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Country programme document for Bahrain (2025-2029)

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I. UNDP within the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

1. Bahrain is a small, high income developing country with a population of 1.7 million. Its real Gross Domestic Product (GDP), based on constant 2015 prices, was around \$36.7 billion in 2023. The real GDP per capita averaged \$24.7 thousand in 2023, up from \$22.5 thousand in 2012. Bahrain has a high Human Development Index of 0.888, placing it 34th globally only second to United Arab Emirates in the Arab region in 2022.¹ The country has made significant strides towards sustainable development and improving quality of life for its citizens as reflected in its second Voluntary National Review of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2023.²

2. In recent years, Bahrain has progressed on economic diversification and contribution of non-oil sectors to GDP. The latter has increased over the last decade, reaching 83.9 per cent in 2023 with the financial sector accounting for 17.8 per cent of GDP followed by manufacturing (13.6 per cent) and government services (13.3 per cent).³ This has resulted in an increased number of decent employment opportunities for Bahrainis, particularly youth and women. Nonetheless, there opportunities remain—by upscaling investments in green, high-tech, high value-added, employment generating manufacturing and services—to further reduce dependencies on hydrocarbon, fiscal deficit (mostly driven by government subsidies), and public debt. Moreover, opportunity abounds to boost the creation of suitable decent jobs for the country’s growing labour force, particularly youth, women, and people living with disabilities. Climate change (rising sea levels, extreme heat stress, desertification), air pollution and biodiversity loss also increasingly threatening sustainable development in Bahrain.

3. The Government of Bahrain has taken notable initiative to advance its legal system. Consequently, Bahrain has made significant progress in enhancing women’s political participation, with a Gender Inequality Index of 0.181 and Gender Development Index of 0.937 to rank 34th globally on both indices in 2022.⁴ However, women’s (aged +15) participation in the labour force (44 per cent, compared to 87 per cent for men in 2024)⁵ remains relatively low. The sponsorship system that governs employment and residency of migrants has undergone reforms over the years and the government has upscaled efforts at the national level (while investing in regional and global initiatives) to combat human trafficking. The gaps that continue to exist leave migrants vulnerable to exploitation, forced labour and human trafficking. The fourth cycle of the Universal Periodic Review for Bahrain made 245 recommendations to strengthen human rights institutions and public administration reform with the government supporting 172 of them. Key priority recommendations flagged the need to scale capacity building of judicial and law enforcement institutions, and duty-bearers and security apparatuses on human rights and anti-discrimination.⁶

4. While Bahrain has sufficient financial resources to meet financing needs for the Goals, it needs to align public and private resources with sustainable development principles. Successful Goals implementation will depend on commitments to meet considerable data challenges, including production, quality, and access to sex-disaggregated data and increasing institutional capacity to deliver on national plans and strategies, and adopted laws and policies. Data availability and accessibility remain a challenge that hinder data-driven and evidence-based planning, often resulting in misrepresentation and misreporting of national progress towards the Goals. Support to economic diversification and creation of an enabling environment for private sector growth, particularly micro-, small and medium-sized

¹ UNDP, Human Development Report 2023/2024: Breaking the Gridlock - Reimagining Cooperation in a Polarized World.

² World Bank, World Development Indicators, 2024.

³ Bahrain Economic Report 2023, Ministry of Finance and National Economy.

⁴ UNDP, Human Development Report 2023/2024: Breaking the Gridlock - Reimagining Cooperation in a Polarized World.

⁵ International Labour Organization, ILOSTAT, 2024.

⁶ Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review 41st session, 7–18 November 2022.

enterprises, will advance sustainable, and inclusive economic development and create employment opportunities.

