



UNITED NATIONS  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA



# UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK (UNSDCF) 2024 - 2028



**Prepared by:** United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office, Papua New Guinea

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The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Papua New Guinea presents the UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK (UNSDCF/Cooperation Framework) 2024-2028. The UNSDCF is essential for planning and implementing the UN's development activities at the country level to support achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The UNSDCF Papua New Guinea 2024-2028 articulates the UN's collective framework for assisting Papua New Guinea towards achieving key Sustainable Development Goals and advancing the humanitarian-development-peace nexus.


The UNSDCF is a partnership framework agreement with the Government of Papua New Guinea, outlining how UN entities will work together, and in partnership with broader society and other development partners, to benefit Papua New Guinea. At its core is a commitment to the guiding principles of:

- ▶ Leaving no one behind
- ▶ Human rights-based approach to development
- ▶ Gender equality and women's empowerment
- ▶ Resilience
- ▶ Sustainability
- ▶ Accountability.

The UNSDCF will drive gender equality for women and girls; strengthen governance, peace and social cohesion; ensure human development is increasingly inclusive; and ensure that the economy is transformative and sustainable. The UNSDCF will support increasingly sustainable environmental management and the mitigation of the harmful effects of climate change.

By signing herewith, UNCT members endorse the UNSDCF 2024-2028 and reinforce their joint commitment to the UNSDCF strategic priorities and cooperation results.

**For and on behalf of the United Nations in Papua New Guinea**



**Richard Howard**  
United Nations Resident Coordinator  
30 August 2023

**For and on behalf of the people of Papua New Guinea**



**Mr. Koney Samuel**  
Acting Secretary  
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30 August 2023





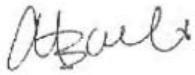
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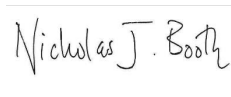
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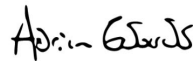
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# ACRONYMS

CCA	Common Country Analysis
CSO	Civil society organization
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey (PNG) 2016-2018
GBV	Gender-based violence
IDP	Internally displaced persons
JSC	Joint Steering Committee
JWP	Joint Work Plans
LGBTQIA+	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, questioning, intersex, asexual (plus other sexual identities)
LNOB	Leave no one behind
M&E	Monitoring and evaluation
MEL	Monitoring, evaluation and learning
MSME	Micro, small and medium enterprises
MTDP IV	Medium Term Development Plan IV
NGE	National General Elections
NGO	Non-governmental organization
PCC	Programme Coordination Committee
PNG	Papua New Guinea
REDD	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
SARV	Sorcery accusation-related violence
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal(s)
SME	Small and medium enterprises
SPA	Strategic Priority Area (MTDP IV)
UNAIDS	United Nations Joint Programme for HIV and AIDS
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Education Science and Culture Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UN INFO	United Nations Information Management System
UNODC	United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Organization for Project Services
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
WHO	World Health Organization

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

UN global reform has elevated the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) to be “the most important instrument for planning and implementing UN development activities” in the country. The UNSDCF outlines the UN’s contribution to Papua New Guinea (PNG) reaching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in an integrated way. This contribution includes a commitment to leave no one behind (LNOB), and upholding human rights, gender equality and women’s empowerment and other essential international standards and obligations, including those related to health emergencies derived from the global pandemic. In addition, the UNSDCF seeks to address key development challenges in PNG and outlines the UN’s collective priorities and development objectives to be jointly reached between 2024 and 2028, as part of the UN’s ongoing vision to deliver results that improve the lives of PNG’s most disadvantaged and marginalized.

PNG is an ethnically and geographically diverse country whose socio-economic status is challenged by various development issues. Through its Medium-Term Development Plan (MTDP) IV 2023-2027, the Government of PNG seeks to translate its Vision 2050 into action. The UNSDCF is derived from consultations with stakeholders,<sup>1</sup> internal United Nations Country Team (UNCT) consultations, the Strategic Prioritization Workshop,<sup>2</sup> and the UN’s Common Country Analysis (CCA) updated in 2022.<sup>3</sup> The CCA analyses explored the priorities of governance and institutions, economic transformation, finance, environment and climate change, social exclusion, and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus. The stakeholder consultations and Strategic Prioritization Workshop focused further on inclusive human development with the need for specific consideration of gender equality and women’s empowerment, sustainable economic transformation, governance, peace, security and social cohesion, and environmental sustainability and climate action. All three processes – CCA, stakeholder consultations and Strategic Prioritization Workshop – identified development trends, issues, needs and opportunities.

As a result of these analytical and consultative steps (see Image 2, Chapter 2) the UNSDCF focuses on five outcomes that reinforce the priorities of the SDGs, placing the vulnerable and the marginalized at the centre of the UN’s development response of improving the lives of all people in PNG through:

- ▶ Equality for Women and Girls
- ▶ Governance, Peace and Social Cohesion
- ▶ Inclusive Human Development
- ▶ Sustainable Economic Transformation
- ▶ Environment and Climate Change.

The UNSDCF theory of change is driven by an expectation that by 2028, Papua New Guineans, particularly those most disadvantaged and marginalized, including women and girls, will live lives free from all forms of discrimination and violence; benefit from transparent governance that promotes peace, security, equality and social cohesion; have access to services that support inclusive human development in a diversified economy; and benefit from climate-resilient services that improve livelihoods and protect natural resources.

The UNSDCF prioritizes those at risk of being left behind due to isolation, marginalization or exclusion, particularly those groups recognized as being most at risk including women and girls, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and migrants, youth, LGBTQIA+ communities, sex workers, older persons, children, victims of trafficking, asylum seekers and refugees, and persons with mental health issues.



<sup>1</sup> Consultations were held in September-October 2022 with vulnerable populations (LGBTQIA+, people living with HIV/AIDS), women’s groups, youth groups including youths living with disabilities, refugees, and civil society organizations.

<sup>2</sup> The Strategic Prioritization Workshop with government officials and development partners was held in February 2023

<sup>3</sup> United Nations in PNG, Common Country Analysis 2022 Update, Port Moresby, 2022 <https://unsdg.un.org/search?key=papua+new+guinea+Common+Country+Analysis> .

# CHAPTER 1:

## COUNTRY PROGRESS TOWARDS THE 2030 AGENDA

### 1.1 NATIONAL CONTEXT

1. PNG lies in the southwestern Pacific Ocean and comprises the eastern half of the island of New Guinea, the Bismarck Archipelago (New Britain, New Ireland, the Admiralty Islands and others), Bougainville Island (part of the Solomon Islands chain), and small offshore islands and atolls. It is one of the world's most disaster-prone countries, with prevalent hazards including earthquakes, cyclones, storms, volcanic eruptions, riverine and coastal flooding, coastal erosion, epidemics and droughts.<sup>4</sup> Nevertheless, PNG has tremendous natural wealth, an exceptional diversity of wildlife and a growing population, most of whom live subsistence lifestyles and depend directly on the environment to provide for their daily needs.
2. Much of PNG's countryside is difficult to traverse. Approximately 87 percent of PNG's 11.7 million people,<sup>5</sup> who speak over 850 recognized languages, live in peri-urban, rural and remote settlements, and 80 percent rely on artisanal fishing, hunting, gathering and gardening.<sup>6</sup> 56.6 percent of PNG's population is multidimensionally poor, with an additional 25.3 percent classified as vulnerable to multidimensional poverty (2.2 million people) and 25.8 percent in severe multidimensional poverty. Gender inequality remains very high, with PNG ranked 169 out of 170 countries globally, as per the UNDP's Human Development Report 2022. Women and girls continue to feel the brunt of inequitable social norms and a lack of protection, experiencing gender-based violence (GBV) and lower literacy rates. The Demographic Health Survey (DHS) 2016-2018 shows that 54 percent of PNG women have experienced some form of GBV/intimate partner violence in the last 12 months and nearly 23 percent of women aged 15-49 have no formal education compared to 13 percent of men. PNG has ratified six UN Human Rights treaties. However, only the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women have been fully domesticated.
3. PNG experiences a high prevalence of violence and political/tribal instability. The Highlands region is increasingly affected by conflict and violence, often related to land disputes, tribal rivalries, organized crime, sorcery accusation-related violence (SARV), and small arms proliferation. By the end of 2019 in Hela and Southern Highlands Provinces, dozens of active violence situations placed substantial pressure on the realization of human rights, social/structural stability, and human development, with conflict continuing to threaten and displace entire communities.
4. The situation in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville has been incredibly dynamic, with the start of the post-referendum consultation process between the National Government and the Autonomous Bougainville Government, regarding the region's future political status. In December 2019, the Autonomous Region of Bougainville saw the successful and peaceful completion of a non-binding referendum where 97.7 percent of voters opted for independence. However, the post-referendum process faces complex challenges including a lack of provisions for the involvement of women and other groups in the Joint Supervisory Body and the joint consultative process.<sup>7</sup> As a result, the two governments met formally on three occasions in 2021 (May, July and December).

### 1.2 PNG'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS STATUS

5. PNG's SDG achievement by the end of 2021 was 53.6 percent, higher than the regional average of 52.3 percent and an improvement from 51.3 percent in 2020. In 2021, PNG ranked 144 out of 163 countries in SDG achievement, an improvement from its 2020 ranking of 151 out of 165 countries. PNG is only slightly over halfway towards achieving the SDGs by 2030.
6. PNG's current SDG status indicates the following progress:
  - ▶ On track or maintaining achievement – SDGs 8, 12 and 13
  - ▶ Moderately improving – SDGs 14, 16 and 17
  - ▶ Stagnated – SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 15
  - ▶ Information not available – SDGs 4 and 10.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations Office of Disaster Risk Reduction [UNDRR], 2019

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.nso.gov.pg/statistics/population/>

<sup>6</sup> Bourke, M., 'COVID-19 and food systems in Papua New Guinea', in Robins L, et al., COVID-19 and Food Systems in the Indo-Pacific: An Assessment of Vulnerabilities, Impacts and Opportunities for Action, ACIAR Technical Report 96, 2020.

<sup>7</sup> Study conducted by the Australian National University in 2022 on women's inclusion in Bougainville's peace processes.



## SDG DASHBOARDS AND TRENDS (SOURCE: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2022 (SDGINDEX.ORG))



Dashboards: ● SDG achieved ● Challenges remain ● Significant challenges remain ● Major challenges remain ● Information unavailable  
 Trends: ↑ On track or maintaining SDG achievement ↗ Moderately improving → Stagnating ↓ Decreasing ● Trend information unavailable



7. Significant challenges remain for PNG's achievement of most SDGs due to ongoing discrimination, exclusion, inequalities (including gender), vulnerability and deprivation.
8. The CCA presented the following SDG analysis:



A significant proportion of PNG's population still lives in poverty,<sup>8</sup> with the social protection system inadequate and most people having no access to essential services. The economic loss from disasters has increased (SDG1). Undernourishment and stunting persist. Plant breeds and agriculture as a share of GDP have increased. However, subsidies for agricultural exports and expenditures have been reduced (SDG2). PNG health indicators are improving, showing decreased maternal and infant mortality rates and increased universal health coverage. However, rates of non-communicable diseases have increased, government expenditure on health has declined, and the number of medical doctors remains low (SDG3). Enrolment in primary and early education has increased. However, very few students complete secondary education, and official spending on education has declined (SDG4). While the female-to-male labour force participation rate is almost 1:1, women are not equally participating in political, business, and public service leadership. Despite policy to address discrimination against women, many women experience GBV (SDG5). Whilst spending on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) has more than doubled since 2000, most of the population does not have access to WASH facilities (SDG6). Access to electricity and energy efficiency has increased, but access to renewable energy has declined (SDG7).<sup>9</sup>

9. PNG's economy has seen continual growth, with exceptions in 2018 and 2020 due to an earthquake and the global COVID-19 pandemic. Unpaid work, unemployment, and underemployment are widespread, and formal sector employment growth has yet to keep pace with the growth of the labour force. Access to banking institutions remains low (SDG8). The mobile network ranging from 2G to 4G is widespread in PNG, however, few people use the internet. The Socio-Demographic and Economic Survey 2022 indicated that only 36.2 percent of households have internet access: of this amount, 66.2 percent are in urban areas, and 31 percent are in rural areas.<sup>10</sup> The high-tech industry is a tiny proportion of the value-added sector (manufacturing sector), and expenditure on research and development is zero. Small-scale industries received one-third of loans and manufacturing value-added to GDP declined. Higher education and published articles receive low scores, and there are few full-time researchers (SDG9).<sup>11</sup>
10. Labour accounts for one-third of GDP, with one-fifth of the population living below the median income. Non-performing loans have increased. Development assistance has almost doubled, and three-quarters of imports are zero-tariff rated (SDG10). The annual mean concentration of particulate matter is above the WHO maximum safety levels (SDG11). Domestic material consumption decreased while electronic waste generated per capita increased (SDG12). PNG has developed the draft REDD+ Safeguards and National REDD+ guidelines (SDG13).<sup>12</sup> PNG scored well for clean ocean waters, and the amount of protected marine areas increased (SDG14). The proportion of land area covered by forest is very high despite a decrease over the past decade. Permanent deforestation is relatively low. Development assistance for biodiversity has increased significantly (SDG15).<sup>13</sup>
11. The number of un-sentenced detainees has increased over the past decade. Corruption perception remains the same. Registration of children remains low, and birth registrations with civil authorities account for only 13.4 percent of children under the age of 5 years (SDG16). PNG's corporate tax haven score (best 0 – 100 worst) was 0.0 in 2019, indicating a strong tax system for companies. Foreign direct investment has increased (SDG17).<sup>14</sup>



<sup>8</sup> See UNDP Multidimensional Index

<sup>9</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal/countryprofiles/png>

<sup>10</sup> PNG National Statistical Office, Socio-Demographic and Economic Survey 2022, <https://www.nso.gov.pg/census-surveys/population-data-collection-and-assessment/socio-demographic-and-economic-survey/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal/countryprofiles/png>

<sup>12</sup> Reducing deforestation and forest degradation emissions - a climate change mitigation solution developed by Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

<sup>13</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal/countryprofiles/png>

<sup>14</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal/countryprofiles/png>

### 1.3 GROUPS AT RISK OF BEING LEFT BEHIND

12. Leaving no one behind is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. Using the LNOB framework, the CCA analyzed how different groups in PNG are lagging or are at risk of being left further behind because they are economically, socially, geographically and/or politically excluded or disadvantaged.

