



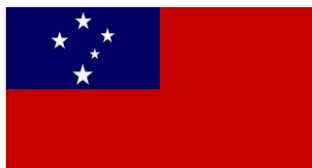
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# Samoa

## Country Implementation Plan (CIP)

January 2023 – December 2024



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## DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT

This Country Implementation Plan for 2023 – 2024 (CIP) builds upon the Pacific United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027 (UNSDCF) developed by the United Nations (UN) and 14 Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs). It has been developed through extensive and inclusive consultations with the Government of Samoa and the UN development system in the Pacific region, including non-resident entities.

The CIP aims to define the collective UN actions and deliverables in Samoa to operationalise the outcomes of the UNSDCF and is firmly anchored to country-level priorities and absorptive capacity of local structures. The UN and the Government of Samoa are committed to working together to achieve the national development priorities, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other internationally agreed development goals and treaty obligations. The CIP will guide the joint efforts, and the expected collective results will ensure the people of Samoa are equal and free to exercise their fundamental rights, enjoy gender equality and peace, remain resilient to existential threats and live in harmony with the blue continent.

In signing hereafter, the partners endorse this CIP and underscore their joint commitment towards the achievement of its results.

**Government of Samoa**

**United Nations**

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**Peseta Noumea Simi**

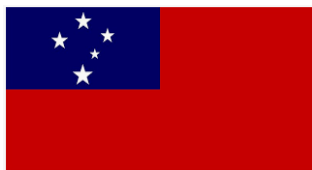
CEO (Chief Executive Officer),  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade,  
Samoa

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**Nisha**

UN Resident Coordinator (a.i)

DATE of JULY 2023, Samoa



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## SECTION 1. KEY DEVELOPMENT TRENDS AND COUNTRY PROGRESS TOWARDS 2030 AGENDA

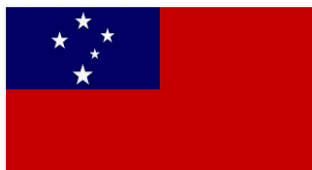
### A. OVERVIEW OF COUNTRY CONTEXT AND KEY DEVELOPMENT TRENDS

Samoa is a lower-middle income country with a high level of human development in the Polynesian region of the Pacific Ocean. The country comprises two main islands (Savai'i and Upolu), two smaller inhabited islands (Apolima and Manono), and six uninhabited islets. The Constitution, which came into effect following independence in 1962, is based on the British Westminster framework of a parliamentary democracy, modified to account for the country's chiefly system (fa'amatai), central to the hierarchical organization of the Samoan society. As of 2020, the estimated total population was 198,410 individuals, with nearly 82% residing in rural areas.

As a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), Samoa faces unique social, economic, and environmental vulnerabilities, exacerbated by its remote geographical location. Most of the terrain in Samoa consists of coastal plains and rocky, volcanic mountains. Due to its geographical location, the country has an equatorial climate (also known as oceanic tropical climate) and experiences frequent tropical cyclones and heavy rainfall, often accompanied by severe flash flooding, high winds, and storm surge. The high incidence and severity of natural disasters has been disruptive to the development trajectory of the country, causing loss of lives and widespread damage to infrastructure and agriculture, disruptions to trade and tourism flows, and increased food insecurity in the country. Climate change remains a major threat to the country, as it will impact the frequency and severity of natural disasters and weather patterns in the region. With 70% of the population living across the nation's low-lying coastal areas, climate change also brings the prospect of rising sea levels with severe implications for coastal communities and the local economy.

The country has recorded decreasing mortality rates, associated with better access to health and nutrition, increased Samoans' life expectancy from 66 to 73 years between 1990 and 2019. Fertility rates have also declined yet remain amongst the highest in the region. Besides declining mortality and fertility rates, migration, which is closely related to seasonal employment, has significant implications for Samoan demographics, supply of workers in the local economy, and inflow of remittances. Samoa is one of the PICTs with higher out-migration and lower population growth.

Samoa sees as imperative the need to (1) diversify the economy to create opportunities of decent work and strengthen the sources of development financing while enhancing climate-resilience; (2) promote and enable a higher degree of labour mobility and labour force participation, especially



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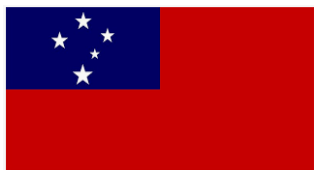


among women and young people; (3) strengthen governance and improve the efficiency and efficacy of social spending and public service management and delivery, and (4) promote the effective use and access of available, affordable, convenient, quality, and sustainable financial services. Since these structural changes will take time to mature, the country will have to continue to rely heavily on international partnerships and cooperation initiatives to weather this period of extreme vulnerability. It is urgent in this context that the country doubles its efforts to leave no one behind. The current crisis impacts different social groups disproportionately and is expected to increase disparities and reverse years of progress in the fight against poverty and other SDGs in the country. As an illustration, the recent surge in food prices, especially of imported food, will likely have a larger impact on the poorest (bottom quintile) who, on average, spend around 54% of their total expenditures on food. This compares to 25% among the households on the top quintile. The confluence of recent political and economic crises heightens concerns about the country's fragility.

## B. PROGRESS TOWARDS THE 2030 AGENDA

The UN's 2021 Human Development Report (HDR) coins the term "Uncertainty Complex" to describe the confluence of destabilising planetary pressures. These planetary pressures include the Anthropocene (human impact on the environment); polarisation; demagoguery; sweeping social transformations and democratic backsliding to name a few, which have amplified and manifested in consecutive crises – the global financial crisis (GFC); COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine. Combined, these crises have reversed 25 years of progress on poverty, and according to the 2021 HDR could lead to 75-95 million people living in extreme poverty in 2022. The UN Sustainable Development Goals Report (SDGR) 2022 sheds light on the reversal in SDG (Sustainable Development Goals) progress across the world. It reflects slowed or reversed progress across almost all goals of the SDGs. Two years of stalled economic activity followed by a spike in global inflation will naturally impact countries' ability to pursue their SDGs.

In addition to the fall back in poverty reduction, the world is also facing a global food crisis. Hunger and food insecurity is being exacerbated by the Russian war in Ukraine. In terms of health, COVID-19 has infected more than 700 million people as at the beginning of 2023. COVID also deepened the crisis in education, with 147 million children estimated to have missed half of in-person instruction over 2 years. The pandemic has in tandem reversed progress on decent work, and with an uneven global recovery, the most disadvantaged and at risk are still women, youth, and persons with disabilities.



