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Country programmes and related matters

### **Country programme document for Mongolia (2023–2027)**

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# I. UNDP within the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

- 1. Mongolia is a landlocked country characterized by unique ecosystems and landscapes, with many traditional nomadic pastoralist communities. It ranks in the high human development category, with a Human Development Index value of 0.737 (2019). The country, with 3.3 million people, has a high unemployment rate of 7.4 per cent (2021), and unemployment is concentrated in the 15-34 age group. The country's population density is very low.
- 2. Mongolia's rural population has urbanized rapidly the urban population expanded from 52 per cent in 1990 to 69 per cent in 2020.<sup>4</sup> The country's economic transition has been accompanied by changing demographics and shifting development patterns. Almost a quarter of its gross domestic product (GDP) is based on extractives, mainly coal and minerals, as of 2019.<sup>5</sup>
- 3. The government's long-term development policy, Vision 2050, calls for the country to become "a leading Asian country in terms of its social development, economic growth and its citizens' quality of life." Vision 2050 also reflects the country's human rights commitments and provides a framework to implement inclusive programmes to address its complex development challenges.
- 4. Mongolia has achieved substantial economic growth, largely fuelled by foreign investment in the extractives industry. Gross national income per capita increased by 134.5 per cent between 1990 and 2019.<sup>7</sup> The cost has been fewer job opportunities and low value addition in non-mining sectors, making the country vulnerable to shocks. High levels of debt pose risks to its financial sustainability. Though poverty has fallen and living conditions have improved due to investments in health, education and social protection, structural inequality persists, and poverty, at 28.4 per cent, remains the highest in the region.<sup>8, 9</sup> Governance challenges include lack of (a) institutional capacities for effective public administration; (b) evidence-informed policies; planning and budgeting to address the needs of vulnerable people; (c) accountability; and (d) coordinated policymaking. These challenges hinder progress towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (the Goals).
- 5. Though Mongolia made significant strides towards sustainable development prior to COVID-19, the pandemic led to a 5.3 per cent economic contraction, diminishing livelihoods and well-being. In 2020, the budget deficit increased to 12 per cent of GDP, with public debt estimated to exceed 80 per cent of GDP. The pandemic exacerbated challenges, particularly for vulnerable people: children, women and girls, persons with disability, youth, ethnic minorities, residents of *ger* areas, informal workers, victims of trafficking, and stranded and unregistered migrants. Parliament approved the country's New Recovery Policy on 30 December 2021 as a medium-term programme to implement Vision 2050 and reduce the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> UNDP, 'Briefing note for countries on the 2020 Human Development Report: Mongolia, https://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/Country-Profiles/MNG.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Economist Intelligence Unit, https://country.eiu.com/article.aspx?articleid=1481835331&Country=Mongolia&topic=Summary&subtopic=Basic+data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> NSO, 'Registered unemployed, February 2021', https://1212.mn/BookLibraryDownload.ashx?url=1\_Registered\_unemployed\_2021.02\_en.pdf&ln=En.

<sup>4</sup> https://www.1212.mn/tables.aspx?TBL\_ID=DT\_NSO\_0300\_027V1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The World Bank, 'Mines and minds' infographic, https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/infographic/2020/10/30/mines-and-minds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Government of Mongolia, 2020, 'Vision 2050: Long-term Development Policy of Mongolia'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> UNDP, 'Briefing note for countries on the 2020 Human Development Report: Mongolia,' https://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/Country-Profiles/MNG.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 2021, 'Inequality of Opportunity: Who are those left behind?' Mongolia policy paper. https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/d8files/2021-04/LNOB\_in\_Mongolia\_0.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> International Monetary Fund, November 2021, IMF staff country reports, 'Mongolia: Article IV Consultation',

https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/CR/Issues/2021/11/29/Mongolia-2021-Article-IV-Consultation-Press-Release-Staff-Report-and-Statement-by-the-510086.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> United Nations Mongolia, 2021, 'Common country analysis'.

<sup>11</sup> Ger areas are outlying areas of the capital, Ulaanbaatar, and other urban areas where internal migrants settle.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> United Nations Mongolia, 2021, 'Common country analysis'.

pandemic's harm to the economy, improve infrastructure and increase labour productivity. <sup>13</sup> It includes measures to boost industrialization, decrease the country's vulnerabilities due to being landlocked, raise GDP and enhance livelihood opportunities.

