United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework: Georgia (2021-2025)

Tbilisi, September 2020

What is UNSDCF?

- United Nations' strategic plan of action for the next five years
- Most important instrument for planning, implementing and coordinating the delivery of results
- Successor to the PSD (2016-2020)
- Defines the relationship between UN in Georgia and the Government
- An accountability instrument

How was it formulated?

- Followed a consultative and participatory approach

- Based on key findings of *Common Country Analysis*

- Informed by the *evaluation* of the Partnership for Sustainable Development (PSD: 2016-2020) carried out in 2019

- Guided by following *principles*:

  – (1) Leave no one behind (2) Human rights-based approach (3) Gender equality and women's empowerment (4) Resilience (5) Sustainability and (6) Accountability;

- Recognises the *opportunity* offered by the EU Association Agreement and its alignment with Agenda 2030

- Based on *assumptions* for the change to happen and the *risks* that could affect the development trajectory

- Based on the COVID-19 impact assessments available so far

- Built on the UN's *comparative advantage* [normative mandate, positioning, and capacity]

Key development challenges

- High poverty and income inequalities
- Spatial and social divides
- Population displacement due to unresolved conflict
- Ageing and shrinking population
- Governance challenges including those relating to access to justice and corruption
- Climate change and environmental management
- Gaps in human capital including skills mismatch
- Lack of social cohesion and trust
- Weak evidence-based decision making and policy coherence.
- Adverse development impact of COVID-19

Leave No One Behind

Drivers of inequalities	Factors of discrimination	Groups left behind
• Structure and performance of economy • Governance institutions • Social infrastructure • Climate change and natural resource management • Social norms	• Sex, age or disability • Geographical location or fragile ecology • Vulnerability to climatic shocks & nature hazards • Impact of governance (laws, policies) • Socio-economic status	• Youth <u>not</u> in education, employment or training • Women & girls from ethnic and religious minorities, rural areas • People in conflict affected areas • Children from ethnic minorities & those at risk • People with disabilities • Refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, IDPs, stateless • LGBTIQ • People in rural areas / small farmers

Prioritization and Theory of Change

- A prioritization and TOC exercise was carried out to identify "solution pathways"

- TOC is a filtered choice. The filters used were:
  - UN comparative advantage
  - The "guiding principles"
  - PSD evaluation

- The TOC exercise led to the following strategic transformational priority [and outcomes]:

Enhanced human wellbeing, capabilities and social equality in Georgia by 2025.

Outcomes that will contribute to the strategic priority

- *Outcome 1: By 2025, all people in Georgia enjoy good governance, open, resilient and accountable institutions, rule of law, equal access to justice, human rights, and increased representation and participation of women in decision-making.*

- *Outcome 2: By 2025, all people in Georgia have equitable and inclusive access to quality, resilient and gender-sensitive services delivered in accordance with international human rights standards.*

- *Outcome 3: By 2025, all people without discrimination benefit from a sustainable, inclusive and resilient economy in Georgia.*

- *Outcome 4: By 2025, conflict affected communities enjoy human rights, enhanced human security and resilience.*

- *Outcome 5: By 2025, all people, without discrimination, enjoy enhanced resilience through improved environmental governance, climate action and sustainable management and use of natural resources in Georgia.*

Outcomes and Outputs

Overarching priority: Enhanced human wellbeing, capabilities and equality in Georgia by 2030

5 Outcomes

1: By 2025, all people in Georgia enjoy good governance, open, resilient and accountable institutions, rule of law, equal access to justice, human rights, and increased representation and participation of women in decision making

2: By 2025, all people in Georgia have equitable and inclusive access to quality, resilient and gender-sensitive services delivered in accordance with international human rights standards

3: By 2025, all people without discrimination benefit from a sustainable, inclusive and resilient economy in Georgia

4: By 2025, conflict affected communities enjoy human rights, enhanced human security and resilience

5: By 2025, all people, without discrimination, enjoy enhanced resilience through improved environmental governance, climate action and sustainable management and use of natural resource(s) in Georgia

15 Outputs

1.1: Inclusive national and local governance systems have greater resilience and capacities to mainstream gender, ensure evidence-based and participatory policy-making, map and address inequalities and deliver quality services to all

2.1 Improved national capacities for the implementation of policies and programmes that ensure equitable access to and coverage of quality integrated health and nutrition services and the exercise of reproductive rights for all people, particularly, those left behind

3.1 Improved competitiveness and social responsibility of private sector

4.1: Conflict affected communities have improved access to essential services, including education, healthcare, GBV response and legal assistance

5.1: Environmental governance and institutional capacity enhanced to enable rational, equitable and sustainable use of natural/land resources, to ensure conservation of ecosystems and make communities more resilient to environmental shocks

1.2: National legislation and policies to eliminate discrimination, enhance human rights and equal access to justice in Georgia

2.2: Improved national capacities for the implementation of policies and programmes that ensure inclusive and equitable access to quality educational programmes that meet international standards

3.2: Sustainable and inclusive agricultural and rural development strengthened food systems and improved livelihoods.

