SDG PUSH

Assessment Toolkit

Supporting tools for SDG Push Assessment

May 2024
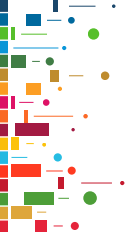
01   **POLICY ALIGNMENT MAPPING**

02   **BUDGET ALLOCATION TAGGING**

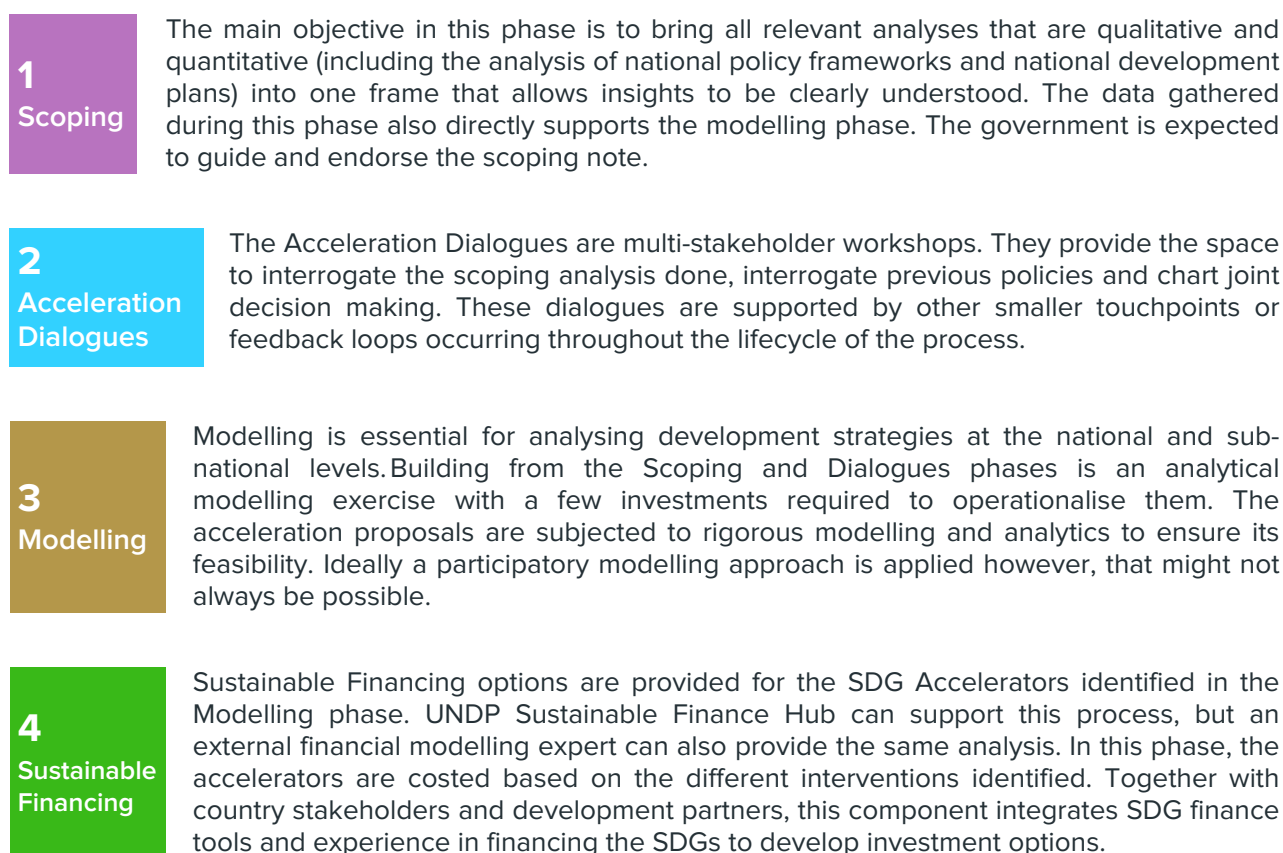**03**   **INDICATOR-BASED PERFORMANCE REVIEW**

SDG Push Assessment Toolkit
Supporting tools for SDG Push Assessment

The SDG Push process guides policymakers to identify context-specific acceleration pathways to meet development needs and ambitions. The process is evidence-based, innovative, and actionable. Its very design is based on adaptivity to every country's context, prioritising principles of flexibility rather than rigidity.

The SDG Push provides an integrated approach for SDG Acceleration that can be adopted at the national level. It leverages best practice in use of digital, data and systems modelling, and consists of four phases, each designed to build from the others towards policy acceleration pathways.

