



UNITED NATIONS
MALAYSIA



UNITED NATIONS
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK
MALAYSIA

2021-2025





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SIGNATURES

The Government of Malaysia and the United Nations in Malaysia commit to work together under the UNSDCF 2021-2025 in support of Malaysia's transformation to a high-income and advanced nation, securing for its people a future that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient; that assures the well-being and prosperity of all people living in the country; and that is grounded in active citizen participation, transparency and accountability towards achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by fostering a whole-of-nation approach. The UNSDCF developed prior to 2021 has guided the UNCT and also captures the current events and data.

For the Government of Malaysia

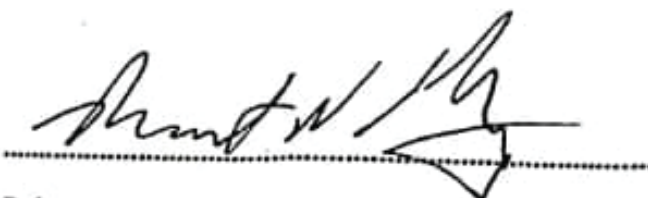


Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan

Minister of Economy

Date: 21 November 2025

For the United Nations Country Team



Robert Gass

United Nations Resident Coordinator *ad Interim*

Date: 21 November 2025

We, the members of the United Nations Country Team in Malaysia (UNCT), pledge our commitment, under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator, to foster cohesiveness and coherence among our agencies and to bring the combined experience and expertise, as well as the impartiality, values, global knowledge base and best practices of the UN development system, to enhance the performance and impact of the work of the UNCT under the UNSDCF 2021-2025. This will be achieved by undertaking complementary, joint and coordinated activities, taking into account our individual Country Programmes, and guided by the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, as well as principles of the Charter of the United Nations and our Agency mandates therein.

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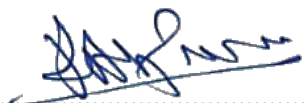
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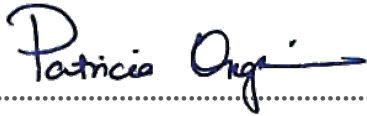


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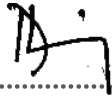
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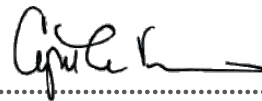
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ACRONYMS

| No | Acronym | Full Form |
|----|---------|--|
| 1 | APEC | Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation |
| 2 | ASEAN | Association of Southeast Asian Nations |
| 3 | CCA | Common Country Analysis |
| 4 | CEDAW | Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women |
| 5 | CRC | Convention on the Rights of the Child |
| 6 | CRPD | Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities |
| 7 | CSO | Civil Society Organisations |
| 8 | DOSM | Department of Statistics Malaysia |
| 9 | DRR | Disaster Risk Reduction |
| 10 | GBV | Gender Based Violence |
| 11 | GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| 12 | GHG | Greenhouse Gas |
| 13 | HRBA | Human Rights-Based Approach |
| 14 | ILO | International Labour Organisation |
| 15 | IOM | International Organisation for Migration |
| 16 | IR 4.0 | Fourth Industrial Revolution |
| 17 | ITC | International Trade Centre |
| 18 | ITU | International Telecommunication Union |
| 19 | LFPR | Labour Force Participation Rate |
| 20 | LNOB | Leaving No One Behind |
| 21 | M&E | Monitoring and Evaluation |
| 22 | MoU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| 23 | MSME | Micro, Small and Medium-sized Organisations |
| 24 | MTR | Mid-term Review |
| 25 | MySPC | Malaysia Social Protection Council |
| 26 | NGO | Non-governmental Organisations |
| 27 | ODA | Official Development Assistance |
| 28 | OHCHR | Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights |
| 29 | RCO | Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator |

| N_e | Acronym | Full Form |
|----------------------|----------------|--|
| 30 | SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals |
| 31 | SEARCCT | Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism |
| 32 | SPA | Strategic Priority Areas |
| 33 | SPV | Shared Prosperity Vision |
| 34 | SWAP | UNCT System-wide Action Plan |
| 35 | UN | United Nations |
| 36 | UN AIDS | Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS |
| 37 | UN DRR | United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction |
| 38 | UN ESCAP | United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific |
| 39 | UN Women | United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women |
| 40 | UNCDF | United Nations Capital Development Fund |
| 41 | UNCT | United Nations Country Team |
| 42 | UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| 43 | UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| 44 | UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| 45 | UNFCCC | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change |
| 46 | UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| 47 | UN-Habitat | United Nations Human Settlements Programme |
| 48 | UNHCR | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| 49 | UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| 50 | UNODC | United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime |
| 51 | UNSDCF | United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework |
| 52 | UNSDG | United Nations Sustainable Development Group |
| 53 | UNU-IIGH | United Nations University - International Institute of Global Health |
| 54 | UPR | Universal Periodic Review |
| 55 | VNR | Voluntary National Review |
| 56 | WFP | World Food Programme |
| 57 | WHO | World Health Organisation |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 (UNSDCF) constitutes the UN development system's support to Malaysia's strong commitment to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs, and its aspirations to become a high-income, inclusive, environmentally sustainable, and advanced nation. The UNSDCF articulates the UN system's collective support to the country in addressing bottlenecks, trade-offs and synergies in its journey towards achieving the 2030 Agenda; especially the UN system's support to strengthen an effective whole-of-nation approach to achieve the SDGs.

The UNSDCF is aligned to the aspiration of Malaysia Madani, Shared Prosperity Vision 2030 (SPV 2030) and the development priorities of the Twelfth Malaysia Plan, 2021-2025 (Twelfth Plan).

Given Malaysia's remarkable progress, the potential for Malaysia to achieve the transformative Agenda 2030 is high, if some of the more complex and interconnected issues are addressed. This becomes even more pertinent now, given the impact and aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic (2020 to 2022) and subsequent geopolitical events, notably the conflict in Ukraine, that have contributed to global economic turmoil¹.

By 2015, Malaysia had made impressive progress with respect to absolute poverty, universal primary education, child mortality, maternal deaths, environmental sustainability, coverage of clean water supply and basic sanitation, and issues related to urban poverty and housing. The UN support to Malaysia outlined in this UNSDCF is specifically aimed at supporting Malaysia to maintain progress towards achieving the SDGs where it is on track, accelerate progress where it is somewhat behind, and to support the design of enhanced and innovative approaches to achieving and documenting those SDGs where the most work is required between now and 2030. Nonetheless, it is clear that the pandemic and subsequent economic turmoil threatens the progress of all countries in achieving the SDGs. Malaysia's rapid economic stimulus and wider policy response, which included substantial social protection measures, has been broadly successful in sustaining the economy and protecting the vulnerable.

However, during the pandemic period, concerns about the scope of the social protection package have emerged, noting that some key vulnerable groups, for example, informal sector workers, may not be fully included. Moreover, real incomes, especially of the poorest are under severe pressure as a result of global price hikes.

Additionally, there are unaddressed COVID-19 deficits, outside of the economic sphere, which disproportionately affect vulnerable groups. These deficits, which have longer term impacts, include interrupted schooling, undertreated health conditions, alienation and isolation, and threats to social cohesion.

In planning how the UN will support Malaysia to address the development challenges noted above and support the country in achieving the SDGs, the UN has a number of comparative advantages it brings to bear. These include:

- 1) the ability of the UN to provide high-level policy advice based on: its worldwide experience and knowledge base;
- 2) its strong technical capacity;
- 3) its capacity to coordinate innovative partnerships, solutions and SDG financing models;
- 4) its commitment to supporting the Government's implementation of international conventions, standards, and the SDG normative principles;
- 5) its credibility and convening power across public, private and civil society sectors;
- 6) its ability to enhance Malaysia's international standing in the Global Partnership for Development (e.g. through South-South Cooperation) and in addressing cross-border issues; and
- 7) the UN's absolute commitment to impartiality.

Based on a detailed analysis of Malaysia's context, the UN's comparative advantages and a Theory of Change to support the achievement of planned results, and in consultation with the Government and other partners, the UN in Malaysia has defined four Strategic Priority Areas (SPAs) that encapsulate the support to be provided by the UN. Within each of these four areas of support to national development priorities, the UN has defined a number of supporting Collaborative Outputs. Various UN Agencies will work with the Government and other partners to support the country achieve specific results which, in turn, will contribute to the country's progress towards the SDGs. Within the framework of the UNSDCF, each UN Agency will focus on using its specific mandate and expertise, in line with existing or forthcoming agreements between the Agency and the Malaysian Government.

1. <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2023/01/31/world-economic-outlook-update-january-2023>

UNSDCF RESULTS FRAMEWORK

| | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| UNSDCF OUTCOMES | PILLAR 1: PEOPLE SPA 1: Leaving No One Behind | PILLAR 2: PLANET SPA 2: Environment, Climate Change, and Resilience | PILLAR 3: PROSPERITY SPA 3: Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth | PILLAR 4: PEACE SPA 4: Social Cohesion, Governance and Human Rights |
| UNSDCF COLLABORATIVE OUTPUTS (CO) | <p>CO 1.1 Sustainable social protection system</p> <p>CO 1.2 Social services are strengthened to ensure access to high-quality, equity-focused provision that promotes the well-being of all</p> <p>CO 1.3 Adoption of inclusive social norms and values</p> | <p>CO 2.1 Towards a decarbonised and resource efficient economy</p> <p>CO 2.2 Sustainably managed natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystem</p> <p>CO 2.3 Preparedness and resilience against disaster risk</p> | <p>CO 3.1 Inclusive growth and decent work</p> <p>CO 3.2 Women's equality in the economy</p> <p>CO 3.3 Corporate alignment to SDGs and international standards</p> <p>CO 3.4 Sustainable and inclusive urban development</p> | <p>CO 4.1 Inter-ethnic and cultural harmony and cohesion</p> <p>CO 4.2 Inclusive political processes and fundamental freedoms</p> <p>CO 4.3 System of checks and balances across government</p> |
| ENHANCING RESULTS THROUGH COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS | | | | |
| Policy Support for SDG Planning and Budgeting | SDG Progress Monitoring, Evaluation, Data and Research | SDG Financing (Including from non-traditional sources) | Social Dialogue and Multi-stakeholder platforms | Global Partnerships / South-South Cooperation |

Table 1

The work on the four SPAs will be further enhanced through UN system support to the Government on cross-cutting areas – e.g. inputs to national planning and budgeting, SDG financing, whole-of-nation approach, South-South Cooperation, etc. – that will amplify these results. The UNSDCF is mindful that the principles adhered to in this framework will be sensitive to Malaysia's accepted social and cultural norms based on its multicultural, multireligious and multi-ethnic population.

The UNSDCF will be supported by a governance structure in which the Government, the UN Resident Coordinator and UN Agency Heads, and representatives of other stakeholders will review the plans and progress of UN support with respect to the results outlined in the UNSDCF. In support of the UNSDCF, together with the Government, the UN will subsequently develop two-year Joint Rolling Workplans that will detail the resources, partners and specific indicators to be used with respect to each Strategic Priority Area and its constituent Collaborative Outputs. The Malaysia-UN SDG Trust Fund has been established by the MySDG Foundation and the Malaysia UNCT, and will be jointly funded by the Government of Malaysia, the UN, and other donors to address complex SDG challenges in Malaysia and leverage innovative financing.

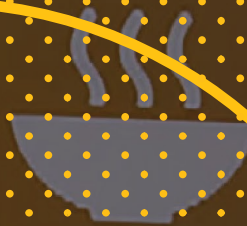
Finally, the UNSDCF includes a detailed Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan, which will be used to track progress towards the indicators outlined for the Strategic Priority Areas and their Collaborative Outputs. Efforts will be made to maintain alignment between the M&E frameworks of the UNSDCF with that of the Twelfth Plan. These M&E processes will draw on both evaluations and monitoring carried out by each Agency, as well as independent, integrated systems covering the entire UN support to Malaysia. Reports from the M&E processes will be reviewed by the UNSDCF governance structure, including Government, and will be used to ensure adaptive programming to respond to risks and unforeseen external events, as well as to refocus UN efforts when this is necessary to improve the achievement of results.


SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

1 NO
POVERTY



2 ZERO
HUNGER



3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING

4 QUALITY
EDUCATION

CHAPTER 1:

Country Progress
Towards the 2030
Agenda

5 GENDER
EQUALITY



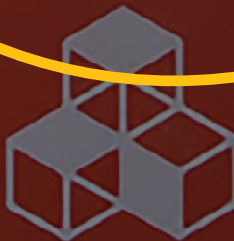
6 CLEAN WATER
AND SANITATION



8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



10 REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE
CITIES AND
COMMUNITIES



13 CLIMATE
ACTION



14 LIFE
BELOW WATER



15 LIFE
ON LAND



16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS





YAB Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim, Prime Minister of Malaysia, with H.E. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, on the sidelines of the 47th ASEAN Summit and Related Summits.

1.1 National Context

A peaceful, upper-middle-income and culturally diverse country, Malaysia has a population of 32.9 million (2022 data), with 75.1 per cent living in urban areas, 47.4 per cent female and 23.4 per cent under the age of 15. Malaysia is a multi-ethnic country comprised of 57.8 per cent ethnic Malays, 12.2 per cent indigenous peoples of the Peninsula, Sabah and Sarawak, 22.7 per cent ethnic Chinese, 6.6 per cent ethnic Indians, and 0.7 per cent other population groups. Malaysia also hosts a significant number of non-citizens, comprising migrant workers, refugees, asylum seekers and others of different legal status. By 2030, Malaysia is expected to have a population of 38.1 million people, including an expanding population of elderly people, representing challenges in terms of²:

- a. generating adequate economic expansion to fulfill the needs of the larger population and an aspirational middle class;
- b. ensuring a fair, equitable and inclusive distribution of economic growth and equitable access to quality services; and
- c. ensuring that the country remains peaceful and prosperous.

Formed in 1963 with the accession of the northern Borneo states of Sabah and Sarawak, Malaysia is a federal parliamentary democracy with a constitutional monarch. The special rights of Sabah and Sarawak are enshrined in the Constitution, in accordance with the 1963 Malaysia Agreement. The Prime Minister is a member of Parliament who commands the majority and is appointed by the King. Legislative power rests in the lower and upper houses of Parliament, namely the House of Representatives and the Senate, respectively. Malaysia's

legal system is predominantly based on English common law and, in some areas, Malaysian customary/native laws, with federally enacted laws applicable across the country, and state laws enacted by individual state legislative assemblies, whereas Syariah law (under the purview of the monarchy and individual states) is applicable to the Malay-Muslim population, particularly in relation to personal and family law.

Malaysia has made remarkable progress in eradicating extreme poverty, in weathering global and regional economic shocks and in ensuring close to universal access to basic services. It also successfully responded to the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, the fallout of the pandemic will have implications for SDG progress in all countries including Malaysia. These impacts are likely to extend well into the five-year cycle covered by the UNSDCF. Malaysia faces significant challenges that have been intensified by the uncertain global economic outlook. These include both higher costs of living and unemployment, giving rise to inequalities across the rural-urban divide, and between the mainstream and vulnerable populations. The latter being defined either geographically or by various cultural, ethnic and gender differences.

Vulnerable populations are unable to fully enjoy the benefits of development as the country repositions to avail itself of the benefits of green growth, the digital economy, and Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR 4.0) and other technologies.

2. Data taken from: DOSM Demographic Statistics Q3 2022; and Key Findings of the Malaysia Population and Housing Census 2020.

Driven by rapid economic development, rising consumerism, and limited take-up of green technologies, Malaysia faces intensifying environmental pressures, and growing critical threats from climate change. These are evident in the accelerated levels of greenhouse gas emissions³; declining biodiversity, particularly in vulnerable ecosystems and species⁴; and general degradation due to pollution and depletion of natural resources. Delivering environmental sustainability alongside high-income country standards of development is an urgent challenge facing Malaysia.

As Malaysia's population expansion and demographic dividend slows, ageing will emerge as a key issue for policymakers. The UNCT will assist in providing briefs on age-friendly approaches and solutions – including on: mobility and transportation, elderly-friendly towns and cities, health and social care provision, and crucially, social protection, especially pensions systems. These papers will offer rapid diagnostics and make practical proposals, drawing on best practices adopted in comparable development contexts. They will be followed up by concrete packages of support, including further policy advice and technical assistance; practice and implementation sharing and twinning arrangements; capacity building and in-situ pilots.

Malaysia's progress in economic and social development provides a strong foundation for Malaysia to achieve the transformative 2030 Agenda, if some of the more complex and interconnected issues are addressed. These include focusing on all peoples living in the country to protect the development gains made thus far, and prioritising growth that balances the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic reduced Gross National Income (GNI) per capita in 2020 and severely slowed economic growth in 2021, and this will affect Malaysia's ability to achieve the World Bank's High Income Country status threshold of USD 13,205 (2023). Economic progress may be further slowed by the global supply pressures stemming from the conflict in Ukraine and hikes in the cost of key commodities.

3. Reported in the Third National Communications and Second Biennial Report to the UNFCCC.

4. Such as loss of mangroves, coral reefs, riverine habitats, wildlife species and diverse fish stocks.

1.2 National Vision for Sustainable Development

By 2015, Malaysia had largely eliminated absolute poverty, achieved universal primary education for both girls and boys, lowered child mortality to levels comparable to high-income nations, more than halved maternal deaths (while maintaining a high proportion of safe deliveries and antenatal care coverage), incorporated sustainability of the environment into key plans and policies, achieved near-universal coverage of clean water supply and basic sanitation, and reduced the number of households living in squatter settlements.

The SPV 2030 establishes the Government's longer-term priorities for 2021-2030, while the Twelfth Plan sets out how these are to be delivered in the period 2021-2025. Phase 2 of the SDG Roadmap, which is currently being prepared will include more clearly defined national SDG targets for 2030 and an acceleration plan to achieve the SDGs.

The Government's SPV 2030 was published in late 2019 and includes a commitment to make Malaysia a nation that achieves sustainable growth along with fair and equitable distribution of the benefits of growth across income groups, ethnicities, regions and supply chains. This commitment is aimed at strengthening political stability, enhancing the nation's prosperity, and ensuring that the population is united, while at the same time celebrating ethnic and cultural diversity as the foundation of the nation.

NATIONAL SDG GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

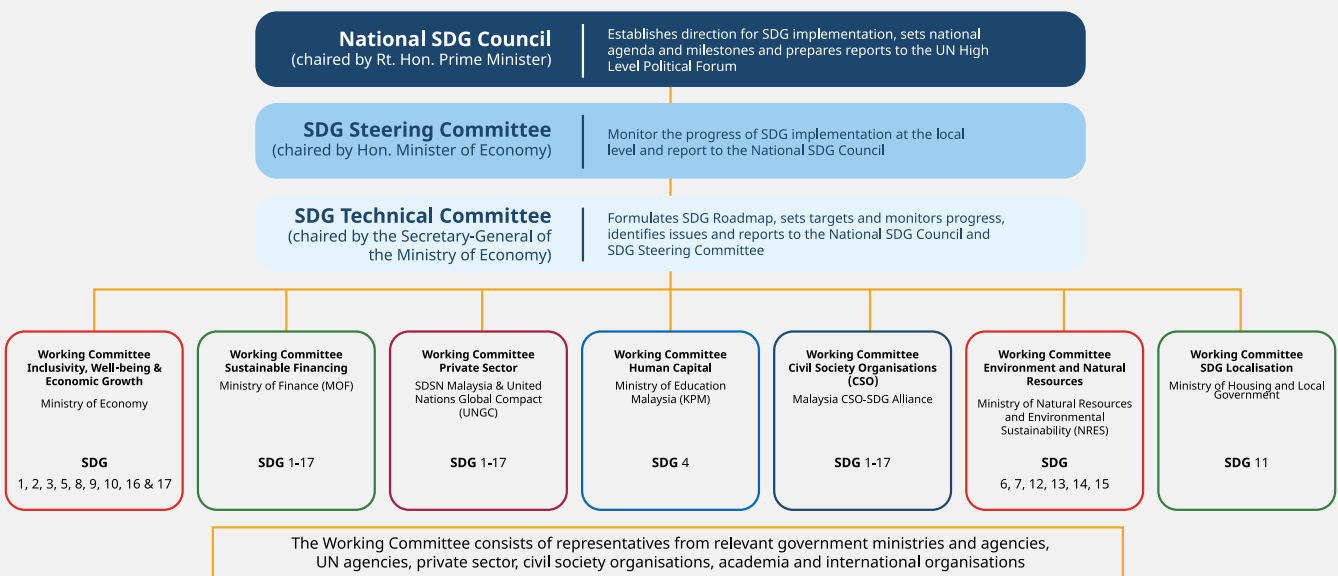


Diagram 1

The Malaysia Madani and SPV 2030 therefore articulates Malaysia's vision, supported by the Twelfth and Thirteenth five-year Malaysia Plans, which will chart its trajectory to achieving advanced, high-income status and the SDGs. The SDG Roadmap Phase 1 developed with the UNCT for the 2018-2020 period outlines strategies and approaches aimed to inspire and push forward actions to implement the 2030 Agenda. Key considerations include:

Mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs at national and local levels. The Government's commitment to mainstream the SDGs is evident in the significant congruence between the Malaysia Plans and the SDGs, beginning with the Eleventh Plan, the development of an SDG Roadmap, and the establishment of a multi-stakeholder governance structure to coordinate and oversee progress. The next step would be to further localise, mainstream and promote ownership and partnerships for the SDGs, especially at state and local levels. Improved horizontal policy coherence between national-level agencies and vertical coherence are vital in order for the benefits of the SDGs to permeate to the people.

On participation, non-government actors are included in the SDG implementation process through the National SDG Governance Structure. Engaging with multiple stakeholders was seen as an effective way of mainstreaming and monitoring the SDGs across sectors. Modalities for data sharing were also identified as necessary. The same challenge was foreseen for resource mobilisation: Malaysia would need to develop mechanisms for sufficient resource mobilisation to sustain SDG implementation.

Developing useful national indicators in a timely manner is a key objective. Malaysia has succeeded by prioritising and taking into consideration existing data sources such as the SDG Monitoring System developed by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) and MURNInets from PLANMalaysia (monitoring urban sustainability), as well as enhancing current mechanisms to ensure more accurate data, and better interpretative analysis (particularly related to non-quantifiable targets). Phase 1 of the SDG Monitoring System (<http://mysdg.dosm.gov.my/>) was developed and launched in March 2019 by the DOSM in close collaboration with the UNCT.

Finally, **ensuring the comparability of these indicators globally**, while also balancing the needs and costs of collecting data and information and strengthening information management systems and capacities, have also been identified as necessary. Developing the SDG indicators was seen as requiring a major investment of resources. Digital technology (e.g. developments in big data and open science) presents an opportunity to systematically and routinely collect information, especially since indicators are numerous.

Malaysia has also committed to implementing 148 recommendations under the 2018 Universal Periodic Review (UPR), including strengthening protections against discrimination, strengthening economic, social and cultural rights, in particular for poor and vulnerable groups, and strengthening fundamental freedoms of expression, association, assembly, including reviewing existing legislation inconsistent with international law. The implementation of these commitments is expected to accelerate the achievement of Malaysia's national vision for sustainable development. The UNCT is working closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Economy to map these recommendations to the SDGs and to establish an effective implementation and monitoring mechanism for the UPR.

UN support for the alignment of Malaysia's national development plans, budgets, policies, programmes and indicators with the SDGs is a major focus within the UNSDCF 2021-2025.

1.3 Progress Towards the SDGs

Malaysia's Progress Towards the SDGs

Malaysia compares well to other countries with respect to progress in achieving the 17 SDGs and leaving no one behind (LNOB). This is particularly true for the eradication of poverty and providing universal education and access to health care. The absolute poverty rate in Malaysia improved from 7.6 per cent in 2016 to 5.6 per cent in 2019, noting that as result of COVID-19 this rose to 8.9 per cent in 2020. This is based on the revised national poverty line for income (PLI), which reflects a minimum optimal food intake. Child and maternal mortality rates are almost on par with the developed countries; enrolment rates for primary school are almost universal and are about 90 per cent for secondary school for both boys and girls; extensive coverage (about 95 per cent) has been achieved for water, electricity and sanitation; and inequalities have been narrowed, as indicated by the reduction of the Gini Coefficient from 0.513 (1970) to 0.401 (2014). Malaysia is making good progress on the SDGs, but there are still challenges. The Government remains committed to the sustainable development agenda through its development plans.

However, as with other nations, the global pandemic has had significant implications for Malaysia's economy and progress towards the SDGs. The recovery has also been slow and uneven. Moreover, interactions with the economic effects of the war in Ukraine, have led to inflation and weaker global demand. The pandemic has also had major social implications, including deficits in health and education.

Despite Malaysia's upper-middle-income status, socio-economic vulnerability due to the crisis is high, particularly among the urban poor, migrant and refugee populations – casual labourers, those with the low-paying jobs, and living in high-density areas and overcrowded conditions⁵. Vulnerable groups coping capacities have been eroded as a result of the pandemic, and their livelihoods remain under stress. Efforts are needed to address longer term structural issues, but in the meantime, it is important that support for specific groups, delivered initially via COVID-19 stimulus measures is maintained.

Malaysia has made significant progress in recent years, improving economic and social indicators while maintaining prudent fiscal policies, according to the Government's Voluntary National Review (VNR) presented to the UN High-Level Forum on Policy in 2017 and a preliminary analysis

by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP)⁶. As noted above, however, the country also faces challenges, such as disaggregated data availability, and these have led to a mixed picture with respect to progress towards achieving the SDGs since the adoption of the SDGs in 2015 at the UN and Malaysia's adherence to these goals.

Globally, data availability and analysis are becoming increasingly critical for economic development. For Malaysia to achieve the SDGs and national priorities, improving the availability and quality of disaggregated data will be paramount and can further drive productivity in the private sector and academic research, as well as make public service delivery more efficient. Effective data management is crucial for policymaking and public service delivery. Collaboration among data producers and the Malaysian Government is key to avoiding or reducing fragmentation in the system and can provide an effective mechanism for DOSM to form alliances with external partners⁷.

- According to the UN ESCAP analysis, for example: Malaysia will need to accelerate efforts to get on track to achieve the following SDGs:
 - SDG 1 (No Poverty)
 - SDG 2 (Zero Hunger)
 - SDG 5 (Gender Equality)
 - SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy)
 - SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities)
 - SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities)
 - SDG 15 (Life on Land)
- In some SDGs, particularly SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), Malaysia faces data limitations that appear to suggest the need for additional efforts, including on measuring progress, if these goals are to be reached by 2030. Other SDGs showing limited or negative progress include:
 - SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production)
 - SDG 13 (Climate Action)
 - SDG 14 (Life Below Water)
 - SDG 15 (Life on Land)

where the constraints appear to be more due to inadequate policies with respect to climate change and consumption patterns.

5. Source: Impact of COVID-19 on urban poor, March 2020, Khazanah Research Institute
 6. Based on preliminary data presented by Mr Hamza Ali Malik, Director, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division, UNESCAP, at the Strategic Prioritisation Retreat between the UN and Malaysia Government in February 2020, as part of the preparation of the UNSDCF.

7. Source: Malaysian Economic Monitor, Data for Development 2017

In addition, there is a need for statistical offices to gradually move to forming a more integrated system, thus creating a cohesive value chain of statistics production that can effectively reduce the overall cost of data collection. Higher quality and more granular data are essential for Malaysia's research productivity and climate⁸.

Malaysia's commitment to the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs is reflected in its SPV 2030, in its Eleventh Plan and Twelfth Plan and in its future-focused policies such as Industry 4WRD: National Policy on Industry 4.0, the National Automotive Policy (NAP) 2020 and Malaysian Aerospace Industry Blueprint (MAIB) 2030. The UNCT, through the coordination efforts of the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator (RCO), has been a close partner to the Government, through the Ministry of Economy, in SDG mainstreaming, progress monitoring, reporting, raising awareness, and building a whole-of-nation approach to accelerate achievement of the SDGs⁹.

A multi-stakeholder approach by both the Government and the UNCT around the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has grown stronger over the years, with valuable partners such as the Malaysia CSO-SDG Alliance representing more than 300 NGOs and CSOs across the country, the Malaysian AIDS Council, the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for SDGs and the SDG Academic Network launched in 2019, as well as growing engagement with youth groups and with corporate Malaysia through the various Chambers of Commerce, the Global Compact Network Malaysia, the Securities Commission, and the stock exchange (Bursa Malaysia), as well as the vibrant and increasingly innovative financial sector. Building on the Midterm Review of the Eleventh Plan, the Twelfth Malaysia Plan is concretely aligned with the SDGs. A further positive step is that the Government will define specific national SDG targets in its SDG Roadmap Phase II, 2021-2025.

UN support to Malaysia, as outlined in this UNSDCF for the period 2021-2025, is aimed at maintaining progress towards achievement of SDGs, where on track, and accelerating progress where below track. This will be delivered by helping to design and support implementation of innovative approaches to achieving those SDGs where the most work is required between now and 2030¹⁰.

In the near term, the UN will support Malaysia's post-COVID recovery by assisting the Government to address the development deficits and recent economic pressures, particularly those faced by poor and vulnerable groups. The

UN recognises that the Government continues to deliver a comprehensive robust response and provide relief (in terms of direct income support, subsidies for fuel, housing, utilities, etc.), but also notes that maintaining and resourcing these measures will become more difficult as time passes.

In addition, while the full impact of the pandemic is not fully known, there are likely to be a number of negative medium- and long-term effects. These include the human development deficits referred to (in schooling and in healthcare), which arose due to movement restrictions imposed to combat the spread of disease. These deficits are likely to disproportionately affect those on low incomes (the B40 or bottom 40 per cent of the income distribution), and other vulnerable groups.¹¹

Second, while movement restrictions have implied hardships for all, those employed in the informal economy without adequate social protection are particularly vulnerable to major reductions in income (while their fixed costs such as housing, food, etc., will likely remain static). Since some of these people were already close to the poverty line, they may be forced to liquidate their very limited savings and/or other assets.

Third, micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), which employ 47.8 per cent of Malaysia's workforce (Source: DOSM, 2021), remain particularly challenged, with many struggling to stay afloat. According to the Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperatives Development, some 3.6 per cent of MSMEs are reported to have ceased operations (November 2020). These closures and layoffs by larger enterprises have raised the unemployment rate to 4.7 percent (October 2020). For the newly unemployed, poverty will increase as many workers lack personal savings. An estimated four out of 10 employees are not covered by employment-based social protection (ILO Social Security Inquiry Database, 2019).


