



ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ
ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ
КЫРГЫЗСКАЯ РЕСПУБЛИКА

THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC: UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK 2023-2027

June 2022

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ACRONYMS

CCA	Common Country Analysis
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CF	Cooperation Framework
CPD	Country Programme Document
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DP	Development Partner
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EAEU	Eurasian Economic Union
FFF	Five-Factor Framework
GBV	gender-based violence
JWP	Joint Workplan
LNOB	Leave No One Behind
M&E	monitoring and evaluation
MICS	multi-indicator cluster survey
MMR	maternal mortality rate
MOPAN	Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network
NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
NDS	National Development Strategy
OHLR-LLDCs	Office of the High-Level Representative for the Landlocked Least Developed Countries
PwD	Persons with Disabilities
RBM	Results-based Management
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV	sexual and gender-based violence
SRH	sexual and reproductive health
SPR	Strategic Prioritization Retreat
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNDS	United Nations Development System
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UN SPECA	United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia

Foreword

On behalf of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in the Kyrgyz Republic, we are pleased to present the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for 2023-2027. The report has been written to ensure alignment between the Government's national development strategies and priorities and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to which the Government is a party. This Cooperation Framework is meant to serve as the structure for implementation of the services and support that the United Nations family of entities will jointly undertake in collaboration with the Government, Kyrgyz society, the private sector, and other development partners in helping to address the development challenges confronting the country.

The preparation of this Cooperation Framework comes at a time when the Kyrgyz Republic is facing significant hurdles and unanticipated obstacles that are impacting the country's development trajectory. As was the case in virtually every country, first the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in serious economic and social hardships for many citizens, particularly the poor and marginalized, which caused the Government and its development partners, to assess how best to respond to the crisis and adjust their priorities and programmes accordingly. More recently as this report was being written, the ramifications of the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine were beginning to be seen in the Kyrgyz Republic as well as other Central Asian countries. For the foreseeable future, the economic, social and political impacts of the conflict will play a critical role in influencing the direction and pace of development efforts by the Government and Kyrgyz society as a whole.

Given these extraordinary challenges, both the Government and the UN Country Team are fully aware that much greater attention is required in terms of closer collaboration and joint alignment of data collection and analysis, policy and programme design and implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. Accordingly, this Cooperation Framework places considerable emphasis on joint ownership and management across all policy and programmatic efforts in order to ensure the most effective use of available resource commitments. The Cooperation Framework also gives high priority to tackling the development challenges facing the Kyrgyz Republic through cross-sectoral and cross-institutional efforts that have the best chance of success and that can be leveraged to achieve wider downstream benefits, especially for the poor and marginalized.

It is our hope that this document provides the reader with a clear understanding of how the UN Country Team will work closely with the Government, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders who share the common aspiration of seeing the Kyrgyz Republic achieve its great potential based on the country's abundant human and natural capital.

Signature Page

The UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for 2023-2027 between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the United Nations has been prepared based on extensive consultations and discussions with the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, civil society, the private sector, development partners, and representatives of the United Nations Development System in the Kyrgyz Republic.

By signing hereunder, the participating parties endorse this UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for 2023-2027 in the Kyrgyz Republic.

**On behalf of the Government of the
Kyrgyz Republic:**

A blue ink signature of Akylbek Japarov, written in a cursive style.

Akylbek Japarov

Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers
of the Kyrgyz Republic - Head of the
Administration of the President of the
Kyrgyz Republic

**On behalf of the United Nations
Country Team in the Kyrgyz
Republic:**

A blue ink signature of Ozonnia Ojielo, written in a cursive style.

Ozonnia Ojielo

UN Resident Coordinator in the
Kyrgyz Republic

The undersigned UN entities express their joint commitment to the priorities, pathways, and expected cooperation results as contained in the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for 2023-2027 in the Kyrgyz Republic.

ESCAP	The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific		
OHCHR	The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	Mr. Ryszard Komenda, Regional Representative for Regional Office in Central Asia	
FAO	The Food and Agriculture Organization	Mr. Viorel Gutu, Sub-Regional Coordinator for Central Asia, FAO Representative a.i. in the Kyrgyz Republic	
IOM	The International Organization for Migration / UN Migration	Mr. Zeynal Hajiyevev, Sub-Regional Coordinator for Central Asia, Chief of Mission in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan	
ILO	The International Labour Organization	Ms. Olga Koulaeva, Director, ILO Decent Work Support Team and Country Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia	
ITC	The International Trade Center	Ms. Elena Boutrimova, Chief, Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia	
IFAD	The International Fund for Agricultural Development		
ITU	The International Telecommunication Union	Ms. Natalia Mochu, Regional Director of the Regional Office for CIS	
UNAIDS	The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	Ms. Meerim Sarybaeva, Country Director in the Kyrgyz Republic	
UNICEF	The United Nations Children's Fund	Ms. Christine Jaulmes, UNICEF Representative in the Kyrgyz Republic	
UNECE	The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	Mr. Dmitry Mariyasin, Deputy Executive Secretary	
UNIDO	The United Nations Industrial Development Organization	Mr. Jacek Cukrowski, Chief of the Regional Coordination Division for Europe and Central Asia	
UNESCO	The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	Mr. Genc Seiti, OIC Director, Almaty Cluster Office for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan	

UNDP	The United Nations Development Programme	Ms. Louise Chamberlain Resident Representative in the Kyrgyz Republic	
UNFPA	The United Nations Population Fund	Mr. Ronny Lindstrom, Representative for Kazakhstan, and Country Director for Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan	
UNEP	The United Nations Environment Programme	Ms. Aidai Kurmanova, Head of Subregional Office for Central Asia	
UN Volunteers	The United Nations Volunteers Programme	Ms. Rimma Sabayeva, Regional Manager, UNV Regional Office for Europe and CIS	
UN Women	The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	Ms. Ulziisuren Jamsran, UN Women Representative in the Kyrgyz Republic	
UNHCR	The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	Mr. Hans Friedrich Schodder, Representative for Central Asia	
UNODC	The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	Ms. Ashita Mittal, Regional Representative for Central Asia	
UNCTAD	The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	Ms. Isabelle Durant, Deputy Secretary-General	
UNDRR	The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction	Mr. Octavian Bivol, Chief, Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia	
WFP	The World Food Programme	Mr. Kojiro Nakai, Representative and Country Director in the Kyrgyz Republic	
WHO	The World Health Organization	Dr. Nazira Artykova, Representative and Head of Country Office in the Kyrgyz Republic	

Executive Summary

1. Overview

This United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) between the United Nations and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for the period 2023-2027 provides the foundation for close collaboration and increased effectiveness of the United Nations agencies, with a direct focus on supporting the Government's efforts to meet its national development priorities and achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Framework focuses on addressing a set of key national priorities and challenges agreed to between the Government and the UN family of organizations that remain critical in these uncertain times. The agreed priorities are the result of numerous meetings and consultations held in 2021 and early 2022 with government counterparts and other stakeholder groups.

To support a move away from “business-as-usual,” this Cooperation Framework reflects the emphasis by the UN Country Team (UNCT) on promoting more collaborative ways of working together with national government ministries and agencies as well as Kyrgyz civil society institutions, and the private sector. In this context, and in recognition of the potential shortfalls in development funding in the near- and medium-term, the Framework focuses on an agreed set of policies and initiatives that:

- are deemed priorities in the national context and are in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and international norms;
- recognize the different comparative advantages that the UNCT has to offer;
- seek new and innovative sources of financing;
- have the highest likelihood of generating significant development gains;
- can work synergistically;
- reinforces an SDG integration approach by the UNCT, and
- have the best chance of being successfully implemented.

Some of the key economic, social, and political characteristics of the Kyrgyz Republic discussed in the report are highlighted below:

Demographic context. The country has a total population of approximately 6.64 million people in which half of the population is under the age of 24 years.

Economic context. The Kyrgyz Republic, with its small and open economy, high public debt and significant dependence on the extractive and tourism industries and remittance financing, was hit hard by COVID-19. The economy of the Kyrgyz Republic in 2020 experienced a crisis drop in GDP of 8.6 percent, the worst in two decades. GDP per capita was USD 1,224, the lowest among member-states of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU).

Political and governance context. The Kyrgyz Republic has undergone a difficult transition process characterized by complex social, economic, and political changes since gaining independence in 1991. Corruption and nepotism were key factors leading to public discontent resulting in upheavals and changes of government in 2005, 2010, and again in 2020.

Social context. The Kyrgyz Republic is faced with high concentrations of poverty along with social assistance systems that are not fully meeting the needs of the country's population. The country has a high poverty rate and high concentration of the population just above the poverty line. Many social trends were exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis and the inability of the Government services to meet the expanded need for social services.

Environmental context. Both geophysical and anthropogenic factors have led to a worsening of environmental conditions found in many parts of the country. The country's decreasing quality and effectiveness of environmental governance is considered a main contributing factor of environment deterioration, distinguishable in key environmental indicators.

National development priorities

The National Sustainable Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic 2018-2040 is the overarching framework that provides the strategic long-term visioning for the trajectory of the country's socio-economic development. It is based on the following four priority dimensions:

1. Human development
2. Economic well-being and promotion of business and finance
3. Public administration
4. Transformation of the development system

The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic has also formulated its National Development Programme through 2026 that lays out more immediate and medium-term development priorities, taking into account the impact of the COVID pandemic and lessons learned from that experience. The goals of the Programme are to improve the well-being of citizens by creating an environment for socio-economic development of the country, the implementation of anti-crisis measures, and the formation of a foundation for the successful achievement of long-term development goals.

SDG progress and ongoing gaps and challenges

The Kyrgyz Republic has made considerable progress in achieving the SDG and incorporating the SDGs into the national development framework, but key challenges remain with respect to specific socio-economic groups being "left behind." These groups are:

- Poor rural households with high dependency ratios,
- Rural women and poor female headed households,
- Children, adolescents and youth,
- Urban and peri-urban poor households,
- Returned and internal migrants, migrant workers, and households dependent on remittances,

- Informal sector workers, and
- Refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons.

2. UN development system support

Theory of change

For the theory of change, considerable efforts have been made to identify accelerators and areas of support, which can work in concert with the Government's own priorities and leverage the UN development system's strengths and comparative advantages. The theory of change provided translates these accelerators into identifying priority areas, outcomes and outputs, as well as assumptions and risks, that form the basis for formulating the UN agencies' response until 2027.

The theory of change is premised on the core belief that new modes of operation and cooperation within the UN and by the Government are necessary in order to address the challenges facing the country. Such an approach entails moving beyond the historical approach that is project-based by UN agencies and encourages multi-sectoral and multi-institutional solutions to current development challenges. The theory of change is further premised on the belief that initiatives and approaches are best achieved through greater public participation in decision-making activities, that are derived from evidenced-based policies and programmes, and that are more accountable in the delivery of public and social services.

At a high level, the UNSDCF theory of change is shown below.

<p>Development Challenge</p> <p>Despite notable improvements in socio-economic progress over the last two decades, the Kyrgyz Republic continues to face significant longer-term challenges accentuated by, first, the COVID-19 crisis and, most recently, by the impact of the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine that risks disrupting achievement of national development objectives and Agenda 2030.</p>			
<p>Priority Focus</p> <p>Support national efforts to implement strategic priority policies and programmes that have the highest likelihood of generating significant improvements in people's well-being, and that can work synergistically across multiple sectors to leverage available resources.</p>			
<p>Strategic Outcome</p> <p>By 2027, the well-being of all citizens will have improved through the implementation of evidence-driven policies and programmes that mitigate current risks, that foster inclusive economic development, and that promote effective governance rooted in democracy and the rule of law</p>			
<p>Strategic Output 1</p> <p>The Kyrgyz Republic will have developed national solutions to respond to people's needs by ensuring equitable access to quality</p>	<p>Strategic Output 2</p> <p>The Kyrgyz Republic will have developed national solutions to promote prosperity and resilience for all through</p>	<p>Strategic Output 3</p> <p>The Kyrgyz Republic will have developed national solutions to promote inclusive approaches to climate action, disaster risk</p>	<p>Strategic Output 4</p> <p>The Kyrgyz Republic will have developed national solutions to promote just, accountable, and</p>

social services through effective policies and appropriate financing mechanisms with the participation of all parties.	inclusive green socio-economic development.	management and environmental protection for sustainable human development.	inclusive institutions and a civil society that fosters peace, cohesion, and human rights for all.
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Strategic priority areas and alignment with national goals

Four strategic priority areas were selected as the focus of the UNSDCF on the grounds that they dovetail with countrywide challenges in supporting national priorities and the 2030 Agenda and reflect a systems approach to help address a wide range of the root causes and gaps that risk derailing progress. These priorities likewise provide strategic openings for the UN family to collaborate with multiple sectors and stakeholders and use its comparative advantages to the fullest. The four priority areas are:

PRIORITY AREA 1. Support national efforts to respond to people's needs by ensuring equitable access to quality social services including education, health, social protection and decent work through effective policies and appropriate financing mechanisms with the participation of all parties.

PRIORITY AREA 2. Support national efforts to promote prosperity and resilience for all citizens through inclusive green socio-economic development.

PRIORITY AREA 3. Support national efforts to promote inclusive approaches to climate action, disaster risk management, and environmental protection to conserve natural resources and leverage ecosystem benefits for sustainable human development.

PRIORITY AREA 4. Support national efforts to promote just, accountable, and inclusive institutions and a civil society that fosters peace, cohesion, and human rights for all.

Theories of change are further developed in the report for each of these priority areas.

Cooperation Framework approach

The UNSDCF for 2023-2027 represents a fundamentally different approach to how the UN development system will support the Kyrgyz Republic. Some of the key elements of the new approach include:

- Joint ownership with Government and Kyrgyz society
- Clear articulation of accelerators and synergies
- A more focused approach to SDG integration
- Mainstreaming and acceleration of policy support to achieve national priorities and the SDGs
- Maintaining normative commitments to international norms and standards
- Cross-border approaches to development challenges

Sustainability

To ensure positive sustainable change, this Cooperation Framework stresses a much greater emphasis on building internal domestic institutional capacities that are more effective and efficient,

and that rely less on external technical assistance for programme delivery. In addition, the Framework encourages new stakeholders to engage in the sustainable development trajectory laid out by the Government, with the goal of expanding the investment envelope and the wider sharing and management of risks. In this regard, the Framework seeks to widen the partnerships and resource base for achieving outcomes, based on action facilitated and promoted by the UN but directly implemented by other actors.

3. Cooperation Framework implementation plan

The set of challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and, more recently, the ramifications of the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine have exacerbated existing development efforts, hindered the achievements by the country in advancing of its national development agenda, and put the welfare of the Kyrgyz citizens, especially the most vulnerable groups of the population, at higher risk. With the country being now off track to achieve the SDGs by 2030, the Cooperation Framework will demonstrate a stronger integrated response to the national SDG challenges, particularly through more and better policy support and wider engagement of development partners. The challenges now facing the country require a systems-focused, multisector approach rather than narrowly targeted, isolated agency interventions. Such a systems approach to sustainable development will be the underlying precept of the UN's collective development response for the duration of the Cooperation Framework.

The Framework further recognizes the importance of leveraging all sources of sustainable financing and investments towards attaining the 2030 Agenda. Its focus will shift to using the UN development system's convening power to support the Kyrgyz Government in developing and implementing sustainable financing strategies. The Cooperation Framework hence expands from "funding" -- i.e., resource mobilization for UN programmes-- to "SDG financing"-- i.e., leveraging and influencing all available financial flows and instruments in support of national priorities for achieving the 2030 Agenda.

The Cooperation Framework will be operationalized through Joint Work Plans that will be based on joint programmes, joint analyses (except in cases of exclusive agency mandates), joint planning and joint implementation. The Joint Work Plans will be prepared bi-annually and reflect the Cooperation Framework outcomes and outputs and all related UN entities' development contributions. The Joint Work Plans will be discussed within and across Results Groups to ensure that gaps and overlaps, the potential for synergies, and joint programmes are identified and streamlined. Mandatory endorsement of the Joint Work Plans will be through the UNCT and the Joint Strategic Coordination Committee. The Joint Work Plans will be subject to joint annual reviews with the engagement of a broader range of government counterparts, donors, civil society, academia, social partners, private sector, and other development partners, with the aim of gauging progress made and suggest course corrections as necessary.

4. Monitoring and evaluation plan

The Cooperation Framework will serve as the central framework for joint monitoring, review, analysis, reporting and evaluation of the UN development system's impact in the country in achieving the 2030 Agenda. Monitoring the implementation progress of this UNSDCF will be primarily based on the Results and will be led by the Results Groups in close collaboration with the relevant government partners. The integrated cross-sectorial Monitoring Plan will be developed based on the principles of transparency, inclusivity and participation by a broad range of national stakeholders, including civil society and private sector. The UN will make maximum use of national data and information systems.

The Framework will be responsive to emerging and unforeseen needs. To ensure this contingency, the Results Groups will undertake annual performance reviews with relevant stakeholders to assess the progress towards strategic priorities, outcomes and outputs, opportunities, lessons learned and best practices. Annual updates of the Common Country Analysis will inform these reviews by providing the analysis of the significant changes in the country context.

It is worth mentioning that the preparation of the Cooperation Framework went through an extensive process of consultations and meetings within the UN family and with the Kyrgyz government, civil society, and the private sector that led to the implementation approach spelled out above. This process included developing the theories of change, defining strategic priorities, outcomes and outputs, risks, and assumptions as well as scenario planning and stress-testing the overall plan. Annex 4 provides more detail on the consultations that were held beginning in 2021 and extending into the first half of 2022.

1. Country Progress towards the 2030 Agenda

This document constitutes the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) between the United Nations and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for the period 2023-2027. It provides the foundation for close collaboration and increased effectiveness of the United Nations specialized agencies, with a direct focus on supporting the Government's efforts to meet its national development priorities and achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The preparation of this Cooperation Framework comes at a critical time in the development trajectory of the Kyrgyz Republic. Just as the country had begun recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, it is now facing the economic and social consequences resulting from the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine. While the full ramifications of the conflict are still evolving, the Framework nonetheless focuses on addressing a set of key national priorities and challenges agreed to between the Government and the UN family of organizations that remain critical in these uncertain times. The agreed priorities are the result of numerous meetings and consultations held in 2021 and early 2022 with government counterparts and other stakeholder groups.

To support a move away from “business-as-usual,” this Cooperation Framework thus reflects the emphasis by the UN Country Team (UNCT) on promoting more collaborative ways of working together with national government ministries and agencies as well as Kyrgyz civil society institutions, and the private sector. In this context, and in recognition of the potential shortfalls in development funding in the near- and medium-term, the Framework focuses on an agreed set of policies and initiatives that:

- are deemed priorities in the national context and are in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and international norms;
- recognize the different comparative advantages that the UNCT has to offer;
- seek new and innovative sources of financing;
- have the highest likelihood of generating significant development gains;
- can work synergistically;
- reinforces an SDG integration approach by the UNCT, and
- have the best chance of being successfully implemented.

This approach is discussed in more detail in later sections of this report.

1.1 Country Context

This section provides a general overview of the current state, progress made, and development challenges confronting the Kyrgyz Republic. It provides a summary across a range of sectors and policy issues that form part of the policy dialogue between the UN family and counterparts in Kyrgyz government and society. This overview provides a synopsis from different perspectives: demographic, economic, political and governance, social, environmental, as well as peace and conflict. The data used in this section are largely drawn from government statistics and UN studies that predate the ongoing conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, although Box 1 below does provide a brief assessment of the potential social and economic impacts that are beginning to be observed.

Box 1. Emerging and predicted impacts of the Russia-Ukraine conflict on the Kyrgyz Republic

In the first few months of 2022, several UN agencies and other development partners undertook efforts to assess the ongoing and likely impacts of the Russia-Ukraine conflict on the Kyrgyz Republic. According to these estimates, some of these impacts include:

- During March-April overall staple food prices increased by 15 percent in April 2022, compared to the same period in 2021.
- The national currency Som depreciated by 23 percent against the US Dollar (from 84 to 98-105 per dollar) but has since regained about half of its lost value.
- The current account deficit in 2022 is projected to widen to 11 percent of GDP, reflecting drops in remittances and gold exports. The deficit is expected to narrow over the medium-term alongside a recovering economy and a revival in exports.
- Kyrgyz Republic's annual inflation rate jumped to 13.2 percent in March of 2022, and is likely to reach 18 percent by the end of 2022.
- The economy is now projected to contract by 5 percent in 2022.
- As an impact of the pandemic, there is already an increase of the poverty rate from 21 percent in 2019 to 25 percent in 2020. The poverty rate could reach 35-38 percent by the end of 2022.
- Remittances to the Kyrgyz Republic account for nearly 30 percent GDP equal to USD 2,3 billion. Remittances in 2022 are likely to decline by 33 percent.
- All the presented socio-economic factors are likely to prompt potential social unrest. If migrants return in large numbers, the risk of social unrest is likely to grow.
- Increases in prices of essential medicines and disruption of the supply chain affected the availability of life-saving medicines, such as insulin, morphine and other essential medicines

Demographic context

The Kyrgyz Republic is a multi-ethnic nation with more than 80 different indigenous ethnic groups. The main groups include Kyrgyz (72.3 percent), Uzbeks (14.7 percent), Russians (5.6 percent), Dungans (1.1 percent), Uyghurs (1.1 percent), Tajiks (1.1 percent), Kazakhs (0.7 percent), Ukrainians (0.5 percent) and other ethnicities. According to the latest census data and Population Situation Analysis report for 2017, current demographic trends are contributing to an increase in ethnic homogeneity with the growth of the population, which increased from 40 percent in 1959 to 73 percent by the beginning of 2017.

As of 1 January 2021, the population of the Kyrgyz Republic was estimated to be 6,637,000, of which 49.6 percent were men and 50.4 percent women, including 29.6 percent of reproductive age. The total fertility rate, or female fertility rate (the average number of children born to a woman during her reproductive period) is 3.0 children in 2020, which means there is the expanded reproduction of the population in the country, unlike in many CIS countries. According to population projections, in the coming three decades, population growth will also remain very significant. This situation requires the development of a state social policy strategy that could harmonize assistance to poor families in order to maintain the standard of living. The population of the Kyrgyz Republic is "young." Half of the country's residents are under the age of 24, and, as of January 2021, the median age was 24.06 years. Preschool children (under 7 years of age) make up 17 percent of the population, and about 21 percent are school-age children (7-17 years old) and over a third of the country's population is between 15 and 25 years old. According to the National Statistical Committee, in

January 2020, 57.4 percent constituted the working age population. Approximately 34.6 percent of the population were persons under the working age (children and adolescents), and 8.0 percent were persons older than working age. In 2020, more than 774,300 nationals of the country were migrant workers abroad.

With half of the population under 24, the Kyrgyz Republic is at a unique demographic juncture. Over a third of the country's population is between 15 and 25 years old (49 percent women and 51 percent men), representing a great opportunity to benefit from a demographic dividend, provided relevant policies and programmes are implemented including on health, quality education, job creation, volunteering development and investments in women and girls and good governance. Migration poses a significant challenge to the country's demography due to the especially high emigration rates of young people. With the right long-term investments, today's children, adolescents and youth can take the country to the next stage of socio-economic development.

Economic context

The Kyrgyz Republic, with its small and open economy, high public debt and significant dependence on the extractive and tourism industries and remittance financing, was hit hard by COVID-19. The economy of the Kyrgyz Republic in 2020 experienced a crisis drop in GDP of 8.6 percent, the worst in two decades. In terms of sectors of the economy, a 15.9 percent drop in production for construction and a 15.7 percent drop in retail trade caused the 8.6 percent drop in GDP. In such areas as hotel and restaurant services, as well as passenger transportation, there was an almost two-fold drop in the volume of services rendered. Industrial production declined by 7.5 percent, and the mining industry fell by 22.4 percent. Agriculture is one of the leading sectors of the national economy. Agriculture was about 14.9 percent of GDP in 2021, and is one of the sectors of economy that demonstrates stability and even small growth during the COVID-19 and in times of political instability.

GDP per capita was USD 1,224 USD, the lowest among member-states of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU). Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person was -0.3% for 2021 due to lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 crisis led to job losses between more than 380,000 to 723,000 and reductions in labour income. The inflation reached an annual rate of 10.7 percent in May 2021, exposing the population to heightened vulnerability. The Kyrgyz Som experienced the worst currency depreciation in the EAEU at a loss of 18.9 percent against the US dollar in 2020 (now followed by the more recent currency depreciation caused by the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine).