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## PLANET



*Outcome 1: By 2027, people, communities, and institutions are more empowered and resilient to face diverse shocks and disasters, especially related to climate change, and ecosystems and biodiversity are better protected, managed, and restored.*

- The proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology increased from 19.0% in 2000 to 36.0% in 2020.
- The proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies increased from 0.0% in 2017 to 50.0% in 2020.
- The score of adoption and implementation of national disaster and risk reduction strategies increased from 0.5% in 2017 to 0.7% in 2020. In 2020, the number of people affected by disaster was 195 people.
- In 2021, protected marine environment under national jurisdiction (up to 200 nautical miles from shore) was 0.1%.
- In 2021, the average proportion of Marine Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) covered by protected areas was 54.2%.
- The proportion of land area covered by forest declined from 60.5% in 2000 to 57.1% in 2020.

## PEOPLE



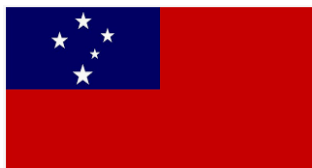


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*Outcome 2: By 2027, more people, particularly those at risk of being left behind, benefit from more equitable access to resilient, and gender-responsive, quality basic services, food security/nutrition, and social protection systems.*

- The proportion of population suffering from hunger increased from 3.5% in 2001 to 4.4% in 2020.
- In 2020, the proportion of the adult population suffering from severe food insecurity was 3.4%.
- In 2020, the proportion of the adult population suffering from moderate or severe food insecurity was 23.6%.
- The proportion of children under 5 years of age with stunted growth increased from 6.1% in 2000 to 6.8% in 2020.
- The number of children who were moderately or severely overweight increased from 1.5 thousand children moderately or severely overweight in 2000 to 1.9 thousand children moderately or severely overweight in 2020.
- The share of agriculture value added to total GDP (Gross Domestic Product) declined from 16.4% in 2001 to 10.3% in 2020.
- The agriculture shares of total government expenditure increased from 2.1% in 2010 to 7.5% in 2020.
- Total official flows (disbursements) received for agriculture increased from 2.6 million dollars in 2000 to 3.4 million dollars in 2020.
- The Consumer Food Price Index increased from -0.6 in 2010 to -0.3 in 2020.
- The proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel increased from 80.0% in 2000 to 88.9% in 2020.
- The modern contraceptive prevalence rate decreased from 17% in 2009 to 10% in 2020, while Total Fertility Rate remains high at 4.6/ woman in 2009 and 4.7/woman in 2020.
- In 2020, the Adolescent Birth Rate increased from 44/1000 women aged 15 – 19 in 2009 to 55/1000.
- In 2021, the number of under-five deaths was 99 from 102 in 2020.



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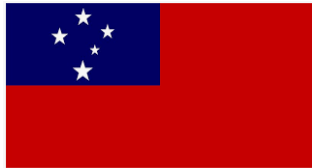


- In 2020 only 26% of children aged 36-59 months were recorded as attending an early childhood programme.
- The risk of dying between the ages of 30 and 70 from one of the four main non-communicable diseases (NCDs); cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory disease; reduced from 33.7% in 2000 to 31.2% in 2019.
- In 2019, the number of deaths attributed to suicide continues to increase and recorded at 25 deaths.
- Alcohol consumption per capita among population aged 15 years and older decreased from 4.0 litres of pure alcohol in 2000 to 2.8 litres of pure alcohol in 2019.
- The universal health coverage (UHC) service coverage index increased from 43.0 in 2000 to 53.0 in 2019.
- Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older fell from 39.0% in 2000 to 25.3% in 2020.
- In 2020, the proportion of children aged 36-59 months who are developmentally on track in at least three of the following domains: literacy-numeracy, physical development, social-emotional development, and learning was 73.3%.
- The proportion of the population using a safely managed drinking water service, an improved source located on premises, available when needed and free from contamination, in the country increased from 45.0% in 2000 to 46.0% in 2020.

## PROSPERITY



*Outcome 3: By 2027, more people, especially those at risk of being left behind, contribute to and benefit from sustainable, resilient, diversified, inclusive, and human-centered socio-economic systems with decent work and equal livelihoods opportunities, reducing inequalities and ensuring shared prosperity.*

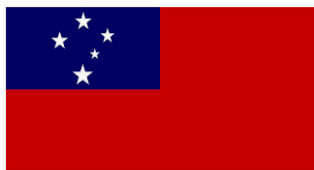


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- In 2020, the proportion of the population covered by at least one social protection benefit was 21.1%.
- In 2019, the proportion of employed population covered in the event of work injury was 53.5%.
- In 2020, the proportion of vulnerable population receiving social assistance cash benefit was 5.3%.
- In 2020, the proportion of unemployed persons receiving unemployment cash benefit was 0%.
- The proportion of population above statutory pensionable age receiving a pension increased from 49.5% in 2011 to 91.4% in 2020.
- The proportion of the population using basic sanitation services increased from 94.0% in 2000 to 97.0% in 2020.
- The proportion of the population using basic drinking water services increased from 89.0% in 2000 to 92.0% in 2020.
- The proportion of total government spending on essential education services increased from 10.5% in 2000 to 16.2% in 2020.
- The annual growth rate of real GDP per capita declines from 6.6% in 2000 to -9.8% in 2020
- The annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person declined from 7.4% in 2000 to -7.3% in 2021.
- Manufacturing value added per capita at constant 2015 prices declined from 467.6 dollars in 2000 to 196.7 dollars in 2021.
- The proportion of population covered by at least a 4G mobile network increased from 0.0% in 2015 to 49.0% in 2020.
- Remittance costs reduced from 10.7% of the amount remitted in 2011 to 9.3% of the amount remitted in 2021.