The UN's support during the pandemic was guided by its COVID-19 Socioeconomic Response Plan (SERP). Going forward, for the remainder of the UNSDCF period, the UNCT will focus on supporting a strong and inclusive recovery, and enabling SDG progress to return to track. The UNCT continues to work closely with the Government to analyse needs related to COVID-19 and its impacts, and the programmatic thrusts outlined in the document may be augmented or shifted in dialogue with the Government as the impacts of the crisis become clearer.

8. Ibid

9. https://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/migration/generalassembly/docs/globalcompact/A_RES_70_1_E.pdf

10. For a further discussion of the remaining challenges facing Malaysia in its pursuit of the SDGs, see Annex D on the Malaysia Country Context.

11. These poor and vulnerable groups of people include: indigenous peoples (IPs) in Sabah and Sarawak and the Orang Asli in remote Peninsular Malaysia; the urban low-income households living in high-density areas; informal sector workers; young school dropouts; the elderly who are without adequate social protection; youth; persons with disabilities, religious and ethnic minorities are stigmatised; and non-citizens such as migrant workers, refugees, undocumented immigrants and stateless persons. We purposefully identify both poor and vulnerable, recognizing this term includes those already deprived and those at risk of deprivation.

The background features a large, dark, semi-transparent UN emblem centered on a surface covered in water droplets. A bright yellow circle is drawn around the emblem, and a trail of yellow dots extends from the bottom right of the circle towards the bottom right corner of the page.

**CHAPTER 2:
UN Development
System Support
to the 2030
Agenda**

2.1 Purpose of the UNSDCF

The UNSDCF 2021-2025 constitutes the UN development system's support to Malaysia's strong commitment to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs, and its aspirations to become a high-income, inclusive, environmentally sustainable, and advanced nation. This requires rights-based programming for the 2030 Agenda that is underpinned by robust national analysis, a renewed push for collective action and partnerships, and a sharp focus on supporting countries to achieve the SDGs, leaving no one behind.

Given Malaysia's upper-middle-income status, its strong capacities in the Government, and its very high Human Development Index of 0.804 in 2018¹², the UN aims to support national action on the more complex and intersecting developmental issues of the country towards leaving no one behind, leveraging the benefits and reducing the risks of the IR 4.0 technological revolution, and deepening efforts that mitigate climate change and enhance green growth, all underpinned by good governance, fundamental freedoms and rights, gender equality and unity in its unique diversity.

This UNSDCF is the primary tool for UN support to the Government and people of Malaysia and is enabled by a reinvigorated Resident Coordinator System, as mandated by Member States in 2018¹³ to bring to bear globally, regionally and nationally available expertise, technical assistance and resources of diverse UN agencies, funds and programmes to support the country in achieving its sustainable development aspirations as set out in its SPV 2030 and its Twelfth Plan. The UNSDCF engenders a UN System that is agile, cohesive and responsive to the priorities of the nation and the needs of its people. The UNSDCF, co-designed and co-signed by the UN development system and the Malaysian Government, is responsive to the Government's needs and informed by robust analysis and multi-stakeholder consultations and sets out the UN system's support in four specific ways:

- 1** First, it articulates the UN system's collective support to address bottlenecks, trade-offs and synergies in Malaysia's journey towards achieving the 2030 Agenda via its national vision, developmental planning and budgeting, international commitments, and policy and regulatory frameworks at national and subnational levels.
- 2** Second, it drives an evidence-based approach, moving beyond national averages with an emphasis on data that is disaggregated to enable strengthened focus on inclusion, and tackling inequalities so that the shared commitment to leaving no one behind translates into tangible action for people on the ground, especially those furthest behind.
- 3** Third, it highlights the UN system's support to strengthen an effective whole-of-nation approach to achieve the SDGs, through participatory and innovative approaches to drive solutioning and nationwide ownership and alignment to the SDGs, with partnerships at its core, not only with the Government at national and subnational levels, but with all stakeholders – private sector, civil society, academia, parliamentarians, young people and representatives of poor and vulnerable groups, while also leveraging non-traditional resources, bilateral partnerships and the important contributions that different stakeholders can make.
- 4** Fourth, it enables adaptive and specifically tailored responses to Malaysia's needs and realities related to the SDGs, based on a regularly updated Common Country Analysis (CCA) and Theory of Change, ensuring that all UN entities are agile and effective in their support to Malaysia's attainment of the 2030 Agenda, including any humanitarian needs that may arise. Key elements of the CCA can be found in Annex D of this UNSDCF. The UNSDCF also seeks to support Malaysia's global partnership for development through enhanced forums to showcase Malaysia's successes and good practices and by promoting Malaysia's important voice and influence in various multilateral platforms towards accelerating SDG achievement by addressing cross-border issues, gaps and challenges. The UNSDCF guides the entire UN programme cycle and drives planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of its work in the country.

12. http://hdr.undp.org/sites/all/themes/hdr_theme/country-notes/MYS.pdf

13. <https://undocs.org/A/RES/72/279>

The UN Secretary-General's Report of March 2020 calls for:

- a) “the most robust and cooperative health response the world has ever seen;”
- b) doing “everything possible to cushion the knock-on effects on millions of people’s lives, their livelihoods and the real economy;” and
- c) “learn[ing] from this (COVID-19) crisis and build[ing] back better.” This UNSDCF for Malaysia lays out the ways in which the UN will support the country towards achieving the SDGs. It will be adapted as necessary to address the effects from the COVID-19 pandemic and in moving forward towards recovery at the national and international level.

2.2 United Nations Comparative Advantage

Recognising Malaysia’s upper-middle-income status, and high-capacity government, the UNSCDF draws on the UN system’s core comparative advantage in delivering nationally relevant solutions.

Global knowledge base anchored in a broad mandate, offering high-level policy advice and technical expertise

The UN is able to draw on well-established global networks and state-of-the-art research facilities to support national policymakers. Moreover, these are rooted in tried and tested country-level approaches, enabling support to be fully tailored to Malaysia’s relatively advanced financial and human resources.

Unparalleled SDG-based technical knowledge is rooted in the UN system’s custodianship of the goals. This, along with the diverse mandates of individual UN agencies, allows for integrated and comprehensive SDG analysis and delivery.

The UN provides a platform of the more than 40 specialised and technical organisations, agencies, funds, and programmes locally and globally, with on-the-ground experience. This enables access to the key technical capacities, which are vital to a rapidly developing upper-middle-income country like Malaysia.

Convening power and ability to orchestrate partnerships to deliver and finance the SDGs

The UN is well placed to convene disparate actors — civil society, academia, and private sector — to reach consensus positions and find effective workable solutions. An excellent example of this in Malaysia was the success of the Government—UN SDG Summit in late 2019 that brought together 2,600 participants to catalyse a whole-of-nation approach to delivering the goals.

Building on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and through the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) initiative, the UN is offering new solutions to the financing challenges posed by the SDGs. This involves enabling the Government to draw in and better manage private sector finance and global capital flows, and better harnessing public resources to support national development.

Strictly impartial, normative-based approach

Recognising Malaysia as a longstanding and respected Member State, the UN is committed to strict impartiality within advocacy and programming. Constituent UN agencies fully recognise the importance of national ownership of the development agenda.

This is complemented by the UN System’s normative basis, the human rights-based values and ways of working embedded in the UN treaties and anchored in the SDGs. These norms and values also define the relationship between the UN and the Government, as given by the treaties and conventions Malaysia has acceded to. The UN Country Team is committed to supporting the Government in its efforts to discharge these obligations in areas as diverse as trade, labour law, and biodiversity.

A bridge and platform to address cross-border issues and enhance Malaysia’s international standing

The UN has the ability to leverage its global and regional presence to help address cross-border issues, epidemics, and disasters. This has proved especially prescient during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of the Global Partnership for Development, the UN system offers mechanisms for showcasing Malaysia’s well-regarded developmental achievements. It offers advantages in promoting Malaysia’s influence in regional organisations such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and articulating its voice within multilateral efforts on the key issues of our time - such as combating climate change and providing opportunities to all segments of society, including MSMEs, women and others with untapped economic potential to participate in and contribute significantly to the economy.

An operational infrastructure that is fully fit for purpose

The UN development system, and its constituent agencies, have delivery capacities that can be expanded quickly to meet all contingencies and tailored to diverse country situations.

Delivery infrastructure is complemented by flexible and robust funding and disbursement facilities. These include joint Agency-Government modalities, and pooled funds operating locally with international standards of probity — both of which are especially suited to Malaysia’s more advanced development context.



UNDCF Strategic Prioritisation Retreat, 12-13 February 2020 | Photo: UN in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam

2.3 UN-wide Guiding Principles for Programme Support

The guiding principles of the UNSDCFs for all countries emanate from the globally agreed principles of the SDGs and are as follows:

- Leaving No One Behind (LNOB):** This principle is the central transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda. It represents the unequivocal commitment of all United Nations Member States to eradicate poverty in all its forms, end discrimination and exclusion, and reduce inequalities and vulnerabilities including to the impacts of climate change, disaster risk and environmental degradation. This means, inter alia, moving beyond assessing overall average and aggregate progress for the general population towards ensuring progress for all population subgroups¹⁴. The principle of leaving no one behind is applicable to all population groups in a country, including non-citizens such as refugees, migrants, and undocumented and stateless persons. Malaysia has ongoing initiatives to address the issue of undocumented individuals in the country. *Menyemai Kasih Rakyat (MEKAR)*, a programme of the Ministry of Home Affairs run by the National Registration Department, facilitates access to registration, particularly in rural areas. Malaysian law stipulates that all children born in Malaysia, regardless of nationality or legal status of the parents, have access to formal birth registration procedures and birth certificates. However, the conferment of citizenship is contingent upon factors such as marital status and citizenship status of biological parents at the time of birth in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Constitution.
- Human Rights-Based Approach to Development (HRBA):** This principle is central to the SDGs, and Malaysia's Constitution recognises a comprehensive catalogue of fundamental freedoms. Malaysia has a longstanding commitment to human rights standards and mechanisms, including through the UPR, conventions and treaties, special rapporteurs, the establishment of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM)¹⁵, and other mechanisms.

Malaysia has ratified three out of the nine UN international rights treaties: the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW); the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC); the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)¹⁶; and recent progress includes Malaysia attending the Global Refugees Forum in 2018 and 2023. In 2022, Malaysia ratified ILO Protocol 29 on Forced Labour and has engaged increasingly with international human rights mechanisms. Malaysia has taken steps towards policy reforms and replaced the mandatory death penalty with alternative sentences in relation to 11 crimes in 2023. In addition, notwithstanding that Malaysia is not a signatory to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, Malaysia has hosted refugees and asylum seekers on its territory since 1975 with the support of UNHCR. Malaysia received 268 recommendations during its third UPR in the UN Human Rights Council in November 2018. The Government accepted 148 recommendations, including among others to take measures towards strengthening fundamental freedoms of expression, association, assembly, including reviewing existing legislation inconsistent with international law within the framework of Article 10(2) and 10(4) of the Federal Constitution.

The Government is using OHCHR's National Recommendations Tracking Database to enhance its reporting and data collection capacity and to facilitate the implementation of recommendations from UN human rights mechanisms such as the UPR, the Special Procedures and the Treaty Bodies.

HRBA in the context of Malaysia, therefore, provides a conceptual framework for the process of sustainable development based on international standards and SDG principles (e.g. LNOB, gender equality, non-discrimination, democratic governance), and guides UN development cooperation accordingly.

14. The principle of leaving no one behind is applicable to all population groups in a country, including non-citizens such as refugees, migrants, undocumented and stateless persons.

15. Established by Parliament under the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia Act 1999, Act 597.

16. Malaysia has also ratified or acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of Children in Armed Conflict in 2012, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography in 2012.

- **Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:** Malaysia has a dedicated Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, whose vision is to be at the forefront in achieving gender equality. Gender equality and women's empowerment are integral to realising all national development plans, the 2030 Agenda, and all of the SDGs, and is mainstreamed into the programming of UN entities towards active and meaningful participation of both women and men and empowering women and girls, in line with the minimum requirements agreed upon by the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) in the UNCT System-wide Action Plan (SWAP) Gender Equality Scorecard¹⁷. The SPV 2030 outlines Malaysia's commitment to increase women's participation and leadership in the public and private sectors, especially at the highest management level, through gender-sensitive government policies that will optimise the use of labour resources and contribute to economic growth.
- **Sustainability** guides the focus on maintaining and building on development results and has underpinned many of Malaysia's development plans, the Vision 2020, and now the SPV 2030. The 2030 Agenda calls for ensuring the lasting protection of the planet and its natural and cultural resources, supporting inclusive and sustained economic growth, ending poverty in all its dimensions, and enhancing human well-being. Strengthening the capacities of national and subnational institutions and communities is essential. The UNSDCF will support the Government's efforts to strengthen these institutions so that they are appropriately aligned, capacitated and resourced to advance the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.
- In an uncertain and volatile environment, noting the impacts COVID-19 and geopolitical uncertainties, **resilience** is a key principle to guide the design of integrated and cost-effective approaches that reduce risks and help prevent the creation of new risks, disasters, and crises. The UN system's approaches under this UNSDCF would be informed by the UN Resilience Framework¹⁸. Risks comprise those associated with natural and human-induced hazards¹⁹, violent conflict, public health emergencies of international concern, financial vulnerabilities, and food price fluctuations, among others. Drivers of risk, in general, stem from poverty, climate change, health emergencies (such as COVID-19), inequality, discrimination and exclusion, extremism, demographic pressures, unplanned urbanisation, ecosystem degradation, weak institutions and governance mechanisms, and loss of basic human rights. These negative factors, acting together, can unleash cascading impacts across many dimensions, causing loss of life and livelihoods, disruption to social services and access to them, and setting back progress towards productive, sustainable and peaceful societies. The UN in Malaysia already works with the Government in many of these areas, and it is essential to continue building resilience into activities to ensure valuable development gains are maintained.
- The UNSDCF will also strengthen **accountability** for the collective achievement of the 2030 Agenda through:
 - a alignment with national priorities and national accountability mechanisms, and support to their further development where warranted;
 - b strengthening national and local mechanisms, institutions and processes to monitor and report on SDG implementation, including through the High-Level Political Forum and Voluntary National Reviews;
 - c measures to build upon and extend greater transparency, and improved measurement and reporting on results, including through joint assessments with target populations;
 - d enabling active and inclusive local community engagement and participation in decision-making throughout the Cooperation Framework cycle; and
 - e supporting the development and use of quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data to inform national and UN support for policy formulation, and its own programme design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, as well as risk management for development results.

17. See: <https://undg.org/document/unct-swap-gender-equality-scorecard>. The UNCT-SWAP Gender Equality Scorecard establishes performance standards for gender-related programme results and institutional arrangements to achieve them.

18. The "UN Common Guidance on Helping Build Resilient Societies" of the High-Level Committee on Programme of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board (draft of December 2018) supports UN Resident Coordinators and the UN development system in integrating the resilience principle.

19. Practical guidelines on integrating disaster risk reduction into the Cooperation Framework support UN Resident Coordinators and UNCTs in understanding the main risks in a country and how to integrate measures to reduce them in the Cooperation Framework.

2.4 Methodology for Developing the UNSDCF

Based on a series of consultations with key allies, partners and the Government, the UN in Malaysia began preparing its first UNSDCF in 2019. First, the **UN reviewed the national context via its Common Country Analysis (CCA)**, within which the UNSDCF will articulate the UN's support to Malaysia. The findings of this analysis were presented to the Government in a well-structured, closed-door dialogue to obtain feedback on the possible areas of UN cooperation.

A **major consultation was conducted through the Malaysia SDG Summit in November 2019**, which involved 2,600 participants from the Government, private sector, civil society, academia, young people, children, parliamentarians, and representatives of poor and vulnerable groups, including indigenous peoples, refugees, migrants, persons with disabilities and others. Additional specific meetings included the Malaysia CSO-SDG Alliance, which represents over 300 CSOs and NGOs covering a wide spectrum of community and vulnerable group representatives (please see Annex G for full list of consultations and preparatory processes undertaken in preparing the UNSDCF).

In late 2019, a Theory of Change workshop analysed the immediate, underlying and structural causes contributing to remaining human development challenges in the country, and designed a “solution tree” to identify those areas in which the UN could most usefully contribute to Malaysia's efforts to achieve the SDGs by 2030. This analysis focused on the groupings of the SDGs originally presented by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon to the UN General Assembly in 2015, as follows:



These groupings subsequently formed the focus of the four Strategic Priority Areas of this UNSDCF, enhanced by the cross-cutting strategy of Strategic Coordination and Partnerships. The inherent nature of the SDGs is that they are integrated and interconnected with one another. Therefore, the focus of the Strategic Priority Areas would not necessarily be limited to the goals mentioned above. See also Table 2.

The starting point for the UN's review of Malaysia's development trends was the Eleventh Plan and the MTR of the Eleventh Plan, the substantive analysis undertaken for the Policy Advisory Papers developed for the Twelfth Plan, the Phase 1 National SDG Roadmap, Malaysia's 2017 VNR, the SPV 2030, and in-depth discussions with the Government, civil society and private sector, including via the Malaysia SDG Summit. Analysis was also updated on an ongoing basis prior to signing the UNSDCF.

In February 2020, the Government and UN Agencies conducted a Strategic Prioritisation Retreat to review information gathered in all the preceding steps, as well as the rapidly evolving geopolitical, economic and environmental context and significant global “mega-trends” such as IR 4.0, climate change, urbanisation and migration, and the potential impact of all these on Malaysia during the next five years. The impacts of the pandemic and its aftermath are also significant. Given the preponderance of national, and particularly governmental, financing for the SDGs, it is clear that the role of the UN in supporting Malaysia to achieve the SDGs is not principally in terms of financial resources, but rather in terms of its other comparative advantages. This includes using UN credibility and technical and strategic capacity to support making the SDGs a whole-of-nation endeavour and collaborating on key processes to take the SDGs forward such as: government development planning and impact, budgeting, private sector participation and resources, and civil society support and empowerment. Achieving the SDGs in Malaysia will also require detailed analysis and support for national efforts to address “last mile” issues, that is, ensuring that national and state policies and services actually reach even the most remote villages and those individuals furthest behind. The UN has identified four²⁰ determinants of change to which it can apply its comparative advantages to support Malaysia in addressing constraints to achieving the SDGs.

20. The fifth area identified by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon, Partnerships, is addressed in this UNSDCF as a cross-cutting issue.



Diagram 2

The UNSDCF, developed on the basis of the above processes, fully recognises that its constituent Outcomes and Collaborative Outputs are not limited to results attributable to UN System cooperation but are, rather, national results to which the UN System will contribute, in line with the national planning framework and the precepts of the SDGs. Given the five-year time span, the UNSDCF Outcomes and Collaborative Outputs are, therefore, high-level in nature, and are the result of multi-stakeholder partnerships, with the UN providing contributions in line with its Comparative Advantages, as outlined in this UNSDCF. In planning its contributions, the UN recognises that Malaysia is an upper-middle-income country with extensive national capacities, a vibrant private and NGO sector, and that the UN’s contributions must therefore be extremely strategic. The substantive elements of the Theory of Change are covered in the various SPAs within the UNSDCF under the heading “Achievements, Gaps and Challenges”, and the pathways of change articulated in the Theory of Change are summarised under each of the Collaborative Outputs. This approach of the UN complementing, as necessary, government ownership and partner capacities is fully in line with the principle of national ownership of the SDGs. Hence, the Collaborative Outputs within each SPA describe the results towards which UN contributions will be clustered in order to help achieve the anticipated result. The specific details of the UN’s contributions will be described in the two-year Joint Rolling Workplans (see Chapter 3), together with the specific indicators to be used in monitoring these UN contributions. The SPAs and Collaborative Outputs are as follows:



PILLAR 1 PEOPLE

SPA 1: Leaving No One Behind - Ensuring a prosperous nation through inclusivity and well-being for all

By 2025, poor and vulnerable groups living in Malaysia benefit from more equity-focused and high-quality social services as well as a social protection system that ensures all have an adequate standard of living.

- CO 1.1: A more efficient, effective and sustainable social protection system is in place that provides increased protection against contingencies throughout the life cycle.
- CO 1.2: Social services are strengthened to ensure access to high-quality, equity-focused provision that promotes the well-being of all.
- CO 1.3: Increased adoption of inclusive social norms and values and rejection of harmful practices, particularly against women and girls, and the creation of demand for services.



PILLAR 2 PLANET

SPA 2: Environment, Climate Change, and Resilience

By 2025, environmental sustainability and resilience are mainstreamed as priorities within the national development agenda, across all sectors and levels of society.

- CO 2.1: Transitioning national development towards a decarbonised pathway and a resource-efficient economy through the adoption of green growth strategies and practices across all sectors.
- CO 2.2: Natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems are sustainably managed, adequately protected and conserved for long-term economic and environmental sustainability.
- CO 2.3: Preparedness and resilience (especially of indigenous, poor and vulnerable groups) against climate change, natural hazards, and disaster risks are strengthened.



PILLAR 3 PROSPERITY

SPA 3: Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth

By 2025, Malaysia is making meaningful progress towards an economy that is inclusive, innovative and sustainable across all income groups and productive sectors.

- CO 3.1: Inclusive growth and decent work also tap into new sources of economic growth and the Future of Work trends.
- CO 3.2: Further advances are made towards women's equality in the economy.
- CO 3.3: Adoption of corporate practices that are aligned to SDGs and international standards of upholding principles of social justice, transparency, accountability and sustainability while promoting economic development.
- CO 3.4: Competitive, sustainable and inclusive urban development that supports social and economic well-being for the population.



PILLAR 4 PEACE

SPA 4: Social Cohesion, Governance and Human Rights

By 2025, Malaysia has strengthened democratic governance, and all people living in Malaysia benefit from a more cohesive society, strengthened governance and participation.

- CO 4.1: Malaysia makes significant progress towards inter-ethnic and cultural harmony and cohesion.
- CO 4.2: Institutions are more capable of undertaking inclusive political processes and are more citizen-centric and protective of fundamental freedoms.
- CO 4.3: The system of checks and balances across branches of government is strengthened at national and subnational levels, core government functions are more responsive and efficient, and people have better access to services.

Risks and Assumptions: In exploring multidimensional aspects of risk to Malaysia's progress on the SDGs, risks and assumptions have been articulated across five categories. The contextual factors are covered under the domains of political (global, regional and national), economic (e.g. global or regional economic shocks, such as COVID-19, global inflationary pressures and the fast-evolving IR 4.0), social (related to social cohesion, discrimination and gender equality), and environment, which have the theoretical potential to support or derail Malaysia's progress on the 2030 Agenda:



Political risks: The new unity Government elected in November 2022, has pledged to continue strengthening Malaysia's commitment to the SDGs. Tackling issues of corruption and political polarisation will be important long-term targets in order to reduce risk to political stability. There are additional dimensions of risk relating to democratic space and justice and the rule of law that need to be addressed, including by strengthening national legal frameworks and protection systems in line with international norms and standards. Continued emphasis will be required on the SDG principles of leaving no one behind, sustainability and democratic governance, in order to ensure continued focus on equity and inclusion as political priorities, including on the part of any future government following elections.



Economic risks: The country has a well-diversified economy and has enjoyed sustained growth and a generally positive economic outlook; however, as a trading nation, Malaysia is also highly interdependent with the international economic system. Malaysia was hit hard by the global pandemic - the resulting recession saw GDP fall by 5.5 per cent in 2020, with a limited rebound in 2021. GDP grew strongly in 2022 but the recovery has been slower than expected, and has been uneven between sectors and localities. The conflict in Ukraine has further weakened the outlook, driving core inflation and reducing export demand. Successive adverse weather events have caused major floods disrupting production and livelihoods, and pose an additional risk.



Social risks: The principal risks facing Malaysia in the social area revolve around social cohesion and inclusivity. On the one hand, the Government's SPV 2030 is specifically aimed at ensuring that all segments of Malaysia's population share equitably in the benefits of economic and social development. On the other hand, some pockets of the population continue to remain outside the mainstream in terms of economic opportunities and access to quality services and face social deprivations, including challenged living conditions, increasing crime and drug abuse. The COVID-19 crisis brought to the fore the criticality of access to basic services such as health care and education - for those such as migrants, refugees, the undocumented and others who may lack legal access or those that do not avail themselves of such services due to fear of arrest and detention. Tensions related to these continuing inequities may be exacerbated, and others may emerge. It is also important that health and educational deficits accumulated during the pandemic are put right, as these have disproportionately affected vulnerable groups. A continued emphasis on managing ethnic tensions, and on eliminating discrimination and exclusion, as well as guaranteeing social and legal protection for all, will therefore be critical in order to continue progress towards the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.



Environment risks: Malaysia's tropical climate conditions and heavy rainfall lead to risks from storms and flooding during the monsoon season (October to February). In the areas prone to flooding, water-borne diseases such as typhoid fever, cholera, hepatitis A, and leptospirosis are noted. In addition, flash floods that occur during sudden rains in urban areas constrain movement, have negative impacts on overall productivity, and may threaten housing, livelihoods and lives. Conversely, Malaysia is also prone to droughts (e.g. 1992, 1998 and 2014), which have affected as many as 2.2 million people²¹, and resulted in significant agricultural losses. In addition, seasonal burning of forest and plantation vegetation activities by neighbouring countries and peat fires in Malaysia cause the annual recurrence of intense haze, creating serious health hazards. Over the medium and long term, climate change will likely exacerbate many of Malaysia's existing environmental and social risks and will add the risk of rising sea levels for many coastal communities. All of these risks imply additional pressures on government and private sector revenues, family and community lives and livelihoods, and potentially on Malaysia's progress towards achieving the SDGs.

21. WMO, UNCCD, FAO, CBD and UNW-DPC. Capacity Development to support National Drought Management Policy, May 2014. Country Reports – Malaysia. http://www.droughtmanagement.info/literature/UNW-DPC_NDMP_Country_Report_Malaysia_2014.pdf

The UN will work with the Government to monitor and mitigate risks outlined above and in the CCA and will work to address underlying causes through the UNSDCF and other response strategies supporting Malaysia in its path towards the SDGs.

In addition to the above, there are potential risks and assumptions related to the UNSDCF itself, particularly in terms of programming (related to the need to design UN interventions adequately to effectively support Malaysia in pursuing the SDGs), and institutional requirements (such as the risks and opportunities related to adequate financing, reputational risk, etc.). These factors are more internal to the UN itself and require effective planning with the widest possible range of actors, continuous monitoring of programme implementation processes and results, and ensuring that both planning and implementation adequately identify potential risks and opportunities and take appropriate steps, including through proactive financial and programmatic safeguards (such as appropriate oversight and audits, adequate human resources and programme supervision processes to prevent abuse, and appropriate safeguards related to research, studies and investigations, designed to protect the rights of all beneficiaries and participants in UN-related programmes).

The way forward for Malaysia rests on its ability to mobilise all segments of society — government, private sector, civil society and citizens — to create a whole-of-nation approach to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs, while providing a strong political ecosystem that is based on the principles of justice and equality, and embodies the spirit of leaving no one behind. The role of the UN is to provide support for these national priorities and efforts.

2.5 Strategic Priority Areas for the UN Development System

PILLAR 1: PEOPLE



SPA 1

Leaving No One Behind - Ensuring a prosperous nation through inclusivity and well-being for all

By 2025, poor and vulnerable groups living in Malaysia benefit from more equity-focused and high-quality social services as well as a social protection system that ensures all have an adequate standard of living.

Achievements, Gaps and Challenges

While Malaysia is an upper-middle-income country, it has achieved a genuine transformation in social and human development outcomes for its people and entered the “very high human development” category in the 2019 Human Development Index²². It now aspires to become a high-income and inclusive nation, anchored on a model of “shared prosperity” that charts its path to achieving the SDGs by 2030. Shared prosperity is not only about sustained economic growth but is also about ensuring inclusion and non-discrimination, to deliver equitable outcomes and ensure the health and well-being of the people. Developed status is ultimately about equitable and inclusive distribution of the benefits of development and expanding capabilities: participation, power, voice and the ability to make choices about issues that impact one’s own life, focusing on how the most poor and vulnerable groups fare and leaving no one behind.

22. <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/MYS>

Despite Malaysia's progress, multidimensional deprivations persist in certain areas and population segments, and growing socio-economic inequalities and disparities pose a risk to inclusive development and well-being for all. Malaysia's cost of basic needs approach to measuring poverty is arguably no longer relevant to Malaysia's upper middle-income status or the aspirations of its people, especially since a range of recent analyses have suggested a poverty rate of 16–20 per cent²³ if a relative poverty method is used. Malaysia exhibits a double burden of malnutrition, with 9.4 per cent and 21.8 per cent of children under five years being wasted and stunted, respectively, and 14.8 per cent of children aged 5 to 17 years old being obese (NHMS, 2019). Malaysia has a comprehensive, efficient and nationwide health-care system; however, not all the states reflect the same levels of progress with respect to key issues such as maternal mortality and adolescent pregnancy. Malaysia's progress in education can be seen in increased participation in education, with positive primary school completion rates and gender parity, although related issues such as adolescent pregnancies pose challenges, especially the ability of girls to complete and continue their academic path.

In terms of gender equity and women's empowerment, gender parity has been attained in education and health. There are many more women in public office and leadership positions than before, national legislation, policies and plans now address women's and girls' rights, and measures are being taken to encourage women to return to the workforce. Nonetheless, only 55.8 per cent of working-age Malaysian women were employed or looking for jobs in 2019²⁴, occupational segregation on gender lines continues, and women's leadership across sectors falls short. Other key gender equality issues include: widespread intimate partner violence²⁵; weak employment protections for pregnant women and mothers, and sexual harassment in the workplace²⁶. Many of these issues were addressed through the Employment Act 195 (Amendment) 2022 and the UN will continue to support. Access to affordable and high-quality childcare, a further key issue, is a focus of the Twelfth Plan. Other issues include the impact of child marriage on a small but significant number of girls²⁷, and the plight of single mothers and female-headed households in rural areas, where the number of children per family is high, in not being able to secure employment or welfare payments²⁸.

These risks will likely be further exacerbated by rising prices and a possible global recession. Adoption of a human rights-based approach that prioritises the SDGs is necessary to ensure equitable outcomes for all. Key issues include: persistent pockets of poverty; stagnating standards of living, particularly among low-income households; high out-of-pocket health expenditures; increased double burden of malnutrition among children and women of reproductive age as well as food and nutrition insecurity; increasing geographical disparities in immunisation coverage, outbreaks in neighbouring countries, and poor water and sanitation, especially among populations residing in water villages, resulting in poliovirus and cholera outbreaks; growing incidence of HIV/AIDS and non-communicable diseases; stagnating educational outcomes; gender inequality; inadequate free and informed prior consent by indigenous peoples to development projects that affect them; and a range of harmful social norms and practices. Social development outcomes require improvement among poor and low-income families, female-headed households, older people, people with disabilities, indigenous communities, refugees, migrants, undocumented and stateless individuals. Addressing these issues is not only critical to protecting the impressive development thus far achieved, but is also essential for human capital development and sustaining the social cohesion that underpins long-term economic growth.