5. UNDP delivered a total of \$8 million between 2017 and 2024. UNDP contributed to United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2017-2024 outcomes, working closely with government, civil society, private sector, and academia in Bahrain to empower women and youth, and enhance their participation in the labour market, decision making and civic engagement through programmes such as the Youth Leadership Programme and King Hamad Award for youth empowerment. The latter empowers a generation of young leaders, agents-of-change, and social innovators to grow their capacities to tackle the Goals in Bahrain and externally. UNDP has been a strategic partner to Bahrain on the low carbon energy transition through a Sustainable Energy Programme. In partnership with the Ministry of Electricity and Water, UNDP established the Sustainable Energy Unit to promote efficient and renewable energy technology transfer and private investments. The Sustainable Energy Unit supported the development of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plan and National Renewable Energy Action Plan, leading to the establishment of the Sustainable Energy Authority. To promote digital literacy among young Bahraini women UNDP partnered with Microsoft and the University of Bahrain to launch the *Forsati for Her* initiative and train young women on coding and computer sciences. It also supported the Gender and Economic Policy Management Initiative, devising modules for women's economic empowerment in collaboration with the University of Bahrain. Additionally, UNDP and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) supported the Ministry of Housing and the Office of the First Deputy Prime Minister in analyzing and revising the national housing policy. UNDP contributed to upholding human rights in the criminal justice system by enhancing capacities of the Special Investigation Unit. As a first in Bahrain, UNDP led a national household perceptions survey that focused on economic hardship amongst migrant workers and women. In a collaboration with the Bahrain Institute for Public Administration, UNDP established the e-Training and Learning Management System to build a new cohort of knowledge workers in Bahrain. UNDP has also worked with the University of Bahrain to promote the Sustainable Development Goals, integrating them into curricula at all levels.

6. It is critical that the UNDP strategy, priorities and recommendations in Bahrain are tailored to the net contributor country context. Applying recommendations from project evaluations, aligning them with the independent country programme evaluation from 2019, UNDP will provide technical assistance and focus efforts that explicitly reflect UNDP development support services for national objectives. This includes exploring entry points to develop longer-term project engagement in line with the UNDP human development mandate while balancing the demand-driven nature of engagement in a net contributor country context. This programmatic offer includes adopting a forward-looking portfolio approach to project development and resource mobilization, based on clear and proactive communication of the UNDP value proposition to the government, and diversifying partnerships to include private sector and non-governmental organization partners. It promotes innovative solutions and practices in support of national objectives, leveraging national assets and creating knowledge-sharing corridors to elaborate the Bahrain experience to other countries where UNDP operates.

7. Following parliamentary elections in 2022, and based on Bahrain Vision 2030, a new Government Plan 2023-2026 was adopted. This plan identifies the four priority areas of economy, governance, justice and stability, and living standards and four outcomes:

- (a) By 2029, Bahrain will have transformed into a dynamic hub of sustainable innovation and inclusive growth, where advanced smart industries, reliant infrastructure and effective resource management converge, ensuring a harmonious balance between economic prosperity, environmental stewardship, and societal well-being.
- (b) By 2029, Bahrain will have emerged as pioneering leader in sustainable development, harmonizing advanced urban growth with environmental preservation,

fostering robust global partnership for climate action, and gender equality and ensuring universal health coverage and education, all underpinned by data-driven policies that align with the nation's dynamic socioeconomic and environmental aspiration.

- (c) By 2029, Bahrain will have fostered an inclusive and equitable society where gender parity in the workforce is a reality, migrant workers' rights are robustly protected, and all labour practices are fair and transparent, underpinned by strengthened governance and active public participation, ensuring every individual's right are respected and upheld in line with international human rights standards.
- (d) By 2029, Bahrain will have significantly elevated the living standards of its citizens, characterized by expanded public transportation, enhanced urban green space, equal economic opportunities for all citizens including youth, women and the differently abled, alongside comprehensive social protection systems and legal frameworks that guarantee equitable access, non-discrimination, and inclusion for every segment of the society, especially the vulnerable and migrant workers.

8. In line with the Government Plan 2023-2026, the UNSDCF 2025-2029 puts forward four outcomes that address the pillars. Leveraging the six signature solutions ('3 x 6 x 3' framework where poverty and inequality, governance, resilience, environment, energy, gender equality are enhanced by the three enablers of strategic innovation, digitalization, and development financing) of the UNDP Strategic Plan 2022-2025 alongside the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UNDP will promote a coherent value proposition. This approach adheres to the principles of leaving no one behind and gender responsiveness that is anchored in the needs of citizens and environmental sustainability. UNDP will put forward integrated development solutions to support Bahrain and realize its aspiration of ensuring a harmonious balance between economic prosperity, environmental stewardship, and human-rights-based societal well-being. This will be done through strategic cooperation that responds to institutional capacity building needs, strengthens evidence-based gender-sensitive planning and promotes inclusiveness, adherence to international standards and human-rights-based approaches. Across programmes there will be a focus on strengthening the rule of law, advancing human rights, enhancing policies for diversifying energy and reducing carbon emissions, fostering Sustainable Development Goals-oriented innovations, promoting women, and empowering youth.

