Formative evaluation of UNFPA approach to South-South and triangular cooperation



EVALUATION REPORT

Volume 2

UNFPA Evaluation Office

2020



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Annex I. Terms of reference

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1. Introduction

UNFPA, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), is an international development agency that works to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every child birth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled. UNFPA is the lead UN agency that expands the possibilities for women and young people to lead healthy sexual and reproductive lives.

1.1 The concept of South-South and Triangular Cooperation

As the world grows increasingly complex and interconnected, challenges are emerging with greater speed and magnitude. The implementation of the Agenda for Sustainable Development provides challenges and opportunities for contribution from South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC).

As stated in the Buenos Aires Outcome document (2019), South-South cooperation (SSC) is conducted among countries of the South, including but not limited to the economic, social, cultural, environmental, and technical domains, that can take place in a bilateral, regional or interregional contexts, for developing countries to meet their development goals through concerted efforts, taking into account the principles of SSC. SSC is understood as voluntary, participative, and demand driven in nature, born out of shared experiences and sympathies, based on common objectives and solidarity. Triangular cooperation complements and adds value to South-South cooperation by enabling requesting developing countries to source and access more, and a broader range of, resources, expertise and capacities, that they identify as needed in order to achieve their national development goals and internationally agreed sustainable development goals.¹

South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation increasingly take different and evolving forms, including technical cooperation, the sharing of knowledge and experience, training, capacity building and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, aimed at achieving sustainable development through the promotion of, inter alia, economic cooperation, including trade, investment, infrastructure development and connectivity, agriculture and rural development, food security and nutrition, food safety, health, energy, disaster risk reduction, addressing climate change, as well as mutual learning and the coordination of development policies and strategies among developing countries.

¹ Buenos Aires Outcome Document, A/73/L.80

1.2 Global Context of South-South Cooperation

The origins of South-South Cooperation (SSC) can be traced back to the solidarity movement among developing countries during the Twentieth century grounded in the principles of self-reliance and mutual respect for national sovereignty, in an effort to shift the existing economic and political order.² During the 1960s and 1970s, South-South Cooperation gained more momentum as more countries became independent states and began seeking new ways to chart the course of their own development.³ The solidarity amongst Southern states helped to strengthen their political negotiating power against the backdrop of the Cold War.⁴ In the 1980s and 1990s, there were several systemic shifts – rapid globalization of markets and production structures, the creation of the World Trade Organization, technological innovation, and the creation of new states in the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and parts of Eastern Europe—that required the international community to re-think traditional forms of economic and technical assistance to effectively respond to the shifting global landscape.⁵⁶ SSC emerged as an effective and efficient modality to traditional assistance, promoting knowledge and expertise exchanges through initiatives that have solve specific problems in the countries of the Global South.⁷

Since then, countries from the Global South have progressively become key players in global economy, where almost half of global manufacturing exports originates from global south, consumption in Global South continues to increase, and the dominant direction of global trade flows for the Global South are no longer South to North, rather South to South.⁸ As a result, many developing countries have experienced positive gains in socio-economic indicators, allowing development cooperation in the South to grow, steered by several middle-income countries, such as Brazil, India, China and South Africa.⁹¹⁰¹¹

Evolution of South-South and Triangular Cooperation

South-South Cooperation can be traced back to the Afro-Asian Conference held in Bandung, Indonesia in 1955.¹² Following this conference, the United Nations Conference on Trade (UNCTAD) and soon thereafter the Group of 77 (G-77), the largest intergovernmental organization of developing countries in the United Nations, were created in 1964, providing a platform for the countries from the Global South to voice their collective economic interests and promote SSC for development.¹³ In 1972, the UN General Assembly created a Working Group on technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) that recommended the creation of a special unit for TCDC.¹⁴ Soon after, in 1974, the General Assembly endorsed "the establishment of a special unit within the United Nations Development Programme to promote technical cooperation among developing countries", now known as United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC).^{15 16}

In 1978, 138 States adopted the Buenos Aires Plan of Action (BAPA) for promoting and implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) in Argentina. Alongside, the Bandung Conference, the BAPA

 $^{^{2}}$ Li, Yuefen. Assessment of South-South Cooperation and the Global Narrative on the Eve of BAPA +40, South Centre, 2018. 3 Ibid.

⁴ UN DESA, "What is 'South-South cooperation' and why does it matter?", 20 March 2019, New York

⁵ Buenos Aires Plan of Action (1978)

⁶ ECOSOC The evolution of South-South development cooperation: Its role in the implementation of the 2030 agenda and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, DCF Policy Briefs, September 2017.

⁷ ECOSOC The evolution of South-South development cooperation: Its role in the implementation of the 2030 agenda and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, DCF Policy Briefs, September 2017; Global value chains and the rise of the Global South: unpacking twenty-first century polycentric trade RORY HORNER* AND KHALID NADVI; UN DESA, "What is 'South-South cooperation' and why does it matter?", 20 March 2019, New York;

⁸ Global value chains and the rise of the Global South: unpacking twenty-first century polycentric trade RORY HORNER* AND KHALID NADVI⁺

⁹ UNDP Human Development Report 2013 The Rise of the South: Human Progress in a Diverse World

UNFPA South-South Strategy 2018

¹⁰ Garcia, G. (2016). The rise of the global south, the IMF and the future of law and development. Third World Quarterly, 37 (2), 191-208

¹¹ ECOSOC The evolution of South-South development cooperation: Its role in the implementation of the 2030 agenda and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, DCF Policy Briefs, September 2017.

¹² Ibid.

 $^{^{\}rm 13}$ Joint Declaration of the Group of 77 (Geneva, 15 June 1964)

¹⁴ UNOSSC "South-South Cooperation: The Making of a History": https://www.unsouthsouth.org/about/about-unossc/

¹⁵ UN General Assembly Resolution A/3251 (XXIX)

¹⁶ General Assembly Resolution 67/227 April 2013

was a significant milestone for SSTC as it provided the conceptual foundation for the shift in approach to development assistance, emphasizing national and collective self-reliance among developing countries.¹⁷ Following the conference, steps were taken for follow-up action on the resulting recommendations of the Plan of Action, including the coordination of an overall intergovernmental review of TCDC within the UN System. ¹⁸ Since 1980, a High-Level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries was established and has met every two years to undertake an overall intergovernmental review of technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) within the United Nations development system. In 2004, the name of the committee was changed to High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation, while keeping its original mandate and the scope of its activities. ¹⁹²⁰

In 2009, the High-level UN Conference on South-South Cooperation was held in Nairobi, Kenya.²¹ The Nairobi Conference resulted in an outcome document that highlighted the roles that national governments, regional entities and UN agencies are to play in supporting and implementing South-South and triangular cooperation.²² Moreover, the Conference increased political visibility to SSC as the development approach which developing countries have agreed to partner together on to find solutions to their common development challenges.²³

In 2015, The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by the UN General Assembly, where South-South cooperation is evident across all development goals, and is particularly important to SDG 17, which calls for a strengthening of "the means of implementation" and a revitalization of "the global partnership for sustainable development".²⁴

To commemorate the first conference 40 years ago, the Second High-Level UN Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40), was held in 2019 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The conference served to review the trends and lessons learned since 1978 and launch a new strategy to respond to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Representatives from 160 countries adopted an outcome document renewing the global commitment in the promotion and investment of this type of collaboration between countries from the Global South.

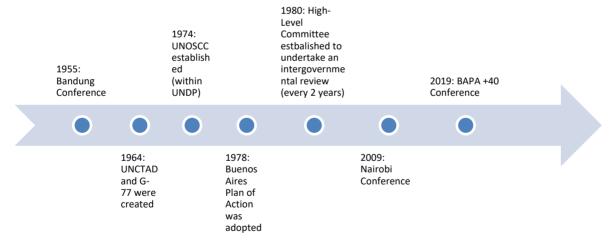


Figure 1: Key Milestones in South-South and Triangular Cooperation

¹⁷ Buenos Aires Plan of Action (Argentina, 1978)

¹⁸ General Assembly resolution 33/134 (1978)

¹⁹ General Assembly resolution 35/202 (1980)

²⁰ General Assembly Resolution 58/220 (2004)

²¹ UNOSSC "South-South Cooperation: The Making of a History": https://www.unsouthsouth.org/about/about-unossc/

²² A/64/L.37 Nairobi outcome document of the High-level United Nations, Conference on South-South Cooperation, December 2009.

²³ Nairobi outcome document in General Assembly res. 64/222, annex, paras. 10, 11 and 21.

²⁴ UN General Assembly Resolution 70/1, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 2015.

1.2 SSTC in the UN System

The BAPA+40 Outcome document called for the United Nations development system to support and promote South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, aiming at implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Many United Nations entities have integrated SSTC into their respective strategic frameworks or work plans and designed innovative South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives to benefit developing countries; and have established or strengthened specialized units and set up programmes with dedicated human and financial resources to advance SSTC.

As established by the General Assembly, UNOSSC is the designated focal point for promoting and facilitating South-South and triangular cooperation for development on a global and United Nations system-wide basis. Its strategic framework responds to General Assembly resolution, which "reiterates that the United Nations development system should mainstream and enhance its support to South-South and triangular cooperation, at the request and with the ownership and leadership of developing countries, through a system-wide approach". Moreover, the framework is aligned with the principles outlined in the Nairobi outcome document of the 2009 High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation and the 1978 Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries. As such, the framework provides a comprehensive response for support to South-South and Triangular Cooperation across the funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system.

Under its 2018-2021 strategic document, UNOSSC has three strategic outcomes: (a) the advancement of policy choices for South-South and triangular cooperation and coordinated United Nations system support to such cooperation; (b) capacity development through the sharing of knowledge and experiences; and (c) the forging of strategic South-South and triangular partnerships to support demand-driven programmes. Within this framework, the Office undertakes the following key activities: mainstreaming SSC across the UN system; engaging with a wide range of partners, including Member States, UN entities, multilateral bodies and private-sector and civil society organizations in order to provide the comprehensive support for SSC; innovating by seeking, showcasing and transferring forward-thinking Southern development solutions; and enabling countries of the South to work together to use their wealth of resources in support of development efforts. Alongside this, UNOSSC also serves as the secretariat to the High-level Committee (HLC) on SSC, a subsidiary body of the General Assembly, to provide policy directives and guidance. It also is responsible for the tracking, reviewing and reporting on the progress as well as the global trends and lessons learned in UN support to SSC. Lastly, the Office manages the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation, the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for South-South Cooperation, the India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation, and the India-UN Development Partnership Fund.

Different approaches and understanding of SSC have led to the evolution of basic principles of SSC. They are as follows:

- Demand Driven
- Respect for national sovereignty
- Political and Macroeconomic Non-Conditionality
- Spirit of Sharing (Solidarity)
- Mutual Benefit

In addition to the abovementioned normative principles, framework of operational guidelines on United Nations support to South-South Cooperation (2016) identified following four operational principles:

- Mutual accountability and transparency
- Development effectiveness
- Coordination of evidence- and results-based initiatives
- Multi-stakeholder approach

Development Cooperation under SSC is plurilateral in nature as different countries of global South have different modalities which are in tune with their national priorities and comparative advantages.