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## PEACE

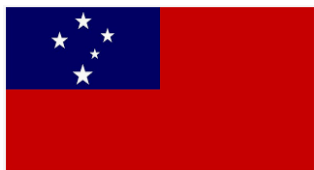


*Outcome 4: By 2027, people enjoy and contribute to more accountable, inclusive, resilient and responsive governance systems that promote gender equality, climate security, justice, and peace, ensure participation, and protect their human rights.*

Although Samoa is considered a peaceful, stable, and secure society, there are alarming levels of violence, especially within the domestic realm, impacting mostly women and children. Violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and against persons with disabilities has also been recorded. Over 90% of children aged 1 to 14 experience some form of violent discipline, with 82% experiencing physical punishment and 20% severe physical punishment according to the 2018 State of Human Rights Report by the National Human Rights Institution, following the national public inquiry into family violence. Most Samoans see physical violence or discipline as an acceptable approach to raise children that is commonly justified by “Fa’asamoa”, or Samoan culture, tradition and religion<sup>1</sup>.

The report further identifies intimate partner violence as significant, with 86% of women reported to have been subjected to kicking, punching, slapping, causing bodily harm using a hard object (rock, stick, tree trunk, hose, etc.). Other groups also identified as being particularly vulnerable and at risk of family violence including persons with disabilities, fa’afafine (persons who identify themselves as having a third gender or non-binary role)/fa’atama and persons of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics (SOGIESC), with reports that young boys showing feminine traits are often subjected to severe violence at the hands of their own families.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.ombudsman.gov.ws/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SHRR-2018-National-Public-Inquiry-into-Family-Violence\\_-English.pdf](https://www.ombudsman.gov.ws/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SHRR-2018-National-Public-Inquiry-into-Family-Violence_-English.pdf).



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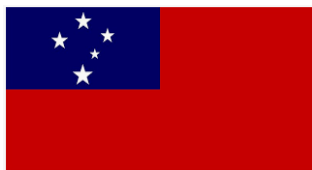
The national inquiry into family violence also reports that sexual abuse of children, including cases perpetrated by their relatives, has reached ‘epidemic’ proportions in Samoa<sup>2</sup>. The rate of homicide reported by the Samoa Ministry of Police was at 6.5 per 100,000 in 2018 and close to double the rate in 2017 (3.5 per 100,000). Since the start of the SOE, overall crime rates have gone up sharply by 64%, according to the latest report by the Ministry, also noting a sharp increase in reports of domestic violence (33%) and of crimes against a person such as assault and insulting words (36%). Indeed, data from the Samoa Victim Support Group (SVSG) shows an increase of 48% of domestic violence cases reported for the months of March and April between 2019 and 2020.

In 2020, Samoa’s first National Child Care and Protection Policy and the accompanying multi-sectoral National Action Plan 2020-2030 was finalized and endorsed by the Cabinet. The Policy outlines the mandate of the Ministry of Women Community and Social Development (MWCSO) in leading the development of child protection, violence prevention, early intervention, and response services, and emphasizes a multi-sectoral approach with clear roles and responsibilities for the social welfare, health, education, and justice sectors. The MWCSO’s Community Sector plan 2021-2026 includes childcare and protection as a priority under social development and the MWCSO’s ministerial strategic plan 2021-2026 indicates childcare and protection as a key outcome area. Children are also a priority group in the National Policy on Family Safety: Elimination of Family Violence 2021-2031, as well as the National Policy on Gender Equality and Rights of Women and Girls 2021-2031, while the National Disability Policy 2021-2031 asks Government and civil society actors to prioritize the welfare of children with disabilities.

With the start of the Samoa Spotlight Initiative Country Programme in January 2020, Samoa put forward a roadmap to advance ending violence against women and girls’ interventions alongside existing work underway by service providers, civil society, government partners and regional programmes such as the Pacific Partnership to Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG). The Spotlight Initiative also elevated resource support for the NHRI’s Village Family Safety Committee (VFSC) pilot project, which establishes a Village Safety Committee in six villages and promotes favourable social norms in response to the 2018 NHRI recommendations. The Pacific Partnership to EVAWG furthered the work of the NHRI with the “Talanoa Toolkik” which provides survivor-centred guidance on village-based referral pathways through identified VFSCs. PPEVAWG has enabled the development and launch in February 2021 of the Samoa Interagency

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<sup>2</sup> Inquiry finding #2: 9 out of 10 children in Samoa experience violence in their lifetime; Physical discipline/violence is often extreme in nature, going way beyond what is ‘reasonable punishment’ under Samoan law; Sexual abuse of children and incest levels have reached ‘epidemic’ proportions in Samoa.



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Essential Services Guide (IESG) for Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Child protection cases under the MWCSO, a critical step towards the delivery of safe and quality services to adults and children violence survivors.

## HUMAN RIGHTS

Samoa is a party to six out of the nine core international human rights treaties, namely: ICCPR,<sup>3</sup> CEDAW,<sup>4</sup> CRC,<sup>5</sup> CED,<sup>6</sup> CRPD,<sup>7</sup> and CAT.<sup>8</sup> Samoa is also the first Pacific Island State to accede to all three Optional Protocols to the CRC on: (a) the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, (b) involvement of children in armed conflict; and (c) communications procedure. The 84<sup>th</sup> extraordinary session of the Committee of the Rights of the Child was held in Samoa in March 2020. Other international human rights and related treaties that Samoa is a party to include the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the eight fundamental conventions of ILO,<sup>9</sup> and the Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC).

Ratification remains outstanding for (i) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD); (ii) International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR); and (iii) International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (ICRMW), as well as their optional protocols, though the Government of Samoa is actively considering the possible accession to these conventions in the future.<sup>9</sup>

To ensure a whole-of government effort to implement the SDGs, the national development plan and the obligations under international human rights treaties, the government has established a National Mechanism for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up (NMIRF) in 2016. The NMIRF seeks to centralize the data collection process so that reporting under various mechanisms is sustainable and coordinated, and to ensure a holistic approach in implementing the various recommendations received. However, the NMIRF currently does not meet regularly, and as of May 2023, Samoa has yet to submit its initial reports to three treaty bodies: ICCPR (due 2009), CRPD (due 2019), and CAT (due 2020).

As the only international agreement binding Parties to the integration of culture in their development policies, the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of

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<sup>3</sup> The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, acceded to on February 15, 2008.

<sup>4</sup> The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, acceded to on Sep. 25, 1992.

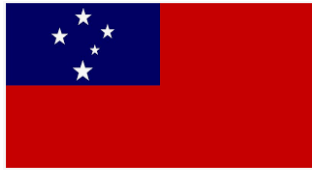
<sup>5</sup> The Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified on November 29, 1994.

