Revising Financial Regulations and Rules & Digitalisation Programme
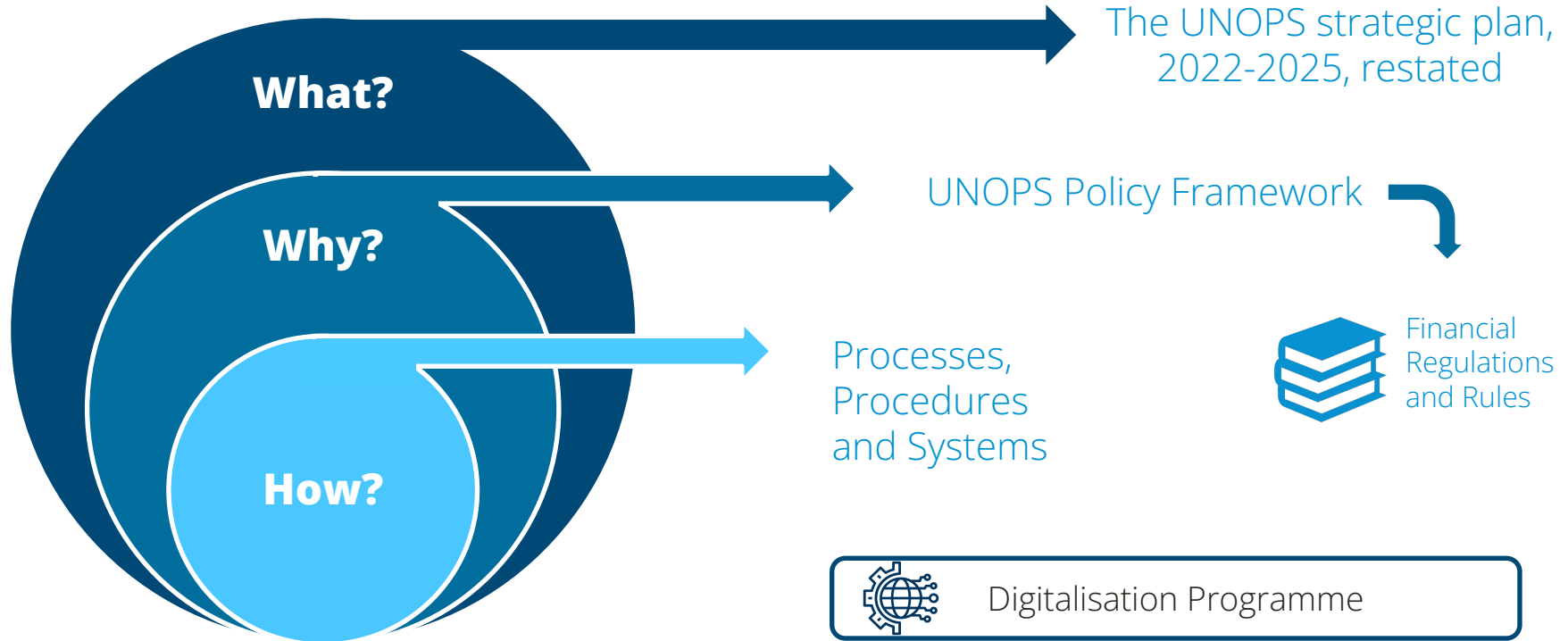
Updates on specific recommendations