Countries may also choose to only run specific phases, and build from existing processes:

1 Scoping

The main objective in this phase is to bring all relevant analyses that are qualitative and quantitative (including the analysis of national policy frameworks and national development plans) into one frame that allows insights to be clearly understood. The data gathered during this phase also directly supports the modelling phase. The government is expected to guide and endorse the scoping note.

2 Acceleration Dialogues

The Acceleration Dialogues are multi-stakeholder workshops. They provide the space to interrogate the scoping analysis done, interrogate previous policies and chart joint decision making. These dialogues are supported by other smaller touchpoints or feedback loops occurring throughout the lifecycle of the process.

3 Modelling

Modelling is essential for analysing development strategies at the national and sub-national levels. Building from the Scoping and Dialogues phases is an analytical modelling exercise with a few investments required to operationalise them. The acceleration proposals are subjected to rigorous modelling and analytics to ensure its feasibility. Ideally a participatory modelling approach is applied however, that might not always be possible.

4 Sustainable Financing

Sustainable Financing options are provided for the SDG Accelerators identified in the Modelling phase. UNDP Sustainable Finance Hub can support this process, but an external financial modelling expert can also provide the same analysis. In this phase, the accelerators are costed based on the different interventions identified. Together with country stakeholders and development partners, this component integrates SDG finance tools and experience in financing the SDGs to develop investment options.

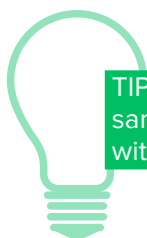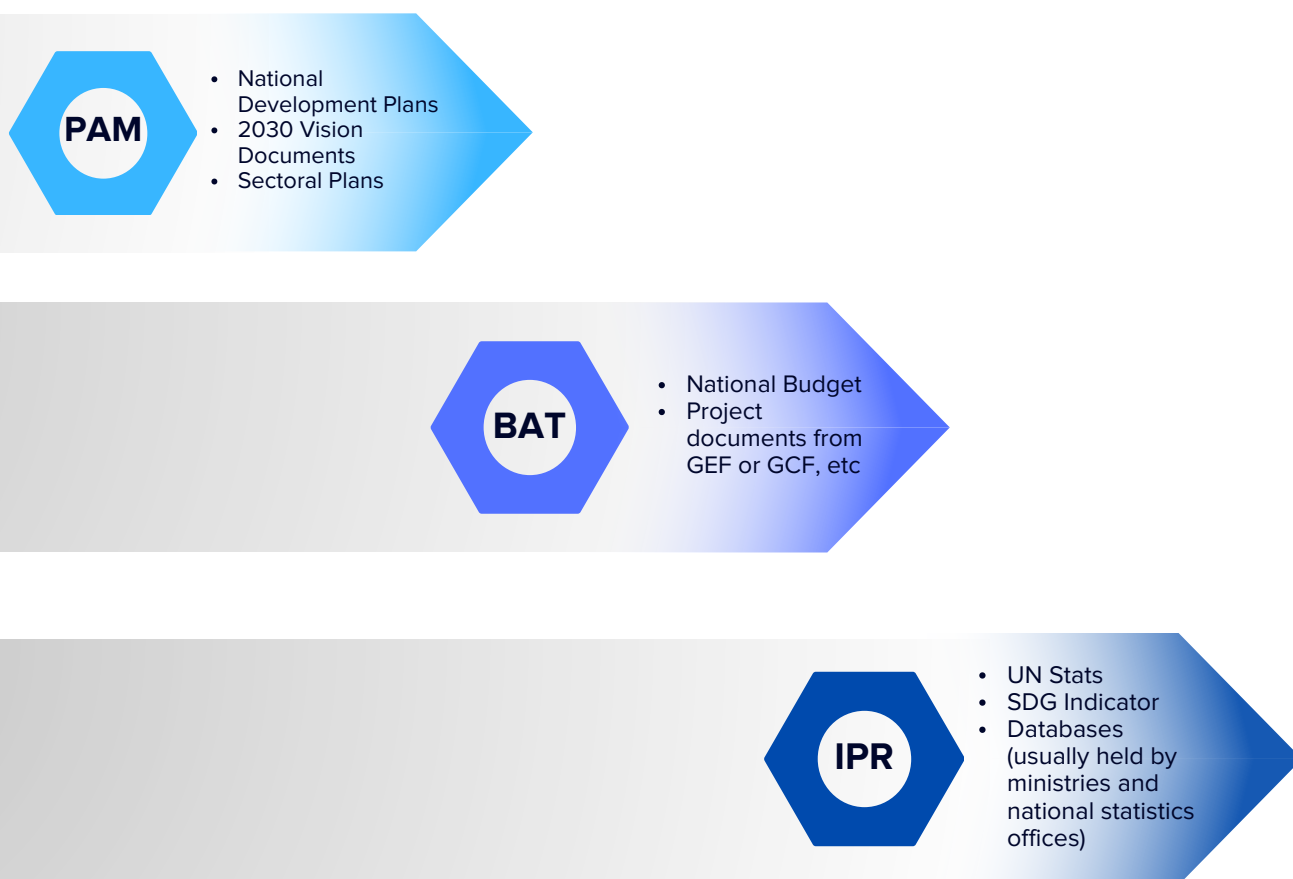| Scoping | Acceleration Dialogues | Modelling | Sustainable Finance |

