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Item 6 of the provisional agenda

United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and United Nations Resources Management System guidelines and best practices for the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Expert Group on Resource Management: Vision and strategy for application of the United Nations Framework Classification for Resources and the United Nations Resource Management System for furthering sustainable development

Prepared by the Expert Group on Resource Management Vision Task Force of the Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Management

Summary

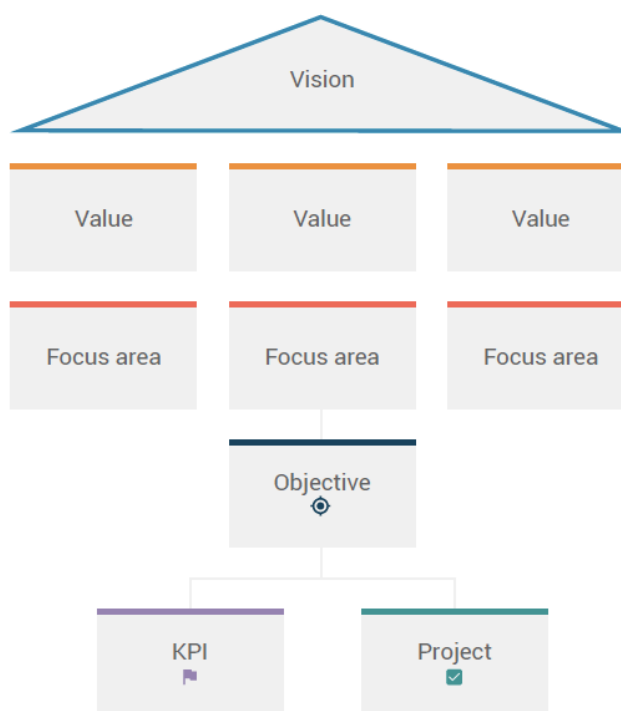
The Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Management, recognizing that achievement of the Expert Group's mandate, Terms of Reference and work plan requires a unified vision and direction, requested that a Task Force prepare a vision statement for discussion and adoption at its twelfth session. This report summarizes the discussions of the Task Force to date and presents a vision for the future work of the Expert Group and its subsidiary bodies.

I. Purpose

1. The Bureau of the Expert Group on Resource Management, recognizing that achievement of the Expert Group's mandate, Terms of Reference and work plan requires a unified vision and direction, requested that a Task Force prepare a vision statement for discussion and adoption at its twelfth session. This report summarizes the discussions of the Task Force and presents a vision for the future work of the Expert Group and its subsidiary bodies.
2. The Task Force comprises: Tunde Arisekola, Frank Denelle, Julian Hilton, Erika Ingvald, Alistair Jones, David MacDonald (Chair), Jennifer McCoy, Teresa Ponce de Leão, Igor Shpurov and Jeremy Webb.
3. The Task Force proposed using a cascade model (see figure) for presenting the vision statement. The cascade model is well used within many industries to organize the vision, goals, objectives and measures of success for their strategic plan. It is simple to visualize and is easy to upscale and use across workstreams that have many different paths. The Task Force felt that it offered a solid foundation to be applied across the various subgroups of the Expert Group and would allow the Expert Group to describe its goals to its varied stakeholders.

Figure

Cascade model



II. Vision

4. A vision statement states in a single thought the purpose and end of an organization. All of the organization's activities should contribute to achieving this vision. The statement developed by the Task Force aimed to focus on what we will achieve, rather than how we will achieve it. The Task Force looked to state what makes the Expert Group unique and how what the Expert Group brings is novel and not duplicating the work of others.

Using the convening power of the United Nations, we support the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals by providing and facilitating use of a universal information framework for integrated, circular and sustainable resource management.

5. For the world to address and fulfil the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), it must ensure that its resources, natural and anthropogenic, renewable and limited, are managed to maximize their benefits and minimize their negative impacts. The production and use of natural resources should ensure good social, environmental and economic outcomes within a new social contract to operate. This is not a simple equation with fixed parameters.

6. Decision makers need relevant, comprehensive and consistent information for the choices and alternatives they have on the use of our resources. The Expert Group, through the convening power of the United Nations is uniquely placed to bring together experts in sustainability, economics, social issues and technical development of the various commodities under development.

7. Integrated, circular and sustainable development is key to this success, and no one commodity or stakeholder can hold all of the keys to unlocking this challenge.

8. There is currently no single clearing house for the information standards needed, and no consistent platform upon which decisions can be based. The Expert Group can fill this gap – and assist the United Nations in developing and setting its policies, and governments, regulators, investors and industry in achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Expert Group will not provide advice nor direct how decisions should be made on individual resource management issues, as these are the accountabilities of the individual stakeholders.

9. The Expert Group is well placed to provide a universal information framework – the data and its interpretation – needed to make these decisions. The United Nations Framework Classification for Resources (UNFC) is a foundation upon which the United Nations Resource Management System (UNRMS) will be built. Working together with all stakeholders, we will be able to provide pragmatic tools, templates and guidance to achieve the SDGs.

III. Values

10. Four values were identified as being essential: Integrity, Innovation, Inclusivity and Enthusiasm.

(i) The work of the Expert Group is carried with *integrity* to find the best solution possible by noted experts across the many disciplines that are needed to meet the Expert Group's vision;

(ii) The Expert Group strives for *innovation* in its work. It works with many partners and will not look for alternative solutions where a satisfactory solution already exists. All of its products must bring added value or be packaged as a unique workflow in achieving the Expert Group's vision. The Expert Group will not try to reinvent solutions, but will reuse, where possible, existing solutions through reorienting or repurposing;

(iii) The success of the Expert Group relies on solutions and ideas coming from a broad spectrum of individuals, affiliations and backgrounds. *Inclusivity* of the diverse stakeholder community is essential. Diversity is embraced by inclusivity, but it is enabled by mutual respect and a willingness to collaborate;

(iv) The Expert Group is principally a group of expert volunteers, and must rely on the volunteers' *enthusiasm* and initiative to reach its goals. To maintain this zeal, the Expert Group's teams (subgroups) show respect for people's ideas, beliefs, home-life and time.

IV. Focus areas

11. The Task Force began discussion of the focus areas for the Expert Group, but felt that the focus areas and objectives were best left for discussion at the twelfth session of the Expert Group and by the Bureau. Simply put, though, achieving the vision depends on the Expert Group's success in:

(a) Preparing comprehensive standards for quantifying the net social, environmental, and economic benefits of resource development;

(b) Collaborating across the breadth of stakeholder communities to understand their needs and engage them in the process of building a valued information framework; and

(c) Contributing to enhanced resource management competencies and capabilities across the stakeholder and commodity groups by promoting the Expert Group's sponsored and external training, workshops, conferences and papers on application and development of produced tools.

V. Next steps

12. The Expert Group is invited to review this document and the proposals of the Task Force contained herein and to share any views or comments either before or during the twelfth session of the Expert Group, 26-30 April 2021. In particular, the Expert Group is invited to share thoughts and ideas on focus areas and objectives for the Expert Group. Comments can be submitted in writing to: reserves.energyATun.org.
