Training Toolkit on
Strengthening Institutional Arrangements and Governance Capacity for Policy Coherence in Implementing the SDGs

Action Plan for Policy Coherence

Handout

Scenario

In the context of (the country of origin of the participants) SDG strategy, the next stage will be preparing the implementation of the priority goals.

Day 5 is dedicated to draw on the learnings and insights of the toolkit with a view to sharpen the drive for policy coherence of the strategic decisions and operational steps of the government. Where appropriate, the Action Plan could feed in directly into the government’s own planning process.

Agenda

Stage 1

Three working groups are formed among the participants, responsible for 3 modules each. They are charged to

- determine which modules are relevant for the situation in the country
- decide which of the key factors are relevant from the selected modules
- how they could be operationalized
- who would be in charge

Stage 2

The results will be reported back from the groups to the plenary.

Step 3:

A priority list of actions and actors will be discussed and voted in the end to form the ACTION PLAN.

If time allows a communication plan could be drawn up to whom and how to present the AP to achieve maximum impact.

The facilitator or course lead will be the resource person providing factual advice to the three groups where demanded.
Module 1: What are the key insights of the Module 1 to retain for the Action Plan of the country?

Module 2: What are the key insights of the Module 2 to retain for the Action Plan of the country?

Module 3: What are the key insights of the Module 3 to retain for the Action Plan of the country?

Module 4: What are the key insights of the Module 4 to retain for the Action Plan of the country?
Module 5: What are the key insights of the Module 5 to retain for the Action Plan of the country?

Module 6: What are the key insights of the Module 6 to retain for the Action Plan of the country?

Module 7: What are the key insights of the Module 7 to retain for the Action Plan of the country?
Module 8: What are the key insights of the Module 8 to retain for the Action Plan of the country?

Module 9: What are the key insights of the Module 9 to retain for the Action Plan of the country?
Action Plan for Policy Coherence under conditions of COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic highlights the need to change working habits, procedures, and the way we think about how things are done all around the globe. The pandemic emphasizes to an unprecedented extent the complex interlinkages of policy areas as well as of levels of governance because it requires responses in all areas of social life and in cities, regions, nation states and at the international level. As it affects all areas of life, responding to the pandemic also requires that governments, civil society, and the private sector collaborate. While the pandemic challenges public health systems, it also forces us to think about new ways of working of organizing economic, social, and political life. Economies are stalling across the globe, and policy plans need to be adopted and budgets changed. In short: The COVID-19 pandemic is a call for policy coherence!

Across the world, the public sector is key in managing the crisis. It is public agencies that provide advice and data to political leaders on measures to cope with COVID-19, it is public agencies that implement the measures across a wide range of policy areas – be it public health, economy, education, public transport or related.

On a more positive note, the pandemic forces all parts of society to think differently from one day to the other and implement changes that many would have considered impossible until the pandemic had hit. In turn, it shows change is possible!

That`s why the ‘Action for Policy Coherence’ aims to link the needs for action with the COVID-19 pandemic.

(1) Review your list of retained lessons from modules 1-9.
(2) Reflect on the lessons through the lenses of the implications of COVID-19 for your country.
(3) Against this review and reflection, select building blocks for action to move towards policy coherence.
(4) Do think about
   a. (a) country level actions,
   b. (b) organization level actions,
   c. (c) what you can do individually in your own working environment to move towards coherence
(5) Prioritize these actions
(6) Explain the rationale of why and you prioritized
(7) Develop a step-by step plan for implementation!

Do not only think about formal steps for action (for example: regulation, organizational structures, tools), but also about how to address informal components of policy coherence!

Keep in mind the political nature of policy coherence!
Project Title:

1. Context & Objectives & Problem/Situation Analysis

Please explain the general context for developing this Action Plan and the overall objectives set by this Project. Please provide a brief problem analysis.

2. Building Blocks for Change

Please provide which building blocks and action for change you consider relevant for your country, organization & at the individual level.

3. Prioritizing Actions for Change

Please list how you prioritize the actions for change for your country, organization & at the individual level.
4. Specific Actions/Activities

Please specify concrete actions/activities in order of priority

A)
B)
C)
D)
E)

5. Partnership with other Member States (If applicable)

Please kindly indicate whether you are interested in partnering with other countries to implement the Project.

6. Expected support from UN DESA (If applicable)

Please indicate whether you would expect any capacity development support from UN DESA to implement the Project.

7. Duration & Time Plan

Please indicate the duration of implementing the Project.

Please indicate specific time plan (Monthly, Quarterly, etc.) for implementing each action

8. Resources (e.g. financial, technical and human resources)
Please indicate the current resources available for implementing the Project and the expected resource gap.

9. Challenges & Solutions

Please elaborate on challenges envisioned in implementing the Project and solutions to be planned to address such challenges.
# Action Plan Summary for the Project

## Goal:

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