LNOB implies wide participation in decision-making processes, going beyond consultation and including free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) by the members of a community in all decision-making processes related to development projects, including their design, execution of projects, and redress and remedy in environmental matters. In addition, and as noted elsewhere in this UNSDCF, a sole focus on economic growth without adequate attention to potential environmental and social impacts of development activities and policies, carries serious risks to the SDGs' human rights-based approach to development.

23. Khazanah Research Institute - a relative poverty measure of 60 per cent of median income would show 22.2 per cent of households living in poverty as of 2016.

24. Department of Statistics Malaysia

22. Shuib R, Endut N, Ali SH, et al. Domestic violence and women's well-being in Malaysia, Soc Behav Sci 2013

26. Although 1,218 reports of sexual harassment were reported to the Royal Malaysian Police between 2013 and 2017, a YouGov Omnibus found that 36 per cent of women and 17 per cent of men have experienced sexual harassment

27. UN Country Team, Malaysia CEDAW Report June 2017

28. UNDP, Empowering Single Mothers in Malaysia, 2019

Collaborative Outputs:

The pathways of change articulated in the Theory of Change, above, are summarised under the three Collaborative Outputs outlined below for UN response and contribution:

- **Collaborative Output 1.1: A more efficient, effective and sustainable social protection system is in place that provides increased protection against contingencies throughout the life cycle.**
 - The UN will support institutions and authorities to design and adopt innovative and evidence-informed laws, policies, plans, budgets and institutional reforms that reduce socio-economic disparities and promote social inclusion for all populations.
 - The UN will aim to further strengthen the policymaking function of the Malaysia Social Protection Council (MySPC) through the provision of capacity-building and technical support to the Council, its working groups, and key government counterparts. The UN will support and facilitate reforms and improvements in the design of the social protection system and its delivery mechanisms to support all Malaysians including poor and vulnerable groups — low-income families, indigenous peoples, older persons, women, persons with disabilities and others. This will build on a range of progressive policy initiatives already taken. Particular attention will be given to strengthening the adequacy, effectiveness and sustainability of social insurance and assistance programmes as well as expanding social protection coverage to workers in the informal sector. This includes adaptive or disaster responsive social protection systems in line with ASEAN Guidelines on Disaster Responsive Social Protection to Increase Resilience. The UN will also support a study to be commissioned by the Ministry of Economy on comprehensive social protection with regard to those in informal employment.
 - UN support will also aim to strengthen socio-economic statistical systems (including the Multidimensional Poverty Index) to improve the design, planning and implementation of social protection interventions, resulting in improved coverage of the most poor and vulnerable groups.
 - UN Agencies will also work to strengthen analysis and monitoring and evaluation as a basis for design and planning of social and economic policies.
 - Finally, the UN will also work to strengthen intersectoral linkages — e.g. between social protection, education and health – to maximise synergies to ensure that no one is left behind and to accelerate progress across related SDGs.

- **Collaborative Output 1.2: Social services are strengthened to ensure access to high-quality, equity-focused provision that promotes the well-being of all.**

The difficulties faced by certain pockets of the population in accessing health, nutrition, education and other social services — the rising rates of malnutrition, notably obesity and stunting, as well as tuberculosis, HIV and AIDS, the outbreak of polio in Sabah — are threatening or even reversing some of the good progress that Malaysia has made in the past.

- The UN will therefore support the strengthening of national health and social systems to proactively reduce disparities in social and human development outcomes within the population. The UN will continue to support a review for the optimisation of health financing in order to achieve universal health care and to prevent excessive out-of-pocket expenditures. These are vital given the long-running rise in chronic diseases, an ageing population, and the demand for higher levels of immunisation; and made urgent by the pressures COVID-19 has placed on resources.
- The UN will place special emphasis on efforts to strengthen the coverage, quality, and resilience of services for indigenous communities, migrants, refugees, stateless and undocumented populations, and to develop and implement durable solutions for the latter. The goal is to enhance the relationship between stakeholders and target beneficiaries through people-centred interventions that inform the targeted services, and to support Malaysia in ensuring that quality services attain universal coverage by 2030 and that all segments of the population have effective access to them.
- Specific UN activities to support this goal will include sectoral system strengthening in terms of planning, budgeting and monitoring/evaluation to expand and improve quality and accessibility of services and enhance regulatory frameworks.

- The capacity of service providers will also be strengthened through UN support to training activities aimed at ensuring the necessary technical skills to design, plan, budget, manage and monitor services in their sector and to ensure appropriate intersectoral linkages (e.g. between health and education to ensure that children acquire adequate knowledge regarding nutrition, and that young people acquire knowledge to exercise their reproductive rights and make informed decisions).
- Finally, the UN will also support the national and subnational governments to strengthen protection-related policies and systems, for example to prevent human trafficking, forced labour, and child labour, to enhance child protection, to develop a national asylum framework, and to prevent abuse and exploitation.

- **Collaborative Output 1.3: Increased adoption of inclusive social norms and values and rejection of harmful practices, particularly against women and girls, and the creation of demand for services.**

- The UN will work to raise awareness and promote positive norms and practices, which are sensitive to local norms and values, and will advocate for increased commitment to combatting gender-based violence and harmful practices. While supporting the strengthening of demand for essential services, including sexual and reproductive health, education and skills building, the UN will support changing social norms through advocacy, communication and by engaging families and communities.
- The UN will support the building of community-level evidence and knowledge to inform policy and programme responses to address the root causes of gender-based violence, child marriage and other harmful practices and will provide technical assistance to develop evidence-based context-specific plans and models to change social norms while maintaining national priorities.
- The UN will also support Malaysia to mobilise the most poor and vulnerable groups to make full use of the health and social services provided by the Government. This effort will aim to ensure that people, especially those belonging to the bottom 40 per cent, bottom 10 per cent and bottom 1 per cent (B40/B10/B1), including the most poor and vulnerable groups, are aware of the services being offered and will support ensuring that those services are easily accessible and adequately respond to their needs.
- At the same time, the UN will support religious and community leaders and opinion leaders who can positively influence knowledge, attitudes and practices to raise the awareness of communities, families and individuals regarding positive steps they can take themselves to improve their health and well-being and to avoid risks sensitive to accepted social norms. Examples of knowledge, attitudes and practices to be addressed may include those related to domestic violence, teenage pregnancy and early marriage, and lifestyle practices leading to NCDs such as diabetes, hypertension and heart disease.
- In addition, the UN will support the strengthening of mechanisms for youth engagement and participation to become active in organising their communities and peers to avail themselves of those opportunities to improve their own situation. This may involve the increased participation of youth in community or municipal planning (e.g. in pursuit of age- and child-friendly cities and communities, with adequate and safe spaces for recreation), inter-generational dialogues, and other spaces in which they can actively contribute to their communities.
- The UN will also promote constructive social dialogue to empower youth on sexual and reproductive health in order to equip young people with information and knowledge, including through strengthened comprehensive sexuality education.

PILLAR 2: PLANET



SPA 2:

Environment, Climate Change, and Resilience

By 2025, environmental sustainability and resilience are mainstreamed²⁹ as priorities within the national development agenda, across all sectors and levels of society.

Achievements, Gaps and Challenges

Malaysia has been a signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since 1994 and ratified the Paris Agreement of the UNFCCC in November 2016. The country became a net emitter in 2005, with net total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions amounting to 48,750 metric tons CO₂ equivalent. In its latest Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2021, the Government committed to reduce its GHG emissions intensity in GDP in 2005 by 45 per cent by 2030 upon receipt of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building from developed countries. Malaysia also aspires to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. These pledges were reiterated at COP 26 and COP 27. Malaysia has strengthened its focus on mainstreaming climate change in its development policies, plans and strategies. In 2011, GHG emissions intensity in GDP for Malaysia was reduced by 23 per cent relative to 2005 and was further reduced to 27 per cent in 2014. Malaysia has set itself the goal of transitioning to a greener and more sustainable economy and will need to carefully balance its ambitions for rapid economic expansion with environmental sustainability, climate and disaster resilience, and social consciousness. While the challenge of decarbonising will not be achieved by 2025, there is much potential to realise benefits in terms of mitigating climate change. This will significantly contribute to Malaysia achieving sustainability and will constitute a critical shift to safeguard the country's long-term development.

Like the rest of the world, Malaysia is experiencing the effects of climate change. The country's temperature, rainfall and sea levels have been on the rise in the last 40 years and are projected to continue to rise beyond 2030 and 2050. Climate-induced natural disasters such as floods, storms and droughts have increased both in frequency and intensity, coming at a high cost in terms of economic and human losses and health and social impacts. The most poor and vulnerable groups are those most at risk from climate change and biodiversity loss, including the elderly, women and children, indigenous people, urban and rural poor, coastal communities, and others with fewer assets and alternatives for livelihoods, and less resilience against the loss of biodiversity and natural resources.

Gaps and needs remain with respect to climate change reporting, including: achieving completeness in its GHG inventory and reporting; filling gaps in historical data and data quality; monitoring, reporting and verification of GHG; conducting vulnerability and adaptation assessments; centralising data collection and compilation; and preserving institutional memory for conducting GHG inventories. The GHG Inventory Unit, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability has now been designated as the dedicated body for climate change reporting to fulfil some of these needs. With respect to planning and implementation of environmental policies and plans, the active participation of communities affected by climate change is essential, in line with a rights-based approach, especially in the planning and implementation of activities related to protecting, restoring and promoting sustainable use of ecosystems (as required by SDG 15).

29. The term "mainstream" as used throughout this UNSDCF refers to the need for specific SDG-related priorities such as environmental sustainability and gender to be championed not just by specific stakeholders, but by all groups at all levels.

Malaysia has one of the most complex tropical rainforest ecosystems in the world. The country remains committed to maintaining 50 per cent of its land under forest and tree cover. In recent years, Malaysia has faced significant pressure over claims of biodiversity loss and deforestation, often in association with unsustainable agricultural practices, infrastructure and land use development that have increasingly reduced the availability, size and quality of wildlife habitats, and rendered habitat fragmentation a major concern to species survival. Malaysia has been a Party to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity since 1992 and ratified the Convention in 1994. The National Policy on Biological Diversity (2022-2030) provides direction for the nation for implementing the Convention.

Malaysia has yet to make enough progress on SDG 12, and on related concepts of sustainable consumption and production and circular economy, which can be partially attributed to insufficient information on the part of the public and lack of adequate will on the part of the private sector as part of a supportive market ecosystem.

Collaborative Outputs

The pathways of change articulated in the Theory of Change, above, are summarised under the three Collaborative Outputs outlined below for UN response and contribution.

- **Collaborative Output 2.1: Transitioning national development towards a decarbonised pathway and a resource-efficient economy through the adoption of green growth strategies and practices across all sectors.**

- The UN will support national and subnational governments to mainstream green economy approaches into policy areas and strategies, supported by technical assessments, tools and knowledge products, strategic partnerships and financing mechanisms.
- Building on the SDG approaches of sustainable production and consumption, the UN will work together with the private sector, industries and the civil society to embed the “circular economy” practices into decision-making and business operations. Circular economy practices could be applied to enhance policy operation, leading to a higher recycling rate, reduced materials use, waste and GHG emissions. A further focus of the UN in this area is to provide technical inputs towards harmonising and integration of low-carbon considerations into national policies and development, to mainstream low-carbon considerations into land use planning and to enhance environmental management systems (such as for energy, chemicals, waste, etc.) and prevent air and water pollution.
- The UN will support the implementation of climate change and ozone layer depletion mitigation actions, which will enable Malaysia to meet its Paris Agreement and Montreal Protocol targets, respectively.
- Finally, this Collaborative Output will depend heavily on creating mechanisms for transformative behaviour changes and expanding societal awareness regarding both the benefits of green growth and sustainable consumption as well as creating more awareness of the risks of failing to make this transition.

- **Collaborative Output 2.2: Natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems are sustainably managed, adequately protected and conserved for long-term economic and environmental sustainability.**

As one of the world’s great reservoirs of biodiversity and ecosystems, Malaysia’s environment is critical to both national and global well-being and sustainability.

- To support Malaysia in safeguarding its rich ecological resources, the UN will support the Government and civil society to mainstream the concepts of biodiversity conservation into the national and subnational development agenda.
- The UN, in support of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), will collaborate with agencies to promote strengthening of policies, the regulatory framework and associated capacities to secure protected areas in alignment with integrated spatial and land use planning, while ensuring inclusive socio-economic benefits from the conservation of biological diversity. UN support for policy/legislative strengthening and mainstreaming will be based on expanded and improved data collection and analysis which form the basis of effective policies, and which enable better monitoring and evaluation of results.

- The UN will also promote and support the more sustainable use and management of natural resources and biodiversity conservation, with special attention to the rights and needs of local and/or poor and vulnerable groups.
- In order to more fully engage the private sector, financial institutions, and civil society organisations in creating a more sustainable development model, the UN will support the design and scaling up of rights-based, inclusive and innovative conservation financing mechanisms at the national and subnational levels.
- Finally, the UN will encourage and support processes to monitor compliance with environmental laws, policies and practices that are non-discriminatory, non-retrogressive and otherwise respect, protect and fulfil human rights, including by engaging with civil society and local communities, as well as the private sector and finance sectors to provide a valuation of ecosystem services, and promote sustainable supply chains for commodities.

• **Collaborative Output 2.3: Prevention, preparedness and resilience (especially of indigenous, poor and vulnerable groups) against climate change, natural hazards, and disaster risks are strengthened.**

Although Malaysia is not as highly vulnerable to disasters as some of its neighbours, periodic flooding, dry spells, cross-border issues such as haze, and the medium- and long-term risks associated with climate change all require enhanced efforts to prevent, mitigate and/or respond to these situations, the biggest impact of which is often on the most poor and vulnerable in the communities. Due to its proximity to countries that are highly vulnerable to natural hazards and disasters, Malaysia could see an increase in climate-related migration.

- The UN will facilitate regional and South-South Cooperation on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction (DRR) to mitigate negative impacts on the population and the economy, for example through regional forums such as the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. Malaysia has also been very engaged in the Asia Pacific Sciences and Technology (S&T) for DRR Advisory Group.
- The UN will also support the generation of evidence to inform policies that internalise financing and technology solutions to address climate change, natural hazards and disaster risks, prevent the creation of new risks and environmental disasters through improved practices across all sectors, and ensure that these policies reflect the risks on health and protection for children and other poor and vulnerable groups.
- The UN will complement the Malaysian Government's work to implement climate change adaptation efforts, strengthen DRR, mainstream risk reduction and preparedness into infrastructure development investment planning, business continuity, and land-use planning, and will strengthen disaster preparedness and response capabilities for the most poor and vulnerable groups, supported by partnerships with CSOs and academia. In addition, the UN will continue its support for the collection, reporting and analysis of disaster damage and loss data through the online Sendai Framework Monitor and a national disaster loss database.
- Finally, the UN will support in the establishment of platforms to enable citizen participation in policy dialogue, and will collaborate in awareness-raising activities to support sensitising the Malaysian public, and particularly the most vulnerable, regarding risks associated with climate change and how these may be mitigated.



PILLAR 3: PROSPERITY



SPA 3:

Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth

By 2025, Malaysia is making meaningful³⁰ progress towards an economy that is inclusive, innovative and sustainable across all income groups and productive sectors.

Achievements, Gaps and Challenges

Malaysia's vibrant and dynamic economy is the third largest in South-East Asia, and the 36th largest in the world (2022). Malaysian labour productivity is significantly higher than in neighbouring Thailand, Indonesia, Philippines and Viet Nam, due to a high density of knowledge-based industries and adoption of cutting-edge technology for manufacturing and the digital economy. Malaysia's economy has been transformed from one based primarily on agriculture and the export of raw materials (rubber and tin) to one that is among the strongest, most diversified, and fastest growing in South-East Asia, increasingly driven by internal demand, being the 24th largest export economy in the world (2022). Strategically located at the heart of ASEAN, Malaysia is well positioned as a hub destination for foreign investors seeking to access the region. The Government continues to facilitate inward investment in high-tech and capital-intensive activities that specifically results in technology transfer. Primary production remains important: the country is a major producer of rubber and palm oil, exports considerable quantities of petroleum and natural gas, and is one of the world's largest sources of commercial hardwoods. At the same time, Malaysia's export-oriented manufacturing and services sectors are well developed and have been responsible for fueling the country's economic growth in recent decades. The country has successfully leveraged its comparative advantage – given by an educated and skilled labour force, well-developed infrastructure, its political and macroeconomic stability, and an open economy. International trade and investment will continue to be vital drivers of economic growth for Malaysia post-COVID-19. With the size and shape of the world economy changing dramatically, i.e. the growth of the digital economy, the rise of the service sector and the spread of international production networks, it is increasingly important for Malaysia to adjust and ensure the resulting growth is inclusive and aligned to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The country relies heavily on trade as an engine for growth (exports and imports of goods and services accounted for 65 per cent and 58 per cent, respectively, of the country's GDP in 2019), real GDP growth averaged over 6.1 per cent per annum between 1970 and 2019, while income per capita has expanded more than 30-fold in cash terms, from USD 357 in 1970 to USD 11,414 in 2019. These patterns of growth vary by state/region, income group and gender, and the SPV 2030 and the Malaysia MADANI vision aims to address these disparities with a whole-of-nation approach to ensure that the benefits of growth and development are more widely distributed.

Despite Malaysia's rapid growth, the objectives of the SPV 2030 and the Malaysia MADANI vision make clear that there is still a need to expand access to decent employment, housing, connectivity, and basic services for all. In addition, inequality is high and there is a large segment of the population just above the poverty line that is either unable to meet its basic necessities, or is highly vulnerable to sliding back into poverty due to shocks at the family or community level. Malaysia continues to benefit from an ongoing demographic transition, with a relatively larger share of working-age adults (versus dependents). However, in the coming years, these benefits will begin to decline as Malaysia's population starts to age further. The Government should take the first steps in preparing for a progressively ageing population. Based on current trends and defining the elderly population as those over 60 years of age, Malaysia will meet the criteria for being an ageing nation in 2020 (when the elderly are expected to exceed 7 per cent of the population), and that of an aged nation by 2030 (when the elderly are set to reach 15 per cent of the population)³¹. Malaysia must prepare its policy and programme development to cater to the increasing ageing population, in particular with respect to housing and medical care.

The backlash against globalisation, especially in some developed economies, gives strong evidence that, despite indispensable positive net effects of trade, there is a need for adequate social policies to support those adversely affected by trade and investment liberalisation, and to ensure that trade contributes to inclusive development and is in full compliance with human rights standards. The country has a renewed focus on reducing inequality and making sustainable improvements in individual

30. "Meaningful" as used in the UNSDCF refers to policies and approaches that include social well-being and inclusivity and make maximum use of innovation, including related to technology.

31. DOSM projected data - older persons aged 60 years and above: 2020, 10.7%; 2030, 15.3%; and 2040, 19.8%.

and societal well-being, which calls for reforms with respect to access to quality education, social protection, improved labour force participation for all but especially women and older persons, protection of workers, health care, pension adequacy and the inclusiveness of the tax and transfer system.

The size of the employment gender gap is not consistent across all age cohorts (Labour Force Survey Report, Malaysia, 2017). Women's participation in the workforce, measured by the labour force participation rate (LFPR), declined for most age cohorts, while the rate for men remained consistently high across the highest wage / most productive age range (25-54 years old). The female versus male labour force participation gap is smallest among those 25-29 years of age, and widest in the 50-54 years age cohort. In 2019, the main reason men cited for not seeking work was education (63.8 per cent), while most women did not seek employment due to housework and family responsibilities (60.7 per cent, compared to only 3.5 per cent men who cited this reason).

Domestic measures undertaken to stem COVID-19 infections and the global recession had a significant impact on Malaysia's GDP in 2020 and 2021, via reduced incomes and consumption and depressed exports. These impacts likely persist and have an ongoing effect, given constrained investment and capital inflows. Despite the challenges arising from COVID-19, the Malaysian Government continues to encourage open trade and investment, and has adopted policies based on the principles of fairness, efficiency, and productivity.

The Government plans to address its shortfall in tax revenue, compared to its investment needs, by rationalising spending and stemming corruption, as well as by ensuring overall economic growth. The post-pandemic recession, and with it, growing unemployment and declining trading conditions, will lead in the near term to reduced government revenues. In the medium term, coupled with stimulus spending, the slowdown has the potential to drive increased levels of debt and servicing costs.

Counterpart recessionary impacts at the household level will include unemployment, reduced opportunities, and declining incomes. In turn, consumption and savings will be reduced. These impacts are likely to persist after the pandemic has abated. Cash flow constraints and income losses tend to be disproportionately felt by MSMEs, and vulnerable individuals including part-time and unemployed workers.

Government COVID-19 response packages adopted during 2020 succeeded in stimulating the economy while also protecting the vulnerable from hardship³². The outlays, under successive rounds of the PRIHATIN and PENJANA packages, were sizeable. Total support in 2020 amounted to MYR 305 billion (21.6 per cent of GDP), including a fiscal injection of MYR 55 billion (3.8 per cent of GDP). In 2021, the Government announced further support under the PERMAI package and two rounds of the PEMERKASA programme.

In 2021, the Government announced further support under the PERMAI package and two rounds of the PEMERKASA programme. These packages represent MYR 75 billion of total support (estimated at 5.3 per cent of GDP), including a fiscal injection of MYR 18.3 billion (estimated at 1.4 per cent of GDP).



32. COVID-19 in Malaysia: Economic Impacts & Fiscal Responses, Institute of Strategic & International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia, 2020
<https://www.isis.org.my/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/COVID19-article-Calvin6.pdf>

Full details are provided in the table below:

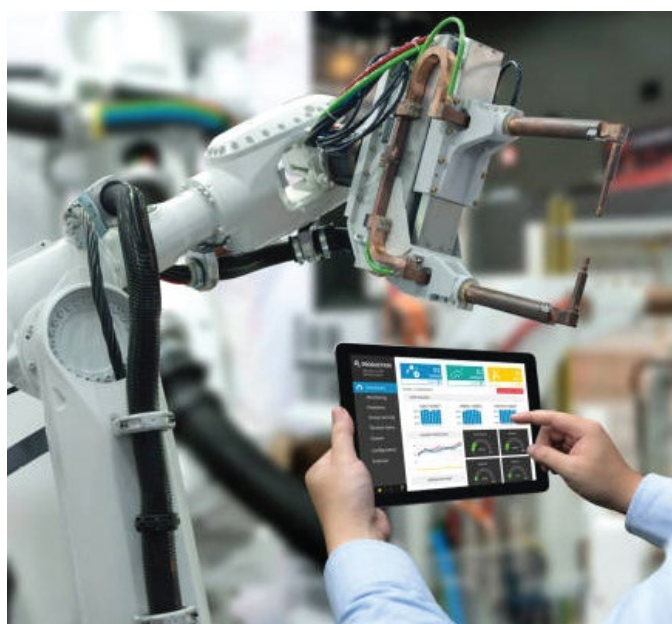
| PACKAGE | Pre-PRIHATIN | PRIHATIN | PRIHATIN SME+ | PENJANA | Kita PRIHATIN | PERMAI | PEMERKASA | PEMERKASA+ |
|---------------------------|--------------|----------|---------------|---------|---------------|--------|-----------|------------|
| Date announced | Feb-20 | Mar-20 | Apr-20 | Jun-20 | Sep-20 | Jan-21 | Mar-21 | May-21 |
| Total support (MYR bn) | 19.7 | 230.3 | 10 | 35 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 40 |
| % of GDP | 1.4 | 16.3 | 0.7 | 2.5 | 0.7 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 2.8 |
| Fiscal injection (MYR bn) | 3.2 | 21.8 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 2.3 | 11 | 5 |
| % of GDP | 0.2 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.4 |

Table 2

Additionally, the 2021 budget prioritised measures to support the post-pandemic recovery. Some 14 per cent of total spending (MYR 46.5 billion) was earmarked for health, social and economic measures.

In 2019, the last year before the pandemic, MSMEs' contribution to GDP was 38.9 per cent (DOSM). MSME value added within the service sector recorded growth of 7.4 per cent (2019). Growth was driven by the wholesale and retail trade, food and beverage and accommodation sub-sector. In the manufacturing sector, the MSME value added moderated to 4.5 per cent (2019) led by petroleum, chemical, rubber and plastic products (growth of 4.3 per cent). Non-metallic mineral products, basic metal and fabricated metal products and food, beverages and tobacco sub-sector registered growth at 4.9 and 3.3 per cent, respectively (DOSM, 2020).

Malaysia has recorded progressively stronger post-pandemic GDP growth - of 3.1 per cent in 2021, and a striking, 8.7 per cent in 2022. However, the recovery has been uneven between sectors and regions. In addition, projections for 2023 and 2024 are weaker, given the volatile global outlook³³. Malaysia has enjoyed success in actively promoting digitalisation of the economy and adoption of Industry 4.0 technologies. This has been to drive improvements in productivity and deliver better socio-economic outcomes. But there are distributional questions to be addressed, and the potential advantages that recent technological developments offer in narrowing inequalities by expanding livelihood and other opportunities need also to be harnessed. Experience from the COVID-19 pandemic has also shown the importance of e-commerce for maintaining economic activity and the supply of key goods and services during the crisis. Use of these platforms and online working modalities are now central to post-pandemic, new-normal work practices. Malaysia is delivering these aims via implementation of the Digital Interlocking Plan (Pelan Jalanan Digital Negara - JENDELA), adoption of the 10-year Digital Economy Blueprint and participation in the ASEAN Connectivity Agenda. The UN will support these efforts, specifically by emphasising the use of digital technology in ensuring inclusive growth and development, and in leaving no one behind.



33. DOSM website accessed in 2023 and Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).



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Collaborative Outputs

The pathways of change articulated in the Theory of Change, above, are summarised under the four Collaborative Outputs outlined below for UN response and contribution.

- **Collaborative Output 3.1: Inclusive growth and decent work also tap into new sources of economic growth and the Future of Work trends.**

Like many countries seeking to remain competitive in a rapidly changing global environment, Malaysia aims to shift its economic growth and development strategies to be more innovative and sustainable.

- The UN will therefore support Malaysia in the design of policies, strategies and programmes to support the shift to IR 4.0 and sustainable practices, while ensuring that the country remains competitive, inclusive and focused on reducing inequalities and allocating maximum available resources towards economic and social rights. This is particularly important in furthering regional and local economic development.
- In line with the SPV 2030, and to support Malaysia in providing increased opportunities for decent work and fair compensation for the entire population (particularly the B40 and, within that group, the most poor and vulnerable groups, the B1 and B10), the UN will support Malaysia in analysing the Future of Work, which includes automation and augmentation, and IR 4.0 organisational transformation, as well as reskilling and upskilling, as it affects the country. Based on that analysis, the UN will then support Malaysia to design policies and strategies to ensure decent employment within the new and dynamic context so that all segments of the population can share in the benefits. This will be done in collaboration with the Ministry of Economy.
- Just as it will support emerging policies addressing access to legal work for refugees, the UN will also support the expansion of policies and programmes that lead to greater financial inclusion, including greater access to credit and investment, especially those aimed at benefitting those at risk of being left behind in the new economy.
- Given that adolescents constitute a large proportion of the nation's human capital, and given that many adolescents and youth are currently employed in the informal sector without opportunities for decent work and adequate remuneration, the UN will prioritise its support to policies and programmes to strengthen youth employment and entrepreneurship, such as enhancing technical/vocational skills in order to match future market demand and to meet the challenges of the circular economy and IR 4.0.
- Finally, the UN will coordinate among its member Agencies to ensure that targeted support is provided to the Government in strengthening the vocational education system, labour market governance, and industrial policy frameworks, and incentives for research and development and innovation. This will also focus in line with Government objectives, on regional and local economic development policy dimensions.

- **Collaborative Output 3.2: Further advances are made towards women's equality in the economy.**

Malaysia has long been committed to gender equality as a prerequisite for national development, as is made clear in Thrust 3 (Human Capital Development) of the SPV 2030. This is exemplified by a focus on reducing barriers and to raising the LFPR of women and providing for their economic empowerment to contribute to even faster growth and more widely shared benefits. To help further advance these efforts, the UN will utilise its comparative advantage to support the Government in several ways.

- First, the UN will support promoting the recognition of, and investment in, the care economy, including through a nationwide campaign to debunk the gender stereotypes that underlie the unequal division of labour at home.
- Second, the UN will provide its expertise to strengthen policies and institutions promoting and monitoring the situation of women and ensure that these make full use of relevant gender-disaggregated data and gender analysis, especially in relation to the differing economic impact on women in a rapidly ageing population.
- Third, to ensure that women entrepreneurs can move up the value chain – especially poor women, whom the Government has prioritised as beneficiaries in the past – the UN will also assist in reconceptualising existing economic empowerment programmes, and will provide support to ensure that all the necessary linkages are put into place (e.g. access to credit, better skills, larger markets, etc.) for women to accrue sufficient savings for their old age.
- Finally, the UN will emphasise prioritising programme interventions as well as assessing the potential for reallocating and/or enhancing the efficiency of current expenditures to meet gender equality targets, through gender-responsive participatory budgeting.

- **Collaborative Output 3.3: Adoption of corporate practices that are aligned to SDGs and international standards of upholding principles of social justice, transparency, accountability and sustainability while promoting economic development.**

While government laws, policies, programmes and regulations constitute the framework within which economic development takes place, the engine of economic growth and decent employment is, by and large, the private sector.

- To strengthen the commitment and role of the private sector with respect to the changing paradigm for global development, the UN will work with private sector companies and leaders in a coordinated way to advocate for the implementation of international standards and norms aligned with the SDGs reflecting national priorities and the Constitution. These include taking account of, and responding to, the principles of social justice (e.g. increased focused on merit-based employment and non-discrimination by gender, age or ethnicity), transparency (including publication of data on private sector investment and employment practices and their effect on poor and vulnerable groups), accountability (particularly to combat corruption) and sustainability (related to efforts to make private sector practices and investments more ecologically sustainable and disaster resilient, in line with the SDGs, government policies and regulations). The Twelfth Plan introduced initiatives to increase transparency of employment activities, and the UN system will work hand in hand with the Ministry of Economy and other actors to support this work.
- The UN will also work to identify ways in which it can expand more sustainable and responsible investment to respond positively to environmental and social challenges faced by the society.
- In addition, the UN will work with the private sector within the framework of “Business and Human Rights” and “Business Principles for Child Rights”. In this respect, the UN will facilitate dialogue between various actors and the Global Compact of businesses supporting the SDGs and will also facilitate the sharing of good practices so that these may be scaled up by others in the private sector.
- The UN will also support the Government (on policy reform) and the private sector (on management systems) to eliminate forced labour.

