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Country programme document for Panama (2021–2025)

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I. UNDP within the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

1. The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, 2021-2025, will centre efforts towards the reduction of social, economic and territorial inequalities in Panama. The framework identifies key national priorities, processes and partners with whom the United Nations will work so that all people – especially those most in need – can realize their human rights and have access to quality social services and justice, living free from all forms of violence, including gender-based violence, with strong institutions to achieve sustainable, environmentally sound development, building on progress made and taking up the promise of leaving no one behind. The Framework envisions the United Nations system in Panama working at the intersection of inclusion, institutionality, resilience and human rights. Working with the United Nations country team, UNDP will bring its unique added value and comparative advantage in public policies for social and economic inclusion; inclusive, promoting participatory and efficient governance systems; policies and programmes for sustainable development and climate change; and violence prevention, access to justice, and citizen security; to contribute to the ambitious transformation envisioned in the Framework. The integrator role and new accelerator lab of UNDP will serve of these priorities.

2. Over the past decade, Panama doubled its global domestic product per capita and reduced poverty from 23.1 per cent to 14.5 per cent between 2011 and 2018 (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean – ECLAC, 2019). The expansion of the Canal, the construction boom and extensive copper mining operations have been the main engines of economic growth. This growth has averaged 4.6 per cent over the last five years, making Panama one of the fastest-growing economies in the world.

3. Since 2018, however, the fiscal deficit has grown, and the public debt – now estimated to reach 41.5 percent in 2020 (International Monetary Fund, 2020) has increased. Furthermore, the economic prosperity of Panama has not been shared among the population. Despite some improvements in income inequality, Panama remains one of the most unequal countries in the world, both in terms of regional disparities and population groups. Vulnerable groups such as women, indigenous and Afro-descendants, are disproportionately affected by income poverty and multiple deprivations, often lacking access to services and social protection. The femininity index of poor households increased significantly from 2008 to 2018, moving from 112.5 to 123.2 at the national level. Multidimensional poverty is 4.5 times higher in indigenous regions than in the rest of the country. Average life expectancy for indigenous people living in the territories is 11 years lower than for the overall population, and the maternal mortality rate in indigenous women living in the territories is four times the national average for women (World Bank). Women and minorities are over-represented in the informal sector and self-employment, placing them in a situation of social vulnerability which has intensified with COVID-19.

4. Only 65 per cent of the population are covered by the social security system, while 45 per cent of women do not have any coverage at all. With only 18.5 per cent of working women insured, compared to 25 per cent of men, women have less protection and greater vulnerability. Social programmes have benefited many households with monetary transfers (both conditional and unconditional) and direct social services; nonetheless, the lack of a beneficiary registry makes targeting difficult.

5. Despite efforts made to date, the implementation of policies for climate change adaptation and mitigation, biodiversity protection, integrated environmental management, and disaster risk reduction has been uneven. The environment and nature-based solutions have not been integrated in a consistent manner in development policy and planning in the public and private sectors, and there are few incentives for applying environmental sustainability and resilience standards. This reduces the resilience of actors and

value/production chains to climate events and disasters, and increases economic vulnerability, as can be seen in the environmental degradation of the Panama Canal, one of the most important drivers of the economy. The use and management of natural resources such as water, the management of solid waste and biohazards, and the adaptation and mitigation of climate change, also impact the quality of life, affecting the vulnerable disproportionately. There are limited incentives for clean energy production and use. An agreement is needed between the public and private sectors on a common approach that recognizes the role of ecosystems and their services in achieving clean and resilient development – which, in turn, has the potential to boost local economies sustainably.

6. Institutional weakness affects the capacity of the state both to implement public policies efficiently and to achieve a sustainable and inclusive development model throughout the territory. Although there is rule of law, low levels of citizen trust, high turnover in the civil service, and charges of corruption in the public and private spheres, all limit the substantive legitimacy of the state (National Human Rights Commission, 2019). This limits the capacity to drive reforms and progress towards new levels of development. Despite important advances so far, further efforts are needed to improve the criteria for resource allocation, monitoring of social programmes, and public policies oriented to reducing inequalities.

7. This is the complex combination of priorities that UNDP will advance in the new programme. The theory of change calls for stronger institutions that provide for greater participation by all Panamanians which will result in more inclusive social services, enhanced human rights and more sustainable development and which will ultimately lead to greater shared prosperity. The theory of change is anchored in the national plans and vision. Panama committed to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015. The country has since developed a national strategic plan, ‘Panamá 2030, and presented its second National Voluntary Review in July 2020. The Government pledged to continue its efforts towards addressing the deep inequalities affecting the population, especially the most vulnerable, which have been heightened by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Government Strategic Plan, 2019-24, identified five priority areas of intervention: good governance; rule of law; a competitive and job-generating economy; poverty and inequality reduction; and education, science, technology, and culture.