1.3 South-South and Triangular Cooperation at UNFPA

Definitions of SSC and TC at UNFPA

South-South Cooperation (SSC) "is a process whereby two or more developing countries pursue their individual and/or shared national capacity development objectives through exchanges of knowledge, skills, resources and technical knowhow, and through regional and interregional collective actions, including partnerships involving Governments, regional organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector, for their individual and/or mutual benefit within and across regions".¹

Triangular Cooperation (TC) is a subset of SSC and has the SSC structure but with the added involvement of a traditional donor country or donor organization ("North"). The traditional donor may play the role of provider of financial resources, goods or services, even as the participating developing countries are also providing resources to the initiative. If there are two or more developing countries in the arrangement, without a "Northern" country, it is classified as SSC and not as TC.¹

In the current UNFPA Strategic Plan 2018-2021, SSTC has been institutionalized as a stand-alone fifth mode of engagement together with partnership and coordination.²⁵ Given its crosscutting nature, SSTC is also employed as a cross-cutting strategy across the four other modes of engagement (see Figure 2). This renewed commitment to South-South Cooperation as a key programming modality is aligned with Goal 17 on partnership and cooperation in the 2030 Agenda, commitments to SSC in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA), and directives from the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review to mainstream and enhance support to SSTC at the request, ownership, and leadership of developing countries."²⁶_²⁷_²⁸

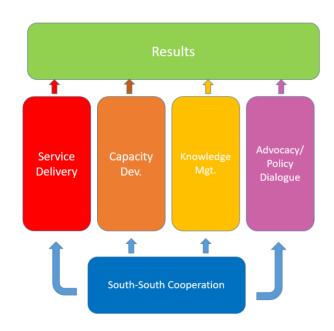


Figure 2: SSC as a crosscutting programming strategy

²⁵ UNFPA Strategic Plan 2018-2021, Annex 4

²⁶ UN General Assembly Resolution 70/1, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 2015.

²⁷ Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda), 2015.

²⁸ Implementation of General Assembly Resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (QCPR): 2018

In 2018, a UNFPA Corporate Strategy on South-South and Triangular Cooperation and a supplemental Guidance Note on South-South and Triangular Cooperation Programming were produced to operationalize SSTC as a new mode of engagement. This corporate shift to SSTC is expected to improve the overall programming effectiveness towards achieving the goals of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action and the 2030 Agenda. Additionally, it is intended to leverage the increasing interest and capacity of the countries in the Global South, particularly MICs, to participate as provider and recipient countries and position UNFPA as a thought leader in this development modality.²⁹

SSC Management

At UNFPA, the Policy and Strategy Division (PSD) serves as the coordinator of SSC capacity development, support and reporting at the corporate level. Within PSD, there are three full-time staff members working on the SSC Team. It is envisioned that a network of SSC focal points, who are SSC experts in HQ, RO and selected COs will be established to better facilitate SSC matching and negotiation at the country level.³⁰

Role of UNFPA

At UNFPA, SSC is a demand-driven, reciprocal and ownership-oriented development model for designing and implementing collaborative initiatives among developing countries, to act as a complement to, not substitute for, traditional North-South development models. In this view, UNFPA plays a facilitating role to create supply and demand for SSC across its programme countries. Figure 3 highlights standard SSC initiatives at UNFPA.

Figure 3. Standard SSC Initiatives³¹

a. Promote SSC as an effective development modality, thus raising both the supply and demand for cooperation

b. Develop strategic partnerships and find synergies with SSC champions - governments, funds, international and national NGOs, intergovernmental entities, faith-based organizations, etc.

c. Identify interested institutions as provider or recipient

d. Develop capacity of these institutions to do SSC

e. Facilitate in matching by finding suitable partner-institutions

f. Assist in the negotiation that includes providing inputs to drafts of agreements, TORs, etc.

g. Provide funds, technical inputs, expert personnel/consultant, if needed

h. Mobilize resources, including arranging a TC

i. Implement SSC-supported programme activities

j. Monitor progress, intervenes to address challenges, including providing benchmarks for defining success of the collaboration

k. Support in the documentation and communication of successful collaborations

I. Raise capacity of country offices and staff in doing SSC

m. Organize global and regional matching exercises and events -

n. Intervene in negotiations between countries, if asked by the CO

o. Conduct quality control of SSC plan through the Programme Review Committee process

p. Provide policy, strategy, guidance and other programme tools

q. Coordinate various organizational initiatives

r. Create and administer a global needs-and-solutions platform

s. Monitor and report on the progress of UNFPA-wide SSC implementation

Capturing SSTC results

While there is a global recognition that systematic assessment of SSC initiatives can help to enhance SSC practices and capture its influence/impact on development results, the lack of monitoring and evaluation systems in place for a robust assessment to be done is a common challenge for SSC initiatives writ large.³² At UNFPA, where SSC is a mode of engagement, activities designed to support or enable South-South cooperation

²⁹ UNFPA Guidance Note on South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Programming, 2018.

³⁰ UNFPA Guidance Note on South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Programming, 2018.

³¹ UNFPA Guidance Note on South-South and Triangular Cooperation in Programming, 2018.

³² ECOSOC How Governments of the South assess the results of South-South Cooperation: Case studies of South-led approaches, 018.

can potentially be monitored in terms of expenditures, outputs and their linkage to specific outcomes. Presently, there are a few processes in place to support the monitoring and evaluation of SSC related results. These include indicators and entry points in the UNFPA Strategic Plan, UNFPA Country Programme Document (CPD) and the annual work-planning tools, including Strategic Information System (SIS/MyResults) and the Global Programming System (GPS).

- In the Strategic Plan 2018-2021, there is a dedicated indicator for SSC (OEE 1.12): Number of UNFPA offices that use SSC to address countries' priorities.
- In the CPD, there is a results matrix where SSC may be included as an indicator under a relevant output. For example, if the country is an intended SSC-recipient, the indicator could be a planned exchange of knowledge, innovation, capacity-development, services, and/or resources to achieve the CPD output. If the country is SSC-providing, the plan may be related to increased institutional capacity.³³
- In SIS/MyResults planning, SSC initiatives may be captured in the following areas: Programme Cycle Outputs to capture (if it is an indicator in the CPD, then it must be an indicator under the respective output in SIS); Office-Defined/Management Outputs to indicate any plan to mobilize resources; and Other Indicators to capture SSC plans of the office (OEE 1.12a: Number of South-South cooperation initiatives that the country has RECEIVED during the year as a result of UNFPA support OEE 1.12b: Number of South-South cooperation initiatives that the country has PROVIDED during the year as a result of UNFPA support)
- In GPS, SSC is an activity tag so all activities in GPS workplans have the option to tag whether or not the activity is SSC in nature.

Expenditure on SSTC at UNFPA

At UNFPA, South-South Cooperation has been long recognized as a key programming approach to the achievement of its transformative results.³⁴ In 2015, the UNFPA Executive Office established the "South-South Project" with the main objective of mainstreaming South South and Triangular Cooperation and propose innovative alliances with developing countries to accelerate the implementation of the ICPD and the SDGs.

In 2018, about 30 per cent of UNFPA resources for South-South cooperation were spent on capacity development and policy and advocacy strategies. Figure 3 provides an overview of the distribution of 2018 UNFPA expenditure across the other programme strategies of the strategic plan, 2018-2021, displaying that country offices harnessed South-South Cooperation in versatile ways towards programme results.

2. Rationale, objectives and scope of the evaluation

The evaluation will be the first evaluation on South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) at UNFPA. The evaluation comes at a key moment to accompany and inform the implementation of the UNFPA South-South and Triangular Cooperation Strategy within the Agenda 2030. A unit in charge of SSTC was created less than 2 years ago.

The evaluation was requested by management.

The main **purpose** of the evaluation is to take stock of initial progress, lessons learned, enabling factors and challenges of the past SSC journey and interventions of UNFPA as a facilitator and provide evaluative input (basis for decisions to be made) for the implementation of the UNFPA SSTC strategy and overall approach in this area.

³³ Ibid.

³⁴ UNFPA Strategic Plan 2018-2021, Annex 4

The objectives of the evaluation are:

- Assess the strategic approach of UNFPA to SSTC including the vision for future direction and how this fits into achieving the Strategic Plan and transformative results;
- Assess the appropriateness of the Strategy in terms of conceptual framework, principles, implementation mechanisms, monitoring mechanisms and evaluation plan;
- Take stock and provide key learning and inputs to managers regarding the implementation of SSTC strategy and interventions at UNFPA;
- Provide inputs for the operationalization of the SSTC Strategy, future programming under the Strategy and its future evaluability.
- Inform the development of the next Strategic Plan in the area of SSC.
- Identify SSTC approaches at other organizations within the UN system that could be adjusted and applied to UNFPA.

The evaluation will take place 2 years after the adoption of the SSC Strategy, commencing mid- 2019 and ending in 2020. It will cover implementation at country, regional and corporate levels.

The evaluation intends to look at all components related to SSC at UNFPA, which includes but is not limited to, the vision, approach and conceptual foundation of SSTC; principles of SSC, programming, monitoring, evaluation and reporting; and institutional capacity.

Specifically, with regard to the scope, the evaluation will:

- Assess the appropriateness of the conceptual framework of the Strategy, determining whether the principles, objectives, the implicit theory of change and the implicit results framework are articulated and whether relevant, reliable and valid indicators are in place.
- Assess the availability and quality of the data needed to measure and monitor results (including the availability and sufficiency of baselines and targets).
- Assess whether an adequate M&E plan is in place across the organization.
- Assess whether South-South cooperation skills and capacity of staff across UNFPA country offices is adequate or UNFPA role as a facilitator of SSTC.
- Assess opportunities for strategic partnerships for UNFPA in the area of SSC.
- Review the current situation of SSC at UNFPA (including the organizations' corporate culture on SSC).
- Assess opportunities for the implementation of the SSC Strategy including innovative approaches and strategic partnerships.
- Conduct a review of SSC initiatives in UN agencies specifically in terms of approach, implementation, processes and M&E systems.
- The assessment will culminate with a proposal for improvements and operational suggestions for strengthening SSC at UNFPA. These proposed improvements will be based on and derive from the findings of the assessment.

Users

The key users of the formative evaluation will be the SSC (Inter-country Cooperation Office) Unit, PSD, senior management at UNFPA, other UNFPA business units at the global, regional and country levels, UNOSC, and other stakeholders in the area of SSC.

3. Evaluation approach and methodology

The evaluation will be formative in nature and utilization-focused³⁵, following the principle of usefulness to its intended users. The evaluation will also be transparent, inclusive, and conducted in a participatory manner.

³⁵ Michael Patton, Utilization-Focused Evaluation (UFE) begins with the premise that evaluations should be judged by their utility and actual use. 2008 Sage.

The evaluation will utilize mixed methods and draw on quantitative and qualitative data for data collection and analysis. The evaluation will be gender and human rights responsive.

The evaluation will follow UNEG Norms and Standards for Evaluation in the UN system and abide by UNEG Ethical Guidelines and Code of Conduct and any other relevant ethical codes.

The evaluation team will develop the design for the evaluation including the approach, the evaluation criteria and questions contained in a matrix, and methodology for data collection and analysis. Indicative methods for data collection will include documentary review, interviews with key informants, focus groups, case studies, online group consultations, and surveys. The evaluation design will be developed during the inception phase of the exercise and presented in the inception report.

