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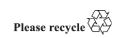
Regional programme document for Europe and the **Commonwealth of Independent States (2026–2029)**

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I. Programme rationale

A. Regional context

- 1. The regional programme for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, 2026-2029, is aligned with the strategic goals and accelerators outlined in the draft UNDP Strategic Plan, 2026-2029¹ and is guided by UNDP regionality principles². The programme is focused on regional public goods and common development challenges best addressed regionally or subregionally, including regional integration projects; the impacts of the war in Ukraine; the urgency of sustainable energy transitions and balanced resource management; rising democratic governance pressures and modernizing service delivery; increasing gender backlash; the need to strengthen inclusive social contracts; increasing frequency and severity of climate-driven disasters; rapid technological transformation and deepening digital divides. These commonalities highlight the importance of tailored programming to identify and address challenges of common concern, while maintaining the primacy of national solutions.
- 2. Amidst a challenging global geopolitical and economic context, countries across Europe and Central Asia demonstrate resilience and progress in several areas of sustainable development. The region is on track to achieve many Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets by 2030, with strengths in access to quality education, infrastructure and innovation. Many countries have made significant advances in expanding social protection coverage, digitalizing public services, improving energy efficiency and reducing child mortality rates.³
- 3. Development prospects for the region's middle-income and high middle-income economies hinge on their ability to raise productivity growth and manage a complex convergence of challenges, often described as a poly-crisis. According to joint World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) assessments, debt vulnerabilities across the region are mixed, with significant variation among countries in debt levels, its composition, exposure to shocks and available fiscal space, underscoring the importance of prudent fiscal management and external support. The changes in international trade relations have implications for the region's economies and communities; except for a few that have benefited from redirected trade and investment flows, most countries in the region experience broader economic headwinds, marked by a slowdown in growth trajectories and mounting structural pressures, due to aging societies and labour shortages, limited access to long-term finance for private firms, and in some contexts substantial state involvement in the economy, constraining private sector dynamism, innovation and productivity. While remittance inflows and rising wages support domestic consumption, the region's ability to achieve sustained, broad-based growth and converge with high-income economies will depend on comprehensive reforms to boost investment, improve business climates and upgrade education and skills.⁴
- 4. Labour market challenges persist, with high informality and youth disengaged from both education and work,⁵ limiting access to social protection.⁶ The care economy remains undervalued across the region. Care work both paid and unpaid is disproportionately conducted by women, contributing to inequality among men and women in the labour market. The lack of formal recognition and investment in care systems restricts women's economic participation and reinforces socioeconomic disparities.⁷ Skills mismatches are growing as economies embrace digital and green industries; women are twice as likely as men to struggle with the transition from "brown" to "green"

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¹ Draft UNDP Strategic Plan, 2026-2029.

² RPD 2022-2025 https://docs.un.org/en/DP/RPD/REC/5

³ United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) (2024), Sustainable Development in the UNECE Region: Facing a Headwind in 2024.

⁴ World Bank (2024), "Europe and Central Asia Economic Update: Better Education for Stronger Growth".

⁵ European Training Federation. (2024), Youth Disengagement and Skills Mismatch in the Western Balkans.

⁶ Council of Europe Development Bank (2021), Social Infrastructure in the Western Balkans: Increasing Economic Resilience and Counteracting Brain Drain.

⁷ UNDP (2025), "Gender responsive review of care systems in Europe and Central Asia" (draft), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) (2023), "Baseline study on care economy in Bosnia and Herzegovina";

jobs, ⁸ face additional barriers and remain underrepresented, while outmigration depletes human capital. ⁹ Ratios of remittance flows to GDP in some countries remain among the highest globally. ¹⁰ The region also faces forced displacement, requiring joint efforts to support durable solutions and social cohesion. Young people represent a critical demographic dividend, whose energy, innovation and potential remain underutilized; realizing this potential will require targeted investments in youth participation, future-ready skills and leadership opportunities.

- 5. While the region has comprehensive and mature social protection and healthcare systems, their structures and service delivery are challenged by demographic shifts, labour market changes and new vulnerabilities. In most countries, progress towards achieving noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) global targets is slow or reversing. NCDs account for nearly 90 per cent of deaths in the region, with cardiovascular diseases responsible for one-third of premature deaths. ¹¹ The region has the fastest growth of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infections globally, estimated at 43 per cent from 2010 to 2020. ¹² Local value chains for essential medicines and medical devices experience fragmentation, insufficient cold chain infrastructure and limited regional production capacity, exacerbating vulnerabilities during health crises. ¹³ Systems modernization is a priority, pursued through digitalization and artificial intelligence-supported systems, enhanced interoperability and updated eligibility criteria to ensure effectiveness, inclusiveness and fiscal sustainability. Recent reforms introducing digital registries and integrated service centres demonstrate commitment to transforming welfare systems to better serve contemporary needs. ¹⁴
- 6. Governance systems continue to evolve, with some countries advancing institutional reforms and digital governance innovations. New public sector models incorporate participatory governance approaches, co-creation and digital engagement tools, and future-oriented governance systems leveraging strategic planning and policy experimentation.¹⁵ The European Union enlargement process in the region can further support rule of law reforms. At the local level, cities and municipalities are increasingly crucial drivers of sustainable development, resilience and civic innovation, employing portfolio approaches and mission-driven urban planning to address complex challenges.¹⁶ Women's participation in public and political life shows that on average one in six cabinet members and one in four members of the parliament are women.¹⁷ Key governance challenges include corruption, rising political instability, disinformation, shrinking civic space and ensuring integrity of electoral processes. These challenges feed low public trust in institutions, undermining governance effectiveness.
- 7. Governance systems remain challenged by ongoing and protracted conflicts, security threats, political tensions and social discord. The war in Ukraine causes widespread humanitarian, social and economic consequences. The Western Balkans continue to grapple with political, ethnic and societal divisions as consequences of the 1990s wars, and with thousands of war crimes cases still requiring increased cooperation. The Western Balkans remains one of the most heavily armed regions in Europe, with a high prevalence of small arms and light weapons. ¹⁹

^{8 &}quot;Women, STEM and just green future, 2025", UNDP-OECD joint study preliminary results.