These economic dynamics resulted in food price inflation increasing by 17.3 percent on average for main staples, and up to 30 percent for some essential products, such as wheat and flour. High inflation rates restrict access to food for the poorest quintile of the population, who spend an estimated 70 percent of their income on food, and also resulted in costly asset depletion, which renders households more fragile to future economic and natural shocks. Furthermore, the domestic lockdown measures and restrictions abroad resulted in a severe slump in demand and disruptions to supply chains, causing businesses and export potential to suffer considerably. These factors gave rise to an unemployment rate of up to 21 percent in 2021.

Political and governance context

The Kyrgyz Republic has undergone a difficult transition process characterized by complex social, economic, and political changes since gaining independence in 1991. Corruption and nepotism were key factors leading to public discontent resulting in upheavals and changes of government in 2005, 2010, and again in 2020. In 2020, the fragile democratic governance structure and rule of law were seriously undermined by crisis events that were the result of the wide public distrust in the Office of the President, the Government and the Parliament. The events were compounded by the pandemic-related health emergency and socio-economic crisis and, secondly, by a political crisis that unfolded following the 4 October 2020 parliamentary elections and ensuing large-scale protests claiming that the elections were fraudulent. As a result, Mr. Sadyr Japarov was elected President in January 2021 with 79 percent of the vote. A constitutional referendum was held following the presidential election, in which the new constitution provides for increased presidential powers over the Executive, Judiciary and Parliament.

Kyrgyz governance institutions have well-developed formal mechanisms of operation, but significant gaps remain in organizational, financial and technical capacities. Inclusive and accountable policy-making capabilities are insufficient. A disconnect exists between planning for sectorial reforms and budgeting, resulting in insufficient resources for priority programmes. Inter-ministerial, horizontal coordination and cooperation are, in many cases, considered weak and inefficient, with many core functions overlapping across government institutions and in need of improving human resources capacities due to frequent government reshuffling and staff turnover.

Social context

The social context in the Kyrgyz Republic can be seen from a number of different perspectives. Broadly speaking, the country is faced with high concentrations of poverty along with social assistance systems that are not fully meeting the needs of the country's population. The country has a high poverty rate and high concentration of the population just above the poverty line. The proportion of the population living below the national poverty line stood at 25.3 percent in early 2020, which no doubt worsened because of the COVID-19 pandemic throughout 2020. Children are overrepresented in poverty statistics. An estimated 31.8 percent of them lived and grew in monetary poverty in 2020. Some 50.9 percent live in multidimensional poverty. According to national definitions, five dimensions of poverty include monetary poverty, health, housing conditions, food security and education.

A considerable share of the population falls into the 'vulnerable' category, in which the minimum subsistence level in 2020 was almost twice as high as the threshold of the national poverty line, reaching USD 2.30/day of which USD 1.50/day goes to cover only food products. As suggested above, high food prices continue to be amongst the greatest threats to the food security of the most vulnerable, which combined with the depreciation of the national currency (by 21 percent), leads to a reduction in purchasing power, hindering access to nutritious food and improved livelihoods. The Kyrgyz Republic is thus facing a triple burden of malnutrition. The high consumption of starchy and processed foods is among the factors affecting the nutritional status of the population, also leading to malnutrition and diet-related non-communicable diseases, such as anemia and obesity.

With respect to healthcare, over the past three decades, the Kyrgyz Republic has made important strides in improving health care services throughout the country, as captured by available data on improvements in health outcomes. For example, higher life expectancy for both men and women is just one indicator of this positive trend. At the same time, noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) account for approximately 70% of deaths among the population, and their risk factors are an increasing health and development challenge. The maternal mortality ratio (MMR) has increased to an estimated 36.1 per 100 000 live births in 2020 (from 24.6 in 2019). Sexual transmission of HIV infection has become predominant way of transmission (51.5 per cent) with over 80 per cent of people living with HIV being of reproductive age and affecting more women and young people. The health sector faces significant challenges that were exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis, most notably in health care financing and capacity of health personnel. Measures to combat the pandemic were deployed against a backdrop of pre-existing funding deficits and inefficiencies.

The education sector has been going through a number of reforms with varying success in implementation. One of the positive trends is increasing participation of children in pre-primary education in the past decade, reaching approximately 90 percent in 2018. The education sector in the Kyrgyz Republic has seen geographical, socio-economic and ethnolinguistic disparities in access to quality early childhood education (ECE) services. The latest 2018 MICS show that only 39 percent of children aged 3-5 years (39.7 percent for boys and 38.3 per cent for girls) attend ECE classes. While 39.9 per cent of Kyrgyz children enjoy ECE opportunities, only 17.3 per cent of children from other ethnicities benefit from ECE. The wealth gap also remains apparent: 57.4 percent of children from the richest quintile have access to ECE services, whereas only 24.6 percent of children from the poorest quintile have such services. At the same time, the gross enrollment ratio at pre-primary education remains low (40 percent, 2018). The quality of education, however, remains one of the key problems. Almost 60 percent of children in grade 4 demonstrate “below basic” level in academic achievements. Approximately 40 to 60 percent of children aged up to 14 have basic functional difficulties in learning and are unable to achieve fundamental skills in reading. Since 2014, the number of schoolchildren has increased by 23.2 percent from 1.2 million to 1.3 million in 2020. At the same time, the growth in the number of teachers in Kyrgyzstan significantly lags behind the growth in the number of students and educational institutions. The number of teachers grew by 12 percent from 73,000 in 2014 to 88,000 in 2020.

The COVID-19 pandemic worsened both quality and access to education due to the existing digital divide and skills gap among students and teachers. As the pandemic demonstrated, the lack of access to technology was considered to be one of the biggest barriers for learning during the pandemic in the aftermath of school closures. Early childhood and primary level students were seen to be the most likely to be disadvantaged by the crisis and least likely to be able to access the technologies required for learning. According to the Youth Left Behind Survey, COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the accessibility of education. Despite the fact that during 2020 distance education has been actively developing in the country young people, in particular vulnerable youth (youth with disabilities), experienced limited access to quality education. In the regions there are many cases where displaced children are not taken to school for far-fetched reasons, often on the grounds that they allegedly do not know the language.¹

¹ UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP (2021). *Youth Left Behind Survey Report*

Environmental context

Over the past decades, both geophysical and anthropogenic factors have led to the worsening environmental condition found in the Kyrgyz Republic. The country's decreasing quality and effectiveness of environmental governance is considered a main determinant of environment deterioration, distinguishable in key environmental indicators. In 2020, the Kyrgyz Republic ranked 105th in the Environmental Performance Index,² having fallen from 99th place in 2018. The low quality of national environmental governance is the result of multiple, unconnected environmental programmes, often duplicating or contradicting each other, and not supported by the national budget due to the environment's relatively low priority. Environmental policy is dominated by administrative measures and enforcement mechanisms causing disincentives (environmental taxes, pollution charges, administrative fines) over positive incentives (grants for green solutions, preferential lending for environmental initiatives, etc.). Furthermore, available environmental data are often incomplete, inaccurate or outdated, which is partially due to the lack of appropriate national infrastructure. The new Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Technical Supervision was established in 2021 which has been delegated wide mandates for policy-setting, policy implementation, and control. The new Ministry has the potential for setting a comprehensive vision of the country's environmental security and increasing national ownership.

Peace and conflict context

Although largely peaceful, the Kyrgyz Republic had witnessed major upheavals and conflicts over the last 30 years. These have included extra-legal changes of power in 2005, 2010 and 2020, incursion of terrorist fighters in 1999, and inter-ethnic conflicts in 1990 and 2010. Border conflicts over natural resources between the Kyrgyz Republic and neighboring Tajikistan are recurrent and their scale intensified in April 2021, resulting in 55 people killed, hundreds wounded on both sides, and the displacement of more than 52,000 people. Sporadic, small-scale conflicts also take place on the Kyrgyz-Uzbek border. Public protests are a common feature, with no less than 120 protests rallies in Bishkek in January-May 2021 alone, providing an important avenue for individuals to voice their opinions and air their grievances. The risk of a relapse of conflict and violence could be exacerbated by the socio-economic impacts of the Russia-Ukraine conflict and their spillover effects onto Kyrgyz society.

There are a number of drivers that could trigger upheaval and conflict, most notably, rising polarization, i.e., the gap between conservative and liberal values and groups. Multiple cleavages are emerging that divide people around the role of state, the role of ethnicity and religion in the state, political affiliations, regional loyalties, and other factors. Likewise, the regional conflicts in Eastern Europe and Afghanistan may contribute to further polarization of society around international affairs (where positions largely overlap with value choices of different groups) and exacerbate instability risks due to adverse long-term economic impact of the crises. Another driver is disputes over natural resources in border areas. There were 177 border incidents between the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan between 2015 and 2019. In 2020 and 2021 the overall number decreased relatively; however, the intensity and casualties of conflicts increased since 2019. Conflicts around natural resources (land, water, pastures) have multiple root causes including incomplete demarcation

² Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy - YCELP - Yale University, and Center for International Earth Science Information Network - CIESIN - Columbia University. 2020. *2020 Environmental Performance Index (EPI)*. Palisades, NY: NASA Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center

of national boundaries, demographic imbalances, interconnectedness of infrastructure (which was built mainly in the Soviet era without regard to borders), inadequate water management and distribution, patchwork settlements, stricter enforcement of border regimes, climate change and others. Poverty further exacerbates conditions that prompt tensions.

1.2 National Vision and Development Priorities

The National Sustainable Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic 2018-2040 is the overarching framework that provides the strategic long-term visioning for the trajectory of the country's socio-economic development. It is based on the following four priority dimensions:

5. **Human Development:** recognizing the importance of access to, and engagement in, society through equal access to health, education, decent work, culture, science and civil integration.
6. **Economic Well-being and Promotion of Business and Finance:** recognizing the importance of developing a competitive economy, making the most of human capital and formal labor markets, improving investment potential and regional development with quality infrastructure. This priority also seeks to develop key sectors of the economy, such as the agro-industry, IT sector, light industry, and sustainable tourism. Ensuring environmental sustainability and adaptation to climate change will underpin long-term growth of the economy.
7. **Public Administration:** ensuring a strong and stable public administration through a balanced system of state power, fair judicial system, development of local self-governance, strengthening national and regional security, economic and diplomatic integration, and promotion of a digital economy.
8. **Transformation of the Development System:** reforming management of development system by reviewing all previous development policies prior to the National Development Strategy 2040, strengthening the capacity for coordination in development through reorganizing the National Council for Sustainable Development and improved capacities and use of technologies as well as monitoring and evaluation.

Since the Common Country Analysis was written, the Government has formulated its National Development Programme through 2026 that lays out more immediate and medium-term development priorities, taking into account the impact of the pandemic and lessons learned from that experience. Within the framework of the National Sustainable Development Strategy, the goals of the Programme are to improve the well-being of citizens by creating an environment for socio-economic development of the country, the implementation of anti-crisis measures, and the formation of a foundation for the successful achievement of long-term development goals.

The document articulates what are called key values and principles to guide the implementation of the Programme. They are:

1. Every citizen of the Kyrgyz Republic must be protected from violence and humiliation, danger and uncertainty. It is the constitutional duty of the state to provide guarantees of human rights and freedoms.
2. The diversity of peoples' cultures and beliefs is a strategic resource for the country's development.

- State policy must ensure national harmony and strengthen civil and inter-ethnic understanding.
3. Transition must be made at all levels of government to a new model based on the principle "It is necessary to invest more, spend less". State expenditures on social protection, decent work, education and health care, the care economy, must be seen as an investment in future standards of life, investments in people and the formation of a development environment.
 4. Maximum outsourcing of economic and other functions of state bodies, which can be realized by the private sector, exemption from non-essential functions. Emphasis on the creation of a favorable and equitable environment, ensuring security and stability of institutions, inviolability of property, effectiveness of contract law, and fairness in dispute resolution.
 5. The principle of openness of the country's economy and the strategic need to integrate into international processes must be preserved. The use of integration institutions will expand capabilities to promote national interests.
 6. The focus on the creation of strong and independent regions, including through investing in them and promoting the formation of points of regional growth. A new model of administrative-territorial structure is needed, that meets the requirements of the time and the needs of society.
 7. The country has limited resources, so it is necessary not to dilute them, but to focus them on priority areas in which the country has comparative advantages - agriculture, hydropower, tourism, mining and light industry. It is important to implement programmes of efficiency and rational use of strategic resources.

The Programme consists of the following core components as shown in the Table 1 below.

Table 1. Overview of National Development Strategy

Anti-crisis measures	Combating the impacts of COVID-19 Restoring economic activity Quality and accessibility of education Governance in a crisis
Governance reform	Reform of the executive branch Digitalization of the governance institutions and development of digital infrastructure Administrative-territorial reforms Fiscal system reform Judicial and law enforcement reform
Establishing the environment for development	Investment and business climate, export promotion Transport and logistics infrastructure Clean drinking water Decent work, labor market and employment Financial market Public finance system
Economic development	Hydropower Agriculture and processing Tourism development Mining Light industry

Social development	Socio-cultural development, formation of civic identity Healthy nation Educated nation Inclusive growth Social services market and social protection
Foreign policy and national security	Ensuring key national security priorities Ensuring military security Border security Foreign policy
Special priorities.	Modernization of cities Environmental sustainability and climate change

1.3 Progress towards the SDGs

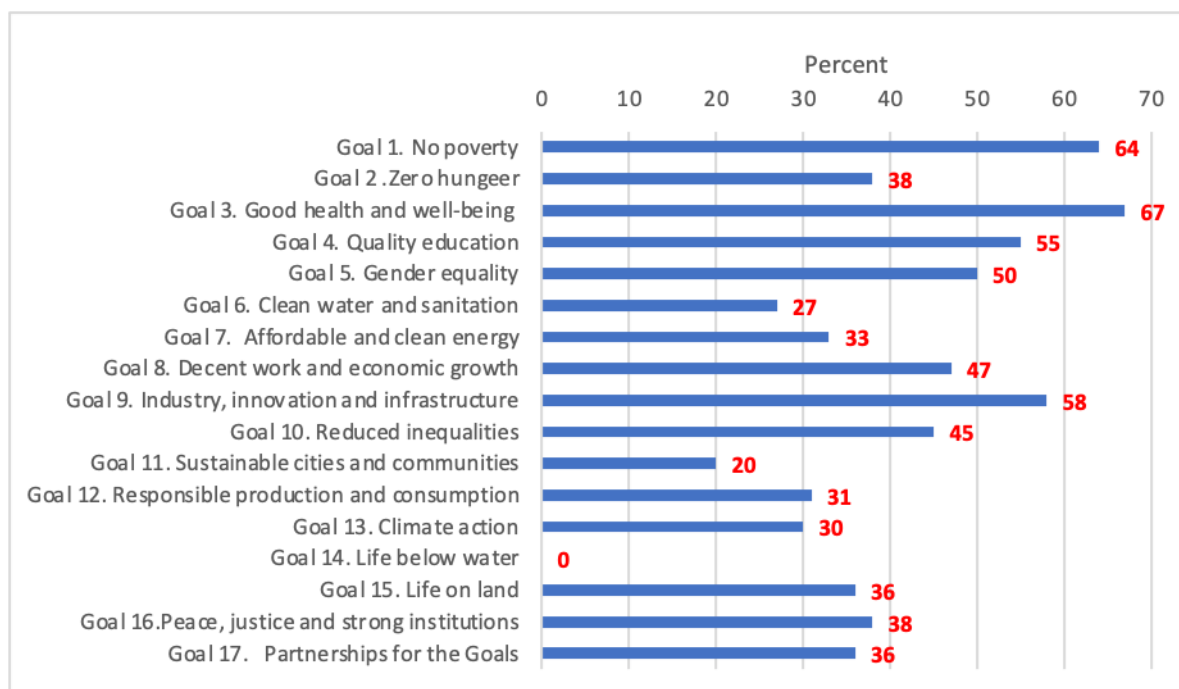
Over the past several years, the Kyrgyz government has committed itself to achieving the 2030 Agenda and integrating the SDGs into the country's national development efforts. The SDGs have been reflected in the national development framework through gap analysis and priority-setting undertaken in the 2040 National Development Strategy of the Kyrgyz Republic, through the "Unity, Trust, Creation" Programme (2018–2022), the recent National Development Programme until 2026, and through various programmes and strategies on healthcare, education, gender, youth, green economy, digitalization, regional development, and other sectors.

Following the January 2021 elections, the new leadership also fully committed itself to assuring that the 2030 Agenda remains an integral part of overall development planning. Since 2018, the Government has internalized the SDG indicators and is improving its capacity to report on the SDGs. For example, according to the UN Women Gender Statistics Assessment, the analysis of the accessibility of global indicators revealed that out of 85 gender-specific indicators from the two priority frameworks (UN minimum set of gender indicators and framework on SDG indicators), 55 indicators (65 percent) are available within the NSC of the Kyrgyz Republic.

In 2020, the official national reporting portal on the SDGs was launched under the auspices of the National Statistical Committee. These efforts were seen as a pioneer to set up the national data platform for the SDGs, in order to better meet the needs of a wide range of data users.

As discussed in the Kyrgyz Republic's first Voluntary National Review, the 2030 Agenda has been at the center of policy setting, and in 2020 UNDP's Rapid Integrated Assessment assessed the overall alignment of the SDGs and the country's national policy development planning at 82 percent. Figure 1 shows the alignment for each Goal.

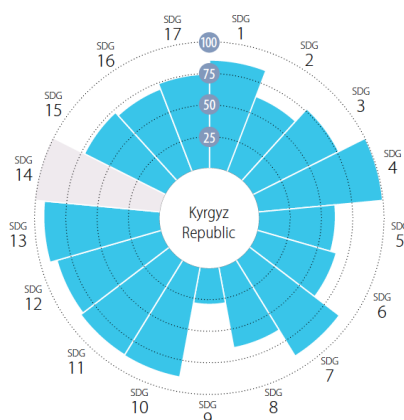
Figure 1. Alignment of Kyrgyz national development planning and SDGs by Goal



Source: *UNDP Rapid Integrated Assessment, 2020*

A second set of indicators is found in the global Sustainable Development Report for the Kyrgyz Republic that offers country comparisons and arrives at slightly different calculations of the country's performance. According to this analysis, comparatively the country ranks 44th out of 165 countries surveyed and has a country score of 74.0, slightly higher than the regional average of 71.4. The average performance by individual Goal is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Average performance by SDG



Source: <https://dashboards.sdindex.org/profiles/kyrgyz-republic>

The figures above should be interpreted by understanding that each estimate offers two different aspects for examining overall country progress. The first captures alignment between the Goals and national development plans (82 percent), whereas the second figure estimates performance progress for achieving that particular SDG by 2030. The key message is that from a policy perspective, the Kyrgyz Republic is doing reasonably well. The second figure would suggest that, again, the country – at the time of analysis –

is doing fairly well on the path to meeting many of the SDGs. However, this latter analysis does not take into account the full socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on SDG performance nor the recent Russia-Ukraine conflict, nor does it capture at this aggregated level many of the development and governance challenges still confronting the country.

1.4. Gaps and Challenges

As highlighted in Section 1.1, the Kyrgyz Republic faces ongoing development gaps and challenges that were exacerbated by the COVID-19 crisis and, now, the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine. The National Strategic Programme until 2026 also includes specific targets that seek to remedy existing gaps and challenges. These include:

1. Ensuring an average annual real economic growth rate of 5 percent
2. Achieving a GDP per capita of at least 1,500 USD
3. Reducing an unemployment rate to a level of 5 percent
4. Ensuring an annual inflow of foreign direct investment of at least 13 percent of GDP;
5. Maintaining the state external debt at the level of no more than 60 percent of GDP;
6. Improving the performance of the Kyrgyz Republic in the Human Development Index ranking by 5 positions;
7. Improving the performance of the Kyrgyz Republic in the Global Competitiveness Index rating by 10 positions;
8. Reducing the poverty rate of the population to 20 percent including child poverty rate to 25 percent;
9. Ensuring that at least 50 percent of school graduates achieve a basic level of functional literacy according to the results of nationwide testing;
10. Inclusion of the country in the top 60 countries according to the index of electronic government development;
11. Reducing the greenhouse gas emissions by 17 percent;
12. Improving the performance of the Kyrgyz Republic in the Corruption Perception Index ranking by 10 positions; and
13. Gradual introduction of decent work standards.

In addition to the challenge cited in the National Strategic Programme, the CCA also pinpointed certain “Leave No One Behind” socio-economic groups who represent underlying challenges for policy-makers, government institutions, and concerned stakeholders. The Five Factor Framework (FFF) was used for determining those who run the risk of being left behind that is based on the following determinants within a country or social group: (i) discrimination; (ii) place of residence; (iii) socio-economic status; (iv) governance; and (v) vulnerability to shocks. In effect, people get left behind when they lack the choices and opportunities to participate in and benefit from development progress. Particular groups of those left behind are briefly described below.

Poor rural households with high dependency ratio

Poor rural households, including smallholder farmers, are among the groups of people who face the highest degree of intersectional deprivations. Agriculture accounted for only 12 percent of GDP in 2019. However, the agricultural sector is crucial as a source of employment, income, and food security for the large rural population as over 700,000 rural households derive their livelihoods from this sector. The share of those families is more significant in the southern provinces, facing the challenges of low access to land and smaller land plots. Within this category, particularly vulnerable are poor households with a high dependency ratio living in rural areas prone to climate-related shocks due to poor access to services and limited economic opportunities. Indeed, around 28 percent of poor households have a high dependency ratio, one third (30 percent) of which are headed by women. These poor households have more than five dependents per working member, including children, persons with disabilities, elderly and economically inactive working age family members.

Women facing persistent vulnerabilities and inequities in different spheres

The high intersectional vulnerability faced by women, representing different rights groups, is widely recognized in the country. The following key challenges remain:

- Ending discrimination against women in all aspects;
- Creating an educational and social environment that is stereotype- and-violence-free;
- Eliminating root causes of gender and pay inequality and pay gap, modifying social and cultural patterns;
- Ensuring high-quality health-care services for women and girls including with respect to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights;
- Increasing women's participation in peace building; and
- Strengthening political representation of women in decision-making bodies.

Girls and women with disabilities, women living with HIV, and religious women

Women in these groups are at heightened risk and disproportionately affected by gender-based violence, sexual abuse, neglect, maltreatment and exploitation. Women married through a religious ceremony (nikah) without civilian marriage registration are at risk of denial of any rights and protections from laws upon dissolution of the marriage. They cannot prove guardianship of their children and have no formal right to claim custody. The same risks are relevant to lacking access to property and inheritance. Prevalence of domestic violence is widespread against women and girls; in 2021 there were 10,151 cases of domestic violence, 9,008 protection orders were issued and 110 of them were extended due to the severity of the cases. An estimated 90 percent of victims of domestic violence end up returning to their aggressors, due to the lack of economic independence and social pressure to preserve the unity of the family.³

Rural women

Women in the Kyrgyz Republic make up 50.4 percent of the country's 6.6 million population, and nearly 45 percent of the poor are women and about three-quarters live in rural areas. The share of employed rural women is only 40 percent, compared to 72 percent of employed rural men. This is particularly crucial if one considers that 38.9 percent of households are women-led, exacerbated by high internal and external

³ United Nations (2022). *Report of the UN Working Group on discrimination against women and girls*

migration. Female-headed households are among those most susceptible to poverty. Rural women also face unequal access to productive assets, including lack of protection of their rights to ownership of land and other resources, limited access to financial capital, a lower level of technical agricultural knowledge that limits the growth of women's agricultural output. Rural women comprise only 6 percent of heads of Water Users' Associations, and 2.4 percent of heads of Pasture Committees, significantly limiting their decision-making power in use of irrigation water and pastures. Only 20.1 percent of agricultural enterprises are led by rural women, and only 13 percent of total agricultural holdings are owned by women -- confining them to the circle of micro-level household activities and to continued vulnerability to economic and environmental shocks.