- 6. Mongolia has a Gender Inequality Index of 0.322, ranking 71 out of 162 countries. A greater proportion of women (91.5 per cent) than men (86.1 per cent) have at least a secondary education. Women are engaged in the public sector, the economy and politics, but they are insufficiently represented at decision-making levels, for example, holding only 17.3 per cent of seats in Parliament. Over half of ever-partnered women, 57.9 per cent, have experienced physical, sexual, emotional or economic violence and/or controlling behaviours. In addition, women's low rate of participation in politics and the labour force underscores the need to facilitate opportunities for leadership at decision-making levels, promote women's access to economic resources, and leverage their knowledge and abilities to contribute to sustainable development in the political, economic, environmental and social spheres.
- 7. Climate change is a key challenge to sustainable development in Mongolia. The projected increase in the frequency and severity of climate-related natural disasters (*dzuds*, which are extreme winter storms with heavy snowfall, along with droughts, floods and sand and dust storms) have harmful effects on agriculture, livestock, water and land resources, infrastructure development, health and well-being. While the government has announced ambitious carbon emission targets, fossil fuel subsidies continue to drive over-consumption of coal, discouraging investment in renewable energy and green development.
- 8. Air and water pollution, especially in urban areas, hampers public health. <sup>16</sup> The number of livestock has tripled since the 1990s, when Mongolia embarked on a market economy. As a result, rangeland carrying capacity has been vastly exceeded, leading to severe overgrazing and land degradation. As rangeland and natural resources management practices underpin the livelihoods of rural communities and herders, a transformational shift in livestock management is needed. This requires strengthening institutional and legal capacities and developing sustainable, nature-based solutions aligned with Mongolia's nomadic herder tradition.
- 9. UNDP has provided strategic support to the government over more than four decades, including recently on COVID-19 response and recovery. UNDP's rapid socioeconomic assessment of the impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable groups and value chains (June 2020) was among the first such studies in the country and region, and its findings were integrated into the United Nations Mongolia Socio-Economic Response Plan. In partnership with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the National Committee on Gender Equality (NCGE), UNDP conducted a pandemic impact assessment on women and girls (March 2021). In partnership with the National Statistics Organization (NSO), UNDP reported on COVID-19 impact on consumption, poverty and inequality using big data. Through inter-agency collaboration with other United Nations entities, UNDP continues to support the government on a longer term sustainable, inclusive and resilient COVID-19 recovery.
- 10. The 2020 independent country programme review<sup>17</sup> recommended greater focus on brokering knowledge and technical leadership, specifically in the realm of socioeconomic analysis; deepening the governance programme; consolidating work on the environment-poverty nexus; and capitalizing on significant opportunities for a 'green recovery' from COVID-19. It encouraged seeking and facilitating integrated solutions across projects and programmes and diversifying partnerships, with particular focus on civil society. These

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Labour productivity refers to output per worker and is closely linked to the country's economic performance. In Mongolia labour productivity has been very low and declined over the 2012-2015 period, and then recovered slightly. https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-beijing/documents/publication/wcms 673936.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> UNDP, 'Briefing note for countries on the 2020 Human Development Report: Mongolia', https://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/Country-Profiles/MNG.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Government of Mongolia, 2018, 'National study on gender-based violence in Mongolia'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> United Nations Mongolia, 2021, 'Common country analysis'.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> UNDP, July 2020, 'Mongolia: Independent country programme review—Terms of reference', https://erc.undp.org/evaluation/documents/download/18816/.

recommendations have been adopted in the new country programme by developing a portfolio approach that mainstreams governance for a 'just' transition, while advancing sustainable development and strengthening civil society engagement.

- 11. UNDP's contribution to the strategic vision of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) is underpinned by its role as a thought leader, convenor and integrator. This is complemented by its solid partnership with government institutions, civil society and communities, and its use of evidence-based policymaking and capacity for planning, implementation and monitoring. Together these facilitate inclusive efforts to achieve the 2030 agenda while also responding to national priorities.
- 12. In supporting United Nations system-wide efforts in Mongolia, led by the resident coordinator, UNDP will facilitate solutions to the country's complex development challenges while strengthening thematic partnerships with other United Nations entities. Aligned with the UNSDCF's strategic priorities human development and well-being; green, inclusive and sustainable growth; and people-centred governance, rule of law and human rights UNDP will add value in the areas of livelihoods development, climate resilience, biodiversity conservation, promotion of gender equality and strengthening of inclusive and accountable governance. This will help to accelerate achievement of the Goals, while fostering an approach that engages all of government and society.
- 13. UNDP will continue to draw on its global policy network and South-South and triangular cooperation opportunities. It will also make use of innovation expertise through its accelerator lab network to introduce more experimentation, adapt programming and accelerate learning. This will strengthen programming and partnerships and increase the potential for mobilizing resources.
- 14. In line with the UNSDCF's theory of change, the country programme theory of change is built on the premise that *if* sustainable and diversified livelihoods are in place, and *if* a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy is promoted, and *if* mechanisms and capacities for risk-informed climate adaptation are strengthened, and *if* capacities for conservation and sustainable use of natural ecosystems are enhanced, and *if* inclusive and accountable, gender-responsive governance mechanisms are in place, *then* people in Mongolia will benefit from shared prosperity characterized by inclusive, resilient and sustainable development and a healthy and safe environment. This will allow them to thrive in a cohesive society based on the rule of law and realization of human rights.