**Image 1: Main groups at risk of being left behind**



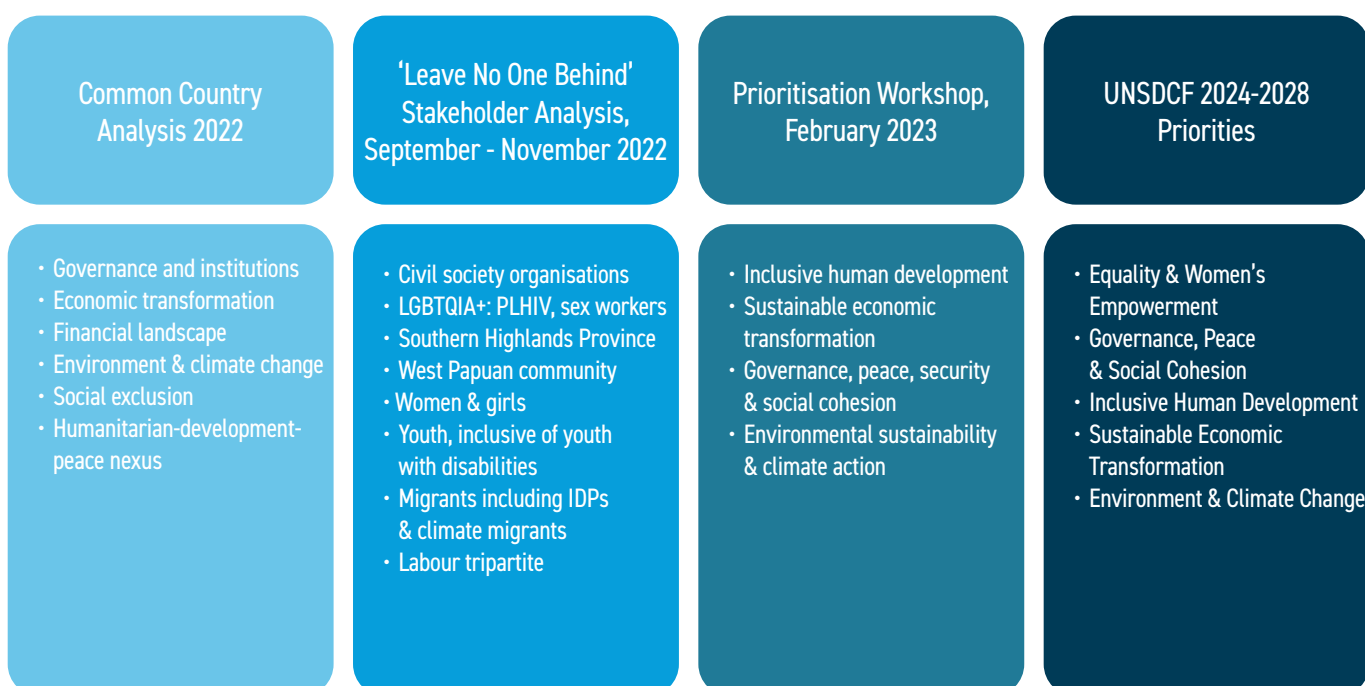
# CHAPTER 2:

## UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO THE 2030 AGENDA

### 2.1 FROM CCA TO COOPERATION FRAMEWORK PRIORITIES

13. The UNSDCF is shaped by the challenges and development gaps identified in the CCA, the LNOB stakeholders' consultations and the national Strategic Prioritization Workshop. This process drew on findings and lessons learned from evaluation of the previous United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), and identified those priorities that require focus to meet PNG's most pressing development needs. The process also considered where the UN in PNG is best placed to utilize its technical capacity and available resources to support the attainment of development results.
14. In determining the framework for UNSDCF priorities, the process looked broadly at the following areas:
- ▶ governance and institutions
  - ▶ economic transformation
  - ▶ financial landscape
  - ▶ environment and climate change
  - ▶ social exclusion and gender equality
  - ▶ humanitarian-development-peace nexus.
15. The analysis, underpinned by the principles of LNOB, sought to develop programming that reaches the furthest groups first, targeting the needs of the most disadvantaged and marginalized.
16. The below diagram highlights the process of determining the focus of the UNSDCF 2024-2028 starting with the comprehensive analysis of the CCA, to the prioritization of five key outcome areas via extensive stakeholder analysis and a prioritization workshop that engaged key stakeholders. Outcome areas adopt an integrated approach, where gender equality and women's empowerment are mainstreamed. The listed outcome areas form the basis of the UNSDCF theory of change.

**Image 2: Prioritization process for CCA 2022 to UNSDCF 2024-2028**



**UNSDCF Alignment with National Strategic Priority Areas and the Sustainable Development Goals**



## RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

17. To determine priority outcomes for the UNSDCF, a detailed analysis was conducted on the risks, including mitigating measures and assumptions, that underpin the UNSDCF's theory of change. The overall risks to attaining the SDGs were considered with mitigating measures outlined for each, and the risks for Bougainville and the Highlands were considered with specific mitigation measures outlined. Risks and assumptions inform the best ways to engage with government at the national, regional and local levels, how best to collaborate with the UN's wide range of stakeholders, how to develop and maintain their trust, and how to effectively engage with implementing partners.
18. Risks associated with implementation of the UNSDCF include:
- ▶ weak institutional capacities and unclear coordination mechanisms at different levels of government
  - ▶ potential delays in implementation linked to both capacity and the complicated nature of programme delivery
  - ▶ high potential for severe natural disasters to impact programme delivery
  - ▶ lack of alternate operating models where needed to fully engage programme respondents
  - ▶ lack of security in the country
  - ▶ conservative attitudes towards gender equality becoming further entrenched as a response to gender equality programming.
19. Programme offices supported by joint planning and budgeting have been established in rural locations to mitigate these risks. In addition, environmental and social risks will be mitigated by engaging with indigenous and tribal communities to generate understanding around issues sensitive to their livelihood and programmatic progress, such as changes to informal access to land where alternative agricultural practices may be introduced.
20. The recently established Parliamentary Committee on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment will serve as a valuable partner in maintaining government oversight regarding advancing a transformative gender agenda. In cases where insufficient national leadership may hinder collaboration among line agencies, the Committee will play a crucial role. Reduced funding for civil society actors is a risk that may lead to a loss of momentum, which could be mitigated through the promotion of government funding to civil society organizations (CSOs) and the finalization of the CSO-state partnership framework. The risk of cultural or social resistance could be mitigated through UN communication products and key messages that are locally informed and culturally sensitive.
21. Assumptions relevant to the UNSDCF include that there will be:
- ▶ cooperation between international financing institutions and bilateral partners to adopt common approaches and messages
  - ▶ extended periods of political stability at the provincial, district and ward levels to drive policy
  - ▶ political will to engage, develop and implement improved legislation and regulations, and to address the low representation of women in political and public spheres and violence against women and children
  - ▶ raised awareness of the value and importance of gender equality and women's empowerment which will bring about behavior and social norms change.



## 2.2 THEORY OF CHANGE FOR THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK PRIORITIES

22. The UN's unique comparative advantage that will facilitate PNG's transformation are:

- ▶ impartiality
- ▶ the use of systems thinking to tackle complex challenges
- ▶ the ability to take risks in testing new approaches
- ▶ the capacity to convene and manage multi-dimensional partnerships
- ▶ access to a diverse set of skills and expertise globally
- ▶ knowledge management
- ▶ coordinated response capacity in times of disaster.

23. In the period 2024 through 2028, the UN in PNG will mobilize its resources and comparative advantage to ensure development results are achieved in five priority outcome areas. In channeling its resources, the UN will coordinate its inputs through an integrated and transformative theory of change that recognizes gender equality, governance, peace and social cohesion, human development, economic transformation, and environment and climate change responses are critical to the advancement of the human condition in PNG. The 2024-2028 theory of change is based on recognition that:

24. **If** women and girls are provided an enabling environment where they have the opportunity to exercise their rights, and **if** they have the opportunity to exercise their leadership, voice and agency, **if** they are empowered to contribute actively to and benefit from the economy, **then** they will be able to live a life free from all forms of discrimination and violence. **If** there is a stronger social contract, **if** democratic governance is present, and **if** service delivery is strengthened, **then** the people of PNG, particularly the most vulnerable, will have the opportunity to receive the benefits of stronger and more transparent levels of governance, peace and social cohesion.

25. In addition, **if** rights-based, accessible, equitable, quality social services are delivered, inclusive of education and skills development, health, WASH, food security and nutrition, and protection, **then** the people of PNG, particularly the most marginalized, will benefit from inclusive human development. This will enable people in PNG to reach their full potential and make meaningful contributions to PNG society. **If** there is expanded access to diversified economic opportunities through Blue/Green circular economy, enterprise development and innovative financing and partnerships, PNG's economy will **then** improve livelihoods, be sustainable and transformative. **If** equitable and participatory access to climate resilient services is achieved and **if** natural resource management, climate action and disaster risk reduction strategies are managed effectively, **then** PNG's natural resources will be protected and livelihoods improved, particularly for the most marginalized and vulnerable.

26. This theory of change emphasizes mainstreaming of targeted cross cutting priorities and a focus on delivering results for PNG's most marginalized and disadvantaged, aiming to leave no one behind and to implement a level of prioritization in programming so as to reach the furthest first.



## Overview - Theory of Change UNSDCF PNG 2024-2028

By 2028, PNG's people, particularly those most disadvantaged and marginalized, including women and girls, will live lives free from all forms of discrimination and violence, benefit from transparent governance that promotes peace, security, equality and social cohesion, with access to services that support inclusive human development, in a diversified economy, benefitting from climate resilient services that improve livelihoods and protect natural resources.

SDG 4, 5, 8, 10, 16

MTDP SPA 1, 4, 5, 7, 11, 12

### Outcome 1

Equality for Women and Girls

By 2028, women and girls in Papua New Guinea, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable, exercise their rights and agency and live a life free from all forms of discrimination and violence.

### Outputs

- 1.1 Women and the enabling environment
- 1.2 Women and leadership
- 1.3 Women and the economy
- 1.4 Women and violence

SDG 5, 8, 10, 11, 16, 17

MTDP SPA 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12

### Outcome 2

Governance, Peace and Social Cohesion

By 2028, people in Papua New Guinea, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable, participate in and benefit from more accountable, gender-responsive, inclusive and transparent governance that promotes peace, security, equality and social cohesion.

### Outputs

- 2.1 Social contract
- 2.2 Democratic governance
- 2.3 Service delivery
- 2.4 Social cohesion

SDG 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

MTDP SPA 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12

### Outcome 3

Inclusive Human Development

By 2028, people in Papua New Guinea, especially the most marginalized, benefit from gender-sensitive, shock-responsive rights-based and quality basic and social services and equitably realize and unleash their full potential to meaningfully contribute to PNG development.

### Outputs

- 3.1 Education and skills development
- 3.2 Health
- 3.3 Water, sanitation and hygiene
- 3.4 Food security and nutrition
- 3.5 Protection

SDG 1, 5, 8, 13, 15, 17

MTDP SPA 1, 11, 12

### Outcome 4

Sustainable Economic Transformation

By 2028, people in Papua New Guinea, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, benefit from improved and sustainable livelihoods and expanded access to diversified economic opportunities that deliver inclusive and green growth.

### Outputs

- 4.1 Blue/green circular economy
- 4.2 Enterprise development
- 4.3 Innovative financing and partnerships

SDG 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

MTDP SPA 10, 12

### Outcome 5

Environment and Climate Change

By 2028, people in Papua New Guinea, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable, benefit from equitable and participatory access to climate-resilient services that improve livelihoods and protect natural resources.

### Outputs

- 5.1 Natural resource management
- 5.2 Climate action
- 5.3 Disaster risk management

**Programming principles:** Leave no one behind; human rights-based approach; gender equality and women's empowerment; resilience; accountability; sustainability.

**Cross-cutting issues:** Human rights-based approach; gender equality; the environment; climate change adaptation and mitigation; humanitarian and pandemic response; innovation; digital transformation; good governance; youth development; inclusion; data; promotion of volunteerism.

**Leave no one behind target groups:** persons with disabilities; people living with HIV/AIDS; internally displaced persons and migrants; youth and adolescents; women and girls; LGBTQIA+ community; sex workers; older persons; children; victims of trafficking, asylum seekers and refugees; persons with mental health issues.



## 2.3 COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOMES AND PARTNERSHIPS

### Outcome 1: Equality for Women and Girls



#### Contributing UN Agencies

ILO, OHCHR, UN Women, UNAIDS, UNCDF, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, WHO.

#### Development challenges

27. Gender inequality in PNG remains very high, with a 2022 Gender Inequality Index of 0.7 and ranking of 169 out of 170 countries.<sup>15</sup> While women's unemployment in the last ten years has been lower than men's, only 46 percent of currently married women with cash earnings independently decide how their earnings are used. However, more than eight in ten currently married women participate in decision making alone or with their husbands. This trend correlates with decision making around contraceptive use and reproductive health-seeking behaviour related to antenatal care, delivery from skilled providers and post-natal checks.
28. Spousal violence rates involving sexual, physical or emotional violence for ever-married women<sup>16</sup> are 63 percent, with 39 percent of those women having never sought help or told anyone of the violence.<sup>17</sup> Alarming, 70 percent of women and seven percent of men believe that a husband is justified in beating his wife in at least one of five specified situations. Of women aged 15 to 49 in PNG, 56 percent have experienced physical violence since age 15, and 28 percent have experienced sexual violence.<sup>18</sup> Approximately eight percent of girls are married before age 15, and 27.3 percent are married before age 19.
29. An ongoing major challenge relates to empowering and promoting women's inclusive and equal participation in the political arena at all levels. Only two women were elected to national parliament in 2022, bringing to nine the total number of women elected to parliament since 1975. Of the 18,480 village court officials, 1,500 are women, reported to be very effective in their roles and as advocates for social order, human rights and peace within their communities.<sup>19</sup> The informal economy in PNG is estimated at PNG Kina (PGK)12 billion annually, approximately 20 percent of GDP, and around 75 percent of workers in the informal economy are women.<sup>20</sup> Few women who own established businesses are registered with the government.

#### The UN's strategy

30. In support of these challenges, the UN will support equality for women and girls, whereby women and girls, particularly the most marginalized and vulnerable, will increasingly be able to exercise their rights and agency and in doing so, live a life free from all forms of discrimination and violence. This strategy will include a focus on creating enabling environments for women, leadership opportunities, and opportunities to participate in the economy as well as develop and implement programmes that address GBV.
31. *External partnerships* in support of this strategy include National Council of Women, National and provincial GBV Secretariats, CSOs, humanitarian actors, women's and young girl's groups and youth networks, specialized units of the PNG Police, government departments and critical ministries such as the Ministry of Finance, academia, and the PNG financial sector.
32. *Cross-cutting areas* of priority for this outcome are human rights, gender equality and women's economic empowerment, women's leadership, data and statistics production, accountability by duty bearers, digitalisation protection, health, education, sexual and reproductive health, mental health and psychosocial support, disability, and youth and adolescents.
33. *LNOB* priorities are women, including rural women, young women, and women with a disability, women who have been accused of sorcery, girls, children, youth and adolescents, IDPs, elderly persons, persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS, victims of trafficking, LGBTQIA+ communities, sex workers, and persons with mental health issues.

#### Planned outputs

34. **Enhanced gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at all levels in line with international norms and standards in the implementation of legislation, policies and funding.** The UN will:
  - ▶ support the development and review of existing and new gender-responsive laws and policies
  - ▶ strengthen state accountability for the implementation of laws and policies and global commitments and ensure effective and consistent enforcement
  - ▶ strengthen capacities of relevant government departments and ministries in gender-responsive planning, budgeting, monitoring and reporting.

<sup>15</sup> <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/thematic-composite-indices/gender-inequality-index#/indicies/GII>

<sup>16</sup> 'Ever married' women and men are persons who have been married at least once in their lives although their current marital status may not be 'married'

<sup>17</sup> PNG Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 2016-2018

<sup>18</sup> DHS 2016-2018

<sup>19</sup> UN 49th session of the Human Rights Council

<sup>20</sup> National Audit of the Informal Economy 2018-2019 co-funded by UN Women and Government of PNG

35. **Women occupy more leadership and decision-making positions in the political and public spheres at all levels.** The UN will:
- ▶ advocate for the adoption of temporary special measures, including reserved seats and political party quotas for women
  - ▶ expand opportunities for women's leadership and meaningful political participation at national, provincial and local levels
  - ▶ facilitate sustainable platforms for women leaders and peer support
  - ▶ work with relevant government and CSO partners to build the capacity of existing and aspiring female politicians
  - ▶ engage male leaders from political, religious and traditional structures in support of women's political participation and leadership.
36. **Women are technically, financially and legally skilled and empowered to participate in all sectors and aspects of the formal and informal economy.** The UN will:
- ▶ support women entrepreneurs to gain access to technical skills for business development
  - ▶ promote the financial and digital inclusion of women
  - ▶ increase sustainable livelihood and decent work opportunities in harassment-free workplaces including the marketplace, and through volunteerism
  - ▶ promote public-private partnerships
  - ▶ generate knowledge of the socio-economic impacts of gender issues such as GBV and unpaid care work
  - ▶ promote women small-scale farmers' productivity and climate-resilient technologies.
37. **Women and girls are free from discrimination, violence and torture through a whole-of-society approach to promoting gender-equitable socio-cultural attitudes, norms and behaviours.** The UN will:
- ▶ scale up evidence-based programmes and initiatives that promote long-term social and cultural change
  - ▶ engage with male champions, including boys, to challenge harmful cultural and social norms, and foster allyship with women's coalitions and movements
  - ▶ strengthen capacity of community, volunteer and marginalized groups to implement programmes and advocate to promote the rights of women and girls
  - ▶ strengthen capacities to deliver quality essential GBV and SARV services
  - ▶ improve GBV data collection and management systems
  - ▶ strengthen GBV prevention capacities and mechanisms
  - ▶ integrate GBV in humanitarian action.



