United Nations DP/DCP/SAU/4



Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services

Distr.: General 27 June 2022

Original: English

Second regular session 2022

29 August - 1 September 2022, New York Item 3 of the provisional agenda Country programmes and related matters

Country programme document for Saudi Arabia (2023-2027)

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I. UNDP within the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

- 1. The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022–2026 (UNSDCF) agreed between the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United Nations country team serves as an integrated Sustainable Development Goals-based strategy for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Vision 2030 of Saudi Arabia.
- 2. UNDP holds a comparative advantage in Saudi Arabia having been present and active in the country since 1976. UNDP is a respected and trusted advisor to dozens of partners and is seen as a window to the multilateral landscape and benchmarking to which the country aspires. Through a more coherent and engaged United Nations country team and expanded partnerships with United Nations organizations for example, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on disability and inclusion and gender, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on development housing and urbanization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on food security and food waste, and UNFPA on statistics and the national census UNDP will advance its integrator role and broaden United Nations engagement in Saudi Arabia, which at present is largely with Government. UNDP is seeking innovative financing solutions to address the national and global development agenda.
- 3. Saudi Arabia has achieved remarkable progress in human development over the past three decades, including, for example, literacy at above 95 per cent, increased life expectancy, and access to energy, even in remote rural communities. Saudi Arabia is a high-income country and one of the most industrialized Gulf countries. Its economy is mainly based on oil as the world's biggest exporter, holding 16 per cent of global proven petroleum reserves. It is also the largest country in the Arabian Peninsula with a population of approximately 35 million, one third of whom are expatriate migrant workers. According to the UNDP *Human Development Report 2020*, the country's human development index value (HDI) for 2020 was 0.854 which put it in the very high human development category positioning Saudi Arabia at 40 out of 189 countries and territories. Between 1990 and 2019, the country's HDI value rose from 0.697 to 0.854, an increase of 22.5 per cent
- 4. Achievements aside, Saudi Arabia faces significant development challenges. Before 2016, the Government's drive for economic diversification delivered modest results. The share of the private sector in the country's economy only increased by 10 per cent from 2000 to 2015, mostly coming from the non-oil sector. The oil price crash in 2016 exposed the volatility of its oil-based economy, prompting the Government to put in place austerity measures as well as the introduction of a 5 per cent value added tax in January 2018, later increased to 15 per cent in July 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 5. UNDP has been an active partner in this evolving and dynamic environment, working in the country for the past decades, making its relationship generational rather than transient or project specific. The need to be an adaptable and long-term partner became even more pronounced with the 2016 launch of the country's overarching planning instrument., Vision 2030, making the previous country programme somewhat obsolete, as indicated by the 2020 independent country programme review.
- 6. As such, the UNDP country programme, 2023-2027, was drafted in full recognition of the independent review and is now fully aligned with the four strategic priority areas and corresponding outcomes of the UNSDCF, namely people, planet, prosperity and peace, partnerships and other crosscutting issues, all of which emanate from the Vision 2030. With activities under each of the four country programme outcomes, UNDP represents the significant majority of United Nations system programming in the country. This critical mass and diversity of engagements across numerous entities affords UNDP the opportunity to build