<sup>6</sup> The Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, ratified on November 27, 2012.

<sup>7</sup> The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, ratified on December 2, 2016.

<sup>8</sup> The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, acceded to on March 28, 2019.

<sup>9</sup> Samoa Universal Periodic Review Cycle 3 National Report.



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Cultural Expressions actively works toward promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms. Samoa is one of two PICs to have ratified this Convention. Samoa is also a State Party to the 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.

While it is commendable that the National Human Rights Institution of Samoa became the first in the Pacific region to be awarded “A” status by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, human and financial support for its functions remain inadequate. During the third UPR, Samoa committed to ensuring that the NHRI is adequately resourced to carry out its functions.

In addition to human rights issues already raised above in relation to domestic violence and discrimination against persons of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity, other human rights issues raised as concerns by international human rights mechanisms include the following:

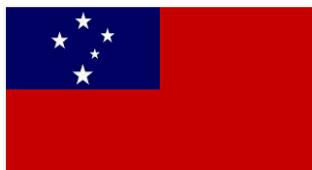
- The creation of two parallel and potentially competing court systems: one to deal with criminal and civil matters; the other with customary land and titles, following the adoption of three amendments passed in 2020 (the Land and Titles Act; the Constitution Amendment Act; and the Judicature Act), despite the recommendation by the UN Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers that such a system would create serious legal uncertainties with regard to applicable law;<sup>10</sup>
- Criminalization of abortion except in situations where there is a “serious danger” to the health of the mother and if the gestation period is less than 20 weeks and the absence of comprehensive, age-appropriate sexuality and reproductive health and rights education in school curricula;<sup>11</sup>

Several national surveys and reports have highlighted the existence of inequality and vulnerability in Samoa. The 2018 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) data highlighted that poverty and hardship were higher among the unemployed and individuals working in the informal sector (including unpaid family and community work, household duties and subsistence production). The Gini coefficient of income inequality remains remarkably high, at 38.7%. [66] The gap between the household incomes and expenditures of the lowest and highest quintile households is significant. According to the VNR, the top 10% of the population earn more than the combined earnings of the bottom 30%.

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<sup>10</sup> Open letter by the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers, 26 May 2020, OL/WSM 1/2020, available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-independence-of-judges-and-lawyers/comments-legislation-and-policy>

<sup>11</sup> CEDAW concluding observations, CEDAW/C/WSM/CO/6, November 2018



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## NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES AND PLANS – PROGRESS ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Samoa's economic and social developments should not be viewed outside of the development context faced by Small Island Development States (SIDS), including Pacific SIDS to which the country belongs. As highlighted in the recent work by SDSN, "SIDS face a unique set of vulnerabilities which impede their ability to achieve sustainable development. Structural factors, including their size, remoteness, limited resource base, market size, extremely high exposure to climate risks and natural disasters which impact socio economic outcomes and their ability to achieve the SDGs. The COVID-19 pandemic has amplified those vulnerabilities with many SIDS countries<sup>12</sup> being particularly affected by the drop in international tourism and travels and international remittances."<sup>13</sup>

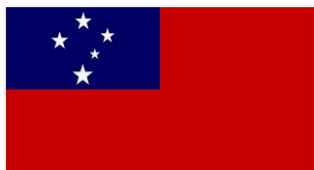
The vulnerabilities of SIDS, including those faced by Samoa, affect their ability to achieve the SDGs. Those vulnerabilities encompass economic vulnerabilities, structural/geographical development vulnerabilities and exposure to climate risks and natural disasters (i.e., environmental vulnerabilities). The recent SDSN analysis has clearly shown that countries with high structural vulnerabilities (shown by a high Multi-dimensional Vulnerability Index [MVI]) tend to perform worse on the SDG Index and other SDG outcomes, including extreme poverty, life expectancy and subjective well-being. According to the World Risk Report 2020, Samoa has a high vulnerability coupled with limited coping and adaptive capacity.

The effects of the pandemic and the war in Ukraine has resulted in significant economic loss which will take years for the country to recover. Economic decline is likely to disproportionately affect the youth sub-population that significantly contributes to the labour workforce primarily engaging in agriculture and informal economic activities that alone employ 68% of the total labour force. The Strategy for the Development of Samoa (SDS 2016/17 – 19/20) and the SNAP (Samoa National Action Plan on youth employment) detailed the inclusion of vulnerable groups in broadened economic opportunities and resilience through private sector investments, enhanced employability amongst young people (defined as the cohorts between 15 and 29 years) through better alignment of skills and labour market demands and promotion of youth employment opportunities through the development of village economies.

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<sup>12</sup> Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are a distinct group of 38 countries and 20 territories (non-UN Members) characterized by certain common inherent characteristics. The list of SIDS is the one reported by the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN- OHRLLS) and is available at <https://www.un.org/ohrrls/content/list-sids>.

<sup>13</sup> SDSN Working Paper "The Decade of Action and Small Island Development States: Measuring and Addressing SIDS' Vulnerabilities to Accelerate SDG Progress" (July 12, 2021).



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## SECTION 2. UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO THE COUNTRY IN ACHIEVING THE 2030 AGENDA – PLANET, PEOPLE, PROSPERITY, PEACE

The regional UNSDCF captures high-level outcomes to be achieved in 2023–2027 with the UNs contribution and is articulated around the 2030 Agenda’s main pillars – People, Prosperity, Planet, Peace, and Partnership (the latter features as a cross-pillar enabler). The UNSDCF aspires to contribute to a Pacific region where “All people, leaving no place behind, are equal and free to exercise their fundamental rights, enjoying gender equality and peace, resilient to the existential threats and living in harmony with the blue continent.” Below is an outline of key areas of interventions that the UN will contribute towards in Samoa.