## Outcome 2: Governance, Peace and Social Cohesion

### Contributing UN Agencies

ILO, IOM, ITU, OHCHR, UN Women, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, UNOPS.



### Development challenges

38. In PNG, informal governance takes priority over formal governance, with highly localized politics. PNG's ethnic diversity, language groups, subgroups and clans have created a highly fragmented political landscape. Ministers and other politicians have discretion over how state resources are spent, which has led to a lack of investment in anti-corruption authorities or citizen accountability arrangements. As a result, there is not yet an effective delivery of services (health care, education and infrastructure) to rural PNG through formal administrative structures.
39. Significant barriers to development include the need for strengthened law enforcement and the addressing of systemic corruption.<sup>21</sup> This is exacerbated by the fact that many government institutions in PNG are unstable and politically contested. Organized crime syndicates traffic drugs, firearms and wildlife, and engage in human trafficking and the smuggling of migrants, which undermines national security and increases levels of violence.<sup>22</sup> PNG is not a State Party to the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) nor to its Protocols on human trafficking and on the smuggling of migrants and firearms.
40. Six international human rights instruments have been ratified, with only the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women domesticated. There is a need to address overdue treaty body reporting.<sup>23</sup>
41. An active civil society exists, but challenges include a lack of strong networks, limited media outlets and limited access to the internet in many parts of PNG. Human rights defenders, particularly women human rights defenders, face harassment and violence and are not protected from harm or threats by any legislation. There is, however, a human rights defender protection law in preparation. Although the constitution provides for it, no law regarding access to information would enable free access to government information.

### The UN's strategy

42. In support of these challenges, the UN will support people in PNG, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable, to participate in and benefit from more accountable, gender responsive, inclusive and transparent governance that promotes peace, security, equality and social cohesion. This strategy will include a focus on a strengthened social contract, democratic governance, service delivery and social cohesion.
43. External partnerships established will include national and subnational governments and departments, including key ministries, anti-corruption and integrity institutions, national offices of statistics and disaster, faith-based organizations, CSOs including women-led CSOs, volunteer groups and volunteer-involving organizations, Bougainville Women and Youth Federations, Business Council of PNG, and law enforcement institutions.
44. Cross-cutting areas will include human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, data and statistics production, digitalisation, and accountability by duty bearers.
45. LNOB priorities are persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS, IDPs, victims of trafficking, migrants, youth and adolescents, women and girls, LGBTQIA+ communities, sex workers, elderly persons, children, asylum seekers and refugees, persons with mental health issues, survivors of GBV and survivors of SARV.

### Planned outputs

46. **Renewed social contract between the Government and all sectors of PNG society through support to the creation of conditions conducive to an ongoing, free, and open dialogue, generating demand for better governance and acceleration of the nationwide implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda/SDGs.** The UN will:
  - ▶ support inclusive national and subnational dialogue with a range of partners, including the government, on review and reporting of progress towards the SDGs
  - ▶ support government to develop gender-sensitive indicators and monitoring mechanisms
  - ▶ implement the SDG Agenda to promote gender equality and empowerment of women
  - ▶ strengthen demand for better governance and the rule of law inclusive of priorities to promote anti-corruption and address transnational organized crime, and mediation of the Bougainville peace and referendum process.

<sup>23</sup> UN 49th session of the Human Rights Council

**47. Improved functioning, integrity, accountability and transparency of public institutions, including parliamentary, electoral and rule of law institutions, along with the relevant entities.** The UN will:

- ▶ enhance capacities of public institutions to conduct non-violent and transparent elections
- ▶ support public institutions to foster leadership that defends human rights, peace and security
- ▶ mainstream peacebuilding and human rights across sectors
- ▶ enhance the justice system to enforce legislation to protect and support marginalized groups from violence
- ▶ enhance the capacities of relevant agencies to detect and prosecute corruption whilst protecting complainants
- ▶ support parliamentary committees focused on children, adolescents, women and gender to promote policy and legislative changes that promote women's rights and gender equality
- ▶ support government, political parties and election stakeholders on gender responsive elections and women's equal participation in electoral processes through technical guidance and support
- ▶ support diverse women's coalitions and movements to advocate for gender parity in public functions, the establishment of specific funds and initiatives that support women's political participation and leadership, and measures to meaningfully address violence against women in politics
- ▶ support youth to engage in meaningful civic, political and electoral processes and gain access to and benefit from leadership development opportunities and volunteering.

**48. Strengthened national and subnational planning, monitoring, data and public finance management systems for improved effectiveness and efficiency in service delivery.** The UN will:

- ▶ support public finance management systems to improve effectiveness, efficiency and transparency
- ▶ strengthen decision makers' political commitment to gender equality in budgeting, fiscal laws and policies, and capacities of civil society, parliament and audit institutions to monitor and evaluate
- ▶ support government to design and implement gender-responsive services that meet standards of availability, accessibility, affordability, acceptability and quality.

**49. Strengthened social cohesion strategies, also incorporating early warning and prevention at the national and subnational levels, are implemented to benefit the most vulnerable.** The UN will:

- ▶ enable women to contribute to and benefit from crisis prevention and response, peacebuilding and recovery
- ▶ support government's diverse forms of commitments towards the implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in an inclusive, whole-of-society process with specific engagement of women leaders and women's CSOs
- ▶ support youth capacity building in leadership, social cohesion and conflict resolution
- ▶ support the Government of PNG and the Autonomous Bougainville Government to participate in post-referendum processes engaging women and youth
- ▶ facilitate dialogue on triple nexus, peacebuilding and humanitarian solutions that takes place with various stakeholders
- ▶ establish a prevention platform for early warning and early action.



## Outcome 3: Inclusive Human Development

### Contributing UN Agencies

FAO, ILO, IOM, ITU, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS, WHO.



### Development challenges

50. PNG's is estimated population at 11.7 million. That population has limited cash funds and limited access to health care, education, sanitation, and clean water and protection services.<sup>24</sup> PNG's Multidimensional Poverty Index estimation shows that 56.6 percent of the population (4.9 million) are multidimensionally poor, and 25.8 percent are in severe multidimensional poverty.
51. Government's expenditure on education as a percentage of GDP has declined from 7.4 percent in 1977 to 1.9 percent in 2018. Access to schools in rural areas often involves long-distance treks or high boarding fees. Children with disabilities face issues accessing quality, inclusive education, and national data on children with disabilities is incomplete.<sup>25</sup> Many schools lack access to clean water, functional or gender-segregated toilets or classroom space. Teachers often lack appropriate training and/or training materials. In 2016 there was a shortage of 10,000 teachers in schools, mostly in rural areas.<sup>26</sup>
52. One in 20 children in PNG dies before age five. Two-thirds of those deaths occur during the first year of life. The neonatal mortality rate for rural infants is seven times higher than for urban infants. The maternal mortality rate for PNG is 171 per 100,000 live births.<sup>27</sup> Women choose to give birth at home due to unstaffed/understaffed or male-staffed health facilities and a lack of running water and electricity to ensure a safe and sanitary birthing environment. The cost of services, supplies, and transport to a health facility is a barrier to women accessing birthing services, increasing the prevalence of death due to preventable and treatable conditions such as hemorrhages, infection, pre-eclampsia and eclampsia.
53. The 2016-2018 DHS indicates that 23 percent of men and 27 percent of women have comprehensive knowledge of HIV. Additionally, 58 percent of women and 63 percent of men know where to go for an HIV test, with 25 percent of women and 19 percent of men having ever been tested and receiving results. Since 2019, the estimated number of new infections among children aged 0-19 years has been increasing. Similarly, the reported number of children aged 0-14 receiving antiretroviral treatment increased between 2005 and 2021.<sup>28</sup>
54. In PNG, 41 percent of male and 49 percent of female deaths are due to infectious diseases, maternal, neonatal and/or nutritional causes, with 45 percent of male and 42 percent of female deaths due to non-communicable diseases. Provinces with the highest mortality rates are geographically isolated.<sup>29</sup>
55. Over the last decade, the national prevalence of chronic malnutrition (stunting) for children under five has exceeded 45 percent.<sup>30</sup> This threshold is considered 'very high' regarding public health significance, and the rate continues upwards. Stunting, more prevalent in children from rural areas, was 43.9 percent between 2005-2007 and 40.1 percent between 2015-2019, with Asian Development Bank reporting a prevalence of 48.4 percent for 2020.<sup>31</sup> The loss of adult productivity related to early childhood stunting has been linked with economic losses for PNG up to 11 percent of GDP.<sup>32</sup>
56. Barriers to equitably-delivered, quality health and nutrition services impact rural areas where needs are the greatest. Low vaccination rates due to misinformation or mistrust, low reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health (RMNCAH) knowledge, and low awareness of nutrition among the general population and critical decision-makers impede greater rates of success in the overall health status of Papua New Guineans.
57. Less than half (41 percent) of PNG households in 2017 had access to at least one primary improved drinking water source, and only 35 percent had access in rural areas. Wealth<sup>33</sup> and geographic location impact access to and the safety and quality of water; for example, only 19 percent of Southern Highlands' households have access to an improved source of drinking water. Basic water services exist in only 30 percent of health care facilities, with 32 percent of health facilities having no toilets. WASH issues disproportionately impact women, indigenous groups, individuals in rural areas and other vulnerable groups who are physically unable to access alternative water sources.
58. Protection systems and services remain weak and suffer from limited financial and human resources capacity, weak governance and coordination mechanisms, inadequate access to both preventive and responsive services as well as a lack of reliable data. Protection from violence and securing the rights of children in all settings is challenging due to harmful social norms, reflected in inadequate laws, policies and budgets.

<sup>24</sup> Department of National Planning and Monitoring, Papua New Guinea's Voluntary National Review 2020: Progress of implementing the SDGs, Port Moresby.

<sup>25</sup> Magna Carta Inc submission to PNG Universal Periodic Review, 2021, available in [https://www.upr-info.org/sites/default/files/documents/2021-10/2.png\\_magna\\_carta\\_inc.pdf](https://www.upr-info.org/sites/default/files/documents/2021-10/2.png_magna_carta_inc.pdf)

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.rnz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/302786/teacher-shortage-in-png-hurting-rural-students>

<sup>27</sup> PNG Demographic and Health Survey 2016-2018

<sup>28</sup> [https://data.unicef.org/resources/data\\_explorer/unicef\\_f/?ag=UNICEF&df=GLOBAL\\_DATAFLOW&ver=1.0&dq=PNG.HVA\\_PED\\_ART\\_NUM.&startPeriod=1970&endPeriod=2023](https://data.unicef.org/resources/data_explorer/unicef_f/?ag=UNICEF&df=GLOBAL_DATAFLOW&ver=1.0&dq=PNG.HVA_PED_ART_NUM.&startPeriod=1970&endPeriod=2023)

<sup>29</sup> Healthy Newborn Network, PNG, 2019. <https://healthynewbornnetwork.org/country/papua-new-guinea>

<sup>30</sup> [https://data.unicef.org/resources/data\\_explorer/unicef\\_f/?ag=UNICEF&df=GLOBAL\\_DATAFLOW&ver=1.0&dq=PNG.NT\\_ANT\\_HAZ\\_NE2\\_MOD.&startPeriod=1970&endPeriod=2023](https://data.unicef.org/resources/data_explorer/unicef_f/?ag=UNICEF&df=GLOBAL_DATAFLOW&ver=1.0&dq=PNG.NT_ANT_HAZ_NE2_MOD.&startPeriod=1970&endPeriod=2023)

<sup>31</sup> Asian Development Bank, Key indicators for Asia and the Pacific in 2021, 52nd edition, Asian Development Bank 2021.

<sup>32</sup> UNICEF Papua New Guinea, Country Programme 2018-2022: Nutrition Programme Strategy Note, 2016.

<sup>33</sup> PNG Demographic and Health survey 2016-2018.

<sup>34</sup> Government of Papua New Guinea: Department of Community Development & Religion, 2015, National Social Protection Policy 2015-2020. Port Moresby, PNG.

59. Under the National Policy on Social Protection (NPSP) 2015-2020, inclusive of the Government Tuition Fee Subsidy Policy, PNG put in place a range of contributory social protection systems to provide social insurance for old age, work injury, sickness and maternity. However, the reach of these instruments is restricted to those in the paid workforce in the private and public sectors, including the military. In addition, non-contributory social protection provides temporary relief and assistance during disasters. The NPSP aimed to guide the development of comprehensive social protection benefiting all groups within the country, and address the needs of vulnerable or disadvantaged groups, especially children, youth, women, persons with disabilities, elderly persons, and people living with HIV/AIDS.<sup>34</sup> However, these gaps and lack of access prevail.

### The UN's strategy

60. In support of these challenges, the UN will support people in PNG, especially the most marginalized, to benefit from gender-sensitive, shock-responsive, rights-based and quality basic and social services, taking the benefit of digital transformation to rural and remote areas, and equitably realize their full potential to meaningfully contribute to PNG development. This strategy will include a focus on education and skills development, health, WASH, food security and nutrition, and protection.
61. *External partnerships* will include key government departments such as National Planning and Monitoring, Commerce and Industry, Tourism Promotion Authority, National Fisheries Authority and semi-state partners including the Cocoa and Spice Boards, local small to medium enterprises (SME), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) including Women in Agriculture, chambers of commerce, the World Bank, faith-based organizations, youth groups/networks, the private sector, and academic and training institutions.
62. *Cross-cutting areas* are human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, data and statistics production, digitalisation, and accountability by duty bearers.
63. *LNOB priorities* are persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS, IDPs, victims of trafficking, migrants, youth and adolescents, women and girls, LGBTQIA+ communities, sex workers, elderly persons, children, asylum seekers and refugees, and persons with mental health issues.

### Planned outputs

64. **Strengthen services and increase access to improved foundational learning, which includes literacy and numeracy, critical thinking and skills development, that aim to achieve stronger-performing education systems, lift attendance and retention in schools, while providing skills pathways for out-of-school youth.** The UN will:
- ▶ promote development of relevant curriculum at primary, secondary and TVET (Technical and Vocational Education and Training) levels
  - ▶ support digital literacy and skills development, including volunteering through the government education and skills development authorities.
65. **Strengthened health systems to improve well-being and access to quality, integrated, people-centred health services, including TB, HIV/AIDS and sexual and reproductive health; and provide protection from health emergencies for people at national and subnational levels, particularly those in hard-to-reach areas.** The UN will:
- ▶ strengthen primary health care and improve access to essential health services
  - ▶ support immunization programs
  - ▶ promote nutrition-sensitive agriculture
  - ▶ facilitate the growing and consuming of nutritious foods that target the vulnerable and leave no one behind
  - ▶ support increased and accelerated access to integrated sexual and reproductive health and protection services
  - ▶ strengthen data and evidence collection, analytics and dissemination in the health sector
  - ▶ promote access to HIV testing and improved HIV treatment adherence.
66. **WASH systems strengthened to ensure people have equitable access to affordable, gender-sensitive, environmentally and climate-friendly safe drinking water and sanitation services and know safe hygiene behavior.** The UN will:
- ▶ identify and address gaps in the WASH environment, providing access to safe WASH services that are affordable, appropriate and climate resilient for rural populations.
67. **Increased food security as a result of the establishment of food systems and nutrition-sensitive agriculture, especially for marginalized and isolated groups.** The UN will:
- ▶ develop dietary policy and gender-disaggregated dietary guidelines, upscale and out-scale food systems that are nutritious and promote nutrition-sensitive agriculture, and agri-food systems for all to leave no one behind
  - ▶ enhance food security and nutrition at the household level, involving increased volume-value-addition of agricultural and fisheries products and increased enterprises and people engaging in them
  - ▶ support the enhancement of capacities of provinces to implement nutrition-specific interventions at scale, that address immediate causes of malnutrition
  - ▶ support the digitalisation of agriculture.
68. **Strengthened social protection systems and improved access to all forms of protection services to the most vulnerable and marginalized populations, providing physical, psychosocial and legal protection including in violent or conflict contexts.** The UN will:
- ▶ increase access to social protection systems and protection services, particularly for forcibly displaced populations, through awareness and education, social media, partnership with NGOs, and faith-based organizations.

