**Good Practice Coordination Models**

**for UNCT-SWAP Scorecard Comprehensive Assessments**

***Developed for UNCT-SWAP Scorecard Toolkit, 2020***

UNCT-SWAP comprehensive assessments are conducted once per Cooperative Framework cycle, usually at the planning stage. The assessments rely on internal coordinators from within the UN system in all cases, and may be further supported by an external consultant in some cases. UNCTs report good results with both methods.

**Internal Coordination**. A number of UNCTs have conducted the comprehensive UNCT-SWAP relying on coordination from within the country team only, supported by the step-by-step process as laid out in the Technical Guidance. Self-assessments conducted with internal coordination support are cost-efficient and have allowed for greater flexibility in assessment timelines. A good practice for internally led assessments is to utilize the Helpdesk (genderscorecard.helpdesk@unwomen.org) to address any questions and provide technical support and quality assurance. Several country teams have noted that self-led assessments have facilitated good cooperation within the IAT and strong ownership of results, leading to expanded networks and understanding across the system of joint responsibilities for GEWE.

**External Coordination**. Many UNCTs have found the support of an external expert to be of great value in facilitating the comprehensive assessment, noting the importance of ensuring the consultant selected knows the UN system and the Scorecard methodology (note that the Helpdesk maintains a list of consultants with Scorecard experience available on request). UNCTs using consultants identify the technical support and reductions in the workload for the IAT as key benefits. Cost-sharing of consulting fees between different entities and the RCO can help to foster broader ownership. *Lessons Learned and Recommendations from the Analysis of the UNCT-SWAP Scorecard Exercise in Eight Latin American Countries* (May 2020) found e*xternal facilitation, even though it requires the investment of additional financial resources, has also been necessary to clarify specific doubts regarding the measurement of indicators, and to guide the exercise as objectively as possible*.

**Critical Role of the RCO**

The Resident Coordinator’s Office plays a critical role as part of the internal coordination team supporting the assessment, usually working closely with the agency/ies that lead the Gender Theme Group (UN Women and/or other entities). Experiences from numerous countries including Tanzania, Sri Lanka and Egypt have well demonstrated the criticality of the RCO coordination role to lead the process of UNCT-SWAP implementation, working closely with the lead entity and gender coordination mechanism, and to further facilitate reporting and IMS updates as needed.

*Lessons Learned and Recommendations from the Analysis of the UNCT-SWAP Scorecard Exercise in Eight Latin American Countries* (May 2020) found that clear leadership from the RC and RCO with adequate coordination and monitoring capacities were critical to advancing interagency coordination for the assessment. RC/RCO leadership and participation in the process was key to successfully facilitating the exercise and advancing the perception of joint ownership and responsibility, while allowing for a more efficient identification of interagency gender initiatives and subsequent implementation of the Action Plan.

The RCO in Mexico co-led the 2019 comprehensive assessment with UN Women. Reflections on the process: *It makes a big difference when the RCO takes the lead, sets the deadlines and sends the invitations. It sends an important message about collaboration and joint responsibilities. When we did the action planning, we gave a lot of thought on who would be responsible for each result. Some actions are with GTG, but some are for the OMT and the UNCG and M&E Group. This is key, because the RCO asks each group to put their actions into their AWP of the group. This is important since other agencies lead these groups and this brings in those agencies to have greater ownership and understanding of their roles for joint gender results.*