9. UNDP will contribute to UNSDCF 2025-2029 through strategic investments at multiple levels. It will continue to leverage its role as convener and integrator, as well as use its comparative advantage to support the adoption of holistic approaches in economic diversification, inclusive growth, bridging the digital divide, democratic governance and building environmental resilience. When applying integrated development solutions, UNDP will rely on global expertise, knowledge, innovations, and lessons learned that is adapted to the local context. UNDP will adopt integrated multidimensional solutions aligned with its Strategic Plan. Based on extensive consultations with government counterparts where UNDP is treated as a trusted partner, UNDP will focus programmatic design on UNSDCF outcomes 2, 3 and 4. This will better position UNDP within the United Nations country team and development partners to address social, governance, environmental and economic challenges. This includes overarching thematic programme contributions to outcomes through integrated, multidimensional, and innovative solutions that harness positive external inputs and spill-over across outcome areas.

II. Programme priorities and partnerships

10. UNDP contributes to the overarching aspiration that all people in Bahrain, including women, youth, and people living with disabilities, benefit equally from inclusive economic growth, sustainable development, elevated living standards, enhanced rule of law and human

rights, a climate-resilient future and harmonious balance between economic prosperity and environment stewardship.

11. The country programme and theory of change were based on the UNSDCF and developed jointly with government institutions, civil society, women and youth organizations, and the private sector through a broad consultative and participatory process to ensure key national priorities are addressed.

12. The UNDP strategy is built on six guiding principles:

- (i) Balancing upstream and downstream engagements and adopting a flexible, agile, and adaptive programming approach to maximize impact and mitigate risks.
- (ii) Supporting agents of change networks and enclaves of accountability to promote principles of human rights, gender equality, transparency, and rule of law, as well as transform institutions and shape social, political, and economic spheres over time.
- (iii) Utilizing inclusive participatory approaches that engage all stakeholders and ensure national ownership, leadership, and sustainability.
- (iv) Ensuring a human rights-based approach, promoting forward-looking programming and compliance with do-no-harm principles.
- (v) Integrating South-South and triangular cooperation into policies, programmes, strategies, and other planning instruments, and leveraging the South-South Global Thinkers initiative to maximize the benefits of knowledge-sharing. This is important in the net contributor country context, as Bahrain benefits from being part of a network to learn about the experiences of other champions in the global South and share its remarkable experience with other developing countries.
- (vi) Embracing innovations that include digital transformation, non-traditional financing mechanisms, flexible and agile delivery mechanisms, new partnership modalities and partner network creation. When expanding partner networks, the private sector, academia, and non-governmental organizations are included to address national developmental priorities.

13. The Country Programme Document theory of change envisages the following: ***If*** the capacities of government institutions to devise data-driven policies and promote investments geared towards economic diversification and green inclusive growth are enhanced, through capitalizing on the UNDP comparative advantage to devise capacity building programmes, including statistical capacity utilizing digitalization, and establishing protocols and automated mechanisms of data sharing, and enhance exposure to global experiences and lessons learnt; ***if*** favourable environment for greening growth is created and efforts to diversify the energy mix are upscaled, through boosting accessibility to green financing and promoting green private and public sector investments; ***if*** the capacity of women, youth and people living with disabilities to participate in the labour market and entrepreneurial activities is enhanced, through targeted entrepreneurship and skills development; ***if*** private sector, particularly micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, are supported, through enhanced access to finance, markets, technology and supply chains; ***then*** private sector capacities, particularly micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurs (comprising youth, women and people living with disabilities), will be boosted alongside access to innovative and green finance and digitalization benefits; ***then*** by 2029, all people in Bahrain benefit from sustainable livelihoods and decent work in a modernized, knowledge-based, digital, green, diversified, inclusive and resilient economy supported by robust international partnerships (UNSDCF outcome 2).