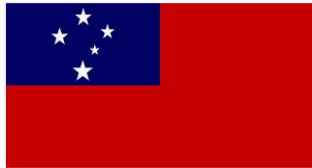
### PLANET



*Outcome 1: By 2027, people, communities, and institutions are more empowered and resilient to face diverse shocks and disasters, especially related to climate change, and ecosystems and biodiversity are better protected, managed, and restored.*

- Enhanced capacities of national mechanisms for effective and inclusive disaster management (ESCAP).
- Enhanced mainstreaming of biodiversity and sound chemical management in agriculture (FAO).
- Improved prevention, early warning and management of pests and diseases, including invasive alien species (FAO).
- Enhanced water-food security and climate resilience (FAO).
- Strengthened ecosystem restoration and sustainable forest and land management (FAO).
- Strengthening capacity of member States on enhancing efficient Internet traffic management through Internet Exchange Points in the framework of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Act (ESCAP).
- Strengthening capacity for climate action through improved quality of data and official statistics in selected target countries of Asia-Pacific (ESCAP).

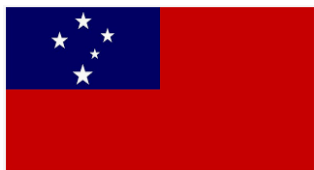




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- Strengthening statistical capacity of member States to develop ecosystem accounts that support ecosystem-related SDGs (ESCAP).
- Capacity building support to select member States in the Protection of the Ocean (ESCAP).
- Integration of disaster and climate risk-related analysis for resilience building in selected high risk, low-capacity countries of Pacific SIDS, South-East Asia, South and South-West Asia (ESCAP).
- Strengthened capacities in the fields of meteorology, hydrology and water resources, climate variability and changes to support and contribute to social and economic development and early warning services (WMO).
- Promoting employment creations in Green Jobs and Just transition to address climate change and protect environment. Implementation of the Samoa National Employment Policy 2022-2025 as job centered policies for climate action, to strengthen the social dialogue, inclusive social protection, and research and knowledge. (ILO).
- Strengthening the tie of Samoa as Co-Chair at the ILO Advisory Board for Climate Action for Job Initiatives (CA4JI) as leading country in the Pacific on Green Jobs (ILO).
- Promote Green Jobs for Green Works on youth employment internship in Waste Management Sector, and to continue working collaboratively with Ministry of Commerce Industry and Labour on the OSH compliance and the Samoa Chamber of Commerce on the recruitment process (ILO).
- Support with capacity development and technical advice on management, protection and use of natural resources and CCA through enhanced scientific cooperation (UNESCO).
- Support Pacific SIDs to effectively protect, conserve and manage natural and cultural heritage through the implementation of the 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (UNESCO).
- Support Pacific SIDs in strengthening preparedness, mitigation and response to emergencies affecting culture (UNESCO).
- Strengthened national institutional capacity to support early warning services on hydro-meteorological hazards and risks (WMO).
- Strengthened NTWC and NDMO capacity to effectively warn people guided by the National Tsunami Response Plan and 100% tsunami at-risk communities to be officially recognized tsunami Ready by 2030 (UNESCO).
- WASH in emergencies: WASH Systems, Preparedness and Response (UNICEF.)

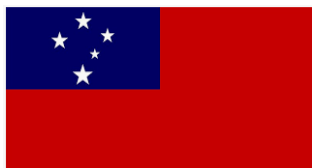


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- Enhanced capacities of national mechanisms for effective and inclusive disaster management – PE: emergencies (UNICEF).
- Strengthening the capacities of local communities to safeguard Samoa's indigenous species and natural ecosystems from the impacts of invasive alien species and unsustainable land and forest management practices (UNDP).
- Improved sustainable and cost-effective utilization of indigenous renewable energy resources for energy production in Samoa (UNDP).
- Raising capacities for effective climate change-related planning and management, including focusing on women, youth, and local and marginalized communities (UNICEF).
- Strengthen adaptive capacity and reduce exposure to climate risks faced by vulnerable communities and infrastructure in the Vaisigano River catchment (UNDP).
- Accelerating the Decarbonization of Samoa's Land and Maritime Transport Sectors (UNDP).
- Fast-track readiness and early actions to implement the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework by providing financial and technical support to GEF-eligible Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in their work to review and align their national targets, NBSAPs, policy frameworks, monitoring frameworks and finance with the Global Biodiversity Framework (UNDP).
- Physical infrastructure and operating systems for women's economic empowerment are improved to be more gender-responsive, safer, more accessible and sustainable, and resilient to disaster risks and climate change (UN Women).
- Regional and UN humanitarian actors strengthened capacity to incorporate gender and protection into humanitarian action (UN Women).
- Strengthened national and sub-national systems, mechanisms and capacities for disaster and climate resilience programming and implementation of timely, inclusive, and accountable lifesaving SRH/RR and GBV services for affected populations (UNFPA).
- Ensure meaningful inclusion of women, young people and persons with disabilities in decision-making in disaster risk reduction and climate action; enhance inter-agency coordination for both SRH and GBV in emergencies (UNFPA).
- Policy advocacy to ensure national and sub-national preparedness and response, disaster risk reduction and climate change strategies integrate language and key frameworks on SRH/RR, GBV and disability inclusion and are sufficiently budgeted; and support operational research to reinforce the above policy advocacy, based on disaggregated





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data and intersectional analyses examining gaps and opportunities related to the SRH - climate change interlinkages for different vulnerable groups in PICTs (UNFPA).

- Physical infrastructure and operating systems for women's economic empowerment are improved to be more gender-responsive, safer, more accessible and sustainable, and resilient to disaster risks and climate change (WMO).
- Advocate for the health co-benefits of activities taken by non-health sectors (WHO).
- Build climate resilient health systems (WHO).
- Monitor and assess CCE impact and actions taken (WHO).

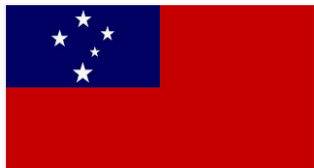
Collaborating UN Agencies: FAO, UNESCAP, UNESCO, UNDRR, UNFPA, UN Women, UNDP, WMO, UNDP, UNFPA, ILO, WHO. Indicative required financial envelope for 2023 to 2024 – Refer to Annex 1(CIPs Excel Spreadsheet).

## PEOPLE



*Outcome 2: By 2027, more people, particularly those at risk of being left behind, benefit from more equitable access to resilient, and gender-responsive, quality basic services, food security/nutrition, and social protection systems.*

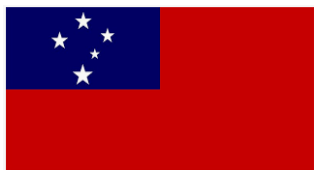
- Strengthened food safety awareness and risk management (FAO).
- Strengthening resilience of Pacific Islands States through universal social protection (ESCAP).
- Regional Training on ICT for Climate Resilient Development for Pacific countries in the 3Q of 2023 (ESCAP).
- Building capacity to integrate environmental risks in multi-dimensional food system risk assessment (ESCAP).