Comprehensive Response Plan

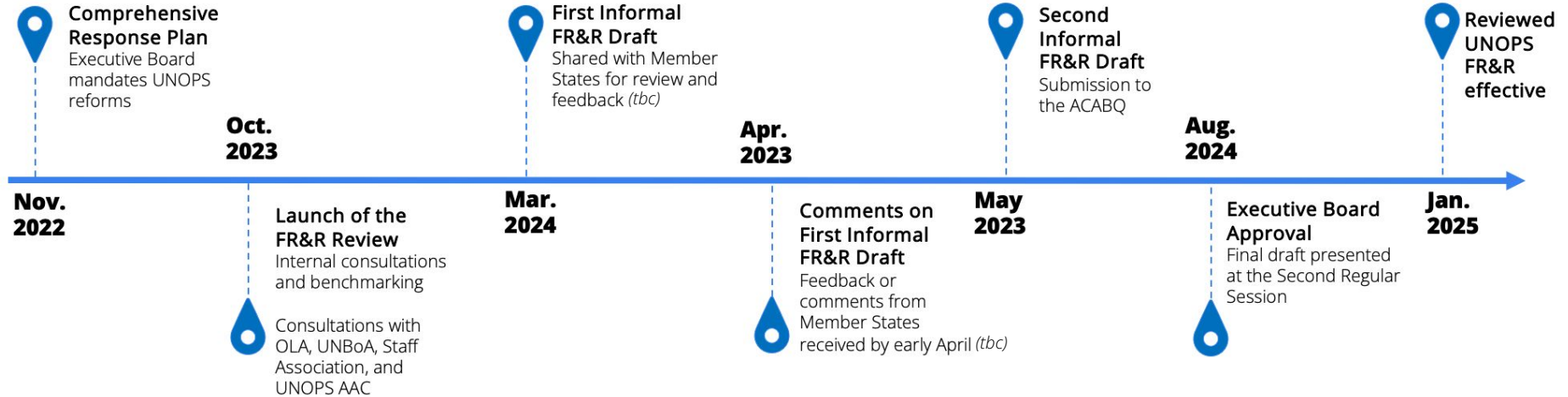2023

BUILD
THE FUTURE

Revising the Financial Regulations and Rules

Governance & Management

UNOPS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

What? → The UNOPS strategic plan, 2022-2025, restated

Why? → UNOPS Policy Framework

How? → Processes, Procedures and Systems

Financial Regulations and Rules

Digitalisation Programme

UNOPS

Tentative Roadmap

Comprehensive Response Plan
Executive Board mandates UNOPS reforms

Nov. 2022

Oct. 2023

Launch of the FR&R Review
Internal consultations and benchmarking

Consultations with OLA, UNBoA, Staff Association, and UNOPS AAC

First Informal FR&R Draft
Shared with Member States for review and feedback *(tbc)*

Mar. 2024

Apr. 2023

Comments on First Informal FR&R Draft
Feedback or comments from Member States received by early April *(tbc)*

May 2023

Second Informal FR&R Draft
Submission to the ACABQ

Aug. 2024

Executive Board Approval
Final draft presented at the Second Regular Session

Reviewed UNOPS FR&R effective

Jan. 2025

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Digitalisation Programme
Governance & Management

UNOPS

Scope and goals

The scope of the digitalisation programme can be summarized in four goals. The two first are where the Programme's efforts will need to be rendered; Goals 3 and 4 will be enabled and a consequence.

GOAL 1: OPERATIONS. **The programme will significantly improve UNOPS' operations and delivery to beneficiaries.**

1. Increasing the <u>speed</u> of UNOPS delivery (time taken to develop, sign, and deliver critical components of projects, report, and close)
2. Increasing the <u>quality</u> of UNOPS delivery. "Quality" here means three related things:
   - Understanding needs, context, and partner requirements, and designing appropriate solutions;
   - Value for money, efficiency, economy, and effectiveness in delivering optimal solutions for our partners that contribute to the SDGs;
   - Relatedly, the "quality" refers to the quality of individual decisions, that generates trust internally and allows controls to be lessened.

GOAL 2: FORESIGHT & INTELLIGENCE. **We will improve UNOPS' collection and use of data, capacity for foresight, capacity for planning, knowledge management, and reporting.**

GOAL 3: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS. **We will increase our contribution to the SDGs.**

GOAL 4: PARTNER SATISFACTION. **We will increase upstream partners' satisfaction and our capacity to attract funding.**

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Work breakdown structure

The programme is broken down into five key projects:

- **Digital Foundations** - Establishing organizational capabilities, policies, and processes to enable a digital-first approach, while acting on continuous improvements (low cost/ high impact).

- **Delivery Acceleration Systems** - Embedding innovative digital solutions into project implementations to accelerate delivery and maximize impact.

- **Digital Partner Services** - Developing new digital service offerings tailored for public sector clients to better meet their needs.

- **Digital Re-Engineering** - Streamlining and digitizing core project management, finance, HR, procurement, and partnership processes to increase efficiency

- **Technology Strategy And Operations** - Implementing integration platforms, automation, data analytics, and other digital capabilities to build a robust technology infrastructure.

Ongoing activities

- **Selection of a future digital ecosystem for UNOPS** that balances (1) fitness for purpose; (2) financial viability, (3) technical complexity, with the support of Accenture. Scenarios and recommendations will be presented to UNOPS Management Team for decision. The implementation plan including scope, timeline, and milestones will be developed based on the final selection of the digital ecosystem.

While we ecosystem is being defined, we have started delivering on pilots that leverage technologies we already have and plan to retain:

- **Surge Pilot** to deliver swift mobilization and deployment of highly experienced personnel and specialized experts to reinforce an office's capacity during periods of immediate needs.

- **Partnership Management System (PRM) Pilot** to create a comprehensive partner knowledge base, streamline all UNOPS partner interactions, enable collaboration and improve partner satisfaction.

- **Introduce MuleSoft** for optimized and scalable IT capabilities in the form of technology platforms for integration, data, artificial intelligence/machine learning, collaboration, and other key technological foundations.

- **Series of bespoke solutions to country offices** are being delivered to support our current operations.

Focus areas for 2024 - 2025

Aligned with UNOPS Restated Strategic Plan, the Digitalisation Programme will enable enhanced capabilities for **knowledge management and data**, and priority in the next biennia will be given to solutions that:

(a) improve our ability to **attract, recruit and managing talent,**

(b) enhance **public procurement,** with particular emphasis on sourcing to contract

(c) improve our capabilities on **portfolio, programme, and project management**

The transformation will be accelerated through the 'UN 2.0 Quintet of Change', focused on stronger capabilities in **data, innovation, strategic foresight, behavioural science + results**

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