<sup>34</sup> Government of Papua New Guinea: Department of Community Development & Religion, 2015, National Social Protection Policy 2015-2020. Port Moresby, PNG.

## Outcome 4: Sustainable Economic Transformation

### Contributing UN Agencies

ESCAP, FAO, ILO, IOM, ITU, UN Women, UNCDF, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA.



### Development challenges

69. PNG's US\$25 billion economy is mostly dependent on mining and quarrying which accounts for 25 percent of the economy, 89 percent to exports, and 10.1 percent to government revenue. The agriculture, forestry and fisheries that account for 20 percent of the economy<sup>35</sup> is the second-largest sector in the economy and provides a livelihood for 85 percent of PNG's rural population. The over-reliance on these two sectors, combined with inadequate government sector policies overall, means that sectors such as tourism and manufacturing are underdeveloped.
70. The banking sector has contracted over several years and now has only two major commercial banks. The lack of financial inclusion is evidenced by the high percentage of money lending in PNG (70 percent) through informal structures, with interest rates of 40-50 percent per fortnight within these informal lending structures.<sup>36</sup> On the other hand, only five percent of the PNG population borrows through formal institutions. Interest through formal institutions ranges from a 26 percent fixed interest rate for an unsecured personal loan, to a 4 percent fixed interest rate for a first-time mortgage.
71. The lack of inclusive growth has meant that unemployment and underemployment are widespread and formal sector employment growth has not kept pace with the growth of the labour force. Around 75 percent of informal economy workers are women.<sup>37</sup> This informal economy includes subsistence farming, which involves 80 percent of the labour force and provides the goods and services critical for food security.
72. Transport sector infrastructure – roads, maritime and aviation – is inadequate and has fallen steadily into disrepair. Despite opportunities for PNG to increase its exports, many producers, particularly those in geographically isolated or hard-to-reach areas, face difficulties getting their crops to market due to the high freight costs.
73. In the economic realm, few women own established businesses with most women entrepreneurs operating in the informal sector. However, income-raising opportunities that markets provide to women and their communities are undermined by GBV, which is endemic in markets. The absence of women decision makers diminishes the positive impact that markets can have on the ability of women to earn and control income and contribute to the economic development of PNG.
74. International Monetary Fund data indicates that PNG's Total Tax revenue as a percentage of GDP declined between 2000-2020, from a high of 26 percent of GDP in 2010 to an estimated 14.7 percent in 2021. The most significant declines were in resource revenues, from a high of 7.5 percent of GDP in 2005 to 1.1 percent in 2021. Net inflows of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) have also been declining. FDI was 1.3 percent of GDP in 2019, compared with 4.8 percent in 2018 and 2.7 percent in 2000. Net Official Development Assistance (ODA) as a percentage of gross national income (GNI) has been declining over the past 20 years. After peaking at 8.3 percent of GNI in 2000, ODA declined to reach a low of 2.4 percent of GNI in 2017 and increased to 3.4 percent of GNI in 2018.<sup>38</sup>

### The UN's strategy

75. In support of these challenges, the UN recognizes that people in PNG, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, benefit from improved and sustainable livelihoods and expanded access to diversified economic opportunities that deliver inclusive and green growth. This strategy will include a focus on blue/green circular economy, enterprise development, innovative financing and partnerships.
76. *External partnerships* include working with micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), provincial and national governments involving the key Ministries of Commerce, Industry, Finance, Primary Industries and Regional Development, the Central Bank, the private sector, and women and youth groups.
77. *Cross-cutting areas* are human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, data and statistics production, digitalisation, and accountability by duty bearers.
78. *LNOB priorities* are persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS, IDPs, victims of trafficking, migrants, youth and adolescents, women and girls, LGBTQIA+ communities, sex workers, elderly persons, children, asylum seekers and refugees, migrants and displaced people, victims of forced labour and trafficking, persons with mental health issues, and people affected by natural hazards and environmental degradation as well as the effects of climate change.

<sup>35</sup> Papua New Guinea, National Statistical Office, <https://www.nso.gov.pg/statistics/economy/gross-domestic-products/>

<sup>36</sup> UNDP Socio-economic Impact Assessment of COVID-19, 2020

<sup>37</sup> UN Women, National Audit of the Informal Economy (2018-19)

<sup>38</sup> International Monetary Fund, Article IV consultations, various years and World Bank Development Indicators

## Planned outputs

79. **Expanded and diversified blue/green/circular economy leading to increased decent jobs and skills.**<sup>39</sup> The UN will:

- ▶ enhance capacity around blue and green enterprise development
- ▶ support and mentor women-led micro-SMEs (MSME) in the blue economy
- ▶ support ocean conservation
- ▶ support environmental governance and decision making through natural capital accounting
- ▶ involve young people in the expansion and diversification of the blue and green circular economy
- ▶ support development of digital policies, skills and services
- ▶ strengthen data and evidence collection, analytics and dissemination in the economic sectors.

80. **Enhanced growth of MSME and value chain development in agriculture, manufacturing and services.** The UN will:

- ▶ support the PNG MSME sector through access to affordable capital skills and knowledge, with access to global value chains in key sectors where PNG has a comparative advantage
- ▶ develop a Blue Economy Investment Strategy
- ▶ provide MSMEs with access to finance, training and technical assistance to increase their competitiveness
- ▶ facilitate grant financing, loans and other blended financial instruments to blue/green enterprises
- ▶ support MSME policy in PNG
- ▶ enhance the blue economy value chain by establishing central aggregation and processing facilities.

81. **Expanded public/private partnerships for increased innovative financing instruments.** The UN will:

- ▶ develop an integrated National Financing Framework
- ▶ support scorecards and benchmarks per province
- ▶ provide SDG financing instruments
- ▶ facilitate engagement with financing institutions, the private sector and blue economy value chains
- ▶ expand access to innovative financing mechanisms
- ▶ improve risk management through flexible and tailored financing solutions, increasing the achievement of sustainable development outcomes.



<sup>39</sup> The World Bank defines the blue economy as the “sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and jobs while preserving the health of ocean ecosystem”. The UN Environment Programme defines green economy as “one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities”.



## Outcome 5: Environment and Climate Change

### Contributing UN Agencies

FAO, IOM, OHCHR, UN Women, UNCDF, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, UNOPS, WHO.

### Development challenges



82. PNG has significant natural wealth. However, its natural resources are depleting rapidly, impacting biodiversity and people's well-being, with the country ranked 146 out of 180 countries in the International Environment Performance Index.<sup>40</sup> The poorest, particularly women and children, continue to suffer the most from biodiversity decline, given their reliance on hunting and fishing for survival. In addition, there is limited active management and monitoring of biodiversity outcomes. The illegal trade in flora and fauna further negatively affects the ecosystems and contributes to biodiversity loss. The potential to integrate conservation objectives into management plans would ensure social and economic progress, the continuance of cultural diversity, and improved livelihoods for customary landowners.
83. Subsistence agriculture is the most significant driver of deforestation, and PNG is the largest exporter of tropical round logs, primarily to China. The coastal populations of PNG are expanding rapidly, placing pressure on coastal and marine resources. Effective management plans need to include viable pathways for the health and well-being of coastal communities, including alternative incomes and employment through tourism and improved access to essential human services.
84. In PNG, 97 percent of land is in customary ownership. The land is central to an individual's and group's social identity and belonging. However, progress on land use planning is slow, and there is no widespread spatial planning across the country or within provinces or local governments.
85. The PNG economy relies heavily on the extractive resource industry. There is a need to address improving the economic, environmental and social performance of the industry. There is growing pressure for deep-sea mining and a growing demand for rare minerals to support the expanding technology sector. Mining, oil and gas extraction in PNG has had weak environmental regulation, causing environmental degradation and adverse social impacts and resulting in limited community gains.
86. From a governance perspective and concerning issues of access to environmental resources, the role of women, youth and marginalized groups is neglected. Environmental and social impacts include gendered inequality and inequity, displacement and social breakdown, biodiversity loss, greenhouse gas emissions, poor health and social conflict.
87. Climate change, which causes direct harm, also exacerbates many other threats. More than 80 percent of PNG's population is susceptible to climatic extremes related to the El Nino Southern Oscillation, and more than half a million people live in coastal villages exposed to sea level rise, coastal degradation and storm surges. Low-lying and coastal communities are affected by flooding, the inundation of gardens, and sea level rise, all of which exacerbate health threats of malaria, dengue and other mosquito-borne diseases. Challenges to food security stem from climate-driven changes to agricultural and native harvested yields, and the displacement of communities due to the impacts of climate change is already occurring and is projected to increase. Women and girls are disproportionately affected in their role as care givers and providers during floods and droughts, making them more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.
88. Regarding disaster risk, over one million people in PNG live within 30 kilometres of 16 active volcanoes. Landslides and slope failures are common in highland and mountainous regions associated with heavy rain and earthquakes. The tsunami hazard in PNG is rated high, with three significant tsunamis associated with seismic activity occurring in the last thousand years. In addition, flooding in PNG contributes significantly to economic loss.

### The UN's strategy

89. In support of these challenges, the UN will support people in PNG, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable, to benefit from equitable and participatory access to climate resilient services that improve livelihoods and protect natural resources. This strategy will include a focus on natural resources management, climate action and disaster risk management.
90. *External partnerships* include the whole-of-government to mainstream climate action across sectors, engaging with local-level actors, and developing innovative partnerships with the private sector.
91. *Cross-cutting areas* are human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, data and statistics production, digitalisation, volunteerism and accountability to duty bearers.
92. *LNOB priorities* are persons with disabilities, persons living with HIV/AIDS, IDPs, victims of trafficking, migrants, youth and adolescents, women and girls, LGBTQIA+ communities, sex workers, elderly persons, children, asylum seekers and refugees, and persons with mental health issues.

<sup>40</sup> Environmental Performance Index 2020, Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy, Yale University

## Planned outputs

93. **Natural resources are better managed to the benefit of Papua New Guineans through improved biodiversity conservation, environmental governance and partnerships at all levels.** The UN will:
- ▶ improve transparency and accountability in natural resource governance
  - ▶ embed natural capital accounting in decision making
  - ▶ strengthen environmental regulation of industry
  - ▶ facilitate wise allocation of land and water for conservation and sustainable use
  - ▶ establish incentives for innovation in conservation
  - ▶ increase science, research and education around PNG biodiversity and ecosystems
  - ▶ leverage women's and marginalized groups' participation and influence on the sustainable use of natural resources
  - ▶ improve reporting on illegal activities and enforcement.
94. **Enhanced climate adaptation and mitigation measures are delivered to strengthen Papua New Guinea to mitigate the impacts of climate change on ecosystems, communities, livelihoods and the economy.** The UN will:
- ▶ improve open data and reporting, including climate risk assessments
  - ▶ strengthen industry reporting about emissions trends and compliance
  - ▶ support innovative financing models and service providers
  - ▶ accelerate the implementation of energy-efficient and sustainable initiatives
  - ▶ establish incentives and nodes of industrial sustainability
  - ▶ strengthen government capacity to implement multilateral environmental agreements
  - ▶ elevate PNG's status as a global carbon sink to regional and global fora
  - ▶ integrate gender perspectives into policies and programmes on climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity and environmental degradation and pollution, as well as into needs assessments, forecasting and early warning systems.
95. **Strengthened resilience and preparedness of the most vulnerable and displaced communities through implementing disaster management strategies and systems.** The UN will:
- ▶ integrate gender responses into local disaster resilience planning
  - ▶ integrate environmental protection measures
  - ▶ expand humanitarian early warning systems
  - ▶ enhance systematic data collection, analysis and management
  - ▶ enhance the pre-positioning of supplies
  - ▶ increase investment into gender-responsive climate change and environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programs
  - ▶ support the government to complete the review of the 1987 Disaster Management Act as well as the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework and the National Disaster Management Plan
  - ▶ update provincial government local disaster risk reduction plans in line with national standards
  - ▶ provide technical assistance to local government to support climate adaptation
  - ▶ enhance capacity to support national humanitarian preparedness and response.



<sup>41</sup> Mudd, G.M. et al, Mining in Papua New Guinea: A complex story of trends, impacts and governance', Science of the Total Environment 741, 140375, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.140375>

## 2.4 UNCT CONFIGURATION

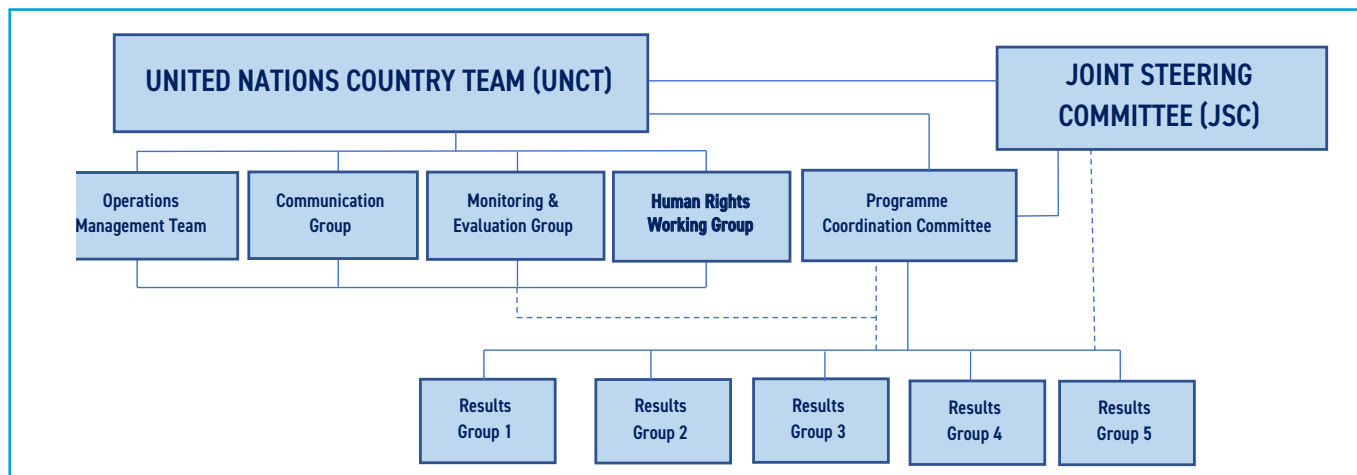
96. The UNCT in PNG recognizes the importance of applying the principles of tailored, needs-based approaches to defining and implementing the UN's support for PNG's national development priorities. The UNCT configuration exercise – undertaken by all resident and non-resident UN entities that have signed the UNSDCF – confirms that the UNCT has the technical, operational and functional capacities and resources to deliver on these commitments. Furthermore, the UN Resident Coordinator has access to a wide range of technical skills and expertise across agencies, funds and programmes within the UN system regardless of their operational status in PNG.
97. UN entities will support the UNSDCF's outcomes based on their comparative advantages, including contributions through their unique technical capacities, financial and human resources, and partnerships. Through partnerships and resource mobilization, UN entities can obtain financial and in-kind resources, including financial core and non-core resources from development partners.
98. The UNSDCF responds to several disadvantaged and marginalized groups in PNG prioritised as part of the CCA. The UNCT confirms that the groups outlined in this UNSDCF will be the focus of their collective programming, enacting and upholding the UN's Leave No One Behind principles. In addition, the UNSDCF commits to integrating the cross-cutting priorities of Human Rights, Gender, Data, Digitalisation and Accountability to duty bearers in all of its work.
99. UN entities will mobilize and assign national, international, general and non-staff human resources to implement the UNSDCF. All UN entities reaffirm their capacity to assign staff from within their agencies at the country, regional and headquarter level. Additionally, and where needed, the UN in PNG will draw on specialised external technical expertise and knowledge, including through UN Volunteers. All human resources will be coordinated to respond fully to the priority areas of policy advocacy, international norms and standards, political and socio-economic analysis, data monitoring and evaluation, communication and advocacy, humanitarian action and disaster risk management.
100. UN entities in PNG will work through country-based representative offices or a combination of representative offices, separate liaison or project offices, regional, subregional or multi-country offices, headquarter-based expertise, and short-term technical support missions.
101. The UNCT is part of the CROP-UN Principles for Dialogue and Engagement. The Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP) and the UN are committed to continuously strengthening partnerships and collaboration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda) and the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent (2050 Strategy). Areas of collaboration and regional cooperation include the creation and expansion of public goods and pursuing development in areas such as health, education and gender empowerment, and expanding and strengthening existing modalities for Pacific regional cooperation, including declarations and decisions of the Pacific Leaders for collective action.