⁹ Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) (2023), Assessing and Anticipating Skills for the Green Transition: Unlocking Talent for a Sustainable Future, Getting Skills Right. OECD Publishing, Paris.

¹⁰ World Bank (2024), "Migration and remittances brief 40".

¹¹ Dumcheva A., Nevalainen J., Laatikainen T., Nuorti P., "How likely are Eastern European and central Asian countries to achieve global NCD targets: multi-country analysis," BMC Public Health. 2024 Oct 5; 24(1):2714.

¹² Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) (2024), "Eastern Europe and Central Asia regional profile".

¹³ Migliore A., Vicari N., Turk E., Sucu R., "Driving policy dialogue on health technology assessment in Eastern Europe and Central Asia: reporting from an initiative of Health Technology Assessment International," International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care. 2025 Feb 6;41.

¹⁴ International Labour Organization (ILO) (2024) World Social Protection Report 2024-2026, and World Bank (2022) "Furgree and Central Asia."

¹⁴ International Labour Organization (ILO) (2024), World Social Protection Report 2024-2026, and World Bank (2022), "Europe and Central Asia economic update, fall 2022: social protection for recovery".

¹⁵ OECD (2024), Global Trends in Government Innovation 2024: Fostering Human-Centred Public Services, OECD Public Governance Reviews, OECD Publishing, Paris, https://doi.org/10.1787/c1bc19c3-en.

¹⁶ UNDP, Demos Helsinki. (2024). Urban Development Beyond Growth.

¹⁷ Equal Future Platform, UNDP.

¹⁸ UNDP, IOM, UNHCR. (2024). Socioeconomic Impact of the War in Ukraine on Europe and Central Asia.

¹⁹ UNDP, South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC). (2024). Armed Violence Monitoring in South East Europe.

- 8. Digital transformation, including emerging technologies and artificial intelligence, presents significant opportunities to address social and economic inequalities, improve public service delivery and generate new economic opportunities.²⁰ However, disparities in digital access persist: more than 35 million women across the region remain unconnected to mobile internet.²¹ Many rural areas lack infrastructure and digital connectivity, limiting access to markets and reinforcing cycles of poverty.²² The economic divide between capital cities and secondary cities is particularly pronounced.²³
- 9. Countries in the region demonstrate commitment to global environmental action through international frameworks, with many updating their nationally determined contributions and developing national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national adaptation plans to align with global climate objectives. However, the region faces escalating climate and environmental risks, including rising temperatures and biodiversity depletion; water scarcity is particularly severe in Central Asia, threatening food and energy security and industrial productivity. ²⁴ Countries are vulnerable to extreme weather events caused by climate change, with much higher probability of wildfires and extreme rainfall causing deadly floods and infrastructure damage in Eastern Europe and the Balkans. ²⁵ Agricultural expansion, pollution and climate-driven disasters drive deforestation and land degradation, particularly in the Caucasus and Central Asia, weakening natural carbon sinks and biodiversity. ²⁶ Heavy industry and outdated energy infrastructure worsen emissions and air quality. ²⁷ Women particularly in rural areas disproportionately face climate impacts, with limited adaptive capacity and decision-making representation. The region's high seismic vulnerability has resulted in devastating earthquakes affecting millions of people.
- 10. Addressing these interconnected challenges require integrated, system approaches that strengthen resilience and create economic opportunities aligned with sustainable and just transitions. The programme will adopt multidimensional strategies, leverage regional platforms, mobilize partnerships and resources, and promote evidence-based decision-making, knowledge sharing and regional cooperation to deliver transformative results aligned with country and territory priorities.

B. Results and lessons learned

- 11. The programme is based on: (a) identified development challenges in the region; (b) lessons learned and recommendations from evaluations of current regional programme, 2022-2025; (c) review of relevant UNDP country programme documents; (d) findings and recommendations of recent independent country programme evaluations (ICPEs); (e) consultations and analysis of programmatic directions of regional partners; (f) consultations with UNDP country offices and regional partners; and (g) programmatic gains made in previous regional programming cycles.
- 12. An independent mid-term review of the regional programme, 2022-2025, ²⁸ concluded that the programme demonstrated strong performance, exceeding most targets, while effectively adhering to UNDP regionality principles. The evaluation highlighted the programme's unique role in addressing transnational development challenges while complementing country-specific agendas. The midterm review noted the critical role of flexible resources, particularly the regional Engagement Facility supported by the Government of Türkiye, in strengthening the programme's

²⁰ Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI) (2024) Artificial Intelligence Index Report 2024. Stanford University.

²¹ UNDP (2024) Contextualizing the UNDP Global Gender Equality Strategy to the Europe and Central Asia Region 2024-2025

²² United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). (2024). Trade and Development Report. Rethinking development in the age of discontent.

²³ World Bank (2024), Reshaping Cities: Readying Cities in the Western Balkans for a Changing Climate.

²⁴ World Bank. (2024). Greening the Economy of Europe and Central Asia.

²⁵ World Weather Attribution (2023). Interplay of Climate Change-exacerbated rainfall, exposure and vulnerability led to widespread impacts in the Mediterranean region. https://doi.org/10.25561/106501

²⁶ United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) (2023), Nature-positive Trade for Sustainable Development.

²⁷ UNDP (2024), *Energy Strategy: Sustainable Energy Transition Pathways in Europe and Central Asia*, Regional Bureau for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

²⁸ "Midterm review of regional programme for Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States, 2022-2025", UNDP, February 2025.

capacity to deliver results, respond dynamically to emerging priorities, attract additional resources and partnerships and enable innovation, regional cooperation and knowledge management.