- synergies that are transformational and that address the siloed approaches that can be pervasive in large bureaucratic ecosystem. The country programme seeks to support opportunities for economic, environmental, social and institutional change.
- 7. The independent review recognized the demands of the Government for a technical and high-level focus in many UNDP programmes. The country programme will shift towards mainstreaming and localizing the Goals and leaving no one behind, with an emphasis on strengthening measurable and sustainable development impact on the general population, including through systematic engagement on gender equality and women's empowerment. Projects will pay closer attention to social, economic and environmental needs, risks and vulnerabilities of women, youth, marginalized communities, and persons with disabilities.
- 8. This country programme acknowledges that Saudi Arabia plans to make step changes in its development trajectory. The global aspirations of Saudi Arabia are benchmarked against high income as well as G20 countries, for which it held the Presidency in 2020, demonstrating leadership during COVID-19. Moreover, in August 2021, Saudi Arabia established its Sustainable Development Steering Committee comprised of 18 government entities. The United Nations, with UNDP as the integrator, is well-positioned to continue to be a key partner for Saudi Arabia in achieving the Goals and contributing to Vision 2030.
- 9. The country programme theory of change addresses the majority of 23 key challenges and opportunities identified in the common country analysis (CCA) 2021. It is closely aligned with the UNSDCF theory of change and responds to all 17 Goals and the three pillars of the Vision 2030. These challenges and opportunities were grouped into four categories: (a) economic diversification and structural transformation challenges; (b) environmental challenges; (c) social challenges; and (d) crosscutting challenges. For each category, the theory of change identified the immediate, underlying and root causes and associated risk. Subsequently, the theory of change proposed four outcomes to respond to these four significant challenges and opportunities accordingly. The theory of change will require the country programme to build on existing work and continue to monitor the progress achieved in addressing these development challenges and their root causes. In addition to using the multidimensional UNSDCF risk framework, the country programme theory of change identifies risks and risk mitigation measures that are specific to UNDP programme implementation in Saudi Arabia.
- 10. The application of the UNDP six signature solutions support transformative change in public sector reform, environmental sustainability, and gender. The core enablers of strategic innovation and digitalization focus on digital transitions and people-centred development. Lessons learned from the preceding country programme, through programme and project evaluations, demonstrate the country office's positive contributions to strategies, policies and capacity development in integrated water management, statistics, and spatial planning.
- 11. The country programme leverages the UNDP innovation agenda through its accelerator lab. Investments in gender expertise in the country office have allowed it to integrate a gender lens and realize national commitments to advance gender equality and women's empowerment based on findings of the country gender assessment
- 12. UNDP will continue to work closely with the resident coordinator and the United Nations country team. UNDP will strengthen joint United Nations system programmatic engagement, for example, with FAO and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) under outcome 2, with UNICEF under outcome 1, and use its thematic and operational leadership to support inter-agency collaboration in the established United Nations advisory working groups and envisaged UNSDCF results groups.
- 13. Based on internal consultations, feedback from key partners, and the outcomes of an online survey with external stakeholders, including non-profit organizations, academia, and the private sector, UNDP will leverage its mandate as an integrator to address crosscutting themes requiring joint programming. UNDP will contribute to strengthening the environmental

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sustainability-economic development nexus to ensure more resource-efficient and sustainable production and consumption, consistent with the country's recent international commitments articulated at the 26th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2021.

14. On localizing the Sustainable Development Goals, UNDP will support the country team with tested tools, practices, and expertise, and use its participation in United Nations advisory working groups and UNSDCF results groups to share and discuss information with other United Nations entities on targeted collaborative programming. UNDP will support the Government in strengthening its regional and global engagements, facilitating international cooperation, and promoting the country's visibility on key development topics.

II. Programme priorities and partnerships

- 15. The energy and enthusiasm for change in Saudi Arabia is palpable. UNDP will continue to play a significant role in helping to create the Saudi Arabia of the future, grounded in the five pillars of the 2030 Agenda, the four outcomes of the UNSDCF, and to the three pillars and objectives of Vision 2030.
- 16. The UNDP contribution is rooted in a theory of change (see attachment III) that recognizes certain assumptions and risks that assume continued political stability, continued economic strength, and sustained leadership in which Vision 2030 can be realized.
- 17. UNDP's breadth of engagement allows it to reinforce the national commitment to improving the quality of government services, improving liveability, safeguarding the environment and critical resources, integration of the Saudi economy regionally and beyond, encouraging job creation through diversifying the economy, and ensuring social protection measures to address the protection of minorities, including through the promotion of gender equality.
- 18. Specifically, UNSDCF outcomes 1 to 3 focus on the people, planet and prosperity dimensions of the 2030 Agenda, while outcome 4 has a dual focus on peace and partnerships, and enhancing the fulfilment of rights and resilience of vulnerable groups across all four outcomes.
- 19. UNDP will work across the four UNSDCF outcomes, which serve as country programme pillars, with a focus on using its integrator function to support the broad-based, sustainable development impact of the United Nations system. Information sharing with be expanded across government counterparts through proactive communications about UNDP service lines and programmatic offer, and by exploring with other United Nations entities opportunities for joint engagement. UNDP will expand its support to women, youth, persons with disabilities, and marginalized communities in collaboration with other United Nations organizations and the Partnership Working Group through engagement with the private sector, academia and non-profit organizations.
- 20. To contribute to building an inclusive and sustainable society, the country programme promotes strategic innovation and digitalization, with a focus on making systems resilient. The accelerator lab will engage with stakeholders on cost-effective and impactful development solutions. The country programme promotes gender equality standards and policies in the public and private sectors; cross-sectoral planning and institutional coordination at all levels; the use of data disaggregated by sex, age, status of disability and other types of vulnerabilities; and evidence for sustainable development policy formulation.
- 21. The country programme prioritizes crosscutting themes such as youth, gender and environmental sustainability, and the achievement of the Goals and national development priorities. An integrated and cross-sectoral focus permeates all programmes and projects under each of the four UNSDCF outcomes involving UNDP. A holistic and people-centred lens emphasizing the needs and vulnerabilities of the most at-risk populations serves to establish