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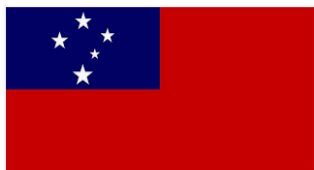
- Ministries of Health and their partners in targeted countries demonstrate strengthened capacities to ensure improved, affordable, and equitable quality primary health care and nutrition services and practices, including in emergencies (UNICEF).
- Governments in targeted countries have strengthened capacities for climate and risk informed and evidence-based primary health care and nutrition policy, planning and financing (UNICEF).
- Government authorities in targeted countries demonstrate strengthened capacities to undertake multi-sectoral coordinated actions to reduce the triple burden of malnutrition, including in emergencies (UNICEF).
- Education system – inclusive learning and skills; early childhood education; system strengthening and resilience; multisectoral early childhood development (UNICEF)
- Expanded access to more inclusive and evidence-based social protection systems for vulnerable groups (ESCAP).
- Regionally identified and agreed definitions and concepts of 21st century skills and guidance for mainstreaming 21st century skills across curricula, teacher education and student assessments in place (UNESCO).
- Relevant skills and lifelong learning through TVET and Higher Education; Increased capacity in integrating and expanding Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Education; Knowledge sharing, south-to-south collaboration, and capacity support through Pacific Heads of Education Systems (UNESCO).
- Child protection systems and structures have strengthened evidence, legal, policy and coordination frameworks to plan, coordinate, monitor and adequately resource the delivery and expansion of quality and resilient child protection services (UNICEF).
- Caregivers, communities, youth, adolescents and children are better informed, equipped and supported to generate transformative and protection-focused, gender-equal social norms, as well as prevent and respond to violence, abuse, exploitation and harmful practices (UNICEF).
- Governments have strengthened capacities to deliver child-sensitive and shock-responsive social protection (UNICEF).
- Enhanced capacity among service providers to deliver safe and sustainable climate-resilient WASH services in Schools and Healthcare facilities (UNICEF).
- Strengthening institutional capacities, mechanisms and policies on water, sanitation, and hygiene, to increase access to save, affordable and equitable WASH services, including in educational settings (UNICEF).



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- Gaps in access to basic needs for persons served is scoped and addressed (UNHCR).
- Prevention of GBV; services for GBV survivors; GBV in emergencies; capacity-building of gender machineries, CSOs and service providers (UN Women).
- Strengthen pre- and in-service capacity of midwifery and Sexual, Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Adolescent Health workforce in quality SRH services including Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care, management of STIs and cervical cancer screening across the humanitarian-development continuum (UNFPA).
- Scale up adolescents and youth access to quality assured youth-friendly and disability-inclusive sexual and reproductive health services and information (UNFPA)
- Accelerate policy engagement and advocacy by engaging and coordinating with governments, implementing partners, UN agencies, regional entities and international financial institutions to strengthen policy formulation and implementation, domestic financing, accountability and coordination mechanisms, for integration of sexual and reproductive health, adolescent SRH, gender-based violence and women's and youth empowerment into national socio-economic development plans and budgets (UNFPA).
- Strengthen partnerships with and capacities of regional, national and local feminist and other women's rights-based organizations to address discriminatory gender and social norms towards achieving sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, gender equality and bodily autonomy (UNFPA).
- Strengthen the capacities of the health workforce for meeting SRH/RR and protection needs for Gender Based Violence (UNFPA).
- Align family life education to the international technical guidance on sexuality education (ITGSE) and operationalize it (UNFPA).
- Advocacy with and capacity development of religious, cultural institutions and opinion leaders; capacities of National Human Rights Institutions and human rights mechanisms: integration of sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights and gender based violence prevention into gender equality and women and youth empowerment programmes/initiatives; and strengthening partnerships with and capacities of regional, national and local feminist and other women's rights-based organizations (UNFPA).
- Advocacy and support for implementation of human rights commitments related to ICPD (International Conference on Population and Development); men and boys' engagement for positive masculinities: and strategic and behavioural change communications and public/media campaigns (UNFPA).



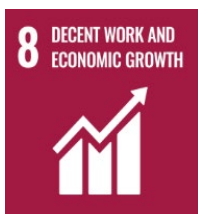
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- Spotlight Initiative - Support CSO & National Reference Group community action plans through grants to implement, monitor and report on prevention and response EVAWG initiatives (UNDP).
- Strengthen the capacity for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks (WHO).
- Provide evidence, encourage political commitment and monitor systems for better use of antimicrobials (WHO).
- Reduce premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment (WHO).
- Promote mental health and well-being (WHO).
- Support for routine immunization and new vaccine's introduction (WHO).
- Support for the mass drug administration and transmission assessment surveys for Lymphatic Filariasis Elimination Programme (WHO).
- Increase the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce (WHO).

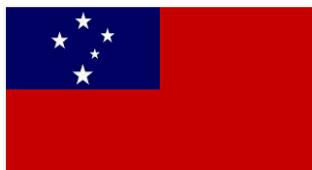
Collaborating UN Agencies: UNICEF, UNFPA, UN Women, UNESCAP, UNESCO, UNDP, FAO, UNHCR.  
Indicative required financial envelope for 2023 to 2024 – Refer to Annex 1(CIPs Excel Spreadsheet).

## PROSPERITY



*Outcome 3: By 2027, more people, especially those at risk of being left behind, contribute to and benefit from sustainable, resilient, diversified, inclusive, and human-centered socio-economic systems with decent work and equal livelihoods opportunities, reducing inequalities and ensuring shared prosperity.*

- Development of a viable development finance strategy & architecture, aligned with national development priorities & SDGs through the INFF, will increase efficiency &

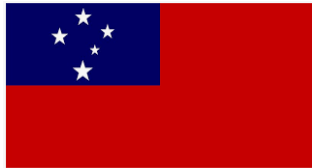


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effectiveness of all investment in the acceleration of SDG attainment in Cook Islands, Niue & Samoa (ESCAP).