Indicative areas of investigation and evaluation questions

1. Appropriateness of the conceptual framework of the Strategy

To what extent is the conceptual framework of the Strategy (objectives, the implicit theory of change and the implicit results framework) clearly articulated?

To what extend is the SSTC Strategy in-line with the principles of SSTC?

To what extent has UNFPA integrated a human-rights based approach in the approach to SSTC?

2. UNFPA as a facilitator for SSTC

To what extent UNFPA has facilitated programme countries to benefit from SSC to address their own development challenges?

3. Sustainability

How sustainable are the benefits of SSTC initiatives supported by UNFPA? To what extent have SSTC initiatives been owned and embedded at the national level?

4. Institutional capacity of UNFPA

To what extent does UNFPA have the capacity to facilitate SSC initiatives (human and financial resources, processes, mechanisms and systems)?

All evaluation criteria, questions and assumptions to be assessed will be contained in an evaluation matrix. The matrix is intended as a framework for the collection and analysis of data and will contain the evaluation questions by evaluation criteria and assumptions (aspects to focus upon), indicators associated to these assumptions, sources of information and sources and tools for data collection.

4. Data collection and analysis tools

The evaluation team will design the evaluation methods and tools that will allow the evaluation team to answer the questions and to come up with an overall assessment backed by clear evidence. The methodological design will include: an analytical framework; a strategy for collecting and analysing data; a series of specifically designed tools; and a detailed work plan.

Tools for data collection will include:

Study of documentation

This will include the examination of internal and external documentation. Internal documentation will cover all available documents related to SSTC in UNFPA i.e. planning documents, progress/ annual reports/ assessments at all levels of the organization. External documentation will include SSTC assessments elsewhere, practices at other organizations, practitioners' manuals and guides, as well as state-of-the-art academic literature on SSTC and approaches.

Access to existing datasets

The main ones are the Global Programming System (GPS) database, the Strategic Information System (SIS), Evaluation Database, management response tracking system and data on portfolio review analysis.

Semi-structured interviews

Will be the main tool used for primary data collection. Unstructured interviews will be used in the case studies to collect narrative descriptions of impact (storytelling). Semi-structured interviews will follow differentiated protocols by type of stakeholder. This type of interviews will encompass one-on-one meetings that may be either remote or face-to face in those countries covered by field visits. The results of interviews will be registered in interview logbooks.

Consultations with SSTC experts

These consultations will consist of interviews and group discussions with leading profiles, thought leaders, practitioners and bellwethers in the field of SSTC from development organizations, including UN agencies, and academic institutions and think tanks.

Online survey

The survey will be targeted to UNFPA staff at large and will address aspects related to SSTC.

Country and regional case studies: the evaluation team will assess UNFPA support to and implementation of SSTC at global, regional and country level. The team will conduct five country/regional case studies (involving field visits or desk study) to provide an in-depth assessment and illustrate UNFPA support.

Comparative review: review of SSC initiatives in UN agencies specifically in terms of approach, implementation, processes and M&E systems.

5. Evaluation process

The evaluation will include 5 main phases, each with distinct milestones and deliverables.

Preparatory phase

- Preparation of ToR in coordination with stakeholders.
- Selection of external consultants.
- Collection of relevant documentation and creation of document repository in google drive.
- Preparation of preliminary stakeholder map by evaluation manager.
- Creation of the Evaluation Reference Group.

Inception phase

- Desk review of relevant documentation and preliminary meetings with key stakeholders.
- Finalization of a stakeholder map.
- Delivery of draft inception report detailing the proposed design of the evaluation and methodological approach including timeframes for deliverables.
- Workshop with stakeholders in NY and presentation of draft inception report to the Evaluation Reference Group
- Integration of feedback from the ERG into the final inception report.

Data Collection Phase

- Stakeholder interviews/ focus groups/ surveys with UNFPA and other UN staff and partners, including:
 - UNFPA staff at country, regional, and headquarters.
 - UNFPA partners.
 - o Beneficiaries
 - UN agencies and other stakeholders implementing SSTC initiatives.
- Comparative review

Reporting Phase

- On the basis of the data collection and analysis, the evaluation team will prepare a draft evaluation report which will be circulated to the ERG.
- The consultants will incorporate comments from the ERG and prepare the final report.

Management Response and Dissemination Phase

- Programme management will prepare a management response to the recommendations contained in the report.
- On the basis of the data collection and analysis, the evaluation team will prepare a draft evaluation report which will be circulated to the ERG.

6. Deliverables

The deliverables will include the following:

- Inception report;
- Internal short case studies (4-5);
- PowerPoint presentation of inception report for reference group members;
- Draft and final evaluation report;
- PowerPoint presentation for Reference Group members;
- Workshop for key stakeholders on the results of the evaluation;
- Review of SSC in the UN system;

The *inception* report (max 20 pages plus annexes) should include the following elements:

- 1. Description of the Innovation Initiative and organizational context within UNFPA;
- 2. Evaluation design including a fully-fleshed out methodology;
- 3. Time-table for the exercise;
- 4. Relevant annexes.

The *final* report (max 35 pages plus annexes) should include the following elements:

- 1. Executive summary
- 2. Description of SSTC and organizational context within UNFPA;
- 3. Purpose and objectives of the evaluation
- 4. Description of the methodology utilized;
- 5. Findings
- 5. Conclusions
- 6. Recommendations;
- 7. Relevant annexes.

7. Evaluation timetable

Phase	Task	Timeline
	Preparation of ToR	June 2019
Duousentomi	Collection of relevant documentation and creation of document repository in google drive	June/July 2019
Preparatory	Preparation of preliminary stakeholder map by evaluation manager	June/July 2019
	Selection and engagement of consultant(s)	July/August 2019
	Creation of the Evaluation Reference Group	July 2019
	Initial documentary review and interviews	August 2019
Inception (August-September	Trip to NY for internal Workshop and first Reference Group meeting for feedback for the preparation of the draft inception report	September 2019
2019)	Draft inception report	September 2019
	Comments from RG	September 2019
	Final inception report	October 2019
Data collection (October 2019 – February 2020)	Stakeholder interviews / survey with UNFPA and other UN staff and partners Case studies Comparative review	November 2019- April 2020
	Findings workshop	June 2020
	Trip to NY to present preliminary results of data collection phase	July 2020
Reporting	Conclusions and recommendations workshop	August 2020
(2020)	Draft final report	August 2020
	Comments from RG	September 2020
	Final report	October2020
Management response, dissemination and sharing of results	Management response	November 2020

8. Management of the evaluation

The Evaluation will be conducted and managed by UNFPA Evaluation Office who will have overall responsibility for the management of the evaluation process including hiring and managing the team of external consultants, ensuring the quality and independence of the evaluation and to guarantee its alignment with UNEG Norms and Standards and Ethical Guidelines. Key roles and responsibilities of the **evaluation manager** include:

- Prepare the terms of reference for the evaluation in coordination with the evaluation reference group (ERG);
- Hire the team of external consultants;
- Supervise and guide the consultant team in each step of the evaluation process;
- Review, provide substantive comments and approve the inception report, including the evaluation design and work plan;
- Review and provide substantive feedback on all deliverables;
- Quality assure the entire evaluation process;
- Liaise with the ERG and convene and chair the ERG meetings with the evaluation team;
- Identify and ensure the participation of relevant stakeholders in coordination with the ERG throughout the evaluation process;

• Contribute to learning, knowledge sharing, the dissemination of the evaluability assessment findings and follow-up on the joint management response.

The final evaluation report will be approved by the Director of the Evaluation Office.

An **evaluation reference group (ERG)** will support the evaluation at key moments of the process to ensure broad participation on the conceptualization of the exercise. Members will provide substantive technical inputs, will facilitate access to documents and informants, and will ensure the high technical quality of the evaluation products as well as learning and knowledge generation. The ERG will consist of UNFPA staff from all levels.

9. Quality

All evaluative exercises in the UN system are subject to UNEG norms and standards, as referred to in the UNFPA Evaluation Policy 2019. Quality of deliverables for evaluations should follow UNEG guidelines.

The first level of quality assurance of all evaluation deliverables will be conducted by the **evaluation team leader** prior to submitting the deliverables to the review of the EO evaluation manager.

The evaluation report will be subject to assessment by an independent evaluation quality assessment provider. The evaluation quality assessment will be published along with the evaluation deliverables on the Evaluation Office website.

The Director of the UNFPA Evaluation Office maintains an oversight and quality assurance role in terms of the final evaluation report.

10. Evaluation Team

The core evaluation team will be composed of a team leader, 2 SSTC experts, and a junior researcher.

Team Leader – Senior Evaluation Expert

The **team leader** must have an extensive experience leading and conducting evaluations. His/her primary responsibilities will be:

- Conducting and leading the evaluation in all its phases and managing the inputs of the other team members throughout the exercise;
- Setting out the methodological approach;
- Delivering the inception and final reports in line with the requested quality standards;
- Undertake field missions or desk case studies as planned in the inception report;
- Present the results of the evaluation to stakeholders;
- Quality assure the quality of all deliverables.

Minimum qualification required:

- Master's degree or equivalent in development studies, sociology, economics, social studies, international relations or other related field;
- 13 to 15 years of experience conducting or managing evaluations;
- Experience conducting different types of evaluations;
- Proven skills in evaluation methodology, research analysis, including quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis techniques;
- Strong knowledge of UNFPA mandate areas
- Previous experience working on evaluations of areas of UNFPA mandate would be considered an

asset;

- Demonstrated expertise/experience in developing theories of change, results frameworks, and evaluation and monitoring systems;
- Knowledge of gender and human rights sensitive evaluation practice, and UNEGs ethical standards and guidance on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluations;
- Excellent report writing skills, analytical skills, and computer skills;
- Excellent command in written and spoken English.
- Strong experience leading teams.

Team Members – SSTC Specialists

The team member will:

- Contribute to the design of the evaluation methodology;
- Make substantive contributions to the evaluation deliverables including the inception and final reports in line with the requested quality standards;
- Contribute to all phases of the evaluation;
- Undertake field missions or desk case studies as planned in the inception report;
- Present the results of the evaluation to stakeholders.

Minimum qualification required:

- Master's degree or equivalent in development studies, sociology, economics, social studies, international relations or other related field;
- Experience conducting evaluations;
- Strong knowledge and experience in SSTC;
- Proven skills in, research analysis, including quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis techniques;
- Excellent report writing skills, analytical skills, and computer skills;
- Excellent command in written and spoken English.

Team Member – Researcher and Data Analyst

The team member will:

- Contribute to the design of the evaluation methodology;
- Undertake the in-depth documentary review as per the guidance of the team leader;
- Generate datasets;
- Conduct basic analysis;
- Prepare inputs and make contributions to the evaluation deliverables;
- Participate actively in the primary data collection process (conducting interviews and participating in focus groups);
- Assist with the management of the datasets generated during the exercise;
- Maintain a google folder with relevant documentation;
- Participate in team meetings, including with stakeholders.

Minimum qualification required:

- Master's degree or equivalent in development studies, sociology, economics, social studies, international relations or other related field;
- 3 years of experience conducting research;
- Experience in development of stakeholder mappings and analysis;
- Proven skills in, research analysis, including quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis

techniques;

- Excellent report writing skills, analytical skills, and computer skills;
- Excellent command in written and spoken English.