- **Collaborative Output 3.4: Competitive, sustainable and inclusive urban development that supports social and economic well-being for the population.**

Together with government partners (e.g. federal ministries and subnational governments), the UN will support Malaysia, as one of the most urbanised countries in South-East Asia, address the needs of its urban areas and achieve truly sustainable and equitable growth through better facilities, utilities and employment opportunities, in line also with the New Urban Agenda:

- The UN will provide assistance where required towards empowerment of local authorities and will support the creation of urban observatories. The proposed development of the national-level Malaysian Urban Observatory (MUO), and observatories at the subsequent levels, will greatly improve tracking of local SDG progress and facilitate evidence-based spatial planning, taking into account factors such as population dynamics and gender balance, economic trends, urbanisation needs, preservation of natural resources, adaptation to climate and disaster risks.
- This will include technical inputs and collaboration with agencies towards effective implementation of policy, development plans, technology and financing to reduce and manage pollution and waste, as well as localised interventions such as those related to increased connectivity and transport.
- The UN will also support mobilisation of innovative financing instruments for urban development to improve housing development, waste management systems, urban green space management, green transportation, commercial and industrial development, which emphasise sustainable value chains and decent employment, leading to enhanced living standards for urban populations.
- Finally, the UN will engage with local authorities in urban areas to identify pathways to increasing urban competitiveness and resilience, reducing urban poverty, and to provide alternatives to urban migration, while also enhancing employability of youth, women and poor and vulnerable groups.

PILLAR 4: PEACE



SPA 4:

Social Cohesion, Governance and Human Rights

By 2025, Malaysia has strengthened democratic governance, and all people living in Malaysia benefit from a more cohesive society, strengthened governance and participation.

Achievements, Gaps and Challenges

There has been an overall shift in Malaysia's development planning focus from "macroeconomic resilience" to "more meaningful economic growth"³⁴. A key tenet of this shift is embedded in governance reform through greater transparency and public-service efficiency³⁵. A focus on good governance, accountability and transparency, at the institutional and individual level, and keeping social consciousness and environmental sustainability at the centre of economic growth have been identified as being critical to Malaysia avoiding the "middle-income trap" and achieving its full potential, in line with the priorities of SDG 16, including peace/social cohesion, governance and human rights. The MTR of the Eleventh Plan lays out a holistic and high-impact agenda for governance reforms, reflecting the broad need for greater separation of powers across the executive, legislature and judiciary, strengthening checks and balances, and other specific aspects, including electoral reforms, strengthening anticorruption efforts, etc. The SPV 2030 also reinforces these reforms as continuing priorities.

One of the hallmarks of a democratic nation can be seen in the degree of independence, transparency and inclusivity of its institutions, as noted in the MTR of the Eleventh Plan's agenda for governance reforms, and the inclusivity of its political processes — processes which, in essence, determine and reflect the ultimate will and representation of the people. These processes are seen in electoral institutions that are inclusive and responsive to the population, political parties that reflect the spectrum of values and ideologies of the society, and legislative bodies that are truly representative. The "Sustaining Peace and Good Governance Goal" (SDG 16) has specific significance for parliamentarians. SDG 16 aims to "promote peaceful and inclusive societies, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels", with targets 16.6 and 16.7 directly fitting with parliamentarian roles. Another important element is space for civil society, dissenting voices and freedom of media, which has regained ground in recent times, to be further consolidated and professionalised. Malaysia's legal framework should provide increased protection against discrimination, abuse, stigmatisation and harassment on the basis of age, gender, race, disability or other characteristics, and this protection should be effectively enforced.

The focus on greater accountability in the governance pillar of the MTR of the Eleventh Plan also means expanding public participation in policymaking, ensuring that development plans are inclusive, and taking into account local contexts and constituency-specific realities. Therefore, any significant reform of governance policies must necessarily touch on challenging issues, emphasising the need for inclusive engagement with stakeholders. The role of civil society in governance reform is vital in terms of it playing a constructive role in policy debates on reform, thereby ensuring inclusion as well as making civil society a partner in monitoring governance performance and in delivering public services to specific target communities.

The current state of federal-state-local government relations is also key. There is a need for increased policy coherence and implementation coordination across levels of government in order to enhance the effectiveness of development results in Malaysia. Thus, a clearer understanding of the linkages between processes and stronger and more extensive engagement at subnational levels are entry points for intervention.

Also important is the fact that, although Malaysia's various plans and policies have articulated variations on the themes of social stability, social integration and social cohesion, the overall scope remains quite limited. In line with the MTR of the Eleventh Plan, a National Unity Advisory Council was formed in 2020 and emphasis has been placed on a needs-based approach and, with the SPV 2030, on equitable outcomes. In March 2020, a new Ministry of National Unity was formed to take this important agenda forward. Consistent engagement at all levels (policy, institutional and community) is required to holistically address these issues and ensure inclusion.

34. Ministry of Economy, Mid-term Review of the Eleventh Malaysia Plan, 2016–2020: New Priorities and Emphases, Putrajaya: Economic Planning Unit, 2018, pp. viii-ix.

35. The other five pillars are: inclusive development and well-being, balanced regional development, empowering human capital, green growth for environmental sustainability, and, lastly, strengthening economic growth.

The COVID-19 crisis disproportionately impacted poor and vulnerable groups. Malaysia recorded a spike in gender based violence (GBV), and the lack of routine data collection and inclusion of GBV in national surveys hampers efforts to mitigate its prevalence in an effective manner. The pandemic has further deepened the issues faced by undocumented persons, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers – in relation to legal access to services and squalid living conditions that have put them at greater risk of infection.

It is essential to note that the inclusion and participation of women, youth and children remains a major challenge. This is evidenced by the low political participation of women (as measured by their active engagement and parity in leadership positions or in the legislature). For instance, while women make up almost 60 per cent of the civil service (excluding the police and the military), the 15th General Elections of 2022 and the current Government brought about five women ministers and eight deputy ministers; 13.6 per cent of seats in the lower house of Parliament, and only 19.4 per cent of seats in the upper house³⁶. In the corporate sector, women only hold 17.7 per cent of board seats in publicly listed companies (against a target of 30 per cent)³⁷. Youth under 30³⁸ also constitute a significant proportion of Malaysia's population, and, with the recent lowering of the voting age to 18, youth now form a significant proportion of the electorate in the future. Currently, there are inadequate opportunities for the engagement and participation of adolescents in national and subnational decision-making processes that affect their well-being, as well as in political processes. Responding to these challenges will be key to: ensuring that the potential of Malaysia's youthful human capital is maximised; building a cohesive, inclusive and caring society; and developing values and gender and social norms to allow young people to feel that they have a stake in the nation's development, and that they have the power and opportunity to contribute to decision-making that affects them. Hence, additional targeted interventions aimed at youth participation are needed, especially in decision-making, productive work, social cohesion and political processes.

Collaborative Outputs

The pathways of change articulated in the Theory of Change, above, are summarised under the three Collaborative Outputs outlined below for UN response and contribution. These three Collaborative Outputs align well with the SPV 2030 guiding principles of "Unity in Diversity", "Democracy and Stability" and "Integrity and Governance".

- **Collaborative Output 4.1: Malaysia makes significant progress towards inter-ethnic and cultural harmony and cohesion.**

As set out in the MTR of the Eleventh Plan, in the SPV 2030 and the Malaysia MADANI vision, the Government's priority is to strengthen social cohesion. The UN is positioned to support this priority within the overall context of supporting long-term sustainability of the ongoing governance reforms and supporting a rights-based approach to social and economic development.

- To support Malaysia's progress towards a tolerant and harmonious society respectful of the rights of its diverse populations, as enshrined in the Constitution, UN support will include providing technical assistance to assess existing laws and policies and their coherence with international good practices, norms and standards to strengthen social cohesion, reduce any underlying social tensions.
- The UN will also support the strengthening or convening of spaces for dialogue among the various constituent parts of Malaysia's population, including national dialogues, media fora, and the constructive role of existing institutions such as universities, religious and social organisations, etc. In line with the SDGs, the UN will give particular attention to problems facing women, and especially in supporting efforts to eliminate violence against women.
- In addition, the UN will support efforts to celebrate diversity as citizens of a multicultural society. To enhance Malaysia's viability in local and global business spaces, the UN will seek to strengthen dialogue between civil society and the private sector with respect to developing and implementing the national action plan on "Business and Human Rights."
- Finally, the UN will continue to support Malaysia's efforts to prevent violent extremism through increased social dialogue and collaboration with the Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other relevant agencies, and civil society organisations promoting understanding and tolerance, thereby tackling the root causes of the phenomenon, in line with UN experience elsewhere and with the UN's comparative advantages in Malaysia

36. See links:
<https://www.nst.com.my/news/politics/2022/12/859408/full-list-deputy-ministers-announced-pm-anwar>
<https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2022/11/20/ge15-31-women-win-parliamentary-seats-15-win-state-seats>
<https://www.kabinet.gov.my/bkpp/index.php/anggota-pentadbiran/menteri>

37. Source for women on PLC board seats
<https://www.sc.com.my/api/documentms/download.ashx?id=aa1a0385-f2fe-473e-8499-5876a1ad85ea>
 38. <https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2019/07/501288/youth-now-defined-those-between-15-and-30>

- **Collaborative Output 4.2: Institutions are more capable of undertaking inclusive political processes and are more citizen-centric and protective of fundamental freedoms.**

To support Malaysia in strengthening inclusivity of political processes, mainstreaming of gender to promote women's participation will be a key element. These processes are seen in electoral institutions that are inclusive and responsive to the population, political parties that reflect the spectrum of values and ideologies of the society, and legislative bodies that are truly representative.

- The UN will also assist electoral reform efforts through the sharing of relevant good practices and experiences in other countries and will support the designing of the best solutions for the Malaysian context.
- To bolster efforts on parliamentary reforms, the UN will seek to facilitate a mutual understanding between the executive and legislative branch for Parliament to become an independent body and subsequently to support the strengthening of institutions, such as the Parliamentary Secretariat and State Assembly, as well as processes and mechanisms, research capacities, communication strategies, etc.
- The UN will also support bolstering the political apparatus of the Parliament, such as by supporting the strengthened functioning of the newly established select committees, the rules of procedures, the all-party parliamentary group(s), capacities of the members of Parliament in discharging their role as effective legislators and to better engage with constituents, etc.
- With respect to political parties, the UN will support efforts to promote inclusionary and ideology-based politics, promoting gender equality and empowerment within parties, etc.
- Moreover, upon request, the UN can provide impartial technical assistance on the drafting and amendment of policies, laws and regulations and institutional reforms.
- Finally, the UN will seek to strengthen the capacities of institutions to promote citizen empowerment through fundamental freedoms; and that of civil society to engage in advocacy, monitoring and engagement with institutions; as well as promote freedom of expression and access to information that comes with responsibilities to protect the rights for all, particularly poor and vulnerable groups, adolescents and women.

- **Collaborative Output 4.3: The system of checks and balances across branches of government is strengthened at national and subnational levels, core government functions are more responsive and efficient, and people have better access to services.**

- In supporting this area, the UN will work with justice sector institutions to strengthen judiciary systems and processes to ensure access to justice for all, and will promote policy coherence, efficiency and accountability of core government institutions.
- The UN will also work with law enforcement actors to enhance their capacities to counter terrorism and its financing in compliance with international legal requirements, including human rights and rule of law safeguards.
- In addition, the UN will work at the subnational level with state and local authorities to support the localisation of the SDGs and to demonstrate government responsiveness to citizens through enhanced public service delivery.
- On the demand side, the UN will support expanded access to justice by remote communities, sensitising and educating people to better understand their rights to state services, and strengthening the demand for and use of legal aid systems, and promoting a more conducive environment for self-represented litigants. Where appropriate, these outreach initiatives will include awareness-raising in collaboration with SEARCCT and civil society on the prevention of violent extremism.
- The UN will continue to support national efforts on governance, integrity and anticorruption to ensure the National Anti-Corruption Plan (NACP) 2019–2023 will be successfully implemented to increase transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness of institutions.



Members of the United Country Team (UNCT) during the UNCT Retreat in September 2024.

2.6 Enhancing Results through Coordination and Partnerships

The results that the UN in Malaysia is aspiring to contribute to during the five years covered by the UNSDCF as set out in the Strategic Priority Areas and Collaborative Outputs, will be enhanced through effective coordination and building of critical partnerships, primarily with the Government at national and subnational levels, and with the private sector, civil society and academia – led by the UN Resident Coordinator System and SDG Results Group chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator. The Office of the UN Resident Coordinator will facilitate the provision of UN technical assistance upon request by state governments. The following cross-cutting processes and strategies will be supported with the aim of catalysing and multiplying SDG achievements:

- **Policy Support for Development Planning and Budgeting related to the SDGs:**

Malaysia has rightly recognised that the planning and budgeting processes are the key tools to foster SDG achievement. Building on past cooperation to align these processes with the SDGs:

- The UN will provide coordinated support across the four result areas of the UNSDCF to support the Government to transition to developed status and achieve the “sharing of prosperity” with those populations that may not currently be benefiting fully from national development.
- Similarly, UN support in each of the four Strategic Priority Areas will involve supporting Government authorities and other stakeholders to analyse the resource requirements to reach the SDGs, including costing of both Government policies/interventions and the opportunity cost of not intervening appropriately and sustainably.
- Where appropriate, the UN may be able to draw Malaysia’s attention to successful SDG-related investment strategies in similar countries and provide technical assistance for the adaptation of these approaches in Malaysia.
- Through its global system, including country offices in virtually all upper-middle-income countries, the UN has access to global experts, experience and good practices that it will make available to Malaysia through its policy advisory teams.
- All the Strategic Priority Areas contained in the UNSDCF include a significant focus on providing world-class advice to the Government to support Malaysia’s achievement of the SDGs and its vision of shared prosperity.

- **SDG Progress Monitoring, Evaluation, Data and Research:**

Strengthened monitoring of trends in SDG-related policies, programmes and indicators is essential for Malaysia to have an evidence-based approach to reaching the SDGs by 2030:

- The national monitoring system is still under development, and the UNCT is supporting Phase 2 of the SDG Progress Monitoring System.
- Across all four SPAs within the UNSDCF, the UN will advocate and support Malaysia to strengthen SDG-related indicator data and monitoring and reporting mechanisms.
- The UN will support the Government in the further development of an SDG indicator system in order to measure progress.
- The Resident Coordinator’s Office and UN Agencies will also support Malaysia in its reporting on progress to the global level (e.g. VNRs at the UN’s High-Level Political Forum, etc.).
- Where gaps have been identified in the availability and mechanisms to collect data on SDG indicators, including subnational and disaggregated data, the UN Agencies with relevant specialised expertise will support Malaysia in designing and implementing data collection and reporting mechanisms and utilising existing tools to collect and report relevant data on national progress.
- The UN will also support the relevant ministries and state/local governments in making effective use of SDG-related data in designing and operationalising economic and social development policies and programmes that support the extension of the benefits of the country’s development as widely as possible, as foreseen in the SPV 2030.

- **SDG Financing (including from non-traditional sources):**

Traditionally, development financing has come principally from the public sector and from official development assistance (ODA). The 2015 Financing for Development Summit, held in Addis Ababa on the eve of the adoption of the SDGs by the UN General Assembly, made clear that the investment required to achieve the SDGs by 2030 will exceed those traditional sources of financing:

- The UN will support Malaysia in analysing possibilities for expanding progressive taxation to reduce inequalities and increasing fiscal space for the allocation of “maximum available resources” towards economic and social rights.
- In addition, the UN will support Malaysia across all the UNSDCF Strategic Priority Areas to identify possible sources, including non-traditional ones for financing SDG efforts (including Islamic financing/Zakat, the private sector, civil society/crowdfunding, etc.).

- In each case, the UN will assist in establishing a dialogue to ascertain the capacity, interest and feasibility of mobilising funding from these non-traditional sources, and in establishing monitoring mechanisms to track the amounts mobilised.
- As in other sectors, drawing on its global resources, the UN will also monitor innovative financing strategies and sources mobilised by other upper-middle and high-income countries and will make information on these good practices available to Malaysia for their potential adoption.

- **Social Dialogue and Multi-stakeholder Platforms:**

Malaysia's "whole-of-nation" approach to the SDGs is fully in line with the call in the SDGs for all sectors of society to participate in, and contribute to, SDG achievement, and all the Strategic Priority Areas included in the UNSDCF foresee a role for the UN in fostering social dialogue and convening multiple stakeholders:

- A key element to mobilising society – with both organised institutions such as academia, the media, faith-based organisations, etc. and the broader civil society and private sector — to support the SDGs is for them to have access to the real scope of the challenges facing the country, and particularly its most poor and vulnerable groups. Given the UN's credibility and expertise, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator's Office the UN will support Malaysia in the convening of a wide range of stakeholders to further catalyse a whole-of-nation approach to the SDGs.
- It will support this dialogue and coordination through multi-stakeholder platforms (including conferences, virtual meetings and spaces, social media, etc.), thereby expanding the alliance of partners interested in, and committed to, Malaysia's achievement of the SDGs.
- In addition, a more robust engagement with civil society, academia and the private sector will be established to provide inputs and stakeholder oversight of the UNSDCF itself through a Civil Society and Academia Advisory Group and a Business Advisory Group (see section on UNSDCF Governance, below).

- **Global Partnerships/South-South Cooperation:**

As one of the most advanced upper-middle-income countries and one that may still reach high-income status during the next several years despite the COVID-19 crisis, Malaysia can benefit both from the successful experiences of other countries and by sharing its own progress and good practices with others. Malaysia's global partnership for development via global and South-South Cooperation can provide strategic leveraging of its influence in multilateral mechanisms both regionally (e.g. ASEAN) and globally to push for necessary action for achievement of the 2030 Agenda, especially those involving cross-border issues:

- The various SPAs included in the present UNSDCF all detail areas in which the UN can foster interchange of experience and good practices between Malaysia and other countries with similar characteristics.
- Cross-border issues such as air pollution or climate change are referred in the document, and opportunities for showcasing Malaysia's experiences and contributing to South-South Cooperation are mentioned. Regional forums, including ASEAN, APEC and issue-specific forums such as the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management offer a range of opportunities for Malaysia to both share its own good practices and lessons learned, and to benefit from those of other countries.
- The UN Resident Coordinator's Office will provide an overview of UN support to the mechanism of South-South Cooperation, including facilitating international contacts intended for the two-way exchange of experiences. In this respect, the UN will seek to link Malaysia with relevant global experiences and thinking and will facilitate Malaysia's sharing with the global community its own successes and lessons learned.

2.7 Synergies Among the UNSDCF Strategic Priority Areas

The diverse synergies between and among the SDGs at the global level have been well analysed³⁹. In the case of Malaysia’s specific context, the UN views the synergies among the four identified Strategic Priority Areas as shown in the following table:

| | SPA 1: Leaving No One Behind - Ensuring a prosperous nation through inclusivity and well-being for all | SPA 2: Environment, Climate Change, and Resilience |
|--|--|---|
| Pillar 1: People  | | <p>The local environment is often negatively affected by those left behind whose consumption and production patterns contribute to environmental degradation. UN support under SPA 2 aims to improve responsible and sustainable consumption and production practices, reducing environmental degradation and pollution that negatively affects peoples’ health, and to strengthen the resilience of Malaysia’s cities and communities to natural hazards and disasters.</p> |
| Pillar 2: Planet  | <p>Those left behind are usually the most vulnerable to environmental degradation, disasters and hazards, and climate change. UN support under SPA 1 (especially CO 1.3) focuses on raising the awareness of poor and vulnerable groups on actions they can take to improve their health, education results and social protection by taking actions to improve their own household and community environment, improved hygiene and sanitation practices, and implement more sustainable consumption and production practices.</p> | |
| Pillar 3: Prosperity  | <p>Those left behind are most often those who benefit the least from national economic growth. UN support under SPA 1 aims to support poor and vulnerable groups to strengthen their capacity to participate in the economy, especially by improving their health, nutrition, education and social protection.</p> | <p>Malaysia’s natural environment offers enormous resources on which to base sustainable growth and development, including through tourism; However, this requires activist policies to protect the environment. UN support under SPA 2 aims to help Malaysia shift to more sustainable industry, agriculture and trade, thus also contributing to continued/expanded long-term economic growth.</p> |
| Pillar 4: Peace  | <p>Those left behind are often both the practitioners and victims of harmful norms and behaviours that represent a direct threat to women and children (e.g. domestic violence), and to minorities and other disadvantaged groups in their communities (e.g. social tension and violence). UN support under SPA 1 (especially CO 1.3) aims to empower poor and vulnerable groups and communities to eliminate harmful practices and attitudes that often underlie or contribute to social tension and violence.</p> | <p>Caring for Malaysia’s environment requires national unity and social cohesion in order to agree and implement the necessary policies and practices. UN support under SPA 2 aims at helping to prevent environmental factors (such as environmental degradation, access to water, etc.) from contributing to social tensions.</p> |

39. <https://sdg.iisd.org/news/odi-paper-outlines-ways-to-address-sdg-synergies-and-trade-offs/>

| SPA 3: Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth | SPA 4: Social Cohesion, Governance and Human Rights |
|--|---|
| <p>Prosperity creates the resources and conditions (e.g. health, education and social protection) for further development of human capital. UN support under SPA 3 aims to help create employment and revenues to further invest in leaving no one behind.</p> | <p>Social cohesion, good governance and respect for human rights are fundamental to the achievement of the SDGs. UN support under SPA 4 aims to support good governance, a human rights-based approach, and equitable access to legal protection, which are pre-requisites for the design and implementation of equitable policies and plans to benefit those left behind.</p> |
| <p>Sustained prosperity requires adequate protection of the national environment. UN support under SPA 3 aims both to safeguard the natural resources required for production and to prevent costs related to the effects of environmental degradation on infrastructure and communities.</p> | <p>Since poor and vulnerable groups are the most affected by environmental degradation and at risk from natural hazards and disasters, they are often among the most disenfranchised groups and may give rise to social instabilities. UN support under SPA 4 aims to enhance the empowerment and voice of those populations most affected by or at risk from environmental problems, thereby reducing risks of social tension.</p> |
| | <p>Peace, good governance and human rights are pre-requisites for dynamic and sustainable economic growth, free from social tensions. UN support under SPA 4 aims to strengthen Malaysia's governance, legal framework and opportunities for freedom of expression to provide support for an equitable and sustainable economy in which all share in the benefits, as well as to ensure access to effective remedy where the human rights harms occur from the business activities and development projects.</p> |
| <p>Shared prosperity is a fundamental requirement for a peaceful and socially cohesive society. UN support under SPA 3 aims to enhance social cohesion and reduce social tensions by supporting the achievement of shared prosperity that provides economic opportunities to the more poor and vulnerable groups of the population.</p> | |

Table 3



CHAPTER 3: Cooperation Framework Implementation Plan



3.1 Coordination Structure

There are 20 UN Agencies working in Malaysia under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator. Nine of these are resident full time in the country, while the remainder are supporting Malaysia through projects from regional offices. The UN Resident Coordinator convenes the UN Agency Heads in regular UN Country Team meetings to coordinate on issues and initiatives relating to the UN System in Malaysia as a whole. In addition, the UN Resident Coordinator leads and represents the UN's interaction with the Government of Malaysia at the highest level and with coordinating ministries (the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Ministry of Finance). While individual UN Agencies maintain their own contacts with their respective Government counterparts on issues specific to their Agency mandate and programme. The UN Resident Coordinator also leads the Humanitarian Country Team, which is made up of those UN Agencies, NGOs and other partners with mandates and capacities to support Malaysia in the event that any humanitarian response is required to natural hazards or disasters.

3.2 Governance

The UNSDCF has been designed in close consultation with the Government, as well as consultations with multiple stakeholders³⁹. The resulting UNSDCF is closely linked with the priorities of the Government, and is explicitly linked to the Game Changers of the Twelfth Malaysia Plan. The main focus of UN cooperation in Malaysia is to support Government policies, plans and priorities related to achieving the SDGs, in line with the SDGs' guiding principles.

The UNSDCF will be overseen by a Steering Committee co-chaired by the Secretary General, Ministry of Economy and the UN Resident Coordinator and comprised of specialised staff from the Ministry of Economy and the chairs of the UNSDCF Results Groups coordinating UN support for each of the four Strategic Priority Areas (People, Planet, Prosperity and Peace), the overarching SDG Results Group that oversees and implements all overarching SDG-related work and partnerships, the Gender Results Group and other permanent or ad hoc working groups that may be established as needed. Through the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, each Results Group will coordinate closely with the officials of the Ministry of Economy and with relevant sector ministry officials. The UNCT will also regularly engage with a Civil Society and Academia Advisory Group and a Business Advisory Group towards ensuring a participatory governance structure for effective implementation of the UNSDCF and in supporting a whole-of-nation approach to SDG attainment. The UNSDCF governance structure is as shown below:



³⁹ See Annex F for details.

3.3 UNSDCF Governance Structure

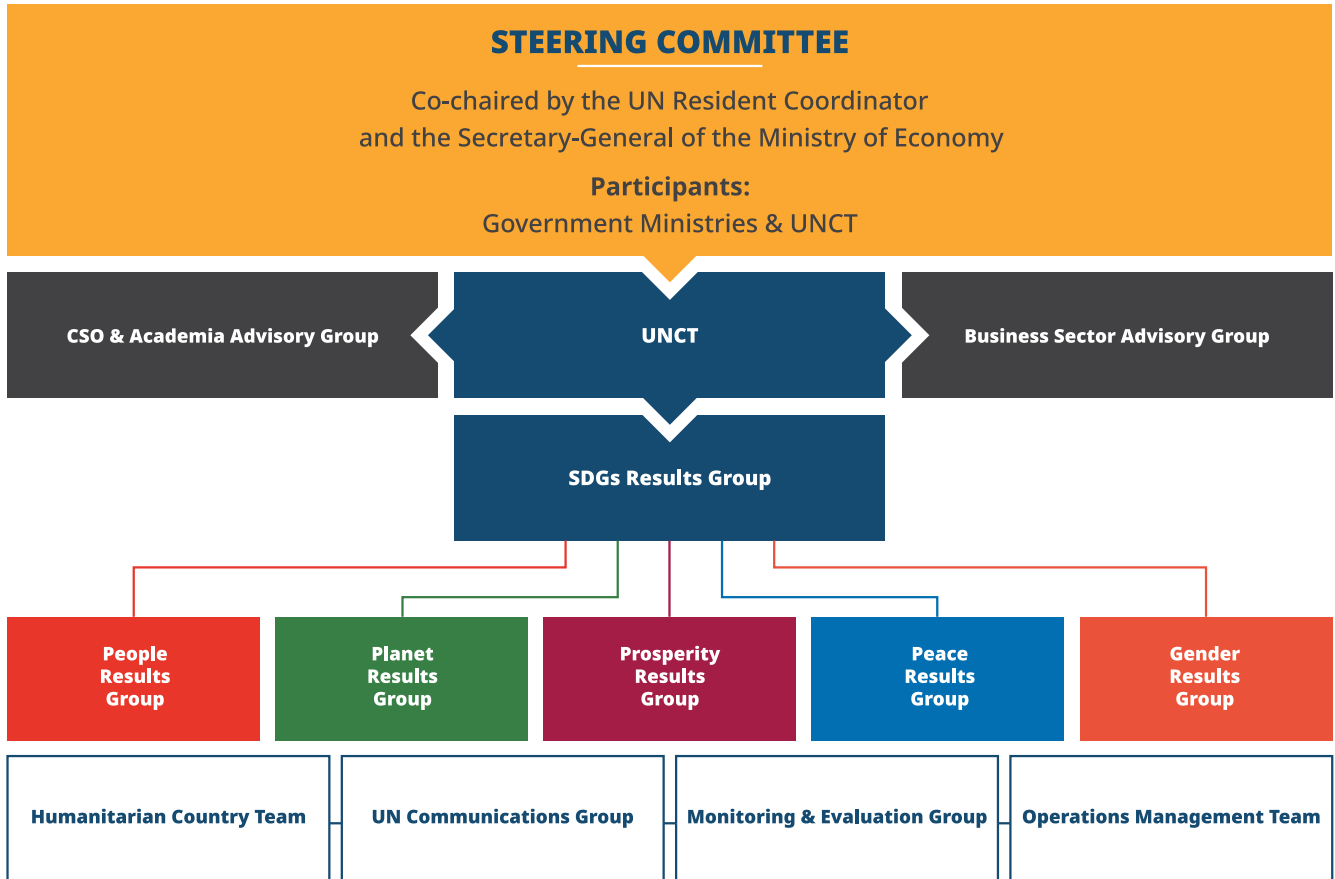


Diagram 3

The UNSDCF Steering Committee will meet semi-annually and, in addition to providing general oversight of UN cooperation in Malaysia, will also endorse Joint Rolling Workplans and will review assessments resulting from Annual Review and Planning Meetings, as well as any formal evaluations undertaken with respect to UN cooperation in the country.

Within the UN, overall inter-agency coordination and work will be overseen by the UN Resident Coordinator and the Resident Coordinator’s Office. The Results Group chairs and other working mechanisms will report to the UNCT on a regular basis on progress and constraints and will report to the UNSDCF Steering Committee at its semi-annual meetings.

Where possible, Results Groups will be aligned with and will feed into existing Government-led working structures, such as sector working groups, clusters, etc. The Results Groups will also organise periodic consultations with the national and international partners relevant to the SPAs in order to facilitate UN coherence in both representation and in contributions to external mechanisms.

3.4 Work Modalities

The UN System in Malaysia, under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator and an enhanced Resident Coordinator System, commits to work through four complementary modalities, described below, to implement the UNSDCF:

Provide high-level policy analysis and advice through integrated advisory teams to help Malaysia address complex SDG challenges and “last mile” issues faced as it transitions to developed status.

The development of joint UN programmes, including flagships that are designed to address multidimensional developmental challenges especially in the longer-term.

The coordination of integrated One-UN approaches in cross cutting strategies, such as inputs to national development planning and budgeting; SDG financing; and/or South-South Cooperation.