14. Second: ***If*** public participation in decision-making processes, particularly the participation of youth, women, and vulnerable groups, is enhanced by creating platforms for social dialogue on key national priorities, overcoming social marginalization, capacity building and

advocacy; *if* alignment of national legislation and policies with international human rights standards, progress on ratification of international conventions and capacity to implement Universal Periodic Review recommendations are enhanced through advocacy and technical support; *if* capacities and awareness of legislators, rule-of-law institutions and security apparatuses to implement human rights and anti-discrimination legislations are elevated through capacity building and advocacy; *if* collaboration amongst stakeholders, including international organizations and the government are strengthened through trust building, continuous consultation, transparency and upscaling engagement with international human rights mechanisms; **then** the capacities of youth, women and people living with disabilities to participate in decision making processes will be enhanced; **then** judicial institutional and security apparatus capacities to enhance public trust and promote and protect human rights and combat discrimination and violence against women and vulnerable groups, will be bolstered; **then** by 2029, all people living in Bahrain benefit from strengthened governance structures with universal access to justice and human rights protection, enhanced capacities to eliminate discrimination and violence against women and other vulnerable groups, and a public sector that is evidence-based, innovative and efficiently responsive to the evolving needs of the people (UNSDCF outcome 3).

15. Third: **If** government capacities related to climate change mitigation and adaptation, management of natural resources, devising risk-resilient and gender-responsive plans that are better aligned with multilateral environmental agreements are enhanced, through technical support, capacity development, enhancing localization of the Goals, strengthening the collection and sharing of data, and using technological/digital solutions including satellite/geo-spatial mapping; *if* all stakeholders are supported in accelerating energy transition by boosting renewable energy investments, enhancing access to innovative green financing, and creating incentive structures; *if* participatory mechanisms to enhance whole-of-society approaches to environmental issues are established and maintained through capacity building, awareness raising, advocacy and integrating environmental education into school curricula to promote behavioural change related to climate change and management of natural resources; *if* youth and women are empowered and mobilized to advocate for climate action on a global scale via capacity building, awareness raising and enhancing access to international fora; **then** institutional and legislative capacities of relevant government institutions to devise evidence-based policies and regulations on climate change challenges and risks, ensure sustainable utilization of natural resources and diversify energy, and establish and maintain participatory mechanisms to enhance whole-of-society approaches to environmental issues will be bolstered; **then** by 2029, all people living in Bahrain benefit from enhanced environmental resilience and sustainability, achieved through targeted climate action, pollution reduction, sustainable management of land use and natural resources, and low-carbon development, ensuring ecological balance and energy security for present and future generations (UNSDCF outcome 4).

16. UNDP will work at two key intersections to directly contribute to three UNSDCF outcomes (2, 3 and 4) and indirectly to UNSDCF outcome 1, whereby the first nexus will directly contribute to UNSDCF outcomes 2 and 4, and indirectly to outcomes 1 and 3. The second will directly contribute to UNSDCF outcomes 2 and 3, and indirectly to outcomes 1 and 4. Meanwhile, UNDP will continue to establish itself as the United Nations strategic partner of choice given its diverse resource base and a wide range of partners.

Nexus 1: Economic prosperity, environmental stewardship, and societal well-being is improved through sustainable, green, diversified, inclusive, and private sector-driven growth and human development.

17. Following a portfolio approach in line with the national plan, UNDP will strengthen the capacities of national and local governments to devise evidence-based and data-driven national policies and strategies to boost diversified and inclusive economic growth, while

ensuring a harmonious balance between economic prosperity, environmental stewardship, societal well-being, and leaving no one behind. This will be achieved through a package of capacity building, advocacy and awareness raising that addresses: (i) upscaling support to micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly women, youth and people living with disabilities in business, through enhanced access to green and innovative finance and leveraging the UNDP regional Green Finance Facility initiative; (ii) support the creation of a vibrant entrepreneurship ecosystem in line with the Digital for Sustainable Development (D4SD) Initiative and mentoring, incubation and regional and South-South and triangular cooperation efforts; (iii) support the government in diversifying the energy mix through innovative solutions, including enhancing access to green financing and establishing a green finance facility and green mechanisms, and (iv) leverage Global Environment Facility (GEF) funding to upscale efforts to enhance biodiversity.

18. To this end, UNDP will combine its expertise in devising multidimensional integrated solutions by capitalizing on the specialized technical expertise of the International Labour Organization (ILO) to enhance the employable skills of youth, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) to augment the quality of educational curricula, United Nations Volunteers (UNV) to leverage their programmes for boosting youth capacities, and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) to improve rates of women's economic and political participation. UNDP will work on enhancing data generation and sharing through the application of innovative digital solutions, particularly for Goals achievement and reducing data gaps, including sex-disaggregated data as a cross-cutting effort across all outputs. Support will be provided to government efforts on improving the rank of Bahrain on global indices and enhancing competitiveness on a global scale by way of implementing a multi-sector approach where all actors in the national statistics system contribute to the production of statistics. Moreover, new partners from the private sector, civil society and academia will support the creation of localized tracking and data sharing mechanisms, as well as make use of new emerging data sources (e.g., big data) for the reliable assessment of progress towards the Goals, mainstreaming reporting at national and global levels, and supporting planning and decision-making processes.