- 13. The programme demonstrated notable adaptability in addressing challenges through agile management practices and strategic partnerships, including swiftly targeting countries affected by crises and conflicts. The review found that the programme leveraged key enablers such as digitalization, innovation and finance tools. Digital tools improved stakeholder engagement and service delivery transparency, while innovation initiatives supported adaptive and inclusive solutions. Financing tools such as integrated national financing frameworks, development finance assessments and SDG investor maps helped countries align public and private financial flows with the SDGs, identifying financing gaps and mobilizing investments.
- 14. The midterm review suggested six key recommendations: (a) establishing more ambitious yet achievable targets aligned with the programme's capacity to deliver results; (b) expanding targeted interventions for persons and groups in marginalized or vulnerable situations and embedding the leave no one behind lens across all programme areas; (c) diversifying partnerships to adapt to the evolving landscape of development cooperation and geopolitical shifts; (d) embedding joint planning and structural collaboration mechanisms from the outset; (e) scaling up systems thinking and the UNDP portfolio approach while leveraging digital and innovative tools for more integrated and agile programming; and (f) strengthening collaboration between the regional programme and country offices through more structured and adaptive frameworks.

II. Programme priorities and partnerships

A. Programme priorities

- 15. In its programmatic scope, focus, delivery approaches and results reporting, the programme adapts the forthcoming UNDP Strategic Plan, 2026-2029, to the development challenges and aspirations of programme countries in the region. With the overall objective of accelerating the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and supporting recovery from complex crises, the programme embraces its vision to support countries in advancing human development on a healthy planet through four interconnected strategic objectives that strongly reflect regional development agendas:
 - (a) Prosperity for all expanding economic opportunities and strengthening social protection;
 - (b) Effective governance enhancing public institutions and strengthening democratic processes;
 - (c) Crisis resilience preventing conflicts and strengthening disaster risk reduction, response and recovery;
 - (d) Healthy planet advancing climate action and environmental sustainability.
- 16. Under each programmatic priority, and in alignment with its theory of change, the programme will apply a systems approach recognizing that development challenges are deeply interconnected and require integrated solutions that cut across traditional silos. The programme seeks to act as a catalyst for systemic transformation, fostering new ways of collaborating across sectors, geographies and actors. To operationalize this approach, the programme will deploy the portfolio approach more widely, enabling dynamic experimentation, learning and adaptation across interconnected interventions. This will be supported by the development of core capacities in systems thinking, sensemaking and portfolio management, as well as data-informed decision-making and strategic foresight. Recognizing the region's complexity, the programme will invest in nurturing these capabilities across the ecosystem of UNDP teams and partners to better navigate uncertainty and accelerate change.

- 17. The programme will mainstream three accelerators across all priority areas: (a) digital and artificial intelligence transformation leveraging emerging technologies to create benefits for people and planet; (b) gender equality support the agency of women to participate and thrive in social, political and economic spheres; and (c) sustainable finance expanding financial systems and resources to accelerate sustainable development. These accelerators will serve as cross-cutting enablers that can amplify development gains and foster learning for systems change.
- 18. **Priority 1: Prosperity for all**. The programme will support countries in expanding economic opportunities and strengthening social protection systems, with a focus on ending poverty and leaving no one behind. To that end, it will:
 - Complement national efforts to expand economic opportunities for people and businesses to access productive assets, capital markets, welfare, decent jobs and livelihoods and build human capital, while helping countries navigate shifting economic landscapes. The programme will equip people, especially youth and women, with futureready skills including artificial intelligence, for a just transition, supporting countries in forging development trajectories that prioritize human potential through integrated systemic interventions. This includes strengthening entrepreneurial ecosystems, promoting alignment with European Union standards and growth plans, where relevant, and connecting local producers to regional and global value chains. A key focus will be placed on advancing decarbonization of economies through a just transition that balances social equity with the climate and environmental sustainability goals outlined under priority 4. The programme will prioritize inclusive economic transformation by centring women as leaders, innovators and entrepreneurs in green and circular value chains across the energy, agriculture and manufacturing sectors. The programme will also promote youth-led innovation, entrepreneurship and civic engagement, through digital platforms and partnerships with youth networks and local governments. These efforts will be implemented in partnership with United Nations entities and other international and regional organizations, business networks, the World Bank and other international financial institutions, and local governments to ensure transitions that create opportunities for communities at risk of being left behind.
 - (b) Support the strengthening and innovation of social protection, health and care systems, with special attention to building resilience to demographic transitions as parts of the region begin to attract labour immigration expanding and valuing the care economy (while addressing disproportionate burden on women) and scaling up under-resourced mental health and psychosocial support services. Partnerships will be strengthened with United Nations entities, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, academic and policy research networks, and civil society organizations to strengthen data, foster policy coherence and support reforms anchored in rights-based and inclusive approaches.
 - (c) Leverage key accelerators to drive inclusive and future-fit economic development through strategic regional initiatives such as the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route, ²⁹ the Western Balkans Common Regional Market and others, supporting evidence-based policies, skills-building and green value chains. New models for local economic development adopt a portfolio approach that aligns place-based innovation with community assets, municipal finance solutions, systems thinking, digital advancements and artificial intelligence. The programme will advance the UNDP Equanomics initiative to increase women's economic opportunities through fiscal reforms and care system investments, while strengthening regional cooperation and connectivity. As host of the United Nations System-wide Blockchain Academy, the programme will help partners harness blockchain and artificial intelligence technologies to expand economic opportunities and enhance transparency. The programme will

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²⁹ Also referred to as the Trans-Caspian East-West Middle Corridor.

amplify alternative financing models to accelerate development – including community financing, digital payments and outcome-based instruments – while forging regional private sector partnerships to co-create solutions for future skills, the circular economy and sustainable trade. These efforts will engage business associations, innovation hubs and development finance institutions, alongside deepened engagement with diaspora communities to mobilize capital through green bonds, remittances and entrepreneurship schemes.

