



UNITED NATIONS  
PHILIPPINES



PHILIPPINES 2024-2028

# United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework



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Manila, Philippines (July 2024)

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The **United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework** is the joint strategic planning framework for partnership between the United Nations and the Government of the Philippines to achieve national development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals during the 2024-2028 period.

By signing hereunder, in Manila on 24 October 2023, the Government of the Philippines and the United Nations in the Philippines endorse the document and reaffirm their joint commitment to work towards its strategic priorities, outcomes and outputs, in the spirit of leaving no one behind and the United Nations development system reform.

*On behalf of  
the Government of the Philippines*

Handwritten signature of Enrique A. Manalo.

**Enrique A. Manalo**  
Secretary, Department  
of Foreign Affairs

*On behalf of  
the United Nations*

Handwritten signature of Gustavo González.

**Gustavo González**  
United Nations Resident  
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Handwritten signature of Arsenio M. Balisacan.

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## Speech of Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., the President of the Republic of the Philippines, at the Ceremonial Signing of the 2024-2028 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CF)

The United Nations Resident Coordinator Mr. Gustavo Gonzalez; our Cabinet ministers, Foreign Affairs Secretary Enrique Manalo and our NEDA Secretary, Secretary Arsenio Balisacan; the officials and personnel of the DFA, NEDA, and the United Nations Country Team; distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.

Let me begin by commending the DFA, NEDA, and most of all the UN Resident Coordinator's Office for crafting the new CF that deepens, expands, and elevates the partnership between the Philippines and the United Nations.

As a founding member of the United Nations, the Philippines strongly supports the United Nations as a beacon for multilateral approaches for making lasting peace and progress a reality for all peoples, for all nations.

At the United Nations General Assembly last year, I underscored that no nation stands alone. The achievement of our national ambition requires a global environment that creates conditions that allow nations to thrive and to navigate the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Beyond building better from the pandemic and for resilient communities, the world needs a transformative agenda to bridge divides, address inequalities, and foster growth that carries everyone forward. Especially in this complex global environment, we certainly need the United Nations to thrive in its important work including at the country level. Here in the Philippines, 17 United Nations entities served that task as with the entire United Nations development system across the world.

Our new CF covers the period of 2024 to 2028, which coincides the timeline of this administration. As it is oriented to support Philippine government policies and priorities embodied in the 8-Point Socioeconomic Agenda, the Philippine Development Plan and AmBisyon Natin, it enjoins United Nations agencies in the government's determined pursuit of the highest aspirations of our people.

We look forward to vigorous engagements and key issues that bear on the future of our communities including food security, health, education, climate action, decent work, digital transformation, and disaster risk reduction.

We invite new approaches to help promote innovation driven by climate-smart and sustainable growth at all levels. We also are fostering access to green financing, lasting



peace, and better public services across the archipelago.

With the United Nations delivering as one, fully cognizant of the Philippine needs and context and the voices of its partners including civil society, our partnership can be a catalyst for the accomplishment of our shared goals in the 2030 agenda for sustainable development.

As the CF is among the first of its kind under the reformed United Nations development system, our collaboration will showcase the best and finest the United Nations development system can offer the world with programs that provide solutions and have far-reaching impact, and provide good models of co-ownership, transparency, and accountability.

The CF brings with it not only the legacies of the Philippines' constructive and long-standing engagement with the United Nations. It also signifies our role in shaping more inclusive and effective multilateral institutions that embrace and bring tangible results to us all.

The CF also acknowledges how the Philippines' best practices and experience, which we have established over decades can help the achievement of the SDG agenda elsewhere through South-South Cooperation platforms.

The United Nations recognizes that peacebuilding milestones in the Bangsamoro

Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao offer valuable examples for peacemaking across the world.

Our advocacies in the Indo-Pacific and in the global arena for the rule of law and the peaceful settlement of disputes also provide opportunities for a more substantive engagement with the United Nations.

These novel aspects of the CF show how our partnership has evolved. It is now infused with a more mature and outward-looking synergy of efforts, serving the interests of both the Philippines and the United Nations as we work for a safer and more prosperous world.

It is truly fitting that we embark on this new journey together as we celebrate the founding of the United Nations 78 years ago.

This daunting and profound enterprise of making our collaboration deliver meaningful change and transformation on the ground lies before us.

Again, I extend my warmest congratulations to the Department of Foreign Affairs, to NEDA, the UN Country Team, of course, for an excellent job.

I look forward to hearing many more success stories of the Philippines-United Nations partnership under this CF.







# Contents

<b>LIST OF ACRONYMS</b> .....	<b>10</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>CHAPTER 1: COUNTRY PROGRESS TOWARDS THE 2030 AGENDA</b> .....	<b>17</b>
1.1. Country context.....	17
1.2. National vision for sustainable development .....	18
1.3. Progress towards the SDGs .....	19
<b>CHAPTER 2: UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO THE 2030 AGENDA</b> .....	<b>23</b>
2.1. From Common Country Analysis to Cooperation Framework .....	24
2.2. Theory of change for the Cooperation Framework priorities.....	26
2.3. Cooperation Framework strategic priorities, outcomes and United Nations contribution .....	30
2.4. Cross-border and regional cooperation.....	44
2.5. Sustainability.....	45
2.6. Leaving No One Behind (LNOB).....	46
2.7. United Nations comparative advantage and United Nations country team configuration .....	46
<b>CHAPTER 3: COOPERATION FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION PLAN</b> .....	<b>47</b>
3.1. Implementation strategy .....	47
3.2. Cooperation Framework governance, accountability, and coordination .....	48
3.3. Internal United Nations management and coordination .....	49
3.4. Engagement with external stakeholders .....	51
3.5. Leveraging resources for the Cooperation Framework.....	51
3.6. Partnerships for the Cooperation Framework .....	53
3.7. Derivation of United Nations entity country programming instruments from the Cooperation Framework .....	54
3.8. Joint Work Plans.....	56
3.9. Business Operations Strategy in support of the Cooperation Framework.....	56
<b>CHAPTER 4: COMMON COUNTRY ANALYSIS UPDATE, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING PLAN</b> .....	<b>57</b>
4.1. Updates of the UN Common Country Analysis.....	57
4.2. Monitoring implementation.....	57
4.3. Evaluation.....	58
<b>ANNEXES</b> .....	<b>60</b>
Annex 1. Alignment of Cooperation Framework, SDGs, and PDP.....	61
Annex 2. Theory of Change .....	62
Annex 3. Results Framework.....	64
Annex 4. The Legal Annex .....	75
Annex 5. Programme Management and Accountability in the Cooperation Framework.....	77

# List of acronyms

AICHR	ASEAN Intergovernmental Committee on Human Rights
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BARMM	Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
BOS	Business Operations Strategy
DFA	Department of Foreign Affairs
CAB	Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro
CCA	Common Country Analysis
CF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
ESG	Environmental, social, and governance standards
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FDI	Foreign Direct Investments
GCM	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
GIDAs	Geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas
GII	Global Innovation Index
ICT	Information and communications technology
IFIs	International financial institutions
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ITC	International Trade Centre
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
JWP	CF Annual Joint Workplan
JRG	Joint Results Groups
JSC	Joint Steering Committee
LGBTIQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex and Queer
LGUs	Local government units
LNOB	Leaving No One Behind
MAF	Management and Accountability Framework of the UN Development and RC System
MEA	Multilateral environmental agreements
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Group
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NCCAP	National Climate Change Adaptation Plan
NCRMF	National Climate Risk Management Framework
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NEDA	National Economic and Development Authority
NIASD	National Innovation Agenda and Strategy Document
OFWs	Overseas Filipino Workers
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

OG	CF Outcome Group
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
OMT	Operations Management Team
PBSAP	Philippines Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
PDP	Philippine Development Plan
PFM	Public financial management
PSA	Philippine Statistics Authority
RCT	Results Coordination Team
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TVET	Technical and vocational education and training
UHC	Universal Health Care
UN	United Nations
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCG	United Nations Communications Group
UNCT	United Nations country team
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNDSS	United Nations Department of Safety and Security
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNIC	United Nations Information Centre
UNICRI	United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNOCT	United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UN-RC	United Nations Resident Coordinator
UN-RCO	United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WPS	Women, Peace and Security

# Executive Summary



1. This United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CF: 2024-2028) is the joint strategic planning framework for partnership between United Nations and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines over 2024-2028, a period that coincides with the global push for acceleration of actions to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is aligned with and supports the Philippines' long-term development vision articulated in AmBisyon Natin 2040 and the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028.



2. The CF was formulated through a consultative process involving the Government, civil society, private sector, development partners, and the United Nations system (represented by resident and non-resident entities). It is grounded in the United Nations development system's comparative advantages, its normative agenda, and its ability to leverage a broad range of resources for development. It is informed by the national development priorities in the PDP and supports the country's aspiration to become an upper middle-income economy and to accelerate progress towards the achievement SDGs. As a long-term trusted partner of the Government, United Nations in the Philippines is well-positioned to support the government in achieving the country's sustainable development.



3. As one of the fastest growing economies in Southeast Asia, the Philippines has been able to significantly reduce poverty and improve living conditions of its population. However, the pandemic led to economic contraction, increased poverty and unemployment, and exacerbated already high inequalities causing a major setback to the country's development trajectory. The country is on a good recovery path on the strength of its sound economic fundamentals notwithstanding record high inflation rates in the early part of 2023. The establishment of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) sets the track for lasting peace, stability and stronger development in the southern parts of the country. While there has been progress in recent years, some human development indicators need improvements in parts of the country.






4. The Philippines is a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) where it plays an important role in setting the agenda and influencing regional outcomes. It is committed to the 2030 Agenda and has set up mechanisms to implement, monitor and mainstream SDGs in development plans.

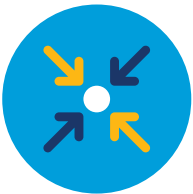


5. Further progress on SDGs requires continued action for rapid recovery and making the economy more competitive, innovative and resilient; making governance more transparent and accountable; supporting peace and development in regions that are economically marginalised; strengthening the rights-based approach to development and evidence-based and participatory policymaking; deepening commitment to leaving no one behind with focus on vulnerable groups; investing in human capital; and action on climate change, environmental governance and pollution. This needs to be done by building broad-based and diverse partnerships and following a more integrated and multi-dimensional approach towards sustainable development, in support of national priorities and existing public programs.



6. To better support government programs to achieve Philippine development objectives and keeping in mind the centrality of leaving no one behind, the Government of the Philippines and United Nations identified, in consultation with other stakeholders, the following strategic priorities and outcomes for CF (2024-2028):

Strategic priorities	Outcomes
 <p><b>Human capital development, inclusion, and resilience building</b></p>	<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> By 2028, all people, especially those at risk of being left behind, have increased resilience to economic, climatic, disaster, and public health risk through improved, equitable, and gender-responsive access to and utilization of quality social services, social protection, healthy habitat, enhanced good governance and peace.</p>
 <p><b>Sustainable economic development, innovation and decent work</b></p>	<p><b>Outcome 2:</b> By 2028, all people benefit from a more integrated, innovative, inclusive, and sustainable economy that generates decent work and livelihood opportunities.</p>
 <p><b>Climate action, environmental sustainability and disaster-resilience</b></p>	<p><b>Outcome 3:</b> By 2028, all people benefit from just transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development, sustainable management of environment, natural resources and biodiversity and strengthened resilience to disasters and natural hazards.</p>



7. United Nations in the Philippines will contribute to the achievement of these strategic priorities and outcomes through technical assistance, capacity building, policy advice, leveraging partnerships, promoting systems thinking, catalysing development finance, among others. United Nations will build on its normative mandate and contribute to accelerating SDG progress through evidence-informed approaches in line with guiding principles, namely, a human rights-based approach to development, “leaving no one behind”, gender equality and women’s empowerment, sustainability, accountability, and resilience. United Nations will support the Philippines’ engagement with relevant regional institutions and development frameworks.



8. The Joint Steering Committee (JSC) is the embodiment of joint ownership of the CF by the Government and the United Nations. It is the highest governing body that provides oversight and support, reviewing and guiding the strategic guidance of the CF. It is co-chaired by the Secretary of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) from the government side and the United Nations Resident Coordinator (UN-RC). The JSC will review the progress against the planned results, including with a mid-term review, identify new opportunities and recommend course corrections as necessary.



9. The legal annex at the end of this document defines the relationship between the United Nations and the Government of Philippines. The CF will be operationalized through Joint Work Plans and monitored through the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan. Under the overall guidance of the United Nations country team (UNCT), the CF will be further supported by Outcome Groups and other thematic and programme support groups. There will be a mid-term review to be coordinated under the JSC framework and a mandatory final independent evaluation of the CF that will be presented to the JSC in the penultimate year of its implementation.



## UNITED NATIONS PHILIPPINES

### 25 United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies and affiliated organizations

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations		International Labour Organization	International Trade Centre		IOM UN MIGRATION
UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER			UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction	UN environment programme	
		The UN Refugee Agency		United Nations International Crime and Justice Research Institute	
		United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime			World Food Programme



#### 4 United Nations Secretariat support offices:

- Department of Safety and Security (DSS)
- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO)
- United Nations Information Centre (UNIC)

The Philippines is one of the original 51 founding members of the United Nations. The activities of the United Nations in the Philippines align with the country's development priorities, human rights and gender equality commitments and with the 17 SDGs. Some UN entities also provide humanitarian support. The United Nations works to support national development priorities through technical assistance, capacity development, knowledge exchange, and innovative pilot programmes.

Twenty-nine United Nations entities engage in operational and/or support activities for development in the Philippines, working together through the UNCT and under the leadership of the UN-RC, the designated representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in the country.

On 24 October 2023, twenty-four United Nations entities signed the CF: FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, ITC, ITU, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNDRR, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHABITAT, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNICRI, UNIDO, UNOCT, UNODC, UNOPS, UN Women, WFP, WHO. Other entities, including those providing operational and coordination support, include UNDSS, UNIC(DGC), OCHA, RCO(DCO), ESCAP and WMO.



Country-based personnel

1,900+



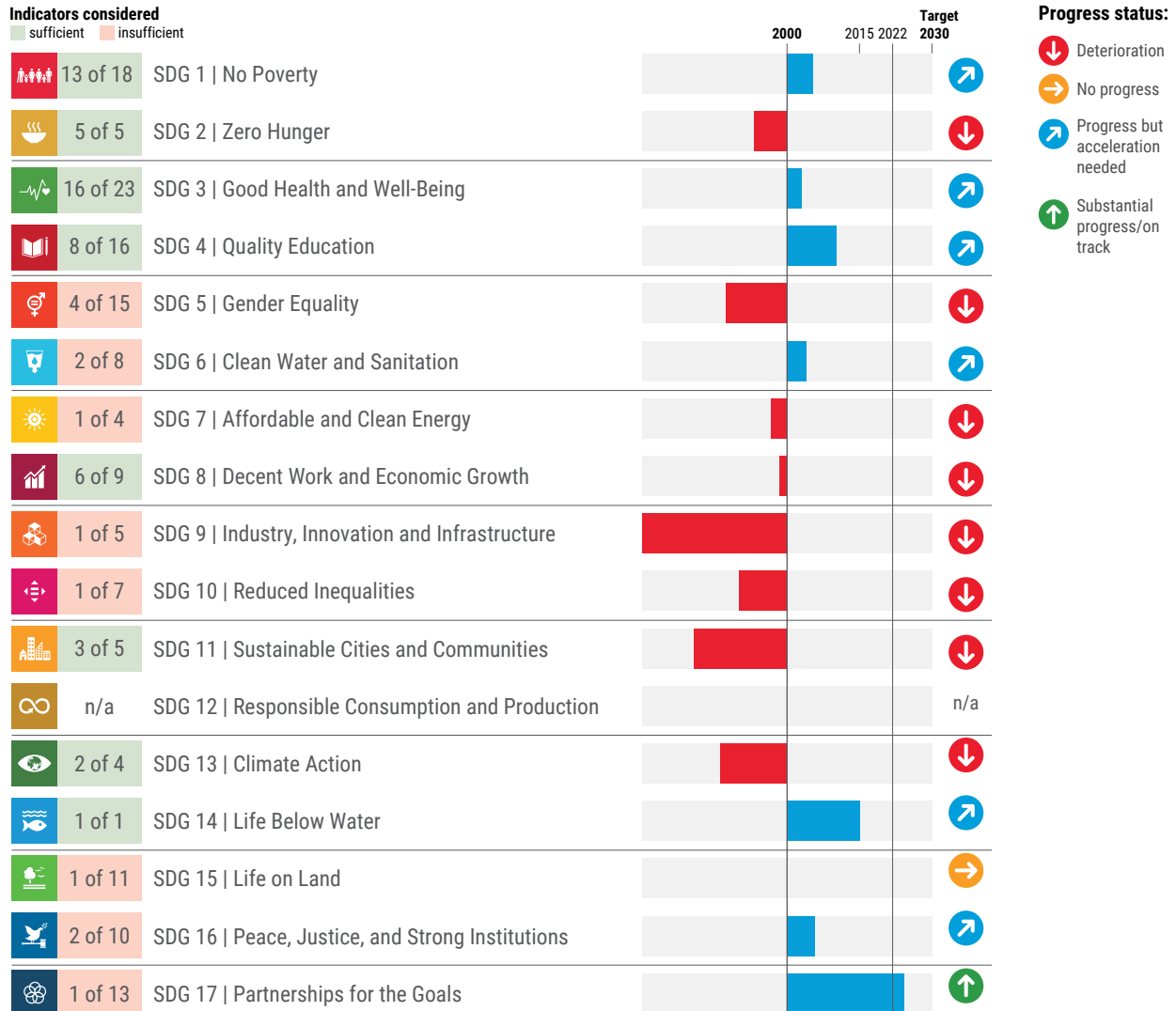
Gender parity  
Female | Male

57% | 43%



# Philippines Snapshot

## SDG Pace of Progress – Current Status Index



- If a bar reaches or crosses the 2022 line, it has made the expected progress to date.
- If a bar shows advancement but misses the 2022 line, it has made progress but still short to achieve the expected progress.
- If a bar shows progress but towards the opposite direction, it regressed.