### II. Programme priorities and partnerships

- 15. Firmly anchored in the government's development aspirations and priorities this country programme is an integral part of the UNSDCF. It is aligned to the UNDP Strategic Plan 2022–2025 and is informed by inclusive consultations with stakeholders including the government, development partners, donors, civil society, vulnerable groups, the private sector and other United Nations entities. The focus is on expanding the capabilities of Mongolians to make sustainable and equitable choices for a just transition, especially benefiting vulnerable people. It builds on achievements of the previous country programme, progress on the Socio-Economic Response Plan, lessons learned from COVID-19 response and a thorough common country analysis, and draws on recommendations from the independent country programme review.
- 16. Based on the principle of national ownership, UNDP will support government and citizen efforts to accelerate achievement of the Goals, leveraging the signature solutions and enablers in UNDP's Strategic Plan. It will also work towards the three directions of change: structural transformation, leave no one behind and build resilience to respond to uncertainty and risks. Multidimensional initiatives will be consolidated into two portfolios, one addressing inclusive and green development, and the other a just and accountable transition.

17. UNDP's role as an integrator of the Goals will underpin the portfolios, while gender equality, innovation, digital transformation and development financing will serve as enablers. As part of the United Nations country team, UNDP will provide evidence, tools, methodologies, policy expertise, technical leadership and innovative solutions to accelerate the achievement of UNSDCF outcomes. Three programme priorities have been identified for UNDP interventions.

**Programme priority 1: Diversified, inclusive and green economic transition** (UNSDCF outcome 2)

#### Strengthening capacities for sustainable livelihoods and employment

18. UNDP will support the government at national and subnational levels in line with Vision 2050 to help diversify the economy and contribute to an inclusive, green transition. Eco-value chain development will be promoted in provinces with specific needs. Green business capacity-building support will be provided to small firms and entrepreneurs, along with employment skills for youth, persons with disability and women. Goals budgeting will help improve the enabling environment for fiscal discipline and employment generation. Support for Goals financing through an integrated national financing framework will provide an enabling environment for a just and green transition.

19. Partnerships with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Labour Organization will be leveraged to create livelihood opportunities, building on UNDP's work on value chains. Partnerships with the Mongolian Employers' Federation, Confederation of Mongolian Trade Unions and Decent Work for Youth Network will support the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection (MLSP), Ministry of Finance and other entities in the employment and labour sectors. While contributing to the government's policy on livestock management, UNDP will bring together the government, herder communities, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, including international fashion brands, for green development solutions. This will take place by integrating climate risks, vulnerability assessments and sustainability requirements in the value chains of livestock products.

### • Promoting a low-carbon, climate-resilient economy

20. UNDP will contribute to strengthening the financing architecture of the Goals by operationalizing the integrated national financing framework and innovative financing opportunities. UNDP will promote responsible investment in the public and private sectors that complies with global environmental, social and governance standards and is gender responsive. UNDP will promote sustainable infrastructure development, with a focus on climate change adaptation and a low-carbon and net-zero-emissions economy, creating employment opportunities and reducing dependence on the extractive industry. The private sector will be supported to leverage access to sustainable financing, including instruments such as green loans and bonds, complementing interventions under outcome 3 of the country programme.

21. UNDP will work with the public and private sectors on investor mapping and financing for the Goals. It will also build on leadership by the private sector to catalyse growth in responsible, inclusive and green businesses. In this work, UNDP will partner with the Mongolian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Digital Development and Communication, and Ministry of Economy and Development (MED). Ongoing support to the measurement, reporting and verification scheme for climate mitigation actions in the construction and road transportation sectors will continue, in partnership with the Ministry of Road and Transportation Development and the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development.