- (d) In partnership with national authorities, national development banks, development financial institutions and international financial institutions, the programme accelerates financing for just, green and smart economy transitions and achievement of the SDGs. Support will focus on strengthening integrated national financing frameworks, advancing SDG budgeting and expenditure tracking, promoting SDG-aligned tax policies, managing debt and adopting green fiscal frameworks. The effectiveness of existing resources is enhanced through synergies between revenue and expenditure policies, public and private financing tools, domestic resource mobilization and anti-corruption measures that prevent resource diversion and foster fiscal transparency. This work will draw on existing partnerships with the European Commission, the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB), the Islamic Development (IsDB), the World Bank, the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), United Nations entities and international financial institutions.
- 19. **Priority 2: Effective governance**. The programme will enhance the capabilities and future-readiness of public institutions for more efficient and effective service delivery, while strengthening democratic processes, rule of law and accountability, with people-centred approaches. To that end, it will:
 - (a) Support government efficiency, transparency and responsiveness through digital transformation, anti-corruption measures and adaptive governance. Special attention will be given to enhancing youth engagement and women's participation and leadership in local and national governments and parliaments. Focus will be placed on shaping futureready institutions with enhanced foresight capabilities, enabling governments to anticipate emerging challenges, identifying possible futures, and developing portfolios to navigate uncertainty in a rapidly changing world.
 - (b) Strengthen institutions, communities and private actors to uphold human rights, advance the rule of law and deliver people-centred justice and security. The programme will support the alignment of national legal frameworks with relevant international standards, including European Union standards for candidate countries, while enhancing judicial institutions, protecting civic spaces and ensuring businesses respect human rights. It will also reinforce oversight bodies and national human rights systems, address root causes of exclusion, and promote participation and leadership of women and persons and groups in marginalized or vulnerable situations, including ethnic minorities, such as Roma, and persons with disabilities.
 - (c) Support countries and societies to navigate technological transformation, including developing and engaging with artificial intelligence and frontier technologies. This includes supporting policy frameworks that embed ethical considerations in artificial intelligence deployment, building robust data and security systems, addressing digital divides and nurturing public and private sector capabilities and ecosystems. The programme will help establish agile, anticipatory governance frameworks to navigate digital disruptions while emphasizing local knowledge and resources.

- (d) Strengthen local governance systems and urban development through regional platforms such as the Urban Learning Centre, Mayors for Economic Growth, the City Experiment Fund and other initiatives that embed systems approaches in governance and promote experimentation, deep community engagement, and gender-responsive and future-ready municipal capabilities. This work will be conducted in partnership with national associations of local authorities, regional and global city networks, international financial institutions and development agencies recognizing the growing role of cities and local governments as drivers of sustainable development and frontline responders to residents' needs, with a particular emphasis on funding and financing transformative interventions.
- (e) Support comprehensive security sector reforms and confidence-building measures, particularly in the Western Balkans, through strengthened governance systems for arms control, cybersecurity, community security, civil society engagement and transitional justice mechanisms. Main partners in this area are the South-Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC), governments, the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), United Nations entities, civil society networks and regional security cooperation platforms.
- 20. **Priority 3: Crisis resilience**. The programme will help countries and communities prevent, anticipate, prepare for, respond to and recover from crises, while sustaining long-term development. To that end, it will:
 - (a) Address drivers of fragility to strengthen human and climate resilience, anticipate risks and support inclusive, locally owned solutions for social cohesion and peace. Given the growing nexus between environmental degradation, resource scarcity and instability, the programme will advance risk-informed development and prevention approaches to address the underlying drivers and root causes of crisis, including adaptation strategies, and support community resilience to prevent radicalization. These efforts will be advanced in partnership with the United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (UNDPPA), the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) and relevant civil society networks.
 - (b) Enhance anticipatory governance, early warning systems, strategic foresight and climate resilience-related analysis to help countries navigate increasingly complex and interconnected risks, such as climate-induced human mobility, water insecurity and health emergencies. This includes leveraging artificial intelligence and emerging technologies for real-time risk monitoring and prediction, developing integrated policy responses and deploying portfolio approaches to address compound crises. The programme will build on regional cooperation on climate and urban resilience in Central Asia, aligning with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2015-2030, and enhancing disaster risk reduction capabilities through collaboration with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank Global Fund for Disaster Risk Reduction and Pandemic Fund, and regional disaster management authorities.
 - (c) Support countries and communities with risk-informed development approaches towards crisis resilience. In conflict-affected contexts such as Ukraine, the programme will support governments to quickly re-establish functionality in affected areas, bridge humanitarian-development interventions, and position recovery for long-term resilience, working closely with international financial institutions on joint recovery assessments and financing. The programme will also support innovative financing approaches to de-risk financial flows to crisis settings where resources are most needed, while ensuring women's economic opportunities and decision-making influence are strengthened as essential components of sustainable prevention and recovery.

- 21. **Priority 4: Healthy planet**. The regional programme will support countries in meeting their global environmental commitments and advancing sustainable development pathways that balance human prosperity with planetary health. To that end, it will:
 - (a) Help countries scale up ambition and implement climate and environmental commitments, such as nationally determined contributions, national adaptation plans, national biodiversity strategies and action plans and land degradation neutrality targets through national planning, institutions and public finance systems. Emphasis will be given to developing financing plans and whole-of-society and whole-of-economy approaches, including integrated national financing frameworks that align public and private finance flows with climate and biodiversity goals. UNDP will ensure that women's leadership, knowledge and equal participation are systematically integrated into policies and investments, recognizing their role as agents of change in environmental action and sustainable resource management. This will be undertaken in partnership with United Nations entities, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and national environment and planning ministries.
 - (b) Advance sustainable energy, energy security, climate adaptation, a circular economy, carbon markets and nature-based solutions through regional efforts, including leveraging the regional Just Transition Platform, to support countries and communities in accelerating transitions away from fossil fuels, unlocking finance and scaling approaches that promote prosperity for people and businesses while protecting the planet. The programme will promote environmental stewardship and contribute to inclusive economic opportunities in priority 1, ensuring climate action drives job creation, supports local economies and reduces inequalities. The programme will support platforms for exploration, innovation and development insights, engaging diverse partnerships with research institutions, think-tanks, innovation labs, youth networks and environmental advocacy networks. Work in this area includes collaboration with specialized international organizations, including UNFCCC, other United Nations entities, international financial and private sector partners.
 - (c) Address transboundary environmental challenges such as water management, pollution control and ecosystem protection by enhancing regional or multi-country cooperation frameworks to strengthen environmental governance and promote sustainable management of natural resources. Collaboration will be pursued with United Nations entities, the Global Water Partnership, river basin commissions and regional environmental treaty bodies within their mandates. The programme will leverage digital solutions and artificial intelligence for environmental monitoring, data analysis and evidence-based solutions at all levels.
- 22. The regional programme will advance its priorities through: (a) targeted, integrated and co-funded initiatives at the regional and subregional levels, co-designed with regional partners and programme countries; (b) dedicated and integrated programme and policy advisory services; and (c) the provision of a regional platform and neutral space for countries to address regional, subregional and transboundary development issues, as well as common and emerging regional challenges drawing on multi-country perspectives and facilitating the exchange of experiences and solutions. To this end, the programme focuses on:
 - (a) Putting people at the centre of development, leaving no one behind and moving beyond institution-centred approaches to engage non-traditional actors and new alliances with the private sector;