close linkages between the country programme pillars and to engage other United Nations entities and partners in potential area-based programming at the local level.

- 22. Several country programme initiatives in line with signature solutions 1 and 6 directly support components of UNSDCF outcome 1 focused on the people dimension of the 2030 Agenda by targeting disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, in close linkage with Goals 1 to 5 and the leaving no one behind principle. Based on the findings of the mid-term evaluation of the preceding UNDP country programme, 2018-2022, which concluded that UNDP had not accorded sufficient emphasis to the gender dimension, UNDP conducted a country gender assessment and formulated a gender action plan which form a solid basis for advancing gender equality and women's empowerment. With close linkages to governance-related initiatives under outcome 4, the country programme seeks to strengthen the capacities of relevant institutions, implementation of reforms, and women's economic and social empowerment.
- 23. Specific gender interventions will be built on full recognition of the risks related to potential gender inequality in the country. Risks include social norms, biases, and stereotypes, limited child-care opportunities at the workplace, and lower levels of female employment in the private sector versus gains made in the public sector. Although not significant at present, there is the possibility of conservative backlash to rapid social changes. UNDP work will include: (a) strengthening gender balance and inclusion in the public sector workforce; (b) addressing gender-based violence; (c) enhancing statistics to influence women-friendly policies and programmes; and (d) supporting implementing, monitoring and communicating recent reforms to strengthen women's empowerment, including a periodic review of the regional report, "Gender, justice and equality before the law", published by UNDP, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), UNFPA and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in the Arab States. The country programme enhances the capacity of women-led civil society institutions, drawing on the successful collaboration with Al Nahda Society and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in supporting a first ever parallel report by Saudi Arabia on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).² Advancing gender equality at the local and rural levels will be prioritized. As an applicant to the UNDP Gender Seal Certification Programme, the country office plans to support public institutions and private sector partners in obtaining the UNDP gender equality seal in the coming years.
- 24. In support of UNSDCF outcome 2 and in line with signature solutions 4 and 5, the environmental pillar of the 2030 Agenda and related Goals 6, 7, 12, 13, 14 and 15, the country programme builds on the strong commitment of the Vision 2030 and the National Transformation Programme on environmental protection and sustainable natural resources management.³ The country programme addresses environmental challenges and opportunities identified in the CCA, including water scarcity, pollution, waste, desertification, energy production and consumption, and climate change. The country programme expands established UNDP programmes in this area, including on integrated water resources management, technical and advisory support to the electricity sector, and sustainable road and transport management. In addition, it provides more diverse and comprehensive support to sustainable, integrated and climate-smart management of ecosystems and natural resources.
- 25. The presence of UNEP in Saudi Arabia allows UNDP to expand its work on environmental sustainability. Envisaged programming with UNEP includes: (a) further expanding support in the water sector in integrated water resources management; (b) support to preserving wildlife in their natural habitat; (c) training programmes promoting biodiversity conservation and management of protected areas; and (d) support to preparing the national communication and report to the UNFCCC. In addition, the country's commitment at the 26th Conference of the Parties to reach net zero by 2060 will present opportunities to engage in renewable energy

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¹ UNDP. Mid-term evaluation of Saudi Arabia UNDP country programme document, 2017-2021 (June 2019).