Source: Philippine Statistics Authority, SDG Pace of Progress Results, SDG Watch 27 January 2023








# Country Progress Towards the 2030 Agenda

## 1.1. Country context

- 10.** The Philippines was among the fastest growing economies in Southeast Asia for nearly two decades prior to COVID-19. In 2022, the GDP growth at 7.6 percent was the highest the country registered since 1976 and the country is poised to become a one trillion USD economy by 2033. The consistent long-term growth enabled the country to significantly reduce poverty from 23.5 percent in 2015 to 16.7 percent in 2018 and improve living conditions. As in many countries, however, the pandemic led to economic contraction and increased poverty (to 18.1 percent in 2021) and unemployment, and exacerbated inequalities. The Philippines also slipped three places in the Human Development Index from 113 to 116 between 2020 and 2021.
- 11.**  The country proactively responded to the pandemic through economic stimulus, social assistance programme and other measures. The country is on a good recovery path with sound economic fundamentals, despite challenges from global crises impacting the region. The establishment of the BARMM has the potential to contribute to lasting peace, stability and development in the region. Despite substantial improvements and actions towards ensuring peace and security, there remain challenges in the process of assisting former combatants in their return to civilian life, in the necessary enhancements in the healing, reconciliation, and gender mainstreaming components in geographically isolated and conflict-affected communities.
- 12.** The Philippines, as an archipelago composed of over 7,100 islands, faces distinctive challenges due to its geographical configuration, such as connectivity and the provision of basic social services. Additionally, the country is highly susceptible to climate change and its associated risks, including other natural hazards connected with its geographic proximity to seismic and tectonic activity. Coupled with the progressive degradation of its natural resources, loss of biodiversity, and increased pollution, these challenges significantly impact the economy and the well-being of its people. The government attached high importance to climate action and environmental resilience and is mainstreaming these in the public policy agenda.
- 13.** While the Philippines has experienced accelerated economic growth, the benefits need to be distributed more equitably and inclusively. Despite significant progress in reducing poverty rates, around 20 million people remain in poverty. Vulnerabilities of geographical areas and population groups compounded by climate change, conflicts and health emergencies have exacerbated inequalities. The country has recently taken steps towards addressing institutional challenges and strengthening accountability mechanisms. To address these development challenges on its path toward becoming an upper middle-income country, the Philippines is actively working to tackle food and nutrition insecurity, sustainable energy transitions, maternal and child mortality rates, child stunting, and the gender gap in labour force participation. By prioritizing inclusive policies and targeted interventions, the country aims to create a more equitable and prosperous future for all its citizens.

## 1.2. National vision for sustainable development

14. The Philippines' long-term development vision as articulated in AmBisyon Natin 2040 is: "By 2040, the Philippines is a prosperous middle-class society where no one is poor. People live long and healthy lives and are smart and innovative. The country is a high-trust society where families thrive in vibrant, culturally diverse, and resilient communities." This vision is operationalized through the Philippines Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028 that aims to achieve "economic and social transformation for a prosperous, inclusive, and resilient society." It focuses on rapid recovery and long-term sustainable growth, rooted in the foundation of resilient communities and ecosystems. The PDP has been updated to reflect the need to accelerate post-pandemic recovery and to mitigate the impacts of severe global and regional economic slowdown and macroeconomic constraints. The Plan shows confidence that these uncertainties can be managed and aims at deepening past reforms through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach.
15. As accompanying documents to the PDP 2023-2028, Regional Development Plans, including the Bangsamoro Development Plan contain the overall development framework of each region in the medium term, including the sectoral and spatial strategies, strategic interventions and priority programs addressing regional and local development concerns.
16. The Philippines also has and is developing sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, strategies and frameworks that support implementation of PDP priorities. Examples include the Health Sector Strategy; Basic Education Development Plan; Social Protection Plan; National Employment and Recovery Strategy; Philippine Action Plan for Sustainable Consumption and Production; National Innovation Agenda and Strategy Document; and national action plans on Mainstreaming Fair and Ethical Recruitment and on Sustainable, Gender-Responsive Return and Reintegration among many others.
17. In July 2022, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. presented his administration's 8-point economic agenda that is anchored on AmBisyon Natin 2040 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Collectively with the PDP, they contribute towards the achievement of the 17 SDGs, underpin the scope of intervention of the 2019-2023 United Nations strategic framework in the Philippines and map out the country's strategy to meet its targets.



## 1.3. Progress towards the SDGs

- 18.** The Philippines set up institutional mechanisms to monitor, coordinate and mainstream the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs in the national and sub-national development plans. The country presented its third Voluntary National Review (VNR) during the United Nations Economic and Social Council High Level Political Forum on 12 July 2022, highlighting the Philippines' progress towards achieving five SDGs namely, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 5: Gender Equality, SDG 14: Life below water, SDG 15: Life on land, and SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals.
- 19.** Expansion of digital infrastructure accelerated in the country contributing to delivery of education services and SDG 4 outcomes. Government initiatives such as but not limited to the National Broadband Plan and Free Wi-Fi for all Program, for instance, set the direction in the development of internet connectivity and helped facilitate internet-based distance learning, allowing more learners access to internet and broadband services (exposure of population to internet increased from 48.1 percent in 2013 to 75.4 percent in 2019). The Philippines is a progressive country in terms of gender equality and women's empowerment (SDG 5). Under SDG 3, a major accomplishment has been a significant reduction in out-of-pocket expenses (from 45 percent in 2016 to 39.9 percent in 2020) thanks to the universal health coverage under the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act.
- 20.** Under SDG 14, the coverage of protected areas increased significantly from 1.41 million hectares in 2016 to 3.14 million hectares in 2020. The VNR also reports progress on SDG 15 particularly on the land under forests which increased from 7.01 million hectares (in 2010) to 7.18 million hectares (in 2021) which can be attributed to the effective management of forests and rehabilitation efforts of the government. However, climate change remains a threat which continues to pose risks to various sectors.
- 21.** The Philippines achieved progress in fiscal management, mobilising domestic resources to finance SDGs including through 'sin' taxes and SDG and green bonds, among others. The Philippines also achieved an investor-grade credit rating of 'BBB+' from Rating and Investment Information, Inc.; and has revised its outlook to positive from stable owing to the country's robust macroeconomic fundamentals, improving fiscal position, sound banking system, comfortable external payments position, and stable political environment. This positive credit rating posits the possibility of a rating upgrade once performance indicators such as the economic growth sought under the PDP 2023-2028, stable macroeconomic conditions, and improving trend of fiscal position have been confirmed. Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) are a major source of remittances. While the remittances are largely used for household consumption, instruments have been developed to attract and channel these resources for investment.
- 22.** In terms of overall SDG performance, the Philippines ranked 96 out of 166 countries around the world according to the 2023 Sustainable Development Solutions Network Sustainable Development Report. The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)'s 2022 SDG Pace of Progress reported that out of the 42 SDG targets with measurable pace of progress, seven targets are on track to being achieved; 18 need acceleration; and 17 are regressing. Specifically, based on the assessment of both reports, the country has made notable progress on poverty reduction (SDG 1), good health and well-being (SDG 3), quality education (SDG 4), clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), life below water (SDG 14), and partnerships for the goals (SDG 17), promoting human and social development, especially ensuring equal access to quality early and basic education (SDG 4) and accelerating progress on nutrition (SDG 2) and quality health care and universal health care coverage (SDG 3), reducing vulnerabilities of Filipinos from multidimensional risks through strengthened social protection (SDG 1), generating green and quality jobs (SDG 8), accelerating climate action (SDG 13), practicing good governance (SDG 16), and improving gender equality (SDG 5) are among the government's key priorities.
- 23.** The Philippines has ratified eight out of the nine core international human rights treaties and constructively engages with relevant human rights mechanisms. The government accepted 215 out of 289 recommendations received through its fourth Universal Periodic Review. The Government of the Philippines is also a champion of the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration.

24. The overarching and cross-cutting development priorities are addressing inequalities and vulnerabilities to risks and shocks. Key development **challenges** include:



Increasing investment in human capital that contributes to lowering maternal and child mortality, reducing adolescent pregnancy, increasing protection, lowering rates of child stunting, food security, adequate learning outcomes, addressing gaps in social protection and labour force participation, adequate housing, and lowering levels of socioeconomic and income inequalities.



Developing the green and blue economy, including the promotion of more biodiversity-friendly enterprises and ecotourism sites for vulnerable upland and coastal communities will also be pursued.



Reinforcing an enabling environment of good governance and subnational capacities and systems to enhance strong and accountable institutions, rule of law, safety and security.



Pursuing economic transformation that would increase productive and decent jobs, further integrate food systems, effectively harness the potential from agriculture and fisheries sectors, strengthen progress in low-carbon development, and improve SDG-responsive investments and financing.



Overcoming gaps in comprehensive data collection, quality enhancement, management and analysis, including sex, age and disability disaggregated data for evidence-based policymaking and development.



Strengthening resilience against the impacts of natural disasters, climate change, nature and biodiversity loss, and pollution.



Reducing disparities in growth and development among geographical regions, particularly for provinces with lagging human development indicators.

25. At the same time, there are relevant **opportunities** to be built upon:



A favourable demographic transition, including educated youth, and level of gender equality to accelerate SDGs.



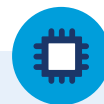
The highly diversified agriculture sector provides opportunities for increasing food production and promotion of dietary diversity throughout the country, backed by strong national programs, research and advances in agricultural technologies.



Key policies and initiatives recently implemented, such as the Public Service Act, the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Delivery of Government Services Act, and the Philippine Digital Workforce Competitiveness Act, provide opportunities for the country to become more competitive and digitally innovative to attract foreign investments and to allow benefits from such advancements to reach far-flung areas.



The Philippines recognizes innovation as an enabler of growth and has significantly improved its innovation capabilities, jumping 36 spots over the last decade, and now ranking 59th among 132 economies as per the World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) Global Innovation Index (GII) 2022. The Philippines has been singled out as one of the four middle-income nations that have the potential to change the global innovation landscape for good. The development of a new National Innovation Agenda and Strategy Document further supports the country's consistent rise in rankings and enables its transformation into a smart and innovative Philippines that is productive, resilient, sustainable, and inclusive.



The Philippine ambition to make significant strides towards becoming both a digital economy and a digital society, supported by a country roadmap for digitalization, characterized by data-driven and science-based decision-making to uplift the lives of people, minimize the opportunities for graft and corruption, streamline government services, improve industry productivity, and enhance economic growth.



Leadership in and commitment to environmental and climate actions through participating in a range of multilateral environmental and climate change agreements.



The Philippines is a functioning democracy and participates in technical cooperation on human rights processes; committed to key treaties, conventions and global governance mechanisms; open to international investors; and has a traditionally vibrant and diverse civil society and is committed to promotion of civic space.



The Mandanas-Garcia ruling on local government units (LGUs) is a historic opportunity to further support the localization of SDGs, strengthen inclusive and sustainable local development and contribute to overall strengthening of subnational institutions.



# United Nations Development System Support to the 2030 Agenda



- 26.** The repositioned United Nations development system has already brought the paradigm shift required to achieve coherence and effective service delivery on the ground to support the Philippines' strong commitment to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs, as well as the 2023-2028 Philippine Development Plan. The reforms in the United Nations development system aimed to reengineer the DNA of the development system in order to make it fit for purpose and to make United Nations country-level operations more coordinated and integrated, improve accountability, and ensure that the resources made available to member states addressed their specific development needs. In line with the United Nations Secretary-General's Call to Action, United Nations is committed to upholding rights, including rights of the most left behind such as women and girls living in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDAs), people at risk of gender-based violence, persons with disabilities, forcibly displaced population, stateless persons and others. The UNCT in the Philippines is expected to mobilize its resources at the country, regional and headquarters levels, pursue joint work planning, joint programmes and programme implementation, share information, joint communications and resource mobilization strategies to implement the nationally determined priorities set out in the Cooperation Framework.









SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS



## 2.1. From Common Country Analysis to Cooperation Framework

- 27.**  The Cooperation Framework (CF) represents the first United Nations programming instrument emerging from the United Nations development system reform launched in 2018. The CF provides guidance on the entire programme cycle, driving planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of collective United Nations support for achieving the 2030 Agenda. As such, it aims at enhanced integration of knowledge, capacities and resources amongst United Nations entities comprising the Resident Coordinator System. The CF period (2024-2028) coincides closely with the global push for acceleration of actions to achieve SDGs by 2030.
- 28.**  The strategic priorities and outcomes of the CF are primarily informed by Ambisyon Natin 2040 and PDP 2023-2028 to focus on achieving the 2030 Agenda and the national development priorities. The Common Country Analysis (CCA), which provides a snapshot of the country's economic, social, political, and environmental context, as the country recovers from the pandemic, and identifies key interlinked challenges that the Philippines faces also serves as a reference on the CF. CCA findings were presented at a multi-stakeholder workshop in December 2022. The prioritization process was also influenced by the global / regional megatrends and a multi-dimensional risk analysis, including geopolitical risk that could negatively affect the country's development trajectory. Together with various government agencies, identified opportunities for growth also informed the priorities.
- 29.** The long-term vision as articulated in the AmBisyon Natin 2040 and the 2023-2028 PDP guided the strategic prioritisation process of the CF, which is well aligned with national development priorities and highlights United Nations' comparative advantages. United Nations' internal self-assessment, together with the recommendations of the final evaluation of the previous strategic cycle, contributed to the prioritisation process. Further, the CF focuses on priorities that are transformational in nature, with potential to change and accelerate progress on multiple SDGs, and that require a United Nations system-wide investment in knowledge, capacities, partnership and resources. The priorities are cross-sectoral and call for a multi-stakeholder approach for enhanced synergies and impact. Throughout the prioritisation process, the government and other key stakeholders were consulted to ensure different perspectives were brought into the processes. The present CF builds on key principles and strategic objectives of the reform of the United Nations development system.
- 30.** Based on the process described above, three strategic priorities and outcomes were identified. These were guided by the understanding of the fundamental importance of good governance, the rule of law, and strong national institutions in achieving the country's transformation and sustainable development. Embedding good governance and human rights principles in these priorities unlock the benefits of increased responsiveness, transparency, and accountability vital in strengthening key institutions, empowering communities, and ensuring lasting peace which are aligned with the country's national development priorities. The following strategic priorities and outcomes were identified for the CF (2024-2028):



Strategic priorities	Outcomes
 <p data-bbox="165 398 453 492"><b>Human capital development, inclusion, and resilience building</b></p>	<p data-bbox="533 219 1359 376"><b>Outcome 1:</b> By 2028, all people, especially those at risk of being left behind, have increased resilience to economic, climatic, disaster, and public health risk through improved, equitable, and gender-responsive access to and utilization of quality social services, social protection, healthy habitat, enhanced good governance and peace.</p> <p data-bbox="533 398 708 425"><b>Related SDGs:</b></p> 
 <p data-bbox="165 855 434 949"><b>Sustainable economic development, decent work, and innovation</b></p>	<p data-bbox="533 676 1359 770"><b>Outcome 2:</b> By 2028, all people benefit from a more integrated, innovative, inclusive, and sustainable economy that generates decent work and livelihood opportunities.</p> <p data-bbox="533 792 708 819"><b>Related SDGs:</b></p> 
 <p data-bbox="165 1249 389 1370"><b>Climate action, environmental sustainability and disaster resilience</b></p>	<p data-bbox="533 1070 1401 1191"><b>Outcome 3:</b> By 2028, all people benefit from just transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development, sustainable management of environment, natural resources and biodiversity and strengthened resilience to disasters and natural hazards.</p> <p data-bbox="533 1214 708 1240"><b>Related SDGs:</b></p> 

- Implementation of already approved programmes, projects, and activities in support of government priorities and SDG acceleration that are rolling over into the 2024-2028 CF cycle does not imply continuation after their completion. The design and implementation of programmes, projects and activities under the CF will be done in consultation with the Government.

## 2.2. Theory of change for the Cooperation Framework priorities

32. The overarching theory of change outlines the interconnected and transformational changes which the three CF strategic priorities can bring about to help achieve the PDP goal by 2028, accelerate the country's progress on the Sustainable Development Agenda by 2030, and contribute to the Philippines' long-term development vision by 2040. There are **three interconnected changes**, translated into three strategic priorities as below, that must take place for the development vision above to be achieved.



### Human capital development, inclusion, and resilience building

33. The Philippines has increased spending on social services, including food and nutrition, healthcare system and health promotion, and access to education but expenditures as a share of GDP are below countries of a similar level of development. The country has taken steps to address the challenges of food and nutrition insecurity, including all forms of malnutrition and child stunting, as well as health challenges such as high maternal mortality and child mortality. The healthcare system needs strengthening to improve equitable and gender responsive access to integrated, people-centred, resilient, quality essential health services. Greater priority needs to be given to health promotion and addressing social determinants of health, particularly by increased engagement from other sectors. Improving quality of and equitable access to education, including in technical and vocational education, will enhance learning outcomes for children and youth and adults to realise their full human potential and be ready for the evolving future of work. Special attention needs to be given to those living in poverty, remote locations and areas prone to conflicts and disasters, as well as vulnerable groups, such as women, children, and persons with disabilities, and internally displaced persons. Enhanced investment in early childhood education is important for the physical and mental well-being of children and is a lifelong investment in the country's future. Building the resilience and shock-responsiveness of systems is essential to ensure continuity of social services. Investment in a comprehensive, gender- and shock-responsive and adaptive

social protection system, comprising social insurance, social benefits, active labour market policies including sustainable livelihoods, would prevent the vulnerable groups from regressing into poverty and loss of human potential. This includes migrants and OFWs who do not qualify for social services in their host countries.