4.2: Socio-economic conditions, community resilience and self-reliance improved with programmes benefiting conflict affected communities particularly those left behind

5.2: Climate-sensitive, resilient and risk-informed development ensured, without discrimination, in AFOLU, health, water safety, construction, energy and food production sectors to increase adaptive capacities and mitigate impact of climate change pursuing LDN (Land Degradation Neutrality)

1.3: Legislative frameworks, policies and governance systems deliver gender-equal results, combat GBV, violence against children and other harmful practices towards women and girls

2.3: Improved national legislation, policy, programs and capacities protect all people in Georgia, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized, against discrimination and ensure equitable access to and coverage of quality social services

3.3: Increased productive employment, decent work, skills development and effective national social protection for all

4.3: Space widened for dialogue and participation that strengthens civil society, community resilience, social cohesion and implementation of Women, Peace and Security agenda

5.3: Innovative and climate-friendly technologies used for inclusive green economy, energy efficiency and clean energy production to enhance NDCs (Nationally Determined Contribution) and support long-term decarbonization strategies

UNSDCF Thematic and Cross-cutting Areas

Thematic	Cross Cutting
Transparent, Accountable and Effective Governance: 1. ROL, A2J, Human Rights 2. Open & accountable Public administration 3. Women in decision-making **Human Capital:** 1. Health 2. Education 3. Social services /protection **Resilient Economy**: 1. Sustainable livelihoods 2. Private sector development **Human Rights, Security & Resilience**: 1. Conflict affected communities **Climate Action and Environmental Governance:** 1. Climate action 2. Improved environmental governance 3. Sustainable NRM	Focus on exclusion and inequalities as an approach and a goal Build on normative, HRs agenda Promote integration of SDG agenda with AA – including sector policies Build statistical and evidence-based policy making capacity Strengthen civil society as advocates, watchdogs, service delivery Improved regional cooperation Strengthen advocacy on key issues Partner with Business on SDGs Work towards more coherent development cooperation / coordination

Implementation Arrangements

Joint Steering Committee (UN/GoG)

United Nations Country Team (UNCT)

UNSDCF Results Groups

Effective, transparent and accountable institutions	Equal and inclusive access to quality services	Inclusive economy and human capital development

Human security and resilience	Environment and climate change

Theme / Support Groups

Gender Theme Group	UN Communications Group
Operations Management Team	Joint Team on HIV/AIDS
Human Rights Theme Group	Disaster Management Country team
UN M&E Group	Theme Group on Youth Development

UN Country Team Configuration

- UNCT is key inter-agency decision-making and coordinating body on UNSDCF

- UNCT reviews the progress, reports it to the GoG through JSC, makes mid-course corrections

- Configuration process was carried out to assess technical, operational and financial capacity to contribute to UNSDCF

- UNCT comprises 16 UN entities of which 13 are resident

- Builds on strengths, taps opportunities, addresses weaknesses and manages threats

UNCT: SWOT Analysis

- Technical expertise, leveraging knowledge, resources and partnerships, transparency in operations are key *strengths*

- Uneven funding across outcomes, lack of full access to conflict affected areas and data gaps are major *weaknesses*

- "Building back better" exploring innovative / digitalised solutions is a *major opportunity* – mainstream resilience in programming

- COVID-19, regional security situation are major *threats*

Financing SDGs and Funding UNSDCF

- UN funding is <u>catalytic</u>, in that it is used to mobilise other innovative and non-conventional sources of funds
- It is also <u>complementary</u> as it is a part of the existing much larger financial resources for the SDGs (public and private, internal and external).
- The UN funding will also be based on an assessment of, and potential for leveraging, the contributions of other development partners.
- It will further be based on the assessment of fiscal impact of COVID-19
- UNSDCF Funding Framework will be prepared *after* the Cooperation Framework is signed by UNCT and the Government of Georgia.
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Thank you!