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# **Programme priority 2: Risk-informed climate adaptation and sustainable management of natural ecosystems** (UNSDCF outcome 3)

#### Strengthening mechanisms and capacities for risk-informed climate adaptation

- 22. UNDP will continue to promote nature-based adaptation solutions and support the government with digital technology and equipment to develop longer term climate change models and more accurate early warning systems. At the same time, it will prioritize investment in the river basin management and livestock husbandry sectors to develop water and land use plans for better risk-informed decision-making at the national level and in selected provinces. UNDP will help to expand the knowledge and skills of women and men in herder groups and cooperatives to improve livestock management, build resilience to climate risk and supply sustainably sourced livestock products. A traceability system for such products (cashmere, meat, dairy, leather) will be improved, including by adding incentives to engage herder producers throughout programme implementation. This will help to improve climate mitigation actions in the agriculture and livestock sectors as pledged under Mongolia's nationally determined contributions to cut emissions.
- 23. While promoting public-private partnerships, UNDP will work alongside other United Nations entities to help develop partnerships among professional associations, research entities, non-governmental organizations, cooperatives, herder organizations and international organizations, and to identify public-private-community partnerships for sustainably sourced, climate-resilient livestock products. Key partners will be the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry (MoFALI), and the Agency of Land Administration and Management, Geodesy and Cartography. Based on its Goals integrator role, UNDP will work with FAO and ADB to improve economic incentives for climate adaptation measures at national and local levels and enhance the co-benefits of adaptation activities in agriculture and land usage.

### Strengthening mechanisms for sustainable and inclusive management of natural ecosystems

- 24. UNDP will help to advance ecosystems and biodiversity contributing to Vision 2050's green development priorities, through (a) integrated land use planning, to ensure that use of land and natural resources is oriented to optimize production without harming ecosystem services or degrading biodiversity; (b) making production practices more environmentally appropriate in the animal husbandry, arable farming and infrastructure development sectors; (c) offering technical support to line ministries and subnational governments to enhance regulatory and legislative frameworks on access to benefit-sharing of genetic resources; and (d) developing innovative financing solutions (such as debt-for-nature swaps, biodiversity funds) and other area-based conservation measures.
- 25. To contribute to an inclusive and green COVID-19 recovery, UNDP will invest in systemic changes and dialogues among diverse stakeholders. It will also put nature at the heart of development to accelerate climate action and achieve progress towards the Goals and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework targets. UNDP's collaboration with ministries and specialized government agencies, FAO and other stakeholders will contribute to achieving national priorities on sustainable forest management and ecosystem restoration. Interventions will address diversification of livelihood options for communities and herders to improve production practices.

Programme priority 3: Women's empowerment, inclusive and accountable governance, and progress towards achievement of the Goals (UNSDCF outcome 4)

## Addressing structural barriers in advancing women's leadership and participation

26. UNDP will support efforts to build the capacities of institutions, as well as women and men themselves, to increase the number of women elected to leadership positions at national and local levels. These efforts will also be aimed at strengthening the legal environment for

women's representation at decision-making levels, raise public awareness on gender equality, break down stereotypes and strengthen mechanisms to help women become decision-makers.

27. Support will be provided to civil society organizations and the media to enhance their role in addressing the country's gender equality challenges and advancing the participation of women in politics, the economy and society. UNDP will partner closely with government entities, especially the NCGE, to support implementation of the national action plan on gender equality. In addition, it will collaborate with Parliament and the United Nations Population Fund, which also works to combat violence against women.