² The training workshop of civil society on CEDAW parallel report, 24 October-1 November 2021.

³ The country gender assessment, July 2021 indicates key priority areas of UNDP programming in gender equality and women's empowerment.

solutions with the Global Energy Resource Hub. Renovations to the United Nations House will result in efficiency gains through the use of modern materials and ventilation and cooling systems, as well as the planned installation of solar panels.

- 26. In line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the country programme supports strengthening institutional capacities and systems for natural disaster preparedness, risk reduction and management. This will be reinforced through close collaboration with the United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) regional office and with FAO in Saudi Arabia who have expertise on flood control, wildfires and drought resilience. The Saudi Green Initiative and Middle East Green Initiative, which aim to boost the production and use of renewable energy and combat climate change and desertification, will be used as entry points to further expand environmental programming to support normative, policy-level and downstream climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.
- 27. The country programme ensures close linkages between its environmental dimension under outcome 2 and UNSDCF outcome 3, which focuses on the prosperity pillar of the 2030 Agenda and Goals 7 to 11 in support of inclusive and sustainable economic growth and diversification. In line with signature solutions 1, 3, 4 and 5, the country programme links its support to economic growth as a key tenet of Vision 2030, with critical interventions to address environmental challenges such as increasing pollution, high per capita energy consumption, reliance on fossil fuel, biodiversity loss, land degradation and food waste.
- 28. Linking outcomes 2 and 3, the country programme supports sustainable production and consumption under Goal 12 in close connection with urban transformation under Goal 11. Specifically, UNDP supports strengthening of urban legislation, data and planning capacities at the municipal level to achieve the country's New Urban Agenda, and it addresses the environmental, social and economic objectives of sustainability, as well as the urban-rural linkages that need to be strengthened in a balanced and equitable way to ensure no one is left behind.
- 29. In supporting economic diversification and job creation, particularly for Saudi nationals, the country programme aims to increase employment opportunities for women, youth and persons with disabilities. Programmatic initiatives to strengthen economic performance include analysis, research and development that can be utilized in strategic sectors, including sustainable and innovative tourism with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in cultural heritage and the newly established regional office of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).
- 30. Country programme contributions to UNSDCF outcome 4 supporting the peace and partnership pillars of the 2030 Agenda, in line with Goals 16 and 17 as well as human rights and the resilience of vulnerable populations focus on effective governance, public sector excellence and localization of the Goals as prerequisites for achieving the integrated and transformative changes across all four UNSDCF outcomes and the corresponding country programme priorities, as well as signature solutions 1, 2 and 3. This includes support to the Government on the use of big data, and the engagement of the accelerator lab in discussing and tailoring the application of established global tools, such as the Sustainable Development Goals Country Platform, which will be used to promote local and sectoral dialogue and consultations with youth, women and civil society organizations (CSOs) on tailoring the global development agenda.
- 31. Outcome 4 forges several linkages with other UNSDCF outcomes and cuts across all country programme priorities. For example, strengthening policies, legislation, institutional capacities and systems in areas such as non-oil natural resources management, and urban as well as rural development, directly contributes to country programme outputs under outcomes 1 and 2. Advancing good governance with a focus on accountability, preventing corruption, strengthening CSO capacities and modernizing their legal framework, and enhancing public

⁴ https://www.saudigreeninitiative.org/about-sgi/

participation and institutional responsiveness to citizens' demands and needs creates positive linkages with all UNSDCF outcomes and country programme priority sectors.