The Scoping Phase is key! It derives all initial findings and insights to inform subsequent analysis. Ensuring rigour in analysis is essential for the success of an SDG Push Process.

Recommended Analytical Tools for SDG Push Scoping Phase

To support countries in the analysis needed for the Scoping Phase, UNDP has developed the following three tools. These tools have been iterated over the years and provide best practice in analytical output:

Policy Alignment Mapping (PAM)

Budget Allocation Tagging (BAT)

Indicator-based Performance Review (IPR)

The tools can be implemented independently but they are meant to be used in subsequence, and require specific input documents:

PAM
- National Development Plans
- 2030 Vision Documents
- Sectoral Plans

BAT
- National Budget
- Project documents from GEF or GCF, etc

IPR
- UN Stats
- SDG Indicator
- Databases (usually held by ministries and national statistics offices)

TIP | The PAM, BAT, and IPR tools are desk-based processes and should be undertaken by the same analyst to ensure methodological consistency. For triangulation, the analyst should work with a country counterpart.

#1 Policy Alignment Mapping (PAM)

The PAM is an analytical tool that estimates the SDG alignment level of a country's policies. The methodology maps SDG targets within government policy documents (plans, strategies, roadmaps). It serves as an initial and rapid assessment to facilitate a dialogue between the analysing entity and the target government, to discuss policy priorities and possible pathways for implementing the 2030 Agenda.

Policy Alignment Mapping (PAM) includes:

- Identification of applicable targets and target particles (deep granularity differentiating levels ambition, thematic scopes, and inclusion aspects).
- Differentiation of total or partially aligned targets.
- Analysis of means of implementation (alphanumeric SDG targets).
- Consideration of relevant gender and inclusion factors.
- Identification of policy documents include monitoring indicators for applicable targets.
- Institutional alignment showing the necessary government coordination to implement the SDG policy commitments.

TIMING | The PAM is expected to take 30 calendar days from the provision of input documents to the final PAM report, after validation.

#2 Budget Allocation Tagging (BAT)

The BAT analysis aims to help countries assess the level of alignment of their budget framework with the SDGs. It provides a comprehensive plan to implement SDG breakthroughs in a variety of development contexts, for both pro-cyclical and anti-cyclical response moments. It elevates fiscal, financial, digital/data and governance enablers of sustainable development.
The BAT analysis serves as an initial budget assessment to facilitate a dialogue between the analysing entity and the target government, to discuss policy priorities and possible pathways for implementing the 2030 Agenda.

Budget Allocation Tagging (BAT) includes:

- Analysis of national budget mapped (tagged) around SDG targets.
- Visual representation of which ministries/agencies are responsible for executing budgeted SDG targets.
- Comparison of level of financial commitment to SDG implementation by target vs policy commitment for SDG implementation (comparing with PAM results).
- Comparison of government coordination needed for executing budget vs government coordination needed for implementing SDG policy commitments (comparing with PAM results).

By SDG	Budget amount	% Budget	% Thematic Coverage
SDG 1	$ 300,000	3%	23%
SDG 2	$ 75,000	1%	8%
SDG 3	$ 2,000,000	18%	8%
SDG 4	$ 675,000	6%	17%
SDG 5	$ 75,000	1%	3%
SDG 6	$ 750,000	7%	5%
SDG 7	$ 200,000	2%	6%
SDG 8	$ 1,066,667	10%	15%
SDG 9	$ 250,000	2%	8%
SDG 10	$ 541,667	5%	13%
SDG 11	$ -	0%	N/A
SDG 12	$ 350,000	3%	8%
SDG 13	$ 3,500,000	31%	11%
SDG 14	$ -	0%	N/A
SDG 15	$ 600,000	5%	6%
SDG 16	$ 200,000	2%	2%
SDG 17	$ 616,667	6%	12%

TIMING: The BAT is expected to take 25 calendar days from the provision of input documents to the final BAT report, after validation.