Gender gaps in labour force participation

Women comprise 46 percent of the national labour force, versus 76 percent of men. The lowest rate of female participation in economic activities is in the 20-29 age group, which directly correlates with the period women have to leave paid jobs due to child care responsibilities. In the Kyrgyz Republic, only 24 percent of children have access to preschool education; and, on average, 3 out of every 4 children do not have any access to childcare centres or preschools. Inequality in access prevails against children in rural areas and from low-income families. The unequal distribution of unpaid care and domestic work between women and men is a barrier for women's equal economic participation. Existing stereotypes about the roles and status of women confine them to household chores; for example, women spend 4.5 hours per day compared to 1 hour spent by men to fulfil family care responsibilities.

The gender pay gap

In recent years, the gender pay gap showed certain improvements, declining from 27.5 percent in 2017 to 25 percent in 2021. However, horizontal and vertical occupational segregation remains prevalent with disproportionately high engagement of women in low-paid education, health and social sectors of economy. Women are mostly present in the informal economy and significantly under-represented in senior positions, with only 27.4 percent women in management positions in business compared to 72.6 percent for men. There is also an urgent need to review the list of 400 prohibited professions to women and to remove discriminatory provisions in the national laws, required to increase women workforce participation and economic security.

Women leadership and participation

Women remain underrepresented in decision-making in central and local government planning on socio-economic development, disaster risk reduction measures, and peace building. Currently, women hold 20 percent of the seats in Parliament. The Kyrgyz Republic ranked 87th out of 162 states on the Gender Inequality Index (2019) and 108th out of 156 states on the Global Gender Gap Index (2020). These scores reflect the limited enforcement of equal rights of men and women set out in legislation and harmful stereotypes around participation of women, especially young women in public and political life. Regardless, the country has a potential cadre of young women engaged in grassroot political participation and peace-initiatives. In fact, most of the young people taking part in trainings are girls and young women. However, there is a gap in opportunities to access and engage with national level processes. In 2022, the country

adopted the fourth National Action Plan of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325, but the challenge remains to strengthen the capacities among, and the spaces for, women and girls' participation in country peace and social cohesion building.

Children, adolescents and youth

With 38 percent of the population below 18 years of age, children, adolescents and youth face multiple challenges, notably food and nutrition insecurity, as well as unequal access to health, ~~especially sexual and reproductive health~~, and education services, that, when taken together, create lifelong consequences that contribute to reduced human capital. In short, they experience shortfalls in the necessary skills, knowledge and experience, including a healthy lifestyle, which ultimately affects a country's productivity and economic prospects. More than half of children (53.9 percent) are deprived of health and nutrition, decent living standards, early development, social inclusion and protection. Based on the Family Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, 18 years is the legal age of marriage, however, adolescent birth rate remains a concern which constitute 33 per 100 women in 2020 and proportion of women aged 20-24 years, who are formally or informally married before the age of 15 is 0.3 percent and 12.9 percent for those married before the age of 18. Although enrolment and attendance rates are relatively high, the quality of education provided is problematic. Approximately 50 percent of children 7-14 years old and 60 percent of primary school students did not have minimal acceptable reading and comprehension skills.

Urban and peri-urban poor households

Urban and peri-urban poor households have been generally excluded from government targeted programmes. Over the last 15 years, the gap between rural and urban poverty rates has shrunk from 21 percentage points in 2006 to 11 percentage points in 2020, meaning that more consideration should be given to the urban poor as well. This is also true in regard to food security and nutrition as undernutrition is more severe in urban areas (51 percent) compared to rural areas (44 percent). Among the urban poor and vulnerable (bottom 40 percent), only 2.3 percent receive *ui-buloogo komok*,⁴ which is considerably low in comparison with the national indicator (14.1 percent). More than half of all poor and vulnerable urban households do not receive any type of social transfers. In effect, this group is not visible to the government targeting system. The COVID-19 crisis further deteriorated urban livelihoods. One-third of urban households reported loss of a job (30.3 percent), while in rural area this share was half (15.7 percent). Two-thirds of urban households reported a reduction in income (58.1 percent). This number could rise significantly because of the adverse ramifications of the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

The changing place of residence due to internal migration of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic is leading the concentration of the population in the two country's metropolises (Bishkek and Osh), This situation poses serious threats to the deterioration of the environment and reduction of agricultural areas. Another threat is created by the practice of new settlement construction, which is widespread in the expanding urban areas and leads to inefficient use and rapid degradation of urban infrastructure (access roads, sewerage, energy supply, etc.).

⁴ Monthly benefit to low-income families

Returned and internal migrants, migrant workers, and households dependent on remittances

According to the 2018 *Joint Report on Migration in Kyrgyzstan* of the Kyrgyz State Department on Migration, more than 50,000 people leave the country as labor migrants annually and the total number of Kyrgyz citizens living abroad is more than 750,000. It is estimated that about 76 percent of migrants are under 35 years old and about 53 percent of labor migrants are women. Most labor migrants (over 95 percent) work within member-countries of the EAEU. Migrants and their families typically face multiple vulnerabilities and deprivations, including poverty. The COVID-19 crisis triggered the return of labour migrants due to shrinking employment and labour market opportunities in the countries of destination. And the Russia-Ukraine conflict will no doubt have the same impact. Both migrants remaining abroad and returning home are at risk of becoming food insecure. As a coping mechanism, 86 percent of interviewed returning migrants had to reduce food intake during the pandemic. Households dependent on remittances are very often made up of people who, even if working, rely on remittances as their main source of income.

Internal migrants who move mainly from rural areas to Bishkek and cities in Chui province make up more than 18 percent of the country's population. The search for economic stability is a primary push factor for internal migration, as is the case for international migration as well. But other factors include the search for better infrastructure (including access to education and health care) and other family factors. Most of the internal migrants work informally, with only 29.1 percent having negotiated conditions of work "on paper." It is the same with living conditions: 75.6 percent are not registered officially on a place of residence. Even though internal migrants, including those who live in informal settlements, are diverse in terms of welfare, their dependence on informal income and remittances are additional risk factors. In addition, the scale of internal climate migration is projected to increase by 2050. The World Bank estimates that by 2050, up to 200,000 people, or 3.9 percent of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic, could become internal climate migrants.

Informal sector workers

Households numbering 1.7 million workers have informal employment and typically have unstable and low income and limited savings. Informal workers lack access to employment, social protection and essential healthcare services. They are exposed to higher occupational safety and health risks and face more challenges in defending their labour rights, in particular the right to freedom of association, compared to those working in the formal sector. As the economic situation deteriorates as a consequence of Russia-Ukraine conflict, informal employment is likely to expand. Increasing numbers in informal labor markets could lead to reversals in poverty reduction, achieved before the COVID-19 crisis, due to the high share of the population living just above the poverty line combined with limited access to decent work opportunities, especially for youth, women, migrants and people with disabilities.

Refugees, asylum seekers and stateless persons

As of end 2021, there were 320 refugees, 683 asylum-seekers and 600 persons remaining stateless and/or at risk of statelessness. Asylum-seekers, refugees and stateless persons are at greater risk of being left behind, marginalization and abuse. They are mostly employed in the informal market, do not have access to national social protection schemes and benefits, have limited access to health services and are particularly

vulnerable. Stateless persons recognized by the Government enjoy a wide range of rights on a par with nationals, except for political rights and access to certain jobs open only to citizens (i.e. civil service, law enforcement), however, people of undetermined nationality generally remain invisible without legal identity and they are in the most vulnerable situation, lacking access to basic rights and services. In the Kyrgyz Republic, the problem of birth registration persists for children born to undocumented parents, including persons of undetermined nationality. As children may be registered and issued birth certificates only after their parents obtain valid identity documentation, this puts them at risk of statelessness and abuse. Refugees, asylum-seekers and stateless persons, especially those of undetermined nationality, have been seriously affected by the rampant socio-economic consequences of the pandemic. They face increased economic hardship because they often live in precarious situations and depend on the informal sector for their livelihood. In these unprecedented circumstances, it is imperative to extend socio-economic support packages, including post-pandemic recovery, to all those residing in the territory who meet the vulnerability criteria, regardless of legal status.

Limited availability of disaggregated data

A key challenge in addressing the country's development challenges is the lack of available accurate, disaggregated and reliable data. Such data are paramount for the national development programs to ensure the effectiveness of social protection, structural reforms, economic and sustainable development and monitoring the progress of SDG indicators. In 2020, a voluntary national review of the implementation of the SDGs in the country noted that the provision of disaggregated data is more of an issue than the coverage of indicators. A multi-indicator cluster survey (MICS) held in 2018 supported efforts to improve the availability of disaggregated data, which will be further boosted by the population and housing census of 2022. Access to, and availability of, disaggregated data require improvements and coordination to enhance interactions with producers and users of SDG statistics. The National Statistics Committee should continue the good progress in the development and implementation of statistics for the SDGs, with a focus on improving the range of indicators covered and the availability of disaggregated data. The UN system will support the relevant authorities to strengthen capacities to systematically collect, analyze and use disaggregated data to inform policy development with special focus on the most vulnerable groups.

2. UN Development System Support to National Development Priorities and the 2030 Agenda

2.1 Theory of Change

Based on the previous analysis and consultations surrounding the preparation of the CCA and more recent consultations with the Government on the UNSDCF, a Theory of Change has been developed which lays out the overall framework for the UN's support to the Kyrgyz Republic for the period 2023-2027 in achieving national development priorities and the 2030 Agenda. Considerable efforts have been made to identify accelerators and areas of support, which can work in concert with the Government's own priorities and leverage the UN development system's strengths and comparative advantages. The theory of change

provided below translates these accelerators into identifying priority areas, outcomes and outputs, as well as assumptions and risks, that form the basis for formulating the UN agencies' response until 2027.

The theory of change underlying the UNSDCF is premised on the core belief that new modes of operation and cooperation within the UN and by the Government are necessary in order to address the challenges facing the country. Such an approach entails moving beyond the historical approach that is project-based by UN agencies and encourages multi-sectoral and multi-institutional solutions to current development challenges in a systemic manner. The theory of change is further premised on the belief that initiatives and approaches are best achieved through greater public participation in decision-making activities, that are derived from evidenced-based policies and programmes, and that are more accountable in the delivery of public and social services.

The current set of challenges and risks confronting the Kyrgyz Republic further requires a change of mindset in which policy responses and measures of achievement are reformulated based on realistic expectations of what can be accomplished – not necessarily at the project or programme level, but at the systems level. In this regard, both the Government and the UN need to assess our respective interventions, using empirical evidence to measure their overall quality and effectiveness against national priorities, Agenda 2030, and international human rights norms and principles.

The theory of change is also founded on the premise that UNCT support constitutes a minor percentage of spending by Government, private sector, and development finance institutions. As a result, an optimal approach is proposed that ensures the UN system builds from its natural comparative advantages and works to improve evidence-based policy and decision making. Identifying and delivering best practice that can be replicated and scaled beyond individual projects is recognized as an essential prerequisite for the achievement of results. The UNSDCF recognizes that there is an urgent need and significant opportunity for international organizations, multilateral development banks, and the international community to support the country in making systemic changes that will be required in the coming years.

The theory of change is striving for transformative results, premised on fostering strong human capital of the country, which can be achieved only through systemic changes in social relations and perceptions about women's and men's roles, and removing discriminatory barriers for women and men to fully exercise their rights for participation in social, political and economic development of the country.

In this context, the box below presents a high-level theory of change which informs the overall direction and focus of this Cooperation Framework. Underlying this overall theory of change are specific theories of change that guide the strategic priorities identified in Section 2.2 below.

Box 2. UNSDCF Overall Theory of Change

Development Challenge

Despite notable improvements in socio-economic progress over the last two decades, the Kyrgyz Republic continues to face significant longer-term challenges accentuated by, first, the COVID-19 crisis and, most recently, by the

ramifications of the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine that risk disrupting achievement of national development objectives and Agenda 2030.			
<p style="text-align: center;">Priority Focus</p> <p>Support national efforts to implement strategic priority policies and programmes that have the highest likelihood of generating significant improvements in people's well-being, and that can work synergistically across multiple sectors to leverage available resources, and apply innovative approaches which will enable the recognition of the value and role of each citizen – women and men – contributing to the development processes based on new adaptive mindsets and behavior.</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;">Strategic Outcome</p> <p>By 2027, the well-being of all citizens will have improved through the implementation of evidence-driven policies and programmes that mitigate current risks, that foster inclusive economic development, and that promote effective governance rooted in democracy, gender equality and human rights principles, and the rule of law</p>			
<p style="text-align: center;">Strategic Output 1</p> <p>The Kyrgyz Republic will have developed national solutions to respond to people's needs by ensuring equitable access to quality social services through effective policies and appropriate financing mechanisms with the participation of all parties.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Strategic Output 2</p> <p>The Kyrgyz Republic will have developed national solutions to promote prosperity and resilience for all through inclusive and gender transformative green socio-economic development.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Strategic Output 3</p> <p>The Kyrgyz Republic will have developed national solutions to promote inclusive and gender transformative approaches to climate action, disaster risk management and environmental protection for sustainable human development.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Strategic Output 4</p> <p>The Kyrgyz Republic will have developed national solutions to promote just, accountable, and inclusive institutions and a civil society that fosters peace, cohesion, and human rights for all.</p>
<p>Key Assumptions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government will continue efforts for stronger integration of ongoing reforms, national development strategies, and sectoral programs, requiring stronger national coordination capacities. • The Government will adapt, develop and implement responses to emerging risks and challenges that impede human development. • The Government will proactively broaden the fiscal space to meet the expanding development needs and social protection requirements. • Priority attention will be given to rooting out exclusion, inequalities, and injustices that undermine and delay achievement of national development priorities and realization of the SDGs. • Accountability and policy coherence are maintained through transparency and cross-sectorial collaboration. • Efforts are redoubled to ensure policy coherence and address administrative and civil society capacities that are vital enabling factors for further progress in national development goals. • The Government will ensure enhancement of new competences of public civil servants, enabling them to seek and implement adaptive solutions for newly emerging challenges by having an increased understanding of specific needs of different rights groups • The Government will maintain efforts to reestablish trust between government and society that is the critical lynchpin in achieving development aspirations. • Government values the presence and contribution of viable and vocal stakeholders including the private sector, civil society, minority groups and local communities. • Government will accelerate adoption and implementation of political measures for eliminating root causes and drivers of gender based discrimination and violence, including harmful gender stereotyping and limited participation and economic opportunities for women and girls • Stability in the country is preserved with respect to human rights. 			

- Government develops human capital and harnesses the demographic dividend through the equal and inclusive access to formal and informal educational opportunities, including investment in digital literacy for the furthest left behind youth.

Potential Risks

- Economic and social shocks, including those triggered by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, result in increasing numbers of vulnerable households, creating pressure on social services and potentially slowing down the economic growth.
- Available funding from national and international sources falls short of needs, thereby decreasing budget allocations for national priorities.
- Political and social discontent results in loss of focus and agreement on national development priorities.
- Continued limitations in the capacity and competencies of government institutions in understanding of the concept of gender equality and human rights as fundamental prerequisites for effective governance and economic growth.

2.2 Strategic Priorities and Alignment with National Goals

The vision that emerged from the CCA process and more recent consultations resulted in the identification of four priority areas for the UN development system to focus on over the period of 2023- 2027. These priority areas were selected on the grounds that they dovetail with countrywide challenges in supporting national priorities and the 2030 Agenda and reflect a systems approach to help address a wide range of the root causes and gaps that risk derailing progress. These priorities likewise provide strategic openings for the UN family to collaborate with multiple sectors and stakeholders and use its comparative advantages to the fullest. Most importantly, the priorities have the buy-in of the Government, as these strategic priorities converge with its own vision of development.

In delivering against these priorities, this Cooperation Framework document has been developed as a UN offer, proceeding from a common understanding of the challenges for the Kyrgyz Republic, prioritizes areas for UN support informed by the UN's multilateral assets, and provides well-integrated solutions, rather than an aggregate of the “collective” response from individual agencies programmes and will apply rights-based, gender-sensitive, and people-centered approaches, as well as mainstream interventions in relation to humanitarian preparedness and response as necessary. The UNCT's engagement will promote clarity and accountability for results, ensuring they are directly attributable to support by the UN development system at-large rather than to single entities as in the past. Similarly, the UNCT will support its partners in Government and Kyrgyz society with innovative tools and methodologies that help put these priorities into action in the most optimal manner. The goal is to see a significant expansion of partnerships and to open a space for more systemic analysis and evaluation of actions under each priority area.

The four priority areas are:

PRIORITY AREA 1

Support national efforts to respond to people's needs by ensuring equitable access to quality social services including education, health, social protection and decent work through effective policies and appropriate financing mechanisms with the participation of all parties

Background and rationale

As discussed in the CCA, the COVID-19 crisis exacerbated in greater depth the shortcomings of existing social service policies and programmes that have left a large proportion of the Kyrgyz population either unserved or under-served. The looming crisis resulting from the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine could be of indefinite duration and will only increase the vulnerabilities of various groups that will need to be addressed through improved access to social services and protection. For example, a considerable share of the population falls into the 'vulnerable' category, which is almost twice as high as the threshold of the national poverty line. Improving the availability, affordability and quality of services will be one of the critical areas to be addressed for increasing the utilization of the services with particular attention to ensuring services and information reaching left behind groups. Critical shortfalls in quality education for all adolescents and youth, affordable and inclusive health care and decent work opportunities for the working age population are the components in providing robust and responsive social services. The challenge which the UNCT seeks to address in this priority area is to support government efforts to examine, evaluate, and redesign social service, including health and education, policies that can meet the demand for such services in a more equitable way, based on understanding of and adherence to the principles of gender equality and human rights. The policies, in turn, must be translated into the effective delivery of equitable, available, affordable and high-quality services at all levels and overcome existing capacity constraints. And, needless to say, building more effective social, health and education services financing mechanisms will be critical, given the current shortfalls in public financing and the sometimes-excessive burdens imposed by personal financing for social, health and education services by families and individuals. Key state stakeholders' capacity will be enhanced to undertake results based budgeting and fiscal space and costing analyses to improve efficiency of health and social protection spending.

PRIORITY AREA 2

Support national efforts to promote prosperity and resilience for all citizens through inclusive green socio-economic development.

Background and rationale

The Kyrgyz Republic, like virtually all countries, has started the process of exploring ways of shifting the economic models of the past that often ignored the externalities of production and consumption patterns with damaging impacts on the wellbeing of citizens and the environment. Given the constraints facing the country, the Government and concerned Kyrgyz stakeholders have begun exploring new models of economic growth that seek to be inclusive for all citizens and are resilient to external shocks. These models should sustainably exploit the country's natural resource endowments, not plunder them, and should offer new opportunities for Kyrgyz businesses, both large and small, in urban, peri-urban and rural areas, to use their entrepreneurial skills to diversify and improve value chain development, to create new and innovative ways of promoting green growth, by offering new and exciting employment opportunities for the country's under-utilized labor force and afford improved market access to disadvantaged economic actors. Toward this end, the UNCT will use its comparative advantages to support these efforts and catalyze new thinking, to share lessons learned from other countries, and to facilitate efforts to shift the enabling policy environment to allow such changes to flourish.

PRIORITY AREA 3

Support national efforts to promote inclusive approaches to climate action, disaster risk management, and environmental protection to conserve natural resources and leverage ecosystem benefits for sustainable human development.

Background and rationale

Priority Areas 3 is closely related to Priority Area 2 but approaches environmental protection and conservation as a “public good” challenge that is now accelerating at a rapid pace because of climate change. This public good issue represents a herculean task that call for stopping and reversing damage to biodiversity and natural resources, mitigating the risks of disasters and climate change, while capitalizing on air quality co-benefits, and changing the incentive and disincentive structures that impede or block change. For the Kyrgyz Republic, natural resource management and climate change adaptation require multi-sectoral solutions that transcend any one institution, jurisdiction, or national boundary. In this context, the UN family of agencies will use its resources to support the efforts of Government, concerned stakeholders, and community-level organizations that are actively exploring ways to address the environment and climate challenge through problem-solving and decision-making that goes from the highest levels of government down to the local level, using community-based rural development best practices. In this regard, the UNCT will also support efforts for the environment and climate challenge to be addressed as a cross-border issue by drawing upon skills and experiences of the UN family through the region and subregion including through Multilateral Environmental Agreements.⁵

Using rights-based, gender-sensitive, and people-centered approaches in relation to humanitarian preparedness and response across all intervention areas is an underlying principle for Priority Area 2. Joint efforts will strengthen resilience through investments in preparedness and response to natural and man-made disasters based on the national disaster risk profile of the country. Such efforts will seek to ensure that sexual and reproductive health (SRH), mental health and psycho-social support, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse for women and youth are included in national and subnational disaster frameworks, contingency plans and response plans. Taking into account the sizable youth population of the country, their participation in humanitarian actions will be instrumental to address their needs and engage them in responding to disaster risk reduction.

PRIORITY AREA 4

Support national efforts to promote just, accountable, and inclusive institutions and a civil society that fosters peace, cohesion, and human rights for all.

Background and rationale

⁵ Including Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making, and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

As discussed in the CCA, jumpstarting and accelerating efforts to forcefully address sustainable development goals will require the Government to incorporate a commitment to strong, proactive and accountable governance frameworks that develop policies for both the public and private sectors. Such a commitment must be based on a long-term vision and leadership, shared norms and values, and rules and institutions that build trust and cohesion in line with the principles of non-discrimination and gender equality. At the same time, an important ingredient will be the capacity for flexibility and adaptation. In a complex society such as that in the Kyrgyz Republic, the outcome of any particular policy is inevitably uncertain. Policy-makers will need to follow a governance framework that is pragmatic and able to problem-solve and adapt collectively and rapidly. In this regard, the rule of law, corruption, and judicial independence remains a concern in the Kyrgyz Republic. This Priority Area commits the UNCT to strengthen individual, community and institutional capacity, support anti-corruption reforms, addressing social norms and harmful practices to strengthen decision-making power of those left behind, including women and youth within their families and societies and encourage ongoing efforts to help the Government and other interested parties be fully in line with international human rights and labour standards. The UN will also strengthen social cohesion around valuing the concept of citizenship, and engage in cross-border programming to foster enduring peace in the Kyrgyz Republic, and build the country's resilience to external shocks.

With respect to gender equality, the CCA highlighted how, with a value of 0.369, the Kyrgyz Republic ranked 82 out of 162 countries in 2020 in the Gender Inequality Index. Violence against women and girls is , unfortunately, widespread and increased during the COVID-19 pandemic. The most common type is domestic violence, and the most common forms of harmful practices relate to child marriage and forced marriages through abduction. Patriarchal attitudes and stereotypes of the perceived role of women and girls in society are common. Such attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors (both individual and institutional) are entrenched in deeply rooted social norms. Conservative stereotypical gender norms and roles of women and men have been re-emerging in the last ten years, with rigid social norms often taking precedence over existing legal frameworks. To address these social norms and practices, there is an urgent need to improve institutional capacity of the Government and key actors, by increasing integration of innovative approaches and digital solutions on increased quality, coverage and accessibility for necessary services. Technical and policy level interventions will be needed to develop, endorse and operationalize, as well as monitor and evaluate, national guidelines/protocols/SOPs, and curricula.

Figure 3. Alignment of UNSDCF 2023-27 with the national development priorities



2.3 Intended Development Results

The figure below summarizes the development challenges, priority areas, strategic outcomes and outcomes described in section 2.5

Figure 4. Intended development results

Development Challenge: Despite notable improvements in socio-economic progress over the last two decades, the Kyrgyz Republic continues to face significant challenges brought about, first, by the COVID-19 crisis and, most recently, by the Russia-Ukraine conflict that risk disrupting achievement of national development objectives and Agenda 2030.

Overarching Priority Focus. Support national efforts to implement strategic priority policy and programmes that have the highest likelihood of generating significant improvements in people's well-being, and that can work synergistically across multiple sectors to leverage available resources.

PRIORITY AREA 1.
Equitable access to quality social services (education, health, social protection) and decent work

- 1.1.** National and local policies, plans, budgets, and financing mechanisms are evidence-based and aligned to respond equitably to people's needs in an inclusive, gender responsive and accountable manner.
- 1.2.** Social services for health, education, social protection, employment, and labor are improved to provide higher quality, taking into account universal accessibility, gender equality, shock-responsiveness, timeliness, and include mechanisms to report and respond to grievances.
- 1.3.** The population of the Kyrgyz Republic, especially the most vulnerable, have acquired the skills and knowledge to make positive changes in the social norms of society for a more inclusive, equitable and gender-sensitive environment, and are empowered to participate in all spheres of life and to assert their rights and opportunities.