Evaluation advisor and quality assurer of the evaluation process

The expert will be expected to:

- Provide technical guidance on the methodological approach
- Review and provide comments to the inception report
- Review and provide comments to the draft evaluation report
- Participate in meetings with the evaluation team
- Attend and contribute to evaluation reference group meetings
- Provide inputs and technical guidance to the overall evaluation process, as needed.

Minimum qualifications required:

- Masters or PhD degree in development studies, sociology, economics, social studies, international relations or other related field;
- Technical expertise in formative, utilization-focused and principle-based evaluation
- Experience conducting or managing evaluations, in particular utilization-focused evaluations.
- Proven expertise in evaluation methodology, research analysis, including quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis techniques.

11. Code of conduct and norms for evaluation in the UN system

Evaluations of UNFPA-supported activities need to be independent, impartial and rigorous and evaluators must demonstrate personal and professional integrity. In particular:

- To avoid conflict of interest and undue pressure, evaluators need to be independent. The members of the evaluation team must not have been directly responsible for the policy/programming-setting, design, or overall management of the subject under evaluation, nor should they expect to be in the near future. Evaluators must have no vested interest and should have the full freedom to conduct impartially their evaluative work, without potential negative effects on their career development. They must be able to express their opinion in a free manner.
- 2. The evaluators should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
- 3. At times, evaluations uncover evidence of wrongdoing. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body.
- 4. Evaluators should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to, and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the dignity and self-worth of all stakeholders.
- 5. Evaluators are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study limitations, evidence based findings, conclusions and recommendations.

No team member should have participated in the preparation, programming or implementation of the Innovation Initiative.

See Code of conduct for evaluation in the United Nations System at: <u>http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/102</u> <u>See Norms for evaluation in the United Nations System at: http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/21</u>

Annex II. Methodology and tools

1. Overview of the evaluation design and approach

The evaluation was formative and utilization-focused, intended to inform decisions on SSC strategies and processes at UNFPA and to provide inputs for the next UNFPA Strategic Plan. It was formative, as it was undertaken at the initial stages of the implementation of the South-South Cooperation Strategy and UNFPA Strategic Plan (2018-2021), where SSC features as a cross-cutting mode of engagement. The evaluation was principles-focused in order to try to respond to one of the key challenges to this evaluation, which is the broad and constantly evolving definition of SSC since its first conceptualization. In addressing this, one of the three main components of this evaluation intends to assess, learn from and improve the conceptualization and framing of SSC initiatives at UNFPA under the framework provided by the SSC Principles.³⁶

The evaluation was also transparent, inclusive, and conducted in a participatory manner. It had an important organizational learning component and aimed to ensure a high degree of engagement and intense consultation and interaction with stakeholders throughout. The evaluation utilized mixed methods and drew on quantitative and qualitative data for data collection and analysis. As much as possible, data was disaggregated by gender and age. The evaluators made use of existing national datasets as much as possible to triangulate evidence. It was also gender and human-rights responsive. The evaluation questions addressed issues on human rights and gender equality and evaluators ensured they follow human rights and gender equality responsive protocols when conducting interviews, focus groups, site visits and roll out of the survey. The evaluation followed UNEG Norms and Standards for Evaluation in the UN system and abided by United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) and Code of Conduct and guidance on integrating human rights and gender equality in evaluation. The evaluation adhered to UNEG Ethical Guidelines and was informed by the UNFPA evaluation policy and quality assessment system.

Audience: At the preparatory phase, the primary intended users of the evaluation were identified and personally engaged in the development of the evaluation ToR. Primary users were further engaged during the design of the evaluation within the inception phase.

2. The analytical framework

During the inception phase the evaluation team developed an evaluation matrix to provide framing for the Areas of Inquiry on which to focus; the specific evaluation questions; the assumptions; the indicators to assess the assumptions; and both sources of information and tools for data collection. The three overarching areas of inquiry were identified as:

- Conceptual framing of SSCC at UNFPA principle-focused;
- Results to date of SSTC initiative mandate-focused; and
- Efficiency and effectiveness of SSC for UNFPA programming modality-focused.

The evaluation matrix was used as a systematic guiding framework for the analysis, reflecting the utilizationfocus nature of the formative exercise.

³⁶<u>https://www.unsouthsouth.org/about/about-</u>

SSTC/#:~:text=The%20South%2DSouth%20cooperation%20agenda,domestic%20affairs%20and%20mutual%20benefit

Figure 1. Evaluation Matrix

Aol 1 PRINCIPLE-FOCUSED: Conceptual framing of SSTC at UNFPA						
EQ1 To what extent does the UNFPA SSTC strategy provide an appropriate conceptual framework for UNFPA support						
to SSTC?	INDICATORS	SOURCES OF INFORMATION	METHODS AND TOOLS FOR DATA COLLECTION			
A1.1 UNFPA conceptualization of SSTC at global, regional, and country levels align with SSTC principles of: - demand-driven; - respect for national sovereignty; - non-conditionality; - horizontality and mutual benefit; - solidarity	 evidence UNFPA SSTC programme documentation explicitly reference SSTC principles % UNFPA and partner staff can demonstrably articulate how SSTC principles are conceptually and practically incorporated into SSTC programmes 	 UNFPA SSTC global documentation SSTC policy documentation (external to UNFPA) UNFPA SSTC 	 Key informant interviews Online survey 			
A1.2 UNFPA SSTC strategy provides clear guidance for the design, implementation, monitoring, reporting, and evaluation of UNFPA SSC initiatives	clear guidance for design,documentation outlines practical (a) design and implementation (b) monitoring (c) reporting (d) evaluating and (e)learning guidanceng, reporting, and on of UNFPA SSC- evidence UNFPA regional SSTC documentation provides contextualised guidance on (a) design		 Key informant interviews Online survey 			
A1.3 UNFPA SSTC strategy establishes mechanisms/structures for the coordination of SSC initiatives	 evidence the UNFPA SSSTC strategy explicitly outlines mechanisms for coordination % UNFPA respondents at the global, regional, and country levels who can articulate functional mechanisms and processes for coordinating SSTC 	- UNFPA SSTC global and country level documents	 Key informant interviews Online survey 			
A1.4 UNFPA SSTC strategy is interpreted in a consistent manner across UNFPA offices in regions and countries	interpreted in a regional levels articulate an understanding of SSTC consistent with the UNFPA strategy PA offices in regions		Key informant interviewsOnline survey			
EQ2 To what extent do	ED: Results to date of UNFPA SSTC Initiatives bes UNFPA support to SSTC initiatives contribute to U	NFPA mandates, f	urther advancing the			
goals of the ICPD a ASSUMPTIONS TO BE ASSESSED	INDICATORS	SOURCES OF INFORMATION	DATA SOURCES & COLLECTION METHODS			
A2.1 UNFPA supported SSTC initiatives contribute to SRHR outcomes across different modes of engagement (service delivery, capacity-building, knowledge management,	 presence of activity, output and outcome measurement mechanisms for SRHR results through SSTC at country level; evidence of results data against output indicators for SRHR results through SSTC initiatives evidence of results data against outcome indicators for SRHR results results against SSTC initiatives 	- UNFPA SSTC global and country level documents	 Key informant interviews Online survey 			

		Γ	
and advocacy and policy			
support)			
A2.2 UNFPA supported	- presence of activity, output and outcome	- UNFPA SSTC	- Key informant
SSTC initiatives contribute	measurement mechanisms for gender equality	global and	interviews
to gender equality	(including reduction of GBV) results through SSTC	country level	
(including the reduction of	at country level;	documents	- Online survey
GBV) outcomes across	- evidence of results data against output indicators		
different modes of	for gender equality (including reduction of GBV)		
engagement (service	results through SSTC initiatives		
delivery, capacity-building,	- evidence of results data against outcome		
knowledge management,	indicators for gender equality (including reduction		
and advocacy and policy	of GBV) results against SSTC initiatives		
support)			
A2.3 UNFPA supported	- presence of activity, output and outcome	- UNFPA SSTC	- Key informant
SSTC initiatives contribute	measurement mechanisms for adolescent and	global and	interviews
to adolescents and youth	youth programming results through SSTC at	country level	Ouling
outcomes across different	country level;	documents	- Online survey
modes of engagement	- evidence of results data against output indicators		
(service delivery, capacity-	for adolescent and youth programming results		
building, knowledge	through SSTC initiatives		
management, and	- evidence of results data against outcome		
advocacy and policy	indicators for adolescent and youth programming		
support)	results against SSTC initiatives		
A2.4 UNFPA supported	- presence of activity, output and outcome	- UNFPA SSTC	- Key informant
SSTC initiatives contribute	measurement mechanisms for population	global and	interviews
to population dynamics	dynamics results through SSTC at country level;	country level	- Online survey
outcomes across different	- evidence of results data against output indicators	documents	online survey
modes of engagement (service delivery, capacity-	for population dynamics results through SSTC		
building, knowledge	initiatives		
management, and	- evidence of results data against outcome		
advocacy and policy	indicators for population dynamics results against		
support)	SSTC initiatives		
A2.5 UNFPA supported		- UNFPA SSTC	- Key informant
SSTC initiatives contribute	- presence of activity, output and outcome	global and	interviews
to humanitarian	measurement mechanisms for humanitarian	country level	
outcomes across different	action results through SSTC at country level;	documents	 Online survey
modes of engagement	- evidence of results data against output indicators		
(service delivery, capacity-	for humanitarian action results through SSTC initiatives		
building, knowledge	- evidence of results data against outcome		
management, and	indicators for humanitarian action results against		
advocacy and policy	SSTC initiatives		
support)			
	ED: Efficiency, Effectiveness and coordination of UN	FPA approach to S	SSTC
EQ3 To what extent is S	SSTC an efficient mode of engagement for UNFPA?		
ASSUMPTIONS TO BE		SOURCES OF	DATA SOURCES
ASSESSED	INDICATORS	INFORMATION	& COLLECTION
			METHODS
A3.1 Financial resources	- % of annual SSTC funding requested, required,	- UNFPA SSTC	- Key informant
and human resources	and met	global and	interviews
allocated to SSTC are	- % of financial resources via different sources;	country level	
adequate and consistent	- satisfaction levels among UNFPA and partners	documents	- Online survey
	with flexibility and utility of funding from different		
	sources.		
	- # and type of key SSTC staff positions at global,		
	regional, and country levels		
A3.2 Processes /	- presence of standardised processes /	- UNFPA SSTC	- Key informant
	machanisms / systems to facilitate SSTC initiatives	global and	•
mechanisms / systems to	mechanisms / systems to facilitate SSTC initiatives	giobai ana	interviews

facilitate SSC initiatives	- satisfaction among UNFPA SSTC staff and	country level	- Online survey
are working	partners with the functionality and efficiency of	documents	
	processes, mechanisms and systems		
A3.3 Internal coordination	- presence of standardised and consistent	- UNFPA SSTC	- Key informant
between global, regional,	coordination mechanisms between global regional	global and	interviews
country, and sub-national	country and sub-national offices and staff for SSTC	country level	
levels is systematic	initiatives	documents	- Online survey
	- satisfaction among UNFPA SSTC staff with the		
	functionality and efficiency of coordination		
	mechanisms		
EQ4 To what extent is S	STC a modality that has helped to enhance UNFPA p	ogramming and ir	nplementation?
A4.1 UNFPA documents		- UNFPA SSTC	- Key informant
and harnesses existing	- presence of documented lessons on SSTC	global and	interviews
evidence on SSTC best	- evidence of how lessons and best practice have	country level	
practices and lessons	been incorporated into ongoing and new SSTC	documents	- Online survey
learned	initiatives		
A4.2 UNFPA supported	- evidence of how linkages and synergies have	- UNFPA SSTC	- Key informant
SSTC initiatives enable	been promoted between SRHR, gender equality,	global and	interviews
linkages between UNFPA	adolescents and youth, and population dynamics	country level	interviews
mandate areas	through SSTC initiatives	documents	- Online survey
A4.3 UNFPA supported	- evidence of how UNFPA has promoted linkages	UNFPA SSTC	Kou informant
	and synergies for ICPD and the agenda for		Key informant
SSTC initiatives generate	humanity (including working across the triple	global and	interviews
synergies for the ICPD, and		country level	- Online survey
Agenda for Humanity	nexus) through SSTC initiatives	documents	onine survey
including the new way of			
working across the triple			
nexus			
	- # SSTC partnerships at country level	- UNFPA SSTC	- Key informant
A4.4 Partnerships at the	- evidence on how SSTC initiatives have enhanced	global and	interviews
country level are leveraged	partnerships at the country level and vice versa	country level	- Online survey
and strengthened	- evidence of how SSTC has contributed to	documents	- Online survey
	leveraging resourcing for and through		
	partnerships		