# CHAPTER 3:

## COOPERATION FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

### 3.1 COOPERATION FRAMEWORK GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE



Functions of groups within the governance and management structure are described as follows:

#### United Nations Country Team

102. The UNCT comprises the UN system Heads of Agency and is led by the UN Resident Coordinator. The UNCT oversees implementation and existing coordination mechanisms, including the Programme Coordination Committee, the Operations Management Team and the Communications Group.
103. Non-resident UN entities are those UN entities that may have projects in PNG but are not located in-country and may be operating regionally. The Resident Coordinator represents them on a day-to-day basis. If non-resident UN entity staff are in PNG, the most senior programme officer is invited as an observer to UNCT meetings.

#### Joint Steering Committee

104. The Joint Steering Committee (JSC) comprises senior government officials and the UNCT and is the highest level of oversight of the UNSDCF 2024-2028. The JSC is co-chaired by the Secretary of the Department of National Planning and Monitoring and by the UN Resident Coordinator. The UN Resident Coordinator is the designated in-country representative of the UN Secretary-General for coordinating operational activities for development of the UN in support of the country's efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda. The JSC meets annually to review the UN's implementation progress and Joint Work Plans (JWPs) including the Funding Framework for the following year.

#### Operations Management Team

105. The Operations Management Team comprises agency operations specialists and focal points. Its mandate is to reduce costs for the UN system by overseeing Common Services and implementing the Business Operations Strategy. The Business Operations Strategy outlines key operations activities that support the Results Groups' JWPs.

#### Communication Group

106. The Communication Group comprises agency communications specialists and focal points. It supports Results Groups in increasing their capacity to advocate for development. It promotes outreach campaigns on key development milestones such as SDGs or commemorating designated UN international days of interest to the Government. In addition, the Communication Group works with local media and other stakeholders to increase awareness about development in PNG and gain citizens' feedback about the UN's performance. The Communication Group's Annual Work Plan outlines key advocacy activities in support of the Results Group's JWPs.

#### Monitoring and Evaluation Group

107. The Monitoring and Evaluation Group ensures coordination, coherence and effectiveness in monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) amongst UN entities implementing the UNSDCF. This work includes ensuring that UN entities' individual MEL plans and activities are well coordinated with and supportive of the UNSDCF. This Group is responsible for highlighting the data needs of the UNSDCF in conjunction with the Data, Statistics and Innovation Working Group. It maintains the MEL Plan for the UNSDCF and a collaborative and coordinated approach to its implementation, identifying learning needs and opportunities specific to M&E on an ongoing basis.

## Programme Coordination Committee

108. The Programme Coordination Committee (PCC) comprises leaders of the five Results Groups. It promotes synergies between the Results Groups and acts as an advisory group to the UNCT regarding the coordination of JWPs and Annual Progress Reports. As needed, the PCC consults with senior representatives from implementing partners, the Department of National Planning and Monitoring, UN agencies, and donors and beneficiaries in the review of JWPs and Annual Progress Reports undertaken by the five Results Groups. In this context, the PCC ensures that UN programming aligns with government policies and planning instruments and complements programming by development partners.

## Results Groups

109. Results Groups comprise individual agency programme staff relevant to the five outcomes and are chaired/co-chaired by a Head of Agency. Results Groups extrapolate from the UNSDCF's overall five-year planned results into JWPs and monitor progress through Annual Progress Reports. Non-resident UN entities contribute to Results Groups, where their work, and mandates, are reflected under JWPs and Annual Progress Reports. Results Groups ensure that non-resident UN entities participate through teleconference and other means and are an integral part of planning and monitoring outcomes.
110. To support the work of the Results Groups, the UNCT will establish inter-agency working groups on Human Rights Working Group and Data and Innovation. Time-bound inter-agency task forces will also be established by the UNCT to further support the Results Groups, as needed.

## 3.2 RESOURCING THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

111. The Funding Framework comprises the estimated financial resources needed for the UN system in PNG to deliver the commitments outlined in the UNSDCF 2024-2028. Available funds presented in the Funding Framework document are projected on all individual UN agency funding, such as core and non-core resources, which include contributions through the PNG UN Country Fund and from other bilateral donors and global funds.
112. Resourcing the UNSDCF is the individual responsibility of UN entities and a shared responsibility of the UNCT through the partnerships and resource mobilization strategy, as led by the Resident Coordinator. The Funding Framework document is operationalized through JWPs and monitored as part of the annual review of the Results Group's progress.
113. UN entities will provide support to the development and implementation of activities within the UNSDCF, which may include technical support, cash assistance, supplies, commodities and equipment, procurement services, transport, funds for advocacy, research and studies, consultancies, programme development, M&E, training activities, and staff support.
114. Part of UN entity support may be provided through implementing partners including NGOs, CSOs and government departments, as agreed within the JWPs.

## 3.3 DERIVATION OF UN ENTITY COUNTRY PROGRAMMING INSTRUMENTS FROM THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

115. UN entity country programming instruments have been developed in line with the strategic approach reflected in this document. UN entity programmes are further defined and shaped around this framework's priorities and strategic intentions.<sup>42</sup> Correlations in M&E priorities that encourage and promote joint MEL have been outlined in the MEL Plan in Annex 4.

## 3.4 JOINT WORK PLANS

116. UN entities will implement the UNSDCF through country programming instruments derived from the UNSDCF. This work comes together in JWPs, supported by the Funding Framework, that present each UN entity's planned programmatic strategic outputs and resource contributions to UNSDCF outputs. JWPs serve to reduce fragmentation, avoid duplication, and ensure coherence and synergy of UN entity collective programming in PNG.
117. Both resident and non-resident UN entities will be involved in preparing JWPs. JWPs will be discussed within Results Groups to ensure gaps and overlaps are diminished and potential for synergy and joint programmes are identified and addressed. JWPs capture the UNSDCF outcome, outputs, output strategies, funding framework and resources, SDG targets and indicators, gender equality and human rights, disability inclusivity and other system-wide markers, with each UN entity's contributions (output strategies and resources) to the UNSDCF outputs aligned to the UNSDCF theory of change.
118. JWPs will be prepared online in UN INFO with agreed LNOB priorities to help determine the priority for allocated resources and partnerships. JWPs are endorsed by the UNCT and the JSC and become the basis for the annual performance review of Results Groups.

## 3.5 BUSINESS OPERATIONS STRATEGY IN SUPPORT OF THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

119. The UNCT will develop its Business Operation Strategy that is aligned with and supports the effective and efficient implementation of the UNSDCF, with a continued commitment to the 'one back office' model for Common Business Operations in PNG.
120. The Business Operation Strategy will represent a focused and active commitment to scaling up and maintaining a range of prioritized Common Services, enabling a flexible response to the UN's timely programmatic rollout across 2024-2028.
121. In line with the UNCT's commitment to equity, innovation and responsiveness, the UN's Operations Management Team will oversee the implementation of the Business Operation Strategy.

<sup>42</sup> For example, the World Bank Group's Country Partnership Framework for PNG sets out the partnership objectives agreed between the World Bank Group and the national authorities. Within this country partnership, the World Bank Group broadly contributes to priority areas also reflected in the UNSDCF, consistent with its development mandate and country engagement approach, and coordinates closely with the UN, the Government of PNG, and other development partners.

## CHAPTER 4:

# CCA UPDATE, MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING PLAN

### 4.1 UPDATES OF THE UN COMMON COUNTRY ANALYSIS

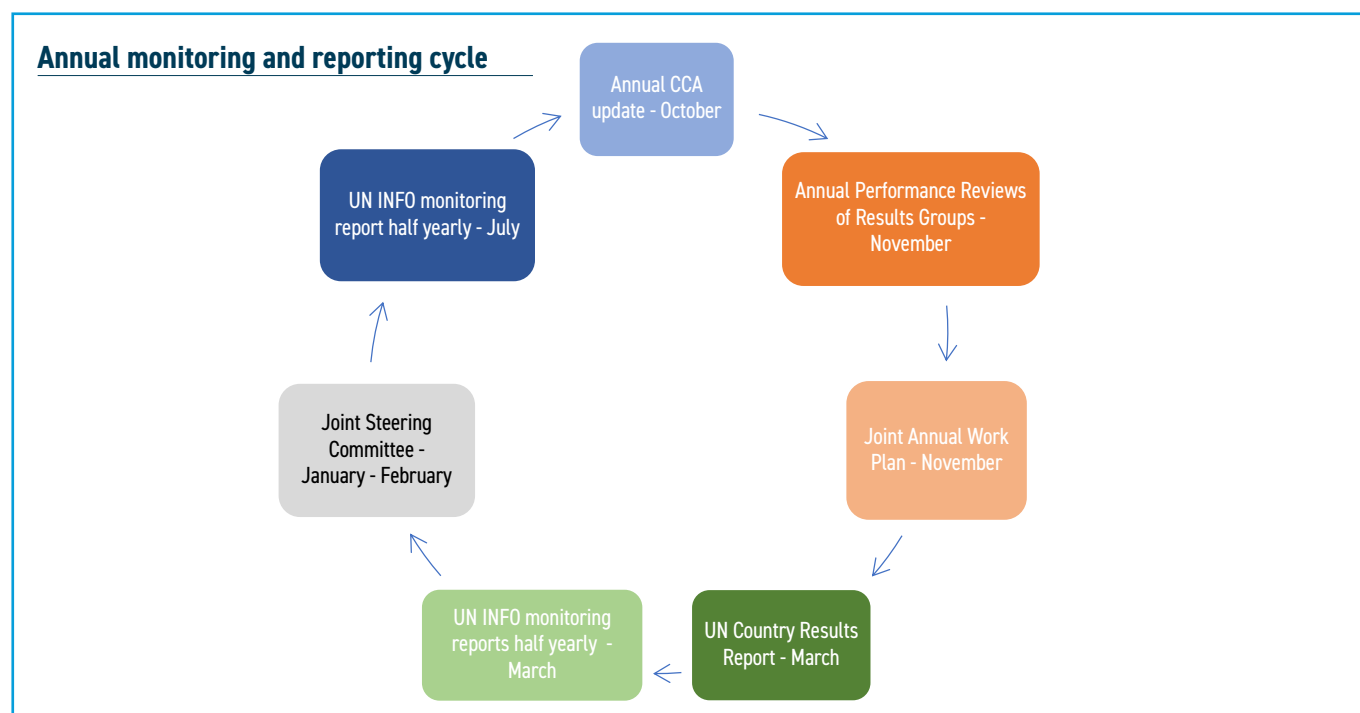
122. The CCA will be reviewed and updated annually to consider significant changes in national circumstances. Strategic assessments of available data will inform CCA updates. The CCA will integrate analysis of the groups of people at risk of being left behind, drawing on and referencing the latest data and evidence, including data obtained through consultation with relevant groups. The updated CCA will be uploaded to the UN's Information Management System to ensure that analysis and data on PNG are readily available. CCA annual updates will be led through the Programme Coordination Committee.

### 4.2 MONITORING AND REPORTING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF JWPS

123. Monitoring the UNSDCF is an ongoing and joint responsibility of the Government of PNG and the UNCT. Monitoring is designed to provide insights into the efficiency and effectiveness of the strategy behind UNSDCF outputs and programme implementation.
124. The UNSDCF will be monitored annually, with a half-year progress report. The Annual Results Report will be prepared by end-March every year, while the mid-year report will be presented in the August UNCT meetings. The Results Framework (Annex 1) will be used to track progress towards achieving UNSDCF outcomes and targets and identify the critical data disaggregation that will be evaluated in 2027. Monitoring will also be conducted on the financial commitments of the UNSDCF.
125. The UN in PNG has adopted UN INFO, which allows tracking of monitoring indicators established for the output and outcome levels. The UNCT will ensure gender equality and human rights markers are used, and beneficiary tags are integrated into UN INFO to help track the activities of target groups that have been identified as being, or are at risk of being, left behind. In addition, all UN entities will report on their UNSDCF contributions directly to UN INFO by regularly recording progress against planned output strategies and resources.
126. The costed multiyear MEL plan has been developed (Annex 4). UN entity-specific monitoring plans will be derived from and support the UNSDCF MEL plan. The Monitoring and Evaluation Group will execute the UNSDCF MEL plan with Results Groups. Progress towards planned results will be tracked, monitoring risks and assumptions, identifying challenges and opportunities, and reflecting on learning to inform decisions and course corrections as per PNG's evolving country requirements.
127. The JSC will hold annual performance reviews to monitor the progress of the UNSDCF. This will include reviewing how attained results are reported, considering any challenges or opportunities presented to the JSC, and agreeing upon any changes needed to the UNSDCF results framework. All changes will be documented in the review report and reflected in the relevant JWPs and UN INFO.
128. The UN in PNG will support strengthening quality, accessible government monitoring systems and link to established government monitoring activities (surveys, census, Voluntary National Reviews, poverty studies). The UN maintains a commitment to supporting national capacity development for building an evidence base, diversifying and disaggregating data sets and data sources and using participatory monitoring, promoting data literacy, and ensuring public engagement in the analysis and use of data. These priorities will increase capacities for data disaggregation and increasingly effective monitoring of the impact of results against LNOB priorities specific to PNG.
129. Risk monitoring is essential to UNCT's commitment to adaptive management. It is incorporated within annual results monitoring cycles, including risks specific to areas of programme development and policy advocacy. Risks to programme implementation are monitored through ongoing agency risk management practices and engagement with beneficiaries and implementing partners. In this context, government and community responses to sensitive equity issues for specific disadvantaged groups are monitored continuously. Also monitored as such, in partnership with the National Disaster Centre, is the political stability of different regions of PNG, the impact of extreme weather events, and the impacts of climate change.
130. Risk monitoring includes the monitoring of mitigation measures that will increase opportunities for the UNSDCF's full implementation. These points of monitoring are highlighted within the MEL plan and incorporated into programming, monitoring cycles and evaluation terms of reference.

### 4.3 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND COUNTRY RESULTS REPORTING

131. Under the overall leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator, each Results Group will conduct an Annual Performance Review with its stakeholders focusing on achievements, challenges, opportunities and lessons learned. Reviews will be held in the last quarter of each year of UNSDCF implementation based on UN INFO reports. The Results Groups will use review outcomes, plus any aspects of the evolving country context that warrant focus, to propose to the UNCT any amendments to the UNSDCF or the following year's JWP so that UN support remains relevant and effective.
132. UN INFO monitoring reports, Annual Performance Reviews, and CCA updates will feed into UN Country Results Reports, capturing the complete footprint of UN entity support to government and advancement of the 2030 Agenda. UN Country Results Reports will inform JSC meetings, focusing on the previous year's country context, UNCT achievements, challenges, opportunities, learning and adaptations in implementing the UNSDCF.



### 4.4 GENDER SCORECARD

133. A gender scorecard exercise was undertaken as part of UNSDCF planning. It was based on the global performance indicators for gender equality and women's empowerment and helped the UNCT assess their performance in gender mainstreaming. For the duration of the UNSDCF, progress updates on workplan implementation and status updates for performance indicators will be completed annually. Another gender scorecard exercise will be conducted in 2027 to evaluate the UNSDCF 2024-2028 and inform development of the new UNSDCF.