In coordination with the Sustainable Finance Hub (SFH), specific support can complement and expand the BAT exercise with in depth public expenditure reviews including ODA, vertical and off-budget funds, and expenditures undertaken by public entities, as well as map tax policies and tax expenditures with the SDGs (both positive and negative). Futhermore, if there is interest in budget and fiscal reform support, this can also be supported by the SFH.

#3 Indicator-based Performance Review (IPR)

The IPR tool aims to help governments assess their current performance of SDG implementation. The IPR analysis serves as an initial SDG implementation performance assessment to facilitate a dialogue between the analysing entity and the target government, to discuss data monitoring priorities and possible pathways for the achievement of the SDGs.

Indicator-based Performance Review (IPR) includes:

- Analysis of SDG implementation performance (based on official data from public statistics) since 2015 up to date, by SDG target, assessing whether the measured targets are 'achieved', 'on track', or 'off track'.
- Identification of main data gaps for the applicable SDG targets that are not being measured or properly measured (data frequency and disaggregation).
- Provision of a key indicator overview/dashboard based on relevant studies.
- Comparison of SDG policy commitments vs SDG indicator-based performance (comparing with PAM results).
- Comparison of financial commitment to SDG implementation vs indicator-based performance (comparing with BAT results).

SDG ID	Achieved	On track	Off track (advancing)	Off track	No data	N/A	%Data spread
01	0%	0%	8%	69%	0%	23%	68%
02	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	47%
03	11%	0%	0%	89%	0%	0%	54%
04	92%	0%	0%	8%	0%	0%	39%
05	71%	0%	0%	29%	0%	0%	63%
06	91%	0%	0%	9%	0%	0%	49%
07	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	51%
08	88%	0%	0%	6%	0%	6%	53%
09	100%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	51%
10	57%	0%	0%	21%	0%	21%	50%
11	81%	0%	0%	13%	0%	6%	48%
12	57%	0%	0%	21%	0%	21%	57%
13	50%	0%	0%	13%	0%	38%	64%
14	64%	0%	0%	36%	0%	0%	50%
15	64%	0%	0%	29%	0%	7%	48%
16	83%	0%	0%	8%	0%	8%	58%
17	46%	0%	0%	25%	0%	29%	48%
Total	58%	0%	0%	32%	0%	10%	53%

TIMING | The IPR is expected to take 25 calendar days from the identification of relevant input datasets to the final IPR report, after validation.

SDG Push Assessment Toolkit
Final Product Output

The final output is an analytical report that provides insights and conclusions. It includes:

An overall status of SDG implementation

- Overall policy alignment
- Most relevant budget priorities
- Best indicator-based performance

Identification of consistency and contrasts between the analyses

- Policy alignment gaps
- Lowest budget allocations
- Worst indicator-based performance (or lack of data)

Technical insights

- Comprehensiveness of policy framework
- Key policy gaps
- Suggestions to improve SDG budgeting and financing.
- Underfunded issues
- Data-performance bottlenecks.

Final conclusions and policy recommendations

- 'Burning' issues regarding the country's policy framework
- Options to achieve progress in the short term
- Most effective policy entry points to promote long-term integrated progress
- Suggestion of options to support efforts for advancing the 2030 Agenda

SDG Push Assessment Toolkit
Workflow

The full timeline is expected to run over a period of three months. The visual workflow below outlines key steps and timelines, with recommended days of work included:

Provision by Government of all policy documents to analyse

Desk analysis of policy documents by PAM analyst — *18 calendar days*

Draft PAM report

Review of draft PAM report by Government — *7 calendar days*

Presentation of draft PAM results and Government feedback

Review of draft PAM report by PAM analyst — *5 calendar days*

Final PAM report

Provision by Government of last approved national budget documents

Desk analysis of budget documents by BAT analyst — *13 calendar days*

Draft BAT report

Review of draft BAT report by Government — *7 calendar days*

Presentation of draft BAT results and Government feedback

Review of draft BAT report by BAT analyst — *5 calendar days*

Final BAT report

Provision by Government of all relevant SDG indicator and data sources

Desk analysis of data sources by IPR analyst — *13 calendar days*

Draft IPR report

Review of draft IPR report by Government — *7 calendar days*

Presentation of draft IPR results and Government feedback

Review of draft IPR report by IPR analyst — *5 calendar days*

Final IPR report

Elaboration of brief of combined insights and recommendations from PAM, BAT, and IPR results — *10 calendar days*

Brief report and presentation to Government of combined insights and recommendations from PAM, BAT, and IPR results