- (b) Applying systems thinking and portfolio approaches that foster integration across sectors and adaptation through learning to address the root causes of development challenges;
- (c) Leveraging digital and artificial intelligence tools while ensuring ethical guardrails and addressing potential divides and disparities;
- (d) Fostering innovative financing mechanisms, including impact investment, blended finance and public-private partnerships, to expand the resource base for sustainable development;
- (e) Strengthening regional and subregional platforms and policy events through development intelligence, knowledge exchange and co-designing solutions to common challenges. This approach will harness digital advancements – including artificial intelligence – and leverage insights from the programme's initiatives to deepen understanding of emerging issues and outline actions for decision-makers.

B. Partnerships

- 23. The complex challenges facing the diverse countries and territories in the region require strong partnerships across bilateral, multilateral, private sector and civil society actors. The programme will build on the existing UNDP network of partners, while recognizing that the changing development landscape offers opportunities to expand partnerships and alliances in diverse, catalytic and systemic ways. The programme will explore innovative partnerships focused on financing for development.
- 24. The comparative advantage of UNDP lies in its ability to operate as a neutral, trusted development partner with deep-rooted country access, including in fragile and politically complex contexts. It offers a unique capacity to co-design integrated solutions with governments, civil society, regional actors, financial institutions and the private sector across boundaries.
- 25. The programme will strengthen cooperation with partner countries, especially with Türkiye as a host for the regional hub and contributor to the programme, with the European Union and countries of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The partnership with the European Union will align with its priority development frameworks and investment strategies for promoting sustainable and inclusive growth across the region. Recognizing the shifting economic landscape, the programme will proactively engage with emerging investment opportunities from both eastern and western partners.
- 26. In response to the evolving development landscape, the regional programme will expand partnerships with non-DAC and new strategic partners from the region and beyond. The programme will co-create initiatives with existing and emerging partners, including shaping new modalities of South-South and triangular cooperation. UNDP will leverage its convening power to align these efforts with broader regional cooperation goals, foster cross-regional dialogue and mobilize investments for system transformation.
- 27. Drawing on the UNDP system-wide integrator function, the regional programme will collaborate with United Nations entities through the Regional Collaborative Platform for Europe and Central Asia and its issue-based coalitions. The programme will enhance regional perspectives within UNDP partnerships with key United Nations organizations the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), the International Labour Organization (ILO), WHO, UNDRR, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Volunteers (UNV), The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). It will benefit from the guidance of the United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs on peace and security and utilize the regional knowledge management hub to strengthen coherence and integrated programming in alignment with the United Nations development system reform.

- 28. Within the context of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on financing for development and considering the specific needs of middle-income countries, the programme will help countries mobilize and leverage development finance from public and private sources. UNDP will strengthen partnerships with international financial institutions, including the World Bank, the European Investment Bank, the Council of Europe Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Asian Development Bank and the Islamic Development Bank and explore opportunities with the Eurasian Development Bank, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank and others. These partnerships will target investment priorities, catalyse private sector finance for public goods, and implement impact measurement systems to accelerate sustainable development and climate finance.
- 29. The programme will strengthen engagement with the private sector and non-state actors, focusing on strategic partnerships with businesses, industry associations, financial institutions, civil society networks, think-tanks, academia and community organizations. These partnerships will advance inclusive and responsible business models, circular economy initiatives, responsible technology deployment, sustainable investment practices, civic participation, accountability and innovation. Special attention will be given to youth networks, women's organizations and environmental advocates to ensure diverse voices inform regional programming and policy dialogue while enhancing contributions to sustainable development priorities.

III. Programme and risk management

- 30. This regional programme document outlines UNDP contributions to regional results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to regional programme are prescribed in UNDP programme and operations policies and procedures and internal control framework.
- 31. The Regional Director of the Bureau of Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States exercises direct oversight and holds accountability for the implementation of the programme. The Istanbul Regional Hub ensures effective day-to-day management, monitoring and quality assurance of the programme's regional projects and portfolios. The Regional Programme Advisory Board, chaired by the Regional Director and comprising of the resident representatives in the region and the deputy directors of central bureaux provides guidance and helps validate the programme's relevance vis-à-vis country and global activities and supports effective risk management.
- 32. The programme will implement regional and subregional activities while strengthening country-level coordination through UNDP country offices and advisory teams. Regional projects, portfolios and services will be designed in close consultation with country offices and regional partners, adapting as needed to changing regional development contexts.
- 33. Implementation requires managing several interconnected risks: resource mobilization challenges, low fiscal allocations to SDG-related sectors, potential regional conflicts, environmental hazards and uncertainty around the availability of financial resources. To mitigate these, the programme will mobilize diverse funding sources, strengthen partnerships (including private sector and South-South cooperation) and develop a comprehensive resource mobilization strategy. To address political and conflict-related risks, UNDP will engage in coordinated approaches with partners and implement capability-building and confidence-building measures to navigate sensitive issues. Environmental risks will be systematically assessed, including those related to climate-induced disasters, extreme weather events and pandemics, with appropriate risk mitigation measures applied. All activities will be informed by gender analysis and guided by

environmental standards risk assessments, as well as conflict-sensitive approaches. The programme risks log will be regularly updated and monitored using corporate tools, in line with enterprise risk management policy, and all due diligence requirements will be rigorously implemented and tracked.

34. In accordance with Executive Board decision 2013/9, all direct costs of project implementation are charged to concerned projects, portfolios or service agreements.