34. The country is working towards strengthened governance, social cohesion, inclusion and protection of human rights, especially for women, children and vulnerable groups, and fighting and preventing gender-based violence. It seeks to further improve service provision to people, especially in remote areas, through digital infrastructure, innovation, rule of law strengthening and anti-corruption measures. Strengthening local capacities, data collection, policy coherence and participatory planning are also essential for achieving sustainable development. Civic space, protection systems, remedial, outreach, and victim support measures continue to be strengthened. The country addresses root causes of armed violence, promotes conflict prevention, and pursues the remaining milestones of the Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro (CAB).




### Sustainable economic development, innovation and decent work

35. In consultations with the Government and relevant authorities, United Nations will support the Philippines in strengthening an enabling environment for economic transformation to fully realize the potential of its educated and tech-savvy youth; fully leverage its openness to trade and investment; and fully benefit from a stable and sustainable national economy. To successfully achieve an economic transformation towards becoming a predominantly middle-class society where no one is poor, the country aims to fast track the implementation of economic reforms (i.e. amendments to the Public Service Act, Retail Trade Liberalization, and Foreign Investment Act) to attract Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) and to enable a predictable, rule-based, and transparent investment climate and Republic Act 11293 on Adopting Innovation as Vital Component of the Country's Development Policies to Drive Inclusive

Development, Promote the Growth and National Competitiveness of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), Appropriating Funds Therefore, and for Other Purposes. Further, to keep up with regional and global demands, embracing Industry 4.0 through the creation of roadmaps, building of appropriate facilities, and upskilling workers to adapt to associated technologies, to increase productivity in the economy, and to expedite the transition towards higher value sectors. The Philippines also needs to harness the potential of its workforce and to leverage its strategic partnerships to shift from its current low productivity level to a productive and resilient country that is characterized by higher value-adding services with attention also on groups that are at risk of being left behind.

- 36.** The country aims to transform into a Smart and Innovative Philippines that is productive, resilient, sustainable and inclusive. Consistent with the vision of the Philippine Innovation Act, the country emphasizes (i) strengthening the competitiveness of Filipino MSMEs, (ii) leveraging the innate creativity and quality of human capital, (iii) enhancing the resiliency and connectivity of the economy, (iv) increasing the reliability and efficiency of services provided by collaborative institutions, and (v) further pursuing ecological sustainability. The National Innovation Council and other relevant agencies would benefit from support in ensuring the establishment of a dynamic innovation ecosystem that will concretely transform the ten identified priority areas for innovation identified in the National Innovation Agenda and Strategy Document (NIASD).
- 37.** The goal of economic transformation entails harnessing the benefits of technology, including rapidly developing technologies such as artificial intelligence, and digitalization in driving progress, enhancing services, and fostering economic growth. As the country capitalizes on its competitive advantage in services, the Philippines pursues policies to build ecosystems and prioritize industries with high growth potential, such as information and communications technology (ICT), tourism, and logistics, to move up the global value chain, attract more investments, and generate more high productivity jobs for all, including those at risk of being left behind. Overcoming the Philippines' connectivity gaps is key to this. Enhancing both the digital and physical connectivity infrastructures

and transportation systems will support unhampered movement of people, goods, and services. This will facilitate linkage between markets and production sites. In addition, improving digital and physical connectivity will facilitate employment and business opportunities to link with external markets, revitalize tourism, facilitate the safe and efficient movement of goods and people, and promote trade and investments.

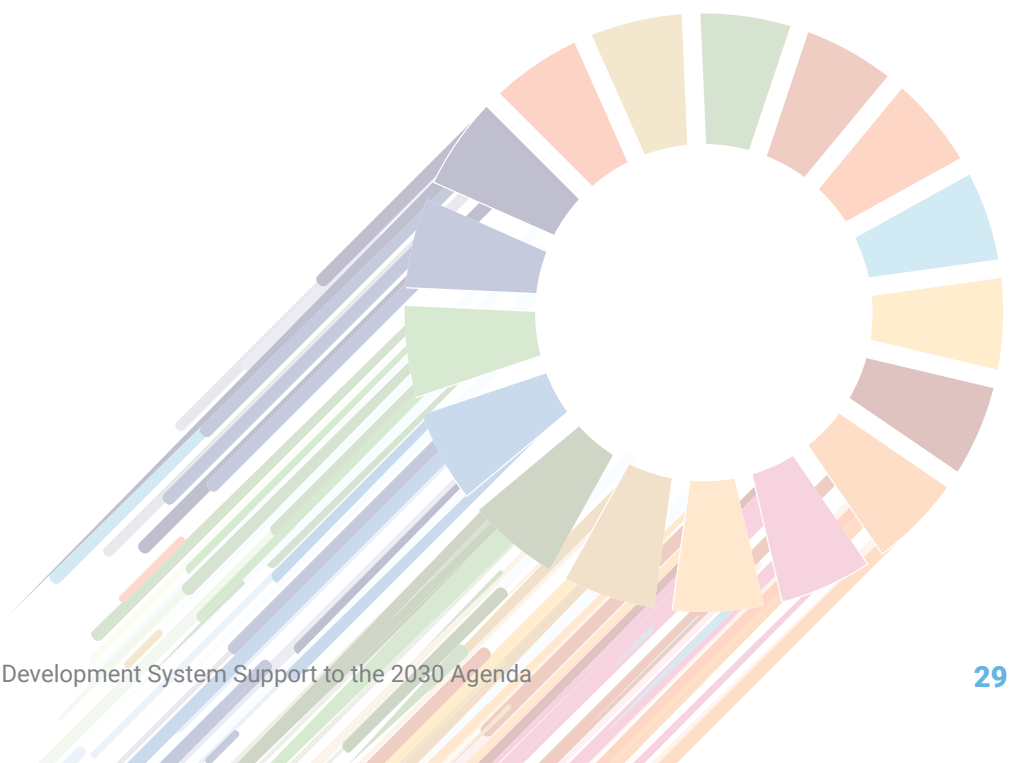
- 38.** The dualism in the economy, where high-tech jobs co-exist with low-productivity jobs, must be addressed through enhanced formalization of the informal economy. The Philippines aims for innovation and generating not only more, but also higher quality jobs. As such, the country should invest in skilling architecture, in collaboration with private sector and educational institutions, making education-to-work transition smooth and enhancing employability of youth and other vulnerable groups, including as entrepreneurs of the next generation MSMEs, with demand-driven 21<sup>st</sup> century skills focusing on women and vulnerable groups. Increasing income opportunities in the rural areas will have to involve modernizing the agriculture and agribusiness sectors. This suggests the crucial role of both the government and private sector in enhancing the efficiency of agriculture, fisheries, and forestry (AFF) production, expanding access to markets and AFF-based enterprises, and improving the resilience of the AFF value chains.
- 39.** Multidimensional shocks arising from natural (e.g., typhoons), biological (e.g., pandemic, transboundary animal diseases), and climate-related hazards pose risks to the country's food security. In this regard, targeted investments in sustainable, resilient, and inclusive food systems with particular focus on agricultural value chains, rural finance, productive infrastructure, technological transformation, digitalization and development of green and blue economy.
- 40.**  Inclusive and sustainable development requires the protection of workers through the promotion of the decent work agenda which includes the greater formalization of employment and businesses. Economic growth needs to be more inclusive, gender- and disability-sensitive and regionally balanced to generate decent jobs in high-value and high-productivity sectors.





## Climate action, environmental sustainability and disaster resilience

- 41.** The Philippines is one of the world's most disaster-prone countries and a signatory to all major multilateral environmental agreements, invests in policies, programs, and capacity development efforts towards climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk reduction and management, ecosystem resilience, blue and green economy promotion and development, and sustainable consumption and production.
- 42.** Protecting, managing, and rehabilitating ecosystems are intensified to enhance the resilience of ecosystems from the threats of climate change. The country prioritizes the promotion of biodiversity friendly enterprises and ecotourism to provide livelihood opportunities for vulnerable upland and coastal communities. Moreover, the country promotes and mainstreams sustainable consumption and production patterns and practices, in all economic sectors to influence and steer behaviour across sectors and levels of government and help decouple economic growth from environmental degradation.
- 43.** The Philippines prioritizes the transition towards low-carbon and sustainable economy pathways with the aim to achieve carbon neutrality. It promotes sustainable consumption and production practices across sectors for reducing material footprint, reducing and managing waste, managing urban development and enhancing resource use efficiency. To further improve the communities' resilience to climate and disaster risks, the public and private sectors can enhance partnerships in safeguarding communities most at risk. The Philippines incorporates transformative reforms that adopt low-carbon technology in sectors with the highest carbon emissions. International climate financing and cooperation will play a central role for the Philippines to meet targets set in its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- 44.** Linkages between safe human mobility and climate change in the Philippines should be better understood and mainstreamed into local adaptation and resilience strategies. Communities most exposed to disasters that are also at the forefront of national disaster risk management mechanisms need enhanced capacities and resources for disaster risk reduction, in line with the Sendai Framework, with specific attention paid to addressing the needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls. As a megadiverse country and biodiversity hotspot, the Philippines prioritizes the effective management of natural resources to ensure equitable access, sharing of benefits, and build resilience.
- 45.** There are opportunities to strengthen LGUs' capacity to address disaster risks and formulate climate-resilient development and displacement solution plans, including land-banking for anticipated urban growth and increased housing needs away from hazard-prone areas. Action on disaster risk reduction and climate change requires strong intersectoral coordination, incorporation of protection lens, diversified funding and financing sources, disaggregated data and focus on vulnerable groups and areas.



## 2.3. Cooperation Framework strategic priorities, outcomes and United Nations contribution

46. The CF is well-aligned with the PDP (2024-2028) and the relevant SDGs that each outcome would address. The three outcomes set the United Nations' expected contribution to the achievement of the three strategic priorities. The alignment of the CF with the PDP and SDGs is demonstrated in Annex 1. Each succeeding section describes pathways to reach each of the outcomes, and the contribution of United Nations. The summary of the Theory of Change for each outcome is in Annex 2. The detailed CF Results Framework is in Annex 3. The three outcomes of the CF can only be fully secured by accountable, transparent and good governance arrangements offering institutional integrity based on the rule of law and human rights in accordance with international standards and norms to which Philippines is party.





## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

# Human capital development, inclusion, and resilience building

## OUTCOME 1

By 2028, all people, especially those at risk of being left behind, have increased resilience to economic, climatic, disaster, and public health risk through improved, equitable, and gender-responsive access to and utilization of quality social services, social protection, healthy habitat, enhanced good governance and peace.



## Strategic Priority 1 Human capital development, inclusion, and resilience building

### Outcome

1

**By 2028, all people, especially those at risk of being left behind, have increased resilience to economic, climatic, disaster, and public health risk through improved, equitable, and gender-responsive access to and utilization of quality social services, social protection, healthy habitat, enhanced good governance and peace.**



**Output 1.1:** The Philippine healthcare system has accelerated progress on key health-related SDG targets and implementation of the UHC Act by enabling healthy choices of individuals, ensuring access to improved quality, efficiency, equitable and gender-responsive health services and systems, while preparing for and responding to health emergencies, and addressing key social determinants and risk factors across the life course.



**Output 1.2:** The Government has improved facilitation of securing the availability, sustainability and accessibility of safe, affordable, and nutrient-rich diets, as well as the accessibility of quality, gender-responsive, equitable multisectoral basic services, enabling families to adopt optimal practices that address food insecurity, malnutrition, improve overall health and wellbeing, particularly for the most vulnerable and marginalized, at all times.



**Output 1.3:** The Philippine education system has improved capacity to provide inclusive, resilient, safe, and quality learning environments at all education and training levels.



**Output 1.4:** The social protection and child protection systems have increased coverage, strengthened resilience to shocks, and improved quality in delivering timely, sustained and appropriate services to all persons in need.



**Output 1.5:** The people have improved resilience to and protection from multidimensional risks through the provision of adequate housing, improved environmental quality, and enhanced social environment, including social cohesion.

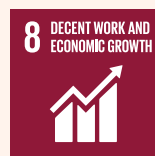


**Output 1.6:** Institutions and systems are strengthened to provide services and address needs of communities in a more efficient, participatory, transparent and accountable manner.



**Output 1.7:** Peace and unity are further strengthened through support to government efforts to implement peace agreements and deliver peace dividends.






### Related SDGs





## United Nations contribution (Outcome 1)

47. United Nations in the Philippines will make the following interlinked contributions to achieve Outcome 1, in consultation with the Government and upon request of relevant authorities:

- (a)  It will contribute to strengthening social protection systems by improving its design, transparency, digitalization of social registries and delivery mechanisms for enhanced portability; strengthening the capacities of relevant government agencies and LGUs to design and implement adaptive and shock-responsive social protection programmes; and expanding the coverage and benefit levels for vulnerable groups such as migrant workers, informal workers and farming and fishing communities. It will support advocacy for progressive universal social protection coverage that is more inclusive, integrated, nutrition-sensitive, vulnerability- and risk-based, resilient and responsive to shocks and emergencies, and responsive to differential needs of the most vulnerable. It will support government initiatives to further leverage social protection as a platform for providing food and nutrition security.
- (b)  In support of universal healthcare, United Nations will contribute to building capacities of and strengthening health systems at all levels to improve equitable, resilient and gender-sensitive access to integrated, people-centred, quality essential health services, with emphasis on primary health care. It will support Government's evidence-based health planning and regulation, and strengthen subnational health leadership and health system governance capacity, strengthen and innovations in service delivery, including health care provider networks, and access to essential, quality-assured medicines and other technologies, provide technical support and build capacity for identifying and addressing social determinants and health risk factors, provide technical support to strengthen health information systems, advocate for rights-based approach to health, promote and create awareness about global health norms and standards, and help establish and improve public digital and tele-health information system. It will support advocacy for "one health" approach by mainstreaming the nexus between planetary, zoonotic and human health; and support the Government in supplementing national plans and building LGUs' capacity in health emergency surveillance, preparedness, response, and recovery.
- (c)  United Nations will support accelerating progress on key SDG health-related targets at all levels, contribute to Government programs to facilitate access to and innovative delivery of maternal, newborn, child development, sexual and reproductive health services and prevention and treatment of communicable and non-communicable diseases, including injuries and mental health. In consultation with the Government, it will share lessons learned and advice to improve resilience of and access to reproductive and child health services during emergencies, including through digital means, and advocate immunization, prevention of adolescent pregnancies, school health services, and services for children with disabilities.
- (d)  United Nations will contribute to preventing all forms of malnutrition through a multisectoral and integrated life-cycle approach by providing advisory support for strengthening government food and nutrition policies and plans for sustained access to sufficient, affordable, nutritious food through improved diets, services, and practices. It will contribute to building capacities of and strengthening multiple government sectors and systems including food, health, education, social protection, and water, sanitation and hygiene. Through research and technical advice, it will contribute to enhancing nutrition sensitivity of agriculture programmes to improve the efficiency of marketing and distribution of nutritious foods to achieve food and nutrition security (linked to output 2.1). It will support advocacy for promoting healthy and climate resilient food systems that support consumption of safe and nutritious diets; and build resilience for food and nutrition security at the community level. It will work with the Government to leverage context-specific, community-led social and behaviour change interventions to strengthen and sustain optimal food and nutrition behaviours and practice.
- (e)  United Nations will contribute to ensuring food and nutrition security through a multisectoral and integrated life-cycle approach by providing advisory support for strengthening government food and nutrition policies for sustained access to sufficient, affordable, nutritious food through improved diets, services, and practices.





(f) United Nations will provide policy advisory support, and share global and regional knowledge on quality, inclusive, rights-based and education at all levels and lifelong learning opportunities, in child-friendly and safe environments. Focus will be on improving learning outcomes of children and youth from vulnerable groups. It will contribute to expand geographic coverage of basic education services, access to quality learning materials, and provide capacity building opportunities for the institutions that prepare school curricula, train teachers and strengthen school infrastructure to





ensure that all are adequately equipped to realize their fullest human potential through innovation. It will advise relevant authorities upon their request on building resilience to shocks, including through digitalisation, and ensure that all children have access to quality basic education. It will support advocacy for enhancing climate change adaptation and mitigation education in the school curriculum.

(g) United Nations will contribute to Philippine efforts to contribute to increased access to quality early childhood education, especially for children [0-4 years old] and their smooth



transition to kindergarten and primary education; and alternative learning system (ALS) services including in emergencies by strengthening capacity to deliver early childhood and basic education for children. In consultation with the Government, it will also facilitate multi-stakeholder partnerships, provide policy advice and support the design of robust digital delivery mechanisms on technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and higher education.

- (h)  United Nations will contribute to government efforts in building resilience at the community level through the provision of technical assistance in developing and improving adequate housing, reviewing socialized and economic housing standards, capacity-building on community-based gardening and urban farming, developing green spaces, providing support to solid waste management facilities, assistance and sharing of best practices for responsible waste segregation and waste disposal, establishing appropriate environmental regulatory framework for waste-to-energy technologies, integration of road safety and active mobility options, such as walking and cycling, in land use plans and infrastructure programs.
- (i)  As a global community of practice, United Nations will provide the requested support to government-led initiatives and engage with a broad range of stakeholders to strengthen institutions, improve protection, and enhance rule of law.
- (j)  United Nations will contribute to building capacity of enforcement machinery to prevent and counter organised and cross-border crime, including human trafficking, smuggling of drugs and migrants, and illicit financial flows, and will strengthen information and intelligence sharing; and contribute to building institutional capacities to prevent and end human trafficking, labour exploitation and early and forced marriages and strengthen victim-support and outreach services.
- (k)  United Nations will support digital transformation by advising on legal and institutional framework for paperless transactions/digital payments, among others. It will support the government's efforts to bridge the digital divide, including the gender digital gap. It will also share good practices on data protection and privacy norms, cybersecurity, digital and artificial intelligence regulatory policies.