3. Sampling methods and selection of informants

Stakeholder analysis: An in-depth initial stakeholder mapping and analysis was conducted at the beginning of the data collection phase, and revised throughout data collection. Figure 2 illustrates the type and coverage of stakeholders the evaluation addressed.

Figure 2. Type and coverage of stakeholders

Primary Group	Sub-group	Purpose of engagement in the evaluation	As intended users of the evaluation
UNFPA	ICCO Technical Division (TD) Programme Division (PD) Humanitarian Office (HO) Senior Management Regional Offices Country Offices	Corporate level information/ conceptualization information; Country and regional level information/practical implementation information; Recommendations for other stakeholders to engage; Recommendations for documents to review.	ICCO: Take stock of UNFPA SSTC strategy and implementation to date; consider future direction of SSTC within UNFPA (including with consideration of the comparative analysis and SSTC in other UN agencies, programmes and funds); ICCO, PD, TD, HO: consider the added value of UNFPA SSTC initiatives to UNFPA mandate.
Other UN Agencies,	UNOSSC UNDP ILO FAO UNIDO	Recommendations for other stakeholders to engage; Recommendations for document review;	Improve implementation of SSTC Strategy and interventions by means of learning emerging from the evaluation of UNFPA SSTC;

Programmes and	UNICEF	Information on global context of	Enhance role and implementation			
Funds ³⁷	WHO	SSTC;	of own SSTC programmes by means			
T unus	WFP	Information on other initiatives.	of understanding value added of			
	IFAD	internation on other initiatives.	UNFPA approach;			
	IFAD		Improve operationalization of own			
			SSTC programmes by means of			
			learning from UNFPA SSTC			
			evaluation.			
Global South	Ministry of Health	Country and regional level	Improve implementation of SSTC			
Governments for	Ministry of Education	information/practical	Strategies and interventions by			
selected case	Ministry of Education of	implementation information;	means of learning emerging from			
studies. (Selected	Economics/Finance	Recommendations for other	the evaluation of UNFPA SSTC;			
line ministries as	Ministry of Women's	stakeholders to engage;	Enhance role and implementation			
applicable in case	Affairs	Recommendations for document	of own SSCT programmes by means			
study countries)	Development cooperation	review;	of understanding value added of			
,	agency and Ministry of	Information on other initiatives.	UNFPA approach;			
	Foreign Affairs		Improve operationalization of own			
	South-South and thematic		SSTC programmes by means of			
	centres of excellence		learning from UNFPA SSTC			
	Institutes for reproductive		evaluation.			
	health, and population					
	and development					
Civil Society –	As applicable for:	Country and regional level	Improve implementation of SSTC;			
CSOs and NGOs	1. selected case studies;	information/practical	Strategies and interventions by			
(global and	2. background	implementation information;	means of learning emerging from			
country-level)	information;	Recommendations for other	the evaluation of UNFPA SSTC;			
	3. comparative analysis	stakeholders to engage;	Enhance role and implementation			
		Recommendations for document	of own SSCT programmes by means			
		review;	of understanding value added of			
		Information on global context of	UNFPA approach;			
		SSTC;	Improve operationalization of own			
		Information on other initiatives.	SSTC programmes by means of			
			learning from UNFPA SSTC			
			evaluation.			
Academia		Recommendations for other	Not considered as a primarily			
		stakeholders to engage;	intended user of this evaluation			
		Recommendations for document				
		review;				
		Information on global context of				
		SSTC;				
	Development Arresta	Information on other initiatives.				
Global North	Development Agencies of	Country and regional level	Improve implementation of SSTC;			
Governments	global north governments	information / practical	Strategies and interventions by			
		implementation information; Recommendations for other	means of learning emerging from the evaluation of UNFPA SSTC;			
		stakeholders to engage	Enhance role and implementation			
		Recommendations for document	of own SSCT programmes by means			
		review;	of understanding value added of			
		Information on global context of	UNFPA approach.			
		SSTC;				
		Information on other initiatives.				

Sampling: The guiding principles for the sampling criteria are linked to the formative (forward-looking) purpose of the evaluation. The main sampling method is **purposeful sampling**, a specific type of qualitative and non-

 $^{^{\}rm 37}$ Covered by the comparative study.

probability sampling method used for in-depth study of information-rich cases to illuminate key questions for the evaluation at hand. The key question in sampling was to find a balance between the considerable number of SSC initiatives, the need to gather relevant and accurate data in a way that illustrates a wide range of circumstances, experiences and viewpoints, and the time available to conduct the evaluation exercise.

Given the learning purpose of the evaluation, the sampling criteria were created to acknowledge and capture diverse approaches to SSC across experiences, regions, thematic areas, partners, contexts, etc. Primary criteria include:

- 1. <u>COs, with experience in SSC as a mode of engagement</u>: those countries with the most experience and initiatives on SSTC by taking into consideration the number of SSTC initiatives in which UNFPA offices and their partner countries are engaged.
- 2. <u>Regional distribution and geographic reach</u>: ensuring geographic balance across UNFPA regions of APRO, ASRO, EECARO, ESARO, LACRO, and WCARO. Include as many geographical regions as possible while acknowledging intra-regional and inter-regional SSTC initiatives.
- 3. <u>Range of thematic areas</u>: ensuring balance across UNFPA mandate areas of SRHR, population dynamics, gender equality (including GBV) and adolescents and youth.
- 4. <u>Humanitarian and development context</u>: ensuring both contexts were included.

Further consideration was also given to:

- 1. <u>Participation of OECD-DAC and other UN partners</u> in SSTC initiatives, as well as participation of different field partners in initiatives, e.g. governments, CSOs, FBOs, community level, research centres, etc.
- 2. <u>The UNFPA country quadrant classification</u>³⁸. The evaluation attempted to include, as much as possible, countries from each of the four quadrants (red, yellow, orange and pink), that is, with different levels of development in areas of UNFPA mandate.
- 3. <u>Logistical issues and security concerns</u>: When the evaluation team was not able to travel to the location due to security concerns, or when there were significant logistical obstacles (such as obtaining visas, time/ability to travel, language barriers), the country/regional office was not considered as a field-based case study, but some were covered by desk-based case study.

Sampling was based on the stakeholder analysis, as well as on two datasets of UNFPA SSC initiatives and Atlas/GPS activities per country (164 countries), regional offices and other UNFPA units, described below. There was not a comprehensive list of initiatives available and therefore the evaluation team had to create a landscape of SSC at UNFPA by triangulating different available sources of information.

Dataset 1 - "Mapping of SSTC initiatives": This dataset constituted the sample frame, comprised of a total of 34 UNFPA SSC initiatives with 90 developing country partners involved in at least one of them. *This dataset includes information on sampling criteria for each initiative and developing country involved: country colour quadrant; region of country location; as well as, for the initiatives: title and summary description; year start/end; coding per source; thematic area(s); context (development or humanitarian); inter/intra-regional nature; combination with other modes of engagement; type of partners per sector (e.g. government, civil society, academia); participation of OECD-DAC, other UN partners and/or other multilateral organisations. The sources of data comprised UNFPA and UNOSSC publications on SSTC initiatives (good practices) and other UNFPA publications.^{39,40}*

³⁸ The terms 'country quadrant' and 'colour quadrant' correspond to a country classification system that is based on a country's need and ability to finance and on UNFPA modes of engagement by setting. The system classifies countries into red, yellow, orange and pink quadrants.

³⁹ UNOSSC (2016) Good Practices in South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development, Volume 1. UNOSSC (2016) Good Practices in South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development, Volume 2. UNFPA. Atlas Spreadsheet (internal document provided by UNFPA/EO) [Excel spreadsheet]. UNFPA (n.d.) UNFPA Solutions Database [Excel spreadsheet]. Internal document provided by UNFPA/EO. UNOSSC and UNFPA (2018) South-South Cooperation in Action: Sexual and Reproductive Health. New York, NY: UNOSSC, UNFPA. UNFPA (2019) Annex 5: Results achieved through South-South and Triangular Cooperation, Annual Report of the Executive Director of UNFPA, 2019 Annual Session of the Executive Board.

⁴⁰ During data collection, the sources of data on initiatives were expanded to also include country, thematic and global evaluations by UNFPA Evaluation Office.

Following a joint review of the rationale and in consultation with the Evaluation Reference Group, this sample frame was further narrowed to a final selection of 15 country cases, presented below. The initiatives include both bilateral (only two countries involved) and multilateral (several countries involved) initiatives. For this reason, the number of initiatives and the number of developing country partners for each country in the sample are not proportionate.