## • Strengthening institutional capacities for transparency, accountability and accessibility

- 28. UNDP will help Parliament and the government to improve transparency and accountability and reduce corruption through an approach to inclusive governance based in human rights, benefiting women and men equally. This will be done by building capacities and strengthening laws, policies and mechanisms that encourage citizen participation and trust in public institutions. To do so UNDP will build on its support to civil service reform and technical support to the National Human Rights Commission. Partnerships with the private sector will help to ensure that practices are in line with human rights and environmental standards. The media will be engaged for advocacy on government transparency and accountability, encouraging government responsiveness to the needs of the most vulnerable people. Capacities of civil society groups will be enhanced to increase their participation in policymaking processes.
- 29. To advance localization and achievement of the Goals in Mongolia, UNDP will further develop integrated approaches to innovation and learning, policy and programming, data and analytics, and sustainable financing. UNDP will continue to help the government to apply innovation and learning for systems-based planning, policymaking, programming and budgeting, thus strengthening accountability by improving budget transparency, citizen participation and oversight, use of digital solutions and increasing digital literacy among the most vulnerable people. In line with the government's commitments, this approach will promote use of advanced data analytics and innovative financing; adoption of a balanced, inclusive, sustainable, forward-looking approach to development (beyond growth); and measurement of Goals targets using disaggregated indicators and metrics.
- 30. To deliver the programme and ensure results are sustainable, UNDP will partner with government entities, civil society, development actors, donors and the private sector. Collaboration will be strengthened with international financial institutions including the World Bank, ADB and International Monetary Fund. UNDP will continue to work with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility and expand its partnerships with the European Union (EU) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and with Germany, Japan and South Korea.
- 31. South-South and triangular cooperation will be facilitated through technical assistance and sharing of knowledge and experience, including through cooperation with China through the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund. UNDP will also pursue sharing of solutions among countries through the accelerator lab network and engagement of volunteers with support of UN Volunteers. Ongoing efforts to engage with non-traditional partners will be strengthened, particularly to expand the governance portfolio, as suggested in the independent country programme review, while exploring alternative and sustainable financing mechanisms. Also, in line with review recommendations, and capitalizing on UNDP's partnership with international financial institutions and other partners, UNDP will continue to conduct socioeconomic analysis to capture the aspects of a sustainable and inclusive future needed to reach those left furthest behind.

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### III. Programme and risk management

- 32. This country programme outlines UNDP's planned 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 country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures and Internal Control Framework.
- 33. The programme will be nationally executed. If necessary, national execution may be replaced by direct execution for part or all of the programme. The harmonized approach to cash transfers will be used in collaboration with other United Nations agencies to manage financial risks. Cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness will be charged to the concerned projects.
- 34. The country programme theory of change identified risks to successful programme delivery, including: (a) a worsening debt situation; (b) economic instability, which would increase the risks to achievement of gender equality and human rights; (c) impacts of climate change such as increasing *dzuds* and other hazards, compromising long-term development objectives; and (d) frequent changes of focal points among government counterparts. Other risks include limited donor funding, competition for human and financial resources, capacity shortfalls among implementing partners to manage the funds allocated to them, and the impact of COVID-19 response measures on national finances, limiting the government's ability to achieve the Goals.
- 35. UNDP will use improved risk identification and mitigation tools throughout the programme cycle in line with its social and environmental standards (including addressing grievance mechanisms at programme level) and accountability mechanisms, while pursuing a robust pipeline of projects. Risk mitigation and management arrangements will be built into the programme as per UNDP's enterprise risk management policy. Assurance activities including micro-assessments, spot checks and audits will be conducted in line with the harmonized approach to cash transfers.
- 36. Systems thinking will be applied to ensure a relevant, holistic approach to complex problems, using foresight and horizon-scanning to sense emerging trends and anticipate possible requests for support from the government. Frequent analysis of the political economy and operating context will inform any modifications in the planned programme, including scaling down in case of limited donor funding or leveraging opportunities to scale impact.
- 36. To mitigate the risks outlined above, UNDP will develop a country programme risk log, which will be closely monitored, evaluated and updated. To lessen the impact of potential risks, UNDP will continue to support (a) the operationalization of the integrated national financing framework, including innovative finance and the government's planning and budgeting function, involving women and other vulnerable groups; (b) the ethics councils, which UNDP helped establish, to strengthen due process in civil service appointments; and (c) targeted climate adaptation measures to build up dzud resilience.
- 37. UNDP will further address risks by (a) accessing its network of experts offering technical advice and developing innovative solutions to emerging challenges; (b) diversifying resource mobilization through renewed and emerging partnerships; (c) mobilizing domestic financing as a catalyst to attract more resources from development partners; (d) increasing private sector engagement; and (e) ensuring that business processes are efficient and cost-effective.

### IV. Monitoring and evaluation

38. A protocol for results-based monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will be established at project and portfolio level during programme implementation, in compliance with corporate requirements including United Nations Evaluation Group norms and standards. In alignment with the UNSDCF, UNDP will use national data sources for reporting on results, emphasizing

collection of high-quality data disaggregated by province, ethnicity, age, gender and disability. UNDP will support efforts to strengthen national statistical systems for regular, disaggregated data collection while reinforcing results-based management processes. Building on the joint work initiated with the cabinet secretariat for development of the Government Action Programme 2020–2024, M&E capacity will be strengthened, and work will continue with the NSO on big data applications.