Programme design and quality assurance through joint work-planning, joint reporting and systematic sharing of updates - that Agency-specific projects and programmes are contributing to the common strategic priority areas, outcomes and high-level collaborative outputs that are agreed with the Government via this Cooperation Framework.

Where relevant and on request, technical assistance will be offered to state and other subnational governments within the scope of this UNSDCF.

3.5 The UN Development System in Malaysia

UN Agency Country Development Programmes

The overall UN strategy in Malaysia will be coordinated by the UN Resident Coordinator in consultation with the 20 UN Agencies working in Malaysia, including those with resident offices and staff in the country and those working in Malaysia from regional offices. The UN Resident Coordinator will oversee the preparation of the UNSDCF as the overall framework for all UN support to Malaysia during the next five years, and will review the UN Agencies’ individual Country Programme Documents (or other planning documents) with a view to ensuring alignment and coherence with the UNSDCF, identifying opportunities for synergies and complementarities, and avoiding duplication and overlap.

Support to the Government requires close coordination of UN Agencies and with strategic partners to pursue the interlinked SPAs interventions, including partnerships with:

- Federal ministries and agencies
- Academia, think tanks and research institutes
- State and local governments/authorities
- Civil society
- Parliament
- Media
- SUHAKAM
- Religious bodies
- Private sector
- International organisations
e.g. International Financial Institutions
- Financial institutions

The UN as a whole, and individual Agencies in the areas of their mandates and agreements with the Government, will principally support and engage in national efforts towards achieving the SDGs. The UN will draw on its global, regional and national expertise and knowledge resources to support Malaysia's efforts to achieve the SDGs. The UN will also foster South-South partnerships, both to give Malaysia access to good practices in other countries with similar country contexts, and to facilitate Malaysia sharing its own experience and successes with others.

Recognising that public awareness and support is essential to achieving the SDGs, the UN will support the mobilisation of awareness on the part of the public (including issues such as preventive health, early childhood care and nutrition, sustainable production and consumption, and the importance of social cohesion and non-discrimination) to strengthen public support for Government policies such as those included in the SPV 2030 and to create demand for, and use of, the resources and services available. UN advocacy and communications support will take advantage of the "One Voice" approach established by UN Reform.

Joint Rolling Workplans

The UN Resident Coordinator coordinates implementation of the UNSDCF and works with UNCT members to align the UN Agencies' country programmes with the Cooperation Framework and the 2030 Agenda. In order to reduce administrative load on the Government of coordinating separately with the 20 UN Agencies providing support to Malaysia, the UN Reform foresees that the UNSDCF will be accompanied by comprehensive Joint Rolling Workplans to be negotiated with the Ministry of Economy as the coordinating ministry, based on prior agency-level negotiations with the relevant sector ministries and partners.

The workplans for the Malaysia UNSDCF will be prepared on a two-year rolling basis as per the template attached in Annex B. In each two-year Joint Rolling Workplan, the first year will constitute commitments by the UN and by Government partners, while the second year will constitute advance planning that may be subject to change at the next Annual Review and Planning Meeting (see below), based on constraints and/or opportunities identified with respect to the first year of the plan. These Joint Rolling Workplans will be endorsed by the Ministry of Economy (following consultations with all relevant Government partners) and the UN Resident Coordinator (following consultations with all UN Agencies working in Malaysia) in the context of the UNSDCF.

Results Groups

The implementation, monitoring and evaluation of each UNSDCF Strategic Priority Area (SPA) and of the UNSDCF Joint Rolling Workplan will be supported by a Results Group, made up of technical specialists from various UN Agencies under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator and the UNCT. Each Results Group will be chaired or co-convened by a Head of Agency or senior UN staff member. The Joint Rolling Workplans mentioned above are mechanisms for adaptive programming and will be supported by the UN Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Working Group. Results Groups will liaise continually with relevant Government bodies where these exist (such as the Government's SDG Working Committees), and officials and will periodically consult with representatives of civil society, the private sector, and international development partners, as appropriate.

In addition to the Results Groups, the UN Country Team may establish other working mechanisms such as thematic groups or advisory capacities to mainstream UNSDCF priorities across the work of all Results Groups.

Advisory Boards

In order to ensure broad stakeholder participation in oversight of UN cooperation in Malaysia, two advisory boards will be established and a representative of each will participate as an observer in the UNSDCF Steering Committee. The first of these advisory boards will consist of NGOs, academia and CSOs. The second will consist of private sector entities directly providing essential social and other services (e.g. health, education, water/sanitation, etc.) as well as those actively contributing to supporting the response to the basic needs of vulnerable populations through financial contributions and/or corporate social responsibility.

3.6 UNSDCF Resource Requirements and SDG Financing

UNSDCF Resource Requirements

Full implementation of the UNSDF will require an estimated total of USD 225 million over the five years covered by the Framework. The total estimated funding gap currently stands at USD 125 million (around 56 per cent of the total estimated budget) and this would need to be mobilised over the full period. The achievement of results anticipated under this UNSDCF will require a concerted resource mobilisation strategy driven jointly by the National Steering Committee. A detailed listing of the resource requirements, by Strategic Priority Area, is provided in Annex A.

Sources of funding from UN Agencies include regular resources and other resources that UN Agencies are able to mobilise based on the quality of the proposed programme/intervention and strength of the expected results. Sources of funding also include centralised funding mechanisms. Budgets are indicative and may be subject to changes by the governing bodies of UN Agencies and by internal management decisions.

To make the UN system fit for purpose to help countries deliver on the SDGs, as called for by the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/72/279 in May 2018 on the repositioning of the UN development system, approaches for funding the system as a whole help ensure greater system accountability and drive collaborative efforts that reduce overlaps and duplication of efforts by UN Agencies.

To this end, the UN has increased centralised global funding mechanisms that are channelled via the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator in order to promote joint programmes among UN Agencies and partnerships with the Government, private sector, financial institutions, civil society, academia and communities towards attainment of the SDGs. Donor funding to the UN system is also increasingly targeted for joint initiatives. A dedicated Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office was established to support UN system coherence through the administration of innovative pooled financing instruments that would be useful to enabling the delivery of the UNSDCF and SDG financing at country level.

Given Malaysia's upper-middle-income status, and its proximity to achieving high-income status, opportunities to access UN Agency core funds and ODA are increasingly limited⁴⁰. The UN therefore welcomes the Government's contributions to individual UN Agencies and to the Malaysia SDG Trust Fund (MySDG Trust Fund). The UN will continue to explore cost sharing with the Government and private sector.

The UN Agencies operating in Malaysia will make use of their core resources, which are provided centrally, and may also receive "Other Resources" (specific-purpose contributions from donors) through their headquarters or through regional or country-generated funds to support their work in Malaysia.

Provisional funding from UN Agencies themselves, and the indicative funding anticipated from donors, will be included in the Results Framework⁴¹ and the Joint Rolling Workplans, subject to the availability of funds (and, therefore, may increase or decrease accordingly).

⁴⁰. Note, in relation to the UNFCCC, Malaysia will still be regarded as a non-Annex I country (a developing country) and hence, access to Green Climate Fund technically is retained.

⁴¹. See UNSDCF Annex A

SDG Financing

SDG financing is defined as the mobilisation of resources to achieve the SDGs. In line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda⁴² and the UN Secretary-General's SDG Financing Strategy and Roadmap for Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁴³, the UN will work closely with the Government, the business sector and NGOs to leverage different sources of financing and investment flows for SDG achievement, including via the national budget, private financing and other sources. This seeks to engender a whole-of-nation approach for attainment of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs — a strategic financing approach that includes mobilising the following sources to address the huge financing gaps that remain.

-  **The Government's development budget for Malaysia's Twelfth Plan, under the purview of the Ministry of Economy;**

-  **Annual Supply Bills/ National Budgets from the Ministry of Finance (noting annual development and recurrent outlays are brought together in the Annual Budget);**

-  **The Malaysia-UN SDG Trust Fund has been established by the MySDG Foundation and the UNCT, funded by the Government of Malaysia;**

-  **SDG-compliant investments by the public, business and financing sectors, as well as foreign and domestic direct investments;**

-  **Private and public sector research, technology and innovation development allocations to address the SDGs;**

-  **SDG-linked corporate social responsibility activities and investments; and**

-  **Assistance rendered by CSOs, NGOs, foundations and philanthropic individuals and institutions to be channelled towards addressing SDG gaps and challenges.**


Since the launch of the 2030 Agenda in 2016, the work of UN Agencies globally, regionally and at country levels is inextricably linked to the SDGs, including all members the UN Country Team in Malaysia. This UNSDCF provides the strategic direction and is the vehicle through which the Government can avail itself of integrated support from an agreed configuration of UN Agencies to enable Malaysia to achieve its SDG targets. As such, UNSDCF funding, constitutes a pivotal contribution to meeting the required SDG financing.

42. https://www.un.org/esa/ffd/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/AAAA_Outcome.pdf

43. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sg-finance-strategy>

UN Photo/Cia Pak





**CHAPTER 4:
Monitoring
and Evaluation
Plan**



4.1 M&E Strategy⁴⁴

Implementing Partners agree to cooperate with the UN Agencies for monitoring all activities supported by cash transfers and will facilitate access to relevant financial records and personnel responsible for the administration of cash provided by the UN Agencies. To that effect, Implementing Partners⁴⁵ agree to the following:

- ➔ Periodic on-site reviews and spot checks of their financial records by the UN Agencies or their representatives, as appropriate, and as described in specific clauses of their engagement documents/contracts with the UN Agencies;
- ➔ Programmatic monitoring of activities following the UN Agencies' standards and guidance for site visits and field monitoring; and
- ➔ Special or scheduled audits. Each UN organisation, in collaboration with other UN Agencies (where so desired and in consultation with the respective coordinating Ministry), will establish an annual audit plan, giving priority to audits of Implementing Partners with large amounts of cash assistance provided by the UN Agencies, and those whose financial management capacity need strengthening.

44. The text in this section is required by UN headquarters for inclusion verbatim in all UNSDCF.

45. "Implementing partners are: national government entities, including agencies or institutions; non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs); United Nations (UN) system entities acting as implementing partners; non-UN, multilateral and intergovernmental entities; and others, such as research and academic institutions, with which UN organizations enter into agreements and to which they allocate resources to execute or implement programmes, projects and activities." Source: Review of the management of implementing partners in United Nations system organizations, Report of the Joint Inspection Unit (2021)

4.2 Monitoring Plan

Development is never linear since the operational environment and risks at local, national, transboundary, regional and global levels are in constant flux. In addition, UNSDCF assumptions may not hold, and the actions of partners may not come to pass as anticipated. This is particularly relevant in a dynamic setting such as Malaysia. Programming thus requires an adaptive approach, based on learning from new information and evidence. This allows for adjustments needed to achieve expected results in a changing operating environment. While the UNSDCF outcomes should remain stable for the duration of the cycle, outputs and activities may need revision to remain relevant, while maintaining accountability to partners. As mentioned above, the UNSDCF is designed to allow for adaptive programming by the UN as national priorities and needs evolve.

The Results Groups will monitor the portion of the UNSDCF relevant to their SPA on a regular basis and the individual UN Agencies will carry out internal monitoring of progress and constraints related to their specific activities agreed with the Government and in line with their accountabilities to the headquarters and donors. The approach is detailed below:

- Each Results Group will carry out joint monitoring of UN support provided with respect to its SPA, as set out in the relevant part of the two-year Joint Rolling Workplan. The Results Groups will oversee the operationalisation of the UNSDCF, identifying synergies and opportunities for closer inter-agency collaboration (e.g. through joint programmes) while reducing overlaps, and will collectively monitor the progress of UN Agencies and UN cooperation as a whole towards the results foreseen in this UNSDCF, including changes in monitoring indicators included in the Results Matrix attached to this UNSDCF.
- In their oversight of UN cooperation with Malaysia, Results Groups will be supported by a Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group, consisting of M&E specialists from UN Agencies, providing technical guidance on the selection and measurement of indicators for assessing progress towards UNSDCF goals, as well as operational indicators for assessing progress in implementing the relevant parts of the Joint Rolling Workplans. The M&E Working Group will also support joint reviews, reporting, documentation and knowledge sharing including development of templates and guidance for M&E-related interventions and data collection. The M&E Working Group will facilitate development of a coherent M&E strategy that will ensure coherence and uniformity in processes.

Addressing data gaps will be paramount not only to facilitate tracking and monitoring but also to set baselines and targets of SDGs and national priorities. The Results Groups will be facilitated by the M&E Working Group in this regard in joint efforts and collaboration with key data-producing partners and especially statistical offices at national and subnational levels, including information management system strengthening.

UNSDCF Review and Reporting

Under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator, the Results Groups, led by a chair or co-chairs, will provide oversight to joint UN efforts with respect to each of the four Strategic Priority Areas included in the UNSDCF. These Results Groups will be responsible for reporting as follows:

- Reporting to the UNCT on the availability and expenditure of UN resources against the two-year Joint Rolling Workplan;

- Reporting to the UNSDCF Steering Committee through the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, providing inputs for the semi-annual meetings of the Steering Committee regarding UNSDCF implementation;
- Preparing, and participating in, the Annual Review and Planning Meetings with the Government, which will review reports on progress and constraints regarding the UNSDCF in support with the M&E Working Group;
- Periodically reporting to the UNCT and, through the Resident Coordinator's Office, to the UNSDCF Steering Committee inputs to update the UN analysis of the national context and trends by monitoring the national situation and trends related to their area, including review of new studies and publications; and
- To support monitoring of the UNSDCF, UN INFO is a global joint online planning, monitoring and reporting platform that digitises the UNSDCF and its corresponding Joint Rolling Workplans. It reflects the UN development system's effort to enhance the coherence, transparency and accountability for funds flowing through the UN to support the Government's development priorities, and to facilitate coherent and integrated reporting to both the Government and UN global systems regarding UN support to achieving the SDGs.

4.3 Evaluation Plan

The attainment of SDG targets depends significantly on results-based monitoring and evaluation. During the first six months of the UNSDCF implementation, an Evaluability Assessment may be commissioned to assess the Theory of Change (UNSDCF's design) to gauge the extent to which it is evaluable and to check the availability of relevant data, as well as the systems and capacities which make that data available. The findings of the assessment will feed into improving programme design and/or the overall M&E framework and Joint Rolling Workplans.

Working closely with key partners, national capacities will be developed to foster a culture of learning and mutual accountabilities, through strengthening national statistical capacity and evaluation systems. Emerging new approaches and methodologies will be shared with developmental partners that contribute to stronger evaluation systems and practice.

Individual UN Agencies may carry out formal evaluations of their cooperation in Malaysia, as detailed in their contributions to the UNSDCF two-year Joint Rolling Workplans. The Government of Malaysia and UN Agencies may carry joint evaluations of their cooperative efforts detailed in the UNSDCF two-year Joint Rolling Workplans.

Notwithstanding any individual UN Agency evaluations, the UN will carry out at least one formal evaluation of the UNSDCF (covering either overall UN cooperation in Malaysia, or limited to certain elements thereof, as may be determined most useful by the UNSDCF Steering Committee), keeping in mind that UN financial resources are primarily aimed at achieving results related to the SDGs. An independent evaluation to assess the UNSDCF's alignment with national priorities, its overall effectiveness, and the level of internal coordination is scheduled for the fourth year of the programme cycle, in 2024. This evaluation will provide key insights for the planning of the subsequent UNSDCF for the 2026-2030 period.

Annex A: RESULTS AND RESOURCES FRAMEWORK

| PILLAR 1: PEOPLE | | |
|--|---|--|
| SPA 1: Leaving No One Behind - Ensuring a prosperous nation through inclusivity and well-being for all | | |
| Five-year Projected Budget: USD 131 million | | |
| Twelfth Malaysia Plan Game Changers: 5, 6 | | |
| SDGs: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 | | |
| UNCT Results Group: Inclusivity and Well-being Results Group, Gender Results Group | | |
| Outcome Statement: By 2025, poor and vulnerable groups living in Malaysia benefit from more equity-focused and high-quality social services as well as a social protection system that ensures all have an adequate standard of living. | | |
| Collaborative Outputs | Indicators | Participating UN Agencies |
| <p>1.1: A more efficient, effective and sustainable social protection system is in place that provides increased protection against contingencies throughout the life cycle.</p> <p>1.2: Social services are strengthened to ensure access to high-quality, equity-focused provision that promotes the well-being of all.</p> <p>1.3: Increased adoption of inclusive social norms and values and rejection of harmful practices, particularly against women and girls, and the creation of demand for services.</p> | <p>SDG National Indicator 1: 1.3.1 - Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, work injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable. Baseline: Target: 30% Source: Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development</p> <p>SDG National Indicator 2: 3.7.1 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods. Baseline: 34.3% Target: 36% Source: Malaysian Population and Family Survey, 2014, LPPKN</p> <p>SDG National Indicator 3: 5.2.1: Actual case proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence. Baseline: 8.73% Target: 6% Source: Global Burden of Disease Collaborative Network. Global Burden of Disease Study 2017 (GBD 2017) Health-related Sustainable Development Goals Indicators 1990-2030</p> <p>National Indicator 4: Reduce number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age, and key populations by 73%. Baseline: 0.31 Target: 0.20 Source: SPECTRUM Modelling, MOH</p> <p>National Indicator 5: Relative reduction in the premature mortality (age 30-70 years) from NCDs (cardiovascular, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory diseases) through prevention and treatment. Baseline: Both sexes (17.2%), Male (20.1%), Female (14.0%) Target: male (15%) female (10%) Source: WHO's Noncommunicable Country Profiles Report 2018</p> <p>SDG National Indicator 6: 3.8.1 Coverage of essential health services. Baseline: 70% (2017) Target: Improve from the baseline Source: WHO annual survey for Member States</p> <p>Indicator 7: International Health regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness (level 1-5). Baseline: Level 4 (Joint External Evaluation of International Health Regulations 2019) Target: Improve from the baseline to 5 Source: WHO annual survey for Member States</p> | <p>UNICEF UNDP WHO UNFPA UNHCR IOM ILO UN-HABITAT UNAIDS</p> |

| PILLAR 2: PLANET | | |
|---|---|--|
| SPA 2: Environment, Climate Change, and Resilience | | |
| Five-year Projected Budget: USD 47 million | | |
| Twelfth Malaysia Plan Game Changers: 8, 9 | | |
| SDGs: 6, 12, 13, 14, 15 | | |
| UNCT Results Group: Environmental and Sustainability Results Group | | |
| Outcome Statement: | | |
| By 2025, environmental sustainability and resilience are mainstreamed as priorities within the national development agenda, across all sectors and levels of society. | | |
| Collaborative Outputs | Indicators | Participating UN Agencies |
| 2.1: Transitioning national development towards a decarbonised pathway and a resource-efficient economy through the adoption of green growth strategies and practices across all sectors. | <p>SDG National Indicator 1: 14.5.1 - Protected Area Cover in Malaysia. Baseline: 13.2% (terrestrial), 3.3% (marine) Target: 20% (terrestrial), 10% (marine) Source: (terrestrial) A Master List of Protected Areas in Malaysia – A Tool for National Biodiversity Conservation Management and Planning. Ministry of Water, Land and Natural Resources (marine) The National Policy on Biological Diversity 2016-2025. Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources</p> <p>National Indicator 2: National policy for disaster risk management is formulated. Baseline: 0 (2020) Target: 1 (2025) Source: NADMA</p> <p>SDG National Indicator 3: 9.4.1 - Carbon Dioxide Emissions per Capita. Baseline: 8.05 metric tonnes per capita Target: 7.64 metric tonnes per capita Source: World Data Atlas</p> | UNDP UNICEF UNIDO UNESCO UNDRR UNEP UN-HABITAT |
| 2.2: Natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems are sustainably managed, adequately protected and conserved for long-term economic and environmental sustainability. | | |
| 2.3: Preparedness and resilience (especially of indigenous, poor and vulnerable groups) against climate change, natural hazards, and disaster risks are strengthened. | <p>SDG National Indicator 4: 7.2.1 - Renewable energy share in total installed capacity (excluding large hydro). Baseline: 6% Target: 20% Source: Sustainable Energy Development Authority</p> | |

| PILLAR 3: PROSPERITY | | |
|--|--|---|
| SPA 3: Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth | | |
| Five-year Projected Budget: USD 16.5 million | | |
| Twelfth Malaysia Plan Game Changers: 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13 | | |
| SDGs: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 | | |
| UNCT Results Group: Prosperity Results Group, Gender Results Group | | |
| Outcome Statement: By 2025, Malaysia is making meaningful progress towards an economy that is inclusive, innovative and sustainable across all income groups and productive sectors. | | |
| Collaborative Outputs | Indicators | Participating UN Agencies |
| 3.1: Inclusive growth and decent work also tap into new sources of economic growth and the Future of Work trends. 3.2: Further advances are made towards women's equality in the economy. 3.3: Adoption of corporate practices that are aligned to SDGs and international standards of upholding principles of social justice, transparency, accountability and sustainability while promoting economic development. 3.4: Competitive, sustainable and inclusive urban development that supports social and economic well-being for the population. | <p>National Indicator 1: Level of inequality as measured by GINI Coefficient. Baseline: 0.407 (2019) Target: 0.385 (2024) Source: DOSM</p> <p>Indicator 2: Female Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR) Baseline: Female LFPR: 55.3% Female LFPR with no formal education: 44.6% Female LFPR in urban: 57.5% Female LFPR in rural: 46.5% Target: Female LFPR: 60% Female LFPR with no formal education: 46% Female LFPR in urban: 60% Female LFPR in rural: 50% Source: Labour Force Survey Report, Malaysia, 2020</p> <p>National Indicator 3: Mean monthly salaries and wages for males and females. Baseline: Mean monthly female salaries & wages: MYR 3,108 Mean monthly male salaries & wages: MYR 3,304 Target: Reduced differential year-on-year Source: Salaries and Wages Survey Report, Malaysia, 2019</p> <p>SDG National Indicator 4: 12.6.1 Number of companies publishing sustainability reports. Baseline: 918 (with Sustainability Statement) (2020) Target: 1,000 (2025) Source: Bursa Malaysia</p> <p>National Indicator 5: Value of MSMEs' contribution to the economy as a percentage of GDP. Baseline: 36.6% (2016) Target: 45% (2025) Source: National Entrepreneurship Policy 2030 (NEP 2030)</p> <p>SDG National Indicator 6: 11.a.1 Malaysia has national urban policies or regional development plans that (a) respond to population dynamics, (b) ensure balanced territorial development, (c) increase local fiscal space. Baseline: TBD Target: TBD Source: TBD</p> | UNDP UNFPA UNIDO UNESCO ILO ITC UN-HABITAT ITU |

| PILLAR 4: PEACE | | |
|---|--|--|
| SPA 4: Social Cohesion, Governance and Human Rights | | |
| Five-year Projected Budget: USD 11.5 million | | |
| Twelfth Malaysia Plan Game Changers: 1, 4, 14 | | |
| SDGs: 16 | | |
| UNCT Results Group: Peace Results Group, Gender Results Group | | |
| Outcome Statement: | | |
| By 2025, Malaysia has strengthened democratic governance, and all people living in Malaysia benefit from a more cohesive society, strengthened governance and participation. | | |
| Collaborative Outputs | Indicators | Participating UN Agencies |
| <p>4.1: Malaysia makes significant progress towards inter-ethnic and cultural harmony and cohesion.</p> <p>4.2: Institutions are more capable of undertaking inclusive political processes and are more citizen-centric and protective of fundamental freedoms.</p> <p>4.3: The system of checks and balances across branches of government is strengthened at national and subnational levels, core government functions are more responsive and efficient, and people have better access to services.</p> | <p>SDG Indicator 1: 16.b.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law. Baseline: (to be developed) Target: Source: DOSM</p> <p>Indicator 2: Worldwide Governance Indicators for Malaysia. Baseline (2018) Voice and accountability: -0.08 Political stability and absence of violence/terrorism: 0.24 Government effectiveness: 1.08 Regulatory quality: 0.68 Rule of law: 0.62 Control of corruption: 0.31 Target: Improvement on the scores Source: World Bank</p> <p>Indicator 3: Corruption Perception Index for Malaysia. Baseline: 53/100 in 2019 (rank 51 globally) Target: 55/100 MOV: Transparency International website</p> <p>Indicator 4: Proportion of seats held by women in Parliament. Baseline: 15% (2020) Target: 18% MOV: Government of Malaysia</p> <p>Indicator 5: Freedom of the World index. Baseline: 21 political rights, 31 civil liberties (2019) Target: 24 political rights, 32 civil liberties MOV: freedomhouse.org</p> | <p>UNDP UNICEF UNHCR OHCHR UNESCO UNODC UN-HABITAT</p> |

| PARTNERSHIPS | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Collaborative Implementation Modality | | | |
| Enhancing Results Through Coordination and Partnerships | | | |
| Five-year Projected Budget: USD 18 million | | | |
| Twelfth Malaysia Plan Game Changers: 1 - 14 | | | |
| SDGs: 17 | | | |
| UNCT Results Groups: SDG Results Groups (and others as required) | | | |
| Process Indicators: | | | |
| 5.1 Policy Support for Development Planning and Budgeting related to the SDGs | | | |
| 5.2 SDG Progress Monitoring, Evaluation, Data and Research | | | |
| 5.3 SDG Financing (including from non-traditional sources) | | | |
| 5.4 Social Dialogue and Multi-stakeholder Platforms | | | |
| 5.5 Global Partnerships / South-South Cooperation | | | |
| Participating UN Agencies | | | |
| RCO | UNIDO | UNAIDS | UNU-IIGH |
| UNDP | UNESCO | UN-HABITAT | OHCHR |
| UNICEF | IOM | UNDRR | UN Women |
| UNFPA | ILO | WHO | ITC |
| UNCDF | UNHCR | WFP-UNHRD | UNEP |
| | | UNODC | ITU |
| Five-year funding projection | Available Funding | Resource to be mobilised | |
| USD 225 million | USD 105 million | USD 120 million | |



Annex B:

LEGAL ANNEX

1. This Legal Annex refers to the cooperation or assistance agreements or other agreements that are the already existing legal basis for the relationship between the Government of Malaysia and the United Nations including its Funds, Programmes, other subsidiary organs and other organizations of the United Nations system (each a 'UN System Agency') supporting the country to deliver on this Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025 (the 'Cooperation Framework').
2. Whereas the Government of Malaysia ('the Government') has entered into the following relationships (the 'UN Agreements'):

| Agency | Agreement |
|----------|---|
| UNDP | A basic agreement between the Government and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to govern UNDP's assistance to the country (Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA), which was signed by both parties on 12 September 2012. This Cooperation Framework, together with a joint results group work plan specifying UNDP programme activities further to this Cooperation Framework (which shall form part of this Cooperation Framework and is incorporated herein by reference) constitute together a project document as referred to in the SBAA. The implementing partner and UNDP will sign a project agreement containing the specific arrangements for each project further to the relevant project document. |
| ILO | A memorandum of understanding on the Decent Work Country Programme (2019-2025) was signed between the Government and Malaysian Trades Union Congress and Malaysian Employers Federation, and the ILO on 19 June 2019. |
| UNFPA | The Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), dated 12 September 2012 constitutes the legal basis for the relationship between the Government and UNFPA. |
| UNICEF | A Basic Cooperation Agreement (BCA) concluded between the Government and UNICEF on 1 June 1964 |
| UNU-IIGH | A memorandum of understanding was signed between the United Nations University and the Government concerning the United Nations University International Institute for Global Health in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 26 May 2006. |
| WFP | A Basic Agreement concerning assistance from the World Food Programme, which Agreement was signed by the Government and WFP on 25 February 2010. |
| WHO | The Basic Agreement concluded between the Government and WHO on 25 November 1960. |

3. The Government will honour its commitments in accordance with the provisions of the cooperation and assistance agreements outlined in paragraph two on the basis of the relationships.
4. The Government will accord to each UN System Agency, its officials, experts on mission and persons performing services on its behalf the privileges, immunities and facilities as set out in the UN Agreement(s) applicable to such UN System Agency.
5. For all UN System Agencies including IOM, ITC, ITU, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDRR, UNEP, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNODC, UN WOMEN, UN-Habitat: Assistance to the Government will be made available and will be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions and decisions of the competent UN System Agency's governing structures.
6. Without prejudice to the UN Agreements, the Government will apply the respective provisions of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations (the "General Convention") or the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies (the "Specialized Agencies Convention"), to which it is a party, to the UN System Agencies' and their property, funds, and assets and to their officials and experts on mission.
7. The cooperation to be provided by the UN System Agencies is in the strategic priority areas set out in the Cooperation Framework. With respect to the UN System Agencies listed in paragraph 5 of this Legal Annex, the parties will consider the negotiation of an agreement which would form the primary existing legal basis for the relationship between the Government and such UN System Agency for supporting the country to deliver on the Cooperation Framework, consistent with the status and privileges and immunities of the United Nations.
8. United Nations Volunteers will be assimilated to officials of the UN System Agencies, entitled to the privileges and immunities accorded to such officials under the General Convention or the Specialized Agencies Convention.
9. The Government will be responsible for dealing with any claims, which may be brought by third parties against any of the UN System Agencies and their officials, experts on mission or other persons performing services on their behalf and shall hold them harmless in respect of any claims and liabilities resulting from operations under the UN agreements, except where it is mutually agreed by the Government and a particular UN System Agency that such claims and liabilities arise from gross negligence or misconduct of that UN System Agency, or its officials, experts on mission or other persons performing services.
10. Nothing in or relating to this Cooperation Framework will be deemed:
 - a) a waiver, express or implied, of the privileges and immunities of any UN System Agency; or
 - b) the acceptance by any UN System Agency of the jurisdiction of the courts of any country over disputes arising from this Cooperation Framework

whether under the General Convention or the Specialized Agencies Convention, the UN Agreements, or otherwise, and no provisions of this Cooperation Framework will be interpreted or applied in a manner, or to an extent, that is inconsistent with such privileges and immunities.

Annex C:

MALAYSIA COUNTRY CONTEXT

Development Achievements

Malaysia has maintained strong economic growth for half a century (excluding 2020 due to the pandemic). A dramatic economic transformation has taken place, with a shift from reliance primarily on agriculture to a situation in which 59.2 per cent of the economy is derived from services, 23.4 per cent from manufacturing, 6.2 per cent from mining and quarrying, 6.4 per cent from agriculture and 3.6 per cent from construction (2022 estimates)⁴⁶. The absolute poverty rate in Malaysia improved from 7.6 per cent in 2016 to 5.6 per cent in 2019. However, in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, poverty is estimated to have risen to 8.4 per cent; and certain states exhibit considerably higher levels of poverty, notably Sabah with an estimated headcount rate of 24.9 per cent and localised pockets of extreme poverty persist, even in more developed states. Due to reopening of economic and social sectors as well as international borders post pandemic COVID-19, the absolute poverty rate reduced to 6.2 per cent at national level while in the state of Sabah to 19.7 per cent in 2022. Malaysia has achieved universal primary education for both girls and boys; lowered child mortality to levels comparable to high-income nations; more than halved maternal deaths, while maintaining a high proportion of safe deliveries and antenatal care coverage; incorporated sustainability of the environment into key plans and policies; achieved near-universal coverage of clean water supply and basic sanitation; and reduced the number of households living in squatter settlements.