PRIORITY AREA 2.
Inclusive green socio-economic development.

- 2.1.** Green economic growth is accelerated through increased equitable entrepreneurship and employment opportunities, including through the sustainable use of natural resources.
- 2.2.** Food system sustainability is enhanced through a more efficient and inclusive approach that ensures healthy and quality nutrition for the population.
- 2.3.** An effective gender responsive system of managing migration processes is introduced to accelerate green socio-economic development.
- 2.4.** Gender transformative social and technological innovations, including digitalization, are introduced to develop a green and creative economy.

PRIORITY AREA 3.
Inclusive approaches to climate action, disaster risk management and environmental protection

- 3.1.** Climate policy, financing, and awareness mechanisms are designed and implemented that support climate actions, with the full participation of women and men at all decision-making levels.
- 3.2.** Policies, innovations, and seed investments are developed to ensure inclusive access to sustainable energy solutions in underserved urban and rural areas, with the support of the state and business, and in ways that encourage women's leadership.
- 3.3.** Critical ecosystems are better protected throughout the country, and the rational and sustainable use of natural resources, including water and land, is improved through gender-responsive, participatory and conflict-sensitive systems at all levels.
- 3.4.** Capacity of disaster management systems is strengthened, and community resilience to multiple shocks is increased at all levels through enhanced participation of women in DRR planning, as well as effective investments, policies, mechanisms, and tools.

PRIORITY AREA 4.
Just, accountable, and inclusive institutions and a civil society for peace, cohesion, and human rights

- 4.1.** Accountable, participatory, transparent, and effective governance systems at all levels ensure the provision of quality services for all and inclusive spaces and promote social cohesion gender transformative systems of relations, and a violence free society.
- 4.2.** The system of justice and out-of-court dispute resolution, as well as human rights institutions, ensure the full application of the rule of law, justice, equality, and the fight against corruption.
- 4.3.** Civil society has the knowledge, skills, and capabilities to exercise their rights, enhancing the voices of women and youth to genuinely participate in public decision-making, and engage in constructive dialogue to achieve social cohesion, justice and equality for all.

By 2027, the well-being of all citizens will have improved through the implementation of evidence-driven policies and programmes that mitigate current risks, that foster inclusive economic development, and that promote effective

Outcome 1

By 2027, the people of the Kyrgyz Republic, particularly vulnerable groups, have enhanced resilience, strengthened capabilities, and access to decent work, resulting in full enjoyment of their rights contributing to the socio-economic and gender-transformative development of the country.

SDGs
1,2,3,5,8,17

Outcome 2

By 2027, the well-being of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic will have improved through the further rollout of a green economy based on sustainable and healthy food systems natural resource management, and effective migration processes, by accelerating the use of gender transformative social and technological innovations and entrepreneurship.

SDGs
1,2,3,5,6,7,8,11,13,15,17

Outcome 3

By 2027, the Kyrgyz Republic has started the transition to low-carbon development and risk-informed climate resilience, contributing to people's fair and equitable access to ecosystem benefits and to empowerment of vulnerable communities in the governance of natural resources and disaster prevention.

SDGs
1,2,5,6,7,8,13,15,17

Outcome 4

By 2027, all people in the Kyrgyz Republic enjoy the benefits of fair and accountable democratic institutions that are free from corruption and apply innovative solutions that promote respect for human rights, and strengthen peace and cohesion.

SDGs
5,8,16,17

2.4 Cooperation Framework Approach

As implied in earlier sections of this report, the UNSDCF for 2023-2027 represents a fundamentally different approach to how the UN development system will support the Kyrgyz Republic. This section describes some of the key elements of the new approach.

Joint ownership with Government and Kyrgyz society

The UNCT is committing itself to develop a jointly owned approach to policy definition as well as programme design, implementation, and evaluation, using an evidence- and consensus-based approach to decision-making. The joint ownership model will also apply to problem definition that is built on evidence-based data and statistical analysis. It is unfortunately true that despite similar statements about joint ownership in the past, the record would suggest that the UN has not always followed this guideline. For this Cooperation Framework, joint planning with government will be an integral part of all envisioned programmes down to the activity level by all UN agencies. Additionally, it should be understood that joint ownership does not mean that the UNCT cannot forcefully advocate for policies and programme interventions (using robust analysis) that the Team feels are best suited for the Kyrgyz context. But at the end of the day, the final approach selected will reflect an agreed understanding of how a particular development challenge should be jointly addressed.

Clear articulation of accelerators and synergies

The terms, *accelerators* and *synergies*, are now commonly used in international development policy discussions, to describe the intended objective of having a ‘systems approach’ to addressing development challenges. The common thinking is that that contemporary development problems cannot be addressed by what has been the more traditional siloed, sectoral approach to action. Today’s challenges are often complex and multi-layered issues that have root causes that ripple across economies, societies, and natural ecosystems. Progress cannot be achieved by simply focusing on only a selected few sectorial intervention but must target overall systems. While much debate has been given to developing a systems approach to development, the actual track record has been uneven and piecemeal.

For the duration of the Cooperation Framework and afterwards, the UNCT is committing itself to tackling the complex interlinkages and systems problems facing the Kyrgyz Republic - first and foremost at the strategic level. This means the UN development system will strengthen its collective and substantive offer through integrated policy support, comprised of (i) joint analyses, (ii) joint planning, (iii) joint policy support and technical advisory services, and (iv) joint programmes. This approach will be the standard means of conducting business, as well as jointly bringing stakeholders together in ways that they can result in agreed national strategies and initiatives. Integrated policy advice implies a deliberate approach to connect the design, delivery and evaluation of programmes across disciplines and sectors in order to produce lasting impacts on people’s lives. These processes will be based on application of analytical and planning tools, which are based on the use of sex-disaggregated data that move beyond assessing social and economic sectors. An analysis of levels of women’s and men’s empowerment, such as levels of welfare, access, individual consciousness,

participation and control, will allow for understanding how inequalities are formed and reproduced, to understand the level of intersectional inequalities, and to programme measures that will lead to real transformative changes in social interactions and development.

Thus, with respect to accelerators and synergies, this UNSDCF explicitly calls for deepening efforts to specifically identify accelerators and bottlenecks to systemic problems and for applying adaptive management approaches that can adjust to the rapidly changing events and circumstances impacting the Kyrgyz Republic's development trajectory.

A more focused approach to SDG integration

Given the inherent nature of the SDGs in the mandates of virtually all UN agencies as well as the Kyrgyz government, a more focused approach to SDG integration will form an integral part of this Cooperation Framework. At the heart of the issue for better integration is the simple fact that the Goals and Targets are numerous and inextricably interlinked, which makes integration more difficult to achieve, as different organizations and institutions can give priority to different Goals and Targets. In breaking with the past, the UNSDCF does not treat SDG integration as synonymous with SDG implementation, a view that understands that SDG integration should be reflected in all aspects of development support, but which is unhelpful in terms of the focus required to target Goal interdependencies and overlaps. From the perspective of the Cooperation Framework, improved SDG integration is critical in the wake of existing setbacks and bottlenecks that represent obstacles to achieving all the SDGs within the remaining eight years of the 2030 timeframe. This places higher importance on prioritizing among the SDGs, determining what combination of resources have the highest likelihood of meeting the Goals in the most cost effective and equitable manner, and what are the trade-offs in prioritizing a selected combination of Goals at the expense of others. SDG integration will never happen if agencies continue to work in siloed ways to implement the CF or their respective Country Programme Documents/Strategies. To enhance conversations around trade-offs within the UNCT, and to promote integrated approaches to realizing the SDGs, this UNSDCF shall be implemented through the following approaches at the output level:

1. Joint analysis;
2. Joint planning;
3. Joint programmes, without a limit on the number of joint programmes that could be established between agencies;
4. Joint monitoring, evaluation and learning;
5. Joint reporting;
6. Joint communications'
7. Use of the national SDG Indicator Framework as the foundation for measuring results and impact; and
8. Integration of the Management Response to the UNDAF evaluation in the implementation of joint programmes and in agency country programme documents.

Mainstreaming and acceleration of policy support to achieve national priorities and the SDGs.

In the *Joint Report on Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) for Achieving Progress on the SDGs* that was written in 2018-19, a number of the structural issues were identified that continue to present problems for the Government and Kyrgyz society. They include:

- Exclusion and inequalities, defined to include multiple and intersecting discriminations, deprivations and injustices, are key development challenges facing the country in its journey to achieving its national development priorities and realization of the 2030 Agenda.
- Reestablishing trust between government and society remains a critical lynchpin in achieving development aspirations. This will require concerted efforts among a wide range of stakeholders and constituencies that will be conducive only if there is an enabling democratic and civic space in place. Economic transformation cannot proceed without respect for human rights and the rule of law, and the resulting increase in social cohesion and reduction in potential political and social flashpoints.
- There is a clear need for stronger integration of ongoing reforms, national development strategies, and sectoral programs, calling for stronger national coordination capacities.
- Ensuring policy coherence, enhancing statistical and analytical capability, and addressing administrative and civil society capacities will be vital enabling factors for further progress towards achievement of the nationally defined development goals.

These factors still represent significant challenges that the UN Country Team commits to supporting as part of this Cooperation Framework. These four structural issues are an example of interlinked challenges that require a systems approach to creatively address them, combining the creative efforts of multiple stakeholders, with the support of UN agencies.

Maintaining normative commitments to international norms and standards

While this Cooperation Framework calls for joint ownership of the UNCT with national development aspirations, the UNCT will continue its advocacy role in encouraging and promoting efforts by the Kyrgyz Republic to achieve closer alignment with international norms and standards. Since its founding, the UN has been the main international body for reaching agreement on key international human rights and other normative frameworks, in the same way that the 2030 Agenda is closely intertwined with human rights. In this regard, the focus of the UNCT on Leave No One Behind can be understood as a central tool for identifying and combatting discrimination, exclusion and inequality. The UNCT has a duty to promote, protect and defend UN norms and standards contained in international treaties, resolutions and declarations. Part of this duty calls for advising and encouraging Kyrgyz institutions when they are falling short of their normative commitments to international conventions and standards and to provide support as needed to fulfill those obligations.

This Cooperation Framework will also support the Kyrgyz Republic in its participation in international standards-setting activities and in their observance in all areas of social, economic and trade matters in order to facilitate further regional cooperation and connectivity.

Cross-border approaches to development challenges

The 2030 Agenda highlights the fact that global challenges, like climate change, migration and global health, require global collective action that takes into account cross-border dynamics. In the case of the Kyrgyz Republic, it is commonly understood that many of the country's development challenges are cross-border in nature and cannot be solved solely at the national level. The impacts of COVID-19 and the Russia-Ukraine conflict are just two recent examples of the inter-connectedness of the country with other countries in the region and the broader family of nations. This Cooperation Framework will give increasing priority to the cross-border dimensions of the challenges confronting the Kyrgyz Republic. At the national level, the UNCT represents the UN's global presence and regional networks, on the one hand, and its multilateral mandates, on the other hand. This provides both the infrastructure and legitimacy to work across borders. Such cross-border work can take different forms. For this Cooperation Framework, it will include integrating transboundary and regional perspectives in UN agency country programmes so that country and (sub)regional development mutually reinforce each other.

The UNSDCF will also include cross-border work for the design and implementation of specific programmes or projects across borders in such areas as a climate change, pollution, natural resource management, and peace and security. The underlying premise will be to deal with cross-border interdependencies and achieve the benefits of economies of scale. While cross-border work is not new for the UN or for the Kyrgyz Republic, this Cooperation Framework calls for renewed commitment to supporting such efforts with the governments and UN Country Teams in other countries. To this end, the UNCT in the Kyrgyz Republic will engage in annual bi-lateral or sub regional consultations, dialogues and analysis with other UNCTs as well as with the regional offices and headquarters of the different UN agencies. More specifically, it will organize an annual Bishkek Forum with the two regional economic commissions (UNECE and UNESCAP), and Office of the High Level Representative for Land Locked Developing Countries and Small Island States (OHLR-LLDCs) on the implementation of regional cooperation and connectivity instruments and protocols such as the Vienna Programme of Action and SPECA and to agree strategies and approaches for enhancing their adoption and integration into the national development plans. This annual Bishkek Forum shall include a joint dialogue between the UNCT, the Regional Economic Commissions, the OHLR-LLDCs and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to strengthen national commitment to regional cooperation and connectivity instruments.

The UNCT will also promote the organization of an annual Ferghana Valley consultative platform together with the UNCTs of Uzbekistan and Tajikistan to conduct/review analyses, and agree complementary approaches between the UNCTs to strengthening development and progress in the Ferghana Valley. The UNCT will build on results of the Regional Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRRA)⁶ to strengthen the sustaining peace efforts in the Ferghana valley, and foster cross-border cooperation to support trust-building and social cohesion among and between border communities, as well as address underlying economic, climate and other fragility drivers. The Cooperation Framework implementation will build on the benefits of various regional initiatives, including but not

⁶ United Nations, World Bank, UKAID (2021). Regional Risk and Resilience Assessment. Central Asia and Afghanistan Cross-Border Regions.

limited to the country's participation in the UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA)⁷ on such issues as water, energy, environment, sustainable transport, transit and connectivity, trade, statistics, knowledge-based development and gender, drawing as required on the UN Regional Economic Commissions (UNECE and ESCAP) for sub-regional policy analysis, data and advisory services.

2.5 Priority Areas, Strategic Outcomes, Outputs, and Partnerships

As discussed earlier in this report, the UNCT has agreed on four priority areas that will form the basis of UN support to the Kyrgyz Republic. These four priority areas are discussed below along with individual theories of change that were extensively discussed among the Country Team and representatives of different ministries and agencies. The theories of change for the four priority areas were, in fact, the foundation upon which the aggregate theory of change was constructed as found in Section 2.1. It should be kept in mind that there is no single format for a theory of change. For the Cooperation Framework, a customized theory of change template was designed that would provide a high-level overview of the intended areas of joint collaboration and support. The Results Framework found in Annex 2 goes into much greater detail about the activities, inputs, evaluation indicators for each priority area. The seven components of the theory of change are: (i) Development Challenge, (ii) Priority Area, (iii) Strategic Outcome, (iv) Outputs, (v) SDGs Targeted, (vi) Key Assumptions, and (vii) Potential Risks. These components present a high-level overview of the intended areas of joint collaboration and support. Each priority area has a corresponding strategic outcome along with a total of 14 outputs for all four priority areas

The theories of change were also constructed to better identify opportunities by which the UNCT could develop partnerships, not only with the Government, but also with the private sector, other national actors, and other development partners. Increased partnership opportunities represent a critical channel for reducing the time and cost of implementation. In addition, considerable efforts have been made by most of the UN agencies to align their agency-level Country Programme documents with the four priority areas in order to avoid siloed responses by each agency. This in turn reinforces efforts to apply multi-sectoral, systems-level approaches to the development challenges being addressed. Finally, changes at the outcome and output levels minimize the need for the UN to develop activity or project-specific agreements with the authorities as in the past.

PRIORITY AREA 1

Priority area 1 is meant to address the critical shortfall in the quality and scope of economic and social services that represent a key ingredient in generating better health and well-being, ensuring access to quality education and training for all, and providing job creation opportunities, especially for the poor and marginalized. The importance of this priority area was explicitly manifested during the COVID-19 lockdown and in the evolving impact of the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

⁷ For SPECA see: <https://www.unece.org/speca/welcome.html>

Development Challenge Current efforts by national institutions and various actors are not sufficient to meet the growing demands of the country's population, especially the most vulnerable, for access to equitable economic and social services in the wake of rapidly changing national challenges.		
Priority Area 1 Support national efforts to respond to people's needs by ensuring equitable access to quality social services including education, health, social protection and decent work through effective gender-transformative policies and appropriate financing mechanisms with the participation of all parties.		
Strategic Outcome By 2027, the people of the Kyrgyz Republic, particularly vulnerable groups, have enhanced resilience, strengthened capabilities, and access to decent work, resulting in full enjoyment of their rights contributing to the socio-economic and gender-transformative development of the country.		
Output 1.1 National and local policies, plans, budgets, and financing mechanisms are evidence-based and aligned to respond equitably to people's needs in an inclusive, gender responsive and accountable manner.	Output 1.2 Social services for health, education, social protection, employment, and labor are improved to provide higher quality, taking into account universal accessibility, gender equality, shock-responsiveness, timeliness, and include mechanisms to report and respond to grievances.	Output 1.3 The population of the Kyrgyz Republic, especially the most vulnerable, have acquired the skills and knowledge to make positive changes in the social norms of society for a more inclusive, equitable and gender-sensitive environment, and are empowered to participate in all spheres of life and to assert their rights and opportunities.
SDGs Targeted SDG 1 No Poverty SDG 2 Zero Hunger SDGD 3 Good Health and Well-being		SDG 5 Gender Equality SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth SDG 17 Partnerships
Key Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government demonstrates commitment to developing policies that are evidence-based and respond equitably and fairly to the needs of all the population. • The Government prioritizes and increases allocations from the state budget to the social sector including education, health, decent work and social protection despite increasing economic shocks. • The Government in the process of developing its economic plan, ensures that vulnerable groups are targeted and can directly benefit from these measures, whether in terms of job creation, skills development and creation of small businesses by addressing their grievances. • The Government at all levels is committed to improve social partnership on social, labour and related economic issues to reach objectives of social and economic development policies and programmes • Reform of the social system will ensure provision of social assistance through improved social benefits coverage, integrated social services and social welfare workforce to sustainably address needs of vulnerable populations while improving universal access to services. • Strengthened health reforms will ensure high quality services especially for those vulnerable and improve universal health coverage. • Civil servants have improved capacities to provide targeted and socially responsive services based on an enhanced understanding of gender equality and full adherence to human rights principles • The Government undertakes policy measures and awareness-building campaigns to decrease the burden of unpaid care work on women and increase women's economic and workforce participation opportunities • The Government takes measures to accelerate pace for increase of access of children to pre-school education • Vulnerable groups acquire new coping mechanisms and social cohesion in the context of extreme economic shocks which are recognized and upscaled through government mechanisms. 		

- Accountability and policy coherence are ensured through cross-sectoral collaboration.

Potential Risks

- Economic shocks, including those triggered by the ramifications of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, result in increasing numbers of vulnerable households, thereby overwhelming the demand for economic and social services.
- Economic and social shocks impede the Government's ability to generate sufficient revenue to provide the intended range of economic and social services proposed in national development strategies.
- Government revenue falls short of projections which decrease budget allocations for more effective and equitable social and economic services.
- Political differences emerge that result in divergent policy objectives and diminish the likelihood of a unified government approach to service delivery.

PRIORITY AREA 2

As mentioned earlier, the Kyrgyz Republic's economic model is not sustainable over the long run. Considerable efforts are needed to continue the transition to diversify the sources of economic growth, to reduce external dependencies, and to develop green economy value chains, targeting new markets and sectors, which protect the environment and significantly expand job opportunities particularly in disadvantaged areas. Support will be provided for promoting women economic empowerment by assisting in changes in women agency, promoting new norms of shared responsibilities in unpaid care work; defining a niche for diversification of professions/skills to open access for women and girls to creative economy, support women entrepreneurship enabling women to enter macro level economic opportunities as well as financial, leasing, and meso- and macro-level entrepreneurship

Development Challenge			
To address the economic challenges confronting the country will require a long-term commitment to the ongoing transition to a green economy that is more self-reliant, sustainable, and responsive to the needs of specific rights groups.			
Priority Area 2			
Support national efforts to promote prosperity and resilience for all citizens through inclusive and equitable green socio-economic development.			
Strategic Outcome 2			
By 2027, the well-being of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic will have improved through the further rollout of a green economy based on sustainable and healthy food systems natural resource management, and effective migration processes, by accelerating the use of gender transformative social and technological innovations and entrepreneurship.			
Output 2.1	Output 2.2	Output 2.3	Output 2.4
Green economic growth is accelerated through increased equitable entrepreneurship and employment opportunities, including through the sustainable use of natural resources.	Food system sustainability is enhanced through a more efficient and inclusive approach that ensures healthy and quality nutrition for the population.	An effective gender responsive system of managing migration processes is introduced to accelerate green socio-economic development.	Gender transformative social and technological innovations, including digitalization, are introduced to develop a green and creative economy.
SDGs Targeted SDG 1 No Poverty SDG 2 Zero Hunger SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being SDG 5 Gender Equality		SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production SDG 13 Climate Action SDG 15 Life on Land	

SDG 6 Access to Water and Sanitation	SDG 17 Partnerships
Key Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government, with support from the private sector, continues its policy and funding priority for the green economy transition. • The Government intensifies creation of strategic partnerships with the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders for broader green economic development. • The Government adapts and diversifies regional economic cooperation and connectivity. • The Government continues to support efforts to reduce inequalities and improve the well-being of all the population through the adoption of green technologies. • The Government maintains its commitment to support more resilient and climate-adaptive food production, processing, distribution, and consumption of nutritious, safe and affordable food. • The Government adopts policies to enable the business environment, including for MSMEs and entrepreneurship, support smallholders and family farms. • The Government promotes platforms and solutions (digital/non-digital), including mobile markets that support the sale of products from women's associations and cooperatives (agricultural / non-agricultural). • Government and private sector partnerships contribute to the increase of women and girls in science, technology, engineering, green financing and green economy through special programmes of scholarships, internships, and professional education. • Accountability and policy coherence are ensured through cross-sectoral collaboration. 	
Potential Risks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External economic and social shocks, including those triggered by the adverse impact of the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, result in increasing numbers of vulnerable households, thereby overwhelming the demand for natural resource management and sustainable food systems. • Economic and social shocks impede the Government's ability to make the capital investments needed for the green economy transition. • Government revenue falls short of projections, which decrease budget allocations for the green economy transition. • The Government's regulatory and taxation framework for short-term gains undermines possibilities for longer-term development. • Legacy infrastructure and its related exploitation continue to hinder the agility and effectiveness of development efforts. 	

PRIORITY AREA 3

Closely related to Priority Area 2, this Priority Area focuses on the challenges of protecting the country's natural resource base to reap ecosystem benefits for the Kyrgyz population as well as mitigate the effects of natural disasters and climate change, and take advantage of their air quality co-benefits. Particular attention is given to developing more effective policies, regulations, financing instruments, and enforcement mechanisms that are built on local involvement and decision-making, including women and those left behind.

Development Challenge
The Kyrgyz Republic faces mounting risks from biodiversity loss and natural resource depletion, brought about in part from climate change that threaten the well-being and livelihoods of all of the population.
Priority Area 3
Support national efforts to promote inclusive and gender transformative approaches to climate action, disaster risk management and environmental protection to conserve natural resources and leverage ecosystem benefits for sustainable human development.

Strategic Outcome 3			
By 2027, the Kyrgyz Republic has started the transition to low-carbon development and risk-informed climate resilience, contributing to people's fair and equitable access to ecosystem benefits and to empowerment of vulnerable communities in the governance of natural resources and disaster prevention.			
Output 3.1 Climate policy, financing, and awareness mechanisms are designed and implemented that support climate actions, with the full participation of women and men at all decision-making levels.	Output 3.2 Policies, innovations, and seed investments are developed to ensure inclusive access to sustainable energy solutions in underserved urban and rural areas, with the support of the state and business, and in ways that encourage women's leadership.	Output 3.3 Critical ecosystems are better protected throughout the country, and the rational and sustainable use of natural resources, including water and land, is improved through gender-responsive, participatory and conflict-sensitive systems at all levels.	Output 3.4 Capacity of disaster management systems is strengthened, and community resilience to multiple shocks is increased at all levels through enhanced participation of women in DRR planning, as well as effective investments, policies, mechanisms, and tools.
SDGs Targeted SDG 1 No Poverty SDG 2 No Hunger SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy		SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities SDG 13 Climate Action SDG 15 Life on Land SDG 17 Partnerships	
Key Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Government maintains its commitments and action plans in accordance with global commitments for climate change response and environmental protection, using effective policy, legal and regulatory frameworks.• The Government upholds its commitment to a national net-zero green development strategy through available measures and further innovations.• Climate-adverse incentives are identified and reversed or eliminated, notably harmful subsidies, while air quality co-benefits of climate action are identified and capitalized on.• The government and other stakeholders actively mobilize climate financing and other resources for climate change adaptation and mitigation, including air quality co-benefits.• Government and other stakeholders maintain commitment to expand coverage of protected areas by 10% in order to prevent further biodiversity loss and safeguard the environment.• Government and stakeholders create awareness about climate and disaster risks and actively mobilize capacities at all levels of society to address the risks and leverage opportunities• Coordination and collaboration among central and local partners are created to promote and ensure increased participation of women in decision making fora and platforms on climate adaptation policies and initiatives, including increased leadership of women in climate and agricultural development institutions, such as Water Users Associations, Land and Pasture Committees, etc.• Government and other stakeholders continue efforts to integrate and promote disaster risk reduction measures in national and local development plans.			
Potential Risks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economic and social shocks, including those triggered by the adverse effects of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, place increased social and economic pressures on biodiversity and natural resources.• Economic and social shocks undermine people's coping capacity and resilience and increases reliance on non-green solutions.• Economic and social shocks impede the Government's ability to make the necessary investments and policy attention needed for natural resource management and biodiversity protection.• Government revenue falls short of projections which decrease budget allocations for priority areas relating to climate change and the environment.			