19. UNDP will continue to work with the GEF, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and UN-Habitat on climate change mitigation and adaptation to: (a) devise gender-sensitive climate change adaptation and mitigation measures and risk-informed policies that enhance resilience and improve the sustainable utilization of natural resources; (b) support stakeholders and engage public and private sectors in accelerating a clean energy transition via renewable energy investments (e.g., mini-grids and rooftop-solar-applications) along with creating necessary policy, institutional and legal frameworks; (c) support evidence-based, cross-sector, risk-informed and gender-responsive planning to enhance the nexus between energy, urban development and expansion, climate-resilience economic diversification and environmental and biodiversity preservation (e.g., fish habitats and smart cities); (d) support the country in raising its ambitions for its nationally determined contribution to achieve Paris Agreement aims; (e) support communities in valuing natural capital (e.g., climate-smart agricultural systems) and improving environmental governance and resilience to climate and disaster risks through inclusive participation at all levels; (f) support and promote the development of climate-resilience low-carbon value chains in non-oil sectors (e.g., fishery and agriculture); (g) support the Ministry of Municipality and Agriculture in developing a national Smart City strategy; (h) build human and institutional capacities in the realm of environmental diplomacy, and, (i) work closely with the Supreme Council for the Environment to enhance the effectiveness and inclusiveness of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures by developing a comprehensive and multistep monitoring, reporting and verification mechanism and integrating the impacts of climate change and environmental disasters on local

communities therein. This will be achieved through technical and project implementation support, capacity building, raising awareness, advocacy and promoting behavioural change.

Nexus 2: Well-informed, holistic, and transformative governance systems, policies and capacities, rule of law, human rights, and civic engagement are supported.

20. UNDP will scale up efforts to enhance the participation of women, youth, people living with disabilities, and vulnerable groups in decision making and economic processes—capitalizing on pioneering programmes, such as The King Hammad Award, Youth Leadership and Youth City 2030. Support will include capacity building, educational curricula reform, promoting active engagement in innovation, research, development and culture of volunteerism, and advocacy and awareness raising that is combined with sharing experiences and lessons learned regionally and globally. Success relies on UNDP harnessing resources and technical expertise from ILO, UNICEF, UNV and South-South cooperation providers.

21. UNDP will scale up capacity building and technical support to governance institutions, by leveraging its global experience and innovative solutions, leveraging South-South and triangular cooperation, and promoting holistic and transformative governance systems/policies. UNDP will promote rule of law and increase support to promote a human-rights-based approach to security, increasing the focus on justice, human rights, and protection of civilians in line with international standards. Expanding partnerships with, and support to, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and National Institute for Human Rights of Bahrain will support an update to the National Human Rights Action Plan and developing national action plans on business and human rights that are in line with United Nations guiding principles and incorporate gender dimensions.⁷ UNDP will also provide technical support to enhance the capacity of the Special Investigation Unit to perform its critical role according to international criminal justice standards and human rights and while leveraging the Special Investigation Unit and UNDP networks to work across and within key criminal justice institutions to strengthen the protection of human rights in criminal justice systems.

22. UNDP will scale up support to the Institute of Judicial and Legal Studies in Bahrain to create agents of change and strengthen independence of the judiciary and rule of law. This will enhance efficiencies and alignment with international judicial and legal institutional standards. In addition, UNDP will adopt a long-term mentoring approach to capacity development that is more closely aligned with international standards to contribute to increasing accountability, promoting human rights and women’s rights principles, and combatting gender-based violence.

III. Programme and risk management

23. This country programme document outlines UNDP contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at the country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels are prescribed in the Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures and the Internal Control Framework.

24. The programme will be nationally executed. If necessary, national execution may be replaced by direct execution for part or all the programme to enable response to force majeure. The Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer will be used in a coordinated fashion with United Nation partners to manage financial risks. Cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness will be charged to the concerned projects.