- 32. Country programme activities contributing to outcome 4 and to strong institutions are in line with Goal 16 and global partnerships under Goal 17. Specific support aims at: (a) increasing Saudi presence in international organizations and advancing Saudi representation in the United Nations system; (b) strengthening Saudi public diplomacy; and (c) supporting the Department of Strategic Planning and Development in meeting the requirements of diplomatic and consular work in a modern and changing work environment.
- 33. With its focus on strengthening the resilience of vulnerable groups and at-risk populations, the governance component of outcome 4 addresses remaining challenges regarding social inclusion and public participation, including for the large proportion of youth in Saudi Arabia and their critical role in ensuring a prosperous, safe and sustainable future. Country programme contributions to outcome 4 focus on empowering youth, including by working with youth organizations and academia on youth leadership programmes, Sustainable Development Goals challenge competitions that currently engage over a dozen Saudi universities, and through volunteerism, core to Vision 2030, supported by United Nations Volunteers (UNV).
- 34. Local and community-based engagement with women and youth organizations, together with UN-Habitat and other United Nations entities, will be central under outcome 4. This includes engagement in urban resilience and transformation (Goal 11) and sustainable production and consumption (Goal 12), with close linkages to outcome 2. Special efforts focus on increasing civic engagement of youth through consultative processes to better understand expectations, priorities and needs.
- 35. In line with the Vision 2030, which seeks to provide a decent life for all citizens and residents,⁵ UNDP supports disability inclusion with government partners, non-profit organizations and other United Nations entities by strengthening the effectiveness and implementation of national policies on disabilities, including through compliance guidelines. UNDP will advocate for a gradual shift from the charity-based model to a rights-based approach.⁶
- 36. Under outcome 4, UNDP will work closely with OHCHR and other United Nations entities to further strengthen the capacities of the Saudi Human Rights Commission and to provide support in addressing the recommendations of the last Universal Periodic Review and in preparing the next one. In collaboration with the UNDP regional hub, the country office will use the recently established United Nations Global Compact local network in Saudi Arabia to work with private sector partners to promote human rights in business, including through the UNDP gender equality seal. UNDP will support the peace and social cohesion dimensions among UNDP key priorities in the region.
- 37. UNDP endeavours to apply a human rights-based approach to programme design, implementation and reporting, including through systematic analysis and targeted support of rights-holders and duty bearers, the identification of avenues for increased CSO participation, further strengthening of accountability and non-discrimination, as well as human rights-sensitive disaggregation of data and statistics. The country programme focuses on addressing the multiple and intersecting challenges faced by vulnerable and disadvantaged groups.

III. Programme and risk management

38. This country programme document outlines UNDP contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes is prescribed in

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⁵ https://www.my.gov.sa/wps/portal/snp/careaboutyou/RightsOfPeopleWithDisabilities.

⁶ As recommended by the United Nations Committee for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities during the review of the first Saudi report for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Person with Disabilities in 2019.

the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures and internal control framework.

- 39. The programme will be nationally executed. If necessary, national execution may be replaced by direct execution for part or all of the programme to enable response to force majeure. The harmonized approach to cash transfers will be used in a coordinated fashion with other United Nations organizations to manage financial risks. Cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness will be charged to the concerned projects.
- 40. UNDP will closely monitor Sustainable Development Goals-based risks and assumptions highlighted in the CCA (which are applied in the UNSDCF theory of change), the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic, and specific implementation risks. The country programme has a specific focus on implementing UNDP social and environmental standards to strengthen overall country programme quality assurance and risk management.
- 41. Lessons from the preceding country programme, 2018-2022, highlight specific programming risks in the Saudi context. These include that full dependence on government cost-sharing, while administrative processes require approval or endorsement at the highest levels of Government; the perceived delays in recruitment as compared to consultancy firms (which are competitors in Saudi Arabia); high staff turnover across government institutions, including key UNDP counterparts; shifting priorities and ad hoc requests for human resources support rather than greater abidance to annual work plans; and the limited understanding of UNDP, particularly among newly created government entities established in the context of Vision 2030.
- 42. Whereas UNDP cannot address or mitigate all these risks in the short-term, the country programme focuses on diversifying resource mobilization and increasing impact by engaging with a broader range of government partners and the private sector, and by boosting external communications and Sustainable Development Goals-based advocacy with a wide range of development stakeholders, including the non-profit sector, CSOs and academia. The UNDP integrator role in the United Nations country team and its close support to the resident coordinator and efforts to ensure a One United Nations especially through support to the Government Sustainable Development Goal Steering Committee will facilitate high-level dialogue and strategic decision making for UNSDCF implementation. UNDP will expand its partnerships function with a professional partnerships officer based in Riyadh to engage with, inter alia, the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center, the Saudi Fund for Development, the Arab Gulf Programme for Development, and the Saudi Development and Reconstruction Program for Yemen.
- 43. With support from the information and technology management unit, the country office will diversify its potential delivery platforms to strengthen its communications capacity to recognize and promote national achievements while promoting the UNDP ability to support new partners across targeted regions and at the local level. The country office will better anticipate potential programming opportunities by supplying national counterparts with clear and tailored options for support. This will be achieved through close and targeted engagement of the accelerator lab across all country programme pillars as well as recruitment of international senior technical experts although the latter remains the single biggest challenge to satisfactory programme delivery by the country office. The gender dimension of the country programme will be strengthened with gender expertise, as well as through country office application for the Gender Equality Seal Initiative.