### 4.5 NORMATIVE AREAS MONITORING

134. Annually, the UNCT completes the UN Sustainable Development Group Information Management System UNINFO surveys on work being done in human rights, advancing gender equality, youth and persons with disabilities, and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse. Surveys track progress on global indicators in these areas, record achievements during the year, and highlight the gaps for UNCT attention.

### 4.6 COOPERATION FRAMEWORK EVALUATION

135. Evaluation of the UNSDCF is a fundamental component of evidence-based strategy, policymaking and implementation. Accordingly, an independent evaluation will be conducted in 2027, the penultimate year of the UNSDCF. It will be a strategic assessment involving a broad range of stakeholders and partners who support the evaluation of the UNSDCF's outcomes and their contribution to national priorities and the SDGs, with a focus on the OECD DAC<sup>43</sup> criteria including relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability, impact, and coherence, as well as the guiding principles of the UNSDCF including gender and LNOB. The cost of the evaluation is shared by the UNCT.
136. The UNSDCF MEL Plan (Annex 4) includes the timing of evaluation and normative monitoring commitments such as gender equality, sustainability and human rights. The primary focus of the MEL Plan concerning the evaluation is to monitor progress towards achieving the defined strategic outcomes and targets in the Results Framework (Annex 1). A detailed evaluation matrix will include data collection and analysis activities and the evaluation approach.

<sup>43</sup> Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC).

# ANNEX 1: RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Papua New Guinea – UNSDCF Results Framework 2024-2028

OUTCOME 1: EQUALITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS						
<p><b>Impact:</b> A more gender equitable country in which women and men equally benefit from development. According to the 2021 UN Human Development Reports, PNG ranks 169 out of 191 countries in the Gender Inequality Index.<sup>44</sup></p> <p><b>According to PNG's own reporting on achievement of SDG5:</b> Gender Equality, "The stereotypical gendered roles in domestic duties along with poor access to health and education, employment and political representation limits the opportunity of women to be effectively involved in [their own development and] decision-making".<sup>45</sup></p> <p><b>National Development Priorities:</b> MTDP IV SPA 1, 4, 5, 7, 11,12</p> <p><b>Global and Regional frameworks:</b> Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Beijing Platform for Action, Pacific Platform for Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights 2018-2030, Pacific Platform for Action on Advancement of Women and Gender Equality 1994, Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration 2012.</p> <p><b>SDGs 4, 5, 8,10,16</b></p>						
Results	Indicator (disaggregation), (SDG indicators)	Baseline (year)	Target (2028)	Data source/method of verification	United Nations entities (lead bold)	Assumption Statement
<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> By 2028, women and girls in Papua New Guinea, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable, exercise their rights and agency and live a life free from all forms of discrimination and violence.</p>	<p>1.1 Percentage of seats held by women in:</p> <p>a) national parliament and the Bougainville House of Representatives (BHOR)</p> <p>b) local government</p> <p>c) ministerial positions held by women in the National Parliament and the BHOR. (SDG indicator 5.5.1)</p>	<p>a) 1.69% or 2 seats in National Parliament 2022 Elections. 12.5% or 5 seats in BHOR</p> <p>b) 1.84% or 120 elected seats at ward and LLG level held by women</p> <p>c) 0% (0/31) National Parliament Ministerial positions held by women. 25% (3/12) BHOR Ministerial positions held by women. (2023)</p>	<p>a) 5% or 6 women elected into National Parliament; 17.5% or 7 women elected into BHOR</p> <p>b) 3.8% or 250 elected seats at ward and LLG level held by women</p> <p>c) 3% (1/31) Ministerial positions held by women in the National Parliament; 33% (6/12) Ministerial positions held by women in the BHOR.</p>	<p>NEC submissions; 2 updated policies; Policy consultation reports; UN Women and UNDP reports.</p>	<p><b>UN Women</b> UNDP</p>	<p>Women are interested in and capable of taking on political leadership positions at all levels.</p> <p>There is a political will and interest among politicians to support the appointment of women in ministerial roles.</p> <p>The general public sees the value and importance of women's political participation and leadership and reflects this in their voting patterns.</p>
	<p>1.2 Percentage of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual, or</p>	<p>54% of PNG women having reported experiencing any form of GBV/intimate partner violence in the last 12 months</p>	<p>30% of PNG women having reported experiencing any form of GBV/ intimate</p>	<p>GBV Administrative data (FSVU, FSVAC/GBV secretariat/NHIS)</p>	<p><b>UN Women</b> UNDP UNFPA UNICEF</p>	<p>GBV administrative data is consistently compiled by service providers, namely FSVAC/FSVU.</p>

<sup>44</sup> <https://hdr.undp.org/data-center/thematic-composite-indices/gender-inequality-index#/indicies/GII>

<sup>45</sup> Government of PNG (2020), PNG SDGs Voluntary National Review Report, p.36.



	psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age (SDG 5.2.1)	(national Demographic and Health Survey [DHS] 2016-18)	partner violence in the last 12 months	Localised surveys DHS		
<b>Output 1.1: Women and the Enabling Environment</b> Enhanced gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls at all levels in line with international norms and standards in the implementation of legislation, policies and financing.	1.1.1 Number of laws, policies, strategies, action plans and regulations, based on international human rights norms and standards, developed and adopted with UN support to protect and promote:  a) gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE)  b) state accountability to the implementation of laws and policies and global commitments to advance GEWE  c) gender responsive planning and budgeting  d) monitoring and reporting (SDG 5.1.1)	a) 1 (Draft Human Resource Development [HRD] Policy)  b) 1 (CEDAW Report 2023)  c) 0  d) 0	a) 4 (Midwifery Policy, Adolescent health policy, National Gender Policy, National Gender Equality, Social Inclusion Policy)  b) 2 (CEDAW Report, 2027; SDG 5 Report)  c) 2 (action plan and regulations on Gender Responsive and Participatory Budgeting)  d) 1	a) Government reports  b) OHCHR website  c) DNPM and Treasury reports, Budget statements  d) DNPM, DPM, Parliament Hansard	<b>UN Women</b> UNAIDS UNDP UNFPA UNICEF	Government is willing to review and develop gender responsive policies, strategies and laws
	1.1.2 Number of functional national and subnational mechanisms to engage men's and boys' organizations/ networks/ coalitions promoting positive masculinities that actively advocate for achievement of GEWE with UN support	0 (current initiatives for engagement of men and boys are not at a national or subnational scale) (2023)	3 (Parliament, churches, community based)	Government reports, Development partners reports/UN agencies annual reports	<b>UN Women</b> UNDP UNFPA UNICEF	
<b>Output 1.2: Women and Leadership</b> Women occupy more leadership and decision-making positions in the	1.2.1 Extent that measures developed/implemented with UN support advance women	a) 4 (Vision 2050: PNG National Strategic Plan 2011-2050; ABG GEWEPS Policy	a) Updated National Policy for Women and Gender Equality; GESI policy; ABG	Government reports, IPPCC reports, Department of	<b>UN Women</b> UNDP	There is a certain degree of political will and interest to adopt

political and public spheres at all levels.	and girls' leadership and equal participation in decision-making, with UN support, in:  a) Public institutions  b) Elected positions including parliaments (SDG 5.5.1_1)	b) 3 (Bougainville Community Government Act 2016; Organic Law on Provincial and Local Level Government; Organic Law on the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates (OLIPPAC) 2003)	GEWEPS Implementation Strategy) 0=Not in place 1=work started 2=work in progress 3=Work almost complete 4= in place  b) Legislation on reserved seats for women in the National Parliament; Updates to OLIPPAC legislation to include political party quotas for women	Justice report, Chamber of Commerce report		legislative reforms aimed at enhancing women's leadership and equal participation in decision-making.  Parliamentary and political leaders are committed to increasing women's political participation.
	1.2.2 Number of women:  1) contesting elections at the national level  2) receiving endorsement from political parties.	1) 159 women contested: 2022 national general elections (NGE)  2) 64 (40.3%) endorsed by political parties in 2022 NGE	1) 225 women contest in the 2027 NGE  2) 135 (60%) women candidates contesting endorsed by political parties in the 2027 NGE	Election observation reports, PNGEC report; UN Women and UNDP reports	<b>UN Women</b> UNDP	Women candidates want to receive political party endorsement. Political parties want to endorse female candidates. Women feel equipped with the necessary skills and support to contest in the National General Elections. A supportive enabling environment exists in which women are able to contest freely and fairly in elections. Women are willing to enter into and take on leadership roles in politics.
<b>Output 1.3: Women and the Economy</b> Women are technically, financially and legally skilled and empowered to participate in all	1.3.1 Number of measures implemented with UN support to:	A) 1 (Mama Bank points in markets) (2023)	a) 3 (subnational/informal economy policies; Review of	Programme reports	<b>UN Women</b> UNCDF UNDP	Subnational governments commit resources to local informal economy policies.

sectors and aspects of the formal and informal economy.	a) eliminate gender-based discrimination and segregation in labour market	b) 1 UNCDF guaranteed loan facility (2023)	employment policies; WEPs)			Cooperation from private sector and financial institutions
	b) increase women's access to and use of digital technologies, digital finance, e-commerce and digital value chains	c) 0 (2023) d) 0 (2023) e) 0 (2023)	b) 3 (digital marketing, mobile banking, ease of opening bank accounts)  c) 4 (guarantee facilities with various banks)			
	c) ensure women's economic security and empowerment  d) address discriminatory gender and social norms, stereotypes and practices  e) promote the recognition, reduction, and redistribution of unpaid care and domestic work.		d) 1 (Gender Equality Policy)  e) 2			
1.3.2 Number of women-led businesses with improved performance, business transactions, and/or income generation as a result of UN support (SDG 5.5.2 1)	0 (2023)	200	Programme reports	UN Women UNCDF UNDP UNFPA	Women informal business operators are willing to transition into formal economy	
1.3.3 Proportion of startup loans by NDB and BSP granted to women-owned businesses with UN support.	0% (2023)	20% of entrepreneurship and start up loans provided by NDB and BSP are awarded to women-owned businesses.	Programme reports	UN Women UNCDF UNDP	BSP and NDB cooperate with UN in development of women friendly financial products.	
<b>Output 1.4: Women and violence</b> Women and girls are free from discrimination, violence, and torture through a whole-of-society approach to the promotion of gender-equitable socio-cultural attitudes, norms, and behaviours	1.4.1 Percentage change in public perceptions on women's rights and sorcery accusation-related violence (SARV).	0% (2023)	15%	Online public perception survey U-report Pre and post survey	UN Women UNFPA UNICEF UNDP	There are no barriers to communication campaigns on women's rights and SARV.
	1.4.2 Number of laws and regulations, based on international human rights	a) 1 Draft HRD Policy  b) Vision 2050 (2023)	a) 1 HRD Policy  b) 2 (Midwifery Policy, Adolescent Health Policy)	Programme Reports CSO reports	UN Women UNFPA	The national CSOs Movement on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment is

	<p>norms and standards, developed with UN support to:</p> <p>a) eliminate violence against women and girls including harmful practices</p> <p>b) promote equal access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education (SDG 5.1.1 1)</p>					<p>capacitated and operational.</p> <p>The NGO policy protects the space of the CSOs to monitor and report GEWE and women's rights issues.</p>
	1.4.3 Proportion of provinces where UN operates that have functional mechanisms for reporting sexual exploitation and abuse by humanitarian, development, protection and/or other personnel who provide assistance to affected populations.	2 out of 22 (2023)	11 out of 22	PSEA Coordination Network PSEA Global dashboard	IOM UN Women <b>UNFPA</b> UNICEF	All UN agencies diligently implement requirement for all implementing partners to have mechanisms for reporting SEA.
	1.4.4 Number of service providers meeting the minimum requirements for UN quality essential services package	0 (2023)	4 (Health, Police, Case Management, Safe shelter)	Programme reports Medical schools and Nursing schools Graduation Data	UN Women UNDP <b>UNFPA</b> UNICEF	UN agencies utilize the UN Essential Service Package to guide all programming in the country.
	1.4.5 Percentage of referred cases of sexual and GBV against women and children that are investigated and sentenced	1.6%: 15, 444 reported cases; 250 convictions (2021)	5% of reported cases are investigated and sentenced.	Royal Constabulary (police) report, Department of Justice and Attorney General	UN Women UNFPA <b>UNICEF</b> UNODC	

**OUTCOME 2: GOVERNANCE, PEACE AND SOCIAL COHESION**

**Impact:** Government and non-governmental institutions in Papua New Guinea demonstrate a more accountable, fair, inclusive and transparent governance that promotes peace, security, equality, justice and social cohesion

**National Development Priorities:** MTDV IV SPA 5, 6, 7,8, 10, 11, 12

**Global and Regional frameworks:** Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030); International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Ratified 21 Jul 2008); Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Ratified 12 Jan 1995); International Convention on All Forms of Discrimination (Ratified 27 Jan 1982); International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Ratified 21 Jul 2008); Convention on the Rights of the Child (Ratified 2 Mar 1993); Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (acceded 17 July 1986); Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities (Ratified 26 Sept 2013); International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action (Ratified 13 September 1994); UN Security Council Resolution 1325 Women, Peace and Security; and United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security.

**SDGs** 5, 8, 10, 11, 16, 17

Results	Indicator (disaggregation), (SDG indicators)	Baseline (year)	Target (2028)	Data source/method of verification	United Nations entities (lead bold)	Assumption Statement
<b>Outcome 2:</b> By 2028, people in Papua New Guinea, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable, participate in and benefit from more accountable, gender responsive, inclusive and transparent governance that promotes peace, security, equality and social cohesion.	2.1 Score in annual Worldwide Governance Indicators (World Bank) on Rule of Law and Government Effectiveness	Rule of Law: -0.74  Government Effectiveness: -0.89 (2021)	Rule of Law: +2.5  Government Effectiveness: +2.5	Worldwide Governance Indicators: World Bank Annual Reporting	ILO IOM ITU <b>OHCHR</b> UN Women UNDP UNFPA UNICEF UNOPS WHO	Country is politically stable.  Mitigation of security, safety and climate change risks are effectively implemented.
	2.2 Ranking of Score in the Economist Intelligence Unit Democracy Index, Overall, Political Participation and Functioning of Government	Ranking 74/167  Overall Score 5.97/10  Political Participation 3.89/10 (2023)	Ranking 70/167  Overall Score 7/10  Political Participation 5/10	Economist Intelligence Unit Democracy Index	FAO ILO IOM OHCHR UN Women <b>UNDP</b> UNFPA UNICEF WHO	
	2.3 Existence of functioning and Resourced National Human Rights Commission.	Functioning of Government 6.07/10 (2022)  Recommendation from the 2016 Universal Periodic Review (UPR): establishment of a National Human Rights Commission.	Functioning of Government 7/10  Establishment of a functional and resourced National Human Rights Commission.	Recommendations from the 2016 UPR and other convention/ treaty reporting/ rapports of UN Special Rapporteurs	IOM <b>OHCHR</b> UN Women UNDP UNICEF	