- (l)  United Nations will contribute to the implementation of the national gender equality strategy and promote the participation and representation of women in social, economic and political life of the country. It will contribute to building capacities of institutions to combat violence and discrimination against women and promote representation of women in civil service, business, and politics. It will strengthen gender-based analysis and integration of Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda into gender and development plans of LGUs. United Nations will contribute to mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment in the national development plans and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) frameworks.
- (m)  United Nations will contribute to the strengthening of the women and child protection systems. This will include enhancing the capacities of government institutions and civil society to protect women, children and vulnerable groups against violence and harmful practices, including online and offline sexual exploitation and abuse within the country's normative framework.
- (n)  As part of SDGs localization, United Nations will provide the requested technical and policy support to enhance capacities at all levels to foster inclusive community-driven development planning and decision-making, and support indigenous land management systems, and social cohesion.
- (o)  United Nations will support and enhance capacities of national government institutions, BARMM institutions and other stakeholders to implement peace agreements, and strengthen inclusion and reconciliation, including the socioeconomic reintegration of ex-combatants.

## UNCT configuration (Outcome 1)

- 48. United Nations entities that will contribute to the attainment of Outcome 1 include but may not be limited to: FAO, ILO, ITU, IOM, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNICRI, UNIDO, UNOCT, UNODC, UNOPS, UN Women, WFP, WHO.



## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

# Sustainable economic development, innovation, and decent work

## OUTCOME 2

By 2028, all people benefit from a more integrated, innovative, inclusive, and sustainable economy that generates decent work and livelihood opportunities.





## Strategic Priority 2 Sustainable economic development, innovation and decent work

### Outcome

2

**By 2028, all people benefit from a more integrated, innovative, inclusive, and sustainable economy that generates decent work and livelihood opportunities.**



**Output 2.1:** Institutions, policies and systems are improved to boost the competitiveness of the business environment and facilitate the participation of firms and enterprises in productive and innovative industrial activities, modernized agriculture and agribusiness opportunities integrated into global value chains of a digitalized economy.



**Output 2.2:** Institutions and systems are strengthened to mobilize public and private sector investments and increase access to traditional and innovative financing to transform infrastructure facilities, agriculture and fisheries sector, and service sectors to become more sustainable, integrated, resilient and modernized.



**Output 2.3:** Institutions and systems are strengthened to develop a competitive and equal labour force that can adapt to the future of work, whose rights are protected and promoted, and provided with safe working environment.




**Output 2.4:** Institutions and systems are enhanced to provide an enabling, rights-based, inclusive environment to address inequalities and support equal opportunities.

### Related SDGs



## United Nations contribution (Outcome 2)

49. United Nations in the Philippines will make the following interlinked contributions to achieve Outcome 2, in consultation with the Government and upon request of relevant authorities:

- (a)  It will provide expert advice on business regulatory framework and contribute to making the business environment more rules-based, predictable, conducive, digitalised and data-informed, inclusive and efficient. It will provide technical assistance in implementing the country's infrastructure programs and the NIASD 2023-2032 to help start-ups and MSMEs increase their access to national and global markets through digitalization, innovative financing, business facilitation services and participate in global value chains.
- (b)  United Nations will provide technical assistance to support structural and technological transformation in the agri-fisheries sector, i.e. enabling innovations and access to technologies that reduce production costs, boost local production, improve food security, promote nature-positive agriculture, improve resilience of agri-fisheries value chains, develop the blue economy and facilitate integration with regional and global value chains; promoting the implementation of and compliance with national and global quality standards and certification, greater diversification, and supporting agriculture trade policies.
- (c)  United Nations will contribute to strengthening of public financial management on the request of relevant agencies, particularly on the promotion of Integrated National Financing Frameworks for financing national sustainable development priorities through SDG-sensitive planning and budgeting. It will also provide technical assistance on local public financial management (PFM) in areas such as: 1) domestic resource mobilization, 2) local planning and investment programming, 3) local public expenditure management. It will support the government's implementation of the sustainable finance roadmap's policy, financing, and investment aspects.
- (d)  United Nations will provide expert advice and capacity building and support multistakeholder partnerships to improve the skills architecture, enable smooth school-to-work transition through career counselling and apprenticeship, and bridging the skills gap in the labour force. Labour market information system will also be strengthened and kept always updated through digitalisation and capacity building.
- (e)  United Nations will support capacity building efforts of the tripartite partners (government, employers, workers) to uphold labour rights, counter discriminatory practices, violence and harassment at the workplace, and improve women's participation, representation, and leadership in the workforce. Upon request of relevant agencies, it will provide technical advice to enable the process of safe, orderly, and regular labour migration and dignified return and sustainable, gender-responsive reintegration of OFWs and their families.
- (f)  United Nations will help with developing and demonstrating tailor-made livelihood models, financial products and services, including insurance, especially for informal workers, fisherfolk, small farmers and other financially excluded vulnerable groups and geographical areas, making them financially more resilient.
- (g)  United Nations will provide technical assistance in promoting and expanding sustainable resource-based industries and enterprises aligned with the principles of green and blue economy. This includes scaling-up forestry investments and marine-based industries to provide employment or livelihood opportunities and income for upland and coastal communities.
- (h)  United Nations will provide policy advice and technical assistance on bridging digital skills gaps, building trust in digital payment systems, and minimizing information asymmetry between public and private stakeholders to ensure that resources are allocated efficiently, effectively, and in a timely manner.

## UNCT configuration (Outcome 2)

50. United Nations entities that will contribute to the attainment of Outcome 2 include but are not limited to: FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, ITC, ITU, UNDP, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNOPS, UN Women and WFP.



### STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

# Climate action, environmental sustainability and disaster resilience

### OUTCOME 3

By 2028, all people benefit from just transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development, sustainable management of environment, natural resources and biodiversity and strengthened resilience to disasters and natural hazards.







## Strategic Priority 3 Climate action, environmental sustainability and disaster resilience

### Outcome

3

**By 2028, all people benefit from just transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development, sustainable management of environment, natural resources and biodiversity and strengthened resilience to disasters and natural hazards.**



**Output 3.1:** Capacities of institutions at all levels, and those of the communities, strengthened for improved disaster risk reduction and management, climate resilience, water and sanitation systems, through evidence and risk-informed planning and implementation.



**Output 3.2:** Strengthened capacities of institutions at all levels and communities, for inclusive, and just transition towards low-carbon society and circular economy including through leveraging blue/green/climate finance.




**Output 3.3:** Improved capacities of institutions at all levels and communities, and technical knowhow for biodiversity conservation protection, equitable access to and sustainable use of natural resources (land, forests, water), enhancing resilience of resource-dependent communities, including waste and pollution management.


### Related SDGs









## United Nations contribution (Outcome 3)

51. United Nations in the Philippines will make the following interlinked contributions to achieve Outcome 3, in consultation with the Government and upon request of relevant authorities:

(a)  United Nations will work towards the enhanced capacity of the national and local government and institutions to address climate change impacts by mainstreaming climate action, with participatory and gender-responsive approaches, into spatial and sector policies and strategies, in line with the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets, especially in rural and coastal areas where sustainable agriculture and fisheries are part of the solution to the climate crisis.

(b)  United Nations will leverage international experience and expertise to help the government mobilise global and regional climate and biodiversity finance, and public and private investments, including green investments, and support in de-risking of investments in low-carbon energy infrastructures. It will provide capacity building support on sustainable public procurement and climate-resilient infrastructure development that takes into consideration the rights-based approach and 'do no harm' principles.

- (c)  United Nations will provide advice to mobilize public and private sector SDG-linked investments to advance low-carbon technologies, resource efficient and cleaner production, and sustainable transportation and infrastructure that will enable industries to align with global environmental, social, and governance (ESG) standards, and steer them towards a green economy that generates green jobs.
- (d)  United Nations will provide technical assistance in measuring and maximizing ESG investments in the country. This includes provision of capacity-building programs related to ESG reporting and building transparent and credible standards schemes for ESG certification.
- (e)  In support of the NDCs, the National Climate Risk Management Framework (NCRMF), the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (NCCAP) Philippines Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP), national strategies and multilateral environmental agreements (MEA), United Nations will support the rights-based, gender-responsive approach to sustainable management of environment, natural resources and biodiversity through improved capacities of the government and IPLCs in partnership with the civil society and private sector. Equitable access to resources, especially for the resource-dependent and vulnerable communities, will be promoted while protecting and restoring ecosystems. Institutional capacities will also be improved to implement policies and legislative frameworks such as natural capital accounting needed to sustainably manage and account for the country's natural resources, including the valuation of ecosystem services. It will also support initiatives towards strengthening ecosystem resilience, such as adopting nature-based solutions to protect ecosystems and its services, and conduct of carrying capacity assessments in protected areas, ecotourism sites, and urban areas.

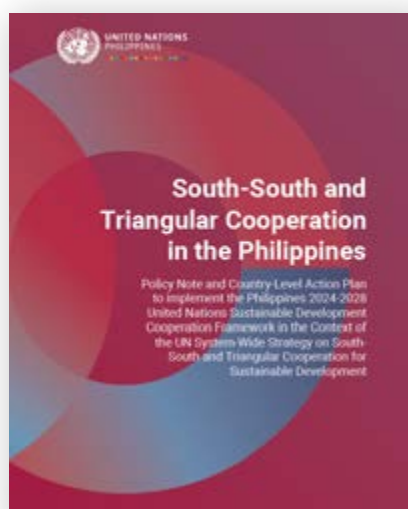
- (f)  United Nations will provide policy advice and technical assistance, share experience and contribute to building capacities of institutions and communities at all levels for strengthening resilience, protection-centred disaster risk reduction and management, preparedness, response, and durable and nature-based solutions in line with the Sendai Framework. This will include support to enhance the country's capacity for early warning, anticipatory action, vulnerability and hazard assessment, risk-informed planning, program and project prioritization and investment structuring, land banking and capacity to access, analyse, digitalize and use data. It will work with government technical experts and specialists to provide evidence-based planning for disasters.
- (g)  In consultation with the Government and upon the request of relevant authorities, United Nations will promote a more participatory, integrated, sustainable and resilient urban planning and design, and development in terms of safe and inclusive human settlements, land and water use, expansion of green and open public spaces and enhancing urban biodiversity, improved air quality, water and sanitation, waste management and pollution reduction, and disaster resilience, including through mainstreaming of human safe mobility in community resilience strategies. It will support government in seeking durable solutions to protracted displacement, especially of communities gravely affected by climate change and environmental degradation.
- (h)  United Nations will provide the requested technical and policy support to development of government-led strategies to address displacement.

## UNCT configuration (Outcome 3)

52. United Nations entities that will contribute to the attainment of Outcome 3 include but are not limited to: FAO, IFAD, IOM, ITC, UNDP, UNDRR, UNEP, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNICRI, UNIDO, UN Women, WFP, WHO.

## 2.4. Cross-border and regional cooperation

**53.** The Philippines is an active player in the ASEAN region. Its membership of the ASEAN is one of the cornerstones of its foreign and trade policies. There are multiple ASEAN platforms where the country plays a pivotal role, forging economic and political relations with member countries, including to promote peace and security in the region. United Nations will also provide demand-based technical support to enhance the country's leadership position within, and building on the country's commitment to implementing, the ASEAN-UN Framework and Plan of Action (2021-2025). United Nations will support the Philippines in reinforcing and sharing best practices on the effective implementation of rights-based migration policies through cross-border and regional cooperation within the framework of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) with the Philippines being a migrant-sending country with a large volume of OFWs. The Philippines also leverages its expertise and advocacy to promote human rights through its membership in the ASEAN Intergovernmental Committee on Human Rights (AICHR).



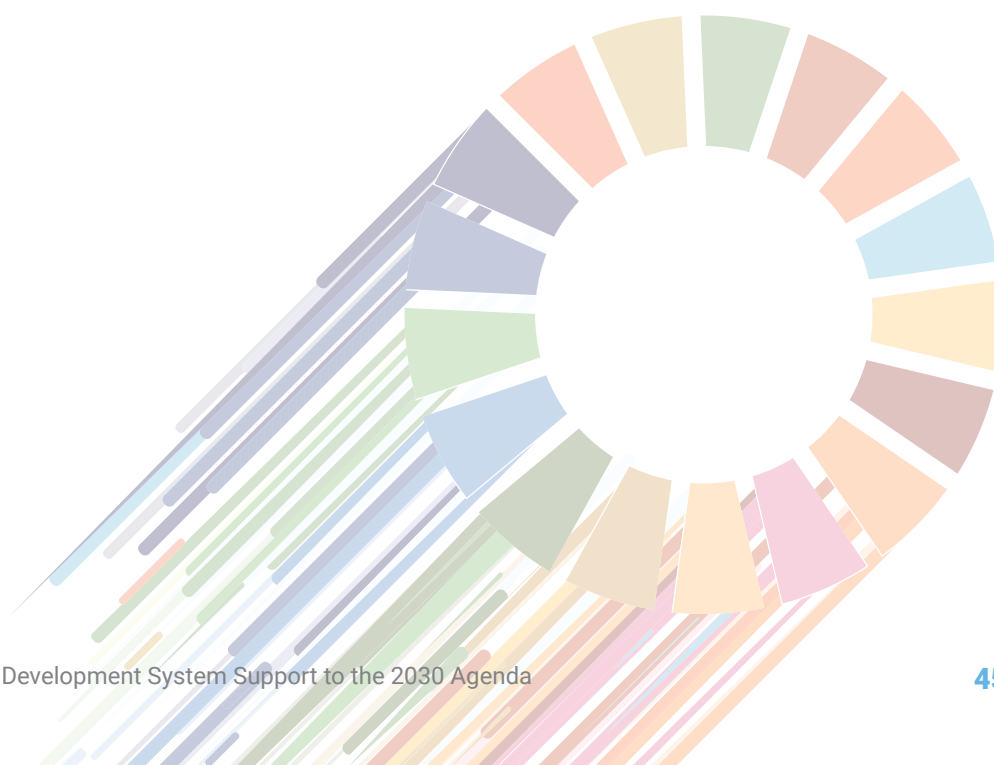
This Policy Note is part of a series initiated by the United Nations in the Philippines to guide the implementation action of the CF.

**54.** The Philippines, as a founding member of United Nations, strongly supports the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter. With firm commitment to inclusive multilateralism, the Philippines advocates for an international rules-based order and the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through the 1982 Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes. The Philippines upholds the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Philippines contributes to United Nations Peacekeeping Operations. The Philippines has also shown leadership in humanitarian arms control and disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation, and regulation of emerging technologies, such as Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) and Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS). The Philippines is a founding member of the Group of 77 and the Like-Minded Group of Countries Supporters of Middle-Income Countries. Increasingly, the Philippines shares its good practices in migration governance, disaster risk reduction (DRR), and ICT with other developing countries in South-South cooperation. The Philippines is an active voice for climate action and just transition to the green economy. Partnership between the Philippines and United Nations on these advocacies in appropriate regional and global fora are foreseen under this CF.


**55.** Leveraging its regional and global knowledge networks, United Nations in the Philippines will also contribute to strengthening regional partnerships and collaboration to counter and prevent threats from terrorism, violent extremism, transnational crimes and other forms of non-traditional security threats as well as transboundary environmental issues including marine plastic debris and litter. In addition, United Nations will facilitate the Philippines participation in relevant regional thematic and intergovernmental forums supported by United Nations to promote South-South and triangular cooperation whereby the Philippines can share its best practices and expertise.

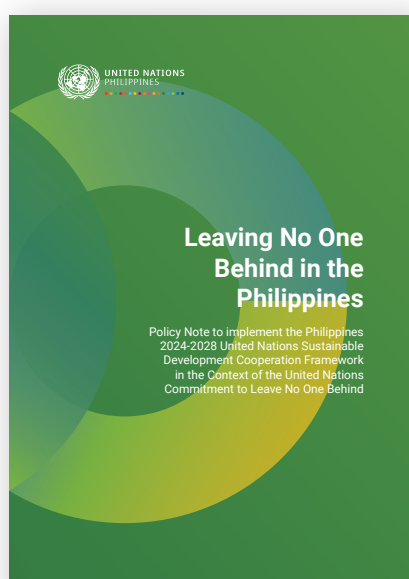
## 2.5. Sustainability

- 56.** The CF was prepared in consultations with the Government of the Philippines and other stakeholders and reflects national and sub-national priorities. United Nations will support the Government and partners in reinforcing national and local institutions, policies, systems and processes. United Nations programmes will be designed and implemented in close consultation with government partners, national stakeholders, other multilateral institutions, and the international community, putting national agencies in the driver's seat.
- 57.** In consultations with the Government and relevant authorities, United Nations will work to enhance capacities of national institutions and communities to complement efforts of the government to implement relevant policies, programmes and global commitments. By strengthening the rights-based approaches, United Nations will highlight and contribute to the implementation of the country's international obligations. United Nations will provide policy and expert advice, legislative framework and will provide technical assistance to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the ongoing national programmes to also promote sustainability and national ownership. United Nations will help government leverage innovative SDG financing options, attain development results, and make climate action more financially sustainable.
- 58.** In consultations with the Government and relevant authorities, United Nations will help build institutional capacities where needed, including the mobilization of synergistic technical, financial and programming instruments to sustain SDG progress. Broad-based existing and potential partnerships, and a whole-of-society approach, are essential to strengthen the capacity of the national statistical system for producing timely, frequent, granular and accurate data for decision-making and accountability at all levels. Strengthening existing capacities for multi-hazard early warning systems, risk reduction and early recovery investments, building on broad-based partnerships across the whole society and anchored in the Government's strong response capacity and leadership will improve institutional and community resilience.
- 59.** With due respect to its independence and impartiality, United Nations shall ensure that data to be published pertaining to the Philippines is made available to all relevant authorities to ensure credibility of its assessments and reports, improving the timeliness and integrity of data quality and statistics administered by national organisations.