8. A key shift in the theory of change of the new UNDP programme is that it recognizes the importance of local governance and local development in achieving transformative development results. The new framework and programme emphasize localizing the Goals and focus on addressing social, economic and environmental inequalities and governance challenges at the local level. UNDP has a unique role here due to its significant experience in methodologies and tools that strengthen planning, monitoring and evaluation systems for government management, including at the local level. UNDP has provided tools to integrate and localize the Goals in public policies to the Ministry of Social Development and other ministries. UNDP has strengthened institutional capacities for the National Information System, supported development initiatives aimed at vulnerable groups (indigenous, Afro-descendants, women, people with disabilities and youth), and advocated and provided technical assistance on climate change mitigation and adaptation measures and biodiversity.

9. The independent country programme evaluation conducted in 2019 found that UNDP had been effective in achieving most output targets, producing positive results of varied scope, scale, and strategic importance. It found UNDP well positioned and valued in Panama as a strategic, reliable and inclusive partner. The evaluation noted that UNDP had not only complemented and made significant contributions to national priorities but had also succeeded in pushing for multidimensional approaches and behavioral change. This will be key to addressing the multidimensional challenges of the new programme. The evaluation highlighted that UNDP had shown a significant capacity for knowledge production, technical capacity-building, and supporting institutional change (for example, the National Human

Development Report on Institutions, the Multidimensional Poverty Index, and the diagnostics on national care systems). Furthermore, UNDP supported public policy proposals through multi-stakeholder participatory processes accompanying their implementation (such as in the national dialogues on education and health), which evaluators identified as a key added value and area of expertise and strength. Those experiences led the Ministry of the Presidency to invite UNDP to facilitate an inclusive dialogue on national constitutional reform.

10. As the 2019 gender evaluation demonstrated, UNDP has worked continuously on mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment in its programme and projects, opening up new niches for addressing gender inequalities, such as women's economic empowerment and women's participation in decision-making. Efforts to mainstream gender in programming have resulted in improved gender markers in the portfolio and the gold gender seal certification. UNDP used institutional tools such as the gender seal for both public and private sectors, as an important strategy to address barriers to gender equality and women's empowerment in Panama. In line with the theory of change, in the next programme cycle, progress will be made to overcome structural barriers and root causes to effective participation; UNDP will provide strategic planning, capacity development, and a more comprehensive gender mainstreaming system to monitor transformational results.

11. UNDP will strengthen its integrator role to ensure more coherent United Nations development action through the Framework. That role has been demonstrated through the co-chairing of the Sustainable Development Goals Task Force, which helped coordinate and integrate support of organizations to national efforts related to the Goals. UNDP provided assistance to the technical secretary of the Social Cabinet in developing the Multidimensional Poverty Index goals and in the preparation and consultation process of the National Voluntary Review. As integrator and technical lead for the socio-economic response to COVID-19, UNDP led United Nations efforts to analyse the socio-economic impact of the pandemic and its effects on women and vulnerable groups and to support development of the United Nations COVID-19 Response Plan.

12. UNDP will pursue innovative ways of addressing complex and multidimensional development issues. A UNDP Accelerator Lab will complement the UNDP offer and will help tackle development challenges through innovative problem solving. UNDP will help Panama better direct the attention of projects, initiatives, and investments to innovative solutions that accelerate the achievement of the Goals with a renewed focus on leaving no one behind. Given the strong footprint of UNDP in three of the four outcome areas, this will be a key asset in implementing the Framework.

13. UNDP will deepen South-South cooperation and knowledge management in implementing of the programme and will build on the experiences other countries. A key contribution will be the creation of a platform promoting South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives within the framework of the National Cooperation Plan "*Panamá Cooperera 2030*", and the sharing of country experiences in local citizen security plans, youth networks, and gender-sensitive social protection policies and care systems.

II. Programme priorities and partnerships

14. The UNDP vision is to contribute to the efforts of Panama to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda. In doing so, the new programme will focus on three of the four framework outcomes by supporting public policies for inclusive and sustainable social and economic development; strengthening inclusive, effective and transparent governance processes and institutions; and supporting policies and intervention for sustainable environmental management, mitigation, and adaptation to climate change and resilience. Gender equality and human rights will be mainstreamed throughout the results areas. This country programme will go beyond the national level to prioritize interventions at the subnational level, building local capacity for governance and sustainable development.

15. This programme is closely aligned to the Cooperation Framework, 2021-2025. It is informed by the priorities emanating from the Government Strategic Plan, 2019-2024; the analysis elaborated together with United Nations organizations during the development of the common country assessment; and consultations with more than 150 key government and civil society stakeholders, organized with Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The programme is derived from and aligned with the UNDP Strategic Plan, the signature solutions approach, and the regional strategy of strengthening effective governance through productivity, inclusion, and resilience.

16. The programme will use a multidimensional and multi-stakeholder approach for achieving these results with our key partners. UNDP will build on strong collaboration and existing projects with over 15 local governments and 30 national government institutions (including the Ministry of the Presidency, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Authority of the Panama Canal, the Ministry of Environment, the Secretary for Science, Technology, and Innovation, and the National Energy Secretariat). Increased collaboration with international financial institutions is envisaged in the coming years, especially partnering with them on the post-COVID-19 recovery in areas where UNDP has strong added value (social protection, education, small and medium businesses, gender equality, governance, water and coastal management, and the green/blue economy).