- 39. UNDP will synchronize its reporting to the UNSDCF cycle and ensure that M&E activities are aligned with the guiding principles of gender equality, human rights and leaving no one behind. Digital tools and mobile applications will be used for monitoring, to allow for more evidence-based, real-time decision-making and anticipatory action. UNDP will seek to engage regularly with the government, vulnerable groups and other relevant stakeholders through consultations, to ensure the programme remains relevant to their needs.
- 40. The country programme evaluation plan will follow Independent Evaluation Office guidelines. Recommendations and lessons learned from evaluations, assessments and reviews will strengthen dialogue with partners and inform programme implementation and course corrections as needed. At least 3 per cent of the budget will be allocated to M&E and communication of results and at least 15 per cent to gender-specific interventions across the programme. All active and new projects will have gender markers, and some will significantly contribute to gender integration and parity. The UNDP Mongolia gender equality strategy is being implemented as a building block for the Gender Seal process already initiated. A communication plan will be developed with actions aligned with the country programme to demonstrate UNDP's thought leadership in sustainable development.

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### Annex. Results and resources framework for Mongolia (2023–2027)

NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: Vision 2050 Goal 2 (human development), Goal 3 (quality of life), Goal 6 (green development); and Sustainable Development Goals 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 17

UNDP OUTCOME 1 (UNSDCF OUTCOME 2): By 2027, the Mongolian economy is more diversified, innovative, productive, inclusive, green and geographically balanced, enabling decent livelihoods, especially for women and youth, building twenty-first century skills and promoting low-carbon development

RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME: Outcome 2: No one left behind, centring on equitable access to opportunities and a rights-based approach to human agency and human development

UNSDCF OUTCOME INDICATORS, BASELINES, TARGETS	DATA SOURCE/ MEANS OF VERIFCATION	INDICATIVE COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS	MAJOR PARTNERS	ESTIMATED COST BY OUTCOME (\$)
2.1 Renewable energy share in total energy consumption (Goal 7.2.1)  Baseline: 3.4% (2018)  Target:12% (2027)  2.2 Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person (Goal 8.2.1)  Baseline: 6.3% (2020)  Target: 4.2% 18  2.3 Unemployment rate, by location, sex, age and disability status (Goal 8.5.2)  Baseline: 7% (2020)  By sex: Female, 6.7%; male, 7.3%  By location: Urban, 8%; rural, 4.6%  By age group: 15-24, 17.9%; 25-64, 5.9%  By disability status: With disability, 7% Without disability, 7.2%  Target: Lower than the baseline  2.4 Manufacturing value added as a proportion of GDP (Goal 9.2.1)  Baseline: 10.8% (2019)  Target: 19%  2.5 Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP (Goal 9.5.1)	MET/Goals dashboard  NSO/Goals dashboard  NSO/Goals dashboard  NSO/Goals dashboard	Output 1.1: Public institutions strengthened for an enabling policy environment, enhancing employability and sustainable, diversified sources of livelihoods across the country  Indicator 1.1.1: Number of national institutions with strengthened public administration and core government functions for improved service delivery (Focus: institutions involved in improving employability and livelihoods) [SPIRRF-2.3.1]  Baseline: 1 (MLSP, 2021)  Target: 3 (MLSP, MoFALI, GASI)  Source: EU annual project report  Frequency: Annual  Indicator 1.1.2: The extent to which the country has data collection and/or analysis mechanisms providing disaggregated data (including gender) to monitor progress towards achievement of Sustainable Development Goals: [SPIRRF-1.1.3]  • Conventional data collection methods (e.g., surveys)  • Administrative reporting systems  • Innovative data sources (e.g., big data)  (Rating scale: 0 = Not in place, 1 = work started, 2 = work in progress, 3 = work almost complete, 4 = in place)  Baseline: 1  Target: 2  Source: NSO, MED  Frequency: Annual  Output 1.2: Responsible business practices and inclusive and innovative financing opportunities promoted, contributing to a sustainable, diversified and low-carbon economy	Academia Climate Change Research and Cooperation Centre Confederation of Mongolian Trade Unions Decent Work for Youth Network EU FAO General Agency for Specialized Inspection International Labour Organization Local authorities Mongolian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ministry of Construction and Urban Development MED MET MET MLSP Mongolian Employers' Federation Ministry of Road and Transportation Development National Audit Office NSO Private sector	Regular: \$1,074,000 Other: \$7,448,461

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Sustainable Development Goals' nationalized target, calculated considering the current trajectory.

