system in Namibia. This included: (i) an analysis of existing capacities, needs and gaps of the DRM system in Namibia based in interviews at central and local levels; (ii) recommendations for reinforcement of capacities in areas identified as requiring adjustment/ support; and (iii) a capacity development plan.

The national capacity assessment identified existing capacities, gaps and needs related to disaster risk management, and proposed a set of prioritized recommendations on how these capacities can be strengthened. Among others, the absence of a coherent and effective information management system both within the Directorate for Disaster Risk Management (DDRM) and nationally at various levels was identified as a challenge. The OCHA regional office

continues to be a reliable partner providing necessary technical support to the UN System and directly to Government. In this regard, following, the validation of the CADRI recommendations by the Government's Senior Officials including the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and other relevant line Ministers; the UN System in Namibia sought technical support from the Office of Humanitarian coordination (OCHA) on implementation of one of the immediate required action, strengthening information management, as part of the CADRI recommendations. The mission identified concrete areas of intervention for Information Management and developed a set of recommendations to address the shortcomings raised by the CADRI mission, accompanied by a clear action plan to carry out the recommendations.

The United Nations in Namibia developed a Joint UN Strategy on DRM to support the government's DRM agenda through the UNPAF. The aim of the strategy is to provide support to the government through the provision of technical expertise, capacity building, and advocacy, monitoring and reporting. During the drought emergency, the UN System through the Resident Coordinator's Office produced regular situation reports on the status of the situation and disseminated such to relevant stakeholder nationally, regionally and internationally.

6. To Illustrate the Impact of Joined up Work, Describe the results of joined up approaches of the UNCT

The benefits of coordination cannot be overstated. In this case, an unqualified saving on transaction costs to Government accrued from better coordination which resulted in a number of success stories observed in the education sector which is one of the pillars of the United Nations Partnership Framework (UNPAF). The same holds true for the work on HIV/AIDS, as well as the gender theme group.

The UN System in Namibia has been very instrumental in supporting the Government in formulation/drafting of its fifth National Development Plan (NDP 5). The UN Country constituted a team of technical staff from all Resident UN Agencies who actively participated in the various thematic groups and contributed their inputs during the formulation phase of the NDP 5 chapters. In the finalization phase, the UN System continued to collectively support the Government by coherently analyzing the data, by consolidating the planned activities, by mainstreaming the SDGs into the plan, and by providing quality assurance and editing services through various UN inter-agency groups (e.g. UN Join Team on HIV/AIDS and UNCARES , Gender Theme Group, Programme Development Team, and UNCT) led by the UNDP Senior Economist. A number of approached were adopted in this regard i.e whereas support was provided directly to the National Planning Commission which was the Entity that drove the drafting process, UN Agencies also worked directly with their implementing partners/line ministries to provide technical support in providing specific inputs into the draft document.

As part of the efforts to strengthen and or enhances the implementation of the Principles of Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, to which Namibia became a signatory in 2007, the United Nations through the Office of the Resident Coordinator committed to support the

National Planning Commission (NPC) to host the Development Partners Forums. The Government of the Republic of Namibia together with the United Nations System in Namibia jointly hosted a Development Partnership Forum on December 05, 2016 in Windhoek, Namibia. The event was co-chaired by the Minister of Economic Planning and the UN Resident Coordinator. The Forum aimed to providing space for reflection and discussion on how to strengthen partnership, ensure better coordination, collaboration and improvement on the quality of development support, especially in line with the newly adopted Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This high-level, multi-sectoral strategic dialogue was attended by approximately seventy (70) people. These included representatives from 15 diplomatic missions in the country, 15 line ministries and the parliament staff, 7 UN Agencies in Namibia, top management from Academia, representatives of the private sector, as well as the media. Unfortunately a Civil Society Organizations were not represented due to a last minute cancellation. The stakeholders who attended the Forum generally appreciated the revitalization of the coordination mechanism and reached consensus with regard to continuing regular dialogue at both strategic and sectoral levels.

The UNCT developed a strategy for leveraging Namibia's Upper Middle Income Status. The strategy proposes an integrated policy and programme approach that leverages the UN's comparative advantage to support Namibia in various policy and programme areas. The integrated approach identifies three key policy areas and eight programme areas where the UN is knowledgeable and can support the government's efforts to address the remaining development challenges in the country.

7. Highlight new Partnerships Formed in 2015

The year 2016 was about strengthening existing and building new partnerships with Government as well as other stakeholders including CSOs, Academia and media to enhance coordination and UN visibility. The UN System has worked very closely with the National Planning Commission especially on the drafting of the fifth National Development Plan, the launching of the SDGs as well as the reinvigorating the annual Development Partnership Forum. These were possible due to the renewed relationship between the National Planning Commission, especially at technical level, owing to the demonstrated commitment, willingness and readiness of the UN System to be a partner of choice for the Government of the Republic of Namibia.