While poverty in Malaysia has, until recently, been viewed as a largely rural phenomenon, urban poverty, deprivation and socio-economic disparities are a rising political and public policy concern. Indeed, a more contextually appropriate poverty line, such as a relative poverty line set at 50 per cent of median income, would result in 16.2 per cent of households being categorised as living in poverty (based on 2022 data)⁴⁷. Moreover, multidimensional poverty also needs to be given greater attention, as vulnerable households often exhibit a range of multidimensional deprivations and depressed social and human development outcomes. Labour markets have remained stable and supportive of economic growth. While the labour force participation rate (LFPR) remained stable at 68.4 per cent during the pandemic, the unemployment rate rose and peaked at 3.9 per cent in May 2022, and has progressively fallen since, to 3.6 per cent in September 2022. However, youth unemployment has been substantially higher⁴⁸.

Commensurate with its role as a leader in regional economic growth and development, Malaysia has continued to play an active role in regional and international fora, and Malaysia has led in Islamic financing and has influence in this regard in OIC, and as an oil producer also within OPEC. Malaysia's development has been particularly notable as it sustained growth even as the country faced periodic external shocks and crises, a result of Malaysia's prudent macroeconomic management. Notably, these achievements were attained while also sustaining social peace and stability in a multicultural society. In retrospect, Malaysia has risen from the ranks of a low-income economy to become an upper-middle-income economy, paying close attention to the economic and social aspects of development. From actively eradicating poverty and creating job opportunities, to investing in education and providing health care, water, electricity, improved sanitation, and transportation, Malaysia has boosted development outcomes for most segments of society.

46. The Malaysian Economy in Figures 2022, Ministry of Economy.

47. <https://www.epu.gov.my/en/socio-economic-statistics/household-income-poverty-and-household-expenditure>

48. DOSM Labour Force data for Malaysia, 2020 & 2021 and ongoing quarterly employment data.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Malaysia's Progress Towards the SDGs

Supported by the UNCT, a DOSM-led SDG progress monitoring portal was launched in March 2019 (<http://mysdg.dosm.gov.my/>). Although only partial data have been made available to the portal in Phase 1, DOSM has been systematically releasing more data onto the portal since mid-September 2019 and work is ongoing in collaboration with the UNCT to address remaining data gaps.

Some of the highlights of Malaysia's achievements to date are outlined below⁴⁹:

- ➔ **SDGs 1 & 2:** Absolute poverty improved from 7.6 per cent in 2016 to 5.6 per cent in 2019 but is estimated to have declined to 8.4 per cent in 2020 due to the pandemic, based on the revised poverty line. Nevertheless, the long-term trend remains downward, and subsequently, poverty incidence decreased to 6.2 per cent in 2022.
- ➔ **SDG 3:** Child mortality rates are almost at the level of developed countries. Malaysia has eradicated endemic smallpox and polio and reversed the spread of HIV/AIDS. Drastic reductions in water-borne diseases, deaths from treatable childhood diseases and malaria.
- ➔ **SDGs 4 & 5:** More than 90 per cent enrolment rates for primary and secondary school levels for both boys and girls and 33 per cent for higher education with the gender ratio slightly in favour of girls.
- ➔ **SDG 6:** Over 95 per cent coverage for water, sanitation, and electricity supply at national level.
- ➔ **SDGs 7, 11, 12 & 16:** Laws, regulations, policies and plans in place to better protect and ensure sustainable use of natural assets and improve sustainable urban development.
- ➔ **SDG 8:** Full employment since 1992 excepting the 1997 financial crisis and the COVID-19 period.
- ➔ **SDG 10:** Income inequalities reduced, as indicated by a falling Gini Coefficient from 0.530 (1970) to 0.404 (2022).
- ➔ **SDGs 13, 14, 15 & 17:** As of 2018, Malaysia has maintained 55.3 per cent forest cover, 13.2 per cent land as terrestrial protected areas and 3.4 per cent as marine protected areas. Carbon intensity reduced by 33 per cent since 2009, increasing renewable energy capacity. Malaysia also participates in international trans-boundary conservation efforts like the "Coral Triangle" and "Heart of Borneo" initiatives.

49. DOSM Annual National Accounts GDP Malaysia 2023

Malaysia compares well to other countries with respect to progress in achieving the 17 SDGs, and “leaving no one behind,” in particular in the eradication of poverty and providing education and health care. Malaysia was on a generally positive track to achieve most of the SDG indicators for 2030, as the Government’s commitment to the sustainable development agenda began with the MTR of the Eleventh Plan and the Twelfth Plan. The remaining challenges below, however, highlight both some long-standing gaps as well as the new challenges presented by the COVID-19 crisis.

In addition, the 2018 Universal Periodic Review of Malaysia by the UN High Commission on Human Rights made several recommendations to Malaysia that run across the spectrum of the 17 SDGs. These include measures in key areas such as:

- SDG 16 (27 per cent of the recommendations)
- SDG 4 (13 per cent of the recommendations)
- SDG 8 (12 per cent of the recommendations)
- SDG 3 (10 per cent of the recommendations)
- SDG 5 (10 per cent of the recommendations).

A full list of Universal Periodic Review 2018 recommendations and Malaysia’s response can be found here:

https://www.upr-info.org/sites/default/files/document/malaysia/session_31_-_november_2018/2rps_malaysia_31upr.pdf.

Remaining Challenges

Economic Development:

Malaysia’s economic growth, the distribution of its benefits across the population, has been admirable over the last decades, particularly in the face of external challenges and shocks (such as the crisis of the “Tiger economies” in the late 1990s and the global recession in 2008-2009), and the most recently, the COVID-19 pandemic. Continuing and harnessing this growth to support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs in the context of accelerating changes both within and outside the country will, however, require further efforts and adjustments, including adequate attention to environmental protection. For example, with basic development needs in Malaysia mostly addressed, continued socio-economic progress (i.e. avoidance of a developmental plateau) requires ever more sophisticated public policymaking and a focus on the delivery of higher quality, equitable and sustainable public services, coupled with a more sophisticated regulatory framework that promotes competitiveness, environmental care, and social cohesion and human capital development. Specifically, these challenges include:

- a) the environmental sustainability of production and consumption (particularly as it is already a consumption-driven economy);
- b) equitable regional development; and
- c) skills upgrading through more targeted investment in health and education to combat, for example, the current challenges of high rates of double-burden of malnutrition (especially stunting, wasting and underweight among children,⁵⁰ NCDs and obesity) and average academic achievement⁵¹.

It is clear from the experience of other countries, and of Malaysia itself, that economic growth is both the result of, and a basic input to, social development as outlined in the SDGs for 2030. In order to remain competitive and to accelerate economic growth, countries increasingly find that they must identify and take advantage of synergies between the different spheres of development: social, environmental, governance and economic. For example, the reduction of barriers to the economic participation of poor and vulnerable groups and women can unleash significantly increased productivity which, together with other initiatives such as diversification of its economy, reducing reliance on commodity exports, and ensuring that no one is left behind, can support Malaysia in building a resilient and inclusive economy. In line with the Twelfth Plan, and to bounce back from the pandemic, the Government is seeking to restructure the economy to be more progressive, knowledge-based, with higher value added activities, and an inclusive labour market⁵². LNOB implies that all segments of the society participate irrespective of ethnicity, religion and other differences. The Government of Malaysia recognises this as an integral component in strengthening unity, harmony and social capital, including the empowerment of youth in society. The challenge, therefore, lies in identifying responsive, flexible and collaborative systems and new cultures to effectively link the various SDGs into a harmonious and effective framework to support national development.

50. Survey (NHMS) 2022, <https://iku.gov.my/images/teknikal-report/trnhmsmch2022v2.pdf>

52. Twelfth Malaysia Plan, published 2021

51. World Bank, Malaysia Economic Monitor, December 2018: Realizing Human Potential

As Malaysia aspires to transition towards a more inclusive, knowledge-intensive and future-ready economy that is able to effectively leverage IR 4.0, investments in education and workforce skills geared towards improvements in human capital and productivity are critical. In this regard, a key priority is to increase the diversity of education pathways, especially for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). Quality investments are required from infancy onwards (e.g. quality comprehensive sexual and reproductive health and education). To strengthen national capacity for qualitative investment in line with SDG Financing, especially to achieve SDG 4, a prerequisite is the strengthening of the national Education Management Information System (EMIS). It is therefore essential to ensure that:

- a) inclusive social protection mechanisms are in place that provide income security for all, including women, migrants and informal and self-employed workers who may suffer from weaker social security and workplace protections;
- b) young people are equipped with good health, quality education, and the right skills sets are being offered in line with the Future of Work; and
- c) specific measures are put in place to increase and support women's labour force participation.

Malaysia also faces new challenges in the changing development paradigm, including a growing middle class and a more affluent population with far greater and more complex aspirations that include and go beyond basic necessities. These aspirations include, for example, an adequate standard of living, including access to affordable quality housing, quality education and medical facilities.

While it is clear that the COVID-19 pandemic will have an effect on Malaysia's economic development, the shape and duration of these effects are yet to be determined. In the short term, the tourism/travel and services sectors will likely experience significant challenges in 2020, and these may extend into the period of the 2021-2025 UNSDCF. In the longer term, impacts on trade and employment could potentially last for much longer, potentially for several years.

Leaving No One Behind (LNOB):

Although rapid economic growth has facilitated the near-eradication of extreme poverty in Malaysia, rising income inequality and associated disparities in standards of living, continue to be an important issue in Malaysia, with the absolute income gaps between the top 20 per cent (T20)⁵³, the middle 40 per cent (M40) and the bottom 40 per cent (B40) having consistently increased over the years. There is an urgent need to develop a modern needs-based social protection system that not only delivers a contextually-appropriate level of income security in the face of a range of contingencies throughout the life cycle⁵⁴, thus, preventing the vulnerable from slipping back into poverty, and also supporting redistribution, social cohesion and social mobility. In addition, a significant gender wage gap exists, there is a need for greater attention to multidimensional deprivation and improving the understanding of responsible entities regarding disparities in socio-economic outcomes, as a basis for increased capacity for more effective public policy-making and planning. Constructive social dialogue will also be required to address these vulnerabilities, and this will help refine the understanding of these groups, identify barriers and shaping solutions.

Pockets of the population, poor and vulnerable groups, continue to have inadequate access to social services such as health, education and social protection, leading to these pockets having poverty rates significantly higher than the national average. At the same time, many migrant workers are exposed to various risks of exploitation in their recruitment and employment, and even repatriation, due to limited legal protection, lack of awareness of their rights, and negative perceptions about their presence in the country. Refugees and asylum seekers living in Malaysia face similar challenges in accessing legal work due to their lack of recognised status in the country. In addition, persons with disabilities and those who face social stigmas for various reasons continue to face inequalities in different aspects of life, which negatively affect their access to employment, education and health, resulting in their being marginalised from social and economic participation. An amendment to the Persons with Disabilities Act 2008 [Act 685] is in progress to ensure that the rights, interests and welfare of persons with disabilities are protected. As noted above, the COVID-19 pandemic has had significant short-term impacts and, will potentially have, longer-term impacts as well. As with most external shocks, these impacts are likely to disproportionately affect the most poor and vulnerable groups, who lack access to quality health services and knowledge of effective prevention strategies, and whose employment is precarious and often without adequate social protection. The post-COVID cost of living crisis will put the livelihoods of these same groups under further pressure⁵⁵.

53. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/616631575645435287/pdf/Malaysia-Economic-Monitor-Making-Ends-Meet.pdf>

54. E.g. pregnancy, child-rearing, sickness/disability, unemployment, old age, etc.

55. As announced in the 2021 Budget, there will be programmes/ incentives for the poorest groups, especially those in informal employment. The Government currently leverages and empowers the existing MySPC as the central policymaker on social protection. MySPC will also facilitate implementation of social protection programmes across agencies and will ensure that the National Social Protection Action Plan is consistent, adequate, and sustainable to ensure that no Malaysians are left behind. The Action Plan will cover the rationalisation of social protection policies/programmes and empowerment of service delivery. It will also be supported by integrated and efficient data management.

Addressing the issues related to LNOB and the needs of poor and vulnerable⁵⁶ groups is critical. Supporting the bringing of these groups into the mainstream of Malaysia's growth and development requires:

- a) measures to ensure their participation in decisions that impact individual and community lives, access to, and use of, public resources and social services, removing economic and other barriers;
- b) strengthening the ability of individuals and groups to represent themselves and to be heard;
- c) strengthening social protection mechanisms as a basis for social inclusion and inter-generational social mobility;
- d) creating an enabling environment, through appropriate regulation, incentives and communications that supports these populations to reduce their vulnerabilities and risks (e.g. steps such as changing health and dietary habits to reduce the double-burden of malnutrition among children and non-communicable diseases that disproportionately affect lower-income households).

A key requirement for leaving no one behind, is the availability of data at the disaggregated level. While institutional mechanisms and capacities to collect data are in place, information and data gaps remain in relation to institutional jurisdictions that constrain accessibility to data, particularly of poor and vulnerable groups.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

In terms of women's empowerment and gender equality, education- and health-related goals have largely been achieved; however, three areas that lag behind have the potential to constrain Malaysia's development. First, women's active engagement and parity in public affairs and leadership positions is still well below parity, limiting the country's ability to make full use of the skills and contribution of women to the overall society and its institutions. The lower level of women's representation in the socio-economic fabric of society has meant limited economic opportunities, limited access to resources and services, and limited ability to influence decisions and public policies, in particular policies and programmes that respond to women's needs and their safety and protection against discrimination, including in the workplace. Second, the low female labour force participation rate (LFPR) is a critical aspect affecting the Malaysian economy. Malaysia's female LFPR of 55.5⁵⁷ per cent (Q2, 2021) reflects the large number of women who permanently leave the workforce when they have children. This means that many women are left out of the formal economy despite female tertiary education attainment exceeding men's by more than 10 per cent⁵⁸ (2020). Projections suggest that raising the employment level of women by 30 per cent could raise Malaysia's GDP by seven per cent⁵⁹. In addition, women's care work remains unpaid, invisible and unaccounted for in national accounts, and serves as a structural barrier to their entry into the formal workforce. Third, women and girls are affected by harmful traditional practices and other forms of gender discrimination, which interact with the first two areas, noted above, and also contribute to gender-based violence. The issue of intersecting vulnerabilities is particularly challenging for women irrespective of age: whether as stateless or undocumented persons, refugees, caregivers or persons with disabilities, people living with HIV and AIDS, or legal migrants — women and girls face additional risks. Gender-based violence is a human rights violation. Finally, gender-based violence is a human rights violation that has serious impacts on their health and well-being, as well as that of their children, and significantly and negatively impacts women's performance, advancement and productivity in the workplace by undermining confidence, and causing loss of earnings and career opportunities because of days taken off work and the cost of accessing services. Data during the COVID-19 pandemic suggested that the reported cases of domestic and gender-based violence increased significantly⁶⁰.

56. These poor and vulnerable groups include: indigenous peoples (IPs) in Sabah and Sarawak and the Orang Asli in remote Peninsular Malaysia; the urban low-income households living in high-density areas; informal sector workers; young school drop outs; the elderly who are without adequate social protection; youth; persons with disabilities, religious and ethnic minorities; others stigmatised based on gender and sexual orientation; and non-citizens such as migrant workers, refugees, undocumented immigrants and stateless persons.

57. DOSM, Labour Force data, accessed online, 2023

58. Source: World Bank WDI data, accessed online, 2023

59. The Malaysian Workforce, Khazanah Research Institute (2018), http://krinstitute.org/Publications-@-The_State_of_Households_2018_-_Different_Realities.aspx

60. Domestic Violence amid COVID-19 in Malaysia: Diving Deeper into the Heart of the Matter, UNDP Article, Sep 9, 2020
Domestic Violence and the Safety of Women during the Covid-19 Pandemic, Penang Institute, Apr 25, 2020.

Demographics and urban/rural dynamics:

Malaysia's progress in reducing infant and child mortality and improving access to health and other social services has had a positive effect on the life expectancy of Malaysians (73.4 years in 2022, noting a reduction due to COVID-19)⁶¹. At the same time, rising youth unemployment and an increasing proportion of elderly people within the overall population raise important issues requiring concerted responses. Investment in children and young people represents investment in the country's human capital, and maintaining and accelerating Malaysia's growth and development will be heavily influenced by the degree to which the country directs its resources and efforts to ensure that all of its children and youth have the health, nutrition, education and social protection they need to become fully productive.

At present, however, Malaysia (like many other upper-middle-income and high-income countries) is facing a situation of an increasing proportion of the elderly population no longer being economically active. An ageing population puts a strain on a country's social security system and health care, thus requiring the State to direct resources towards their care which include disabilities and making the prevention of health problems, such as NCDs, a priority. In addition, the transition also raises concerns regarding poor and vulnerable groups, including women, and on the access of older persons to social protection or employment, with direct and indirect implications on health, welfare, care and living arrangements.

In 2019, Malaysia's urban population reached over three quarters of the total population, marking a further milestone in the country's rapid rural to urban transition. This mirrors other structural shifts in the economy and in society. Urban quality of life is therefore central to the wider SDG agenda in Malaysia. Cities and towns are also the location of the country's key value-adding sectors. Key productivity improvement processes — the adoption of new IR 4.0 technologies and know-how and reskilling – rest on the vibrancy of urban spaces. Yet urban centres face a series of challenges, many of which are associated with Malaysia's very rapid pace of development. These range from pollution and environmental degradation to the emergence of new forms of poverty and vulnerability, and specific social dislocations. Delivering targets set out in SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) has a particular resonance for Malaysia. This calls initially for building existing data sources and M&E tools, and then for building the technical capacities of local governments. It is recognised in turn, that rural areas and the agricultural sector also face developmental challenges as a result of rapid urbanisation and wider structural change. Policy efforts and technical capacities are needed to deliver spatially balanced and synergised development.

Environment:

Malaysia's sustained and resilient economic growth has been a basis for the country now evolving toward green growth and a knowledge- and innovation-based economy focusing on inclusivity and equality. However, Malaysia now needs to also ensure that there is no irreparable and avoidable loss of its valuable natural capital. Malaysia has one of the most complex tropical rainforest ecosystems in the world. The country is committed to maintaining at least 50 per cent of its land under forest cover, and some individuals and communities are particularly dependent on these for their livelihoods or are affected by environmental degradation. In recent years, Malaysia has faced significant pressure over biodiversity loss and deforestation, often associated with unsustainable agricultural practices and land development. Other threats to biodiversity include wildlife trafficking, urbanisation and infrastructure development, all of which have increasingly reduced the availability, size and quality of wildlife habitats, and rendered habitat fragmentation a major concern to species survival. In addition, environmental threats have a significant impact on the population, especially on the lives and livelihoods of the most vulnerable.

An economy and society that adopts sustainable consumption and production practices is critical in addressing the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss. In support of this transition, the Ministry of Finance implemented the Government Green Procurement (GGP) initiative (from 2013) that integrates environmental considerations within public procurement by promoting pollution reduction and resource conservation. In 2018, GGP Guidelines 2.0 were updated by the Malaysia Green Technology and Climate Change Corporation (MGTC) to serve as single reference, covering 20 product criteria, such as ICT equipment, air-conditioning systems, and cleaning products. The GGP core team, co-lead by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), will continue to expand this initiative and enhance the guidelines. As of 2023, the GGP has been updated to GGP 3.0, now covering 40 criteria. The

61. DOSM, Abridged Life Tables, 220-22, accessed on-line, 2023

core team will also collaborate with the Department of Works to develop GGP Guidelines for Work Procurement, to ensure the coverage of more sectors.

With more than 75 per cent of Malaysians living in cities, the country is one of the most urbanised in the Asia Pacific region, while at the same time being one of the least densely populated countries in Asia – reflecting unbalanced urban planning and urban sprawl that generate considerable socio-economic challenges. Although urbanisation contributes to national growth and development, it also results in social and spatial inequalities and regional disparities, as well as creating issues of increased pollution and GHG emissions, traffic congestion, reduction of land available for both agriculture and environmental conservation, and higher levels of waste generation. Like the rest of the world, Malaysia is also subject to the effects of global and regional epidemics, natural hazards and disasters and is experiencing the effects of climate change. The country's temperature, rainfall and sea levels have all been on the rise in the last 40 years and are projected to continue to rise beyond 2030 and 2050. Climate-induced natural hazards and disasters such as floods, storms and droughts have increased both in frequency and intensity, coming at a high cost in terms of resources and lives lost or affected, particularly those in the poor and vulnerable groups⁶².

The COVID-19 pandemic, which began in early 2020, is a clear example of how external threats can cross borders and affect Malaysia's population and development. With the increased damage, illnesses and losses from hazards and disasters, it will be essential that Malaysia increase its resilience to such events in order to maintain its development gains and achieve the SDGs and other relevant 2030 Agenda frameworks such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Paris Agreement on Climate Change⁶³.

Governance:

Peaceful cohabitation has been a trademark of Malaysia's multi-ethnic society and requires continuous emphasis to ensure that inter-group relations between the various ethno-religious communities continue to be nurtured and enhanced. Recently, the strengthening of ethnic identity and the emergence of discriminatory speech in social media have presented new and unforeseen challenges and threaten to undermine development progress⁶⁴. This highlights the need to ensure equality, inclusion and non-discrimination. Cognisant of the fact that peaceful societies cannot be taken for granted and require constant fostering of "unity in diversity," this has been a focus area of consecutive development plans,

including the recently published Twelfth Plan and the "Unity and Diversity" principle of the SPV 2030. This is further reinforced by the Unity Government's Malaysia MADANI agenda.

While Malaysia continues to make significant progress, it faces some challenges and capacity gaps in relation to governance:

- a) issues related to the rule of law and accountability, including laws and policies that restrict and, in many cases, criminalise civic activity. These measures include restrictions on freedom of expression and participation in peaceful demonstrations through laws such as the Sedition Act 1948;
- b) provisions for preventive detention remain in most laws, such as the Security Offences Special Measures Act (SOSMA).

Malaysia's performance on government effectiveness indicators has been striking given the emphasis on good governance in recent years. The MTR of the Eleventh Plan noted the need to improve governance and to uphold accountability and transparency in government administration and prioritised initiatives pertaining to four areas:

- a) improving governance at all levels;
- b) elevating integrity and accountability;
- c) enforcing prudent public finance management; and
- d) enhancing public service delivery.

Malaysia has improved its ranking from 2018 to 2021 in the Democracy Index from 52nd to 39th place and in the annual Corruption Perception Index (CPI) it fell 3 places since 2020 to 62nd from out of 180 countries. However, the country's index for "voice and accountability" scores below the South East Asia regional average, and significantly below the OECD, regarding accountability, impartiality and the openness of its public sector. While demand for public participation and social trust is growing, there is a need to strengthen mechanisms to positively harness public contributions and to manage expectations with respect to actual development. In line with its governance reform agenda, Malaysia is also prioritising increased local participation in city-level planning and delivery

62. In the UNSDCF, "at risk" refers particularly to communities subject to natural hazards and disasters, either due to current situations such as flooding, or the future effects of climate change. These risks are presented in the UNSDCF as being related to, but separate from, the challenges facing "poor and vulnerable groups," whose vulnerability is principally related to their situation of inadequate income, discrimination or lack of social services and social protection.

63. Solutions that integrate innovative technology, sustainable financing mechanisms with sustainability, sustainable consumption and production, green and blue economies will also ensure minimisation of threats to the environment from pollution to ensure clean air, water and seas.

64. <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-and-media/2019/media-freedom-downward-spiral>

of services, which requires an investment in local stakeholders and communities to have greater knowledge, skills, capabilities and avenues for participating in decision making.

Malaysia's Constitution recognises a comprehensive catalogue of fundamental freedoms. For instance, Article 10 of the Federal Constitution guarantees Malaysian citizens the right to freedom of speech, freedom of assembly and freedom of association. Malaysia has ratified three out of the nine UN international rights treaties:

- the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW);
- the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC);
- the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)⁶⁵.

Recent progress includes Malaysia attending the Global Refugees Forum in 2018 and 2023. On 21 March 2022 Malaysia ratified ILO Protocol 29 on Forced Labour and has engaged positively with other international human rights mechanisms. Malaysia has also taken steps towards proposed police reforms and has replaced the mandatory death penalty with alternative sentences in 2023. In addition, notwithstanding that Malaysia is not a signatory to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees, Malaysia has hosted refugees and asylum seekers on its territory since 1975 with the support of UNHCR. Malaysia received 268 recommendations during its third Universal Periodic Review at the UN Human Rights Council in November 2018. The government accepted 148 recommendations, including among others to take measures towards strengthening fundamental freedoms of expression, association, assembly within the framework of Article 10(2) and 10(4) of the Federal Constitution. In October 2021, Malaysia was successfully elected to the Human Rights Council. However, as noted by the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the dual jurisdictional structure has a particularly detrimental impact on already poor and vulnerable groups, such as religious minorities, women and children.

South-South Cooperation:

Malaysia's role in multilateralism, international cooperation and contributions to regional and international development are expected to evolve and become even more considerable as it transitions to Net Contributor Country (NCC) and high-income status. Some of the challenges faced by the country clearly require solutions that are designed and coordinated together with other countries and the international community at large - cross-border haze and migration, human smuggling and wildlife trafficking, drugs, and climate change in general, being outstanding examples.

Public Finance Management:

Malaysia has advanced and deep market liquidity, which is ample to support its public finance initiatives for SDGs. Nevertheless, given the current limitations and the uncertain external environment due to the global economic volatilities, the Government will need to develop a more optimizing approach to improve revenue collection by widening the revenue base and exploring new sources as well as strengthening expenditure strategies. These will ensure sufficient fiscal space for the allocation of maximum available resources towards the country's sustainable economic development. Government will also need to increase its ability to engage new and innovative sources of financing that can open up new funding opportunities. The Government of Malaysia has established the Government SDG Sukuk Framework⁶⁶ as an initiative to finance projects with environmental and social benefits which are in close alignment with SDGs. The Government has demonstrated its commitment towards advancing sustainable and responsible investment efforts through successful issuances of instruments such as the Global Sukuk⁶⁷ in 2021 and the Sustainability MGII (Malaysian Government Investment Issues) in 2022 and 2023. These instruments directly support sustainable initiatives aligned with global development. Besides, the existing Government domestic issuances, such as Malaysian Government Securities (MGS) and MGII, have also been proven sufficient to finance all development projects, including those aligned with the SDGs. These issuances consistently garner strong investor demand, with oversubscription rates of two times on average. This success demonstrates the Government's ongoing efforts to strengthen Malaysia's commitment to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

65. Malaysia has also ratified or acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of Children in Armed Conflict in 2012, and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography in 2012.

66. <https://www.mof.gov.my/portal/pdf/ekonomi/kelestarian/sukuk/>

67. <https://www.mof.gov.my/portal/pdf/ekonomi/kelestarian/sair/>

Annex D:

HARMONISED APPROACH TO CASH TRANSFER⁶⁸

All cash transfers to an Implementing Partner are based on the workplans (WPs⁶⁹) agreed between the Implementing Partner and the UN system agencies. Cash transfers for activities detailed in WPs can be made by the UN system agencies using the following modalities:

- Cash transferred directly to the Implementing Partner either
 - Prior to the start of activities (direct cash transfer), or
 - After activities have been completed (reimbursement);
- Direct payment to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by the Implementing Partners on the basis of requests signed by the designated official of the Implementing Partner; or
- Direct payments to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by UN system agencies in support of activities agreed with Implementing Partners.

Where cash transfers are made to the Government coordinating institution, the institution shall transfer such cash promptly to the Implementing Partner.

Direct cash transfers shall be requested and released for programme implementation periods not exceeding three months. Reimbursements of previously authorised expenditures shall be requested and released quarterly or after the completion of activities. The UN system agencies shall not be obligated to reimburse expenditures made by the Implementing Partner over and above the authorised amounts. Following the completion of any activity, any balance of funds shall be refunded or programmed by mutual agreement between the Implementing Partner and the UN system agencies.

Cash transfer modalities, the size of disbursements, and the scope and frequency of assurance activities may depend on the findings of a review of the public financial management capacity in the case of a Government Implementing Partner, and of an assessment of the financial management capacity of the non-UN⁷⁰ Implementing Partner. A qualified consultant, such as a public accounting firm, selected by the UN system agencies may conduct such an assessment in which the Implementing Partner shall participate. The Implementing Partner may participate in the selection of the consultant. Cash transfer modalities, the size of disbursements, and the scope and frequency of assurance activities may be revised in the course of programme implementation based on the findings of programme monitoring, expenditure monitoring and reporting, and audits.

A standard Fund Authorisation and Certificate of Expenditures (FACE) report, reflecting the activity lines of the work plan (WP), will be used by Implementing Partners to request the release of funds, or to secure the agreement that the UN organisation will reimburse or directly pay for planned expenditure. The Implementing Partners use the FACE to report on the utilisation of cash received. The Implementing Partner shall identify the designated official(s) authorised to provide the account details, request and certify the use of cash. The FACE will be certified by the designated official(s) of the Implementing Partner. Cash transferred to Implementing Partners should be spent for the purpose of activities and within the timeframe as agreed in the work plans (WPs) only.

Cash transferred to Implementing Partners should be spent for the purpose of activities and within the time frame as agreed in the WPs only.

68. The text in this section is required by UN headquarters for inclusion verbatim in all UNSDCF.

69. Refers to results Groups' or agency specific annual, biennial or multi-year work plans.

70. For the purposes of these clauses, "the UN" includes the IFIs.

Cash received by the Government and national NGO Implementing Partners shall be used in accordance with established national regulations, policies and procedures consistent with international standards, in particular ensuring that cash is expended for activities as agreed in the WPs, and ensuring that reports on the utilisation of all received cash are submitted to [UN organisation] within six months after receipt of the funds.

Where any of the national regulations, policies and procedures are not consistent with international standards, the UN system agency financial and other related rules and system agency regulations, policies and procedures will apply.