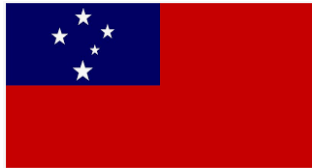
- Development of Pacific small Island developing States Indicator Landscape to improve national monitoring and reporting and monitoring against the SDGs - Development of Pacific regional guidelines (ESCAP).
- Support member States to strengthen integrated planning and financing systems, and policy coherence. Deliver a regional capacity building event on strengthening public investment and project planning and programming systems (ESCAP).
- Desktop study on ongoing initiatives on valuation of ecosystem goods and services, as well as (online) workshop with the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat on the findings of the study, building on the briefing study on the conceptual scope of the valuation (ESCAP).
- Support member States to strengthen regional cooperation by sharing of knowledge, lessons learned and good practices to advance the 2030 Agenda, SAMOA Pathway and 2050 Strategy. Technical regional workshop and engagements (online/hybrid) to prepare the PRED, under 2050 Strategy, with PIFS, member States (Chair of PIF) and key stakeholders (ESCAP).
- Technical support for Pacific small island developing States commence implementation of the 2050 Strategy as endorsed by the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders (ESCAP).
- An augmented public debt sustainability analysis in developing Asia-Pacific countries (Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division) (ESCAP).
- Building evidence-based capacity of trade policymakers for sustainable development through international trade in the digital economy (Trade, Investment and Innovation Division) (ESCAP).
- Capacity-building activities to support the Regional Cooperation Mechanism on Low Carbon Transport (Transport) (ESCAP).
- Building evidence-based capacity of trade policymakers for sustainable development through international trade in the digital economy (Trade, Investment and Innovation Division) (ESCAP).
- Work collaboratively with Ministry of Commerce Industry and Labour on the implementation of the Samoa National Employment Policy 2022-2025 (ILO).
- Support the development of Samoa next Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) to strategize the targets for tripartite constituents under the Samoa UNSDCF on matters pertaining social justice and promoting decent work (ILO).



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- Technical support provided for Samoa Child Labor Policy to eliminate child labour under the Alliance 8.7 as Pathfinder Country with Child Labour Policy (ILO).
- Promote the ratification of Conventions of Convention 190 on sexual harassment in workplaces as new provision of newly adopted amendment Labour Employment Relation Act 2022 (ILO).
- Provide technical support to Samoa on the development of the new Labour Employment Regulation 2023 (ILO).
- Support member states of the Pacific under the Blue Pacific Big Ocean States on the (BPBOS) on promotion of green & blue job creations on for Just Transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all (ILO).
- Ensure Labour National Reporting and Notification Systems for Occupational Accidents and Illnesses are in place and comply with International Labour Standard (ILO).
- Promoting the Ratification of two OSH fundamental Conventions – C187 on promotional framework for Occupational Safety and Health Conventions, C155 – Occupational Safety and Health (ILO).
- Support Pacific SIDS to identify, safeguard and promote living heritage (UNESCO).
- Support Pacific SIDS to promote, monitor and measure the contribution of culture to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UNESCO).
- Support Pacific SIDS and civil society capacities strengthened to protect and promote the diversity of cultural expressions through dynamic and inclusive cultural and creative industries (UNESCO).
- Regional sustainable energy centre continues to provide quality services to Pacific Island Countries / South-south and triangular cooperation with other SIDS regions facilitated / Global Ocean Energy Alliance (GOEA) provides services to Pacific islands / Regional solar quality and certification frameworks for solar energy products and service implemented (UNIDO)
- Improvement of investment-related business environment/climate through quality systems & conformity assessment (UNIDO).
- Governments in targeted countries strengthened capacities to generate, analyse and use data to reduce multidimensional child poverty (UNICEF).
- Improved socio-economic security of women, including those from identified LNOB groups (UN Women).

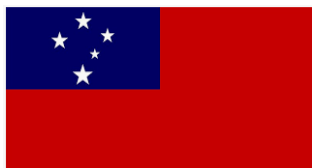


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- Members of inclusive, effective, and representative smallholder groups are empowered to contribute to gender, social and economic advancement (UN Women; UNDP).
- Government including local government, and civil society organizations, including private sector have increased their capacity to implement gender-responsive policies, strategies, and programmes to advance women's empowerment (UN Women).
- Improved decent employment opportunities for youth through entrepreneurship development and support services and skill training, including School To Work Transition surveys and tools (ILO).
- Strengthened institutional capacities of employers and workers' organizations through social dialogue (ILO).
- Strengthening mechanisms and capacities of actors, institutions and communities to address discriminatory gender and social norms to achieve sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, gender equality and bodily autonomy, and women and young people's enhanced decision-making and the right to live free from all forms of violence (UNFPA).
- Strengthening national data systems and use of evidence on population dynamics, sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights and gender-based violence for policies and programmes (UNFPA).
- Strengthening skills and opportunities for adolescents and youth to make informed choices about their sexual reproductive health rights and leadership for harnessing the Demographic Dividend (UNFPA).
- Strengthening enabling environment to enhance sustainable and gender-sensitive agri-food system, including nutrition (FAO).
- Strengthened sustainable, climate-smart and gender- and youth- sensitive agri-food production systems, including organic food production systems (FAO).
- Strengthened gender- and youth-sensitive value chains for the economic empowerment of rural communities towards systemic resilience, including through agri-tourism market linkages (FAO).
- Gender- and youth- sensitive digital products and services available to support agri-food systems (FAO).
- E-agriculture strategies developed and implemented (FAO).





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Collaborating UN Agencies: ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN Women, UNESCAP, UNESCO, UNIDO.  
Indicative required financial envelope for 2023 to 2024 – Refer to Annex 1(CIPs Excel Spreadsheet).