## 2.6. Leaving No One Behind (LNOB)

- 60.**  The Government's long-term vision is firmly in line with the 2030 Agenda and support by the United Nations system to leave no one behind, that is, "to achieving more inclusive economies and societies where wealth is shared and income inequality addressed and where gender equality is achieved and all forms of discrimination are eliminated." Leaving no one behind means addressing patterns of exclusion, structural constraints and unequal power relations that produce and reproduce inequalities over generations and those arising from geography. By aligning the United Nations system support to Ambisyon Natin 2040 and its operational plans, the CF contributes not only to national but also to global efforts to reduce inequalities and eliminate discrimination. Attention to vulnerable groups at risk of being left behind, particularly those with multidimensional vulnerabilities including but not limited to women, children, and adolescents; persons with disabilities (PWDs); OFWs and their families, migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons and populations at risk of statelessness; elderly and senior citizens; people living with HIV; communities most at risk of natural hazards; people in GIDAs; displaced persons; indigenous cultural communities; urban poor, and LGBTQIA+ are embedded in each outcome under this CF.



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## 2.7. United Nations comparative advantage and United Nations country team configuration

- 61.** United Nations will support the Philippines in achieving the country's national priorities, responding to emerging challenges, and in accelerating the implementation of the SDGs. through its extensive system of organizations, global knowledge community, global normative frameworks and mechanisms, reflected in multilateral convention and treaties, and capacity to transfer global best practice and catalytic solutions for development.
- 62.**  UN entities in the Philippines are fully committed to the implementation of the UN development system reform that calls for improved cost-efficiency and results focus of United Nations work – through joint operations, enhanced development outcomes, joint programming, and improved coordination. They are committed to further promotion of the United Nations business model that is based on capacity building; policy transformation; technology; innovation in service delivery; leveraging resources for national actors; and contributing to sustainable development through advocacy.
- 63.** UNCT in the Philippines consists of the United Nations system's funds, programmes, specialized agencies, departments and offices, and related United Nations system entities that support the country either through physical presence or remotely. UNCT configuration demonstrates individual and collective strength of technical expertise, knowledge, and experience of the United Nations System to deliver on the CF commitments in support of the Philippines' development agenda.


# Cooperation Framework Implementation Plan

## 3.1. Implementation Strategy


- 64.** United Nations support to the Philippines is guided by the General Assembly resolution “Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system” (A/RES/72/279, adopted on 18 May 2018) that calls for the United Nations system to step up its capacities to support governments in leveraging partnerships, financing, data and policy integration to take SDGs to scale; and by the General Assembly Resolution “Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (A/RES/75/233, adopted on 21 December 2020).
- 65.** The CF also takes into account Economic and Social Council resolution “Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/233 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system” (E/RES/2023/31, adopted on 26 July 2023) and the General Assembly resolution “Operational activities for development of the United Nations system” (A/RES/77/184, adopted on 14 December 2022).
- 66.** United Nations is committed to provide complementary support required in addressing the needs of the Government and ensuring that the implementation strategy of the CF will be aligned with the priorities of the Government and consider and use the latest and publicly available Philippine national data and statistics to the extent possible.
- 67.** The implementation arrangements for the CF are organized in line with the whole-of-government approach. The UNCT is committed to work towards planning and management arrangements, including finance management for CF-supported projects and programmes. The UNCT will also continue to develop transparent mechanisms and clear internal accountability structures, while striving to reduce the transaction costs for the Government of the Philippines.

## 3.2. Cooperation Framework governance, accountability, and coordination

68. Under the leadership of the Government of the Philippines and in close consultation with other development partners, the UNCT will strive to be inclusive, transparent and participatory in managing and monitoring the implementation of the CF. There will be joint Government-United Nations management to enhance efficient joint oversight, ensure alignment with Government mechanisms, sustain Government ownership of the United Nations support to the Government and confirm the United Nation's commitment to address government priorities.

 69. The UNCT acknowledges that the “governance architecture of the United Nations development system must be more efficient, transparent, accountable and responsive to the Member States and able to enhance coordination, coherence, effectiveness and efficiency of the operational activities for development within and among all levels of the United Nations development system in order to enable system-wide strategic planning, implementation, reporting and evaluation to better support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (A/RES/75/233, paragraph 70).

### 3.2.1. Tripartite Joint Steering Committee

 70. The Joint Steering Committee (JSC) is the embodiment of joint ownership of the CF by the Government and United Nations. It is the highest governing body that provides strategic oversight, support, review and guidance of the CF. It is co-chaired by the Secretary of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs from the government side and the United Nations Resident Coordinator (UN-RC).

71. The JSC will meet once per year and as the need arises to review and discuss information collected during monitoring for assessing progress against intermediate outcome indicators, horizon-scanning, and updating risk analysis, as well as to address high-level bottlenecks in delivery, if any.

72. The JSC will be comprised of the three co-chairs, along with the co-convenors of the Joint Results Groups. Others, representing

government institutions, United Nations entities and civil society, may be called upon to provide technical advice and guidance on cross-cutting and thematic issues as the need arises.

73. The JSC endorses the CF Annual Joint Workplan (JWP) and meets at least annually to take stock of the CF implementation progress based on the JWP progress reports, alignment with national development priorities, emerging challenges and opportunities and conducts the Annual Performance Review of the CF.

### 3.2.2. Joint Results Groups

74. Joint Results Groups (JRGs), one for each strategic priority, will serve as the primary mechanism for facilitating the implementation of CF programming priorities, and ensuring internal coherence across programming under each priority. Led by a Government co-convenor and a United Nations co-convenor on a rotational basis amongst concerned Government agencies and United Nations entities, the JRGs will function as a venue to discuss implementation and coordination bottlenecks, review the utilization of normative frameworks, and ensure the coverage of cross-cutting issues. The JRGs will meet as needed.

### 3.2.3. United Nations-Government of the Philippines Coordination

75. The CF is executed by United Nations under the leadership of the UN-RC in overall coordination with and oversight of DFA and NEDA.

76. Individual United Nations entities, regardless of their physical presence, work with their respective line Departments / Agencies of the Government as per the CF Legal Annex (Annex 4), under the coordination of the UN-RC within the Management and Accountability Framework of the United Nations development and RC System (MAF).

77. The JSC will jointly issue and/or update a separate memorandum/circular to provide details of participation and involvement of Philippine Government entities in the governance structure (e.g. JSC, JRGs, etc.) and coordination with internal United Nations mechanisms (e.g. Outcome Groups; Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Group) over the CF life cycle.



## 3.3. Internal United Nations management and coordination

### 3.3.1. United Nations Country Team

- 78.** The UNCT is the core inter-agency decision-making and coordinating body that leads the planning, implementation and monitoring of CF to deliver on the vision and the outcomes of the CF and reports progress to the Government and other stakeholders.
- 79.** The UNCT, in collaboration with the Government and implementing partners, will undertake periodic reviews of the CF to measure overall progress towards planned results; monitor risks; identify key points of learning, opportunities and challenges; and reflect on experience to inform decisions and adjustment. For this purpose, the UNCT through the Outcome Groups will prepare an Annual Performance Review for presentation and consultation with the JSC making recommendations for adjustments, to ensure the CF remains relevant and effective in an ever-changing context.
- 80.** The UNCT is composed of United Nations entities carrying out operational activities for development in the Philippines that are signatories to the CF. United Nations entities that are not signatories of the CF may be invited to participate in the UNCT, as appropriate.
- 81.** The UNCT members are accountable to each other for the responsible use of resources, achievement of results, adherence to United Nations programming principles of United Nations development assistance, and progress with the United Nations development system reform. This includes providing the financial, human and other resources needed to the extent possible, for the realisation of the commitments related to achievement of the CF results.
- 82.** United Nations entities represented in the UNCT have two interrelated sets of accountabilities as defined by the MAF: (1) ensures that country representatives remain fully accountable to their respective entities on individual mandates, while periodically reporting to the RC on their individual activities; and (2) on their respective contributions to the results of the United Nations development system towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda at the country level, on the basis of the CF. The MAF provides a clear, unambiguous framework for management and accountability within UNCT,

within the regional and global levels, and across the three levels, to ensure a consistent approach across countries that remains faithful to the mandates of the General Assembly resolution on the repositioning of the United Nations development system.

- 83.** The UNCT takes regular stock of CF progress and provides strategic guidance to its subsidiary bodies – Outcome Groups, thematic and programme support groups; and determines the best mechanism to ensure the strategic coherence across the expected CF outcomes. Furthermore, UNCT is responsible for, but may delegate the following five programmatic functions related to CF to its subsidiary bodies:



Joint analysis and data collection, including annual CCA update.



Annual planning, monitoring and reporting.



Cross-agency coordination.



Identification of synergies, joint initiatives, including potential joint programmes.



Identification of new sources of CF funding and financing for SDG achievement in the Philippines.

### 3.3.2. Outcome Groups

84. CF Outcome Groups (OGs), one per each CF outcome, ensure a coherent United Nations system-wide approach of analysis, planning, implementation, and monitoring of the CF. They promote complementarity and synergies and reduce overlaps and gaps within and across priority and outcome areas.
85. Under the guidance of UNCT and supported by its subsidiary bodies, the OGs take the lead in:



Preparing, updating and monitoring the implementation of the JWP within the Outcome



Ensuring that the implementation of relevant outcomes adheres to JWPs and the CF's guiding principles (LNOB).



Bringing to the attention of UNCT emerging challenges, risks, opportunities, possible synergies for joint programming, concrete joint programmes and overlaps.



Supporting the development of and an update of the CF Funding Framework and other tools



Recommending CF course corrections to UNCT, if any, for delivery of results in the CF, amending JWPs as needed.

### 3.3.3. Other United Nations support groups

86. **Results Coordination Team (RCT)** is an internal inter-agency quality assurance mechanism for the design, implementation and monitoring of CF. It provides technical advice and support to UNCT and Outcome Groups on programmatic opportunities and challenges, with an overall aim of ensuring cross-outcome and programmatic coherence.
87. **Thematic Working Groups** with a specific thematic area (gender equality and women's empowerment, youth, and LNOB and human rights, data etc.) provide substantive support to the UNCT and Outcome Groups.
88. **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Group (MEL)** ensures coherence of individual United Nations entities' M&E plans with the CF M&E plan; collect and analyse data; assist with preparing annual progress report of the CF based on the Results Framework to be presented by the UNCT to the JSC; and support final evaluation of CF by making available evidence on each of the results well in advance. MEL works closely with OGs and RCT.
89. **Operations Management Team (OMT)**, composed of United Nations entities' operations focal points, provides support and advice to the UNCT on common business operations and measures to improve efficiency in delivery on United Nations programmes and activities in the country by harmonizing business operations. Measures include, but are not limited to common procurement, recruitment, logistics, ICT, and other services.
90. **UN Communications Group (UNCG)** support collectively communicating United Nations' work and CF results in a coherent, powerful, and non-siloed way. It produces high-quality communications and advocacy products and organises United Nations public events to create awareness and enhance visibility.

## 3.4. Engagement with external stakeholders

91. Issue- and thematic-based consultations to inform CF implementation are convened through the Cooperation Framework (CF) Forums. The aim is to mobilize and/or build multi-stakeholder coalitions of actions that are centred around solutions and key recommendations on key strategic issues emerging from Outcome Groups discussions and implementation of the Joint Workplans. A CF Forum may be initiated by United Nations jointly with the government. The Forum may involve the participation of any combination of external stakeholders and will seek to maximize existing mechanisms such as the Philippine Government's Sub-committee on SDGs and its Technical Working Groups, various international commitments and United Nations global mechanisms (e.g. Food Systems Summit, Global Compact for Migration, etc). The CF Forums can also be the platform to report back on CF results to the Philippine Government and/or a broader group of development stakeholders.

## 3.5. Leveraging Resources for the Cooperation Framework

92. **Fully implement the global Funding Compact**, which emphasizes the importance of quality of resources – predictability, non-earmarking, and flexibility. The CF contributes to the achievement of the Funding Compact's key targets, including the channelling of resources for development activities through pooled funds. CF is supported by the Funding Framework designed as a financial planning, management and mobilization tool for UNCT and other stakeholders' use, including government, to align all sources of finance to implement national plans to achieve the SDGs. CF financing mechanisms and tools are expected to reinforce alignment of United Nations interventions with the government's development priorities and build a large partnership platform with a common sense of purpose.
93. **Actively seize Joint SDG Funding and similar United Nations joint funding opportunities** to scale up existing catalytic investments and better address the government's financial gaps in critical development areas. In line with the United Nations development system reform, emphasis is placed on joint programming and joint programmes that can deliver innovative and context-relevant solutions at scale.
94. **Improve competitiveness of United Nations joint initiatives** to better access relevant global vertical funds markets. Outcome Groups will integrate analysis on financing as an integral part of the planning processes for any joint programmes or joint programming and development of joint work plans. The CF Funding Framework establishes market-intelligence capacity to better identify emerging funding opportunities, including resource partners' calls for proposals in support of United Nations joint initiative.
95. **Explore innovative tripartite partnership** with the Government of the Philippines and international financial institutions (IFIs), including global and regional development banks. The CF leverages and enables further action by IFIs, positioning United Nations as a global community of knowledge, universal standards and practice, and a strategic provider of technical assistance and project implementation services.
96. **Mobilize domestic resources for SDG acceleration.** The CF will enable the mobilization of more investments in key strategic areas through technical assistance in project preparation or feasibility studies to help build pipelines of bankable projects to support localization of SDGs.
97. **Leverage private sector partnerships for innovation and policy transformation.** Private sector partnerships can catalyse innovation and policy transformation. United Nations may set up an Innovation and Policy Transformation Facility, supported by private sector contributions, to fund the prototyping of innovative development solutions as well as key research for policy development. A centralized and accessible database and information system that consolidates information on innovation-related programs, activities, and projects of the public and private sector may be established.

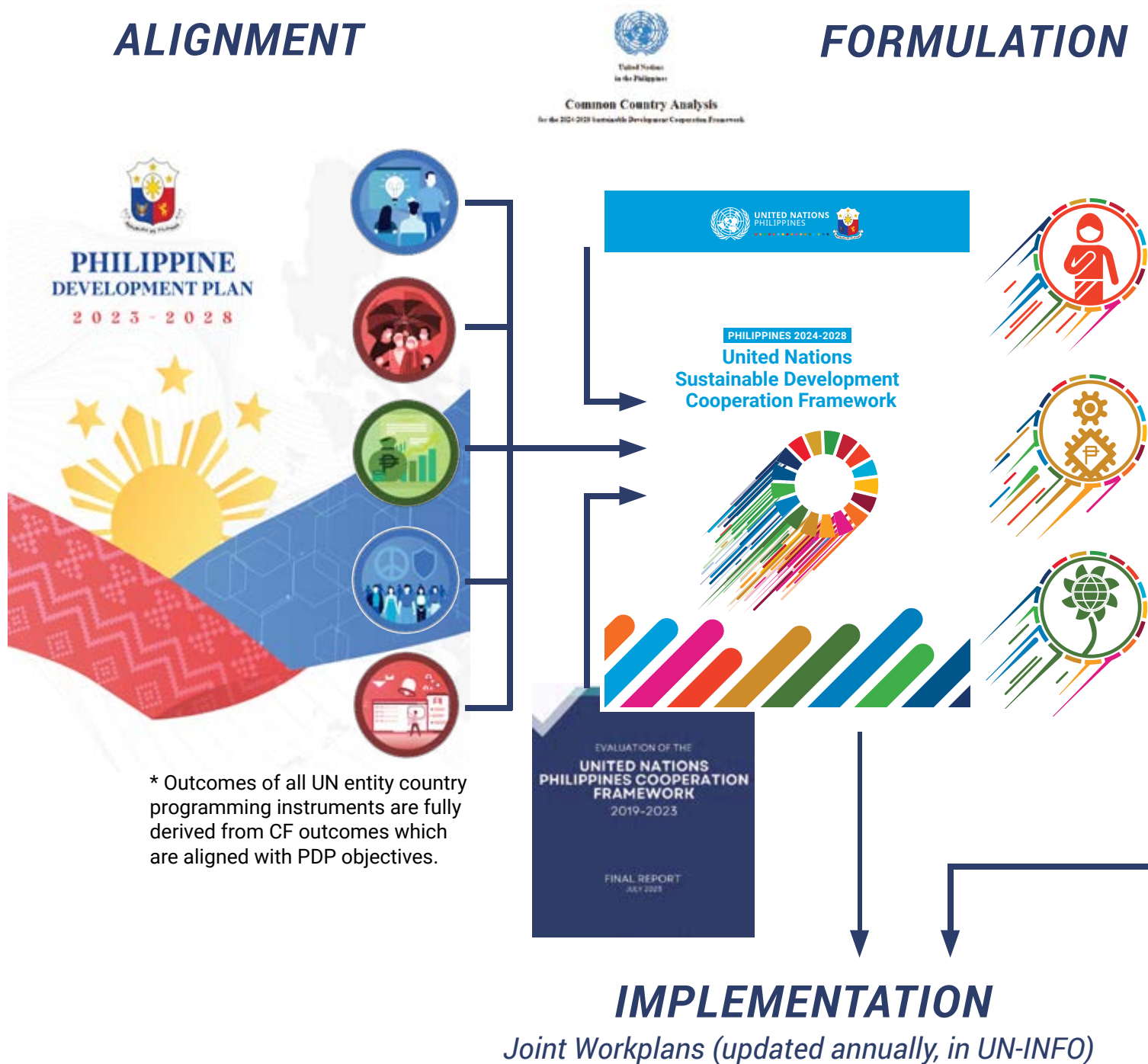


## 3.6. Partnerships for the Cooperation Framework

- 98. United Nations will adopt a system-wide approach to partnership to implement the CF under the leadership of the UN-RC** to ensure alignment of United Nations resources with national development needs and priorities, in keeping with the United Nations development system reform. A UNCT-owned Partnerships and Joint Resource Mobilization Strategy to drive inclusion and impact and facilitate partnership platforms for dialogue on key strategic issues, as well as enhance integrated resource mobilization potential in the current financing climate, supports CF implementation.
- 99. Promotion of South-South and triangular cooperation as a complementary modality for cooperation** in accelerating sustainable development and in championing solutions that address common transnational development challenges (such as climate change, unsafe migration, sexual reproductive health, population and development, and pandemics). United Nations contributions are guided by the UNCT Policy Note on South-South and Triangular Cooperation, and the UN-RC and the UNCT may explore mechanisms and tools, in coordination with the government, to actively promote and support South-South and triangular cooperation. United Nations will work closely with the DFA for the monitoring of these initiatives under the CF, including on leveraging Philippine expertise for sharing with other countries and partners.
- 100. Partnership with the private sector to create the conditions for inclusive and sustainable development** and identifying shared values to support the achievement of the SDGs. The CF provides the basis for system-wide joint programming to harness private sector contributions to the 2030 Agenda and develop a pipeline of bankable green, climate and SDG aligned investments, which will also contribute to the attainment of the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028.
- 101. Enhanced collaboration with civil society organizations, including trade unions and workers associations.** Civil society plays a critical and diverse set of roles and is key for inclusive, people-centred, value-based, resilient development, and thus for CF implementation. United Nations works closely with diverse civil society partners to operationalize the commitment of leaving no one behind, especially those furthest behind, in line with the United Nations development system reform commitments to building stronger, collective, accountable and effective partnerships with national counterparts.
- 102. Strategic engagement with specialists, academe, research institutions and think-tanks.** Policy decisions to meet the SDGs need to be informed by policy-relevant evidence co-designed and co-produced with the pertinent stakeholders, taking into consideration local and political contexts. Universities, research institutions and specialized think-tanks are uniquely placed to generate knowledge and technology to contribute to cross-sectoral implementation of the SDGs and advance the 2030 agenda. United Nations will actively engage the country's community of knowledge for evidence-based policy development and innovation.
- 103. Enhanced collaboration and partnership with Philippine Government experts, scientists and specialists.** United Nations will tap and recognize Filipino expertise in the development, implementation and scaling up of projects, programmes and activities under the CF and also when outcomes and projects resulting from United Nations collaboration with Filipino expertise are shared in the United Nations development system.
- 104. Regional platforms provide critical synergies between global and national dimensions,** offer regional perspectives on global issues, as well as support the development of a wide range of regional norms, standards and conventions. Within the CF, regional platforms and mechanisms will be engaged to draw on regional policy capacities for knowledge sharing, good practices, data and integrated policy support to government and partners to address transboundary development issues identified in the CF.