IV. Monitoring and evaluation

44. Regular evaluations coupled with project board meetings, with clear agreed agendas and follow-up minutes, will review work plans and ensure that annual progress reports are aligned

- with project outputs, which will contribute to stronger annual reporting of country programme results. The monitoring and evaluation plan to assess country programme contributions to the four outcomes will be fully aligned with the UNSDCF monitoring and reporting system.
- 45. Specifically, to address the country programme recommendation to improve mainstreaming of gender and social inclusion, thematic evaluations will be conducted at midterm or in the third year so as to feed into the next country programme. The country office will strength the capacities of national counterparts for monitoring and results-based management by conducting regular evaluations during project implementation. Lessons learned from evaluations will be shared as a recurrent agenda item in country office programme staff meetings and in project board meetings with government partners. Evaluations may not be identified at the onset but can be reviewed on an annual basis and added as new projects are approved.
- 46. In line with leaving no one behind, the country programme will disaggregate data according to relevant criteria (e.g., gender, income, ethnicity, age and territory). It builds on its partnership with the national statistical authority, GASTAT, and the results of its recent national census, to ensure that monitoring and evaluation activities are gender-sensitive to showcase the interconnection of development results and challenges. The country office capacity to monitor and evaluate has been strengthened with the recent recruitment of a full time monitoring and evaluation specialist.
- 47. As of 2021, Saudi Arabia has achieved Goal 4, quality education, and has surpassed the net primary enrolment and lower secondary completion indicator goals, marking a turning point in the country's quantitative advancement in education. In pursuing the 16 remaining Goals, Saudi Arabia faces the most significant challenges on Goals 2, 5, 6, 13, 14 and 15. There are insufficient data to determine either achievement or progress against Goals 1 and 10. Together with other United Nations entities, UNDP will engage with relevant partners to improve national Sustainable Development Goals reporting and the availability and quality of data and statistics.

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Annex. Results and resources framework for Saudi Arabia (2023–2027)

NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: Vision 2030 pillars 1 and 2; Objectives 1, 2, 3 and 4: Enhancing Values and Enabling a Fulfilling and Healthy Life; and Growing and Diversifying the Economy and Increasing Employment (Goals 1 to 5).

COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME 1: All human beings are further enabled to fulfil their potential in dignity, equity, and equality in a healthy environment.

RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOMES: Strategic priority 2: No one left behind centring on equitable access to opportunities and a rights-based approach to human agency and human development.

COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME INDICATOR(S), BASELINES, TARGET(S)	DATA SOURCE AND FREQUENCY OF DATA COLLECTION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES	INDICATIVE COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS (including indicators, baselines targets)	MAJOR PARTNERS / PARTNERSHIPS FRAMEWORKS	ESTIMATED COST BY OUTCOME (United States dollars)
Ratio of female-to-male labour force participation rate (%) Frequence Respo	Source: ILO, ILOSTAT database Frequency: Annual Responsible institutions: Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development Source: National Transformation Program	Output 1.1. Gender equality and women's empowerment advanced through strengthening institutional capacities, the response to gender-based violence, women's economic empowerment, implementation and visibility of reforms, as well as research and data Indicator 1.1.1: Labour force participation rates, by gender Baseline: 2019 (Female: 0.221 Male: 0.784) Target: 2025 (Female: 0.314 Male: 0.686)	Government: Family Affairs Council, Women's Empowerment Department of the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development, GASTAT Gender Unit, NFSP Academia: Princess Nora University CSOs: Alnahda, Rofiada for women's health, Mawadda	Government cost-sharing: 5,000,000
	Responsible institutions: Authority for Persons with Disabilities	Output 1.2. National policies and strategies on the inclusion of people with disabilities are updated in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recommendations Indicator 1.2.1: % of people with disabilities participating in the labour force Baseline: 7.7% (2016) Target (2025): 13.4%	Women-led organizations Private sector: Chamber of Commerce, private sector gender champions United Nations country team gender team, UN-Women, UNICEF, UNFPA, the United Nations Global Compact	

NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: Vision 2030 pillars 2 and 3; Objectives 3, 4, 5 and 6:

Growing and Diversifying the Economy and Increasing Employment; and Enhancing Government Effectiveness and Enabling Social Responsibility (Goals 6, 7, 12, 13, 14 and 15).

COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME 2: The environment is better protected from degradation, including through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural resources, and taking urgent action on climate change.

RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOMES: Strategic priority 1: Structural transformation accelerated, particularly green, inclusive and digital transitions.

RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOMES: Strategic priority 1: Structural transformation accelerated, particularly green, inclusive and digital transitions.					
Indicator: CO2 emissions from fuel combustion for electricity and heating per total electricity output (MtCO2/TWh) Baseline:	Source: National Transformation Programme Frequency: Annual Responsible institutions: MEWA	Output 2.1. Sustainable, integrated and climate-smart management of ecosystems and non-oil natural resources ensured	Ministry of Economy and Planning (MOEP) Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture (MEWA)	Government cost-sharing: 50,000,000	
1.4 (2018) Target: 1 (2030)		Indicator 2.1.1: Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flows safely treated Baseline (2015): 13.55%	Ministry of Transport (MOT) Ministry of Education (MOE)		
	Source: World Health Organization (WHO) Frequency: Annual Responsible institutions: Road Safety Centre, WHO	Frequency: Annual	Target (2025): 25%	National Centre for Vegetation Cover	
		Indicator 2.1.2: Road traffic mortality rate (per 100 000 population) Baseline (2019): 35.9 Target (2027): 13:6	Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA)		
		Output 2.2. Sustainable production and consumption practices supported	Digital Cooperation Organization (DCO)		
		to generate competitive advantages, increase energy efficiency, prevent	CSO: Fakieh Research and Development Centre		
		environmental degradation, and create green jobs with a focus on strengthening urban resilience and transformation	UNEP, United Nations country team, United Nations Department for Economic and Social		
	Data source: MOE Frequency: Annual Responsible institution: Ministry of Environment	Indicator 2.2.1: Efficient use of fuel in electric power generation Baseline: 2020 Efficiency of fuel use in electric power generation, power generating capacity of 27,260 megawatts Target: 2027 Increased efficiency for generating electricity to approach 60 gigawatts by 2027	Affairs (UNDESA), United Nations University UNU), United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)		