IV. Monitoring and evaluation

- 35. The management, monitoring and evaluation of the programme follows UNDP programme and operations policies and procedures, including learning and adaptive programming, regionality principles, social and environmental standards and the quality assurance framework.
- 36. Monitoring activities will be commensurate with the results framework, risks and envisioned impacts. The programme has selected outcomes, outputs and indicators directly relevant to its focus areas and priorities, aligned with the integrated results and resources framework of the UNDP Strategic Plan, 2026-2029, as well as with regionality principles, and can be efficiently measured and monitored. Progress will be monitored through quarterly and annual planning, budgeting and monitoring exercises. The programme will publish reports, including financial information and results in accordance with the UNDP commitment to the International Aid Transparency Initiative. Progress will be measured through the results-oriented annual report.
- 37. The interconnected SDGs and complex regional challenges require approaches beyond traditional monitoring. The programme will integrate complexity-aware methodologies, balancing robust results frameworks with adaptive management practices. This will enhance evidence-based decision-making and foster continuous learning while maintaining accountability.
- 38. Programme and project reviews and evaluations will assess progress against the UNDP Strategic Plan and regional programme milestones, providing objective assessments while refining the programme's theory of change. The evaluation plan ensures accountability and continuous learning across priority areas, in line with UNDP evaluation requirements.
- 39. UNDP will strengthen partner monitoring, evaluation and learning capacities through targeted support to address identified gaps and ensure data quality. Adaptive management and continuous learning will proactively address issues, enable timely course correction and enhance accountability.
- 40. Quality standards will be applied to achieve programme objectives. Programme markers, including the gender marker, will be integrated into quality assurance measures across planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The programme will allocate at least 15 per cent of its budget to targeted gender equality interventions.

Annex. Results and resources framework

Related SDGs: 1, 5, 8, 9, 10, 16, 17

REGIONAL PROGRAMME OUTCOME #1: By 2029, prosperity is increased for all, strengthening people's agency, capabilities and dignity to thrive.

RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME: 1. By 2029, prosperity is increased for all, strengthening people's agency, capabilities and dignity to thrive.

OUTCOME INDICATOR(S), BASELINES, TARGET(S)	DATA SOURCE AND FREQUENCY OF DATA COLLECTION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES	INDICATIVE REGIONAL PROGRAMME OUTPUTS (including indicators, baselines targets)	MAJOR PARTNERS / PARTNERSHIPS FRAMEWORKS	INDICATIVE RESOURCES BY OUTCOME (United States dollars)
Indicator 1.1: Proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in education, employment or training	1.1 SDG 8.6.1 Data source: Global SDG indicators database/annual	Output 1.1: People, communities together with businesses, have increased access to productive assets, skills and human capital, decent jobs, livelihoods, mobility, trade and clean energy. (Strategic Plan G.1.1. aligned)	Governments (Czech Republic, Denmark, Poland, Russian Federation, Slovak Republic, Türkiye), European Union,	Regular: 700,000
(Strategic Plan 1.2) Indicator 1.2: Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person. (Strategic Plan 1.4) Indicator 1.4: Number of (a) deaths attributed to non-communicable diseases (SDG 3.4.1); (b) new people with HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations. (Strategic Plan 1.5)	1.2 SDG 8.2.1 Data source: Global SDG indicators database/annual 1.4 (a) SDG 3.4.1; (b) SDG 3.3.1 WHO/data source: Global SDG indicators database/annual	Output indicator 1.1.1: Number of inclusive employment and employability of skilling/reskilling initiatives implemented, targeting: a) women; b) youth; c) people with disabilities; d) migrants. (Strategic Plan G.1.1.3) Baseline: 30 0 Target: 31 10 Source: UNDP reports/annual Output indicator 1.1.2: Number of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) and tech-based start-ups supported for: a) business development services; b) access to finance; c) access to export markets and value chain integration; d) registration; e) clean energy and circularity solutions. (Strategic Plan G.1.1.4 aligned) Baseline: 0 Target: 2,000 Source: UNDP reports/annual Output indicator 1.1.3: Number of countries/territories with increased policy and programming options for addressing multidimensional vulnerabilities through the availability of innovative metrics and granular data (regional programme indicator) Baseline: 0	OECD, ILO, UN-Women, WHO, UNICEF, UNECE, UNCTAD, RCC, regional youth network, international financial institutions (IFIs) (IsDB, EIB, EBRD, CEB), civil society organizations, municipalities, research institutions, private sector	Other: 33,000,000

³⁰ All baselines here and below are based on the second quarter 2025.

³⁶ All targets here and below are 2029 final total targets to be disaggregated in line with the components of the indicator. More details can be found in the regional programme monitoring framework.

Target: 12 Output 1.2: Social services, health systems, and social protection strengthened to improve people's wellbeing and rights, with greater investment in care work, community-based services, and local health supply systems across the region. (Strategic Plan G.1.2 aligned) Output indicator 1.2.1: Number of initiatives which: a) introduced new social protection solutions to better target people in need; b) introduced digital solutions for health systems strengthening; c) introduced environmentally and socially sustainable solutions to reduce health systems waste; d) introduced scalable and reliable clean energy solutions for health systems strengthening. (Strategic Plan G.1.2.3 aligned) Baseline: 0 Target: 25 Source: UNDP reports, Government documents/annual Output 1.3: Public and private institutions and communities across the region advance gender equality and women's empowerment, leverage digital advancements including AI, sustainable finance, and social innovation – towards prosperity, increased **opportunities and agency for all.** (regional programme accelerator output) Output indicator 1.3.1: Extent to which economic, fiscal and other policies and reforms contribute to redistributive outcomes for women, especially those from marginalized groups. (Strategic Plan I.3.3aligned) Baseline: Limited evidence Target: Reported evidence in four countries Output indicator 1.3.2: Number of people using digital technologies and services in ways that improve their lives: a) total; b) women; c) youth; d) persons with disabilities; e) other at risk. (Strategic Plan A.2.2.3 aligned) Baseline: 0 Target: 5,000 Source: UNDP reports/annual Output indicator 1.3.3: Number of institutions and communities that have designed and implemented portfolio approach and other social innovation methodologies for increased prosperity. (regional programme indicator) Baseline: 15

Target: 35 Output indicator 1.3.4: Number of measures and tools developed and implemented to expand public and private investments in the SDGs at the country level: a) policies; b) laws; c) public institutions; d) private sector. (Strategic Plan A.3.1.1 aligned)	
(Strategic Plan A.3.1.1 aligned) Baseline: 0 Target: 35 Source: UNDP reports/annual	

Related SDG: 5, 10, 16, 17

REGIONAL PROGRAMME OUTCOME #2: By 2029, governance systems are more effective, inclusive, and accountable, enabling people, societies and economies to thrive.

RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME: 2. By 2029, governance systems are more effective, inclusive, and accountable, enabling people, societies and economies to thrive.

OUTCOME INDICATOR(S), BASELINES, TARGET(S)	DATA SOURCE AND FREQUENCY OF DATA COLLECTION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES	INDICATIVE REGIONAL PROGRAMME OUTPUTS (including indicators, baselines targets)	MAJOR PARTNERS / PARTNERSHIPS FRAMEWORKS	INDICATIVE RESOURCES BY OUTCOME (United States dollars)
Indicator 2.1: Proportion of seats held by women in: (a) national parliaments; (b) local governments. (Strategic Plan 2.4) Indicator 2.3: Proportion of countries with high levels of digital maturity in public services (Strategic Plan 2.6)	2.1 SDG 16.6.2 Data source: Global SDG indicators database/annual 2.2 SDG 5.5.1 Data source: Global SDG indicators database/annual 2.3 United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) E-government development index/annual	Output 2.1: Capabilities of national and local public institutions and communities are enhanced to deliver integrated, people-centred solutions and services. (Strategic Plan G.2.1 & I.1 aligned) Output indicator 2.1.1: Number of: (a) countries/territories and (b) local authorities implementing measures to enhance the inclusiveness, effectiveness, accountability, innovation and/or agility of public sector institutions and core government functions, including in fragile and post-crisis contexts. (Strategic Plan G.2.1.2 aligned) Baseline: 0 Target: 20 Source: UNDP reports/annual Output indicator 2.1.2: Number of measures and solutions to improve public financial management efficiency and accountability, including using digital and emerging technologies. (regional programme indicator) Baseline: 0 Target: 15 Source: UNDP reports/annual Output 2.2: Institutions, communities and private actors are enabled to advance people-centred access to justice, an open public sphere and full enjoyment of human rights. (Strategic Plan G.2.2 aligned)	Governments (Denmark, Türkiye), European Union, United Nations entities (OHCHR, UN- Women, UNDPPA) civil society organizations, national human rights institutions, associations of local authorities, city networks, United Nations Global Compact, IFIs, private sector.	Regular: 700,000 Other: 11,000,000

Output indicator 2.2.1: Number of institutions, systems, or stakeholders with capacities to support fulfilment of nationally and internationally ratified human rights obligations: a) rule of law and justice; b) human rights; c) private sector, including publicly owned companies; d) security institutions. (Strategic Plan G.2.2.1) Baseline: 0 Target: 100 Source: UNDP reports/annual Output Indicator 2.2.2: Number of regional, national and sub-national initiatives, policies, and strategies to: a) protect and promote civic space; b) enable access to reliable information on issues of public concern; c) combat racism and/or promote the inclusion in public life of marginalized and discriminated groups; d) foster youth empowerment; e) advance women's empowerment. (Strategic Plan G.2.2.4) Baseline: 0 Target: 20 Source: UNDP reports, government documents/annual Output 2.3: Government institutions and communities strengthen their capabilities to promote women's leadership in public spaces, and build, deploy and embed digital advancements, including artificial intelligence, and sustainable finance principles in decision-making and service delivery, enhancing governance inclusivity, transparency and effectiveness. (regional programme accelerator output) Output indicator 2.3.1: Number of countries with new measures to advance women's leadership and equal participation in decision-making in: a) public institutions; b) elected positions, including parliaments; c) judiciary; d) private sector (Strategic Plan A 1.2.1 aligned) Baseline: 0 Target: 16 Source: UNDP reports, government documents/annual Output Indicator 2.3.2: Number of partnerships with women-led civil society organizations and other bodies and networks to advance women's leadership and participation and gender equality. (Strategic Plan A 1.2.2) Baseline: 0 Target: 15 Source: UNDP reports/annual

Related SDG: 3, 11, 13, 16

REGIONAL PROGRAMME OUTCOME #3: By 2029, institutions and people are better prepared to prevent, respond to and recover from crises while sustaining long-term development.

RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME: 3. By 2029, institutions and people are better prepared to prevent, respond to and recover from crises while sustaining long-term development.

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OUTCOME INDICATOR(S), BASELINES, TARGET(S)	DATA SOURCE AND FREQUENCY OF DATA COLLECTION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES	INDICATIVE REGIONAL PROGRAMME OUTPUTS (including indicators, baselines targets)	MAJOR PARTNERS / PARTNERSHIPS FRAMEWORKS	INDICATIVE RESOURCES BY OUTCOME (United States dollars)
Indicator 3.1: Number of countries that adopt and implement national disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework (Strategic Plan 3.1) Indicator 3.2: Number of countries whose vulnerability to crisis and disaster risk has improved	3.1 SDG 1.5.3 Data source: Global SDG indicators database/annual 3.2 INFORM risk index/annual	Output 3.1: Institutions and conflict and violence-affected communities enabled to foster social cohesion, build safer communities and strengthen peace. (SP 1.2) Output Indicator 3.1.1: Number of risk-informed and gender responsive strategies, policies and frameworks and/or solutions in place that advance prevention, social cohesion and peacebuilding at: a) regional level; b) national level; c) subnational level. (Strategic Plan 1.2.1 aligned) Baseline: 0 Target: 50 Source: UNDP reports/annual	Governments (Japan, Türkiye), European Union, Global Environment Facility, United Nations entities (UNDPPA, United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, UNDRR, WHO, UNODC), World Bank, RCC, civil society networks, national disaster management authorities, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defence.	Regular: 700,000 Other: 25,000,000