### 3.7. Derivation of United Nations entity country programming instruments from the Cooperation Framework

105. All United Nations entities' respective country programmes or similar strategic programming documents contribute to the CF outcomes and results and derive from CF. United Nations entities' programmes directly copy CF outcomes and align their own results with these outcomes through joint outputs and sub-outputs. United Nations entities' programmes are endorsed by the UN-RC through a letter, certifying alignment with the CF before United Nations entities submit their programmes to their respective Executive Boards or similar bodies for approval.





**Outcome 1**

**Outcome 2**

**Outcome 3**



## **DERIVATION**

*Country programme documents, plans, strategies and frameworks*

## 3.8. Joint Work Plans

- 106.** Annual Joint Work Plans (JWPs) are a key instrument for annual operationalisation of the CF in the Philippines. They capture all United Nations operational activities for development in the Philippines and are drawn per CF outcome. They include outputs, sub-outputs and activities, resources required and mobilized for implementation, SDG targets and indicators to measure United Nations' contribution to the achievement of CF outcomes.
- 107.** JWPs are entered in the global UN-INFO system, approved by UNCT, and endorsed by JSC. They are informed by the United Nations Philippines policy notes to operationalize and implement the Prevention and LNOB agenda and integrate South-South and triangular cooperation. Corporate system markers are applied in UN-INFO to identify CF activities that contribute to positive outcomes for gender equality, youth, human rights, and peace.



- 108.** United Nations Annual Performance Review and reporting is based on JWPs. The JWPs are aligned with the SDG framework and national priorities of the Philippines and undergo annual review to measure progress made and suggest course corrections, if any, considering evolving country context. The outputs in the JWP are jointly owned by and reflect the aggregate of United Nations entities' contributions – through sub-outputs and activities – to CF outputs, for which entities are accountable.

- 109.** To the extent possible, United Nations entities use the minimum documents necessary – in addition to the CF, signed joint or entity-specific workplans and project documents – to implement programmatic initiatives. However, as necessary, and appropriate, project documents can be prepared using, inter alia, the relevant text from the CF and joint or agency-specific workplans and/or project documents.

## 3.9. Business Operations Strategy in support of the Cooperation Framework

- 110.** United Nations in the Philippines developed its Business Operations Strategy (BOS) in support of a more effective programme delivery of the 2030 Agenda and the United Nations development system reform. BOS is a results-based framework that focuses on joint business operations in support of programme delivery, with the purpose of eliminating duplication, leveraging the common bargaining power of United Nations and maximizing economies of scale. BOS improves operational efficiency and reduce cost of operations (e.g. procurement, information technology, premises, human resources) towards achieving CF results. In keeping with the United Nations Secretary-General's mandate to reduce United Nations' carbon footprint, the UNCT will consider further environment-friendly measures. OMT, as the custodian of BOS, will work on the implementation of joint common activities for cost reduction and efficiency in operations and explore new ways of working together effectively.



# Common Country Analysis Update, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan

## 4.1. Updates of the UN Common Country Analysis

**111.** The United Nations Common Country Analysis (CCA) for the period covered by the CF, is updated annually, in consultation with the Government, to reflect new data, the evolving country and global context, and emerging needs of the Philippines as it implements the PDP. To ensure the credibility of the CCA, the UNCT should ensure the use of authoritative repository of data from verifiable sources, in particular the Philippine Statistics Authority. Drafting of the updated CCA will be undertaken by a technical team of UNCT with the support of Outcome Groups.

## 4.2. Monitoring implementation

- 112.** United Nations monitors and reports on implementation of the CF and JWPs through UN-INFO. UN-INFO reports present the progress achieved against the planned results.
- 113.** The Annual Performance Review forms the basis for the single United Nations Country Results Report that is shared with the JSC annually for its comments and review prior to publication. Given the alignment of CF with the PDP, including the alignment of the M&E frameworks, the results reported by United Nations are also its contribution to the PDP and

may be used by the government for preparing the next VNR and feed into the government's own thematic and sector reviews, including in the SDG sub-committees. The country results report is public, shared with key stakeholders and communicated to a wider audience.

- 114.** Documentation of the Annual Performance Review and the Country Results Report will be provided to the Government with ample time before being made public to provide feedback and comments to ensure co-ownership of results and sustainability.
- 115.** The internal United Nations management and coordination mechanisms described in section 3.3. have primary responsibility for the operational-level monitoring of CF implementation. Relevant stakeholders will be informed of and provide feedback on CF implementation through the conduct of relevant thematic forums co-organized by the Government and United Nations.
- 116.** MEL Group develops and is the custodian of the CF MEL Plan that includes baseline data, indicators and targets, data collection needs and means of verification. It consolidates monitoring information from the OGs, provides data for annual performance review and results reporting on progress based on the CF Results Framework. MEL Group ensures that United Nations entities' monitoring, evaluation and learning activities are coordinated and coherent with CF monitoring, evaluation and learning activities. It ensures that United Nations entity-specific monitoring and evaluation activities in relation to their own outputs and resources (agency contributions) are recorded by relevant United Nations entities directly in UN-INFO to enable effective reporting on the CF. MEL Group will ensure that United Nations entities

coordinate with relevant national and subnational government agencies during data collection to avoid duplication and reduce M&E costs.

117. MEL Group also ensures that the indicators in the CF Results Framework are aligned with the nationalised SDG indicators and PDP Results Matrix; contributes to the updating of CCA with data and analysis; supports preparation of the VNR report; engages in joint/interagency monitoring exercises; and documents – in collaboration with OGS – learning and good examples in the implementation of the CF.

### 4.3. Evaluation

118. The CF will undergo a mid-term review to be coordinated under the JSC framework and an independent final evaluation in the penultimate year of the cycle in consultation with the government. The evaluation will document results achieved against the planned results as per the CF's overall Results Framework and JWPs. MEL group will ensure availability of baseline information for CF targets and indicators. The evaluation also serves as an accountability mechanism of United Nations in the Philippines towards the government and the people in the Philippines. MEL group will prepare the evaluation terms of reference. The evaluation will follow the OECD DAC criteria to assess relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, and potential impact. It will document lessons learned and make recommendations for the next CF. MEL group will ensure that the agency-specific programme evaluations are made full use of to avoid duplication. MEL Group supports the final evaluation of the CF by making available necessary evidence on each indicator as well as UNCT reports.





# Annexes



# Annex 1. Alignment of Cooperation Framework, SDGs, and PDP

CF Outcomes	SDGs	PDP Chapter or Sub-Chapter	
<b>Outcome 1:</b> By 2028, all people, especially those at risk of being left behind, have increased resilience to economic, climatic, disaster, and public health risk through improved, equitable, and gender-responsive access to and utilization of quality social services, social protection, healthy habitat, enhanced good governance and peace.	<b>SDG 1</b> – No poverty	2.1. Boost health	
	<b>SDG 2</b> – Zero Hunger	2.2. Improved education and lifelong learning	
	<b>SDG 3</b> – Good health and well-being	2.3. Establish liveable communities	
	<b>SDG 4</b> – Quality education	3.1. Ensure food security and proper nutrition	
	<b>SDG 5</b> – Gender equality	3.2. Strengthen social protection	
	<b>SDG 6</b> – Clean water and sanitation	4. Increase income-earning ability	
	<b>SDG 7</b> – Affordable and clean energy	13.1. Ensure peace and security	
	<b>SDG 8</b> – Decent work and economic growth	13.2. Enhance administration of justice	
	<b>SDG 9</b> – Industry, innovation and infrastructure	14. Practise good governance and improve bureaucratic efficiency	
	<b>SDG 10</b> – Reduced inequalities		
	<b>SDG 11</b> – Sustainable cities and communities		
	<b>SDG 12</b> – Responsible consumption and production		
	<b>SDG 14</b> – Life under water		
	<b>SDG 16</b> – Peace, justice and strong institutions		
	<b>SDG 17</b> – Partnership for the goals		
	<b>Outcome 2:</b> By 2028, all people, benefit from a more integrated, innovative, inclusive, and sustainable economy that generates decent work and livelihood opportunities.	<b>SDG 1</b> – No poverty	4. Increase income-earning ability
		<b>SDG 2</b> – Zero Hunger	5. Modernise agriculture and agribusiness
<b>SDG 5</b> – Gender equality		6. Revitalise industry	
<b>SDG 7</b> – Affordable and clean energy		7. Reinvigorate services	
<b>SDG 8</b> – Decent work and economic growth		8. Advance R&D, technology and innovation	
<b>SDG 9</b> – Industry, innovation and infrastructure		9. Promote trade and investments	
<b>SDG 10</b> – Reduced inequalities		10. Promote competition and improve regulatory efficiency	
<b>SDG 11</b> – Sustainable cities and communities		11.1. Promote an inclusive, innovative and healthy financial sector	
<b>SDG 12</b> – Responsible consumption and production		12. Expand and upgrade infrastructure	
<b>SDG 13</b> – Climate action		15. Accelerate climate action and strengthen disaster resilience	
<b>SDG 14</b> – Life under water			
<b>SDG 17</b> – Partnerships			
<b>Outcome 3:</b> By 2028, all people benefit from just transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development, sustainable management of environment, natural resources and biodiversity and strengthened resilience to disasters and natural hazards.		<b>SDG 2</b> – Zero Hunger	15. Accelerate climate action and strengthen disaster resilience
	<b>SDG 5</b> – Gender equality		
	<b>SDG 6</b> – Clean Water and sanitation		
	<b>SDG 7</b> – Affordable and clean energy		
	<b>SDG 11</b> – Sustainable cities and communities		
	<b>SDG 12</b> – Responsible consumption and production		
	<b>SDG 13</b> – Climate action		
	<b>SDG 14</b> – Life under water		
<b>SDG 15</b> – Life on land			
<b>SDG 17</b> – Partnerships			

# Annex 2. Theory of Change



**Outcome 1: By 2028, all people, especially those at risk of being left behind, have increased resilience to economic, climatic, disaster, and public health risk through improved, equitable, and gender-responsive access to and utilization of quality social services, social protection, healthy habitat, enhanced good governance and peace.**

IF the health system is strengthened to provide integrated, quality essential health services, particularly at primary health care level; the demand for and innovative delivery of reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health services increases; health emergency surveillance, preparedness and response is strengthened; and social determinants and risk factors across the life-course are effectively addressed by all sectors.

IF people, especially the most vulnerable groups have sustained access to sufficient, safe, affordable food, and nutritious diets; quality, gender responsive and equitable multisectoral services are in place; and families adopt optimal practices.

IF the public education system is reformed to increase quality delivery of lifelong learning through equitable early childhood education, culturally sensitive and disability-responsive alternative learning systems, and up-to-date technical-vocational and higher education.

IF the social protection system is strengthened, tailored to the needs of recipients, provides universal adequate and quality benefits and is shock-responsive, nutrition sensitive, gender-responsive, digitalized, optimized with increased capacity at subnational level.

IF institutional capacities to promote rule of law, and access to justice are enhanced and human rights mechanisms are strengthened, in line with international standards, to combat discrimination, prevent and address violence against women and children and trafficking in persons, especially those most at risk to be left behind, to realise their full human rights.

IF mechanisms are in place to address internal displacement caused by disasters or conflicts, following integrated programming approaches, providing durable solutions, protecting rights of the displaced, especially those in protracted and multiple displacement situations, and strengthen accountability of duty-bearers.

IF there is full and equal representation and participation of women in social, economic and political life of the country, women play leadership roles in business, peace and security, and public administration, and gender equality and women’s empowerment is mainstreamed in public policies, laws and programmes.

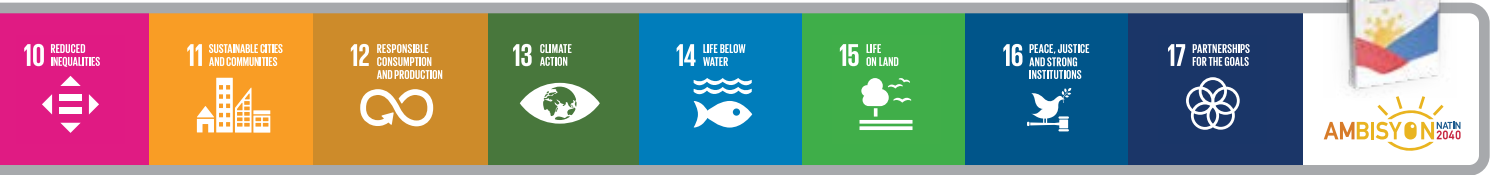
IF legislative, financing and policy frameworks are strengthened and government institutions and systems at all levels (including in GIDAs) are agile, anticipatory and adaptive and provide services, including to the people at risk of being excluded, in a more efficient, transparent, participatory, and accountable manner, leveraging the potential of digitalisation; and there is better policy coherence, internal coordination and availability and use of disaggregated data for evidence-based planning, budgeting, and decision-making.

IF the comprehensive peace agreement is implemented promoting inclusive and rights-based peacebuilding and post-conflict recovery for all communities in BARMM.

**THEN the outcome will be achieved.**

**CF outputs: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7**

**Strategic Priority 1**  
Human capital development, inclusion, and resilience building



**Outcome 2: By 2028, all people, benefit from a more integrated, innovative, inclusive, and sustainable economy that generates decent work and livelihood opportunities.**

**Outcome 3: By 2028, all people benefit from just transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development, sustainable management of environment, natural resources and biodiversity and strengthened resilience to disasters and natural hazards**

IF the agriculture and fisheries sector is made more productive, competitive, inclusive and resilient, with sustainable agri-business value chains across the rural-urban continuum, improved infrastructure and greater and more equal access to finance, markets, and insurance, as well as sustainable agricultural practices

IF firms and enterprises, including MSMEs, in the agri-fisheries, industries and services sectors, are green, innovative, productive, adopt sustainable business practices, have access to markets and global value chains, are better aligned with the environmental, social and governance standards, and supported by rules-based and transparent industrial policies, responsive development financing, sustainable infrastructure, digital and advanced disruptive technologies

IF the government consistently upholds labour standards and codes of practice for industries, especially in the context of the evolving world of work, promotes the decent work agenda and innovation, and has a reliable labour market information system and capacities in place for safe, orderly and regular labour migration management

IF the government and private sector are empowered, incentivized, and able to access SDG-linked development financing to support investments in productive sectors and cities as engines of growth

THEN the outcome will be achieved.

IF institutions at all levels have the capacity to integrate and implement climate resilient, risk-informed, and gender-responsive approaches in policies, planning, and financing, with active participation of women, youth, and disadvantaged groups; and if policies ensure that climate- and disaster-affected persons and places receive essential services and protection while transitioning to durable solutions.

IF strategies, capacities, and finance are in place for a just transition to a low-carbon economy, promoting sustainable consumption and production protecting local communities.

IF strategies, legislative framework, capacities, and finance are in place for sustainable, transparent, and equitable biodiversity, environment, and natural resources management, while protecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs).

IF capacities, plans, and regulations are in place for significantly improving environmental quality, mainstreaming environmental risks in health policies, including water and sanitation systems, sustainably managing, and reducing waste and pollution, and promoting sustainable urbanization.

IF the country can mobilize and align public and private investments and financing and social capital, including through market-based and innovative instruments, for its biodiversity, pollution reduction, and climate action, including resilience strategies.

THEN the outcome will be achieved.