Figure 3. Summary of rationale for country selection according to sampling criteria

Country	Region*	Quadrant	# of Initiatives	Thematic Areas	Context (development or humanitarian)	Donor and/or other multilateral organization participation	Types of partners	# of country partners
Bangladesh	APRO	Red	3	Sexual and reproductive health (SRH); Family planning	Both	Yes	Government; Civil society; FBOs	24
Bosnia and Herzegovina	EECARO	Pink	3	Sexual and reproductive health (SRH); SRH (maternal and new-born health); Gender- based violence	Development	Yes	Government; Civil Society; Academia	14
Brazil	LACRO	Pink	2	Gender equality; Population and development	Development	Yes	Government; Civil Society	6
China	APRO	Pink	5	Population and development; Sexual and reproductive health (SRH); SRH (maternal and new-born health)	Both	Yes	Government; Civil Society; Academia	35
Egypt	ASRO	Pink	3	Family planning; Population and development	Development	Yes	Government; Civil Society; FBOs; Academia	19
Ghana	WCARO	Red	3	Population and development; SRH (maternal and new-born health); Family planning	Development	No	Government; Civil society; FBOs	35
India	APRO	Orange	4	Population and development; Family planning	Development	Yes	Government; Civil society; FBOs; Academia	45
Indonesia	APRO	Yellow	4	Family planning; Population and development	Development	Yes	Government; Civil Society; FBOs; Academia	32
Iran	APRO	Pink	2	Sexual and reproductive health (SRH); SRH (midwifery)	Both	No	Government; Civil Society; Academia	2

Mali	WCARO	Red	4	Sexual and reproductive health (SRH); SRH (obstetric fistula); Gender equality; Family planning			Government; Civil society; FBOs	
Moldova	EECARO	Pink	3	Gender-based violence; SRH (maternal and new-born health); SRH (HIV/AIDS)	Development	Yes	Government; Civil Society; Academia	12
Mozambique	ESARO	Red	2	Gender equality; SRH (midwifery)	Development	Yes	Government; Civil Society	2
Senegal	WCARO	Red	2	Population and development; SRH; Gender equality	Development	Yes	Government; Civil Society	13
South Africa	ESARO	Yellow	2	Population and development; SRH (HIV/AIDS)	Development	Yes	Government; Academia	16
Thailand**	APRO	Pink	2	Population and development; SRH (maternal and new-born health)	Development	Yes	Government; Academia	16

* UNFPA regions are delineated as: Arab States (ASRO); Asia and the Pacific (APRO); Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECARO); East and Southern Africa (ESARO); Latin America and the Caribbean (LACRO), and West and Central Africa (WCARO).

**The Thailand case study was in practice integrated into the APRO case study.

Dataset 2 – Atlas/GPS Dataset 2014-2019 and other sources for triangulation. This data source reflects a preliminary search for UNFPA SSC activities worldwide – including budget utilisation – within Atlas from 2014 to 2019. SSC tagging within Atlas was only established in 2018, therefore a subsequent search for SSC-related or similar words in English, Spanish, Portuguese and French was conducted to confirm whether activities were related to SSC.

Complementing triangulation between sources, the evaluation team consulted annual country reports and cross-referenced countries to determine with which other countries one country was partnering with in SSC initiatives. The sample framed was "filtered" in this way to identify country sample repetition. Adding to this, pre-selected countries were also related/cross-referenced against thematic areas of initiatives in which they were involved to ensure maximum coverage of such areas. Interviews with UNFPA staff allowed personnel to suggest countries for selection based on snowball sampling.

Ultimately, the sample size for the evaluation focused on 10 country case studies, 4 regional case studies and a global case study on SSTC for humanitarian purposes.

Level	Field-Based Case Studies	Desk-Based Case Studies
	Bangladesh	Indonesia
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	
	Brazil	
	Egypt	
Country	Ghana	
	Mexico	
	Mozambique	
	Senegal	
	South Africa	
Designal	West and Central Africa Office (WCARO)	Latin America and the Caribbean Office (LACRO)
Regional	Eastern Europe and Central Asia Office (ESARO)	Eastern and Southern Africa Office (APRO)
Global		Humanitarian

Figure 4. Country, regional and global case studies: Desk- and field-based

Country-level: Evidence from another evaluation exercise of UNFPA-China SSC complemented this evaluation. Thailand was integrated into APRO case study. The desk-based case studies of Indonesia, LACRO and APRO were planned to be field-based, but due to the COVID-19 crisis they were recategorized as desk-based case studies

Regional-level: The evaluation conducted four regional case studies. Coverage of all six regional offices was not possible within the timeframe allocated.

Global-level: Only three SSC initiatives were identified in the humanitarian setting (one between Iran and Syria, one between Iran and Afghanistan and one between Bangladesh and China). There was no one single country where a range of humanitarian issues therefore the humanitarian component was reflected in a global desk-based case study.

A global survey, sent to all programme UNFPA staff, was also a data source, with 372 responses.

In addition, global interviews for both UNFPA staff and others – such as Partners in Population and Development (PPD) provided additional data. A full list of all informants interviewed can be found in Annex III.

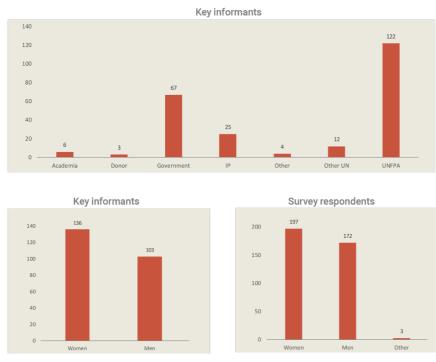
Sampling for the Comparative Study: Sampling for the Comparative Review of SSC in the UN system used the criterion of the agencies with the most initiatives systematized in both editions of UNOSSC compilations of SSTC good practices.⁴¹

. List of UN agencies selected	I for the comparative study
--------------------------------	-----------------------------

UN Agencies	# initiatives
UNDP	30
ILO	13
UNIDO	13
FAO	12
UNICEF	12
WHO	11
WFP	11
UNFPA	9
UNOSSC	9
IFAD	7

Involvement of stakeholders in the evaluation: The evaluation interviewed 239 key informants; 136 were female and 103 male. Out of these key informants, 122 were internal to UNFPA and the others external, across academia, donors, governments, implementing partners, and other UN agencies. A total of 217 documents were reviewed. Furthermore, 372 UNFPA staff responded to the survey. Annexes IV and V present a list of key informants and a bibliography, respectively.

Figure 6. Gender and type of evaluation respondents



⁴¹ UNOSSC (2016) Good Practices in South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development, Volume 1. UNOSSC (2018) Good Practices in South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Sustainable Development, Volume 2

4. Methods for data collection

The evaluation utilised the following methods to collect primary and secondary evidence.

Key informant interviews: Key informant interviews were conducted with UNFPA and external partner countries and other key stakeholders. A list of key informants to interview were identified in consultation with UNFPA during the inception phase, and evolved as the evaluation process unfolded and more key informants emerged. The list of all key informants interviewed is presented in Annex III.

The KIIs were conducted against the agreed evaluation matrix, with data recorded in a consistent manner across the members of the evaluation team. For this purpose, the KII logbook — also based on the evaluation matrix was used to ensure that all evaluation team members recorded evidence in a consistent and comparative manner to ensure the robustness of the data analysis and triangulation.

Document review: Global, regional, and country level documentation was reviewed throughout the evaluation data collection phase, both that internal to UNFPA and wider publications. A full bibliography for the evaluation can be found in Annex IV. This review of secondary data included programme/project (including country programmes and evaluations, as applicable), corporative/thematic evaluations and other relevant documents. This data allowed the evaluation team to gain a fuller understanding of SSTC programming and policies, strategies, coordination and other issues related to evaluation questions, including SSTC initiatives that have been (or are being) undertaken by UNFPA and key stakeholders, as relevant. The documents and datasets reviewed constitute sources of evidence triangulated with other data collected through other evaluation tools.

Online Survey: An online survey was administered globally to UNFPA staff at country, regional, and global levels. The data collected through the online survey was utilised in two ways:

- 1. to generate narrative data from UNFPA programme presence in countries and regions;
- 2. to supplement the data collected through case studies with wider evidence;

372 responses to the data were collected.

Case Studies: Field Based. The cases were designed to provide in-depth insight to UNFPA approach to SSC in various contexts, enabling a deeper understanding of UNFPA-supported SSC initiatives in the national and sub-national context. Each case study involved a preparatory desk review and a country visit by members of the evaluation team to the countries involved in the SSC initiative. The data collection took place at UNFPA, government, partner, and other stakeholder levels.

Two initial pilot field missions (Egypt and Brazil) were conducted simultaneously by different evaluation team members to test the overall approach and data collection methods, based on which the evaluation team planned to refine the evaluation tools and methods for the succeeding field-based case studies. However, no substantive refinement was necessary.

Case Studies: Desk-Based: The desk-based case studies further help to provide a deeper understanding of UNFPA approach to SSC across varied contexts, perspectives and experiences. Each desk-based case study consisted of remote assessment of initiatives through a document review and skype interviews with key stakeholders at UNFPA units and countries participating in UNFPA SSTC initiatives and activities, including UNFPA staff, governmental partners, and civil society stakeholders. The data was compiled and analysed in a similar manner to the field-based case studies to facilitate a comparative analysis across all case studies.

Comparative review: The comparative review consists of a systematic collection and comparison of data from other UN agencies across three dimensions being: (i) institutional framework for SSC, (ii) implementation of SSC and (iii) assessment of SSC.

Data was collected through online searches, desk review and interviews. Data collection was carried out in two stages. The first one consisted of a preliminary desk review and online searches, aiming to

identify which agencies are more engaged in SSC and, therefore, could provide more insights to the formative evaluation. As a result of this first review, a narrower list of agencies was identified for conduction of in-depth research (nine agencies). The second stage focused on the agencies identified as most engaged in SSTC and consisted of desk review based on public available documents published by the UN system, complemented with interviews.

Institutional framework for SSTC	Formal	Are there any specific policies/strategies/ guidelines/ approaches to SSTC? Since when? What are their main contents? How is SSTC framed in the strategic documents? How is SSTC defined? Is there a specific ToC for SSTC?
Operational Resources		How is SSTC integrated in the agencies' programming? Is there a specialized unit in HQ? What are the responsibilities? Where is it located under the agency organogram? What are the Regional Offices responsibilities? What are the Country Offices responsibilities? Are there any kinds of incentives to COs to engage in SSTC? Do M&E Systems reflect SSTC? How?
		What are the resources allocated to SSTC (funds and staff?) What are the main sources of funding for SSTC?
Implementing SSTC	Facilitating SSTC exchanges Knowledge management on SSTC	What are the strategies or activities to facilitate SSTC exchanges? What are the knowledge management strategies or activities to support SSTC? What are the knowledge sharing strategies or activities to support SSTC?
	Enabling environment for SSTC	Are there strategies or activities to foster partnerships and strategic alliances that may enhance SSTC and its effectiveness? What are they? Are there strategies or activities to strengthen resource mobilization for SSTC?
	Others	
Assessment of SSTC	Results assessed Challenges	Is there any type of SSTC results assessment? What are the main findings? What are the main challenges faced by the agency to effectively
	Lessons Learned	mainstream and implement SSTC? What are the main lessons regarding SSTC implementation?

Figure 7. Dimensions of the Comparative Review

5. Methods for data analysis

Data collation: During data collection, all evidence – both primary and secondary – was collated in case-study specific evidence databases created following the evaluation questions and assumptions within the evaluation matrix. Additional databases were created with complementary data sources such as global interviews, the comparative study, and the survey. At the end of the data collection phase, all these individual databases were combined into a master evidence database.

For each case study and additional data source (such as global interviews and the survey), an individual internal report was developed which included a standardised method of articulating evidence.

Initial data analysis: From the summaries of each data source (case studies, the survey, and the comparative review) the evaluation team extracted emerging themes and commonalities for analysis as potential findings. The following specific analytical approaches were used:

- **Descriptive analysis** helped to understand the contexts within which UNFPA SSC initiatives are being implemented
- **Content analysis** constituted the core of the qualitative analysis. The evaluation team analysed and coded documents, interview transcripts, and observations from the field to identify common trends, themes, and patterns for each of the key evaluation questions and criteria
- **Comparative analysis** examined findings across different initiatives, countries, themes, or other criteria. It was also used to identify good practice, innovative approaches and lessons learned.