Baseline: 0.55% (2020) Target: 2.5%	Indicator 1.2.1: Extent to which the country has policy measures in place to enable the improvement or implementation of nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement [SPIRRF-1.1.2].  (Rating scale: 0 = Not in place, 1 = work started, 2 = work in progress, 3 = work almost complete, 4 = in place)	
	Baseline: 1 Target: 3 Source: Transparency report on Paris Agreement Frequency: Biennial	
	Indicator 1.2.2: Operationalization of an integrated policy/strategy/plan that increases ability to adapt to adverse impacts of climate change and fosters climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions (Rating scale: 0 = Not in place, 1 = work started, 2 = work in progress, 3 = work almost complete, 4 = In place)	
	Baseline: 2 Target: 3 Source: MET Frequency: Annual	

NATIONAL PRIORITY: Vision 2050 Goal 6 (green development), Goal 9 (regional and local development); Sustainable Development Goals 5, 12, 13, 15, 17

UNDP OUTCOME 2 (UNSDCF OUTCOME 3): By 2027, communities and ecosystems in Mongolia are more resilient to climate change, with improved capacity for evidence-informed and gender-responsive sustainable natural resource and environmental management and disaster risk reduction

### **RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME:** Outcome 3: Resilience built to respond to systemic uncertainty and risk

RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME: Outcome 3: Resilience built to respond to systemic uncertainty and risk					
3.1 The resilience capacity index of communities (Goal 13.2.1)  Baseline: 40.7  Target: 58.7  3.2 Forest area as a proportion of total land area (Goal 15.1.1)  Baseline: 7.9% (2019)  Target: 8.7%  3.3 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type (Goal 15.1.2)  Baseline: Special areas (17.4%), water runoff (44.75%), forest lands (36.8%) (2015)  Target: Special areas (27%), water runoff (55%), forest lands (48.7%)	FAO  MET	Output 2.1 Climate adaptation mechanisms and capacities strengthened at national and local levels through risk-informed planning and nature-based solutions  Indicator 2.1.1: Number of policy and planning instruments (institutional and regulatory) that are strengthened through use of climate information products/services in decision-making for climate responsive planning and development.  Baseline: 0 Target: 2 policies/planning instruments Source: GCF project annual review and midterm evaluation report Frequency: Annual and midterm (2024)  Indicator 2.1.2: Number of herder communities adapting and benefiting from resilient agricultural and livestock practices (disaggregated by direct/indirect beneficiaries [herders], vulnerability, age and gender of community members)  Baseline: 0 Target: 40 herder groups disaggregated by gender Source: Annual project reviews (GCF, ENSURE projects), midterm evaluation report Frequency: Annual and midterm (2024)	Academia ADB Agency of Land Administration and Management, Geodesy and Cartography FAO Forest groups GCF Global Environment Facility Herders' association MED MET MoFALI National Agency for Meteorology and Environmental Monitoring NGOs/community organizations	Other: \$27,856,685	

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3.4 Proportion of land that is degraded over total land area (Goal 15.3.1)  Baseline: Total: 76.96% (2020)  Target: Total: 75%	Information and Research Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment	Indicator 2.1.3: Coverage and scale of ecosystems with improved resilience to climate change (hectares) [SPIRRF-4.1.2(iii)].  Baseline: 0 Target: 36.44 million hectares (14 watersheds) Source: Annual project reviews, project implementation reviews, thematic evaluations, midterm reports (GCF, ENSURE projects) Frequency: Annual	Pasture user Groups
		Output 2.2: Institutions, communities and regulatory frameworks strengthened for sustainable, inclusive management of natural resources while improving livelihoods and biodiversity	
		<i>Indicator 2.2.1:</i> Area of terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management practices [SPIRRF-4.1.2(i)]	
		Baseline: 21% of total land Target: 23% Source: MET, UNDP Frequency: Annual	
		Indicator 2.2.2: Area of forest and forest land restored [SPIRRF-4.1.2(vi)]	
		Baseline: 12.3 million hectares (total forest area)  Target: 2,500 hectare increase  Source: Forest agency report, annual project reviews (GCF, ENSURE projects)  Frequency: Annual	
		Indicator 2.2.3: Number of innovative sustainable financing mechanisms for biodiversity and nature-based solutions funded by public and/or private resources (SPIRRF-4.2.1)	
		Baseline: 0 Target: 2 Source: UNDP Frequency: Annual	