**CF outputs: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4**

**CF outputs: 3.1, 3.2, 3.3**

**Strategic Priority 2**  
Sustainable economic development, innovation, and decent work

**Strategic Priority 3**  
Climate action, environmental sustainability and disaster resilience

## Annex 3. Results Framework

### Strategic vision (AmBisyon Natin 2040)

By 2040, the Philippines is a prosperous middle-class society where no one is poor. People live long and healthy lives and are smart and innovative. The country is a high-trust society where families thrive in vibrant, culturally diverse, and resilient communities.



### Strategic priority 1 impact

#### National development priorities:

#### **PDP Objective: Develop and protect capabilities of individuals and families**

- Boost health (Chapter 2.1, Outcomes 1, 2, 3 & 4)
- Ensure food security and proper nutrition (Chapter 3.1, Outcomes 1, 2 & 3)
- Strengthen social protection (Chapter 3.2, Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5)
- Improve education and lifelong learning (Chapter 2.2, Outcomes 1, 2 & 3)
- Increase income-earning ability (Chapter 4, Outcomes 1, 2 & 3)

#### **PDP Objectives: Practice good governance and improve bureaucratic efficiency. Ensure peace and security and enhance administration of justice**

- Ensure peace and security (Sub-chapter 13.1, Outcomes 1, 2, 3 & 4)
- Enhance administration of justice (Sub-chapter 13.2, Outcomes 1, 2 & 3)
- Practise good governance and improve bureaucratic efficiency (Chapter 14, Outcomes 1, 2, 3 & 4)

### SDGs

- SDG 1** – No poverty
- SDG 2** – Zero Hunger
- SDG 3** – Good health and well-being
- SDG 4** – Quality education
- SDG 5** – Gender equality
- SDG 6** – Clean water and sanitation
- SDG 7** – Affordable and clean energy
- SDG 8** – Decent work and economic growth
- SDG 9** – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG 10** – Reduced inequalities
- SDG 11** – Sustainable cities and communities
- SDG 12** – Responsible consumption and production
- SDG 14** – Life under water

- SDG 16** – Peace, justice and strong institutions
- SDG 17** – Partnership for the goals

### Key partners

Anti-Terrorism Council, Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Bureau of Corrections (BuCor), Bureau of Customs (BOC), Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), Career Executive Service Board (CESB), Civil Service Commission (CSC), Commission of Higher Education (CHED), Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines (CHRP), Commission on Population and Development (CPD), Congressional Policy and Budget Research Department (CPBRD), Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), Department of Information, Communication and Technology (DICT), Department of Interior and Local Governance (DILG), Department of Justice (DOJ), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Migrant Workers (DMW), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI); Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Tourism (DOT); Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Council, Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI), Health Technology Assessment Council (HTAC), Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHIL), Inter-agency Committee on Environmental Health (IACEH), Joint Peace Mechanisms, Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council (JJWC), Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA), Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), National Commission of Senior Citizens (NCSC), National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP), National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCFM), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), National Library of the Philippines, National Nutrition Council (NNC), National Prosecution Service, National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM), National Security Council (NSC), National Youth Commission (NYC), Office of the Solicitor General (OSG), Office of the Ombudsman, Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity (OPAPRU), Parole and Probation Administration (PPA), Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), Philippine Council



for Health Research and Development (PCHRD), Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth), Philippine National Police (PNP), Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA), Presidential Human Rights Committee (PHRC), Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), Public Attorney's Office (PAO), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), House of Representatives, Senate of the Philippines, Supreme Court of Philippines, Local Government Units (LGUs), League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP), League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP), League of Provinces of the Philippines (LPP), BARM government [Office of the Chief Minister (OCM), Bangsamoro Human Rights Commission (BHRC), Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority (BPDA), Bangsamoro Youth Commission

(BYC), Bangsamoro Women Commission (BWC), Ministry of Basic Higher and Technical Education (MBHTE), Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Indigenous Peoples' Affairs (MIPA), Ministry of Interior and Local Governance (MILG), Ministry of Public Order and Safety (MPOS), Ministry of Social Services and Development (MSSD), Peace, Security, and Reconciliation Office (PSRO), academe, civil society organizations (CSOs), and private sector

### Contributing UN agencies, funds and programmes

FAO, ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNICRI, UNIDO, UNOCT, UNODC, UNOPS, UN Women, WFP, WHO

## Results | Strategic priority 1: Human capital development, inclusion, resilience building

**Outcome 1:** By 2028, all people, especially those at risk of being left behind, have increased resilience to economic, climatic, disaster, and public health risk through improved, equitable, and gender-responsive access to and utilization of quality social services, social protection, healthy habitat, and enhanced good governance and peace.

Aligned Global or PSA SDG Indicator	CF Performance Indicators (disaggregated where possible)	Baseline (year of latest available data)	Target (CF end – 2028)	Means of Verification, Data Source
[Global] SDG: 3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births)	1.1. Maternal mortality ratio decreased (per 100,000 live births)	144 (2020)	126	PSA Estimates
[PSA] SDG: 3.2s.1 Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	1.2. Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	22 (2022)	11.52	National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS), PSA
[PSA] SDG 3.3.1.p1 Number of new HIV infections (newly diagnosed cases/year)	1.3. Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 population	0.2 (2022)	TBD	HIV/AIDS & ART Registry of the Philippines (HARP), DOH
[PSA] SDG 2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting (height for a<-2 SD from median of WHO CGS) among children under 5 years of age	1.4. Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age decreased (%)	26.7 (2021)	17.9	Expanded National Nutrition Survey (ENNS), DOST-FNRI
[Global] SDG 2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale	1.5. Prevalence of food insecurity in population decreased (%)	2.0% Severe 33.4% M to S (2021)	0 Severe 24.4% M to S	ENNS

Aligned Global or PSA SDG Indicator	CF Performance Indicators (disaggregated where possible)	Baseline (year of latest available data)	Target (CF end – 2028)	Means of Verification, Data Source
[PSA] SDG 2.2.2.1 Prevalence of malnutrition for children under five years <-2 SD from the median of the WHO CGS (wasting)	1.6. Prevalence of malnutrition for children under five years (wasting and overweight) (%) decreased	5.5 Wasting  3.9 Overweight (2021)	4.3% Wasting  3.5 Overweight	ENNS
	1.7. Proportion of learners achieving at least “Proficient” in the National Achievement Test” - Mathematics increased (%)	For “Grade 3” (Elementary) 27.1	For “Grade 3” (Elementary) 66.0	National Achievement Test (NAT), DepEd
		For “Grade 6” (Elementary) 17.6	For “Grade 6” (Elementary) 66.4	
		For “Grade 10” (Secondary) 13.1	For “Grade 10” (Secondary) 69.6	
	For “Grade 12” (Secondary) 2.8 (2018)	For “Grade 12” (Secondary) 43.0		
[PSA] SDG 4.1.1 Proportion of learners achieving at least “Proficient” in the National Achievement Test” - Reading increased (%)	1.8 Proportion of learners achieving at least “Proficient” in the National Achievement Test” - Reading increased (%)	For “Grade 3” (Elementary) 56.0	For “Grade 3” (Elementary) 77.2	NAT, DepEd
		For “Grade 6” (Elementary) 17.7	For “Grade 6” (Elementary) 69.5	
		For “Grade 10” (Secondary) 36.4	For “Grade 10” (Secondary) 73.2	
		For “Grade 12” (Secondary) 24 (2018)	For “Grade 12” (Secondary) 59.0	
[PSA] SDG 1.2.1.a Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age	1.9. Poverty incidence decreased (%)	18.1 (2021)	8.8-9.0	Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES), PSA
	1.10. Total government expenditures on social protection programs as a percentage to gross domestic product (%)	2.7 (2021)	5.25	Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG) Table in the Budget of Expenditure and Source of Funding (BESF), DBM
	1.11. Percentage of families covered with social insurance (%)	83.8 (2020)	100	Annual Poverty Indicators Survey

Aligned Global or PSA SDG Indicator	CF Performance Indicators (disaggregated where possible)	Baseline (year of latest available data)	Target (CF end – 2028)	Means of Verification, Data Source
[Global] SDG 3.6.1 Death rate due to road traffic injuries	1.12. Death rate due to road traffic injuries (per 100.000 population)	8.0 (2020)	1.68	Vital Statistics Report, PSA
	1.13. Corruption Perception Index	Score: 33 (2022)	36	Transparency International
	1.14. Open Budget Index score (%)	68 (2021)	73	DBM
	1.15. Percentage of children (aged 1-14 years) who have experienced at least one form of discipline	59% (2022)	54%	NDHS
[PSA] SDG 5.2.1 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	1.16. Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual, or psychological violence by a current or former partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age	11.9 (2022)	10.6 (2030)  *Target to be updated by the Inter-Agency Council on Violence Against Women and their Children	NDHS, PSA
	1.17. Congestion rate in jail and prison facilities reduced	390 Jail  304 Prison facilities (July 2022)	290 Jail  262 Prison facilities	BJMP, BuCor
[PSA] SDG 5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments	1.18. Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments	28.7 National  29.1 Local governments (2019)	~50.0 National  ~50.0 Local governments (*2030)	Election Records and Statistics Department (ERSD), Commission on Elections (Comelec)
	1.19. Percentage of implementation of peace agreements completed: Comprehensive Agreement on the Bangsamoro	43 (2021)	100	OPAPRU reports

## Indicative outputs

### Output 1.1

The Philippine healthcare system has accelerated progress on key health-related SDG targets and implementation of the UHC Act by enabling healthy choices of individuals, ensuring access to improved quality, efficiency, equitable and gender-responsive health services and systems, while preparing for and responding to health emergencies, and addressing key social determinants and risk factors across the life course.

**IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNOPS, UN Women, WHO**

### Output 1.2

The Government has improved facilitation of securing the availability, sustainability and accessibility of safe, affordable, and nutrient-rich diets, as well as the accessibility of quality, gender responsive, equitable, multisectoral basic services, enabling families to adopt optimal practices that address food insecurity, malnutrition, improve overall health and wellbeing, particularly for the most vulnerable and marginalized, at all times.

**FAO, UNFPA UNICEF, UNOPS, WFP, WHO**

### Output 1.3

The Philippine education system has improved capacity to provide inclusive, resilient, safe, and quality learning environments at all education and training levels.

**ILO, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UN Women, WFP**

### Output 1.4

The social protection and child protection systems have increased coverage, strengthened resilience to shocks, and improved quality in delivering timely, sustained and appropriate services to all persons in need.

**FAO, ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women, WFP**

### Output 1.5

The people have improved resilience to and protection from multidimensional risks through the provision of adequate housing, improved environmental quality, and enhanced social environment, including social cohesion.

**IOM, UNDP, UN-Habitat, UNHCR**

### Output 1.6

Institutions and systems are strengthened to provide services and address needs of communities in a more efficient, participatory, transparent and accountable manner.

**IOM, OHCHR, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOCT, UNODC, UN Women, WFP**

### Output 1.7

Peace and unity are further strengthened through support to government efforts to implement peace agreements and deliver peace dividends.

**FAO, ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNDP, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNOPS, UN Women, WFP**



## Strategic priority 2 impact

### National development priorities:

#### **PDP Objective: Transform production sectors to generate more quality jobs and produce competitive products**

- Strengthen data collection ecosystem for market intelligence, insights, and industry studies (Chapter 7, Outcome 3)
- Nurture a supportive environment for R&D (Chapter 8, Outcome 1)
- Resolve key constraints to export growth and competitiveness (Chapter 9, Outcome 1)
- Bolster science-based industries linked to global value chain (GVC) (Chapter 6, Outcome 2)
- Increase awareness of the Philippine Qualifications Framework and Philippines Skills Framework (Chapter 4, Outcome 1)
- Strengthen technical capacity to develop dynamic and responsive labour market information systems (Chapter 4, Outcome 2)
- Upskill and reskill workers to adapt to technology (Chapter 6, Outcome 2)
- Proactively monitor and implement preventive measures and interventions for distressed firms (Chapter 9, Outcome 1)
- Financial inclusion broadened and deepened (Chapter 11.1, Outcome 1)
- Significantly diversify exports by fortifying the sectoral backward and forward linkages (Chapter 9, Outcome 1)
- Promote and expand natural resource-based industries and enterprises (Chapter 15, Outcome 2)
- Develop the Blue Economy (Chapter 5, Outcome 2)

#### **PDP Objectives: Practice good governance and improve bureaucratic efficiency. Ensure peace and security and enhance administration of justice**

- Ensure peace and security (Sub-chapter 13.1, Outcomes 1, 2, 3 & 4)
- Enhance administration of justice (Sub-chapter 13.2, Outcomes 1, 2 & 3)
- Practise good governance and improve bureaucratic efficiency (Chapter 14, Outcomes 1, 2, 3 & 4)

## SDGs

- SDG 1** – No poverty
- SDG 2** – Zero Hunger
- SDG 5** – Gender equality
- SDG 7** – Affordable and clean energy
- SDG 8** – Decent work and economic growth
- SDG 9** – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG 10** – Reduced inequalities
- SDG 11** – Sustainable cities and communities
- SDG 12** – Responsible consumption and production
- SDG 13** – Climate action
- SDG 14** – Life under water
- SDG 17** – Partnerships

## Key partners

Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Migrant Workers (DMW), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)

## Contributing UN agencies, funds and programmes

FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, ITC, UN DESA, UNDP, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNOPS, UN Women, UNWTO, WFP

## Results | Strategic priority 2: Sustainable economic development, innovation, and decent work

**Outcome 2:** By 2028, all people benefit from a more integrated, innovative, inclusive, and sustainable economy that generates decent work and livelihood opportunities.

Aligned Global or PSA SDG Indicator	CF Performance Indicators (disaggregated)	Baseline (year)	Target	Means of Verification, Data Source
[PSA] SDG 8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex	2.1 Unemployment rate (%)	5.4 (2022)	4.0-5.0	PSA
	*Further disaggregation of data is encouraged by age, PWDs, among others in accordance with SDG Target 8.5			
[PSA] SDG 9.2.1 Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP and per capita	2.2 Gross Value Added (GVA) growth rate in manufacturing sector increased (%)	5.0 (2022)	8.0-9.5	NIA, PSA
	2.3 Growth in Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (AFF) Gross Value Added (GVA) increased (% in constant prices)	0.8 (Q1-Q3 2022)	1.8-3.3	PSA
	2.4 Female labour force participation rate (%)	51.7 (2022)	52-54	Labor Force Survey (LFS), PSA
	*Further disaggregation of data is encouraged by age, sector, type of employment/work, job level, urban-rural, among others			
	2.5 Global Competitiveness Index (GCI)	Top 45% Score: 61.9 (2019)	Top 33% Score: 65.1	World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Report (WEF GCR)
	2.6 PH foreign direct investments (FDI) to gross domestic product (GDP) ratio increased (%)	2.7 (2021)	2-5	UNCTAD FDI and GDP data
	2.7 Volume of digital payments over total retail payment transactions in the country (%)	30.3 (2021)	60.0-70.0	Payments and Currency Management Sector (PCMS) Payments Dashboard, BSP
	2.8 Revenue generated by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) increased	15,474 (2019)	4,605	Annual Survey of Philippine Business and Industry

Aligned Global or PSA SDG Indicator	CF Performance Indicators (disaggregated)	Baseline (year)	Target	Means of Verification, Data Source
[PSA] SDG 5.a.1.p1.1 Number of agricultural and residential land free patents issued to women	2.9 Number of agricultural and residential land free patents issued to women	22,180 (2021)	TBD	Land Management Bureau (LMB), DENR
	2.10 Employment generated from the services sector increased ('000s)	2,424 (2022)	TBD	LFS, Regional Development Councils, DOLE Regional Offices
[PSA] SDG 8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training	2.11 Percentage of youth not in employment, education, and training (NEET)	12.6 (2022)	11.3–13.3	LFS, PSA
	2.12 Global Innovation Index (GII)	56th (2023)	43rd	GII Annual Report, World Intellectual Property Organization

## Indicative outputs

### Output 2.1

Institutions, policies and systems are improved to boost the competitiveness of the business environment and facilitate the participation of firms and enterprises, in productive and innovative industrial activities, modernised agriculture and agribusiness opportunities integrated into global value chains of a digitalized economy  
**FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, ITC, UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, UNOPS, WFP, UN Women**

### Output 2.2

Institutions and systems are strengthened to mobilize public and private sector investments and increase access to traditional and innovative financing to transform infrastructure facilities, agriculture and fisheries sector, and service sectors to becoming more sustainable, integrated, resilient, and modernized  
**FAO, ILO, ITC, UNDP, UN-Habitat, UNIDO, UNOPS, UN Women, UNWTO**

### Output 2.3.

Institutions and systems are strengthened to develop a competitive and equal labour force that can adapt to the future of work, whose rights are protected and promoted, and provided with a safe and fair working environment  
**FAO, ILO, IOM, UNDP, UNIDO, UNOPS, UN Women**

### Output 2.4.

Institutions and systems are enhanced to provide an enabling, rights-based, inclusive environment to address inequalities and support equal opportunities.  
**FAO, ILO, IOM, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNDP, UNIDO, UNOPS, UN Women**



## Strategic priority 3 impact

### National development priorities:

#### **PDP Objective: Transform production sectors to generate more quality jobs and produce competitive products**

- Strengthen data collection ecosystem for market intelligence, insights, and industry studies (Chapter 7, Outcome 3)
- Nurture a supportive environment for R&D (Chapter 8, Outcome 1)
- Resolve key constraints to export growth and competitiveness (Chapter 9, Outcome 1)
- Bolster science-based industries linked to global value chain (GVC) (Chapter 6, Outcome 2)
- Increase awareness of the Philippine Qualifications Framework and Philippines Skills Framework (Chapter 4, Outcome 1)
- Strengthen technical capacity to develop dynamic and responsive labour market information systems (Chapter 4, Outcome 2)
- Upskill and reskill workers to adapt to technology (Chapter 6, Outcome 2)
- Proactively monitor and implement preventive measures and interventions for distressed firms (Chapter 9, Outcome 1)
- Financial inclusion broadened and deepened (Chapter 11.1, Outcome 1)
- Significantly diversify exports by fortifying the sectoral backward and forward linkages (Chapter 9, Outcome 1)
- Promote and expand natural resource-based industries and enterprises (Chapter 15, Outcome 2)
- Develop the Blue Economy (Chapter 5, Outcome 2)