Triangulation and verification: Data from different sources and methods was triangulated. Preliminary findings, developed through an iterative team process, were then verified against the evidence database to ensure a robustness of process and to guarantee that the evaluation findings are fully evidence-based. This process allows the strength of evidence for each finding to be quantifiable.

6. Integration of cross-cutting issues and ethical considerations

Gender, human rights and youth aspects are integrated in the evaluation in both content and process. Firstly, the evaluation examined how these areas have been incorporated in SSC initiatives within UNFPA. Secondly, the evaluation methodology is aligned with guidance from UNEG on Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluation.⁴² This includes conducting a comprehensive stakeholder analysis (paying particular attention to gender when selecting informants) and to ensure that all relevant voices, opinions and views are considered and heard, and collecting gender disaggregated data on interviewees.

Ethical aspects considered in the design and implementation of this evaluation are in line with the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation and the UNEG Code of Conduct for Evaluations in the UN System.⁴³

To guarantee confidentiality of its informants, including those participants of the survey, responses have only been used in aggregate form. This evaluation report does not include references to individual interviews, which were coded only for referencing in the evidence table. All quotations in the report are anonymous. Furthermore, all participatory data collection methods were developed to be culturally and gender responsive and in line with the do no harm principle, to give voice to a more inclusive and diverse range of stakeholders. Interviewees were informed of the objectives of the evaluation and how data from interviews will be utilized.

The team used stakeholder mapping and analysis in order to identify all potentially interested stakeholders. Interested informants were interviewed with independence of their position in the hierarchical structure, their gender and their time zone.

7. Limitations, mitigating actions and quality assurance

During the inception meeting in New York, and based on an initial scoping, initial document review, and initial interviews, a number of limitations and/or potential limitations were identified.

Limitations	Mitigation measures
Evolving definition of SSC	The evaluation was a participatory, consultative and
	transparent process to engage a wide range of

⁴² <u>http://www.uneval.org/document/detail/980</u>

⁴³ <u>http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/100;</u>

http://www.unevaluation.org/document/detail/102

This makes it difficult to definitively frame and define SSC in a commonly understood and consistent manner	stakeholders to better understand and define SSC at UNFPA from various perspectives. In addition to this, a comparative study of a diverse set of agencies within the United Nations system is included, providing insights on their conceptualization, interpretation and approach to SSC	
Absence of an explicit results framework	The evaluation utilized broad areas of investigation (principles-focused, mandate-focused and modality- focused) to better understand how SSC contributes to improving results for UNFPA programming	
As a process, traditional results frameworks fundamentally do not capture the often intangible results of SSC initiatives		
Data availability, quality, and reliability challenges	The evaluation collected data on SSC initiatives from various sources and through various methods to triangulate and corroborate the data available in Atlas ⁴⁴ and the universe of SSC initiatives. Purposeful sampling	
Due to the diverse understanding of what constitutes SSC within UNFPA, there is inconsistent tagging of SSC initiatives by UNFPA country offices and the absence of a definitive list of SSC initiatives within UNFPA	was employed (See Annex II for further information).	
Outbreak of the COVID-19 global pandemic	With regard to case studies not undertaken before COVID-19, these were reframed as desk-based case studies and included document review and stakeholder interviews. The findings workshop, and the recommendations workshop were transformed into a series of on-line meetings and online workshops	

Key informant questionnaire protocol

Notes to interviewers:

* key informant interviews should take between 45 minutes and 1 hour;

* the below list of questions cover all areas and the interviewer should use their judgement as to which questions to focus on based on who the interviewee is (i.e. UNFPA staff, other UN staff, government partner, civil society partner etc.);

* interviewers should phrase the questions in the most natural way to themselves;

* interviewers should use judgement as to which questions could be followed up based on answers – for example, if respondents do not know of the UNFPA strategy or the way that UNFPA conceptualizes SSTC then move on to the next question;

* interviewers may take notes in any format but all interview notes need to then be recorded in:

(a) KII Logbook – one per interview;

(b) The evidence database – for working databases, one per person to be collated into one per case study, to ultimately be collated into one master evidence database.

⁴⁴ Atlas is a resource and planning tool used at UNFPA.

Key points for general introduction / opening statements

- Introduce yourself as independent consultant, not UNFPA staff;
- General introduction to the evaluation:
 - UNFPA has a corporate strategy on SSTC since 2017;
 - This evaluation is meant to be practical, utilization focused evaluation;
- At the end of the data collection, the independent team will present its findings and work with UNFPA staff for a joint development of conclusions and recommendations;
- The evaluation report will be finalized by the May 2020 and will be made public;
- The information provided in in the interviews is confidential and we will ensure that no points in the evaluation report can be traced back to the people providing information;
- The interview will last around 45 minutes to an hour.

Opening questions

- General information about the person(s) being interviewed: background, how long they have been working at their current job, what they do, and what experience they have:
 - \circ with SSTC;
 - Specifically with a / this UNFPA SSTC initiative.

Question	Links to	For KII		
Aol1 principle-focused:		type		
EQ1. how useful is the UNFPA SSTC strategy as a conceptual framework?				
Q. What do you know about the UNFPA SSTC strategy? OR how UNFPA	Introductory	All		
conceptualizes / understands SSTC?	queston			
Q. How do you understand SSTC within UNFPA?	(A.1.4)			
Q. Do you think this is well-aligned with the principles of SSTC? - ask	A1.1	All		
respondents to expand on this answer, with probing – ie demand-driven,				
non-conditionality etc.				
Q. Do you have examples of how UNFPA SSTC programming is aligned?				
Q. Do you think UNFPA provides good guidance and useful help on how to	A1.2	All (but		
do SSTC programming? – Ask respondents to expand on this answer, with		specifically		
probing – ie how about for implementation? monitoring? reporting?		UNFPA		
Q Is this guidance from headquarters / or regional office / or country office?		SSTC staff)		
/or other?				
Q. Do you have examples of how you have found this guidance useful?				
Q. Do you think there are useful mechanisms in place within UNFPA to	A1.3	UNFPA		
coordinate all the different SSTC initiatives?				
Aol2 mandate-focused				
EQ2 results to date				
Q. How has UNFPA SSTC programming contributed to better results?	A2.1	All		
Building upon answers given, probe for:				
- SRHR, gender equality and reduction of GBV, adolescents and youth,				
population dynamics, and humanitarian				
- service delivery, capacity-building, knowledge management,				
advocacy				
Q. Do you have any examples of these results – at output or outcome level?				
AoI3 modality-focused (1/2)				
EQ3. efficiency, and coordination	T	1		
Q. Do you think UNFPA has invested / raised adequate funds for SSTC	A3.1	Mainly		
programming?		UNFPA		
		staff but		
		also others		
Q. Do you think UNFPA has allocated enough staff for SSTC programming?	A3.1	Mainly		
(probe – global, regional, country, sub-national levels?)		UNFPA		
		staff but		
		also others		

	42.2	A 4 1
Q. Do you think there are the right mechanisms in place to ensure SSTC	A3.2	Mainly
programming works effectively within UNFPA?		UNFPA
Q. Can you give examples of how these mechanisms work?		staff but
Q. Can you suggest how these mechanisms could be improved?		also others
Q. Do you think there is adequate coordination between global, regional,	A3.3	Mainly
and country levels for SSTC programming?		UNFPA
Q. Can you give examples of how this coordination works well? Or examples		staff but
of where you think the coordination is challenging>		also others
Aol4 modality-focused (2/2)		
EQ5. learning, effectiveness, and partnerships		
Q. How does UNFPA ensure continuously learning? – Does UNFPA document	A4.1	All
best practice for SSTC?		
Q. How is this incorporated into future programming?		
Q. Can you give examples of this?		
Q. Do you have examples of how SSTC has helped strengthen links between	A4.2	All
different UNFPA mandate areas (i.e. SRHR and GBV, for example)?		
Q. Do you have examples of how SSTC has helped strengthen UNFPA work	A4.3	All
across the triple nexus of humanitarian, peace and development? Or how		
SSTC has helped strengthen UNFPA commitment to the Agenda for		
Humanity and the new way of working?		
Q. How well does UNFPA work in partnership for SSTC programming and has	A4.4	All
UNFPA SSTC-supported work helped strengthen partnerships at all?		
Q. Do you have any examples of this?		

Online Survey

Dear UNFPA colleagues,

The UNFPA Evaluation Office is undertaking a formative evaluation of UNFPA support to Southto-South and triangular cooperation (SSTC). The exercise is currently in the data collection phase which includes field visits to country offices undertaking UNFPA SSTC initiatives, a desk review and analysis of SSC initiatives, interviews with internal and external stakeholders, a comparative analysis of SSC approaches by other actors both within the UN system and beyond and a survey.

The Evaluation Office would like to ask for your contribution to this important formative evaluation by participating in this survey to all UNFPA staff at country, regional, and global levels.

This survey will be utilized to ensure all staff have the opportunity to provide their opinion and views related to SSC at UNFPA. Your responses will be kept confidential and seen only by the evaluation team. All respondents are encouraged to provide honest feedback. Results will be aggregated and no individual responses from countries will be shared.

We would really appreciate your participation in this survey: the information you provide will help shape the future work of SSC at UNFPA and ensure that this is informed by the views and experiences of colleagues at the forefront of programming. All staff from HQ, RO and CO can answer the survey (there is no maximum number of respondents by unit) so everyone is encouraged to answer. We invite you to open the survey and if the scope of the survey is not related to your work you will be able to stop at question 4.

The survey should take around **20 minutes** to complete. The deadline for completing the survey is **24**th April **2020**.

Please complete the survey from your own perspective and experience – there is no right or wrong here! *Again, just to reiterate, the confidentiality of your responses is assured*.