The appointment of H.E Monica Geingos, the First lady of the Republic of Namibia as UNAIDS special advocate for young Women and Adolescent Girls globally within the new global initiative Start Free , Stay Free and AIDS free for ending AIDS by 2030 is an important strategic partnership for the UN System in Namibia. This Partnership offers an opportunity for the UNCT to address vulnerabilities and factors exposing young women and young girls to HIV/AIDS (Poverty and unemployment, teenage pregnancy, drop out of school).

Also worth mentioning is the new partnership between the Ministry of Health and Social Services and UNCT that will ensure the acceleration and the implementation of Namibia Global Funds ATM HIV grant (45 million USD).

8. Highlight Results of Joint Resource Mobilization Where Possible

For the first time during the year 2016, the UN Country Team in Namibia mobilized funds through various proposals. The Office for the Resident Coordinator received about 185 000 USD from UN DOCO, following two proposals to the UNDAF Design Innovation Facility under two windows: the Business Operations Innovations and Sustainable Development Planning. The two projects were implemented through the Operations Management Team (OMT) which received 150 000 USD and Office of the Resident Coordinator which was 35 000 USD respectively. These funds were utilized in support of the UNCT work plan for 2016, specifically on advancing the Business Operation Strategy as well as facilitating and strengthening local ownership of the SDGs, reviewing of the current UNPAF (2014-18) which will guide the work of the UNCT in 2017 and beyond, including the formulation of the next UNPAF to inform planning.

Following the declaration of a state of emergency by the President of the Republic of Namibia, Dr. Hage Geingob, the Office of the Resident Coordinator mobilized US\$ 100,000 from UNDP New York Track 1.1.3 funding window. The funds enabled the UNCT to Support the Government's efforts to strengthen information management, finalization of and integration of early recovery approaches into the Drought Response Plan, and technical support on multi-sectoral coordination.

The Office of the Resident Coordinator, in collaboration with the Government, the National Planning Commission, submitted a proposal, for which an amount of 12,500 USD was received from the Africa-Kazakhstan Partnership for SDGs. The funds were used to support Government's efforts in launching and localizing the SDGs at national level. This is in addition to proving orientation workshops to the media, UN Staff on the SDGs.

In order to enhance support to the UNCT, the Office of the Resident Coordinator mobilized additional staff through a fully funded UNV position on development effectiveness. In addition, the Office of the Resident Coordinator mobilized technical support to national officers of the Government of the Republic of Namibia and a Stand By Partner who is seconded to the Office of the Prime Minister, Directorate of Disaster Risk Management to provide technical advice on disaster risk management, particularly, implementation of the Drought Response Plan.

9. Highlight Innovations in Programme and Operations to Address Key Development Challenges

a) Establishment of the Strategic Analysis Unit

UNDP, with financial support from the Resident Coordinator's Office established a Strategic Analytical Unit (SAU), with the primary purpose of supporting the UN Country Team and UNDP,

to strengthen data, statistics and analysis provide evidence-based advice to government, and to strategically lead (through the UNCT) UNDP's contribution to the SDG implementation. The SAU is structured to reflect the UN's multi-disciplinary orientation and deliver on the corporate strategy priorities. It shall be integrated within the CO, both functionally and structurally and will be placed under the direct supervision of the Resident Representative/Resident Coordinator. The Unity is headed by the UNDP Economics Advisor who will soon be joined by a National Economist (recruitment process underway) and a Data Analyst at a later stage.

b) UNDAF Design Innovation Facility

Following a submission for proposals by the UNCT (at the end of 2015) to the UNDAF Design Innovation Facility under the following window: the Business Operations Innovations and Sustainable Development Planning, the UNCT was awarded USD 150 000 and USD 35 000 respectively. The two projects were implemented through the Operations Management Team (OMT) and Office of the Resident Coordinator respectively.

i) The Business Operations Innovation – Energy Efficiency project

Namibia imports between 40-80% energy from South Africa, which is facing energy shortages and has started scheduled energy cuts. In order to contribute to Government's efforts to develop its own energy sources through prioritization of solar energy, the UN System thought to turn its building (Government donated) into a self-sustaining, energy efficient building.