#### **PDP Objectives: Practice good governance and improve bureaucratic efficiency. Ensure peace and security and enhance administration of justice**

- Ensure peace and security (Sub-chapter 13.1,

Outcomes 1, 2, 3 &4)

- Enhance administration of justice (Sub-chapter 13.2, Outcomes 1, 2 & 3)
- Practise good governance and improve bureaucratic efficiency (Chapter 14, Outcomes 1, 2, 3 &4)

### SDGs

- SDG 1** – No poverty
- SDG 2** – Zero Hunger
- SDG 5** – Gender equality
- SDG 7** – Affordable and clean energy
- SDG 8** – Decent work and economic growth
- SDG 9** – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG 10** – Reduced inequalities
- SDG 11** – Sustainable cities and communities
- SDG 12** – Responsible consumption and production
- SDG 13** – Climate action
- SDG 14** – Life under water
- SDG 17** – Partnerships

### Key partners

Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Migrant Workers (DMW), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Philippine Commission on Women (PCW), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)

### Contributing UN agencies, funds and programmes

FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, ITC, UN DESA, UNDP, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNOPS, UN Women, UNWTO, WFP



## Results | Strategic priority 3: Climate action, environmental sustainability and disaster resilience

**Outcome 3:** By 2028, all people benefit from just transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development, sustainable management of environment, natural resources and biodiversity, and strengthened resilience to disasters and natural hazards

Aligned Global or PSA SDG Indicator	CF Performance Indicators (disaggregated)	Baseline (year)	Target	Means of Verification, Data Source
[PSA] SDG 13.1.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population	3.1 Number of deaths, missing persons, and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 population	0.446 Deaths	0.2899 Deaths	Progress Reports, OCD
		0.0240 Missing persons	0.0156 Missing persons	
		4,558.95 Directly affected persons (2021)	2,963.32 Directly affected persons	
[PSA] SDG 13.1.3 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies	3.2 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies	43% (2022)	100% (2030)	NDRRMC, OCD
[PSA] SDG 14.5.1 Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas	3.3 Area of marine protected areas under National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) and other priority coastal and marine conservation areas effectively managed	1,229,294.92 Excellent	2,030,369.01 Excellent	Management Effectiveness Assessment (MEA) Reports, DENR
		801,074.09 Good	453,386.98 Good	
		453,386.98 Fair	0 Fair	
		0 Poor (2022)	0 Poor	
[PSA] SDG 15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area	3.4 Forest area as a proportion of total land area	23.4 (2015)	25.23	Forest Resources Assessment, DENR
[PSA] SDG 15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater diversity that are covered by protected areas	3.5 Area of terrestrial protected areas, including inland wetlands and caves under NIPAS system effectively managed increased (hectares)	335,134.89 Excellent	1,592,184.36 Excellent	MEA Reports, DENR
		1,257,049.47 Good	114,089.87 Good	
		64,168.29 Fair	0 Fair	
		0 Poor (2022)	0 Poor	
[Global] SDG 12.5.1 National recycling rate, tons of material recycled	3.6 Percentage of plastic product footprint recovered	0% (2022)	80%	DENR

Aligned Global or PSA SDG Indicator	CF Performance Indicators (disaggregated)	Baseline (year)	Target	Means of Verification, Data Source
[PSA] SDG 7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption	3.7 Share of renewable energy (RE) in the power generation mix increased	22.40 (2021)	33	DOE Annual Report
[PSA] SDG 11.6.2p1 Percentage of highly urbanized and other major urban centres within ambient air quality guideline value increased	3.8 Percentage of highly urbanized and other major urban centres within ambient air quality guideline values for particulate matter (PM) 10 and 2.5	59% (2021)	70%	Annual Air Quality Report (DENR)
	3.9 Green, Social, and Sustainability Bonds issued (USD billion)	6.58 (December 2022)	8-10	SEC Sustainable Finance Market Update

## Indicative outputs

### Output 3.1

Capacities of institutions at all levels and those of the communities, strengthened for improved disaster risk reduction and management, climate resilience, water and sanitation systems, through evidence and risk-informed planning and implementation.

**FAO, IOM, ITC, UNDP, UNDRR, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UN Women, WFP**

### Output 3.2

Strengthened capacities of institutions at all levels and communities for inclusive and just transition towards low-carbon society and circular economy including through leveraging blue/green/climate finance.

**FAO, ILO, ITC, UNDP, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UN Women**

### Output 3.3

Improved capacities of institutions at all levels and communities, and technical knowhow for biodiversity conservation protection, equitable access to and sustainable use of natural resources (land, forests, water), enhancing resilience of resource-dependent communities, including waste and pollution management.

**FAO, IOM, UNDP, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UN Women, WFP**

## Annex 4. The Legal Annex

The Legal Annex references the principal UN Agreements which, together with the General Convention and/or the Specialized Agencies Convention as applicable, form the primary existing legal basis for the relationship between the Government and each UN System Organization for supporting the country to deliver on the 2024-2028 UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (CF). The legal instruments and UN Agreements referenced in the Legal Annex are non-exhaustive and without prejudice to any other legal instruments the Government may enter into, including additional agreements with UN System Organizations for the purpose of their activities in the country.

1. Whereas the Government of the Philippines (the "Government") has entered into the agreements listed below with the United Nations, including its Funds, Programmes and other subsidiary organs, and other organizations of the United Nations system ("UN System Organizations"), which are applicable to their programme activities in the Philippines (the "UN Agreements") under the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (the "Cooperation Framework");
2. Whereas the UN Agreements, together with the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946 (the "General Convention") and/or the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947 (the "Specialized Agencies Convention") as applicable, form the primary existing legal basis for the relationship between the Government and each UN System Organization for supporting the country to deliver on the Cooperation Framework, and are non-exhaustive and without prejudice to any other legal instruments the Government may enter into, including additional agreements with UN System Organizations for the purpose of their activities in the country:
  - (a) **With the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**, a basic agreement to govern UNDP's assistance to the country, which was signed by the Government and UNDP (the "Standard Basic Assistance Agreement" or "SBAA") on 21 July 1977. 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.
  - (b) **With the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**, a Basic Cooperation Agreement (BCA) concluded between the Government and UNICEF on 20 November 1948;
  - (c) **With the World Food Programme (WFP)**, a Basic Agreement concerning assistance from the World Food Programme, which Agreement was signed by the Government and WFP on 2 July 1968;
  - (d) **With the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**, an agreement concluded by an Exchange of Letters, which entered into force on 21 October 1996, pursuant to which the standard basic assistance agreement between the Government and the UNDP signed on 21 July 1977 shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to UNFPA;
  - (e) **With the International Labour Organization (ILO)**, the Specialized Agencies Convention and its Annex I relating to the ILO acceded to by the Government on 20 March 1950, the Revised Standard Technical Assistance Agreement concluded on 27 October 1954 and its supplementary text of 15 January 2013, and the Agreement establishing the ILO Office in Manila concluded between the Government and ILO on 23 January 1970;
  - (f) **With the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**, in conformity with General Conference decision GC.1/Dec.40, adopted on 12 December 1985, and Director-General's bulletin UNIDO/DG/B.18/REV.1, dated 15 May 1992, the Standard Basic Cooperation Agreement ("SBCA") concluded with the Government on 26 February 1993;
  - (g) **With the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**, an Agreement for the establishment of the FAO Representation in the Philippines concluded between the Government and FAO by Exchange

of Letters on 2 November 1977 and 14 November 1977, respectively;

- (h) **With the World Health Organization (WHO)**, an Agreement for the Provision of Technical Advisory Assistance signed by the Government and WHO on 28 December 1950, and the Host Agreement signed by the Government and WHO on 22 July 1951;
  - (i) **With the International Organization for Migration (IOM)**, the Cooperation Agreement concluded between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and IOM on 13 March 2003;
  - (j) **With the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**, the Agreement Establishing IFAD, which the Republic of the Philippines acceded to on 4 April 1977 and which confers upon it and the representatives of its Members, its President and its staff, the privileges and immunities necessary for the independent exercise of their functions in connection with IFAD;
  - (k) **With the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**, through the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) and the UNEA's approval of UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy 2022-25 and related Programmes of Work (PoWs);
3. With respect to all UN System Organizations including ITC, ITU, OCHA, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDRR, UNESCO, UNHCR, UN-Habitat, UNICRI, UNIC, UNOCT, UNODC, UNOPS and UN Women: Assistance to the Government shall be made available and shall be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions, decisions, rules and procedures of each UN System Organization.
4. Without prejudice to the above, the Government shall:
- (a) apply to each UN System Organization and its property, funds, assets, officials and experts on mission the provisions of the General Convention and/or the Specialized Agencies Convention; and
  - (b) accord to each UN System Organization, its officials and other persons performing services on behalf of that UN System

Organization, the privileges, immunities and facilities set out in the UN Agreement applicable to such UN System Organization.

- 5. United Nations Volunteers performing services on behalf of a UN System Organization shall be entitled to the privileges and immunities accorded to officials of such UN System Organization.
- 6. Any privileges, immunities and facilities granted to a UN System Organization under the Cooperation Framework shall be no less favourable than those granted by the Government to any other UN System Organization signatory of the Cooperation Framework.
- 7. Without prejudice to the UN Agreements, the Government shall be responsible for dealing with any claims which may be brought by third parties against any of the UN System Organizations 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 Cooperation Framework, except where it is mutually agreed by the Government and the relevant UN System Organization(s) that such claims and liabilities arise from gross negligence or misconduct of that UN System Organization, or its officials, or persons performing services.
- 8. Nothing in or relating to this Cooperation Framework shall be deemed:
  - (a) a waiver, express or implied, of the privileges and immunities of any UN System Organization; or
  - (b) the acceptance by any UN System Organization 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 shall be interpreted or applied in a manner, or to an extent, that is inconsistent with such privileges and immunities.

# Annex 5. Programme Management and Accountability in the Cooperation Framework

## Introduction

1. The programme will be nationally executed under the overall co-ordination of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) (Government Co-ordinating Authority). Specific UN entities will have their own Government coordinating authorities. Government Ministries, NGOs, INGOs and UN system agencies will implement programme activities. The Cooperation Framework (CF) will be made operational through the development of joint work plan(s) (JWPs)<sup>1</sup> and/or agency-specific work plans and project documents as necessary which describe the specific results to be achieved and will form an agreement between the UN system agencies and each implementing partner as necessary on the use of resources. To the extent possible, the UN system agencies and partners will use the minimum documents necessary, namely the signed CF and signed joint or agency-specific work plans and project documents to implement programmatic initiatives. However, as necessary and appropriate, project documents can be prepared using, inter alia, the relevant text from the CF and joint or agency-specific work plans and / or project documents.<sup>2</sup> UN system agencies will coordinate with the concerned government agencies and consider the timing of the government's budget season to ensure counterpart budget availability as necessary.
2. Cash assistance for travel, stipends, honoraria and other costs shall be in accordance with the United Nations Reference Rates for Partners and for UN-Assisted Projects.

## Programme Implementation

3. All cash transfers to an Implementing Partner are based on the Work Plans (WPs<sup>3</sup>) agreed between the Implementing Partner and the UN system agencies.
4. Cash transfers to support activities detailed in the work plans (WPs) can be made by the UN system agencies using the following modalities:
  - (a) Cash transferred directly to the Implementing Partner:
    - (i) Prior to the start of activities (direct cash transfer), or
    - (ii) After the agreed activities have been completed based on actual expenditures that have been incurred by the IP (reimbursement);
  - (b) Direct payment to vendors or other third parties for obligations incurred by the Implementing Partners on the basis of requests signed by the designated official of the Implementing Partner;
  - (c) Direct payments to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by UN system agencies in support of activities agreed with Implementing Partners.
5. Direct cash transfers shall be requested and released for programme implementation periods not exceeding three months. Reimbursements and direct payments to vendors and other third parties for expenses incurred by the IP shall be requested and released 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 authorized amounts.

1. As per the UNDG Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for countries adopting the "Delivering as One" approach.
2. In the case of UNDP, the Government Coordinating Authority will nominate the Government Co-operating Agency directly responsible for the Government's participation in each UNDP-assisted workplan. The reference to "Implementing Partner(s)" shall mean "Executing Agency(s)" as used in the SBAA. Where there are multiple implementing partners identified in a workplan, a Principal Implementing Partner will be identified who will have responsibility for convening, coordinating and overall monitoring (programme and financial) of all the Implementing Partners identified in the workplan to ensure that inputs are provided and activities undertaken in a coherent manner to produce the results of the workplan.
3. Refers to results Groups' or agency specific annual, bi-annual or multiyear work plans

6. Following the completion of any activity, any balance of funds shall be refunded or may be reprogrammed by mutual agreement between the Implementing Partner and the UN system agencies.
7. 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-UN<sup>4</sup> 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.
8. 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.
9. 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 within the agreed number of days as per UN system agency schedule.
10. 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 the agreed number of days as agreed by the UN system agencies.
11. The UN system agencies shall not have any direct liability under the contractual arrangements concluded between the Implementing Partner and a third-party vendor.
12. Where the UN system agencies and other UN system agency provide cash to the same Implementing Partner, programme monitoring, financial monitoring and auditing may be undertaken jointly or coordinated with those UN system agencies.
13. A standard Fund Authorization and Certificate of Expenditures (FACE) report, reflecting the activity lines of the work plan (WP), will be used by the Implementing Partners to request the release of funds, or to secure the agreement that [UN organization] will reimburse or directly pay for planned expenditure. The Implementing Partners will use the FACE to report on the utilization of cash received. The Implementing Partner shall identify the designated official(s) authorized to provide the account details, and request and certify the use of cash. The FACE will be certified by the designated official(s) of the Implementing Partner.
14. 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.
15. 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 work plans (WPs) and ensuring that reports on the utilization of all received cash are submitted to [UN organization] 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.
16. 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 work plans (WPs) and ensuring that reports on the full utilization of all received cash are submitted to [UN organization] within six months after receipt of the funds.
17. To facilitate scheduled and special audits, each Implementing Partner receiving cash from a UN organization will provide the UN system agency or its representative with timely access to:
  - all financial records which establish the transactional record of the cash transfers

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

provided by the 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.
- 18.** The findings of each audit will be reported to the Implementing Partner and UN organization. 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 organization] 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 the UN organization.
  - Undertake timely actions to address the accepted audit recommendations.
- 19.** 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). The audits will be commissioned by the UN system agencies and undertaken by private audit services.

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### **Mobilising Resources for the Cooperation Framework**

- 20.** The UN system agencies will provide support to the development and implementation of activities within the CF, which may include technical support, cash assistance, supplies, commodities and equipment, procurement services, transport, funds for advocacy, research and studies, consultancies, programme development, monitoring and evaluation, training activities and staff support. Part of the UN system entities' support may be provided to non-governmental [and civil society] organizations as agreed within the framework of the individual workplans and project documents.
- 21.** Additional support may include access to UN organization-managed global information systems, the network of the UN system agencies' country offices and specialized information systems, including rosters of consultants and providers of development services, and access to the support provided by the network of UN specialized agencies,

funds and programmes. The UN system agencies shall appoint staff and consultants for programme development, programme support, technical assistance, as well as monitoring and evaluation activities. To the extent allowed by UN procurement rules, the UN system entities may tap local consultants who are more familiar with local settings and provide short-term international consultants who can bring best practices from other countries/regions.

- 22.** Subject to annual reviews and progress in the implementation of the programme, the UN system agencies' funds are distributed by calendar year and in accordance with the CF. These budgets will be reviewed and further detailed in the workplans and project documents. By mutual consent between the Government and the UN development system entities, funds not earmarked by donors to UN development system agencies for specific activities may be re-allocated to other programmatically equally worthwhile activities.
- 23.** The Government will support the UN system agencies' efforts to raise funds required to meet the needs of this CF and will cooperate with the UN system agencies including: encouraging potential donor Governments to make available to the UN system agencies the funds needed to implement unfunded components of the programme; endorsing the UN system agencies' efforts to raise funds for the programme from other sources, including the private sector both internationally and in the Philippines; and by permitting contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations in the Philippines to support this programme which will be tax exempt for the Donor, to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law.

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### **Cooperation Framework Monitoring and Evaluation**

- 24.** Implementing Partners agree to cooperate with the UN system 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 system agencies. To that effect, Implementing Partners agree to the following:
- (a) Periodic on-site reviews and spot checks of their financial records by the UN system agencies or their representatives, as appropriate, and as described in specific clauses of their engagement

documents/ contracts with the UN system agencies.

- (b) Programmatic monitoring of activities following the UN system agencies' standards and guidance for site visits and field monitoring.
- (c) Special or scheduled audits. Each UN organization, in collaboration with other UN system agencies (where so desired and in consultation with the respective coordinating Government agency) will establish an annual audit plan, giving priority to audits of Implementing Partners with large amounts of cash assistance provided by the UN system agencies, and those whose financial management capacity needs strengthening.

- 25.** The evaluation should also assess as to what extent the framework has made a concrete and sustained contribution to the improvement in terms of providing protection to the most vulnerable including forcibly displaced and stateless persons and populations at risk of statelessness, either through direct action or catalytic effects. In addition, conduct of workshop on lessons learned in terms of the implementation may be conducted. Results from this workshop should be validated with the target populations themselves.









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**The Philippines 2024-2028 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework was developed in partnership with the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and with the invaluable contribution of a wide range of development stakeholders. It is the key strategic document guiding the work of the United Nations in the Philippines.**