In the case of international NGO/CSO and IGO Implementing Partners, cash received shall be used in accordance with international standards in particular ensuring that cash is expended for activities as agreed in the WPs, and ensuring that reports on the full utilisation of all received cash are submitted to [UN organisation] within six months after receipt of the funds.

To facilitate scheduled and special audits, each Implementing Partner receiving cash from [UN organisation] will provide UN system agency or its representative with timely access to:

- All financial records which establish the transactional record of the cash transfers provided by [UN system agency], together with relevant documentation;
- All relevant documentation and personnel associated with the functioning of the Implementing Partner's internal control structure through which the cash transfers have passed. The findings of each audit will be reported to the Implementing Partner and [UN organisation]. Each Implementing Partner will, furthermore;
- Receive and review the audit report issued by the auditors;
- Provide a timely statement of the acceptance or rejection of any audit recommendation to the [UN organisation] that provided cash (and where the SAI has been identified to conduct the audits, add: "and to the SAI") so that the auditors include these statements in their final audit report before submitting it to [UN organisation];
- Undertake timely actions to address the accepted audit recommendations. Report on the actions taken to implement accepted recommendations to the UN system agencies (and where the SAI has been identified to conduct the audits, add: and to the SAI), on a quarterly basis (or as locally agreed).

In case of direct cash transfer or reimbursement, the UN system agencies shall notify the Implementing Partner of the amount approved by the UN system agencies and shall disburse funds to the Implementing Partner in [here insert the number of days as per UN system agency schedule].

In case of direct payment to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by the Implementing Partners on the basis of requests signed by the designated official of the Implementing Partner, or to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by the UN system agencies in support of activities agreed with Implementing Partners, the UN system agencies shall proceed with the payment within [here insert the number of days as agreed by the UN system agencies].

The UN system agencies shall not have any direct liability under the contractual arrangements concluded between the Implementing Partner and a third-party vendor.

Where the UN system agencies and other UN system agency provide cash to the same Implementing Partner, programme monitoring, financial monitoring and auditing will be undertaken jointly or coordinated with those UN system agencies.

The Supreme Audit Institution may undertake the audits of Government Implementing Partners. If the SAI chooses not to undertake the audits of specific Implementing Partners to the frequency and scope required by the UN system agencies, the UN system agencies will commission the audits to be undertaken by private sector audit services⁷¹.

71. Seen through a South-South lens, the capacity assessment process presents an opportunity to identify capacity assets that a particular country could offer to other developing countries and the capacity gaps that could be filled by other developing countries. For UNDP, the audit of NGO or nationally-implemented projects can be assigned to the national Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) only on the condition that the institution has a demonstrated capacity to carry out the audits in an independent manner. To this effect, the Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI) has made available on its Intranet site guidance on the assessment of SAIs along with a questionnaire that will need to be properly completed, signed and communicated to OAI to support that due diligence has been exercised prior to opting for having such audits undertaken by the national SAI. Please refer to OAI Intranet site for further details.

Annex E:

GOVERNMENT COORDINATING AUTHORITIES FOR SPECIFIC UN SYSTEM AGENCIES

| Name of UN Agency | Primary Government Coordinating Authority | Other Government Partners |
|--|---|---|
| UNIDO | Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry | Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability |
| | | Ministry of Housing and Local Government |
| | | Ministry of Transport |
| | | Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation |
| | | Ministry of Economy |
| | | Sarawak State Government |
| | | Sabah State Government |
| | | Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) |
| | | Standard and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia (SIRIM) |
| | | Malaysian Industry-Government Group for High Technology (MIGHT) |
| | | Malaysia Bioeconomy Development Corporation |
| UNESCO | Malaysia National Commission for UNESCO under the Ministry of Education | Ministry of Education |
| | | Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability |
| | | Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development |
| | | Ministry of Youth and Sports |
| | | Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture |
| | | Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation |
| | | Ministry of Communications |
| | | Ministry of Digital |
| | | Ministry of Higher Education |
| | | National Disaster Management Agency |
| | | Department of Irrigation and Drainage |
| | | Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission |
| | | George Town World Heritage Incorporate - (under the Chief Minister of Penang) |
| International Science, Technology and Innovation Centre for South-South Cooperation under the auspices of UNESCO | | |
| Academy of Sciences Malaysia | | |
| UNICEF | Ministry of Economy | Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development |
| | | Ministry of Finance |
| | | Ministry of Health |
| | | Ministry of Education |
| | | Ministry of Communications |

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| | | Ministry of Digital |
| | | Ministry of Youth and Sports |
| | | Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability |
| | | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| | | Ministry of Home Affairs |
| | | Ministry of Housing and Local Government |
| | | Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation |
| | | Ministry of National Unity |
| | | Implementation Coordination Unit, Prime Minister's Department |
| | | Royal Malaysia Police |
| | | Legal Affairs Division, Prime Minister's Department |
| | | Immigration Department of Malaysia |
| | | Prison Department of Malaysia |
| | | Department of Social Welfare |
| | | National Population and Family Development Board |
| | | National Disaster Management Agency |
| | | National Security Council |
| | | Department of Statistics Malaysia |
| | | Human Rights Commission of Malaysia |
| | | Parliament of Malaysia |
| | | Attorney General Chambers |
| | | Office of the Chief Registrar, Federal Court of Malaysia |
| | | Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission |
| | | Sabah State Government |
| | | Sarawak State Government |
| UNU-IIGH | Ministry of Health | Universiti Malaya |
| | Ministry of Higher Education | Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia |
| UNDRR | National Disaster Management Agency | Department of Statistics Malaysia |
| | Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry | Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security |
| UNDP | Ministry of Economy | Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability |
| | | Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperatives Development |
| | | Ministry of Rural and Regional Development |
| | | Ministry of Finance |
| | | Ministry of National Unity |
| | | Ministry of Housing and Local Government |
| | | Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development |
| | | Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry |
| | | Ministry of Youth and Sports |
| | | Ministry of Plantation and Commodities |
| | | Ministry of Defence |
| | | Department of Federal Territories |
| | | Legal Affairs Division, Prime Minister's Department |
| | | Implementation Coordination Unit, Prime Minister's Department |
| | | National Disaster Management Agency |
| Parliament | | |
| Office of the Chief Registrar, Federal Court of Malaysia | | |

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| | | Department of Statistics Malaysia |
| | | Department of Environment |
| | | Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN) |
| | | Department of Forestry Peninsular Malaysia |
| | | Department of Drainage and Irrigation |
| | | Department of Orang Asli Development |
| | | Department of Biosafety |
| | | Sarawak State Government |
| | | Sabah State Government |
| | | Johor State Government |
| | | Kedah State Government |
| | | Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) |
| | | Malaysian Research Accelerator for Technology & Innovation (MRANTI) |
| | | Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) |
| | | Sustainable Energy Development Authority (SEDA) |
| | | High Court of Sabah and Sarawak |
| | | Malaysia Peacekeeping Centre |
| | | Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA) |
| IOM | National Security Council | Ministry of Human Resources |
| | Ministry of Home Affairs | Ministry of Health |
| | | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| | | Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development |
| | | Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry |
| | | Immigration Department of Malaysia |
| | | Malaysian Bar Council |
| | | Human Rights Commission of Malaysia |
| UNFPA | Ministry of Economy | Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development |
| | | Ministry of Health |
| | | Ministry of Education |
| | | Ministry of Youth and Sports |
| | | Department of Statistics Malaysia |
| | | National Population and Family Development Board |
| | | State Mufti Office |
| | | Parliamentary Special Select Committee on Women and Children Affairs and Social Development |
| WFP-UNHRD | National Disaster Management Agency | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| | | Ministry of Home Affairs |
| | | Ministry of Defence |
| UNODC | Ministry of Home Affairs | Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability |
| | | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| | | Attorney General Chambers |
| | | Bank Negara Malaysia |
| | | National Anti-Drugs Agency |
| | | Royal Malaysia Police |
| | | Prison Department of Malaysia |
| | | Immigration Department of Malaysia |
| | | Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency |
| | | Royal Malaysian Customs Department |

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| | | Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN) |
| | | Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission |
| | | Sabah State Government |
| | | Sarawak State Government |
| | | Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter Terrorism (SEARCCT) |
| ITU | Ministry of Communications and Digital | Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission |
| WHO | Ministry of Health | Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security |
| | | Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability |
| | | Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation |
| | | Sarawak State Government |
| | | Sabah State Government |
| | | University of Malaya Medical Centre |
| | | Universiti Putra Malaysia |
| | | Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia |
| | | Malaysian AIDS Council |
| ILO | Ministry of Human Resources | Ministry of Home Affairs |
| | | Ministry of Education |
| | | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| | | Ministry of Plantation and Commodities |
| | | Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development |
| | | Department of Labour Peninsular Malaysia |
| | | Royal Malaysia Police |
| | | Sabah State Government |
| | | Sarawak State Government |
| | | Sabah Department of Labour and Social Welfare Department |
| | | Sarawak Department of Labour and Social Welfare Department |
| | | |
| UN Women | Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development | Ministry of Home Affairs |
| UNEP | Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change | Department of Environment |
| | | Department of Wildlife and National Parks (PERHILITAN) |
| | | Department of Biosafety |
| | | Department of Forestry Peninsular Malaysia |
| | | Department of Irrigation and Drainage |
| | | Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM) |
| | | National Hydraulic Research Institute of Malaysia (NAHRIM) |
| UN-Habitat | Ministry of Housing and Local Government | Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Sustainability |
| | | Ministry of Economy |
| | | PLANMalaysia |
| | | Department of Statistics Malaysia |
| | | Penang State Government |
| | | Selangor State Government |
| | | Melaka State Government |
| | | Iskandar Regional Development Authority (IRDA) |
| | | Khazanah Nasional Berhad |

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|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| UNCDF | Multimedia Development Corporation | Bank Negara Malaysia |
| | | Securities Commission |
| | | Employees' Provident Fund |
| | | Malaysia Deposit Insurance Corporation |
| OHCHR | Ministry of Foreign Affairs | Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development |
| | Human Rights Commission of Malaysia | Ministry of Economy |
| | | Legal Affairs Division, Prime Minister's Department |
| UNAIDS | Ministry of Health | Ministry of Health |
| UNHCR | National Security Council | Ministry of Human Resources |
| | Ministry of Home Affairs | Ministry of Health |
| | | Ministry of Education |
| | | Ministry of Communications and Digital |
| | | Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development |
| | | Ministry of Defence |
| | | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| | | Department of Federal Territories |
| | | Attorney General's Chambers |
| | | Royal Malaysia Police |
| | | Immigration Department of Malaysia |
| | | Prison Department of Malaysia |
| | | National Registration Department |
| | | Department of Statistics Malaysia |
| | | Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency |
| | | Parliament |
| | | Office of the Chief Registrar, Federal Court of Malaysia |
| | | Human Rights Commission of Malaysia |
| | | State Islamic Departments |
| | | State Health Departments |
| District Health Offices | | |

Annex F:

UNSDCF CONSULTATIONS AND PREPARATION PROCESSES

1. Policy Advisory papers jointly developed by the UNCT (involving 11 UN Agencies) and submitted to the then Ministry of Economic Affairs (now re-named the Economic Planning Unit) as inputs to the Twelfth Plan.
2. UNCT co-organisation of the Twelfth Plan Kick-Off Conference on 1-4 July 2019 together with the then Ministry of Economic Affairs and the World Bank (<http://rmke12.mea.gov.my/kickoff/homekickoff>) and substantive support to the discussion on national development priorities, gaps and challenges for the period 2021-2025.
3. Development of the Common Country Analysis (CCA) and CCA Workshop on 8-9 August 2019.
4. Findings of CCA presented and discussed with civil society on 29 August 2019 and during UNICEF's moment of reflection on 19 August 2019.
5. Staff training on rights-based management and the human right-based approach was held on 25 September 2019.
6. Based on the CCA Workshop, a set of problem statements were developed around the 5 Ps (People, Peace, Planet, Prosperity and Partnerships), which were then:
 - a. Presented and discussed with the Government on 2 October 2019; and
 - b. Used as the basis for the Theory of Change Workshop on 2-3 October 2019 – that resulted in the articulation of draft Strategic Priority Areas (SPAs) and Intermediate Outcomes.
7. The draft SPAs were presented and discussed during the UNSDCF Consultation with the Malaysia CSO-SDG Alliance on 10 October 2019.
8. The third draft of the CCA was completed in November 2019, noting that it is a living document to be updated on a regular basis.
9. A national-level consultation on the 2030 Agenda and SDGs with all segments of society, with a participation of more than 2600 people, was undertaken via the Malaysia SDG Summit that was co-organised by the then Ministry of Economic Affairs and the UNCT on 6-7 November 2019:
 - The Summit comprised high-level panel discussions on leaving no one behind; governance and institutional reform; balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability; and SDG 5 and women's empowerment.
 - Also, parallel sessions that defined the roles of key actors, such as local government, the business sector, academia, civil society, youth, children; which were brought together in the whole-of-nation as well as the closing sessions.
10. The Malaysia CSO-SDG Alliance has also submitted to the UN a 70-page paper of civil society inputs on a range of topics, encompassing also the priority areas presented by the UNCT during the civil society consultation on 10 October 2019 mentioned above – that was used by civil society during the Civil Society SDG Forum of the SDG Summit.
11. A Strategic Prioritisation Retreat was held with Government on 12-13 February 2020, when the Strategic Priority Areas, outcomes and collaborative outputs for the UNSDCF were discussed in detail. The draft UNSDCF has been developed based on this discussion that involved more than 160 participants with more than 40 Government Ministries and agencies, including those from the subnational level – together with resident and non-resident agencies of the UNCT.
12. The draft UNSDCF has been thoroughly consulted with all Government Ministries, Agencies, State Governments and the National Human Rights Commission. These in-depth comments have further improved the quality of the document as a framework to support Malaysia's Sustainable Development Goals aspirations.
13. UNSDCF Review and Update, in consultation with Ministry of Economy in December 2022 and May 2023.



APPENDICES

DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT AND SIGNATURES

By signing this Joint Programme document, all signatories commit to work together in a spirit of partnership to achieve the results identified in the results framework, work plan and budget.

| Co-Chairs of Steering Committee | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Government | United Nations Country Team |
| <i>Name of Representative</i> | <i>Name of Representative⁷³</i> |
| <i>Signature</i> | <i>Signature</i> |
| <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> | <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> |
| <i>Date</i> | <i>Date</i> |
| UN Organizations | |
| <i>Name of Representative</i> | <i>Name of Representative</i> |
| <i>Signature</i> | <i>Signature</i> |
| <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> | <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> |
| <i>Date</i> | <i>Date</i> |
| Non-UN Partners (as applicable) | |
| <i>Name of Representative</i> | <i>Name of Representative</i> |
| <i>Signature</i> | <i>Signature</i> |
| <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> | <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> |
| <i>Date</i> | <i>Date</i> |

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (ONE PAGE)

The executive summary contains a summary of all sections with emphasis on:

- The rationale and relevance of the joint programme;
- The expected results and their contribution to the CF outcome(s), country priorities, and related SDG targets;
- Intended beneficiaries with emphasis on vulnerable groups; and
- The JP partners including all PUNOs, Government, and non-UN partners (as applicable).

2. SITUATION ANALYSIS (ONE PAGE)

This section provides a brief, evidence-based summary of the development challenges to be addressed.

It is obtained from the CF, the Common Country Analysis (CCA), and other country analytical work including the Humanitarian Needs Overview⁷⁴ (as relevant). It outlines the economic, social, political, environmental, and institutional context for the joint programme. It includes a gender analysis that, along with the other considerations (theory of change, results framework), is consistent with the selected Gender Equality Marker code. It identifies the development or human rights challenges to be addressed; provides specific, current and disaggregated data on these challenges, major underlying and root causes, and the key capacity gaps. According to guidance for the CCA, the situation summary:

- Identifies the immediate, underlying and root causes of inequalities and vulnerability; including the different ways that women and girls and men and boys experience the identified problems, and respond to gaps in fundamental rights, including discrimination, and power-imbalances.
- Offers evidence to justify the JP based upon high quality, disaggregated data⁷⁵, with emphasis is on critical SDG-related data gaps and gender-sensitive and sex disaggregated statistics.
- Examines, as appropriate to the JP, normative and institutional gaps related to economic transformation, social exclusion of identified vulnerable groups, environmental sustainability and climate change adaptation and mitigation, governance and rule of law, and humanitarian-development-peace collaboration.

73. Normally the UN co-chair is the chair of the relevant CF Results Group and JWP from which the JP is derived. The UN co-chair represents and acts on behalf of the UNCT. Secretariat functions are provided by the lead PUNO.

74. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), 2022 Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF) Guidance.

75. Disaggregated by income, sex, age, education level, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location

3. RATIONALE AND THEORY OF CHANGE (TWO PAGE)

Based upon section 2, this section offers the rationale and theory of change for the JP. It explains the major changes expected from the JP and how people, and especially vulnerable groups, will benefit. It makes reference to the integrated results framework, work plan and budget (Annex A). It includes:

- A brief theory of change that is obtained from the CF. This defines the change pathway required to achieve the expected results, including major assumptions, risks and risk mitigation measures;
- Description of the expected JP results; normally, this is one or more CF outputs, sub-outputs (derived from the related CF JWP), contributing logically to a CF outcome, country priorities, and related SDG targets;
- Specific programme strategies and how they will address the major underlying and root causes of the problems to be addressed, including the key capacity gaps of institutions (duty-bearers) and people (rights-holders);
- A brief description of the division of labour between PUNOs and partners, the comparative advantages and added value of each to achieve the expected results;
- Reference to any critical cross-cutting concerns, related to the guiding principles; and
- Analysis of how the JP strategy and results will complement the efforts of other development partners and programmes working on the same problems.

There are two sub-sections:

(1) Lessons: A summary of major lessons from past programme experience, including how recommendations and observations from human rights mechanisms and other relevant supervisory mechanisms have been considered and used in the design of the JP.⁷⁶

(2) Sustainability Plan and Exit Strategy: A brief description about how expected JP results will be sustained beyond the timeline of the JP and CF with a focus on: (1) Community sustainability, (2) Financial sustainability, and (3) institutional sustainability. It describes expected roles and responsibilities of government, donors, and IPs. As part of the plan, the JP SC and JP team remain operational for a minimum of three months after operational closure of the JP to offer advice, and support transition efforts and capacity development. The JP team will consider the use of UN Volunteers to carry-out sustainability and transition arrangements.

4. STEERING AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS (HALF PAGE)

This section describes steering and management arrangements for the JP. This section does not substitute for organization-specific arrangements required by the respective internal policies of PUNOs. It offers a brief description of key groups, their composition, and major roles and responsibilities:

It includes:

- The JP Steering Committee (SC) See: ToR
- The JP Team See: ToR

See section 2.3: Role of the UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC) and Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO).

As relevant, this section will indicate common business services that will be used to enhance JP implementation.

76. International human rights mechanisms and supervisory systems under the UN are charter-based or treaty-based, including ILO conventions and the relevant supervisory mechanisms.

5. FUND MANAGEMENT MODALITY (TWO PARAS)

There is a choice of **three fund management modalities** (FMM): parallel, consolidated, or pass-through. These are underpinned by legal instruments that govern financial management and accountabilities. This section specifies the chosen FMM. For the pass-through and consolidated FMM, it provides a brief description of the special roles and the PUNOs assigned to play them.

- Consolidated FMM: PUNOs select the Managing Agent (MA) and inform the UNRC. Normally the lead PUNO is the MA.
- Pass-through FMM: (1) PUNOs select the Administrative Agent (AA) and inform the UNRC. When a JP responds to a country, regional or global pooled or vertical fund, the AA is indicated by the pooled fund TOR and governance arrangements; (2) PUNOs select the Convening Agent (CA) and inform the UNRC. The lead PUNO is the CA. When the pooled fund requires a coordination role for the UNRC, the selection of the CA/Lead PUNO is done in consultation with the UNRC.

See Annex D for specific information about each FMM, management aspects and legal instruments, indicative budget thresholds, and a flow chart to guide selection.

Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT): The HACT is applied by UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women, WFP and other United Nations entities and interagency programmes. When these organizations are PUNOs, this sub-section makes reference to already agreed arrangements⁷⁷ to transfer cash to implementing partners, stipulated in the CF Legal Annex and Country Programme Documents or other programme documents of these organizations.

Model text: The following PUNOs apply a Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT): < list organizations>.

All cash transfers to an implementing partner are based on the Joint Programme Work Plan, in accordance with the agreed arrangements in the Legal Annex of the approved UNSDCF and/or arrangements in the respective country programme documents of PUNOs.

6. MONITORING, LEARNING, AND REPORTING (HALF PAGE)

This section summarizes the arrangements for:

1. Monitoring and learning by the JP team (JP step 9):

This is done under the coordination and programmatic leadership of the lead PUNO, and includes data collection, reviews or studies, and joint field visits. This section includes knowledge management (KM) activities which are shown in the work plan and budget. For PUNOs that apply HACT, this includes quality assurance, scheduled audit and HACT spot checks, as required. Some arrangements for monitoring depend upon the choice of FMM (See Annex D).

2. Reporting and communications (JP Step 11):

This section describes arrangements for reporting and communications about JP results. One consolidated, results-based annual report is produced that includes programmatic and financial elements. It provides evidence about progress toward JP results, based upon monitoring reports and field missions, along with updated data for indicators (as available). Relevant parts of the CF annual results report may be used, unless otherwise required by the donor or pooled fund mechanism. When a separate report is required, the standard report template is used.⁷⁸

3. Annual progress reviews⁷⁹ (JP step 12):

Arrangements, roles and responsibilities for conducting annual progress reviews.

7. EVALUATION (TWO PARAGRAPHS)

This section describes arrangements, responsibilities and timing for the JP joint evaluation (as required), including how evaluation findings and recommendations will be used by the JP partners and other stakeholders.

77. This includes: Selected cash transfer modalities, the size and frequency of disbursements, and the scope and frequency of monitoring, reporting, assurance and audit.

78. The template is aligned with the UNSDG Standard Operational Format and Guidelines for Reporting Progress on the Cooperation Framework.

79. This may be timed to coincide with CF annual review.

ANNEX A: INTEGRATED RESULTS FRAMEWORK, WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

The integrated JP results framework, work plan and budget is prepared on a rolling basis. It illustrates a high level of coordination and sequencing to ensure complementarity and coherence between the planned activities of programme partners to achieve results. Normally, expected JP results will be one or more CF outputs, sub-outputs and related PUNO activities, contributing logically to a CF outcome, country priorities, and related SDG targets. These are derived from the CF results framework and relevant JWP. Five percent of the JP budget is allocated for monitoring, reporting, evaluation and audit, unless otherwise required by the donor or pooled fund. Normally, each PUNO will allocate five percent of its budget share. The budget uses the UNSDG approved harmonized budget categories.⁸⁰ Budgets for monitoring, evaluation and audit are shown in separate budget lines.

! Important:

Planned JP results and activities are coded with gender equality, human rights, and peace markers. This adheres to recommendation from the High-Level Task Force on Financing for Gender Equality that all budget templates across entities enable results-based budgeting (RBB), aligned with the gender equality marker.

Indicators are taken directly from CF results framework and JWP. Outcome indicators will correspond to one or more SDG indicators. Both outcome and output indicators are disaggregated⁸¹ and include quantitative and qualitative measures for how JP results will address gender equality dimensions and reach vulnerable groups (LNOB).

Include at least one outcome indicator to measure expected catalytic changes, for example:

Qualitative: Extent to which JP strategy and results have accelerated policy change(s) contributing to SDG achievement in terms of scale (geographic coverage) or scope (additional sectors or themes); or

Quantitative: Amount of additional funding or financing ('000 USD) leveraged/mobilized by JP strategy and results.

All results and related budgets under a JP are tagged as 'joint' in UN Info and UNO ERP systems for reporting on the QCPR and Funding Compact.⁸²

Note. Once the JP document is approved and signed, the JP results framework, work plan and budget is signed separately by Implementing partners (IPs) of PUNOs.

80. <https://mptf.undp.org/document/download/15822>

81. As far as possible, data are disaggregated by gender, race, ethnicity, class, age, disability, religion, language, caste, national or social origin, sexual orientation and gender identity, and other forms of discrimination prohibited by international law. CF Consolidated Annexes, LNOB, 17.

82. UN General Assembly, ECOSOC, Report of the Secretary General-Funding Compact, A/74/73/Add.1, 02 April 2019, Indicator 1.3. Fraction of UNSDG entities reporting at least 15% of development related expenditures on joint activities.

DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT AND SIGNATURES

By signing this Joint Programme document, all signatories commit to work together in a spirit of partnership to achieve the results identified in the results framework, work plan and budget.

| Co-Chairs of Steering Committee | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Government | United Nations Country Team |
| <i>Name of Representative</i> | <i>Name of Representative⁸⁴</i> |
| <i>Signature</i> | <i>Signature</i> |
| <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> | <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> |
| <i>Date</i> | <i>Date</i> |
| UN Organizations | |
| <i>Name of Representative</i> | <i>Name of Representative</i> |
| <i>Signature</i> | <i>Signature</i> |
| <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> | <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> |
| <i>Date</i> | <i>Date</i> |
| Non-UN Partners (as applicable) | |
| <i>Name of Representative</i> | <i>Name of Representative</i> |
| <i>Signature</i> | <i>Signature</i> |
| <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> | <i>Name of Ministry or Department</i> |
| <i>Date</i> | <i>Date</i> |

1. RATIONALE AND THEORY OF CHANGE (THREE PARAGRAPHS)

This section offers a brief rationale and theory of change for the JP. These are obtained from the CF. At a minimum the section will describe:

- The development challenges to be addressed with available, disaggregated data. This is obtained from the CF, the Common Country Analysis (CCA), and other country analytical work including the Humanitarian Needs Overview⁸⁵(as relevant);
- Expected JP results, with explanation about how people, and especially vulnerable groups, will benefit;
- Programme strategies, major assumptions and risks and risk mitigation measures;
- How JP results and strategies will complement the efforts of other development partners and programmes working on the same problems; and (5) A brief description about how expected JP results will be sustained beyond the timeline of the JP and CF.

2. STEERING AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS (ONE PARAGRAPHS)

This section describes steering and management arrangements for the JP. It does not substitute for organization-specific arrangements required by the respective internal policies of PUNOs. It offers a brief description of key groups, their composition, and major roles and responsibilities. It includes:

- The JP Steering Committee (SC) See: ToR
- The JP Team See: ToR

See section 2.3: Role of the UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC) and Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO). As relevant, this section will indicate common business services that will be used to enhance JP implementation.

84. Normally the UN co-chair is the chair of the relevant CF Results Group and JWP from which the JP is derived. The UN co-chair represents and acts on behalf of the UNCT. Secretariat functions are provided by the lead PUNO.

85. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), '2022 Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF) Guidance'.

3. FUND MANAGEMENT MODALITY (TWO PARAGRAPHS)

See Standard template.

4. MONITORING, LEARNING, AND REPORTING (TWO PARAGRAPHS)

This section summarizes the arrangements for:

1. Monitoring and learning by the JP team (JP step 9):

This is done under the coordination and programmatic leadership of the lead PUNO, and includes data collection, reviews or studies, and joint field visits. For PUNOs that apply HACT, this includes quality assurance, scheduled audit and HACT spot checks, as required. Some arrangements for monitoring depend upon the choice of FMM (See Annex D).

2. Reporting and communications (JP Step 11):

One consolidated, results-based annual report is produced that includes programmatic and financial elements. It provides evidence about progress toward JP results, based upon monitoring reports and field missions, along with updated data for indicators (as available). Relevant parts of the CF annual results report may be used, unless otherwise required by the donor or pooled fund mechanism. When a separate report is required, the standard report template is used.

3. Annual progress reviews⁸⁶ (JP step 12):

Arrangements, roles and responsibilities for conducting annual progress reviews.

5. EVALUATION (ONE PARAGRAPHS)

This section describes arrangements, responsibilities and timing for the JP joint evaluation (as required), including how evaluation findings and recommendations will be used by the JP partners and other stakeholders.

ANNEX A: INTEGRATED RESULTS FRAMEWORK, WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

See Appendix 1.3 for Integrated Results Framework, Work Plan and Budget

⁸⁶ This may be timed to coincide with CF annual review

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APPENDIX 1.3

JOINT PROGRAMME: INTEGRATED RESULTS FRAMEWORK, WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

This template is applicable for both the Standard and Simplified Joint Programme Templates

| JOINT PROGRAMME: INTEGRATED RESULTS FRAMEWORK, WORK PLAN AND BUDGET | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------|------------|--|
| Years: | | | | | | |
| National Development Priority | | | | | | |
| Related SDG: | | | | | | |
| CF Outcome(s): <<copy paste>> | | | | | | |
| Outcome Indicator: | Baseline: | Target: | MOV: | | | |
| Outcome Indicator: | Baseline: | Target: | MOV: | | | |
| Outcome Indicator: | Baseline: | Target: | MOV: | | | |
| Outcome Indicator: | Baseline: | Target: | MOV: | | | |
| Output 1.1 for Joint Programme | | | | | | |
| Outcome Indicators | Baseline: | Target (to 2020): | MOV: | | | |
| a. | | | | | | |
| b. | | | | | | |
| c. | | | | | | |
| Sub-Outputs | Graphical Focus | Timeline | | Puno | SDG Target | |
| | | Start | End | | | |
| 1.1.1 | | | | | | |
| Activity 1. | | | | | | |
| Activity 2. | | | | | | |
| Activity 3.. | | | | | | |
| 1.1.2 | | | | | | |
| Activity 1. | | | | | | |
| Activity 2. | | | | | | |
| Activity 3.. | | | | | | |
| 1.1.3 | | | | | | |
| Activity 1. | | | | | | |
| Activity 2. | | | | | | |
| Activity 3.. | | | | | | |
| 1.1.4 | | | | | | |
| 1.1.5 | | | | | | |
| 1.1.6 | | | | | | |
| 1.1.7 | | | | | | |

Appendix 2:

JOINT PROGRAMME DOCUMENT TEMPLATE

1. Use Verdana font 10; no line spacing (if no formatted in tables otherwise).
2. Delete instructions before finalizing the document.
3. For all aspects of the ProDoc not covered in this template, consult the UNDG Guidance note on joint programmes.
4. The following quality assurance criteria will be applied (from the Operational guidance of the Joint SDG Fund):
 - Adequate use of the required template for Joint Programme.
 - Fully developed Theory of Change, with mechanism for its iterative application.
 - Results Framework, including indicators from the Joint SDG Fund Results Framework.
 - Stakeholder mapping and analysis, with the particular focus on marginalized and vulnerable (i.e. operationalization of Leaving No One Behind).
 - Management arrangements with the government in the leading role and based on partnerships with other stakeholders.
 - Monitoring, reporting and evaluation plan; Communication plan; Learning and sharing plan; Risk Management plan.

