

## **7. SESSION 5: UNCT LESSONS LEARNED FEEDBACK FEEDBACK**

The CCA/UNDAF working group chair reminded the participants that the aim of this session was to listen to country teams to determine how to i) improve the existing CCA&UNDAF guidelines, and ii) finalize the S&H tools related to the UNDAF process.

### **7.1 Support:**

- Hiring consultants to draft CCA and/or UNDAF is a practice that should be discouraged. External facilitation in CCA&UNDAF workshops/process, however, greatly adds value.
- Training and support inputs need to be more rigorously systematized
- Local agency Representatives are often able to reach consensus on strategic focus, however HQs often question those country-level decisions.

### **7.2 Inclusiveness of process:**

- The participation of the specialized agencies in the UNDAF process is very important. However, more specific guidance is required on involvement of non-Ex Com agencies, especially in the UNDAF process.
- Trade-off between agency inclusiveness and narrowing of strategic focus might be needed to provide more guidance on how to resolve the tension between agency mandate and national priorities.

### **7.3 Common UN Database:**

- Examples of conflicting references to indicators (eg. HIV incidence) indicates the need to establish and use a common UN database at country level.
- Benin's best practice: A common UN database is extremely valuable and has been handed over to Government for monitoring MDGs/PRSP.

### **7.4 Timing of process:**

- There are cases where elections seriously delay and potentially impede the UNCT from undertaking or completing the CCA & UNDAF process. How can there be greater flexibility in countries awaiting the outcome of major national political processes which affect government partners, policies, priorities, and approvals? More flexibility is need by boards when political realities interfere with designated timelines for CCA/UNDAF and CPDs

### **7.5 Guidelines and tools:**

- Do not hold UNCTs responsible for implementing changes in guidelines which occur during the process already undertaken
- Local flexibility in the application of the guidelines should be preserved.
- CCA is more than a problem analysis and should include capacity gaps.
- Guidelines should include specific examples of good practices from other countries.
- Guidelines need to facilitate closer linking of Country Programme Documents to UNDAF.
- Matrices have been a major problem because of the different terminology used by agencies in the field. Roll out of RBM should be made ASAP.

### **7.6 Advocacy and handouts**

- Simple (and short) "handouts" should be produced for country teams explaining what the CCA is, the UNDAF, for UNCTs to give to national partners.

Need for UNCT advocacy campaign prior to the commencement of the CCA/UNDAF process.