NATIONAL PRIORITY: Vision 2050 Goal 5 (Governance); Sustainable Development Goals 5, 16, 17

**UNDP OUTCOME 3** (**UNSDCF OUTCOME 4**): By 2027, making and implementation of policies are more gender-responsive, participatory, coherent, evidence-informed and aligned with the Goals; governance institutions at all levels are transparent and accountable; and people, especially marginalized groups, have access to justice and rule of law for full realization of human rights

RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME: Outcome 1: Structural transformation accelerated, particularly green, inclusive and digital transitions

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4.1 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive (Goal 16.7.2) Baseline: 57.1% (2019) Target: 65.8%	NSO	Output 3.1 Capacities strengthened and structural barriers addressed for women's leadership and participation in politics and public sector  Indicator 3.1.1: Proportion of seats held by women in (a) Parliament; (b) local governments [SPIRRF-1.4 and 6.2].	<ul> <li>Academia</li> <li>Agency of Family, Child and Youth Development</li> <li>EU</li> <li>General Election Commission</li> </ul>	Regular: \$1,074,000 Other: \$13,324,746
4.2 Proportion of population who personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months, based on a type of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law, by type of rights (Goal 16.b.1a)  Baseline: 17.7% (2019)  Target: Lower than baseline percentage	NSO	Baseline: (a) 17% (2020); (b) 27% (2020)  Target: (a) 30% (2024); (b) 35% (2024)  Source: NSO, GEC  Frequency: 2024 (every 4 years)  Indicator 3.1.2: Extent to which the country has measures in place to advance women's leadership and equal participation in decision-making in (a) public institutions and (b) elected positions including in Parliament [SPIRRF-6.2.1]  (Rating scale: 0 = not in place, 1 = work started, 2 = work in progress, 3 = work almost complete, 4 = in place)  Baseline: 1	Korean International     Cooperation Agency     Local authorities     Ministry of Digital     Development and     Communication     MED     Media     MLSP     MOF     NCGE community	
Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months, based on a type of	NSO	Easeithe: 1 Target: 3 Source: Gender project annual review Frequency: Annual	organizations • National Human Rights Commission	
discrimination prohibited under international human rights law <sup>19</sup> (Goal 16.b.14.2a)  Baseline: 4.5% (2019)		Output 3.2: Capacities of public institutions on results-based, integrated national planning and budgeting, and business practices strengthened for greater transparency and accountability	NSO     Parliament     Political parties     Private sector	
Target: Higher than baseline percentage		Indicator 3.2.1: Extent to which development plans and budgets integrating intergovernmentally agreed frameworks are in place across all of government [SPIRRF-1.1.1]:  • Agenda 2030	United Nations Population Fund     Voter Education Centre     Women's Leadership Network	
4.3 Rule of law index  Baseline: 45.67 (rank); -0.26 (value) (2020)  Transit Hisharthan baseline	World Bank governance indicators	• Paris Agreement (Rating scale: 0 = not integrated, 1 = integration started, 2 = integration in progress, 3 = integration almost complete, 4 = integrated)		
4.4 Proportion of seats held by women in (a) Parliament and (b) local governments Baseline: (a) 17%; (b) 27% (2020)	NSO, National Development Agency	Baseline: 1 Target: 3 Source: MED, voluntary national reviews, reports under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Frequency: Biennial		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Supplementary to indicator 4.2 in the UNSCDF.

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Target: (a) 24.6%; (b) 37.4% (2024)	Indicator 3.2.2: Number of policies and regulatory and institutional frameworks developed and adopted by public and private actors to align public and private finance with Goals [SPIRRF-E.3.2]:  Baseline: 0 (regulatory framework); 0 (policy), 0 (institutional framework)  Target: 3 (1 regulatory framework, 1 policy and 1 institutional framework)  Source: MED, MOF  Frequency: Biennial  Indicator 3.2.3: Extent to which the country's institutions, systems or stakeholders have capacities to support the fulfilment of nationally and internationally ratified human rights obligations [SPIRRF-2.2.1 (c)]:  • Private sector, including publicly owned companies (Rating scale: 0 = not in place, 1 = low capacity, 2 = capacity neither low nor high, 3 = high capacity, 4 = very high capacity)  Baseline: 2  Target: 3  Source: National Human Rights Commission  Frequency: Biennial		
TOTAL	Oth	ular: \$2,148,000 her: \$48,629,892 tal: \$50,777,892	