PRIORITY AREA 4

Priority Area 4 recognizes the fundamental importance of governance, legal rights, and a transparent and accountable enabling environment in order for development gains to be realized. While the Government has put in place many of the elements of such an enabling environment, there is recognition that greater attention is needed across several fronts, including legal reform, rooting out corruption, and further protections of human rights for all of the population.

Development Challenge Governance gaps and human rights and social cohesion risks impede ongoing efforts to address the critical development challenges in the country in a rapidly changing context.		
Priority Area Support national efforts to promote just, accountable, and inclusive institutions and a diverse civil society that fosters peace, cohesion, and human rights for all.		
Strategic Outcome 4 By 2027, all people in the Kyrgyz Republic enjoy the benefits of fair and accountable democratic institutions that are free from corruption and apply innovative solutions that promote respect for human rights, and strengthen peace and cohesion.		
Output 4.1 Accountable, participatory, transparent, and effective governance systems at all levels ensure the provision of quality services for all and inclusive spaces and promote social cohesion gender transformative systems of relations, and a violence free society.	Output 4.2 The system of justice and out-of-court dispute resolution, as well as human rights institutions, ensure the full application of the rule of law, justice, equality, and the fight against corruption.	Output 4.3 Civil society has the knowledge, skills, and capabilities to exercise their rights, enhancing the voices of women and youth to genuinely participate in public decision-making, and engage in constructive dialogue to achieve social cohesion, justice and equality for all.
SDGs Targeted SDG 5 Gender Equality SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth		SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions SDG 17 Partnerships
Key Assumptions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing commitment remains in place to sustain peace, protect people's lives, and ensure social cohesion. Commitment is maintained to implement laws and practices upholding the system of checks and balances, ensuring justice for all in line with international human rights standards and principles of gender equality accountability, transparency and independence of the justice systems and human rights institutions. Political will exists for people-centered good governance reforms at all levels, including public administration and judicial reforms. Civil society and the Government continue to recognize and leverage opportunities for constructive engagement, inclusive dialogue and apply joint solutions for development and peace. Commitment is maintained to the increased focus on measures to deter and combat corruption. Capacity and readiness exist to use quality data for decision- and policy-making that leaves no one behind and address such challenges as sexual and gender-based violence. The political will exists to further promote governance (e-Governance) and social innovations. Fundamental freedoms upheld to enable space for vibrant civil society, pluralistic media, and diverse public groups, including women and youth, to meaningfully participate in decision-making and open public dialogue. Weak governance increases the dependencies and vulnerability to external shocks, including those triggered by the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, leading to increased social cohesion. Geopolitical positioning of the Government will consider economic, security and other ramifications that promote expanding economic and governance choices by the country, both regionally and globally. 		

- Political commitments exist to continue promoting women's full, equal, and meaningful participation in peace-building and crisis response.
- Government takes policy and institutional measures on accelerating the implementation of laws on prevention and protection from violence against women and girls, and endeavors to holding dialogues for expanding concepts on discrimination and violence in order to address the emerging challenges and real needs of women.

Potential Risks

- Global economic and social shocks, including those triggered by the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, result in civil unrest and political dislocations.
- Social shocks, increased inequalities and unrest hamper the Government's ability to address governance, judicial, and human rights reforms.
- Government revenue falls short of projections which decreases budget allocations for priority areas affecting governance and legal reforms.
- Interest groups attempt to narrow down the civic space in the country.
- Political differences emerge that result in divergent policy objectives and diminish the likelihood of a unified government approach to service delivery.

2.6 Synergies among Priority Areas and Outcomes

The theory of change deliberately aims to show where interdependent changes across the outcomes and outputs are possible, reflecting multisectoral planning and mainstreaming of issues that are expected to be delivered by the UN system. This leads to the expected synergies among outcomes and outputs with increased catalytic effects. The framework provides for several institutional and policy synergies that allow different UN entities to work on all results regardless of mandate. At the institutional level, outcomes and their respective outputs were designed in a manner that demonstrates a multilateral approach, disaggregating performance indicators to a level that requires the involvement of most UNCT members for each result. The outputs and outcomes were developed keeping in mind the core elements of SDG integration, namely, joint analysis, joint planning, joint programmes, joint reporting, joint M&E and learning, and joint communications.

Outcome formulations were also made consistent to focus on achieving changes in the status of people left behind across all priority areas. This will encourage UN entities and their partners to think of single actions that can help advance several results at once. Joint programmes and partnerships will allow these institutions to leverage their comparative advantages, aligning them around every outcome and making collective work necessary.

At the policy level, integration between joint partnerships, thematic collaboration, and agency-specific work will not only promote policy coherence but serve all outcome areas. The Annual Performance Review of UNSDCF implementation, which will remain crucial to enhancing the overall effectiveness of the UN system in the Kyrgyz Republic and its impact on the 2030 Agenda. The UNSDCF also complements and connects with other planning frameworks, such as the country reviews undertaken by the different UN Human Rights Mechanisms, including Treaty Bodies and the Human Rights Council.

Beyond in-country synergies, the UNSDCF will help advance regional cooperation frameworks, such as regional cooperation with neighboring states over water usage and other transboundary issues involving natural resource management and political and security issues.

2.7 Sustainability

To ensure positive sustainable change, the development pathways identified under this Cooperation Framework stress a much greater emphasis on building internal domestic institutional capacities that are more effective and efficient, and that rely less on external technical assistance for programme delivery. In addition, the Framework encourages new stakeholders to engage in the sustainable development trajectory laid out by the Government, with the goal of expanding the investment envelope and the wider sharing and management of risks. In this regard, the Framework seeks to widen the partnerships and resource base for achieving outcomes, based on action facilitated and promoted by the UN but directly implemented by other actors.

The implementation approach pursued in this Cooperation Framework differs from the previous UN Development Assistance Framework (2018-2022). It discourages the delivery of separate projects and programmes; rather it targets the adoption of holistic and integrated approaches that can be replicated and brought to scale. In this regard, it focuses on the achievement of durable solutions rather than one-off targets and benchmarks. Looking at the 2030 horizon, this Framework seeks to create enduring capacities both at the level of policymakers and rightsholders that will help maintain the country on track for attainment of national policy goals and the SDGs. widen the resource base for achieving the outcomes, through action facilitated and promoted by the UN but directly implemented by other actors

Both in-country UN entities and those based outside of the country play a strategic role to help support national planning and to provide best-practice guidance for national development goals and the SDGs. Given the growing importance of mobilizing private capital, the UNCT encourages new partnership arrangements to tackle gaps and overcome challenges using the skills, competencies and capacities of the private sector. The global shift towards the adoption of integrated national financing frameworks places the UNCT in a strategic position to support the Government in designing and implementing strategies that will realign and attract public and private investments.

Finally, through the Resident Coordinator's Office, the UNCT will continue convening international development partners and actors in civil society and academia on a regular basis, to help assess emerging trends in and opportunities for the Kyrgyz Republic to benefit from international technical support in its efforts to meet the country's national development aspirations.

2.8 UNCT Configuration

The 2030 Agenda provides a common reference point for state and non-state actors to address key development and reinforces the normative role of the UN system in acting on behalf of all rights holders, not just decision-makers. The UN system is the natural counterpart to the Government in supporting the attainment of SDG goals for the benefit of all. UN expertise plays a key role in wide-ranging planning, data collection and analysis, and the integration of cross-cutting themes that support government partners and other non-state actors. Other fundamental characteristics of the UNCT are

its convening authority, its standard-setting expertise, as well as technical strengths in policy advisory and advocacy.

More specifically, the UNCT sees its comparative advantages in the following areas:

- Delivering on the promise to leave no one behind – including vulnerable groups into the national development agenda;
- Fulfilling its normative agenda in accordance with its obligations under international human rights mechanisms and strengthening country's engagement with the UN Human Rights Mechanisms and international labour standards;
- Advising on policy development and policy cohesion;
- Promoting gender equality and women's empowerment;
- Strengthening resilience of communities and improving grassroots capacities to react to shocks and crises;
- Improving national systems for emergency preparedness and response;
- Devising development solutions through multi-stakeholder groups and unconventional partnerships;
- Improving finance for development (including through tools such as Development Finance Assessment and Integrated Financing Frameworks);
- Facilitating transformative solutions, including through digitalization and innovation, with multiplier effects for sustainable development across its social, environmental and economic dimensions;
- Facilitating integration and cooperation between the Kyrgyz Republic and UN Member States, including through regional programmes and networks, Economic and Social Commissions; and
- Strengthening national capacities in production and usage of quality data and statistics.

The member agencies of the UNCT will support the implementation of the four CF priority areas as shown below.

Table 2. UNCT engagement in UNSDCF priority areas

Strategic Priority Area	UN entities
1. Support national efforts to respond to people's needs by ensuring equitable access to quality social services including education, health, social protection and decent work through effective policies and appropriate financing mechanisms with the participation of all parties.	FAO, ILO, IOM, ITC, ITU, OHCHR, UN Women, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNECE, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNV, WFP, WHO (18 entities)
2. Support national efforts to promote prosperity and resilience for all citizens through inclusive green socio-economic development.	FAO, IFAD, IOM, ITC, ITU, UN Women, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNECE, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNV, WFP (14 entities)
3. Support national efforts to promote inclusive approaches to climate action, disaster risk management and environmental protection to conserve natural resources and	FAO, IOM, ITU, OCHA, UNDRR, UN Women, UNDP, UNECE, UNESCO, UNEP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNV, WFP, WHO (16 entities)

leverage ecosystem benefits for sustainable human development.	
4. Support national efforts to promote just, accountable, and inclusive institutions and a civil society that fosters peace, cohesion and human rights for all.	IOM, ITU , OHCHR, UN Women, UNDP, UNECE, UNESCO UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UNV (<i>12 entities</i>)

3. Cooperation Framework Implementation Plan

As discussed earlier in this report, the Kyrgyz Republic has been confronting a set of challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and, more recently, the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine. These constraints have exacerbated existing development efforts, hindered the achievements by the country in advancing of its national development agenda, and put the welfare of the Kyrgyz citizens, especially the most vulnerable groups of the population, at higher risk. With the country being now off track to achieve the SDGs by 2030, the Cooperation Framework will demonstrate a stronger integrated response to the national SDG challenges, particularly through more and better policy support and wider engagement of development partners. As discussed in Section 2.4 on the CF approach, the challenges now facing the country require a systems-focused, multisector approach rather than narrowly targeted, isolated agency interventions. Such a systems approach to sustainable development will be the North Star to guide the UN collective development response for the duration of the Cooperation Framework.

It should be remembered that the COVID-19 pandemic and response mounted by the UN accelerated the implementation of reforms for the UN development system to be “fit for purpose,” and advancing a new generation of UN Country Teams that are better equipped to address complex challenges through an integrated approach. The COVID-19 crisis clearly demonstrated that the old way of doing business by the UNCT was no longer a viable option and that fundamental change was needed. The response to the COVID-19 pandemic has tested the renewed leadership capabilities of the Resident Coordinator system at all levels, making the value of coordination far more evident than in the past and providing proof of concept for increased investments.

In this “new normal,” the UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, supported by the Country Team, will focus on its impartial coordination function and continue demonstrating the unique value of the UN’s convening power for the 2030 Agenda. This will be accomplished by forming effective links across all parts and levels of the Government and development partners, including civil society, the private sector and academia. The Cooperation Framework will enable joining forces to recover and advance national priorities towards 2030 and substantially increase national ownership and accountability through joint analysis, planning, implementation, monitoring, review, reporting, communications and evaluation of the UN development system’s programmes and impact in the country. In this regard, the UNCT will support efforts to significantly accelerate the adoption of digital technologies and innovation as cost-effective and proven approaches to improving the reach and scope of economic and social services and expanding new forms of collaboration and partnerships.

Likewise, the Cooperation Framework will capitalize on the UN's clear and shared understanding of its normative role and will elevate the UN system's normative support to the country to establish, implement, monitor and report on norms, normative standards and agreements, including on international human rights commitments. This includes much greater focus on all forms of inequality and discrimination, including gender inequality, based on the principle of "leaving no-one behind." The UN system's efforts will also be focused on stronger UNCT engagement with broad categories of civic groups and actors outside traditional UN civil society partners. Annual UNCT (unpublished) reports on the state of peace and human rights in the country respectively will be shared with UN senior leaders and to inform strategic dialogue with the Government. At the operational level, the UNCT will guide the work of UN thematic groups (youth, gender, disability, peace and development dialogue group) to increase their visibility and interactions with the national partners. The UN Resident Coordinator will convene periodic (twice a year) "pan thematic" group consultations to discuss and identify trends and patterns requiring a whole-of-UN or cross thematic group response and resulting in the development and implementation of options papers as necessary.

With 14 UN agencies participating in the implementation of the Business Operations Strategy 2019-22, the cumulative cost avoidance is nearly US\$ 3.7 Million. The UN-Kyrgyz Republic Business Operations Strategy 2019-22 is being reviewed in 2022 to continue enhancing interagency implementation of efficiency commitments.

3.2 Strategic Partnerships

The rollout and performance of high-quality dynamic partnerships will deeply affect the Kyrgyz Republic's ability to successfully transition to a sustainable and inclusive development pathway in which no one is left behind. Recognizing that as a lower middle-income country, the country is not likely to benefit from higher levels of official development assistance, the UN will seek to maximize the financing and resources available for the Government's development priorities and SDGs through a number of strategic, innovative and operational partnerships that reach across the public, private and civil society sectors, with the goal of advancing the overarching priorities identified in the Cooperation Framework. It will also seek to promote partnerships with an array of stakeholders across sectors to efficiently mobilize resources, whether financial or otherwise, as appropriate towards the achievement of the SDGs.

The underlying partnership between the Kyrgyz government and the UN has the explicit objective of helping the country to achieve its national goals and the SDGs. This longstanding partnership at the national level will be further deepened to support the country's various tiers of provincial, municipal and local administrations by supporting partnerships at all these levels of governance and delivery of economic and social services.

The Cooperation Framework recognizes the importance of leveraging all sources of sustainable financing and investments towards attaining the 2030 Agenda. Its focus will shift to using the UN development system's convening power to support Kyrgyz Government in developing and implementing sustainable financing strategies. The Cooperation Framework hence expands from "funding" -- i.e., resource mobilization for UN programmes) to "SDG financing" -- i.e., leveraging and

influencing all available financial flows and instruments in support of national priorities for achieving the 2030 Agenda.

As a priority, the UN will focus on partnerships between the Government and the private sector so as to galvanize accelerated economic transformation towards green, resilient, low-carbon, sustainable economy. Partnerships with the private sector will be diversified and scaled-up to include industry associations and labour institutions. The UN will likewise partner with national scientific bodies, research and policy think-tanks, academia and universities, and other institutions with a mandate for advancing innovation, technology and the future of work in line with “Industry 4.0.” Similarly, the UN will encourage a greater role for SMEs as a pivotal force in driving the Kyrgyz Republic’s economic transformation and attainment of other development priorities.

To support the country’s progress toward a more highly skilled economy, enabled by high efficiency and high-quality public sector services, the UN will partner with central and local authorities in the regions in the areas of education, skills, health, social protection and migration. In support of advancing public sector reforms -- including anti-corruption, the rule of law, e-governance, digitization including narrowing the digital gap, as well as SDG data, analysis and reporting -- partnerships will be established with relevant government agencies to focus interventions in areas in which the UN can best add value.

The Cooperation Framework builds on the understanding that the academic community plays a crucial role in the implementation of SDGs. The UN will partner with academia, universities and education institutions to enhance awareness raising on the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda as a means for helping address the four priority areas of this Cooperation Framework. The UN will also draw from a range of resources from the wider UN community, such as encouraging the use of learning materials from the UN Staff System College and connect them with local partners.

Stronger partnerships will be pursued with national stakeholders, such as the Government, parliament, private sector and academia, throughout the implementation of this UNSDCF for resource mobilization to secure the financing needed to accelerate the SDGs. These partnerships are equally essential for amplifying the UN’s ethical, sustainable and responsible business practices. This entails achieving higher levels of SDG impact investment as well as yielding increased social and environmental dividends derived from accelerating the transition to inclusive green growth, decarbonization, and the advancement of business and human rights initiatives.

Civil society organizations, including volunteer community-based organizations, will be one of the partners to accelerate UNSDCF results with the goals of outreach, community empowerment and ensuring human rights for the most left behind groups. Partnership with media and opinion leaders/influencers will be strengthened to foster results in conveying key messages for individual self-care and social change.

The range and extent of partnerships outlined above are important vehicles for co-creation, innovation and collaboration. These partnerships also enable the exchange of research, dialogue, ideas and knowledge generation, including for policy consultation and South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

The UN will utilize its convening and facilitating role to ensure these healthy and productive spaces and opportunities are maintained for partnerships with all relevant stakeholders so that the SDGs and objectives of the Cooperation Framework can flourish and advance.

3.3 Governance Arrangements and Coordination Mechanisms

Since the launching of the UN Development System reform in 2018, notable progress has been made in strengthening the coherence of the UN system in the Kyrgyz Republic. However, the UNDAF 2018-22 evaluations pinpointed significant gaps that prevent better policy coherence. Ongoing assessment of the UN system reforms highlights the importance of closer engagement with the Government and other stakeholders at both strategic and operational levels. Building on the lessons learnt and recommendations of the UNDAF and other evaluation, the new UNSDCF will place stronger focus on strengthening the roles of governance and coordination mechanisms.

The Cooperation Framework will serve as a core accountability tool between the UN Country Team and the Government, as well as between and among UNCT members for collectively owned development results. At the strategic level, implementation of the Cooperation Framework will be overseen and guided by a Joint Government-UN Strategic Coordination Committee, the highest governing body comprised of senior-level representatives from the Cabinet of Ministers and UN representatives. As the custodians of the Cooperation Framework, the SCC will have two co-chairs: the Head of the Cabinet of Ministers, Head of the President's Administration representing the Government, and the UN Resident Coordinator representing the UNCT. The Joint Strategic Coordination Committee will hold annual meetings to review progress towards achieving planned results as well as to plan the expected results for the following year. The Joint Strategic Coordination Committee will ensure that the implementation of the Cooperation Framework is fully aligned with the key national priorities and remains relevant and responsive to emerging and unforeseen needs. The Joint Government-UN Technical Working Group established in 2022 will be an additional vehicle to reinforce and support the implementation of the Cooperation Framework, validate joint analysis, provide advice on achieving better cohesion with national development priorities and prepare recommendations for discussion by the Joint Steering Committee.

To maintain a continuous focus on the outcomes throughout implementation of the Cooperation Framework, the UNCT will establish four Results Groups that will be the main coordination mechanisms for the Framework at the operational level. Following the recommendations of the UNDAF 2018-22 Evaluation, the Results Groups will be co-chaired with the Government and will meet quarterly to review implementation, address bottlenecks, identify opportunities, and make necessary corrections. Inter-outcome groups meetings will take place at least twice a year and serve as a framework for closer interaction and coherent cross-sectoral programming by measuring joint progress, generating joint programme opportunities, and exploring joint partnership and outreach. The Results Groups will regularly convene and engage with a broader range of government counterparts, donors, civil society, academia, social partners, private sector, and other development partners, on programmatic approaches, advocacy, and policy issues as identified in their TORs that will be developed in due course. To further reduce the risk of fragmentation and siloed approaches, the chairmanship of the Results Group on the UN side will be assigned on an annual rotational basis.

In addition to the Results Groups, the implementation of the UNSDCF will also be supported by the key programme support structures such as the Programme Management Team, the Operations Management Team, and the Joint UN Communications Group. The Monitoring and Evaluation Group will be a subordinate structure of the Programme Management Team. Thematic subgroups will also serve as cross-cutting mechanisms to add value for Results Groups with multiple thematic areas and ensure that adequate cross-cutting thematic competencies are available for initiation, planning and implementation cycles of the different thematic areas.

3.4 Joint Work Plans

The Cooperation Framework will be operationalized through Joint Work Plans that will be prepared bi-annually and reflect the Cooperation Framework outcomes and outputs and all related UN entities' development contributions. The Joint Work Plans will be discussed within and across Results Groups to ensure that gaps and overlaps, the potential for synergies, and joint programmes are identified and streamlined. The Results Groups will ensure a more harmonious alignment of the UN joint planning processes with government planning approaches at the sectoral and national levels. Mandatory endorsement of the Joint Work Plans will be through the UNCT and the Joint Strategic Coordination Committee. The Joint Work Plans will be subject to joint annual reviews with the engagement of a broader range of government counterparts, donors, civil society, academia, social partners, private sector, and other development partners, with the aim of gauging progress made and suggest course corrections as necessary. The joint review of the implementation of Joint Work Plans will nurture the Joint Annual UN Country Team results reporting to the Joint Strategic Coordination Committee, the Government, and the UN Secretary General.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

4.1 Monitoring Plan

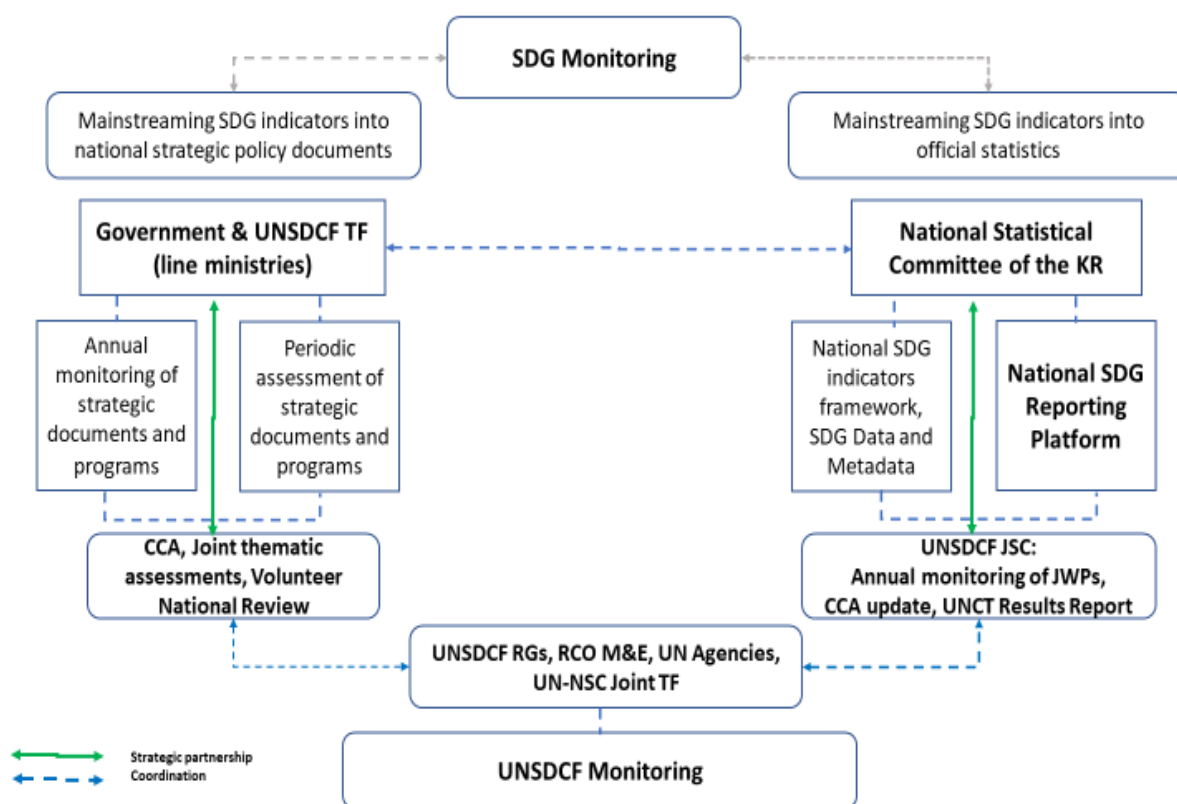
Following its corporate guiding principle, the Cooperation Framework will serve as the central framework for *joint monitoring, review, analysis, reporting and evaluation* of the UN development system's impact in a country in achieving the 2030 Agenda. Monitoring the implementation progress of this UNSDCF will be primarily based on the Results Framework (Annex 1) and will be led by the Results Groups in close collaboration with the relevant government partners. The integrated cross-sectorial Monitoring Plan will be developed based on the principles of transparency, inclusivity and participation by a broad range of national stakeholders, including civil society and private sector. Fully operationalized, the UN INFO online platform will be used for planning, monitoring, and reporting in support of the implementation of the Joint Work Plans and to track the UN Country Team's contribution to Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The UN will make maximum use of national data and information systems. The Kyrgyz Republic has established a solid national monitoring system to track the progress towards achievement of SDGs through the key national strategic documents and sectoral programs. The Result Framework is

therefore based on nationally established SDG indicators, baselines and targets that rely on governmental official data. In total, majority of indicators contained in the UNSDCF results framework correspond directly to the SDGs. Baselines are derived from the latest government reports and data availability of selected national SDG indicators in consultation with line ministries. Disaggregated data, broken down by geography, gender, socio-economic status and LNOB groups, will be pursued and tracked regularly to improve analysis, evidence-based integrated policymaking, and programme implementation.