This was done by utilizing the USD 150 000 received for the Business Operations Innovations project. Activities involve updating the existing energy audit for the UN premises, carrying out an economic cost benefit analysis to improve increasing energy efficiency by switching to energy saving devices as well as installing a solar/ photovoltaic energy generation system. This project is still ongoing, the intention is to learn from prior work and engage the Namibia Energy Institute in technical advisory and support capacity. It is expected that the self-generation and self-consumption of electrical energy will contribute to alleviating the present Namibian power generation and supply shortfall. The recommended system size of 90 kWp will offset 19.3% of annual energy use, with a corresponding reduction in electricity cost of 20.08% annually. The expected internal rate of return (IRR) when this project is cash financed is 21.48%. This means we expect breakeven to be after five years. The solar panel system is not a backup solution but rather an energy subsidy system. When more energy is being produced by the solar system than is being consumed, the difference is fed into the national grid, thereby increasing the power available to the City of Windhoek for distribution elsewhere in the country.

a) The Sustainable Development Window

The Sustainable Development Window looked at enhancing greater Government leadership regarding unfinished business under the MDGs. The UN System used this funding to support Government leadership in internalizing the SDGs and ensuring that the current UNPAF remains

relevant to emerging issues such as the SDGs. The UN strongly advocated with targeted resources for national development priorities and where UN Agencies have comparative advantage. The second proposal looks at enhancing greater Government leadership regarding unfinished business under the MDGs; Government leadership in internalizing the SDGs and UNCT buy-in for the implementation of selected SDGs; with targeted resources for national development priorities and where UN Agencies have comparative advantages.

10. Upcoming Opportunities For 2016: Indicate Potential Opportunities for the UN Country Team to Support National Partners in Integrated Development Policy and Programme Development.

- a) *Support to the Government on advancing Gender relating and Human Rights:* the UN System, through its Gender Theme Group, will develop a joint UN Programme of Support to the Government of the Republic of Namibia, specifically, through the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, around agreed strategic areas of focus which include:
- Gender Coordination, with UN Women, ILO, UNFPA and UNODC being the primarily involved UN Agencies. Mechanisms will promote uptake of international and regional instruments on gender equality since these are well embedded in the National Gender Policy 2010-2020. Effective coordination will ensure that entire government and other stakeholders take responsibility for delivering on gender rather than leaving it to the gender ministry alone.
 - Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Violence against Children (VAC), with UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, WHO, UNAIDS and UNESCO being the primarily involved UN Agencies.
 - Gender-Responsive Budgeting (GRB) with UNDP, FAO and UN Women being the primarily involved UN Agencies.
 - Human trafficking (incl. One-Stop Centres/shelters including raising awareness trafficking for labour exploitation and forced labour, unfair recruitment practices and mutually beneficial bi/multi-lateral labour export schemes) , with IOM, UNODC, UNFPA and UNICEF as the primarily involved UN Agencies.
- b) *Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (SDGs) and NDP 5:* the UN System will continue its ongoing efforts in supporting Namibia to mainstream the SDGs into the Fifth National Development Plan and other national policy frameworks finalization of the latter. The UN System will also continue to support the Government by providing quality assurance of and editing the NDP 5 document. At the same, the UN System will ensure that support is provided to the Government to produce SDG compliant M&E indicators in NDP5 as well as proving technical support on annual progress reporting. As part of its 2017 workplan, the UN System will focus on strengthening and building strategic partnership with key stakeholders such as Youth, Academia with a focus on advocating for mainstreaming SDGs into the curriculum, Private Sector, CSOs the Media, Parliamentarians as well as national Research Institutions.

- c) *Strengthening partnership and Coordination Mechanism with Government and Partners and furthering the aid effectiveness agenda:* In order to strengthen partnership, the Resident Coordinator, on behalf of the UN System will convene partnership dialogues with the Private Sector, other Development Partners/Donors or Diplomatic Corps, Academia as well as Civil Society Organizations. The UN System will further continue to support Government's efforts to strengthen national Coordination Mechanism between the Government and Developments Partners including by convening the Annual Development Partnership Forum and other engagement platforms at sectoral levels. This is part of ongoing efforts to strengthen collaboration among partners and improve the quality of development support in line with Government priorities.
- d) *Strengthening National Statistic System and Data Management:* the UN System will support the Namibian National Statistics Agency and the National Planning Commission to strengthen national capacity on statistics' and data management.
- e) *Implementation of the UNPAF (2014-18) MTR recommendations:* following the Mid Tem review exercise that took place in 2016, the UN Country will dedicate efforts to improve on areas highlighted by the review.
- f) *Planning for the next UNPAF (2019-2023) planning for the next UNPAF:* the current UNPAF comes to an end in 2018. The year 2017 will be dedicated to the formulation of the next UNPAF.
- g) *The War on Poverty:* through the UNPAF Poverty Pilar, the UN Country Team will continue to support the Government to implement the Blue Print on Wealth Redistribution and Poverty Eradication Strategy through Joint Programme of support towards improving social protection, resilience building, livelihoods strengthening and job creation.
- h) *UN Communications Group:* through the UN Communication Groups, the UN will advance the UN Country Team strategic agenda in support of the Government through increased visibility on UN activities to the public.