<p><b>Output 2.1: Social Contract</b> Renewed social contract between the Government and all sectors of Papua New Guinean society through support to the creation of conditions conducive to an ongoing, free, and open dialogue, generating demand for better governance, and acceleration of nationwide implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda/SDGs.</p>	<p>2.1.1 Number of measures to strengthen accountability (including social accountability), prevent and mitigate corruption risks, and integrate anti-corruption in the management of public funds, service delivery and other sectors (National; Subnational; Sectoral)</p>	<p>National: 1 Subnational: 0 (2023)</p>	<p>National: 5 Subnational: 12</p>	<p>National government planning documents</p>	<p><b>UNDP UNODC UNOPS</b></p>	<p>Country is politically stable.  Mitigation of security, safety and climate change risks are effectively implemented.</p>
<p><b>Output 2.2: Democratic Governance</b> Improved functioning, integrity, accountability and transparency of public institutions, including parliamentary, electoral, and rule of law institutions along with the relevant entities.</p>	<p>2.2.2 Number of:  i) Electoral Management Bodies with strengthened national and provincial capacities to conduct inclusive, peaceful and credible elections  ii) parliaments with improved capacities to undertake inclusive, effective, and accountable law-making, oversight and representation</p>	<p>i) Electoral bodies: (national 1/subnational 2)  ii) parliaments 0 (2023)</p>	<p>i) Electoral bodies: (national 3/provincial 3)  ii) parliaments 2</p>	<p>Government reports, Parliamentary Committee reports</p>	<p><b>UNDP DPPA</b></p>	
<p><b>Output 2.3: Service Delivery</b> Strengthened national and subnational planning, monitoring, data, and public finance management systems for improved effectiveness and efficiency in</p>	<p>2.2.3 Extent to which national and subnational authorities have the capacities and conduct non-violent, credible and transparent elections.</p>	<p>National: 0 Subnational: 0 (2023)</p>	<p>National: 1 Subnational: 22</p>	<p>Partner capacity assessment; project reporting</p>	<p><b>UNDP DPPA</b></p>	
<p><b>Output 2.3: Service Delivery</b> Strengthened national and subnational planning, monitoring, data, and public finance management systems for improved effectiveness and efficiency in</p>	<p>2.3.1 Percentage of national government ministries with strengthened public administration and core government functions for improved service delivery</p>	<p>0 (2023)</p>	<p>36% (12 out of 33)</p>	<p>Monitoring reports; Government documents</p>	<p>IOM <b>UNDP UNOPS</b> (UN wide indicator)</p>	

service delivery.	2.3.2 Percentage of provinces with data collection and/or analysis mechanisms providing disaggregated data to monitor progress towards the SDGs.	5% (1 out of 22) (2023)	45% (10 out of 21)	Monitoring reports; Government documents	IOM <b>UNDP</b> UNFPA (UN wide indicator)
	2.3.3 Percentage of provinces with reports for SDG financing and implementation.	0 (2023)	100%	Project reporting; reporting via Department of Provincial and Local-level Government Affairs and reporting via Department of Finance	IOM <b>UNDP</b> UNFPA UNICEF <b>UNOPS</b> WHO
	2.3.4 Number of initiatives that strengthen government capacity in legal identity.	0 (2023)	5	Monitoring reports.  Government documentation	FAO <b>IOM</b> <b>UNHCR</b> UNICEF WHO
<b>Output 2.4: Social Cohesion</b> Strengthened social cohesion strategies, also incorporating early warning and prevention, at the national and subnational levels are implemented to benefit the most vulnerable.	2.4.1 Number of gender-responsive conflict sensitive development policies, cross-border initiatives, plans, or institutions in place to: address conflict drivers, strengthen social cohesion, prevent risk of conflict, including climate security.	0 (2023)	5	Review of government policies, plans and institutions in place.  Annual project reporting: Department of Provincial and Local-level Government Affairs and Ministry of Defence reporting through Provincial Disaster Centres and National Disaster Centre	IOM <b>UN Women</b> <b>UNDP</b> UNHCR
	2.4.2 Number of Local Level Government (LLG) and community initiatives for crisis prevention/ conflict resolution/ sustaining peace that are operational with the engagement of youth, women and volunteers.	5 (2023)	15		<b>IOM</b> UN Women UNDP UNFPA UNICEF UNOPS
	2.4.3 Percentage of subnational (provincial) consultations/dialogues held that are inclusive, value-based and held with various stakeholders,	0% (2023)	25 % (6 out of 22)	Annual reporting: Department of Community Development and Religion	IOM UN Women UNAIDS <b>UNDP</b> UNFPA

	especially the most vulnerable to co-create solutions to issues related to the triple nexus (development-peace - humanitarian)				UNICEF WHO	
	2.4.4 Extent that measures developed/implemented with UN support advance women's and girl's leadership and equal participation in decision making, with UN support, in: a) mediation, reconciliation and peacebuilding mechanisms  b) Natural resource management.	a) no formal measures exist  b) 1 (COP27 delegation included women) (2023)	a) 2 (women nominated in Bougainville negotiations; Women, Peace and Security strategy adopted)  b) 3	Programme reports	UN Women <b>UNDP</b> <b>DPPA</b> UNFPA	

### OUTCOME 3: INCLUSIVE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

**Impact:** Government systems demonstrate improved capacity to provide quality social sector services to the people, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable; and people have improved access to the same resulting in sustainable improvement in the well-being of the population.

**National Development Priorities:** MTDP IV SPA 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,11, 12

**Global and Regional frameworks:** Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030), Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities, Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.

**SDGs** 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

Results	Indicator (disaggregation), (SDG indicators)	Baseline (year)	Target (2028)	Data source/method of verification	United Nations entities (lead bold)	Assumption Statement
<b>Outcome 3:</b> By 2028, people in Papua New Guinea, especially the most marginalized, benefit from gender sensitive, shock responsive, rights based and quality basic and social services, and equitably realize their full potential to meaningfully contribute to PNG development.	3.1 National maternal mortality ratio	171 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births (2021)	< 100 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births	National Demographic and Health Survey; e-National Health Information System (eNHIS); Trends in maternal mortality report (estimates by WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, World Bank Group and UNDESA/Population Division)	UNAIDS UNFPA UNICEF UNOPS <b>WHO</b>	PNG Government's essential services are functional.



	3.2 Lower secondary completion rate (%) (SDG indicator 4.1.2)	37.2% (2018)	50%	UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS)	UNESCO <b>UNICEF</b>	
	3.3 Prevalence of stunting and wasting amongst children under 5 years of age (SDG 2.2.1 & 2.2.2)	Stunting 48% (2010) Wasting 16% (2010)	Stunting 43% Wasting 10%	Household and Income Expenditure Survey (HIES)	FAO <b>UNICEF</b> WHO	
	3.4 Proportion of children aged 1-17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month (SDG indicator 16.2.1)	56% of girls aged 15-19 years had experienced physical violence since the age of 15. (2023)	29% of girls aged 15-19 had experienced sexual violence since the age of 15.	DHS administrative data records	IOM UN Women UNFPA <b>UNICEF</b>	
	3.5 Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (SDG indicator 3.7.1)	37% (2023)	66%	eNHIS  DHS	<b>UNFPA</b> WHO	PNG Government's essential services are functional
	3.6 HIV Incidence rate per 1,000 population a) all, b) males, c) females	a) 0.61 (2022) b) 0.47 (2022) c) 0.76 (2022)	a) 0.33 (2028) b) 0.26 (2028) c) 0.41 (2028)	Global AIDS Monitoring Report (GAM)	<b>UNAIDS</b> WHO	
	3.7 Proportion of the population reached with at least: a) basic water  b) basic sanitation  c) basic hygiene services (SDG indicator 6.2.1)	a) 45%  b) 19%  c) 59% (2023)	a) 50%  b) 35%  c) 69%	Joint Monitoring Programme	IOM <b>UNICEF</b> UNOPS WHO	

<b>Output 3.1: Education and Skills Development</b> Strengthen services and increase access to improved foundational learning, which include literacy and numeracy, critical thinking and skills development that aim to achieve stronger performing education systems, lift attendance and retention in schools, while providing skills pathways for out of school youth.	3.1.1 Number of males and females including children and adolescents provided with individual education learning materials through UN-supported programmes	29,093 (Male: 15,885 ; female: 13,208)	25,000 per year (Female: 50%)	UIS	ITU UNESCO UNFPA <b>UNICEF</b>	Government of PNG funding for all education systems and institutions has increased.	
	3.1.2 Number of males and females including children and adolescents in both humanitarian and non-humanitarian contexts that participated in formal or non-formal learning/ education through UN-supported programmes	126,693 (Male: 64,979 ; females: 61,714)	115,000 per year (Female: 50%)	UIS			
	3.1.3 Number of joint Education Sector Reviews undertaken proposing adjustments in Education Sector	1 (2023)	5	Partner Reviews and Reports			
	3.1.4 Number of teachers, education staff, inspectors, administrators trained to provide education services and life skills especially socio-emotional skills.	0 (2023)	5000	Partner Reviews and Reports			
<b>Output 3.2: Health</b> Strengthened health systems to improve the well-being and access to quality, integrated, people-centred health services including TB, HIV/AIDS and Sexual and Reproductive Health; and provide protection from health emergencies for people at national and subnational levels, particularly those in hard-to-reach areas.	3.2.1 Percentage of provinces with no stock outs of modern Family Planning contraceptives	0% (2022)	80%	eNHIS  DHS	<b>UNFPA</b> UNICEF UNOPS WHO	There is ongoing support in PNG for all health systems to function to their full potential with opportunities for increased funding.	
	3.2.2 Number of midwives with increased capacity to provide life-saving emergency obstetric and newborn care services	200 (2022)	2,000	Partner reviews and reports			<b>UNFPA</b> UNICEF WHO
	3.2.3 Proportion of children who received Pentavalent-3 vaccination	38% (2022)	60%	eNHIS  DHS			<b>UNICEF</b> UNOPS WHO

	3.2.4 Percentage of estimated people living with HIV (PLHIV) who know their HIV status and are on treatment: a) PLHIV know their HIV status b) PLHIV on treatment	a) 75% (2022) b) 65% (2022)	a) 95% b) 95%	Global AIDS Monitoring Report (GAM)	<b>UNAIDS</b> <b>WHO</b>	
	3.2.5 Number of new and relapse TB cases detected and put on treatment	28,000	37,250	National TB Programme Report (eTB-module); WHO Global TB Report	<b>UNOPS</b> <b>WHO</b>	
	3.2.6 Number of malaria cases detected and treated	1,000,000	773,780	eNHIS	<b>UNICEF</b> <b>WHO</b>	
	3.2.7 Number of pre-service nursing graduates annually	700	1200	WHO National Health Workforce Accounts (NHWA) 2022	<b>UNFPA</b> <b>UNICEF</b> <b>WHO</b>	
	3.2.8 Number of provinces implementing the package of essential non-communicable (PEN) disease interventions for primary health care	0	22	eNHIS Provincial Reports	<b>UNAIDS</b> <b>UNESCO</b> <b>UNFPA</b> <b>UNOPS</b> <b>WHO</b>	
	3.2.9 Number of districts that have rolled-out psychosocial support services for survivors of gender-based violence	39	93	Health Facility Report  eNHIS	<b>UNAIDS</b> <b>UNFPA</b> <b>UNOPS</b> <b>WHO</b>	
	3.2.10 Number of additional new users of modern methods of family planning per year	145,000 (2022)	200,000	eNHIS	<b>UNFPA</b> <b>WHO</b>	
	3.2.11 Number of women adolescents and youth, including women and young people with disabilities, who benefited from GBV services (including services related to mental health and psychosocial support)	56% of women aged 15-49 have experienced physical violence and 28% have experienced sexual violence (2023)	Reduced cases by 5% annually	DHS  eNHIS	<b>UNAIDS</b> <b>UNFPA</b> <b>UNICEF</b> <b>WHO</b>	

<b>Output 3.3 Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)</b> WASH systems strengthened to ensure people have equitable access to affordable, gender sensitive, environmentally and climate friendly safe drinking water and sanitation services and have awareness of safe hygiene behaviour.	3.3.1 Existence of an Effective Management Information System (EMIS) for WASH Sector	No (2023)	Yes	Health Management Information System (HMIS), EMIS, MWater Partner reviews and reports.  Evaluations from the Department of Health, Department of National Planning & Monitoring	IOM <b>UNICEF</b> UNOPS WHO	Enhanced investment by Government of PNG prioritising implementation of national WASH Policy and focusing on investment in enabling infrastructure in line with MTDP IV priorities.  Partners from all sectors prioritise innovative programming to support the shift to climate resilience.
	3.3.2 Number of costed, inclusive, child friendly, and climate resilient WASH plans (i.e. Open Defecation Free, PNG Roadmap, District WASH Plans, Health Island, etc) developed and implemented at national and subnational levels	5 (2023)	18			
	3.3.3 National level Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Authority established and functional.	No (2023)	Yes			
<b>Output 3.4 Food Security and Nutrition</b> Increased food security as a result of the establishment of food systems and nutrition sensitive agriculture, especially for those most marginalized and isolated.	3.4.1 Number of provinces with capacity to implement nutrition services across platforms through UN support	1 (2023)	15	Admin reports	FAO <b>UNICEF</b>	
	3.4.2 Number of nutritionally vulnerable people who benefited from the prevention and treatment of malnutrition and improved diets with UN support	1% (2023)	50%	NHIS	FAO IOM <b>UNICEF</b>	PNG Government's essential services are functional.  No major emergency that may constrain delivery of nutrition and food security interventions.
	3.4.3 Number of new nutrition and food system related policies and guidelines developed and implemented through support of the UN.	0 (2023)	2	Admin reports	<b>FAO</b> UNICEF	
<b>Output 3.5: Protection</b> Strengthened social protection systems and improved access to all forms of protection services to the most vulnerable and marginalized populations, that provide physical, psychosocial and legal protection including in violent or conflict contexts.	3.5.1 Number of institutions with improved capacity to deliver rights based, gender, diversity, disability and age responsive social protection acquired with UN support.	Phase 1 'Phase of maturity of child protection systems System Building'. (2023)	Phase 2 'Phase 1 Phase of maturity of the child protection system - System Enhancement'.	DHS administrative data records	IOM UN Women UNFPA <b>UNICEF</b>	PNG Government's essential services are functional.
	3.5.2 Number of Social Service Workforce, law enforcement and judicial officers who built their	0 0	200 (NOCFS) 200 (Law enforcement)	Administrative records	IOM OHCHR UN Women	

	capacities to protect children, adolescents, women and other vulnerable populations, with adequate use of law, gender transformative, equality and non-discriminatory approaches (SDGs 5, 10, 16)	0 (2023)	300 (Service Providers SCO/FBO)		UNAIDS UNFPA UNHCR <b>UNICEF</b>	
	3.5.3 Number of assessments on barriers to access to protection actors and service providers informing on improvements needed (disaggregated by type of assessment)	2: 1 Assessment on access to protection sensitive durable solutions for internal displacement and forced migration. 1 trafficking in persons [TIP] and people smuggling in PNG: baseline data needs assessment report. (2023)	> 5: 1. Assessment on protection of the rights of migrant workers 2. Assessment on barriers for PNG's accession to UNTOC/TIP Protocol 3. Monitoring assessment on protection and gaps for refugees and asylum seekers 4. Assessment on protection services for women and children impacted by conflict induced displacement 5. Assessment on protection services to IDPs living with disabilities.	Assessment reports	<b>IOM</b> UN Women UNFPA UNHCR UNICEF	

**OUTCOME 4: SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION**

**Impact:** Papua New Guinea has been unsuccessful in translating its mineral wealth into human development gains. Reducing reliance on extractive revenues that have not led to employment generation, widened inequalities, and disincentivized economic diversification, is critical. If this is not addressed, Papua New Guinea runs the risk of missing opportunities to green its economy and improve the livelihoods for so many more of its citizens, 80% of whom remain in rural and remote areas, with the majority reliant on subsistence farming for food and/or economic security.