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(Strategic Plan 3.2)	Output Indicator 3.1.2: Number of regional, national and subnational institutions, infrastructures or mechanisms with enhanced capacities for: a) people-centred community security; b) small arms and light weapons control; c) prevention of conflict and violent extremism; d) addressing hate speech and information pollution; e) youth, peace and security. (Strategic Plan 1.2.2 aligned) Baseline: 0 Target: 70 Source: UNDP reports/annual	
	Output 3.2: Countries and communities are supported to anticipate, reduce, prevent, prepare for, and recover from conflict and violence, natural hazards, economic downturns and epidemics. (Strategic Plan 1.5 aligned)	
	Output Indicator 3.2.1: Number of countries with multi-hazard early warning and preparedness measures in place to manage impact of conflicts, disasters, pandemics, economic and other shocks as well as for longer-term risk management in achieving the SDGs. (Strategic Plan 1.5.2) Baseline: 1 Target: 6 Source: UNDP reports/annual	
	Output 3.3: Countries and territories have strengthened ability to leverage digital advancements, including artificial intelligence, women's leadership and agency, and sustainable finance mechanisms to anticipate, respond to and recover from crises while sustaining development progress. (regional programme accelerator output)	
	Output Indicator 3.3.1: Number of: (a) digital (including artificial intelligence) and (b) financing instruments, tools, solutions and/or strategies for fragile and crisis contexts. (Strategic Plan 1.6.2 aligned) Baseline: 0 Target: (a) 5; and (b) 3 Source: UNDP reports/annual	
	Output Indicator 3.3.2: Number of gender-responsive conflict sensitive development institutions, policies, plans or cross-border initiatives in place to: a) address conflict drivers; b) strengthen social cohesion; c) prevent risk of conflict and crisis, including disaster and climate security.	
	(Strategic Plan I.5.3 aligned) Baseline (2025): 0 Target (2029): 15 Source: UNDP reports, government documents/annual	

Related SDG: 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17

REGIONAL PROGRAMME OUTCOME #4: By 2029, international environmental agreements are mainstreamed into national development frameworks to drive sustainable development.

RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME: 4. By 2029, international environmental agreements are mainstreamed into national development frameworks to drive sustainable development.

RELATED 51 RATEGIC FLAN OUTCOME. 4. By 2027, international environmental agreements are mainstreamed into national development frameworks to unive sustainable development.					
OUTCOME INDICATOR(S), BASELINES, TARGET(S)	DATA SOURCE AND FREQUENCY OF DATA COLLECTION, AND STRATEGIC PLAN RESPONSIBILITIES	INDICATIVE REGIONAL PROGRAMME OUTPUTS (including indicators, baselines targets)	MAJOR PARTNERS / PARTNERSHIPS FRAMEWORKS	INDICATIVE RESOURCES BY OUTCOME (US\$)	
Indicator 4.1: International and domestic financial flow	4.1 Energy Sector Management Assistance Program/annual	Output 4.1: Countries are supported to integrate global environmental commitments – such as nationally determined contributions, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and land degradation targets – into	Governments (Türkiye), European Union, Global Environment Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation	Regular: 700,000	
to developing countries in support of climate change (Strategic Plan 4.1) Indicator 4.2: Number of countries having ratified the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on phasing down Hydrofluorocarbons (Strategic Plan 4.2)	UNEP	national planning, institutions and public finance systems. (Strategic Plan G.4.1 aligned) Output Indicator 4.1.1: Number of countries that integrate commitments of inter governmentally agreed environmental agreements into development plans or budgets. (Strategic Plan G.4.1.1 aligned) Baseline: 0 Target: 5 Source: UNDP reports, government documents/annual Output Indicator 4.1.2: Number of strengthened policy measures in place to enable the implementation of latest-generation nationally determined contributions or national adaptation plans under the Paris Agreement. (Strategic Plan G.4.1.2 aligned) Baseline: 13 (disaggregated per country and plans) Target: 24 (disaggregated per country and plans)	Fund, United Nations entities (UNFCCC, UNEP, UNESCO), International Energy Agency, International Renewable Energy Agency, IFIs, national environment and planning ministries, the private sector.	Other: 15,000,000	
		Source: UNDP reports, government documents/annual Output 4.2: Sustainable energy, climate adaptation, sustainable production and consumption, and nature solutions help countries unlock finance and scale approaches that promote health and prosperity while protecting the planet. (Strategic Plan G.4.2 aligned) Output Indicator 4.2.1: Natural resources that are managed under a sustainable use, conservation, access and benefit-sharing regime: a) Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management. (Strategic Plan G.4.2.2) Baseline: 0 Target: 5 Source: UNDP reports, government documents/annual			

Output Indicator 4.2.2: Number of sustainable energy, climate adaptation, sustainable production and consumption, and nature solutions: (a) piloted; and (b) scaled through regional efforts. (regional programme indicator) Baseline: 0 Target: 30 Source: UNDP reports, government documents/annual Output 4.3: Countries and territories are supported to make full use of digital advancements, including artificial intelligence, sustainable finance and promote women's leadership to accelerate their commitments to the planet. (regional programme accelerator output) Output Indicator 4.3.1: Number of countries with national financing mechanisms that serve nature, climate and development priorities, including those that have accessed results-based finance for climate and nature action, including carbon markets. (Strategic Plan A.3.1.2) Baseline: 0 Target:5 Source: UNDP report, government documents/annual Output Indicator 4.3.2: Number of countries where national strategies, including nationally determined contributions and national biodiversity strategies and actions plans (guided by the integrated national financing frameworks): (a) have new financing plans and investible pipeline; and (b) include specific mechanisms to advance women's leadership in climate, biodiversity or nature-related sectors. (Strategic Plan I.6.1 aligned) Baseline: a) 0 b) 0 Target: a) 10 b) 7 Source: UNDP report, government documents/annual Output Indicator 4.3.3: Number of policies, strategies, regulations, laws and tools pertaining to the development and application of digital technologies and/or data that: promote sustainable and green practices through inclusion of environmental sustainability goals. (Strategic Plan I.4.2 aligned) Baseline: 0 Target: 10 Source: UNDP report, government documents/annual