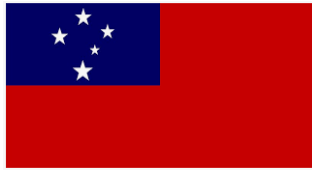
## PEACE



*Outcome 4: By 2027, people enjoy and contribute to more accountable, inclusive, resilient and responsive governance systems that promote gender equality, climate security, justice, and peace, ensure participation, and protect their human rights.*

- Labour market information systems are strengthened, contributing to better and evidence-based policy decision making, which will contribute to more accountable, inclusive, resilient and responsive governance systems that promote gender equality, climate security, justice and peace, ensure participation, and protect their human rights (ILO).
- Strengthening mechanisms and capacities of actors, institutions, and communities to address discriminatory gender and social norms towards achieving sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, gender equality and bodily autonomy, and women and young people's enhanced decision making and the right to live free from all forms of violence (UNFPA).
- Increased availability and analysis of high quality and disaggregated, qualitative and quantitative data on population dynamics, SRH/RR and GBV through strengthening traditional data sources such as population housing census, supporting data governance and coordination, and increasing the availability of digital products (UNFPA).
- Support Pacific socio-economic recovery through safe resumption of border management operations and enhanced seamless border management infrastructure technology, equipment, and improved capacity (ILO).

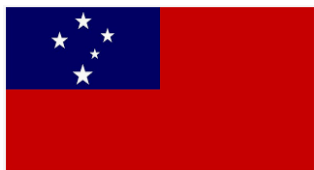




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- Ensure social protection provided to the right of migrant workers in Samoa and the Pacific through lens of international human rights and labor standard (ILO).
- Technical support to national agencies and authorities to fight corruption (build capacity of national agencies and authorities to prevent, raise awareness of, detect and investigate and prosecute corruption (UNODC).
- Child protection services: Government and other service providers have strengthened capacities to deliver quality, inclusive and integrated child protection services (UNICEF).
- Child protection systems and structures have strengthened birth registration services (UNICEF).
- Gender and development coordination; WILS- Technical and strategic support to Pacific Governments, projects and stakeholders on women's inclusion in governance and participation in public life; gender analysis and reviews (UN Women).
- Spotlight initiative – legal reform on GBV (UNDP).
- Support Pacific gender equality advocates to attend and actively participate in global and regional intergovernmental fora on GE/WE, including but not limited to the CSW67/68, the Pacific Women Leaders' Summit, the Triennial Conference for Pacific Women, the Beijing Platform for Action +30 review, and the Pacific Feminist Forum (UN Women).
- Support Pacific Governments and Stakeholders on Implementation, Monitoring and Reporting of CEDAW (UN Women).
- Strengthening policies, mechanisms, and capacities to enhance opportunities for youth, women's and people with disabilities to participate in decision-making (ESCAP).
- Labour administration and workplace compliance institutions together with tripartite capacities are developed and progressed incrementally in alignment with International Labour Standards (ILO).
- Ensure Labour National Reporting and Notification Systems for Occupational Accidents and Illnesses are in place and comply with International Labour Standard (ILO).
- Strengthen mechanisms and capacities of actors, institutions, and communities to address discriminatory gender and social norms towards achieving sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, gender equality and bodily autonomy, and women and young people's enhanced decision making and the right to live free from all forms of violence (UNFPA).



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- Technical support to Ministries on engagement with international human rights mechanisms, including Special Procedures, UPR and Treaty Body ratification, reporting and the implementation of concluding observations (OHCHR).
- Technical support to NHRI, Members of Parliament and CSOs on human rights (OHCHR).
- Strengthened capacity of MCO countries to ensure protection sensitive entry systems in line with international obligations (UNHCR).
- Technical support to law enforcement and border agencies to fight transnational organised crime including maritime crime, human trafficking and environment crime. Conduct threat assessment of transnational organised crime, and capacity building of law enforcement and border agencies to detect and investigate transnational organised crime (UNODC).

Collaborating UN Agencies: ILO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN Women, UNESCAP, UNESCO, OHCHR, UNODC. Indicative required financial envelope for 2023 to 2024 – Refer to Annex 1(CIPs Excel Spreadsheet).

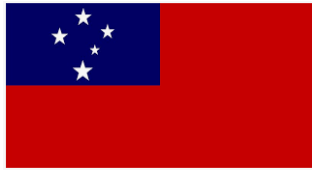
### **SECTION 3. GOVERNANCE AND PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

The Samoa CIP will be governed and implemented under the principle of national ownership through the Joint Steering Committee (JSC). The JSC is co-chaired by the CEO of Samoa MFAT and the UN Resident Coordinator.

In addition to the co-chairs, the membership of the JSC will include representatives of the key Government ministries; UN Heads of Agencies; and, representatives of other stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector.

The Samoa CIP programme management cycle underpins critical processes that both the UN and the Government of Samoa will jointly undertake to effectively deliver on country level results and comprises the following phases 1) Planning, 2) Implementation and 3) Results Reporting. Each phase of the cycle is guided by its own set of tasks and relevant roles and responsibilities for the UN agencies and in-country stakeholders.

Monitoring of the CIP will involve an ongoing action-learning cycle throughout the implementation. An Annual Performance review will take place during the implementation of the CIP to take stock of achievements and challenges with the participation of Government stakeholders, UN Agencies and partners, co-chaired by CEO MFAT and the UN Resident Coordinator



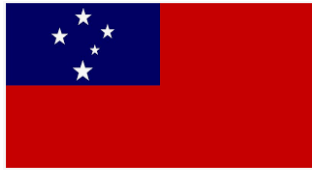
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This will enable partners to make necessary adjustments in UN programming to ensure continued relevance in line with the expectations of the UN reform. Once the full cycle is completed, key lessons learnt, and other evaluative findings will inform the transition and changes to the subsequent cycle.

UNINFO - the UNDS planning, monitoring, and reporting system will be fully operational to support joint monitoring of the Samoa CIP. It will be utilized by UN agencies, Government, and other local stakeholders. The CIP results frameworks will be fully aligned with UNSDCF and where relevant national strategic outcomes, indicators, baselines, and targets.

The UN agencies will be supported by the UN Country Team (UNCT) for Samoa Multi Country Office, with technical and operational guidance from the Regional Programme Management Team (PMT), under which four Results Groups (one per pillar) have been established. The PMT (through its Results Groups) is responsible for the overall coordinated delivery of UN contributions under each outcome and for guaranteeing the application of key programmatic principles in their respective domains. In addition, thematic groups on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and Human Rights will provide advice and support regarding normative standards and frameworks. The UN Communication Group (UNCG) will support on communications and the Data, Monitoring and Evaluation Group (DMEG) on monitoring progress towards CIP outputs and the UNSDCFs outcomes.



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Annex 1 – CIPs Plan, Results and Resources Framework (See Excel File)