The UN will partner with the line ministries and the National Statistical Committee to strengthen the SDG data ecosystem and fill data gaps. The UN will operationalize the Memorandum of Understanding and Joint Work Plan with the National Statistics Committee aimed at fostering a collaborative approach towards strengthening the national SDGs monitoring system. Innovative methods of data collection will be explored to fill in gaps in the national monitoring system and provide alternative interpretations of the development progress by the non-state partners. The Second National Voluntary Review will be another whole-of-the-UN, whole-of-the Government and whole-of-the-society process through which the Kyrgyz Republic will assess and present national progress made in implementing the 2030 Agenda, including achieving its 17 Sustainable Development Goals and the pledge to leave no one behind.

Figure 5. Alignment of UNSDCF monitoring with National SDG monitoring system



4.1.1. Cooperation framework review and reporting

The Cooperation Framework will be responsive to emerging and unforeseen needs. To ensure this contingency, the Results Groups will undertake annual performance reviews with relevant stakeholders to assess the progress towards strategic priorities, outcomes and outputs, opportunities, lessons learned and best practices. Annual updates of the Common Country Analysis will inform these reviews by providing the analysis of the significant changes in the country context. In preparation of this Cooperation Framework, the UN in the Kyrgyz Republic has implemented futures and foresight approaches, including a multi-day scenarios analysis process. Prior to the finalization of the priority areas and outcome-outputs statements as well as given recent geopolitical events, the UNCT benefited from updating the scenarios it developed in late 2021 and engaged in a “wind-tunneling” process for stress testing outcomes and outputs of the Cooperation Framework using the scenarios. Embedded in the Cooperation Framework annual review process, the UNCT will continue applying futures and foresight analysis to create opportunities to identify potential barriers, obstacles, or even areas to strengthen initiatives by “using the future” through multi-stakeholder engagement. Based on the annual review and periodic assessments of the changes in the country context, the Results Groups will, as necessary, propose to the UNCT amendments to Cooperation Framework outputs and joint workplans to ensure the continued relevance and effectiveness of the UN support. Amendments will be subject to the endorsement by the Joint Strategic Committee.

A high-quality data and evidence-based annual UN Country Results Reports will be developed to demonstrate the system-wide UN contribution to the achievements of the joint development results in support of the 2030 Agenda and will be submitted for the endorsement of the Joint Strategic Committee and will be made available through digital platforms to other national stakeholders and development partners.

4.2 Evaluation Plan

Evaluation is an important part of the results-based management cycle. Particular use of Cooperation Framework evaluation is for course correction to strengthen programme by realigning priorities, strategies and interventions. Evaluation-based evidence and recommendations can also be used for resource leveraging and partnerships. The development of this Cooperation Framework significantly benefited from the UNDAF 2018-22 Evaluation that guided the implementation strategy and now leads to this Cooperation Framework placing much greater emphasis on increasing transparency, national ownership and accountability through joint analysis, planning, implementation, monitoring, review, reporting, communications and evaluation of the UN development system’s programmes and impact in the country.

To further advance the UN system reform process, individual UN agencies will strive to harmonize the review and reporting requirements of any individual programmes outside this Cooperation Framework

and seek synergies in monitoring in areas within which they are jointly interested and invested. The Results Groups, with support of Monitoring and Evaluation Group will conduct periodic joint inter-outcome group meetings to measure progress of joint results and their impact. A Final independent UNSDCF Evaluation will be conducted at the end of the Cooperation Framework cycle to assess the overall development impact and provide recommendations for the design of the next Cooperation Framework.

ANNEX 1. Key Strategic Concepts for Attaining Transformative Results in line with the Sustainable Agenda

Transformation Approach

The Cooperation Framework in the Kyrgyz Republic is the key foundation to drive for fundamental transformation to reach the sustainable future outlined in the localized SDGs. Toward this end, it is critical that the UN team undertakes its duties, informed in part by the latest global strategic thinking and develops new ways to doing business needed to attain the expected transformative results, as outlined below.

Leadership for transformative results

For the fulfilment of our commitments in the Kyrgyz Republic, the UNCT aims to translate the CEB Leadership Framework (2017) within and through the implementation of this UNSDCF. This implies placing dedicated efforts on rethinking, reframing and catalyzing the culture change that is required to transform the way the UN works in the Kyrgyz Republic. More specifically, *the eight characteristics of leadership* in the UN (norm-based, principled, inclusive, accountable, multi-dimensional, transformational, collaborative, and self-applied) and *four leadership behaviors* (focusing on impact, driving transformational change, systems thinking and co-creation) as articulated in the CEB will be increasingly applied in a facilitated manner.

For this to occur, 'internal safe spaces' will be created for testing new approaches among staff, as well as with core partners that will serve as platforms for increasingly exercising the UN leadership characteristics and leadership behaviors. It is critical that such spaces are created not only by and for the formally designated leaders, but also by and for all responsible staff in line with the CEB Leadership Framework at all levels and in all locations. For this fundamental change, the UNCT will put in practice the MOPAN findings as well as the recommendations of the German Development Institute Report assessing UNDS reform efforts at the country level, and in line with the change management model in order to accelerate internal system changes. The UNCT senior management commit to leading purposeful change efforts by investing time, funds, and their own example towards the culture change within and through the UN's work in the country.

For the above critical actions, UNCT senior management will identify positive behavior changes in practice, and support them through messaging, public acknowledgement and/or by institutionalizing pathways for accelerated dissemination of such behaviors. First, the acceleration and implementation approach of this Cooperation Framework builds largely on the recommendations of the German Development Institute report. Second, this will entail developing our country level change management teams in line with the findings of MOPAN study. Third, UNCT senior management will raise pooled funds from their respective HQs and external sources to support the actions for country level change management efforts. Fourth, the UNCT will pursue action-learning principles by embedding reflection and on-the-job learning from the UN's development, humanitarian and peace actions (external) as well as organizational efforts (internal).

The UNCT is certain that our five-year UNSDCF pathway will serve as a basis for developing a model for a country-level change management strategy, which can be of benefit at the regional and global level. The UNCT strongly believes that only by practicing a common internal and external culture change, while leveraging our diversity, will the UN be able to increasingly do business differently, both as individual UN entities, but, most importantly, as the UN system as a whole at the country level, and be truly fit for purpose towards Agenda 2030.

Key entry points and levers

This Cooperation Framework has identified four priority areas for action consisting of: economic and social well-being, green economy transformation, environmental protection and disaster risk mitigation, and governance and human rights. These priority areas closely mirror the key areas for accelerating the SDGs implementation defined in the first Quadrennial Global SDG Report. To achieve systemic changes at the end of the new framework implementation, the UNCT will utilize four levers or strategic entry points: (i) governance, (ii) economy and finance, (iii) Individual and collective action, and (iv) science and technology. These are the entry points for a context-dependent approach that will be central for the innovation needed to advance the implementation of UNSDCF in the planned period.

Rethinking and reframing capacity building

There are data to suggest that around 70-80 percent of UN's development efforts are invested in capacity building and strengthening. This implies that the UN has a high likelihood to attain transformative changes, if the UN family carefully examines and reframes its current capacity building approaches. The UNCT has an opportunity to truly experiment and lead new capacity building efforts in line with the adaptive thinking that helped to shape the development of the Cooperation Framework. This has seen an openness to redefine problems outside of usual boundaries and reach solutions based on a new understanding of complex situations and a willingness to engage in new ways of approaching them. This is highly urgent, especially now in light of the extreme uncertainty and complexity of challenges facing the Kyrgyz Republic.

One of the major barriers in capacity development is the long-established tradition of 'expert driven solutions' that downplay the need to engage the solutions-holders from among those directly affected by the problem. This is especially concerning, as the types of problems the UN is facing are of a complex nature, requiring systemic and adaptive approaches.

Therefore, the main avenue for change that is required in and through the UNSDCF is the need to reframe our understanding of the rights-holders from being a target group or "service or handout recipient" towards being "knowledge and solution holders and new norm shapers."

Partnership for new value creation

The MOPAN study revealed that no systemic approach to partnership exists as part of the reform rollout globally, but good examples emerge in different contexts. Therefore, the UNSDCF will serve as a testing ground for the UN and its partners to explore how to build a more systemic approaches with a broader range of partners. The SDG Partnership Guidebook sets the key framing for this exploration. Its localization will enable the UN to engage various partners towards generating new value-added achievements for national development. More specifically, the UNCT is committed to further exploring the “transformative partnership” concept as a way to bring together partners to tackle development challenges in an innovative and multi-faceted way that result in fundamental change.

Commitment to human rights and leave no one behind

Within the new UNSDCF, the UNCT re-confirms its commitment to promoting human rights as a key component for accelerating SDG implementation and enhancing effectiveness of development processes at national and local levels. A human rights approach entails applying the main principles of non-discrimination, participation, transparency, and accountability. This entails two important dimensions: (i) to empower girls and boys, women and men to claim their human rights (as rights holders), and (ii) to increase the capacity of those who are obliged to respect, promote, protect and fulfil those rights (as duty bearers), so that all people in the country – women and men, different rights groups -- can equally benefit from the results of development processes. Special attention will be made on guaranteeing that state and non-state partners and people residing in the Kyrgyz Republic will have a clear understanding of their rights and buy-in for implementation of duties, roles and responsibilities.

By the same token, the Cooperation Framework understands the importance of clearly defining vulnerable groups and ensuring that the methods and processes of planning programme interventions appropriately reach these vulnerable groups. Conventionally, vulnerable groups have been perceived as passive recipients of assistance, which in most cases had the effect of preserving their continuous vulnerability and dependence on external support. The new approach will require fundamental change in positioning of vulnerable groups as active drivers of change and called as rights groups.

The UNSDCF prioritizes the application of a ‘people-centred approach’ allowing different rights groups, and especially those who are left behind, to genuinely participate in designing and developing policy/programming decisions, and ensuring that specific rights and needs of different groups are fully taken into consideration.

ANNEX 2. UNSDCF 2023-27 Results Framework

Priority area 1. Support national efforts to respond to people's needs by ensuring equitable access to quality social services including education, health, social protection and decent work through effective policies and appropriate financing mechanisms with the participation of all parties.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Development Program until 2026: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Objectives: Implementation of decent work standards; 5.5 Labor market and employment; 3.4. Crisis management; 6.2. Agriculture and processing; 7.2 a Healthy nation; 7.4 Inclusive growth; 3.2. Recovery of economic activity; 4.2. Digitalization of management and development of digital infrastructure; 5.4. Clean drinking water; 5.5 labor market and employment; - Concept of Migration Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic 2021-2030; - Gender Equality Strategy - State Programme on HIV/AIDS
REGIONAL FRAMEWORKS	
INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UN Declaration on HIV/AIDS; - Global AIDS Strategy; - Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), - 53 ILO Conventions, including 8 Fundamental Conventions. 1 Protocol on Forced Labour; - Beijing Declaration; - Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) - Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) - Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) - International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW) - Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) - ICPD Program of Action and Nairobi commitments - Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its Protocol - Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) - Universal Periodic Review - International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) - Recommendations from the Special Rapporteurs' country visits

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	SDG 1 No Poverty SDG 2 Zero Hunger SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being SDG 4 Inclusive and equitable Education SDG 5 Gender Equality SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth SDG 10 Reduced inequalities Goal 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies				
RESULTS	INDICATOR	BASELINE 2023*	TARGET 2027	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	KEY ASSUMPTIONS
Outcome 1 : By 2027, the people of the Kyrgyz Republic, particularly vulnerable groups, have enhanced resilience, strengthened capabilities, and access to decent work, resulting in full enjoyment of their rights contributing to the socio-economic and gender-transformative development of the country.	(SDG 1.a.2) Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection)	total 53,2% a) education 23.2% b) health 10% c) social protection 20%	a) total 35%	NSC data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government demonstrates commitment to developing policies that are evidence-based and respond equitably and fairly to the needs of all the population. The Government prioritizes and increases allocations from the state budget to the social sector including education, health, decent work and social protection despite increasing economic shocks. The Government in the process of developing its economic plan, ensures that vulnerable groups are targeted and can directly benefit from these measures, whether in terms of job creation, skills development and creation of small businesses by addressing their grievances. The Government at all levels is committed to improve social partnership on social, labour and related economic issues to reach objectives of social and economic development policies and programmes Reform of the social system will ensure provision of social assistance through improved social benefits coverage, integrated social services and social
	(SDG 1.2.2) Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions	42.2%	35%	NCS	
	(SDG 8.2.1) Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person	90.60%	104%	NCS	

					<p>welfare workforce to sustainably address needs of vulnerable populations while improving universal access to services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthened health reforms will ensure high quality services especially for those vulnerable and improve universal health coverage. • Vulnerable groups acquire new coping mechanisms and social cohesion in the context of extreme economic shocks which are recognized and upscaled through government mechanisms. • Accountability and policy coherence are ensured through cross-sectoral collaboration.
Output 1.1 National and local policies, plans, budgets, and financing mechanisms are evidence-based and aligned to respond equitably to people's needs in an inclusive, gender responsive and accountable manner.	(SDG 1.3.1) Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, age, disability, urban and rural population, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work-injury victims and the poor and the vulnerable	a) total 17,7% c) Children 16%	a) total 0,5% c) children 20%	NSC; Administrative data of Ministry of Labour, Social Welfare and Migration (MLSWM);	
	(SDG 5.6.2) Laws and regulations that guarantee full and equal access to women and men aged 15 years and older to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education, as well as volunteerism	Law July 4, 2015, No. 148	fact	NSC	

	(SDG 8.3.1) Proportion of informal employment in total employment, by sector and sex	64.9%	50%	NSC	
	16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)	101.8%	100%	NCS	
Output 1.2 Social services for health, education, social protection, employment, and labor are improved to provide higher quality, taking into account universal accessibility, gender equality, shock-responsiveness, timeliness, and include mechanisms to report and respond to grievances.	(SDG 2.1.1.1d) Percentage of schools and percentage of students in grades 1-4 enrolled in the simplified nutrition and hot meals program	60%	80%	Ministry of Education records (EMIS)	
	(SDG 3.4.1) Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes, or chronic respiratory disease	a) cardiovascular disease 317.7 b) cancer 63.8 c) diabetes 9.8 d) chronic respiratory disease 17.2	a) 252.6 b) c) d)	NCS	
	(SDG 3.1.1) Maternal Mortality ratio	38.60%	30%	NSC	
	(SDG 3.2.1) Under 5 mortality	16.70%	20%	NCS	
	(SDG 3.3.1) Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations	0.1	0.05	Ministry of Health statistics	
	(SDG 4.2.2.1a.) Coverage of children in preschool education	22.20%	32%	NCS	

	(SDG 4.1.1) Proportion of children and young people (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex			NSC	
	Percentage of those who have successfully completed three tasks on basic skills and reading skills	57.9	61	NSC (MICS)	
	Percentage of those who have successfully completed three tasks on fundamental skills and counting skills	51.3	61	NSC (MICS)	
	SDG 8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	5.80%	4.80%	NCS	
Output 1.3 The population of the Kyrgyz Republic, especially the most vulnerable, have acquired the skills and knowledge to make positive changes in the social norms of society for a more inclusive, equitable and gender-sensitive environment,	(SDG 3.7.2) Adolescent birth rate per 1000 women	33.4%	28%	NCS	
	(SDG 5.2.1.1a) Number of women contacting health authorities for domestic violence	# of women a) Forensic Dept. 1,713 b) Midwives points 1,2025 c) FMC 379 d) stations(hospitals) 180	Fact	NCS	

and are empowered to participate in all spheres of life and to assert their rights and opportunities.	(SDG 4.7.1.) The extent to which i) Global Citizenship Education and ii) Education for Sustainable Development are mainstreamed into a) national education policies; b) curricula; c) teacher training; and d) student assessment	a)50% b)0 c)1-2 d)0	a)100% b)50% c)4 teacher training courses with ESD and GCED integrated d)50%	Ministry of Education and Science	
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Priority Area 2: Support national efforts to promote prosperity and resilience for all citizens through inclusive and equitable green socio-economic development.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Development Program until 2026: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Objectives: Implementation of decent work standards; 5.5 Labor market and employment; 3.4. Crisis management; 6.2. Agriculture and processing; 7.2 a Healthy nation; 7.4 Inclusive growth; 3.2. Recovery of economic activity; 4.2. Digitalization of management and development of digital infrastructure; 5.4. Clean drinking water; 5.5 labor market and employment; 6.2. Agriculture and processing; 7.4 inclusive growth - Green Economy Development Program in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2019-2023 - National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan - The program of the Kyrgyz Republic Government on Public Health Protection and Health Care System Development for 2019-2030 "Healthy Person- Prosperous Country" - The Concept of Healthy nutrition of the population for the period 2021 -2025 - Concept on Migration Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic 2021-2030; - Digital Transformation Concept "Digital Kyrgyzstan 2019-2023; Food Security and Nutrition Programme in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2019-2023
REGIONAL FRAMEWORKS	TRASECA, CAREC, Economic Cooperation Organization Regional Coordination Centre for Food Security, Almaty Process on Refugee Protection and International Migration, SPECA, VPOA

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SUN - Committee on World Food Security, - Food Systems Summit 2021 - Nutrition4Growth Commitments - Global Compact for Migration, - World Health Assembly Resolution 65.6 (2012) with Global Nutrition Targets - Universal Periodic Review (UPR) - International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) - Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) - Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) - International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW) - Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) - Recommendations from the Special Rapporteurs' country visits 				
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	SDG 1 No Poverty (Target 1.2) SDG 2 Zero Hunger (Target 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.c) SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being (3.1, 3.2, 3.4.1) SDG 4 (Target 4.4) SDG 5 Gender Equality (Target 5.4) SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy (7.2, 7.3) SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth (Target 8.3, 8.5, 8.6) SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (Target 9.3) SDG 10 Reduced inequalities (Target 10.7 facilitate orderly, safe, and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies) SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production (Target 12.b) SDG 13 Climate Action (13.1) SDG 17 Partnerships (Target 17.3)				
RESULTS	INDICATOR	BASELINE 2023*	TARGET 2027	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTION STATEMENT
Strategic Outcome 2 By 2027, the well-being of the population of the Kyrgyz Republic will have improved through the further rollout of a	1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age	25,3% (2020)	20%	NSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government, with support from the private sector, continues its policy and funding priority for the green economy transition.
	2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment	45,3% (2020)	35%	NSC (SDG tracking)	

green economy based on sustainable and healthy food systems natural resource management, and effective migration processes, by accelerating the use of gender transformative social and technological innovations and entrepreneurship.	8.3.1.1 Employment in informal sector by sex, age, urban/rural, in different sectors of economy, incl. agriculture	1686900 (2018)	1600000	NSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Government intensifies creation of strategic partnerships with the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders for broader green economic development.• The Government adapts and diversifies regional economic cooperation and connectivity.• The Government continues to support efforts to reduce inequalities and improve the well-being of all the population through the adoption of green technologies.• The Government maintains its commitment to support more resilient and climate-adaptive food production, processing, distribution, and consumption of nutritious, safe and affordable food.• The Government adopts policies to enable the business environment, including for MSMEs and entrepreneurship, support smallholders and family farms.• Accountability and policy coherence are ensured through cross-sectoral collaboration.
	8.3.1.2 Share of employed in small and medium enterprises of the total employed population in the economy	3,6 % (2018)	5.8%	NSC	
	17.8.1 Proportion of population using the Internet	72 (2020)	90.3	NSC	
	10.7.2 Number of migration policies and initiatives that facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people (adapted from the global indicator 10.7.2)	Migration Policy Concept 2021-2030	2	Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Social Security, and Migration	
Output 2.1 Green economic growth is accelerated through increased equitable entrepreneurship and employment opportunities, including through the sustainable use of natural resources.	8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years) not in education, employment or training	21,1 (2020)	20	NSC	
	8.5.1.1 Average monthly wages of women and men, by occupation	18000 (2020)	23000	NSC	
	5.4.1 Proportion of time spend on unpaid domestic and care work by sex	16,4 (2019)	13	NSC	

Output 2.2 Food system sustainability is enhanced through a more efficient and inclusive approach that ensures healthy and quality nutrition for the population.	2.c.1.1b Consumer price index for food products for the Kyrgyz Republic and regions	109,72% (2020)	105%	NSC	
	2.2.1 Prevalence of stunting (height for age <-2 standard deviation from the median of the World Health Organization (WHO) Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age	11,8 % (2018)	9.1%	NSC (MICS)	
	2.2.2. Prevalence of malnutrition (weight for height >+2 or <-2 standard deviation from the median of the WHO Child Growth Standards) among children under 5 years of age, by type (wasting and overweight)	2%- wasting; 7%-overweight (2018)	1%-wasting, 6%-overweight	NSC (MICS)	
	2.3.2.2 The proportion of pregnant women, with the anemia among the women who completed their pregnancy	40.4 %(2020)	37%	Micronutrient deficiency survey	
	2.1.1.1e Per capita consumption of basic foodstuffs in relation to average physiological norms of consumption, in percent	Fruit and berries -27 % Fish & Fish products - 8,8% (2018)	Fruit and berries -32 % Fish & Fish products - 10%	NSC	

Output 2.3 An effective gender responsive system of managing migration processes is introduced to accelerate green socio-economic development.	12.b.1 Number of sustainable tourism strategies or policies and implemented action plans with agreed monitoring and evaluation tools (global)	Program of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for the development of the tourism sector for 2019-2023 dated January 31, 2019 No. 36	2	NSC	
	17.3.1.1 Entrance of direct foreign investment by type of activity (NACE, rev. 3) (national)	1 076 918,7 K USD (2019)	1300000 (2025)	NSC	
Output 2.4 Gender transformative social and technological innovations, including digitalization, are introduced to develop a green and creative economy.	4.4.1.1a Number of students enrolled in ICT in the system of primary vocational, secondary vocational and higher vocational education,	16310 (2018)	23000	NSC	
	4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill, women	21 (2018)	23	NSC	
	9.3.1 Proportion of small-scale industries in total industry value added	1.6 (2018)	2	NSC	