To access the survey, please click the following link (or copy and paste it into your browser):

Thank you very much for your time and participation.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact:

Karen Cadondon <u>cadondon@unfpa.org</u>

Valeria Carou-Jones <u>carou-jones@unfpa.org</u>

Part a. Respondent profile

- 1. What is your gender identity? Compulsory
 - Female
 - Male
 - Prefer to self-describe
 - Prefer not to say
- 2. What is your age? Compulsory
 - Under 25
 - 26-35
 - 36-45

- 46-55
- 56 and over
- Prefer not to say
- 3. How many years have you been working at UNFPA? Compulsory only select one
 - Less than 1 year
 - 1 to 2 years
 - 2 to 3 years
 - 3 to 5 years
 - 5 to 10 years
 - More than 10 years
- 4. How long have you been in your current post? Compulsory only select one
 - Less than 1 year
 - 1 to 3 years
 - 3 to 5 years
 - 5 to 10 years
 - More than 10 years
- 5. What is your current function? Compulsory (Please, select all options that apply):
 - Senior Management at CO/RO/HQ
 - Programme
 - Operations
 - Monitoring & Evaluation
 - Communications
 - Resource Mobilization
 - Human Resources
 - Audit
 - Investigation
 - Focal point for South-South and triangular cooperation
 - Programme officer for South-South and triangular cooperation
 - Other (please specify) _____
- 6. In which category are you? Compulsory only select one
 - General Service GS4 and below
 - General Service GS5 to GS7
 - National Officer NOA & NOB
 - National Officer NOC & NOD
 - Junior Professional Officer
 - P1 to P3
 - P4 & P5
 - D1 and above
 - UN Volunteer
 - Consultant with SSA contract
 - Intern
 - Secondee
- 7. What type of office do you serve in? Compulsory only select one
 - Country Office
 - Regional Office
 - Sub-Regional Office

- New York- Headquarters
- Liaison office

Only those clicking "country office - Regional Office - Sub-Regional Office in question above should answer this next question (only 1 option possible)

- 8. In which region is your office in? Compulsory only select one
 - APRO
 - ASRO
 - EECARO
 - ESARO
 - LACRO
 - WCARO

Only those clicking "country office" in question above should answer this question (a filter is needed)

- 9. In what colour quadrant is your country office? Compulsory only select one
 - Red quadrant
 - Orange quadrant
 - Yellow quadrant
 - Pink quadrant

10. What type of work does your country office mainly do? Compulsory – only select one

- Development work
- Humanitarian work (excluding Covid-19 response)
- Both
- 11. What is your role in relation to design and implementation of South-South and triangular cooperation? Compulsory only select one
 - Most of my time is spent on designing and implementing south-south cooperation initiatives
 - Some of my time is spent on designing and implementing south-south cooperation initiatives
 - Little of my time is spent on designing and implementing south-south cooperation initiatives
 - None of my time is spent on designing and implementing south-south cooperation initiatives

Part b. Approach and implementation of south-south cooperation at UNFPA (Compulsory)

- 12. Does your office or department currently employ SSC as a programming implementation strategy (during 2018 2019 2020) ? Compulsory only select one
 - Yes
 - No
 - I don't know

If they answered yes to question 12 above, then move on to next question.

13. We would appreciate if you can name and briefly describe the SSC initiatives implemented by your unit in the past 3 years (2018-2019-2020) Compulsory

14. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements (Compulsory):

	Strongly	Agree	Disagree	Strongly	Don't
	agree	5	5	disagree	know
I am familiar with the					
concept of south-south					
and triangular cooperation					
and its value added.					
I am familiar with the					
principles of SSC, namely:					
being demand-driven,					
ownership, respect for					
national sovereignty, non-					
conditionality,					
horizontality and mutual					
benefit, and solidarity.					
I am familiar with UNFPA's					
2017 South-south and					
Triangular Cooperation					
Strategy and					
accompanying guidance					

15. What types of initiatives do you understand as being UNFPA-supported South-south and Triangular Cooperation? Optional

16. Please indicate the extent	to which you	agree or disagree	with the following statements
(Compulsory):			

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
The UNFPA SSC strategy and associated guidance provides clear guidance for the principles to follow, the design, implementation, monitoring, reporting, and evaluation of SSC	5				

initiatives implemented by my unit.			
There are clear mechanisms and structures for coordinating SSC initiatives within UNFPA.			

17. During 2018-2019-2020 my office/ department has implemented SSC initiatives in the area/s of (compulsory select all that correspond):

- SRH
- Gender equality
- Adolescents and youth
- Population dynamics
- Humanitarian contexts
- Other: Please specify
- My office does not implement SSC initiatives

18. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements (Compulsory):

	Strongly	Agree	Disagree	Strongly	Don't
	agree			disagree	know
SSC is an important					
implementation modality in my					
office/ department					
SSC is more an ad hoc					
intervention than one based on					
long-term goals with more					
strategic and organic linkages					
with the country/ regional					
programme					
I find SSC mode of engagement					
effective to achieve results					
across UNFPA mandate areas					
UNFPA SSC programming					
promote linkages between					
different UNFPA mandate					
areas (SRHR, gender equality					
including reduction of GBV,					
adolescents and youth, and					
population dynamics)					
UNFPA SSC programming					
promotes synergies for ICPD					
and Agenda for Humanity,					
including working across the					
triple nexus of humanitarian,					
development, and peace.					
UNFPA supported SSC					
initiatives enhance					
partnerships					

- 19. Please indicate what you consider as the value added of utilizing SSC as a mode of engagement from your experience (Optional)
- 20. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Strongly	Agree	Disagree	Strongly	Don't
	agree			disagree	know
UNFPA has established effective					
coordination between global,					
regional, country, for SSC					
programming.					
There is clarity on the roles of HQ					
and RO in the area of SSC					
My office has sufficient human					
resources to undertake SSC					
initiatives					
My office has sufficient financial					
resources to undertake SSC					
initiatives					
I find SSC mode of engagement					
cost-effective					
UNFPA has established efficient					
mechanisms and systems to					
ensure SSC initiatives work well					
My office has received adequate					
support to undertake SSC					
UNFPA adequately documents					
lessons learned including					
challenges and good practices					
from SSC initiatives					
UNFPA systems including tagging					
and databases adequately					
capture SSC initiatives					
I utilize information from					
databases and system as					
reference when designing SSC					
initiatives					
The effects/results of SSC					
initiatives on partners are well					
captured by UNFPA					

21. Please indicate any challenges encountered when implementing SSC initiates and any suggestions for improvement (Optional)

initiatives, my unit impl	ements the f	oliowing:		-	- 1
	Strongly	Agree	Disagree	Strongly	Don't know
	agree			disagree	
A mapping of the capacity					
and interest of national					
institutions as SSC					
provider/recipient					
A basic logical framework					
with appropriate indicators					
to measure progress					
containing a baseline					
scenario and description of					
an initial assessment.					
Mid-term monitoring					
assessment documenting					
progress and					
accomplishments, proposing					
any necessary adjustments.					
Ex-post evaluation to assess					
results through interviews,					
feedback from concerned					
partners and visits, if					
necessary.					
Generate learning and					
lessons learned					

22. *Please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statement:* As part of SSC initiatives, my unit implements the following:

- 23. Are you aware of existing funding mechanisms from countries of the global south that your unit/ department could avail itself of? Compulsory
 - Yes
 - No

If they replied yes to question 23, move on to 24

24. Please name any funding mechanisms you are aware of. Compulsory

25. Do you have any further comments on how to improve SSC implementation at UNFPA? Optional

KII logbook

Interviewer:	
Interviewee:	
Job Title:	
Date:	
Location:	

Background / Context information

AoI 1: PRINCIPLE-FOCUSED: Conceptual framing of SSTC at UNFPA

EQ1: To what extent does the UNFPA SSTC strategy provide an appropriate conceptual framework for UNFPA support to SSTC?

A1.1 UNFPA conceptualization of SSTC at global, regional, and country levels align with SSTC principles of:

- demand-driven;

- respect for national sovereignty;

- non-conditionality;

- horizontality and mutual benefit;

- solidarity

A1.2 UNFPA SSTC strategy provides clear guidance for the design, implementation, monitoring, reporting, and evaluation of UNFPA SSC initiatives

A1.3 UNFPA SSTC strategy establishes mechanisms/structures for the coordination of SSC initiatives

A1.4 UNFPA SSTC strategy is interpreted in a consistent manner across UNFPA offices in regions and countries

AoI 2 : MANDATE-FOCUSED: Results to date of UNFPA SSTC Initiatives

EQ2: To what extent does UNFPA support to SSTC initiatives contribute to UNFPA mandates, further advancing the goals of the ICPD and 2030 agenda?

A2.1 UNFPA supported SSTC initiatives contribute to SRHR outcomes across different modes of engagement (service delivery, capacity-building, knowledge management, and advocacy and policy support)

A2.2 UNFPA supported SSTC initiatives contribute to gender equality (including the reduction of GBV) outcomes across different modes of engagement (service delivery, capacity-building, knowledge management, and advocacy and policy support)

A2.3 UNFPA supported SSTC initiatives contribute to adolescents and youth outcomes across different modes of engagement (service delivery, capacity-building, knowledge management, and advocacy and policy support)

A2.4 UNFPA supported SSTC initiatives contribute to population dynamics outcomes across different modes of engagement (service delivery, capacity-building, knowledge management, and advocacy and policy support)

A2.5 UNFPA supported SSTC initiatives contribute to humanitarian outcomes across different modes of engagement (service delivery, capacity-building, knowledge management, and advocacy and policy support)

Aol 3 MODALITY-FOCUSED: Efficiency, Effectiveness and coordination of UNFPA approach to SSTC EQ3: To what extent is SSTC an efficient mode of engagement for UNFPA? A3.1 Financial resources and human resources allocated to SSTC are adequate and consistent

A3.2 Processes / mechanisms / systems to facilitate SSC initiatives are working

A3.3 Internal coordination between global, regional, country, and sub-national levels is systematic

EQ4. To what extent is SSTC a modality that has helped to enhance UNFPA programming and implementation?

A4.1 UNFPA documents and harnesses existing evidence on SSTC best practices and lessons learned

A4.2 UNFPA supported SSTC initiatives enable linkages between UNFPA mandate areas

A4.3 UNFPA supported SSTC initatives generate synergies for the ICPD, and Agenda for Humanity including the new way of working across the triple nexus

A4.4 Partnerships at the country level are leveraged and strengthened

Annex III. List of key informants

Name (Interviewee)	Job Title	Organisation	Location (Country)
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Prof. Dr. Nilufar Sultana	Gynaecology & Obsetrics Specialist and Surgeon	Dhaka Medical Centre	Bangladesh
Rumana Parvin	Technical Officer - Gender	UNFPA	Bangladesh
	Additional Superintendent of Police, Special Crime	UNFFA	Bangladesh
Md Saifullah	Management	Police	Bangladesh
Dr. Suchitra Saha	Consultant	MFSTC	Bangladesh
Dr. Helena Jabeel	Consultant	MFSTC	Bangladesh
Dr. Muniruzzaman			
Siddiq	Director	MFSTC	Bangladesh
Dewan Md. Emdadul			
Hoque	Health System Specialist	UNFPA	Bangladesh
Dr. Abu Sayed			
Mohammad Hasan	Programme Specialist - SRH	UNFPA	Bangladesh
Prof. Dr. Rowshan Ara	Past President and focal point for Mentorship		
Begum	Programme	OGSB	Bangladesh
Brg. Gen. (Rtd). Dr. Md.			
Sirajul Karim	Director	OGSB	Bangladesh
Prof. Dr. Saleha Begum			
Chowdhury	Secretary-General	OGSB	Bangladesh
Sumaya Binte Masud	Program Manager, Mentorship Programme	OGSB	Bangladesh
Jennifer Rebecca			
Stevens	Programme Specialist, Midwifery Education	UNFPA	Bangladesh
Farida Begum	Programme Analyst, Midwifery	UNFPA	Bangladesh
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Zakiur Rahman	Technical Officer - PPR	UNFPA	Bangladesh
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a	Project officer - Conflict-related Sexual Violence/ Gender		
Samid Šarenkapić	Equality	UNFPA BiHCO	Bosnia and Herzegovina
E · I · I · /	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Youth Programme		
Enida Imamović	Analyst	UNFPA BiHCO	Bosnia and Herzegovina
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Dervisic		Novo Sarajevo	Dosina and nerzegovina
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	Head of Department for information, public relations	Novo Sarajevo	boshia and herzegovina
Aleksandra Hasečić	and protocol	Municipality	Bosnia and Herzegovina
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		Federation of Bosnia	
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		Partnership for Public	
		Health/ Healthy	
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TBC Religious leader 2 name TBC			Ghana Ghana
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Annex IV. Bibliography

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