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NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: Vision 2030 pillars 2 and 3; Objectives 3, 4, 5 and 6: Growing and Diversifying the Economy and Increasing Employment; and Enhancing Government Effectiveness and Enabling Social Responsibility (Goals 7 to 11). COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME 3: Increased opportunities are available for all human beings to enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives. RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOMES: Strategic priority 1: Structural transformation accelerated, particularly green, inclusive and digital transitions. Indicator: Source: World Bank **Output 3.1. Economic diversification** General Authority of Government cost-sharing: Adjusted gross domestic product (GDP) Frequency: Annual and inclusive employment increased Statistics (GASTAT) 60,000,000 Responsible institutions: Ministry of growth (%) through enhanced analysis, research **Baseline:** MOEP, GASTAT and development, innovation, and Communications and -1.9 (2019) digital transformation Information Technology **Target:** 2.3 (2024) (MCIT) National Center for Indicator 3.1.1: Government data **Indicator:** systems support evidence-based Performance Management Unemployment rate (% of total labour planning and data-driven solutions to (ADAA) force Saudis 15 and above) support inclusive, sustainable MOEP Ministry of Interior (MOI) **Baseline:** 11.3 (2021) development (scale from 1 to 4) King Salman Centre for Males: 5.9 Baseline (2021): 2 (very partially) Females: 21.9 Target (2026): 4 (Strongly) Local Governance (KSCLG) **Target:** 5 (2030) Data source: GASTAT Ministry of Municipal. Rural Affairs and Housing Indicator 3.1.2: Number of research and development products produced (MOMRAH) with UNDP support General Authority for Baseline (2021): 1 Survey and Geospatial Information (GASGI) Target (2026): 7 Data source: UNDP country office Royal commissions Output 3.2. Urban legislation, data, **UN-HABITAT** planning capacities at municipal level, as well as community-level engagement of women and youth strengthened, to enable sustainable urban transformation and housing *Indicator 3.2.1*: Framework of key performance indicators set for urban private sector legislation and urban code prepared (key performance indicators measuring land use efficiency) Baseline (2021): No Target: (2026) Yes Data source: MOMRAH Indicator 3.2.2: Guidelines for participatory women and youth engagement in development are applied Baseline (2021): 0

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		Target (2026): key performance indicators for women and youth engagement measured by number of workshops and engaged people Data source: MOMRAH, UNDP county office)		
	vision 2030 pillars 1, 2 and 3; Objectives 1, 2, 3 illing and Healthy Life; Growing and Diversif		ment; Enhancing Governm	nent Effectiveness and Enabling
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OU	ГСОМЕ 4: Peaceful, just and inclusive society	is adequately fostered, and the means rec	quired for the implementat	tion of Agenda 2030 are mobilized.
RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUT	COMES: Strategic priority 1: Structural trans	sformation accelerated, particularly green	, inclusive and digital trans	sitions.
Indicator: Statistical performance index (worst 0–100 best) Baseline: 63.4 (2019) Target: 80 (2030)	Source: Sustainable Development Goals Dashboard Saudi Arabia Frequency: Annual. Responsible institutions: the World Bank, MOEP, UNDP country office	Output 4.1. Public sector excellence supported, including through digital transformation and increased interaction with citizens and vulnerable groups, to strengthen their resilience and ensure transparent, accountable, and effective institutions. Indicator 4.1.1: Number of initiatives conducted contributing to the transparency and accountability in the public sector Baseline (2022):0 Target (2027): 2 Output 4.2. Localization of the Goals strengthened, in close linkage to regional and local development planning, and with active involvement of community-based organizations, women and youth groups. Indicator 4.2.1: Number of voluntary local reviews produced with UNDP and UN-Habitat support Baseline (2021): 0 Target (2027): 4 Output 4.3. Capacities of CSOs strengthened to enable their effective contributions to national and regional development plans.	King Abdulaziz Center for National Dialogue (KACND) Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development (HRSD) King Khaled Foundation (KKF) Authority for Persons with Disabilities (APD) National Anti-Corruption Commission (NAZAHA) MISK Foundation Prince Mohammed Bin Salma College (MBSC) Alnahda, Mawadda, Zahara, National Society for Human Rights, Ajanoub, Saudi National Committee for Workers UNV	Government cost-sharing: 5,000,000

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Indicator 4.3.1: Number with women-led CSOs a and networks to advance leadership and participat equality Baseline (2021): 0 Source: UNDP country of Target (2027): 5 Output 4.4. Capacities private organizations stoppromote human rights	nd other bodies women's ion and gender of public and crengthened to	
Indicator 4.4.1: Number companies that received building training by UNI Baseline (2021): 0 Target (2027): 10	of private capacity-	