Priority Area 3: Support national efforts to promote inclusive and gender transformative approaches to climate action, disaster risk management and environmental protection to conserve natural resources and leverage ecosystem benefits for sustainable human development.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Development Program until 2026: 5.5 Labor market and employment; 6.2. Agriculture and processing; 4.2. Digitalization of management and development of digital infrastructure; 5.4. Clean drinking water; 5.5 labor market and employment; 9.2. Environmental sustainability and climate change - Green Economy Development Program in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2019-2023; - National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan , - Concept for the development of the forestry sector of the Kyrgyz Republic for the period up to 2040 - National Concept of Comprehensive Protection of the Population and Territory of the Kyrgyz Republic in emergency situations for 2018 – 2030 - Concept of Migration Policy 2021-2030
REGIONAL FRAMEWORKS	<p>Global Snow Leopard & Ecosystem Protection Program, The IAEA's Coordination Group for Uranium Legacy Sites (CGULS), International Fund for saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) (NB -the Kyrgyz Republic has halted its participation in IFAS), SPECA, VPOA</p>
INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS AND HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NDC (2021)/ Paris Agreement/UNFCCC - UNCBD (biodiversity), Nagoya and Cartagena Protocols, - UNCCD (Desertification), - Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters - Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm (BRS) Conventions, Montreal Protocol, Kigali Amendment , - CITES, CMS, Ramsar Convention, - The Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution - The Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) - The Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer - The World Heritage Convention - Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 - Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, - United Nations General Assembly's Resolution 75/271 "Nature knows no borders: transboundary cooperation a key factor for biodiversity conservation, restoration and sustainable use" (originally sponsored by the Kyrgyz Republic) - Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) - Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW) - Universal Periodic Review (UPR) - International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) - Recommendations from the Special Rapporteurs' country visits

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	SDG 1 No Poverty SDG 2 No Hunger SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities SDG 13 Climate Action SDG 15 Life on Land SDG 17 Partnerships				
RESULTS	INDICATOR	BASELINE 2023*	TARGET 2027	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTION STATEMENT
Strategic Outcome 3 By 2027, the Kyrgyz Republic has started the transition to low-carbon development and risk-informed climate resilience, contributing to people's fair and equitable access to ecosystem benefits and to empowerment of vulnerable communities in the governance of natural resources and disaster prevention.	13.2.1 The Kyrgyz Republic has communicated the establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy/strategy/plan which increases their ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production (including a national adaptation plan, nationally determined contribution, national communication, biennial update report or other SDGs)	1	4	Custodian agency - UNFCCC Ministry of Natural Res., Ecology and Technical Supervision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government maintains its commitments and action plans in accordance with global commitments for climate change response and environmental protection, using effective policy, legal and regulatory frameworks. The Government upholds its commitment to a national net-zero green development strategy through available measures and further innovations. Climate-adverse incentives are identified and reversed or eliminated, notably harmful subsidies. The government and other stakeholders actively mobilize climate financing and other resources for climate change adaptation and mitigation. Government and other stakeholders maintain commitment to expand coverage of protected areas by 10% in order to

	1.5.3 The Kyrgyz Republic has adopted and are implementing national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030	0	1	UN DRR Platform, Ministry of Emergency record	<div>prevent further biodiversity loss and safeguard the environment.</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Government and stakeholders create awareness about climate and disaster risks and actively mobilize capacities at all levels of society to address the risks and leverage opportunities;Government and other stakeholders continue efforts to integrate and promote disaster risk reduction measures in national and local development plans.
	15.1.2.1 Area of protected areas (national nature reserves and parks) from the total area of the country	6,5% (2019)	6,7% (2025)	NSC,	
Output 3.1 Climate policy, financing, and awareness mechanisms are designed and implemented that support climate actions, with the full participation of women and men at all decision-making levels.	13.3.2 The Kyrgyz Republic has communicated the strengthening of institutional, systemic and individual capacity-building to implement adaptation, mitigation and technology transfer, and development actions	0	1	MNRETS, MOA, Ministry of Emergency Ministry of Education	
Output 3.2 Policies, innovations, and seed investments are developed to ensure inclusive access to sustainable energy solutions in underserved urban and rural areas, with the support of the state and business, and in ways that encourage women's leadership.	7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology	19,2% (2018)	n/a	NSC	
	7.2.1.2 Share of renewable energy sources in total energy consumption	35,7 % (2019)	40% (2025)	NSC Ministry of Energy	

	7.b.1.1a Foreign direct investment inflows for the expansion of energy infrastructure and modernization of technologies to the total volume of foreign direct investment received	0,03 % (2019) 0 % (2020)	1,5 % (2025)	NSC OECD ODA database	
Output 3.3 Critical ecosystems are better protected throughout the country, and the rational and sustainable use of natural resources, including water and land, is improved through gender-responsive, participatory and conflict-sensitive systems at all levels.	SDG 15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type	6.18%	8% (2025)	NSC MNRETS MoA World Database on Protected Areas (IUCN-UNEP)	
	SDG 15.4.1 Coverage by protected areas of important sites for mountain biodiversity	6,2% (2020)	8% (2025)	NSC MNRETS MoA World Database on Protected Areas (IUCN-UNEP)	
	SDG 15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management	87,8% (2020)	90% (2025)	NSC MoA/ Forest inventory	
	15.1.1.1 Forest area as a percentage of the total area of the country	6,06 % (2020)	6,1 % (2025)	NSC MoA/ Forest inventory Global FRA, FAO	
	NSDG 6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services	94,1% (2020)	97% (2025)	NSC	
Output 3.4	NSDG1.5.2 Direct economic losses from	265,8 mln soms	n/a	NSC, MES, MoA	

Capacity of disaster management systems is strengthened, and community resilience to multiple shocks is increased at all levels through enhanced participation of women in DRR planning, as well as effective investments, policies, mechanisms, and tools.	disasters as a percentage of national gross domestic product (GDP)				
	SDG 13.1.3: Local governments adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national disaster risk reduction strategies	0	4	MES, NSC, MLSM	

Priority Area 4: Support national efforts to promote just, accountable, and inclusive institutions and a diverse civil society that fosters peace, cohesion, and human rights for all.

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY	National Development Programme of the Kyrgyz Republic until 2026: 2.1 The socio-political situation 2.4 Social justice 2.5 Rule of Law and Enforcement of the Rule of Law. Rule of law and security. 3.4 Governance in times of crisis 4.1 Reform of the executive branch of power 4.3. Reform of the administrative and territorial system 4.5. Judicial and law enforcement reforms 7.1. Sociocultural Development, building civic identity 7.4. Inclusive growth Gender Equality Strategy 2030 Kyrgyz Jarany Civic Identity Concept 2021-2026 Youth Policy Concept 2020-2030 Human Rights Action Plan 2022-2024 National Security Concept State Strategy to combat corruption and eliminate its causes in the Kyrgyz Republic for 2021 -2024
GLOBAL FRAMEWORKS	PBF Strategic Framework

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS OBLIGATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) - International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) - International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) - Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) - Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT) - Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) - International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW) - Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) - United Nations Convention against Corruption - Convention on the Status of Refugees - United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (supplementary Protocols: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Air and Sea) - Universal Periodic Review (UPR) - Recommendations from the Special Rapporteurs' country visits - 				
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	SGD 5 (5.1, 5.2, 5.5) SDG 10 (10.3) SDG 12 (12.8) SDG 16 (16.2, 16.5, 16.6, 16.7, 16.9, 16.10)				
RESULTS	INDICATOR	BASELINE 2023*	TARGET 2027	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTION STATEMENT
Strategic Outcome 4 By 2027, all people in the Kyrgyz Republic enjoy the benefits of fair and accountable democratic institutions that are free from corruption and apply innovative solutions that promote respect for human	10.3.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law	7,7% (2018) - only women related		NSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing commitment remains in place to sustain peace, protect people's lives, and ensure social cohesion. • Commitment is maintained to implement laws and practices upholding the system of checks and balances, ensuring justice for all in line with international human rights standards

rights, and strengthen peace and cohesion.	16.5.1.1a Individual corruption perception of state bodies and local governance	rank 144/180; score 27/100 given by Transparency International (TI) (2021)	Improvement of the country's global ranking and/or overall score	NSC (Index of Population Trust)	<p>and principles of accountability, transparency and independence of the justice systems and human rights institutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political will exists for people-centered good governance reforms at all levels, including public administration and judicial reforms. • Civil society and the Government continue to recognize and leverage opportunities for constructive engagement, dialogue and apply joint solutions for development. • Commitment is maintained to the increased focus on measures to deter and combat corruption. • Capacity and readiness exist to use quality data for decision- and policy-making that leaves no one behind. • The political will exists to further promote governance (e-Governance) and social innovations. • Fundamental freedoms upheld to enable space for vibrant civil society, pluralistic media, and diverse public groups to meaningfully participate in decision-making and open public dialogue. • Weak governance increases the dependencies and vulnerability to external shocks, including those triggered by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, leading to increased social incohesion. • Geopolitical positioning of the Government will consider economic, security and other ramifications that promote expanding economic and governance choices by the country, both regionally and globally.
	16.6.2.1a Executive branch of the government satisfaction index	27.3 (2019)		NSC	
	5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in a) national parliaments; b) local councils	a) 16,7% (2020); 20% (2021) b) 10% (2020); 38,34% (2021)		NSC	

Output 4.1 Accountable, participatory, transparent, and effective governance systems at all levels ensure the provision of quality services for all and inclusive spaces and promote social cohesion gender transformative systems of relations, and a violence free society.	5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and nondiscrimination on the basis of sex	Yes		NSC	
	16.7.1 Proportion of positions (disaggregated by sex, age, disability and population group) in public institutions (national and local legislatures, civil service and judiciary) compared to national distribution	1.2% \ 3.3% \ 94.4 (2020)		NSC	
	16.10.2 Country has adopted, and functional constitutional, legislative and/or policy guarantees for public access to information	Yes	Yes	NSC	
	16.9.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age	98,9% (2018)		NSC	
Output 4.2 The system of justice and out-of-court dispute resolution, as well as human rights institutions, ensure the full application of the rule of law, justice, equality, and the fight against corruption.	16.5.1.1b Number convicted for misconduct, including corruption and bribery	342 (2018)		NSC	
	16.2.1 Proportion of children aged 1-17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month	74,3% (2018)		NSC	
	16.2.2.1 Number of recorded crimes and detected persons related to	10 recorded crimes (2021)		GPO	

	trafficking in persons in the territory				
	5.2.1.1b Number of victims of domestic violence by gender, age group, level of education and occupation	8254		NSC	
Output 4.3 Civil society has the knowledge, skills, and capabilities to exercise their rights, enhancing the voices of women and youth to genuinely participate in public decision-making, and engage in constructive dialogue to achieve social cohesion, justice and equality for all.	10.3.1.1a Number of appeals to the Ombudsman, of these number reviewed and satisfied	3237 - 376 (2018)		NSC, Ombudsperson institute	
	12.8.1: Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development (including climate change education) are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment	Existence of legislation and an approved curriculum on "Person and Society" in schools		Ministry of Education and Science	

*All Baseline data 2023 is for 2020 (latest available as of today) and will be replaced upon availability

ANNEX 3. Mapping of the UN agencies' monitoring, analysis and evaluation activities (multi-year)

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
Surveys/ studies aimed to support the identification of root causes, and development/refinement of implementation strategies and/or baseline indicators									
Fill in the Nutrient Gap (FNG) / Cost of Diet (CoD) assessment	WFP	Active Aging Index - measuring and monitor national progress in ensuring activity and quality of life of the ageing populations;	UNFPA	Access to Justice Study on family law and property rights issues;	UNDP			Youth Wellbeing and Development INDEX	UNFPA, UNICEF and UN YTG members
Climate Change, Food Security and Nutrition Study	WFP, FAO	Regular Migration Situation Analysis	IOM	Health Behavior of School-Aged Children;	WHO				
Stigma Index report	UNFPA	National Legislation analysis (implementation and monitoring)	UNHCR	Regular Migration Situation Analysis	IOM				
Knowledge, Attitude and Practices assessment in regard to international migrants in the Kyrgyz Republic	IOM	National inputs to Global Stock Take under the Paris Agreement	UNDP						
Baseline-Endline Study to provide data to define the current situation on cross-border environmental and socio-economic cooperation between Uzbekistan and the Kyrgyz Republic	FAO-UNFPA								
National Transfer Accounts - the redistribution of resources between generations in households and between households	UNFPA								
Energy scoping study	UNDP								

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
Bottleneck analysis of MRV system	UNDP								
NHDR Energy Poverty	UNDP								
Capacity needs assessment of institutions for climate change adaptation	UNDP								
Ombudsman Institute Annual Report on Business & Human Rights	UNDP								
Women Access to Justice Study	UNESCO								
Baseline Study on Civil Society	UNESCO								
Profiling of smallholder agriculture producers in new agro-ecological zone, as part of preparation for scaling up cash+ scheme in 2023, using Tool for agroecology performance evaluation (TAPE)	UNESCO								
Teacher policies and professional development in Central Asia (joint initiative with the World Bank)	UNESCO								
Impact Climate change on Reproductive health	UNFPA								
Medicine market segmentation analysis of maternal health and family planning in the Kyrgyz Republic	UNFPA								
Adolescent Perceptions of Teen Births.	UNFPA								
Family planning (FP) state budget spending and FP flows in the Kyrgyz	UNFPA								

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
Republic (national accounts)									
Discussion and widely dissemination of results of survey "Index of stigma towards the people suffered from TB" (2022)	UNFPA								
Green Finance Facility feasibility study	UNDP								
SDG costing	UNDP								
SDG acceleration and bottleneck analysis;	UNDP								
Regular Migration Situation Analysis	IOM								
Violence Against Women in Politics Study	UN Women								
STEPS Survey (The WHO STEP wise Approach to NCD Risk Factor Surveillance (STEPS))	WHO	The survey on VAW	UN Women						
Study on Biosafety policy, regulatory and institutional framework	FAO								
Behavioral Insights Survey	WHO								
Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey	UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, UNWOMEN			PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment)	UNICEF, UNESCO, WB			Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey	UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, UNWOMEN
Health Behavior in School-Aged Children	WHO								
COSI survey to take standardized weight and height measurements to collect information on school environments and dietary and physical activity habits.	WHO								

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
Study of Out of Pocket Expenditures on health	WHO	6. Study of Out of Pocket Expenditures on health	WHO						
National Legislation analysis (implementation and monitoring)	UNHCR								
Financial implications analysis in accession to Statelessness Conventions.	UNHCR								
Financial and legal analysis on regularization of the Mandate refugee's status	UNHCR								
Outcome survey of Access-to-Markets Project (ATMP).	IFAD								
Baseline survey of Regional Resilient Pastoral Communities Development Project (RRPCP).	IFAD								
UN Survey of Crime Trend and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS)	UNODC	7. UN Survey of Crime Trend and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS)	UNODC	UN Survey of Crime Trend and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS)	UNODC	UN Survey of Crime Trend and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS)	UNODC	UN Survey of Crime Trend and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS)	UNODC
Study on the availability of controlled pharmaceutical drugs to treat severe pain in the Kyrgyz Republic	UNODC								
Questionnaire on New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)	UNODC	8. Questionnaire on New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)	UNODC	Questionnaire on New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)	UNODC	Questionnaire on New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)	UNODC	Questionnaire on New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)	UNODC
Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire (UN-IAFQ)	UNODC	9. Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire (UN-IAFQ)	UNODC	Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire (UN-IAFQ)	UNODC	Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire (UN-IAFQ)	UNODC	Illicit Arms Flows Questionnaire (UN-IAFQ)	UNODC

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
Study on access and benefit sharing of using the genetic resources	UNDP			Comprehensive research on new emerging drug trends in the Kyrgyz Republic	UNODC				
Study on climate change vulnerability of migratory species	UNDP								
Study on Gender Responsive Trade Facilitation in Central Asia	ITC								
Monitoring Systems (UNCT support to national/ global information systems, with regular reporting of data related to UNSDCF results and SDGs)									
Price Monitoring for Food Security	WFP, FAO	1. Price Monitoring for Food Security	WFP, FAO	Price Monitoring for Food Security	WFP, FAO	Price Monitoring for Food Security	WFP, FAO	Price Monitoring for Food Security	WFP, FAO
GAM (Global AIDS Monitoring Report) and database (UNAIDS), National AIDS Surveillance Databases (UNAIDS)	UNAIDS	1. GAM (Global AIDS Monitoring Report) and database (UNAIDS), National AIDS Surveillance Databases (UNAIDS)	UNAIDS	GAM (Global AIDS Monitoring Report) and database (UNAIDS), National AIDS Surveillance Databases (UNAIDS)	UNAIDS	GAM (Global AIDS Monitoring Report) and database (UNAIDS), National AIDS Surveillance Databases (UNAIDS)	UNAIDS	GAM (Global AIDS Monitoring Report) and database (UNAIDS), National AIDS Surveillance Databases (UNAIDS)	UNAIDS
Annual report of Ministry of Justice Legal Aid Database	UNDP	1. Annual report of Ministry of Justice Legal Aid Database	UNDP	Annual report of Ministry of Justice Legal Aid Database	UNDP	Annual report of Ministry of Justice Legal Aid Database	UNDP	Annual report of Ministry of Justice Legal Aid Database	UNDP
Jogorku Kenesh Annual Report	UNDP	1. Jogorku Kenesh Annual Report	UNDP	Jogorku Kenesh Annual Report	UNDP	Jogorku Kenesh Annual Report	UNDP	Jogorku Kenesh Annual Report	UNDP
Survey on SDG 16.10.2 (Access to Information)	UNESCO								
WHO Essential Medicines and Health Products Price and Availability Monitoring Mobile Application (WHO EMP MedMon).	WHO	- WHO Essential Medicines and Health Products Price and Availability Monitoring Mobile Application (WHO EMP MedMon).	WHO						
State Party Annual Reporting on IHR	WHO	State Party Annual Reporting on IHR	WHO	State Party Annual Reporting on IHR	WHO				
Monitoring and assessment of Quality Management System Implementation under mentoring Programme for	WHO	Monitoring and assessment of Quality Management System Implementation under mentoring Programme	WHO	Monitoring and assessment of Quality Management System Implementation under mentoring Programme	WHO				

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
8 COVID-19 laboratories and 10 MCH laboratories.		for 8 COVID-19 laboratories and 10 MCH laboratories.		for 8 COVID-19 laboratories and 10 MCH laboratories.					
A summary report to the Transforming Education Summit secretariat on the national consultation process and National Statement of Commitment to Transform Education.	UNESCO								
CRC Concluding Observations	UNICEF	CRC Concluding Observations	UNICEF	CRC Concluding Observations	UNICEF	CRC Concluding Observations	UNICEF	CRC Concluding Observations	UNICEF
Multidimensional Child Poverty Index	UNICEF	Multidimensional Child Poverty Index	UNICEF	Multidimensional Child Poverty Index	UNICEF	Multidimensional Child Poverty Index	UNICEF	Multidimensional Child Poverty Index	UNICEF
Trans Monee	UNICEF	Transmonee	UNICEF	Transmonee	UNICEF	Transmonee	UNICEF	Transmonee	UNICEF
Voluntary National Review on implementation of Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)	IOM	Support to GoK to develop VNR							
Environmental Performance Review (EPR) 2022	UNECE								
UNODC Global report on TIP 2022 (and further every 2 years)	UNODC			UNODC Global report on TIP 2022 (and further every 2 years)	UNODC Global report on TIP 2022 (and further every 2 years)			UNODC Global report on TIP 2022 (and further every 2 years)	UNODC Global report on TIP 2022 (and further every 2 years)
US TIP Report, annually UNODC/IOM inputs on TIP-related activities in cooperation with the KR Government to the US Embassy in Bishkek	UNODC/IOM	US TIP Report, annually UNODC/IOM inputs on TIP-related activities in cooperation with the KR Government to the US Embassy in Bishkek	UNODC/IOM	US TIP Report, annually UNODC/IOM inputs on TIP-related activities in cooperation with the KR Government to the US Embassy in Bishkek	UNODC/IOM	US TIP Report, annually UNODC/IOM inputs on TIP-related activities in cooperation with the KR Government to	UNODC/IOM	US TIP Report, annually UNODC/IOM inputs on TIP-related activities in cooperation with the KR Government to	UNODC/IOM

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
						the US Embassy in Bishkek		the US Embassy in Bishkek	
Monitoring of Probation Department under the KR Ministry of Justice in partnership with the KR Ombudsman Office: Evaluate probation service in ensuring of human rights in line with national legislation and international standards;	UNODC								
Annual Report Questionnaire for the World Drug Report (ARQ)	UNODC	Annual Report Questionnaire for the World Drug Report (ARQ)	UNODC	Annual Report Questionnaire for the World Drug Report (ARQ)	UNODC	Annual Report Questionnaire for the World Drug Report (ARQ)	UNODC	Annual Report Questionnaire for the World Drug Report (ARQ)	UNODC
Monitoring of Probation Department under the KR Ministry of Justice in partnership with the KR Ombudsman Office.	UNODC			National Organized Crime Threat Assessment Report (Serious Organized Crime Threat Assessment)	UNODC				
Reviews (Drawings on United Nations agencies' and partners' monitoring systems as well as findings of surveys, studies and evaluations)									
Joint Programme Monitoring system platform for UNAIDS UBRAF Country Envelope annual report (UNAIDS)	UNAIDS co-sponsors	Joint Programme Monitoring system platform for UNAIDS UBRAF Country Envelope annual report (UNAIDS)	UNAIDS co-sponsors,	Joint Programme Monitoring system platform for UNAIDS UBRAF Country Envelope annual report (UNAIDS)	UNAIDS co-sponsors,	Joint Programme Monitoring system platform for UNAIDS UBRAF Country Envelope annual report (UNAIDS)	UNAIDS co-sponsors,	Joint Programme Monitoring system platform for UNAIDS UBRAF Country Envelope annual report (UNAIDS)	UNAIDS co-sponsors,

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
Men and Women Publication, which provides data on the number of women and men, their age structure, life expectancy, migration flows, the incidence of various diseases, the level of education, the economic activity of women and men, their social status and many others important indicators	UNFPA,	Men and Women Publication	UNFPA	Men and Women Publication	UNFPA	Men and Women Publication	UNFPA	Men and Women Publication	UNFPA
Census results report on Youth, Gender, Urbanization, population change etc.	UNFPA	DPCC WG on Rule of Law and Human Rights Annual Report	UNDP & WG chairs	DPCC WG on Rule of Law and Human Rights Annual Report	UNDP & WG chairs	DPCC WG on Rule of Law and Human Rights Annual Report	UNDP & WG chairs	DPCC WG on Rule of Law and Human Rights Annual Report	UNDP & WG chairs
DPCC WG on Rule of Law and Human Rights Annual Report	UNDP & WG chairs	Questionnaires to be developed/revised and integrated at NSC to monitor GBV data collection and reporting by key state institutions	UNDP & WG chairs			Questionnaires to be developed/revised and integrated at NSC to monitor GBV data collection and reporting by key state institutions			
Integration of Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Education into education: review (TBC)	UNESCO								
Survey to improve and advocate for Rights-Based and Gender-Responsive Services to Address Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), and the action plan to address the									

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
survey findings and recommendations									
Questionnaires to be developed/revised and integrated at NSC to monitor GBV data collection and reporting by key state institutions									
SDG Tracker review	UNDP								
Review of national legislation analysis	UNHCR								
				Mid-term Review of the Country Strategic Plan (internal)	WFP				
Food Security Outcome Monitoring	WFP	Food Security Outcome Monitoring	WFP	Food Security Outcome Monitoring	WFP	Food Security Outcome Monitoring	WFP	Food Security Outcome Monitoring	WFP
						Climate change adaptation study (GCF)	WFP		
Evaluations ((Evaluations of United Nations agencies' programmes and projects contributing to UNSDCF evaluation)									
EU/UN Spotlight Initiative Final Evaluation	RCO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNODC, UNWOMEN								
						Country Strategic Plan (2023-2027) Evaluation	WFP		
		Climate change adaptation formative Evaluation (GCF)	WFP						