⁷ United Nations guiding principles on business and human rights, see <https://www.undp.org/publications/gender-dimensions-guiding-principles-business-and-human-rights>.

25. Five major areas of risk have been identified: (a) lack and uncertainty of government contributions due to reduced fiscal budget and austerity measures; (b) changing structure and status of key government partners as a result of governmental agency restructuring; (c) insufficient UNDP technical and implementation capacities in the country office; (d) ineffective implementation of UNDP supported national policies and plans, and (e) increased regional instability and possible shifting of government priorities and/or increasing political sensitivities towards governance issues. Aligned with guiding principles, UNDP will mitigate risks by:

(a) Ensuring the UNDP programme is anchored in national priorities—as outlined in Bahrain Vision 2030 and the Government Plan for 2023-2026—and approved, funded government programmes.

(b) Adopting a lean, flexible, adaptive, and agile programme that focusses on fewer outcomes and outputs, uses an integrated portfolio approach, and leverages the UNDP Portfolio Policy⁸ to address national development priorities, deliver results across multiple UNSDCF outcomes, and regularly update risk assessments and mitigation measures to prepare for, and respond to, unforeseen events and developments.

(c) Diversifying the programme resource base and partnerships to include the private sector, academia, civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations.

(d) Boosting the technical, implementation and administrative capacities of the UNDP country office through a fit-for-purpose organizational structure.

(e) Leveraging UNDP regional and global capacities to complement country office capabilities and using the UNDP Enterprise Risk Management Policy to concurrently identify, manage and mitigate risks.

(f) Scaling up UNDP support and capacity building to government counterparts during implementations phases.

(g) Applying the UNDP [Social and Environmental Standards and Accountability Mechanism](#) as tools to help manage environmental and socioeconomic risks.

IV. Monitoring and evaluation

26. Country programme indicators and recommendations are aligned with the UNSDCF, UNDP Strategic Plan 2022-2025 and the Goals. UNDP will contribute to the development and monitoring of the United Nations Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Group to facilitate coordination, joint programming, and harmonized, results-based management approaches. The monitoring and evaluation plan tracks a range of quantitative and qualitative specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) indicators, disaggregated by relevant criteria (e.g., gender and age) and providing implementation evidence. International sources will be used to complement national ones. UNDP will strengthen monitoring and evaluation practices by:

(a) Conducting periodic reviews and midterm and final evaluations. UNDP will emphasize gender-sensitive evaluation in collaboration with national and international partners and by adding a gender thematic evaluation to identify best practices, capture lessons learned and generate knowledge to guide scaling up of engagements across the UNDP portfolio.

⁸ UNDP Portfolio Policy, see <https://popp.undp.org/policy-page/portfolio>.

(b) Emphasizing the review of results at strategic and portfolio levels, earmarking a percentage in each project budget for data collection, monitoring, and evaluations.

(c) Leveraging accelerator labs to improve data collection, results-based monitoring, and evaluation efforts.

(d) Exploring partnerships with academic institutions to administer innovative monitoring and evaluation techniques.

27. At least 15 per cent of project budgets will be allocated to gender mainstreaming and gender-specific engagements and targeting, based on the UNDP gender equality strategy, focusing on advancing gender equality and/ or women's empowerment (GEN 3), gender mainstreaming (GEN 2) and the Gender Seal initiative for public institutions and the private sector. The monitoring and evaluation plan includes lessons learned from project implementation and evaluation and emphasizes tracking, assessing, and interpreting of results and/or changes and connects them to interventions. This plan will assess the role played by UNDP and by others, as well as gaps to guide follow-up, scaling, and adaptive programming.

Annex: Results and resources framework for Bahrain (2025-2029)