**National Development Priorities:** MTDP IV SPA 1, 11, 12

Global and Regional frameworks

**SDGs and Targets:** 1, 5, 8, 13, 14, 15, 17

Results	Indicator (disaggregation), (SDG indicators)	Baseline (year)	Target (2028)	Data source/method of verification	United Nations entities (lead bold)	Assumption Statement
<b>Outcome 4:</b> By 2028, people in Papua New Guinea, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, benefit from improved and sustainable livelihoods and expanded access to diversified economic opportunities that deliver inclusive and green growth.	4.1 Increased income and productivity in the non-mineral sector	MSME Employment = 50,000 Baseline (2023)	MSME Employment = 100,000  Change in Employment = 50,000	Increased income and productivity in the non-mineral sector (attribution problem)	FAO ILO UNCDF <b>UNDP</b> UNOPS	
<b>Output 4.1: Blue / Green Circular Economy</b> Expanded and diversified Blue / Green / circular economy leading to increased decent jobs and skills.	4.1.1 Establishment of Locally Managed Marine Protected Areas	0 (2023)	5	Assessment reports by Government	FAO IOM ITU UNCDF <b>UNDP</b> UNOPS	The Government of PNG remains committed and supportive to economic diversification objective
	4.1.2 Number of incubated blue Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)	0 (2023)	10			
	4.1.3 CBOs that have accessed the Biodiversity and Climate Fund/Funds disbursed by the Biodiversity and Climate Fund	9 (2023)	50			
	4.1.4 Enhanced equity in access and benefits from circular labour mobility opportunities	No (2023)	Yes	Assessment reports by Government	FAO <b>IOM</b> UNCDF UNDP	

<b>Output 4.2: Enterprise Development</b> Enhanced growth of Micro Small Medium Enterprise (MSME) and value chain development in agriculture, manufacturing, and services	4.2.1 Number of Mentored/Trained MSMEs	0 (2023)	10 (8 women-focused)	IPA new registrations online data	FAO UNCDF <b>UNDP</b> UNOPS
	4.2.2 Establishment of a Blue Economy Investment Facility	No (2023)	Yes	Loans disbursed to MSME from NDB and BSP	
	4.2.3 Report that reviews PNGs MSME policy and provides recommendations	No (2023)	Yes		
	4.2.4 Number of new MSME business registrations in PNG by sex, age industry	0 with registrations from IPA (2022)	720 increase from baseline (5% each year)		
	4.2.5 Percentage increase in the loans granted to MSME – by sex, age and industry	0 with BSP and NDB (2022)	20% increase from baseline (5% each year)		
<b>Output 4.3: Innovative Financing and partnerships</b> Expanded public/private partnerships for increased innovative financing instruments.	4.3.1 Number of people who benefited from services from clean, affordable and sustainable energy (disaggregated by women) (SDG 5.1.2)	5,000 (2023)	100,000	Annual UNDP reporting  Implementing Partner reporting	FAO UN Women <b>UNDP</b> UNOPS

**OUTCOME 5: ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

**Impact:** By 2028, people in Papua New Guinea, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable, benefit from equitable and participatory access to climate resilient services that improve livelihoods and protect natural resources.

**National Development Priorities:** MTDP IV SPA 10, 12

**PNG Forest Declaration:** No deforestation by 2030 – Lowering Emissions for Accelerating Forest Finance

Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 2020: The area of annual deforestation and forest degradation is reduced by 25 percent of 2015 level by 2030

National Biodiversity and Strategy Action Plan 2020 (NBSAP)

MTDP IV: SPA 10 – Increase the hectares of terrestrial and marine Pas from 4% to 8% by 2027

**Global and Regional frameworks:** Sendai Framework 2017 - 2030

**SDGs and Targets:** 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Results	Indicator (disaggregation), (SDG indicators)	Baseline (year)	Target (2028)	Data source/method of verification	United Nations entities (lead bold)	Assumption Statement
<b>Outcome 5:</b> By 2028, people in Papua New Guinea, especially the most marginalized and vulnerable, benefit from equitable and participatory access to climate resilient services that improve livelihoods and protect natural resources.	5.1 Progress towards national targets established in accordance with Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (SDG indicator 15.9.1)	Target 2 and moving away from the target (2021)	On track to exceed	<a href="https://sdg-tracker.org/biodiversity">https://sdg-tracker.org/biodiversity</a> UNDP through GEF-6, GEF-7, GEF-8 MTDP IV	<b>UNDP</b> UNEP	The Government of PNG remains committed to Climate Change and Environmental protection, inclusive of priorities for mitigation and disaster management.
	5.2 Amount of funding dedicated to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems (SDG 15.A.1)	US\$14.21 million constant (2020)	US\$20 million constant	<a href="https://sdg-tracker.org/biodiversity">https://sdg-tracker.org/biodiversity</a> Biodiversity and Climate Fund annual reports	FAO <b>UNDP</b> UNEP UNOPS	
<b>Output 5.1: Natural Resource Management</b> Natural resources are better managed to the benefit of Papua New Guineans through improved biodiversity conservation, environmental governance and partnerships at all levels.	5.1.1 Number of communities supported by the UN to protect high value ecosystems effectively (SDG 15.1.2)	10 CBOs supported by Biodiversity and Climate Fund in early 2023 (2023)	50 additional communities	UNDP Biodiversity and Climate Fund reporting UNDP Small Grants Programme reporting	FAO UN Women <b>UNDP</b> UNOPS	
<b>Output 5.2: Climate Action</b> Enhanced climate adaptation and mitigation measures are delivered to strengthen the capacity of Papua New Guinea to mitigate the impacts of climate change on ecosystems, communities, livelihoods and the economy.	5.2.1 No. of sectors and national/ subnational institutions able to implement policies for climate change adaptation that are also gender responsive (SDG 13.2.1; 13.8.1)	0 (2023)	24	<a href="https://sdg-tracker.org/climate-change">https://sdg-tracker.org/climate-change</a> Reporting from Climate Change and Development Authority, Department of Provincial and Local-level Government Affairs.  UNFCCC's Lima REDD+	IOM UN Women UNCDF <b>UNDP</b> UNEP	



				Information Hub ( <a href="https://redd.unfccc.int/info-hub.html">https://redd.unfccc.int/info-hub.html</a> )  Biannual Transparency Report 1&2, NC3, and revised National Disaster Centre independent reporting and assessment		
	5.2.2 Improved education, awareness raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning (SDG 13.3.1)	0 students have access to climate change information through improved curriculum.  67 provincial and Community-based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) Plans that integrate climate change adaptation (2023)	240,000 students have access to climate change information through improved curriculum.  90 provincial and CBDRM Plans that integrate climate change adaptation.	<a href="https://sdg-tracker.org/climate-change">https://sdg-tracker.org/climate-change</a> Submissions of Biennial Transparency Reports and National Communications.  UNICEF educational portal	<b>IOM</b> UN Women UNICEF UNOPS	
<b>Output 5.3: Disaster Risk Management</b> Strengthened resilience and preparedness of the most vulnerable and displaced communities through implementation of disaster management strategies and systems.	5.3.1 Number of improved provincial disaster risk reduction strategies (SDG 13.1.3; SDG 13.1.2)	5 provincial Disaster Risk Management Strategies updated and 'completed for operationalization' (2023)	22 provincial Disaster Risk Management Strategies updated and completed for operationalization.	Provincial Disaster Risk Management Strategies; Provincial Disaster Risk Management Strategy Launch reports  Monitoring by UNDP during provincial support missions	<b>IOM</b> UNDP UNFPA UNOPS	
	5.3.2. Multi-hazard disaster information, risk assessments and early warning systems available to be used in relief efforts.	5 provincial hazard profiles completed (2022)  62 CBDRM plans completed and operationalized (2023)	10 provincial hazard profiles completed in high-risk provinces.  78 CDBRM plans completed and operationalized (16 new)	Relief operations from UN Agencies guided by updated provincial plans.  Monitoring by UNDP during provincial support missions  National Disaster Centre supported by UNDP to create and publish provincial risk profiles and make information available in Community Based Disaster Risk Management plans  Monitoring reports	<b>IOM</b> UNCDF <b>UNDP</b>	

## ANNEX 2:

# 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 delivery on the Cooperation Framework (2024 – 2028). 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 Papua New Guinea (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 Papua New Guinea (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 delivery 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”) which was signed by both parties on 7 April 1981. 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 implementation 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 9 March 1994.
  - c) With the Office of the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**, a Country Cooperation Agreement concluded between the Government and UNHCR on 2 September 1986.
  - d) With the **United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)** an Agreement between the United Nations and the Government of Papua New Guinea concluded by an exchange of letters on 8 February 2019 for the application of the Standard Basic Agreement mutatis mutandis to UNOPS.
  - e) With the **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**, an exchange of letters dated 31 January 2001 to the effect that the SBAA signed by UNDP and the Government on 7 April 1981 be applied mutatis mutandis, to UNFPA.
  - f) With the **United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (UN Women)** an exchange of letters dated 9 November 2015 to the effect that the SBAA signed by UNDP and the Government on 7 April 1981 be applied, mutatis mutandis, to UN Women.
  - g) With the **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)** an Agreement for the establishment of the FAO Representation in Papua New Guinea between the Government and FAO on 15 November 2013.
  - h) With the **World Health Organization (WHO)**, a Basic Agreement for the Provision of Technical Advisory Assistance signed by the Government and WHO on 28 June 1976
3. With respect to all UN System Organizations: 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:
  - (i) 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
  - (ii) 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:
  - (i) A waiver, express or implied, of the privileges and immunities of any UN System Organization; or
  - (ii) 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, or the UN Agreements, or otherwise, 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 3:

# INTEGRATED PROGRAMME & RISK MANAGEMENT

The UNSDCF is bound by the following mandatory clauses related specifically to modalities for programme execution; Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT); resource mobilization; and monitoring and evaluation.

In signing the UNSDCF all parties therefore agree to and abide by the clauses within this Annex.

### A3.1 Programme Implementation

The programme will be nationally executed under the overall co-ordination of Department of National Planning and Monitoring (Government Co-ordinating Authority). Government Ministries, NGOs, INGOs and UN system agencies will implement programme activities. The COOPERATION FRAMEWORK will be made operational through the development of joint work plan(s) (JWPs)<sup>46</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 COOPERATION FRAMEWORK 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 COOPERATION FRAMEWORK and joint or agency-specific work plans and / or project documents<sup>47</sup>.

Cash assistance for travel, stipends, honoraria and other costs shall be set at rates commensurate with those applied in the country, but not higher than those applicable to the United Nations system (as stated in the ICSC circulars).

### A3.2 Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT)

This section refers only to agencies using the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT). All cash transfers to an Implementing Partner are based on the Work Plans (WPs)<sup>48</sup> agreed between the Implementing Partner and the UN system agencies.

Cash transfers for activities detailed in work plans (WPs) can be made by the UN system agencies using the following modalities:

1. Cash transferred directly to the Implementing Partner:
  - a. Prior to the start of activities (direct cash transfer), or
  - b. After activities have been completed (reimbursement);
2. 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;
3. Direct payments to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by UN system agencies in support of activities agreed with Implementing Partners.

Direct cash transfers shall be requested and released for programme implementation periods not exceeding three months. Reimbursements of previously authorized expenditures shall be requested and released quarterly or after the completion of activities. The UN system agencies shall not be obligated to reimburse expenditure made by the Implementing Partner over and above the authorized amounts.

Following the completion of any activity, any balance of funds shall be refunded or programmed by mutual agreement between the Implementing Partner and the UN system agencies.

Cash transfer modalities, the size of disbursements, and the scope and frequency of assurance activities may depend on the findings of a review of the public financial management capacity in the case of a Government Implementing Partner, and of an assessment of the financial management capacity of the non-UN<sup>49</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.

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.

<sup>46</sup> As per the UNDG Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for countries adopting the "Delivering as One" approach.

<sup>47</sup> 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.

<sup>48</sup> Refers to Results Groups' or agency specific annual, bi-annual or multiyear work plans

<sup>49</sup> For the purposes of these clauses, "the UN" includes the IFIs.

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 accordingly.

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 accordingly.

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

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

A standard Fund Authorization and Certificate of Expenditures (FACE) report, reflecting the activity lines of the work plan (WP), will be used by Implementing Partners to request the release of funds, or to secure the agreement that [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, request and certify the use of cash. The FACE will be certified by the designated official(s) of the Implementing Partner.

Cash transferred to Implementing Partners should be spent for the purpose of activities and within the timeframe as agreed in the work plans (WPs) only.

Cash 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.

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.

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

- all financial records which establish the transactional record of the cash transfers provided by [UN system agency], together with relevant documentation;
- all relevant documentation and personnel associated with the functioning of the Implementing Partner's internal control structure through which the cash transfers have passed.

The findings of each audit will be reported to the Implementing Partner and [UN 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 [UN organization].
- Undertake timely actions to address the accepted audit recommendations.

Report on the actions taken to implement accepted recommendations to the UN system agencies (and where the SAI has been identified to conduct the audits, add: and to the SAI), on a quarterly basis (or as locally agreed).

The audits will be commissioned by the UN system agencies and undertaken by private audit services.

### **A3.3 Resources/Resource Mobilization Strategy**

The UN system agencies will provide support to the development and implementation of activities within the Cooperation Framework, 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 work plans and project documents.

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.

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 Cooperation Framework. These budgets will be reviewed and further detailed in the work plans 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.

The Government will support the UN system agencies' efforts to raise funds required to meet the needs of this Cooperation Framework 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 [name of country]; and by permitting contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations in [name of country] to support this programme which will be tax exempt for the Donor, to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law.

#### **A3.4 Cooperation Framework Monitoring and Evaluation**

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:

1. 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
2. Programmatic monitoring of activities following the UN system agencies' standards and guidance for site visits and field monitoring,

Special or scheduled audits. Each UN organization, in collaboration with other UN system agencies (where so desired and in consultation with the respective coordinating Ministry) will establish an annual audit plan, giving priority to audits of Implementing Partners with large amounts of cash assistance provided by the UN system agencies, and those whose financial management capacity needs strengthening.

# ANNEX 4: MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING PLAN

Papua New Guinea – United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2024-2028 – Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Plan

Description of Activities	Responsible Results Groups	Lead UN Agencies	Timeline					Cost		
			Duration	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Annual Cost	Total for five years
<b>Monitoring</b>										
UN Joint monitoring missions	All Results Groups	All UN Agencies, based on their work programme	annual	X	X	X	X	X	50,000	250,000
Support to national surveys and assessments (e.g., nutrition, population, poverty, etc.)	All Results Groups	All UN agencies, based on their survey expertise	as required	X	X	X	X	X	50,000	250,000
Support Monitoring of Progress towards achieving the SDGs, including Voluntary National Reviews (VNR)	All Results Groups	All UN Agencies, based on their work programme	annual	X	X	X	X	X	10,000	50,000
Collection and analysis of monitoring data against each Cooperation Framework outcome/output indicators by results groups	All Results Groups	All UN Agencies, based on their work programme	annual	X	X	X	X	X	10,000	50,000
Common Country Analysis (CCA)	All Results Groups	UNRCO and all UN agencies based on their work programme	annual	X	X	X	X	X	26,000	130,000
Thematic studies	All Results Groups	Results Groups Chairs	as required	X	X	X	X	X	50,000	250,000
<b>Review and Reporting</b>										
Results Groups meetings to review progress towards outputs and outcomes and discuss risks and challenges to the respective results	All Results Groups	Results Groups Chairs and Secretariat	quarterly meetings	X	X	X	X	X	0	0
Mid-year Report by the Results Groups to the UNCT	All Results Groups	Results Groups Chairs and Secretariat	mid-year, once per year	X	X	X	X	X	0	0
Data entry into UN INFO	All Results Groups	All UN agencies	Twice (mid-year and year-end)	X	X	X	X	X	0	0
UN Annual Country Results Report	All Results Groups	RCO and Results Groups Chairs and Secretariat	annual	X	X	X	X	X	15,000	75,000
Joint Steering Committee (JSC) Cooperation Framework Annual Performance Review	All Results Groups	Results Groups Chairs and Secretariat	annual	X	X	X	X	X	25,000	125,000
<b>Evaluation</b>										
Independent Evaluation of Cooperation Framework	All Results Groups	UNRCO	penultimate year (2027)				X		50,000	50,000
Independent evaluations of UN joint programmes	All joint programmes	Joint programmes lead agency	once for each joint programme	X	X	X	X	X	50,000	250,000
<b>Learning</b>										
Establish a learning mechanism for making emerging lessons available across the UN System	All Results Groups	UNRCO	once	X					20,000	20,000
Document and collectively analyse lessons emerging throughout the programme cycle.	All Results Groups	UNRCO and M&E Group	6-monthly	X	X	X	X	X	0	0
<b>Total Cost of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning</b>									<b>1,500,000</b>	

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