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
IBBS and population estimates among people who inject drugs and men who have sex with men in the Kyrgyz Republic.	UNDP								
Definition of the People Living with HIV Stigma Index and Key Populations in the Kyrgyz Republic	UNDP								
Advancing development of a National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process for medium and long-term adaptation planning and implementation in the Kyrgyz Republic	UNDP	Economic empowerment of youth and developing sustainable solutions for youth's entrepreneurship at the local level for fostering greater social cohesion and resilience, 2022-2024	UNDP	Final Evaluation Access to Justice Project	UNDP	Independent Country Programme Evaluation (ICPE)	UNDP		
Socio-Economic Recovery from negative consequences of COVID-19 in Osh, Jalal-Abad and Batten provinces of the Kyrgyz Republic	UNDP								
Inclusive governance and shared identity for sustainable peace and development (PBF), 2022-2023	UNDP								
For every child: quality teaching and learning. Project for Ensuring Quality Education of Children Affected by COVID-19	UNICEF			Evaluation of adolescent and young people participation in decision-making process at the local government level	UNICEF	Evaluation of integrated pilot on realizing rights of children with disabilities at the local level	UNICEF		

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
In-Depth Cluster Evaluation of UNODC Programming in West and Central Asia 2023-2024	UNODC	In-Depth Cluster Evaluation of UNODC Programming in West and Central Asia 2023-2024	UNODC	UNODC Project Final Independent Evaluation 'Support to Justice Sector Reform in the Kyrgyz Republic'	UNODC				
Users of M&E Information (Decision-making processes and events drawing on the findings, conclusions, recommendations and lessons learned from the M&E activities above)									
Ministry of Health, the Republican AIDS Center, international, non-governmental organizations	UNDP								
SDG unit of the President's Administration, NSC, Ministry of Economy and Commerce, CSOs	UNDP								
UNHCR key government counterparts (Ministry of Digital Development, Ministry of Labor Social Security and Migration, etc.	UNHCR								
M&E capacity building (Major capacity development activities to strengthen partner M&E capabilities)									
Training for sub-recipients on 2022 performance results, M&E issues, reporting forms, use of the online platform to track project results (MIS database).	UNDP								
Monitoring visits to regional and district TB facilities in order to document success stories/lessons learnt and detect the problems;	UNDP								

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
provide a supervision to NTP and regional TB centers.									
Training and monitoring visits (one in southern; one- in the northern)	UNFPA, UN Women	Training and technical support to NSC and key state institutions to integrate the Questionnaires to monitor GBV data collection and reporting.	UNFPA, UN Women	Training and technical support to NSC and key state institutions to integrate the Questionnaires to monitor GBV data collection and reporting.	UNFPA, UN Women	Training and technical support to NSC and key state institutions to integrate the Questionnaires to monitor GBV data collection and reporting.	UNFPA, UN Women		
Training for the Parliamentarians on the monitoring tool of the Reproductive Rights issues: endorsed by the JK(Parliament) in 2019 provides a means for experts responsible in for overseeing compliance with international legal standards on human rights to monitor the implementation of specific State obligations in the field of reproductive rights.	UNFPA, UN Women								
Strengthening capacity of line ministries on gender data literacy	UNFPA, UN Women	Strengthening capacity of line ministries on gender data literacy	UNFPA, UN Women	Strengthening capacity of line ministries on gender data literacy	UNFPA, UN Women	Strengthening capacity of line ministries on gender data literacy	UNFPA, UN Women		

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
Training and technical support to NSC and key state institutions to integrate the Questionnaires to monitor GBV data collection and reporting	UNFPA, UN Women	2. Strengthening capacity of line ministries on gender data literacy	UNFPA, UN Women						
SDG monitoring capacity building for key stakeholders	UNDP								
FAO provides training and consultations of the nominated person as needed for the following SDG indicators 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 5.a.2, 6.4.1, 6.4.2, 15.1.1, 15.2.1	FAO	FAO provides training and consultations of the nominated person as needed for the following SDG indicators 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 5.a.2, 6.4.1, 6.4.2, 15.1.1, 15.2.1	FAO						
National capacity building for the operationalization of biosafety measures in compliance with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	FAO								
National Food Security and Nutrition Portal development	WFP	National Food Security and Nutrition Portal development	WFP	National Food Security and Nutrition Portal support/maintenance	WFP	National Food Security and Nutrition Portal support/maintenance	WFP	National Food Security and Nutrition Portal support/maintenance	WFP
Development of Shock and Assistance Platform for Economic-wide Simulations (SHAPES)	WFP	Development of Shock and Assistance Platform for Economic-wide Simulations (SHAPES)	WFP	Support/Maintenance of Shock and Assistance Platform for Economic-wide Simulations (SHAPES)	WFP	Support/Maintenance of Shock and Assistance Platform for Economic-wide Simulations (SHAPES)	WFP	Support/Maintenance of Shock and Assistance Platform for Economic-wide Simulations (SHAPES)	WFP
Development of Platform for Real-time Impact Monitoring System (PRISM)	WFP	Development of Platform for Real-time Impact Monitoring System (PRISM)	WFP	Support/Maintenance of Platform for Real-time Impact Monitoring System (PRISM)	WFP	Support/Maintenance of Platform for Real-time Impact Monitoring System (PRISM)	WFP	Support/Maintenance of Platform for Real-time Impact Monitoring System (PRISM)	WFP

Action 2023	UN Agency	Action 2024	UN Agency	Action 2025	UN Agency	Action 2026	UN Agency	Action 2027	UN Agency
Capacity building for stakeholders on climate change and gender	UN Women	Capacity building for stakeholders on climate change and gender	UN Women						
Conduct a needs assessment to understand existing harmful community beliefs and attitudes about roles and behaviors of vulnerable women in migration	IOM								
Capacity building activities of government counterparts in the area of asylum and statelessness issues	UNCHR								
Capacity building for SMEs on e-commerce	ITC								
Capacity building for SMEs on cross-border management	ITC								

ANNEX 4. UNSDCF 2023-27 design process

The UNSDCF 2023-2027 design process in the Kyrgyz Republic lasted 11 months from April 2021 until early March 2022. It included several important steps to ensure that the Kyrgyz Republic's UNSDCF 2023-27 is nationally owned and anchored in national development priorities of the country's National Development Strategy until 2026, provides the overarching framework for development results delivered collectively and by individual entities, and remain responsive to emerging and unforeseen needs. The UNSDCF was formulated through a well-articulated roadmap and an inclusive and participatory process led by the Administration of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic and the United Nations Resident Coordinator and with full engagement of the United Nations development system – regardless of physical presence in the country. Under the leadership of the Administration of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Joint UN-Government Technical Working Group consisting of the representatives of 26 Government representatives and the UN staff was established to discuss strategic priorities and outcomes and ensure alignment of the Cooperation Framework with the national priorities outlined in the National Development Programme until 2026 and sectoral programmes and plans.

1. COMMON COUNTRY ANALYSIS AND UNDAF 2018-22 EVALUATION (APRIL – SEPTEMBER 2021)

The Kyrgyz Republic's 2021 Common Country Analysis was prepared at a time when the Kyrgyz Republic continued to face many existing and potentially unforeseen development challenges in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The analysis presented in the report indicated that, despite the major strides and accomplishments made by the country in the last few decades, the pandemic exposed or exacerbated many trends about the structure of the economy and the linkages to the social vulnerabilities facing a large portion of the Kyrgyz population. In this regard, the report identified five strategic entry points, or accelerators that encompass a functional approach, rather than a traditional sectorial approach, with the goal of simultaneously impacting multiple sectors in ways that can have medium- and longer-term benefits for sustainable and inclusive development.

Final Evaluation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for the Kyrgyz Republic 2018-2022 has used a participatory approach for data collection and for formulation of recommendations and lessons learned. The evaluation engaged members of the UNCT, UN staff, government officials, development partners, and representatives of human rights institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector, were captured in the evaluation process. The evaluation engaged all UN agencies through individual questionnaires. A total of 26 UN staff members participated in an online survey organized for this evaluation. Similarly, 28 Government officials, 37 civil society representatives and 8 development partners representatives participated in three separate online surveys. Additionally, individual meetings with key Government institutions were organized by the evaluators. Likewise, a focus group discussion was held with civil society organizations. The recommendations of the evaluation team have been translated into the UNCT management response and guided the Cooperation Framework implementation, monitoring and evaluation strategies.

2. SCENARIOS EXERCISE (JUNE-OCTOBER 2021)

Recognizing the rapidly changing environment brought not least by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and major political changes in the country in 2020-2021, the UN team set out for introducing scenario planning to the UNSDCF process to address uncertainties. The scenarios exercise included two key activities: first, the UNCT members completed an online survey on the most critical risk drivers, trends, and development opportunities in the country. Second, a three-day offline workshop was organised for the UNCT and PMT to jointly discuss the key development trends, challenges, and opportunities in the Kyrgyz Republic, and develop a range of future scenarios using the foresight approach. The exercise was an experiment in introducing alternative thinking in UNCT's strategic planning and discussing how the UN could adapt to multiple different futures. It also served as a bridge between the CCA and the UNSDCF development process. As the result, the UN team came up with four scenarios along the two axes: A) economic growth and social cohesion; B) economic decline and social cohesion; C) economic growth and social polarization and D) economic decline and social polarization.

3. UNCT STRATEGIC PRIORITIZATION RETREAT (NOVEMBER 2021)

This SPR was an integral step in the UNSDCF development process with the main purpose to define priority areas and draft outcomes and outputs, and theories of change, based on the results of the scenario exercise as the point of entry. The 3-day session also focused on the accelerators (strategic entry points) identified in the CCA to guide the discussion on cross-sectoral collaboration. Though it took some time for the UNCT to arrive at common understanding, by the end of the workshop the team had come up with four strategic priority areas, draft outcome and output statements, with formulations ensuring an integrated, multi-sectoral and multi-institutional approach. At the SPR, the UNCT also identified the leading and co-leading UN agencies for all outcome areas.

4. FORMULATION OF THE UNSDCF THEORIES OF CHANGE AND INTERNAL REFINEMENT EXERCISE (NOVEMBER 2021 – FEBRUARY 2022)

After the SPR, the UNCT continued elaborating the full draft theories of change for the UNSDCF priority areas through multiple discussions, under the guidance of the coalition lead agencies and through engagement of technical staff. During three months, the coalitions worked diligently in compiling further evidence and producing detailed theories of change, including assumptions and risks. Throughout this process it was crucial to build coherence and synergies among the outcomes, as well as a joint understanding and joint ownership of UNSDCF priority areas among the UNCT. Toward this end, a dedicated full-day online workshop was organized with engagement of the UNCT and coalition members at technical level as an internal refinement exercise, that served as an attempt to fine-tune and simplify the language of the UNSDCF priority areas, outcomes, and outputs before they were presented to the Government.

5. STRATEGIC PRIORITIZATION RETREAT WITH THE GOVERNMENT (FEBRUARY 2022)

The SPR with the government was the crucial step in the process to obtain the Government's buy-in on the identified UNSDCF priorities at the technical level and to ensure the Government's commitment of

ownership over the UNSDCF development process, as well as the priority areas' alignment with the National Development Strategy 2026. At this workshop, the Government was represented by the specially established technical working group, comprising representatives of 26 state bodies and led by the Presidential Administration. Through group discussions about each UNSDCF outcome area, facilitated by UN programme staff, the Government was able to clarify its questions and provide feedback to the UN, especially for the alignment of UNSDCF priority areas with the national priorities. The groups also worked on fine-tuning the language of priority areas. As the result, the UN and the Presidential Administration agreed to proceed with the further approval of the UNSDCF priority areas, outcomes, and outputs. The relevant decision-making body – the UNDAF Joint Steering Committee, chaired by UN RC and the Head of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic, approved the formulations at its subsequent meeting, so that the UN Country Team could go ahead in further unpacking the theories of change and elaborating the UNSDCF document.

6. CONSULTATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY (MARCH 2022)

The purpose of the consultation was to validate the UNSDCF priority areas with a wide range of current and potential partners among the CSOs. Through dedicated group discussions at a half-day workshop, civil society representative proposed their ideas for the future implementation of the UNSDCF and provided feedback on how to improve UN's collaboration with civil society in general.

7. CONSULTATION WITH PRIVATE SECTOR (MAY-JUNE 2022)

The private sector is a critical partner in achieving the SDGs. During the UNSDCF design process, the UNCT tested new partnerships with the Astana International Financial Center and Islamic Development Banks. Both attempts successfully led to the exchange of interests on the particular areas of engagement on green economy, climate change solutions, delivery of social services and the other areas of the Cooperation Framework. A dedicated series of strategic dialogues and workshops with the private sector representatives in Kyrgyzstan have been organized to discuss approaches that are needed that emphasize mutual gains to meet the needs of society, which go beyond traditional models of corporate social responsibility commitments that primarily involve donations of funds or other resources. Instead, priority was given to look at the new approaches to unlock SDG financing. UNCT will develop a Resource Mobilization and Partnerships Strategy to complement individual UN entity efforts by providing guidelines on the wider array of resources and partnerships to improve the financing for the Cooperation Framework. The Strategy will specify the role of the private sector in achieving the above mentioned outcomes.

8. ENGAGEMENT OF MARGINALIZED GROUPS

The Cooperation Framework process has largely benefited from the UN 75 outreach, the results of which were factored into the Common Country Analysis. The survey reached out to different marginalized and vulnerable groups through various means, notably, online dialogues, face-to-face and phone interviews, as well as essays and video competitions. The key messages from the vulnerable groups were delivered through a network of interviewers and volunteers who contacted during the pandemic remote communities across the Kyrgyz Republic that do not have regular access to the internet, so as to allow their opinions to be heard. Social media influencers, including the SDGs Youth Ambassadors, also participated, resulting in

several thousand people expressing their views on issues impacting the country as well as global issues. The survey conducted for the UN 75 commemorations provided a quantitative analysis of data collected between January 2, 2020 and January 2021. It reflected people's perspectives on the challenges and priorities for the future, as well as sentiments for global cooperation. More than 28,000 citizens of Kyrgyz Republic took part in the survey, with most of the data collected among people aged 31 to 45 (47.2 percent) and women (54 percent). The survey sample further consisted of 71 percent of respondents from rural areas and 29 percent from urban areas. The largest percentage of respondents consisted of persons aged 31 to 45 years (47.2 percent). In addition, 445 people with disabilities took part in the survey.

9. UNCT RETREAT ON THE IMPACT OF THE RUSSIA-UKRAINE CONFLICT ON THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC (MARCH 2022)

In early March, due to the unfolding geopolitical crisis in Europe and the conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, the Kyrgyz Republic immediately began to feel its consequences, not least in the areas related to the livelihoods of Kyrgyzstani migrants, food security, trade and other complications related to currency exchange. Ironically, it seemed that among the four options developed in the scenario exercise, the conditions were emerging for the worst scenario --economic decline and social polarization. The UNCT therefore called an ad-hoc full day discussion on what these new circumstances would mean for UN operations in the country and the UNSDCF priorities could be updated accordingly. As the result of this discussion, strategic priorities, outcome, and output formulations did not change; however, updates were made to the risks and assumption parts of the theories of change. It was also decided to continue discussion at PMT level by stress-testing the UNSDCF outcomes and outputs against the scenarios.

10. STRESS-TESTING UNSDCF OUTCOMES AND OUTPUTS (APRIL 2022)

In this online workshop, the UN team intended to update the scenarios it developed during the scenarios exercise considering recent geopolitical events and engage in the stress-testing of UNSDCF outcomes as it neared the finalization of the UNSDCF main document. The stress-testing was focused on delving into the four UNSDCF priority areas in four different scenarios, from the perspectives of their viability, UNCT's adaptability and capacity, as well as the new relationships would need to be built. The exercise generated many useful insights on cross-cutting aspects of all scenarios and an honest account of factors that are outside of the UNCT's comfort zone. The results of the stress-test helped to validate the UNSDCF results matrix and will contribute to the preparation of the UNSDCF Joint Work Plans at a later date.

Annex 5. Key Envisioned Partners for the Cooperation Framework

State Bodies
<p>Presidential Administration, Cabinet of Ministers, Jogorku Kenesh, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Economy and Commerce, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Emergency Situations, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Digital Development, Ministry of Labor, Social Welfare and Migration, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy, Ministry of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Audit, , State Agency for Architecture, Construction and Housing and Communal Services under the Cabinet of Ministers, State Agency for Intellectual Property and Innovation under the Cabinet of Ministers, the State Agency for Civil Service and Local Self-Government under the Cabinet of Ministers, State Agency for the Protection of Personal Data under the Cabinet of Ministers, Social Fund, State Agency for Antimonopoly Regulation under the Ministry of Economy and Commerce, State Financial Intelligence Agency, State Commission for Religious Affairs, Parliament, General Prosecutor's Office, Ombudsman's Office, National Statistical Committee, National Bank of the Kyrgyz Republic , National Institute for Strategic Research, Central Commission on Elections and Referenda, National Center for the Prevention of Torture</p>
Civil Society Organizations
<p>"Unison Group", Public Fund "Legal Clinic Adilet", Association of Legal Clinics of Kyrgyzstan, Association for the Development of Education of Kyrgyzstan, Federation of Trade Unions of the Kyrgyz Republic, Chui-Talas Rural Advisory Service, Kyrgyz Family Planning Alliance, Public Fund "Insan-Leilek", Association of Public Media, National Red Crescent Society of the Kyrgyz Republic, Public Foundation "Future of the Country", Snow Leopard Foundation in the Kyrgyz Republic, Ilbirs Foundation, Public Foundation "Environmental Development", Human Rights Movement "Bir Duino Kyrgyzstan", Country Network of Women Living with HIV, Crisis Center "Sezim", Association of Crisis Centers, "Kyrgyz Indigo", "Bishkek Feminist Initiatives", International Public Foundation "Initiative of Roza Otunbayeva", Union of Animal Breeders, Public Association "Agency for Modernization and Development", Kyrgyz Society of Cardiology, Kyrgyz Alliance of Obstetricians, Public Fund "Araket Plus", Public entity "Shoola Kol", Public Association "New Rhythm", Enactus Kyrgyzstan, "Partner Network" Association, "EdNet" Agency, Youth Ambassadors for Sustainable Development, Foundation for International Tolerance, Public Foundation "Kylym Shamy", Public Foundation "Expert solutions for the implementation of the KPI", NABU of the Kyrgyz Republic, Forum of Women Entrepreneurs "Kurak", Agency for Development Initiatives, Public Foundation CADRI, Public Association "Spravedlivost", Women Support Center, Center for Research of Democratic Studies, Public Fund "Podruga", Public Union "Ferghana Valley Lawyers without Borders", Public Fund "Museum Consortium", Communicator's Association of Kyrgyzstan, Kyrgyz Association of Software Developers, Ozone Center of the Kyrgyz Republic, Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Public Fund "MoveGreen", Public Fund "Ala-Too", Public Fund "BIOM", Association of Forest and Land Users, Association of Water Users, Kyrgyz Family Planning Association, Association of Health Promotion, Center for Multicultural and Multilingual Education, Public Fund "Hand in Hand", Child Rights Defender's League, Public Fund "Mutakalim", TES Center Bishkek</p>
Private Sector
<p>Ololo Group, "AgroWay", Astana International Financial Center, Green Finance Center Bishkek, International Business Council, "ESG Central Asia" Agency, Mining Sectoral Unions, JIA Business Association, ATiK (Alliance of Trainers and Consultants), Legprom, Public Association Agrolead,</p>

Association of Fruit and Vegetable Enterprises, Natural pasture users' Association of Kyrgyzstan "Kyrgyz Jaiyty", Aquaculture Association, High Technology Park Kyrgyzstan, IT Academy, American Chamber of Commerce in the Kyrgyz Republic, Trade and Industrial Chamber, Eurasian Business Club, Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, National Alliance of Business Associations, Union of Banks of Kyrgyzstan, Kyrgyz Stock Exchange, DosCredo Bank, Association of Microfinance Organisation, Association of Oil Traders of Kyrgyzstan, GazProm, Association of Airlines of Kyrgyzstan, Manas International Airport, Association of Telecom Operators, MegaCom, Beeline, Elcat, Association for the Development of the Agro-Industry, Association of Dairy Producers, Bishkek Sut, Vimbildan, Altyn Alliance, Association of Bottled Water, Coca-Cola, Shoro, Association of Suppliers, Association of Creative Industries, Association of Kindergartens, Association of Female Agro Workers, Organic Association, Independent Directors' Chamber, Wastenet Business Network, EcoPolis Network, Association of Domestic Enterprises, Association of Electric Cars, Association "Women in Energy", Association of Small Hydro, PwC, KPMG, Deloitte, Baker Tilly, Clearwater International Group, InterCert

Academia

University of Central Asia, American University of Central Asia, Kyrgyz State Medical Institute for Retraining and Advanced Training, Kyrgyz National University, Kyrgyz State Agrarian University, Kyrgyz-Turkish Manas University; Kyrgyz State Technical University, Kyrgyz-Uzbek University, Tyan Shan Analytical Center

International Development Partners

Development Partners Coordination Council members: Aga Khan Development Network, Asian Development Bank, European Union Delegation to the Kyrgyz Republic, Embassy of Switzerland in the Kyrgyz Republic, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Kyrgyz Republic, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH, Eurasian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, International Finance Corporation, International Monetary Fund, Japan International Cooperation Agency, KfW Development Bank, Korea International Cooperation Agency, Mercy Corps, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Russian-Kyrgyz Development Fund, Soros Foundation, Eurasian Fund for Stabilization and Development, World Bank Group, Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency, USAID

Annex 6. Cooperation Framework Legal Annex

This Cooperation Framework will, in respect of each of the United Nations system agencies signing, be read, interpreted, and implemented in accordance with and in a manner that is consistent with the basic agreement between such United Nations system agency and the Host Government.

Whereas the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Government’) has entered into the following:

Agency	Agreement	Date signed
FAO	The Agreement for the opening of the FAO Representation in the Kyrgyz Republic: Exchange of letters between FAO and Ministry of Agriculture and Melioration, on behalf of Government; Country Programme Framework	23 November 2007
ILO	Exchange of letters between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, represented by the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Kyrgyz Republic, Federation of Trade Unions of Kyrgyzstan, Confederation of Employers of the Kyrgyz Republic and ILO	8 August 2005 and 14 December 2006
IOM	Agreement between IOM and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic on for cooperation in the field of migration signed on 9 February 1998 and ratified by the Law #81 of the Kyrgyz Republic as of 15 April 2003	9 February 1998
UNDP	WHEREAS the Government and the United Nations Development Programme (hereinafter referred to as UNDP) have entered into a basic agreement to govern UNDP’s assistance to the country (Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA)), which was signed by both parties on 14 September 1992. Based on Article I, paragraph 2 of the SBAA, UNDP’s assistance to the Government shall be made available to the Government and shall be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions and decisions of the competent UNDP organs, and subject to the availability of the necessary funds to the UNDP. In particular, decision 2005/1 of 28 January 2005 of UNDP’s Executive Board approved the new Financial Regulations and Rules and along with them the new definitions of ‘execution’ and ‘implementation’ enabling UNDP to fully implement the new Common Country Programming Procedures resulting from the UNDG simplification and harmonization initiative. In light of this decision this UNDAF together with an work plan (which shall form part of this UNDAF, and is incorporated herein by reference) concluded hereunder constitute together a project document as referred to in the SBAA	14 September 1992
UNFPA	Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and UNDP 14	September 1992
UNHCR	Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and UNDP	14 September 1992
UNICEF	Basic Cooperation Agreement (BCA) concluded between the Government and UNICEF on 26 October 1994	26 October 1994
UNIDO	Exchange of letters between UNIDO and the Government of Kyrgyz Republic on the establishment of the UNIDO Office.	10 May 2008
UNODC	Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and UNDP Programme for Central Asia: A Partnership Framework for impact related action in Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) 2015-2019	14 September 1992 5 May 2015
UNV	United Nations Volunteers (hereinafter referred as UNV) is administered by the UNDP and governed by the Standard Basic Agreement of UNDP’s assistance to the country, which was signed by the Government and UNDP on 14 September 1992.	14 September 1992
UN WOMEN	Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and UNDP Extension to UN Women of the terms of UNDP SBAA with host governments	14 September 1992 25 May 2011
WFP	MoU between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, represented by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, and WFP for the implementation of development project 200662 “Support to national	20 November 2014 07 February 2016

	productive safety net and longer-term resilience in the Kyrgyz Republic". MoU between the Ministry of Education of the Kyrgyz Republic and WFP for the implementation of the development project 200176 "Optimizing primary school meals in the Kyrgyz Republic".	
WHO	Basic Agreement between the World Health Organization and the Government of Kyrgyzstan	27 December 1994

For all other UN system agencies, assistance to the Government shall be made available and shall be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions and decisions of the competent UN system agency's governing structures