National priority or goal: Economic vision 2030: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 3.3; Government Action Plan 2023-2026: Economic recovery and sustainable development Sustainable Development Goals: 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 17				
Cooperation framework outcome involving UNDP #2: By 2029, all people in Bahrain benefit from sustainable livelihoods and decent work in a modernized, knowledge-based, digital, green, diversified, inclusive and resilient economy, supported by robust international partnerships.				
Related strategic plan outcome 1: Structural transformation accelerated, particularly green, inclusive, and digital transitions				
Cooperation framework outcome indicator(s), baselines, target(s)	Data source and frequency of data collection, and responsibilities	Indicative country programme outputs (including indicators, baselines, targets)	Major partners/partnerships/frameworks	Estimated cost by outcome
<p>Indicator 2.1. Annual growth rate of output per worker (Goal indicator 8.2.1) Baseline (2024): 2.3% Target (2029): TBC</p> <p>Indicator 2.2. CO2 emission per unit of manufacturing value added (Goal indicator 9.4.1) Baseline (2019): 0.369 Target (2029): TBC</p>	<p>Data Source: ILOSTAT Frequency: Annual</p> <p>Data Source: United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), Frequency: Annual</p>	<p>Output 1.1. Private sector, particularly micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurs (particularly youth, women and people living with disabilities), capacities and access to innovative finance, including green finance, and benefits from digitalization, are boosted.</p> <p>Indicator 1.1.1. Number of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises enrolled in UNDP financial and entrepreneurial capacity development programme and received enhanced access to innovative green finance (measured as at least 20% of required operating capital) where (a): total, (b): youth, (c): women, (d): people living with disabilities. Baseline (2023): (a) 0, (b) 0, (c) 0, (d) 0 Target (2029): (a) 20, (b) 15, (c) 10, (d) 5 Data source/frequency: UNDP/annual</p>	<p>International Labour Organization UN Women Economic Board of Bahrain Ministry of Oil and Environment Ministry of Finance and National Economy Central Bank Ministry of Information Ministry of Youth Affairs University of Bahrain Royal University of Women Non-governmental organization (NGOs) Civil society organizations (CSOs) Private sector</p>	<p>Regular: N/A</p> <p>Other: \$2,500,000</p> <p>Subtotal: \$2,500,000</p>

		<p>Indicator 1.1.2. Number of policies, strategies and laws that promote enabling and regulated digital ecosystems that are affordable, accessible, trusted, and secure (IRRF E.1.1). Baseline (2023): 1 Target (2029): 3 Data source/frequency: UNDP/annual</p>		
<p>National priority or goal: Economic vision 2030: 3.4; Government Action Plan 2023-2026: Justice, security and stability Sustainable Development Goals: 5, 8, 10, 16</p>				
<p>Cooperation framework outcome involving UNDP #3: By 2029, all people living in Bahrain benefit from strengthened governance structures with universal access to justice and human rights protection, enhanced capacities to eliminate discrimination and violence against women and other vulnerable groups, and a public sector that is evidence-based, innovative and efficiently and effectively responsive to the evolving needs of the people.</p>				
<p>Related strategic plan outcome 2: No one left behind, centring on equitable access to opportunities and a rights-based approach to human agency and development</p>				
Cooperation framework outcome indicator(s), baselines, target(s)	Data source and frequency of data collection, and responsibilities	Indicative country programme outputs (including indicators, baselines, targets)	Major partners/partnerships/frameworks	Estimated cost by outcome
<p>Indicator 2.1. Gender inequality index (Related to Goals 3, 4, 5, 8, 16) Baseline (2021): 0.181 Target (2029): TBC</p>	<p>Data source: UNDP, Human Development Report Frequency: Annual</p>	<p>Output 2.1. The capacities of Youth, women and people living with disabilities to participate in decision making processes are enhanced.</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.1. Number of partnerships with women-led CSOs and other bodies and networks to advance women’s leadership and participation and gender equality (IRRF indicator 6.2.2).</p>	<p>UN Women National Institute for Human Rights of Bahrain Special Investigation Unit Institute of Judicial and Legal Studies in Bahrain (JLSI)</p>	<p>Regular: N/A Other: \$ 5,000,000 Subtotal: \$ 5,000,000</p>