A. COVER PAGE

1. **Fund Name:** Joint SDG Fund
2. **MPTFO Project Reference Number** (leave blank / automatically populated in Atlas)
3. **Joint programme title:** (80-100 characters max)
4. **Short title:** (30 characters max)
5. **Country and region:**
6. **Resident Coordinator:** (name and contact email)
7. **UN Joint programme focal point:** (name, organization and contact email)
8. **Government Joint Programme focal point:** (name, organization and contact email)
9. **Short description:** (1-2 paragraphs on programme's focus and expected results)
10. **Keywords:** (5-8, to be used for search in Gateway 2.0)
11. **Overview of budget** (based on the detailed budget in the annex)

| Joint SDG Fund Contribution | USD ,XXX.0 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Co-funding 1 (indicate source) | USD ,XXX.0 |
| Co-funding 2 (indicate source) | USD ,XXX.0 |
| TOTAL | USD ,XXX.0 |

12. **Timeframe**

| Start Date <i>(day/month/year)</i> | End Date <i>(day/month/year)</i> | Duration <i>(in months)</i> |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| | | |

13. **Gender Marker:** *(the overall score (0-3) based on the Gender Marker Matrix in the annex. See the supporting instruction on Gender matrix preparation)*

14. **Target groups** (including groups left behind or at risk of being left behind)
(delete all groups that are not influenced, and then indicate with "x" whether direct or indirect)

| List Of Marginalized and Vulnerable Group | Direct Influence | Indirect Influence |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Women | | |
| Children | | |
| Girls | | |
| Youth | | |
| Persons with disabilities | | |
| Older persons | | |
| Minorities (incl. ethnic, religious, linguistic...) | | |
| Indigenous peoples | | |
| Rural workers | | |
| Human rights defenders (incl. NGOs, journalists, union leaders, Whistle-blowers.) | | |
| Migrants | | |
| Refugees & asylum seekers | | |
| Internally displaced persons | | |
| Stateless persons | | |
| LGBTI persons (sexual orientation and gender identity) | | |
| Persons of African Descent (when understood as separate from minorities) | | |
| Persons affected by (HIV/AIDS, leprosy...) | | |
| Persons with albinism | | |
| Persons deprived of their liberty | | |
| Victims or relatives of victims of enforced disappearances | | |
| Victims of (slavery, torture, trafficking, sexual exploitation and abuse...) | | |
| Other groups: | | |

15. **Human Rights Mechanisms Related to The Joint Programme**
(select relevant ones from the list of mechanisms provided in the accompanying document)

16. **PUNO and Partners:**
(PUNO stands for Participating UN Organizations and include all entities involved in implementation. For each include: Organization, Last Name, First Name, Position, e-mail, telephone, Skype)

16.1 PUNO

Convening Agency:

-
-

Other PUNO:

-
-

16.2 Partners

National Authorities:

-
-

Civil Society Organizations:

-
-

Private Sector:

-
-

IFIs:

-
-

Other Partners:

-
-

SIGNATURE PAGE

Complete the table below, have it signed, scan, and insert it into the ProDoc.

| | |
|--|--|
| Resident Coordinator <i>Date and Signature</i> | National Coordinating Authority <i>Name of institution</i> <i>Name of representative</i> <i>Date</i> <i>Signature and seal</i> |
| Participating UN Organization (lead/convening) <i>Name of PUNO</i> <i>Name of Representative</i> <i>Date</i> <i>Signature and seal</i> | |
| Participating UN Organization <i>Name of PUNO</i> <i>Name of Representative</i> <i>Date</i> <i>Signature and seal</i> | |
| Participating UN Organization <i>Name of PUNO</i> <i>Name of Representative</i> <i>Date</i> <i>Signature and seal</i> | |
| Participating UN Organization (lead/convening) <i>Name of PUNO</i> <i>Name of Representative</i> <i>Date</i> <i>Signature and seal</i> | |

B. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

1. **Call for Proposal:** Building Resilience and Ending Vulnerability in Small Island Developing States (3/2021)
2. **Relevant Joint SDG Fund Outcomes**
 - **Outcome 1:** Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale.
 - **Outcome 2:** Additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement.
(delete if one of those is not relevant/applicable)
3. **Overview of the Joint Programme Results** *(from the annex on Results Framework)*
 - 3.1 Outcomes** *(from UNSDCF and additional programme-related, if necessary e.g. COVID response strategies/plans)*
 -
 -
 - 3.2 Outputs** *(from UNSDCF/joint work plans and additional programme-related, if necessary)*
 -
 -
4. **SDG Targets directly addressed by the Joint Programme**
 - 3.1 List of targets** *(max 3-10 – for each target there will be a requirement to provide baseline and then measure progress at the end of the joint programme.)*
 -
 -
 - 3.2 Expected SDG impact** *(1 paragraph on acceleration of progress on achieving selected SDG targets to be catalysed at the end of the programme)*
5. **Relevant objective/s from the national SDG framework**
(max 5; indicate specific source, e.g. key result areas/KPIs of national plan or strategy)
 -
 -
 -
6. **Brief overview of the Theory of Change of the Joint programme**
 - 5.1 Summary:** *(1 paragraph)*
 - 5.2 List of main ToC assumptions to be monitored:** *(max 5-6, align with ToC of UNSDCF if it exists)*
7. **Trans-boundary and/or regional issues** *(list and briefly explain, if relevant)*

C. JOINT PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

1. BASELINE AND SITUATION ANALYSIS

1.1 Problem statement

- *State problem/sustainable development challenge that the project intends to address, drawing in concise manner on relevant analysis and information from the CCA and UNSDCF and outline contribution of the project to COVID-19 response*
- *Explain how addressing the problem would accelerate the progress on the SDGs and key priorities from the national SDG framework. Identify elements of other international frameworks, e.g. SAMOA Platform, Sendai and Paris Agreement, to which the project will contribute*
- *Explain the problem/s to be addressed within the broader problem space/context, emphasizing most critical needs/gaps that the joint programme will focus on and applying gender- and human rights-based lenses, using relevant tools and approaches*
- *Incorporate the analysis presented in the Gender matrix in the Annex. Fully integrate the leaving no one behind analysis, as per the UNSDG Operational Guide for UNCTs on LNOB.*
- *Justify why focusing on this problem/s is more effective than focusing on other related problem/s.*
- *Max 3-4 page, not counting eventual graphs*

1.2 Target groups

- *Identify the groups and present summarize of the analysis of their needs. Include all target groups that will be influenced directly or indirectly.*
- *Summarized relevant recommendations of human rights mechanisms (as listed in the fact sheet earlier).*
- *Apply the UNSDG operational guide on leaving no one behind by presenting analysis of groups that are left behind or at risk of being left behind. Relate this to CCA, when relevant.*
- *Max 2-3 pages, not counting eventual graph.*

1.3 SDG targets

- *List selected SDG targets that are in the focus of the joint programme and provide: a) baseline data to be used for measurement of progress at the end of joint programme and the methods to be used to measure progress by the end of the joint programme, b) current extrapolation of trends or expected progress until 2022, c) brief analysis of interlinkages amongst the targets, considering impact across the three dimensions of sustainable development and d) opportunities for systemic, accelerated change with the emphasis on bottlenecks, trade-offs and synergies, multiplier and catalytic effects.*
- *Max 2-3 pages, not counting eventual graphs*

1.4 Stakeholder mapping

- *Map all stakeholders / stakeholder groups and briefly explain their involvement, interest and relationships in the area addressed by the joint programme*
- *Max 2-3 pages, not counting eventual graphs*

2. PROGRAMME STRATEGY

2.1. Overall strategy

- Summarize the main strategy for the programme and, in particular: a) why it is transformational (will deliver results at scale); b) how it is different from the conventional approach and/or alternative programme strategies; c) how it addresses the problem/s to accelerate the progress on achieving the selected SDG targets; d) what the added value of the UN will be; e) how it engages with related initiatives; f) how government will lead the joint programme and sustain and/or further scale its results; and g) what is the expected situation after the joint programme is completed.
- In addition, emphasize the approach to the target groups, in particular those left behind or at risk of being left behind. Relate this to recommendations from relevant human rights mechanisms.
- Show evidence of how this approach has worked in other areas, or how or why a new approach is being proposed.
- Explain the link to the mandate or strategic results of the involved UN agencies and the alignment with the UNDAF/UNSDCF
- Max 2 pages

2.2 Theory of Change

- There is no standard methodology for developing ToC in the UNDS, so different approaches could be used. However, the ToC needs to be presented as an anticipatory model of how the broader systemic change should emerge, and what the contribution of the joint programme is expected to be. This is not a plan or a results framework, but a model of an emerging reality that provides the context in which joint programme will operate. If that model changes, the ToC will need to change and joint programme modified or even redesigned – therefore, ToC is applied to enable iterative implementation, rather than as a roadmap. The ToC must demonstrate gender responsiveness, drawing on a gender analysis that makes gender differences and inequalities explicit. Within the broader ToC, the Results Framework of the joint programme elaborated its particular contribution, so ToC and Results framework as conceptually and practically very different. The joint programme might include anticipated attribution (development and/or financing additionality) to the broader change, but it is not required. In that case, pay attention to ensuring you will have the necessary data and funding for measuring the actual attribution later on.
- Ensure alignment with the broader ToC of UNDAF/UNSDCF, if it exists, and in particular how the joint programme contributes to it.
- Max 2-3 pages, divided into:
 - a) Summary (the same text as to be provided at the beginning of the ProDoc in the Strategic Framework section)
 - b) Detailed explanation: ToC narrative. Pay particular attention to explaining main outcomes/change and the linkages amongst them (the pathways / results chains); and specific contribution of the joint programme to the ToC, including the strategic entry/leverage points of the system that the joint programme will use to intervene in the system and contribute to the change.
 - c) ToC assumptions (the same as to be provided at the beginning of the ProDoc in the Strategic Framework section); select only the main assumptions underlying the key linkages in ToC. If the assumptions change the whole model might change. So, the joint programme will put particular focus on monitoring these assumptions and then inform the overall programme strategy and risks. These assumptions will be part of the monitoring updates and they are the same as those to be listed
- Note that you will need to include the graphical representation of ToC in the annex. It can be a simple diagram.

2.3 Expected results and impact

- *List and describe each outcome and output, and how they relate. Indicate who from the partners will be accountable for delivering specific results. You may mention indicators and targets, but do not elaborate, as they will be presented in the annex (Results Framework). Emphasize ensuring capacity and preconditions of government to sustain the results. Refer to outcomes/outputs of the Joint SDG Fund, when relevant. Indicate trans-boundary and/or regional issues and links.*
- *Explain what is expected to happen next, i.e. after the joint programme is completed.*
- *Briefly indicate the expected progress on the selected SDG targets and how you plan to build synergies and address trade-offs amongst the selected SDG targets*
- *Describe the expected impact in terms of changed situation for the target group/s (i.e. the “end game”). Do it in the form of storytelling, as a future scenario for when the joint programme will end- and not longer than half a page.*
- *Avoid gender blind results, demonstrate that gender equality and the empowerment of women is visibly mainstreamed across outcomes and outputs, indicate how expected results bring change to women and/or men in the context of their gender norms, roles and relations.*
- *Max 2-3 pages, not counting eventual graphs*

2.4 Financing

- *Justify the budget in terms of the investment to SDG acceleration and “value for money”. Compare it with alternative ways of investing the resources provided to the joint programme, and why that would be less effective and/or efficient. Demonstrate long-term financial sustainability, after the end of the joint programme.*
- *Indicate how the proposed budget addresses gender inequality, based on gender analysis presented in the Gender matrix in the Annex.*
- *Describe briefly how the joint programme will leverage broader financing. This can relate to government (current or additional) investment and to investments of other partners (including World Bank and IFIs).*
- *Max 2-3 pages, not counting eventual graphs.*

2.5 Partnerships and stakeholder engagement

- *Explain and justify: a) how the government will lead the implementation of the joint programme; b) the unique contribution of PUNO and broader UNCT; c) strategic contributions from other partners; d) the ways in which other stakeholders (in particular, the target group/s) will be involved, including eventual tools/methods for participatory dialogue, co-design, and co-delivery.*
- *Explain how the joint programme will pool and mobilize expertise from across the UNDS at country, regional and global levels. Then explain how it will pool and mobilize expertise and/or support from beyond the UNDS at country, regional and global levels.*
- *Explain how you plan to engage global Joint SDG fund donors, in case they are present in the country and/or related to the joint programmes.*
- *Note that there is an annex with details on all related programmes/initiatives. Max 2-3 pages, not counting eventual graphs.*

3. PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Governance and implementation arrangements

- *Max 4-5 pages, not counting eventual graphs*
- *Explain the implementation arrangements and justify specific roles and responsibilities of RC/RCO, each PUNO, national partner and other formally involved organizations - as well as the means by which it will ensure integrated implementation and participatory decision-making within both UNCTs and on the national side. Do not explain the accountability for specific outputs and outcomes because it should be covered in the previous section. Focus on coordination, decision-making, reporting. Finally, demonstrate how the transaction will be reduced on the UNCT side.*
- *Demonstrate government leadership in specific terms, including how the results of the joint programme will be absorbed and then sustained by government and other stakeholders*
- *Explain why this is the best approach (comparing to alternative ones) including how it avoids introducing parallel structures to those that already exist, and confirm that existing structures and mechanisms of UNCT, government, and related programmes/initiatives are leveraged*

3.2 Monitoring, Reporting, And Evaluation

The first part is standard text – do not change. You may add internal procedures and processes if needed.

Reporting on the Joint SDG Fund will be results-oriented, and evidence based. Each PUNO will provide the Convening/Lead Agent with the following narrative reports prepared in accordance with instructions and templates developed by the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat:

- Annual narrative progress reports, to be provided no later than one (1) month (31 January) after the end of the calendar year, and must include the result matrix, updated risk log, and anticipated expenditures and results for the next 12-month funding period;
- Final consolidated narrative report, after the completion of the joint programme, to be provided no later than two (2) months after the operational closure of the activities of the joint programme.

The Convening/Lead Agent will compile the narrative reports of PUNOs and submit a consolidated report to the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat, through the Resident Coordinator.

The Resident Coordinator will be required to monitor the implementation of the joint programme, with the involvement of Joint SDG Fund Secretariat to which it must submit data and information when requested. As a minimum, joint programmes will prepare, and submit to the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat, 6-month monitoring updates. Additional insights (such as policy papers, value for money analysis, case studies, infographics, blogs) might need to be provided, per request of the Joint SDG Fund Secretariat. The joint programme will adequately allocate resources for monitoring and evaluation in the budget.

Data for all indicators of the results framework will be shared with the Fund Secretariat on a regular basis, in order to allow the Fund Secretariat to aggregate results at the global level and integrate findings into reporting on progress of the Joint SDG Fund.

PUNOs will be required to include information on complementary funding received from other sources (both UN cost sharing, and external sources of funding) for the activities supported by the Fund, including in kind contributions and/or South-South Cooperation initiatives, in the reporting done throughout the year.

PUNOs at Headquarters level shall provide the Administrative Agent with the following statements and reports prepared in accordance with its accounting and reporting procedures, consolidate the financial reports, as follows:

- Annual financial reports as of 31st December each year with respect to the funds disbursed to it from the Joint SDG Fund Account, to be provided no later than four months after the end of the applicable reporting period; and
- A final financial report, after the completion of the activities financed by the Joint SDG Fund and including the final year of the activities, to be provided no later than 30 April of the year following the operational closing of the project activities.

In addition, regular updates on financial delivery might need to be provided, per request of the Fund Secretariat.

After completion of a joint programme, a final, independent and gender-responsive evaluation will be organized by the Resident Coordinator. The cost needs to be budgeted, and in case there are no remaining funds at the end of the joint programme, it will be the responsibility of PUNOs to pay for the final, independent evaluation from their own resources.

The programme will be subject to a joint final independent evaluation with an established arrangement for managing the joint evaluation. The final evaluation will be managed jointly by the PUNOs as per established process for independent evaluations, including use of a joint evaluation steering group and dedicated evaluation managers not involved in the implementation of the joint programme. The evaluations will follow the United Nations Evaluation Group's (UNEG) Norms and Standards for Evaluation in the UN System, using the guidance on Joint Evaluation and relevant UNDG guidance on evaluations. The management and implementation of the joint evaluation will have due regard to the evaluation policies of the PUNOs to ensure the requirements of those policies are met; and with use of appropriate guidance from PUNOs on joint evaluation. The evaluation process will be participative and will involve all relevant programme's stakeholders and partners. Evaluation results will be disseminated amongst governments, donors, academic institutions and stakeholders of civil society (including workers' and employers' organizations) and a joint management response will be produced upon completion of the evaluation process to be made publicly available on the evaluation platforms or similar of the PUNOs and through the UNEG database.

3.3 Accountability, Financial Management, And Public Disclosure

Standard text – do not change

The Joint Programme will be using a pass-through fund management modality where UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office will act as the Administrative Agent (AA) under which the funds will be channeled for the Joint Programme through the AA. Each Participating UN Organization receiving funds through the pass-through has signed a standard Memorandum of Understanding with the AA.

Each Participating UN Organization (PUNO) shall assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent of the Joint SDG Fund (Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office). Such funds will be administered by each UN Agency, Fund, and Programme in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures. Each PUNO shall establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent.

Indirect costs of the Participating Organizations recovered through programme support costs will be 7%. All other costs incurred by each PUNO in carrying out the activities for which it is responsible under the Fund will be recovered as direct costs.

Funding by the Joint SDG Fund will be provided on annual basis, upon successful performance of the joint programme.

Procedures on financial transfers, extensions, financial and operational closure, and related administrative issues are stipulated in the Operational Guidance of the Joint SDG Fund.

PUNOs and partners must comply with Joint SDG Fund brand guidelines, which includes information on donor visibility requirements.

Each PUNO will take appropriate measures to publicize the Joint SDG Fund and give due credit to the other PUNOs. All related publicity material, official notices, reports and publications, provided to the press or Fund beneficiaries, will acknowledge the role of the host Government, donors, PUNOs, the Administrative Agent, and any other relevant entities. In particular, the Administrative Agent will include and ensure due recognition of the role of each Participating Organization and partners in all external communications related to the Joint SDG Fund.

3.4 Legal context

This section refers to cooperation or assistance agreements form the legal basis for the relationships between the Government and each of the UN organizations participating in this joint programme. For example: the Basic Cooperation Agreement for UNICEF; Standard Basic Assistance Agreement for UNDP, which also applies to UNFPA; the Basic Agreement for WFP; as well as the Country Programme Action Plan(s) where they exist; and other applicable agreements for other participating UN organizations. For the Funds and Programmes, these are standing cooperation arrangements. For the specialized Agencies, these should be the text that is normally used in their programme/project documents or any other applicable legal instruments. The text specific to each participating UN organization should be cleared by the respective UN organization.

- Indicate the title and date of the agreement between each Participating UN Organization (PUNO) and the government in the following format:

Agency name:

Agreement title:

Agreement date:

D. ANNEXES

ANNEX 1. LIST OF RELATED INITIATIVES

Complete the table below

| Name Of Initiative/Project | Key Expected Results | Links To The Joint Programme | Lead Organization | Other Partners | Budget And Funding Source | Contract Person (Name And Email) |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

ANNEX 2. OVERALL RESULTS FRAMEWORK

2.1. Targets for Joint SDG Fund Results Framework

Set targets in the tables below, if relevant

Joint SDG Fund Outcome 1:

Integrated multi-sectoral policies to accelerate SDG achievement implemented with greater scope and scale (set the targets, where relevant)

| Indicators | Target | |
|---|--------|------|
| | 2022 | 2023 |
| 1.1: integrated multi-sectoral policies have accelerated SDG progress in terms of scope ⁸⁷ | | |
| 1.2: integrated multi-sectoral policies have accelerated SDG progress in terms of scale ⁸⁸ | | |

87. Scope=substantive expansion: additional thematic areas/components added or mechanisms/systems replicated.

88. Scale=geographical expansion: local solutions adopted at the regional and national level or a national solution adopted in one or more countries.

Joint SDG Fund Output 3:

Integrated policy solutions for accelerating SDG progress implemented

(set the targets, where relevant)

| Indicators | Target | |
|--|--------|------|
| | 2022 | 2023 |
| 3.1: # of innovative solutions that were tested ⁸⁹ (disaggregated by % successful-unsuccessful) | | |
| 3.2: # of integrated policy solutions that have been implemented with the national partners in lead | | |
| 3.3: # and share of countries where national capacities to implement integrated, cross-sectoral SDG accelerators has been strengthened | | |

Joint SDG Fund Outcome 2:

Additional financing leveraged to accelerate SDG achievement

(set the targets, where relevant)

| Indicators | Target | |
|---|--------|------|
| | 2022 | 2023 |
| 2.1: Ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged in terms of scope ⁹⁰ (disaggregated by source) | | |
| 2.2: Ratio of financing for integrated multi-sectoral solutions leveraged in terms of scale ⁹¹ (disaggregated by source) | | |

Joint SDG Fund Output 4:

Integrated financing strategies for accelerating SDG progress implemented

(set the targets, where relevant)

| Indicators | Target | |
|---|--------|------|
| | 2022 | 2023 |
| 4.1: # of integrated financing instruments/strategies that were tested (disaggregated by % successful / unsuccessful) | | |
| 4.2: # of integrated financing strategies that have been implemented with partners in lead ⁹² | | |
| 4.3: # of functioning partnership/governance frameworks for integrated financing strategies to accelerate progress on SDGs made operational | | |

89. Each Joint programme in the Implementation phase will test at least 2 approaches.

90. Additional resources mobilized for other / additional sector/s

91. Additional resources mobilized for the same multi-sectoral solution.

92. This will be disaggregated by (1) government/public partners (2) civil society partners and (3) private sector partners

Joint SDG Fund Operational Performance Indicators

(do not change or add – this is for information only so that teams know what they will be assessed against)

- Level of coherence of UN in implementing programme country⁹³
- Reduced transaction costs for the participating UN agencies in interaction with national/ regional and local authorities and/or public entities compared to other joint programmes in the country in question
- Annual % of financial delivery
- Joint programme operationally closed within original end date
- Joint programme financially closed 18 months after their operational closure
- Joint programme facilitated engagement with diverse stakeholders (e.g. parliamentarians, civil society, IFIs, bilateral/multilateral actor, private sector).
- Joint programme included addressing inequalities and the principle of “Leaving No One Behind”.
- Joint programme featured gender results at the outcome level.
- Joint programme undertook or draw upon relevant human rights analysis, and have developed or implemented a strategy to address human rights issues.
- Joint programme planned for and can demonstrate positive results/effects for youth.
- Joint programme considered the needs of persons with disabilities.
- Joint programme made use of risk analysis in programme planning.
- Joint programme conducted do-no-harm / due diligence and were designed to take into consideration opportunities in the areas of the environment and climate change.

2.2. Joint Programme Results Framework

Set targets in the tables below, if relevant

| Result / Indicators | Baseline | 2022 Target | 2022 Target | Means of Verification | Responsible partner |
|----------------------|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Outcome 1 | | | | | |
| Outcome 1 indicator | | | | | |
| Outcome 1 indicator | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Output 1.1 | | | | | |
| Output 1.1 indicator | | | | | |
| Output 1.1 indicator | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Output 1.2 | | | | | |
| Output 1.2 indicator | | | | | |
| Output 1.2 indicator | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

93. Annual survey will provide qualitative information towards this indicator.

ANNEX 3. THEORY OF CHANGE GRAPHIC

Insert the graphical representation of the Theory of Change. This could be even a simple diagram.

ANNEX 4. GENDER MARKER MATRIX

Complete the table below, using the instruction for gender marker scoring. The total score is the average of individual scores.

| Indicator | | Score | Findings and Explanation | Evidence or Means of Verification |
|----------------------|---|-------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| No. | Formulation | | | |
| 1.1 | Context analysis integrate gender analysis | | | |
| 1.2 | Gender Equality mainstreamed in proposed outputs | | | |
| 1.3 | Programme output indicators measure changes on gender equality | | | |
| 2.1 | PUNO collaborate and engage with Government on gender equality and the empowerment of women | | | |
| 2.2 | PUNO collaborate and engages with women's/ gender equality CSOs | | | |
| 3.1 | Program proposes a gender-responsive budget | | | |
| Total Scoring | | | | |

ANNEX 5. BUDGET AND WORK PLAN

5.1 Budget per UNSDG categories

Use the table template in excel and, after finalizing it, insert it here. Provide brief (max 1 page) justification for the overall table.

5.2 Budget per SDG targets

Use the table template in excel and, after finalizing it, insert it here. Provide brief (max 1 page) justification for the overall table.

5.3 Work plan

Use the table template in excel and, after finalizing it, insert it here. Provide brief (max 1 page) justification for the overall table. Provide brief explanation for the budget allocated to monitoring, reporting and communications (max additional 1 page)

ANNEX 6. RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Describe the overall risk management strategy (max 2 pages). Emphasize a systematic and structured risk management approach that is integrated into the processes and internal decision making and tailored to specific joint programme. It should include, besides identification of potential risks, assessment of their impact and likelihood, and design of mitigation measures also a rigorous process for documentation, evaluation and revision of the risks. Include Human Rights Diligence: measures that will be put in place to ensure that programme support is provided in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles as set out in the Charter of the United Nations and is compliant with and promotes the respect for international humanitarian, human rights, and refugee law.

When relevant, add aspects based on agency-specific approach (e.g. consideration of social and environmental standards and risks of UNDP)

Complete the Risk matrix table below:

| Risks | Risk Level: (Likelihood x Impact) | Likelihood: Certain - 5 Likely - 4 Possible - 3 Unlikely - 2 Rare - 1 | Impact: Essential - 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1 | Mitigating measures | Responsible Org./Person |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Contextual Risks | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Programmatic Risks | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Institutional Risks | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Fiduciary Risks | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

See further instruction below (and then delete the photo before finalizing the ProDoc)

| Likelihood | Occurrence | Frequency |
|-------------|---|---|
| Very Likely | The event is expected to occur in most circumstances | Twice a month or more frequently |
| Likely | The event will probably occur in most circumstances | Once every two months or more frequently |
| Possibly | The event might occur at some time | Once a year or more frequently |
| Unlikely | The event could occur at some time | Once every three years or more frequently |
| Rare | The event may occur in exceptional circumstances | Once every seven years or more frequently |

| Consequence | Result |
|----------------------|--|
| Extreme | An event leading to massive or irreparable damage or disruption |
| Major | An event leading to critical damage or disruption |
| Moderate | An event leading to serious damage or disruption |
| Minor | An event leading to some degree of damage or disruption |
| Insignificant | An event leading to limited damage or disruption |

| Consequences | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| Likelihood | Insignificant (1) | Minor (2) | Moderate (3) | Major (4) | Extreme (5) |
| Very Likely (5) | Medium (5) | High (10) | High (15) | Very High (20) | Very High (25) |
| Likely (4) | Medium (4) | Medium (8) | High (12) | High (16) | Very High (15) |
| Possibly (3) | Low (3) | Medium (6) | High (9) | High (12) | High (15) |
| Unlikely (2) | Low (2) | Low (4) | Medium (6) | Medium (8) | High (10) |
| Rare (1) | Low (1) | Low (3) | Medium (3) | Medium (4) | High (5) |

| Level of Risk | Result |
|------------------|---|
| Very High | Immediate action required by Executive Management. Mitigation activities/treatment options are mandatory to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Risk cannot be accepted unless this occurs. |
| High | Immediate action required by Senior/Executive Management. Mitigation activities/treatment options are mandatory to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Monitoring strategy to be implemented by Risk Owner. |
| Medium | Senior Management attention required. Mitigation activities/treatment options are undertaken to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Monitoring strategy to be implemented by Risk Owner. |
| Low | Management attention required. Specified ownership of risk. Mitigation activities/treatment options are recommended to reduce likelihood and/or consequence. Implement of monitoring strategy by Risk Owner is recommended. |

4.1 BUDGET PER UNGD CATEGORIES

| UNGD BUDGET CATEGORIES | PUNO 1 | | PUNO 2 | | PUNO 3 | | PUNO 4 | | TOTAL | |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| | Joint SDG Fund (USD) | PUNO Contribution (USD) | Joint SDG Fund (USD) | PUNO Contribution (USD) | Joint SDG Fund (USD) | PUNO Contribution (USD) | Joint SDG Fund (USD) | PUNO Contribution (USD) | Joint SDG Fund (USD) | PUNO Contribution (USD) |
| 1. Staff and other personnel | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| 2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| 3. Equipment, Vehicles, and Furniture (including Depreciation) | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| 4. Contractual services | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| 5. Travel | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| 6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| 7. General Operating and other Direct Costs | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| Total Direct Costs | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | |
| 8. Indirect Support Costs (Max. 7%) | - | | - | | - | | - | | 0 | |
| TOTAL Costs | - | | - | | - | | - | | - | - |
| <i>1st year</i> | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |
| <i>2nd year</i> | | | | | | | | | 0 | 0 |

4.2 BUDGET PER SDG TARGETS

| SDG Target | % | USD |
|--------------|---|-----|
| | 0 | 0 |
| | 0 | 0 |
| | 0 | 0 |
| | 0 | 0 |
| | 0 | 0 |
| | 0 | 0 |
| | 0 | 0 |
| | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | - | - |

4.3 WORK PLAN

| OUTCOME 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|------|--------------------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Output | Annual Target/s | | List of Activities | Timeframe | | | | | | | |
| | 2022 | 2023 | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| Output 1.1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 1.2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

| OUTCOME 2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|------|--------------------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Output | Annual Target/s | | List of Activities | Timeframe | | | | | | | |
| | 2022 | 2023 | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| Output 2.1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 2.2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

| JOINT PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|--|--------------------|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Output | | | List of Activities | Timeframe | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| Output 3.1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 3.2 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | |

| Planned Budget | | | | PUNO/s involved | Implementing Partner/s Involved |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Overall Budget Description | Joint SDG Fund (USD) | PUNO Contributions (USD) | Total Cost (USD) | | |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |

| Planned Budget | | | | PUNO/s involved | Implementing Partner/s Involved |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Overall Budget Description | Joint SDG Fund (USD) | PUNO Contributions (USD) | Total Cost (USD) | | |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |

| Planned Budget | | | | PUNO/s involved | Implementing Partner/s Involved |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Overall Budget Description | Joint SDG Fund (USD) | PUNO Contributions (USD) | Total Cost (USD) | | |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |

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