<p>Indicator 2.2. Worldwide Governance Indicators - government effectiveness (Related to Goals target 16.6) Baseline (2022): Performance: 0.64; Percentile rank (0-100): 72.17 Target (2029): TBC</p> <p>Indicator 2.3. Worldwide Governance Indicators - rule of law (Related to Goals target 16.3) Baseline (2022): Performance: 0.44; Percentile rank (0-100): 65.09 Target (2029): TBC</p>	<p>Data source: World Bank, Worldwide Governance Indicators Frequency: Annual</p> <p>Data source: World Bank, Worldwide Governance Indicators Frequency: Annual</p>	<p>Baseline (2023): 2 Target (2029): 5 Data source/frequency: UNDP and Ministry of Youth Affairs/annual</p> <p>Indicator 2.1.2. Number of (a) youth, (b) women and (c) people living with disabilities who benefitted from United Nations leadership, United Nations Volunteers and civic engagement capacity development programmes, leading to more active leadership roles. Baseline (2023): (a) 0, (b) 0, (c) 0 Target (2029): (a) 200, (b) 100, (c) 50 Data source/frequency: UNDP, Ministry of Youth Affairs/annual</p> <p>Output 2.2. Institutional capacities of judicial institutions and security apparatus to enhance public trust and promote and protect human rights and combat discrimination and violence against women and vulnerable groups, bolstered.</p> <p>Indicator 2.2.1. Number of entities with strengthened capacities to implement legislation, policies, action plans and initiatives that (a) implement legislation, policies, action plans and initiatives to support fulfilment of nationally and internationally ratified human rights obligations, (b) combat discrimination and violence, (c) implement United Nations guiding principles on business and human rights. Baseline (2022): (a) 0, (b) 0, (c) 1 Target (2026): (a) 3, (b) 4, (c) 4</p>	<p>Ombudswoman Ministry of Interior Bahrain Institute for Public Administration Bahrain Institute for Political Development Supreme Council of Women University of Bahrain Royal University of Women NGOs CSOs Private sector</p>	
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<p>National priority or goal: Economic vision 2030: 3.5; Government Action Plan 2023-2026: Economic recovery and sustainable development Sustainable Development Goals 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15</p>				
<p>Cooperation framework outcome involving UNDP #4: By 2029, all people living in Bahrain benefit from enhanced environmental resilience and sustainability, achieved through targeted climate action, pollution reduction, sustainable management of land use and natural resources, and low-carbon development, ensuring ecological balance and energy security for present and future generations.</p>				
<p>Related strategic plan outcome 3: Resilience built to respond to systemic uncertainty and risk</p>				
Cooperation framework outcome indicator(s), baselines, target(s)	Data source and frequency of data collection, and responsibilities	Indicative country programme outputs (including indicators, baselines, targets)	Major partners/partners hips/ frameworks	Estimated cost by outcome
<p>Indicator 3.1. Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption. Baseline (2021): 0.4 Target (2029): TBC</p>	<p>Data source: IRENA, Government of Bahrain Goals 2030 Frequency: Annual</p>	<p>Output 3.1. Institutional and legislative capacity of relevant government institutions to devise evidence-based policies and regulations to address climate change challenges and risks, ensure sustainable utilization of natural resources and diversify the energy mix, and establish and maintain participatory mechanisms to enhance</p>	<p>UNEP FAO UN-Habitat Economic Board of Bahrain Ministry of Oil and Environment</p>	<p>Regular: N/A Other: \$5,000,000 Subtotal: \$5,000,000</p>

<p>Indicator 3.2. Total greenhouse gas emissions per year (Mt CO₂) (Goals indicator 13.2.2) Baseline (2022): Per Capita: 21.5% Target (2035): Per Capita: TBC</p>	<p>Data source: European Union 2023, European Commission, JRC, Emissions Database for Global Atmospheric Research (EDGAR Community) Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) database Frequency: Annual</p>	<p>whole of society approach to environmental issues, bolstered.</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.1. Number of strategies and plans that integrate whole-of-society approaches in place geared towards: (a) addressing climate change challenges and risks, (b) ensuring sustainable utilization of natural resources and (c) diversifying the energy mix. Baseline (2023): (a) 1, (b) 1, (c) 1 Target (2029): (a) 3, (b) 2, (c) 2 Data source/frequency: United Nations reports, SCE/annual</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.2. Number of mechanisms established and/or integrated into policies and plans to enhance whole of society approach to environmental issues. Baseline (2023): 1 Target (2029): 3 Data source/frequency: United Nations reports, SCE/annual</p> <p>Indicator 3.1.3. Data collection and/or analysis mechanisms providing disaggregated data to monitor progress towards the Goals (0 = Not in place, 1 = Work started, 2 = Work in progress, 3 = Work almost complete, 4 = In place), (IRRF indicator 1.1.3) Baseline (2023): 2 Target (2029): 3 Data source/frequency: UNDP, SCE/annual</p>	<p>Ministry of Finance and National Economy Electricity and Water Authority Supreme Council for Environment (SCE) Ministry of Municipality and Agriculture University of Bahrain Royal University of Women NGOs CSOs Private Sector</p>	
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