17. UNDP will support integrated planning and institutional coordination at all levels (including national and local governmental institutions, the private sector, civil society, and academia). UNDP will strengthen the measurement of Sustainable Development Goals indicators, as well as the institutional systems and inclusive processes that generate evidence- and data-driven policy for sustainable development. UNDP will encourage the use of social innovation and new digital technologies to solve existing development problems and new challenges raised by the COVID-19 pandemic. Innovation and digital transformation will be important components of the UNDP strategy for supporting reform, addressing structural barriers, and responding to the needs of women and vulnerable groups in a manner that addresses their social, cultural, environmental, and economic reality in the territories where they live. This will enable a coherent strategy to support local-level achievement of the Goals.

18. To address inclusive and sustainable economic and social development, UNDP will build on existing work and added value in economic inclusion, focusing on improving women's and vulnerable groups' access to labour markets and essential services, including access to justice and advocating for a more egalitarian society, free from gender, age, ethnic, racial, and sexual orientation discrimination. UNDP will promote a social protection system with greater co-responsibility for care tasks between women and men, as well as between households, the State, and the market. UNDP will work in partnership with UNFPA, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), to establish an accessible and comprehensive social protection system that includes policies related to a national care system with localized services according to specific population needs. These efforts will ensure "leaving no one behind", addressing the underlying drivers of exclusion and expanding essential services (including those related to education, health, security, and justice), making them adaptable to the characteristics of the individual territories.

19. UNDP will work with UNESCO, UNICEF, and the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) to support the government in transforming the educational system, both formal and vocational. Each organization will contribute its unique expertise and added value. UNDP will support the educational system to ensure high-quality, competitive, inclusive, and

resilient education that allows educational and employment trajectories for all, reducing educational inequality while generating human capital. UNDP will support the digital transformation of the educational system and the decentralization process required to adapt to the productivity needs of the labour market, including supporting efforts of Panama to include Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in its education system. UNDP will promote academic and social inclusion through innovative methodologies and curricular content related to gender equality, environmental sustainability, and human rights.

20. UNDP will contribute to a more sustainable production and consumption model, including energy efficiency and renewable energy. It will work on local economic development to catalyse gender equity, sustainable human development, and the generation of livelihoods, establishing productive systems and value chains at the national and subnational levels that are sustainable and resilient to current or future economic, social and environmental crises. UNDP will promote the access of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises for financial and non-financial services and encourage digitalization and the introduction of technology to improve their sustainable production, in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the Authority for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

21. UNDP will Panama in its efforts to make its governance institutions and processes more inclusive, effective, and transparent at the national and subnational levels. To support more equitable public investment focused on development results and based on territorial needs, UNDP will develop capacities for subnational governments to manage an effective transfer of competencies, contributing effective, decentralized policies and processes. UNDP will work with national counterparts, such as the National Authority for Transparency and Access to Information, to establish transparency and anti-corruption measures as well as more inclusive local planning and investment for women and vulnerable groups. UNDP will support integrated and strengthened governance systems and institutions at the national and subnational levels for more resilient, inclusive, and responsive public services (including justice) and management of future crises, boosting the use of innovative tools and digital solutions that close the gap in access to services.

22. UNDP will support the protection of rights, access to justice, and conflict and violence prevention in close collaboration with other agencies. UNDP will continue to support accountability systems that, with access to accurate information, will enable the empowerment and greater participation of women, young people, and vulnerable groups in decision-making at national and subnational levels. This will strengthen democratic values and citizen awareness and reinforce social auditing in line with international and regional agreements, regulations and commitments. This access and space will facilitate an inclusive and expanded planning and decision-making process for sustainable local development that will bring the Government closer to the community and strengthen trust in the authorities.

23. Concerning climate action, UNDP will work on further integrating climate change strategies (national and international) into policy and regulatory frameworks for climate and ecosystem-based actions. To that end, UNDP will support the Ministry of Environment and other government institutions in fulfilling the commitments made in the nationally determined contributions and other multilateral environmental agreements, contributing to the reduction of environmental vulnerabilities and exposure to disasters and health crises. UNDP will support integrated water and coastal management to strengthen climate resilience, including good practices and lessons on green/blue economy supply chains. UNDP will work with the national and local authorities as well as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the World Bank, UNICEF, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), international financial institutions, and other countries and partners to improve the policy, legal and institutional frameworks and capacities for developing nature-based solutions and climate change adaptation mechanisms that generate sustainable livelihoods for the population. The

programme will build on the Climate Promise and the nationally determined contributions support programme to strengthen outreach and behavioral change and promote environmental and climate change education.

24. UNDP will work transversally in the three outcome areas, leveraging innovation, technology, and digitalization to systematize processes and optimize efficiency, partnering with the Government Innovation Authority and other actors. To promote innovation and use of technology, UNDP will foster the development of differentiated solutions according to the individual needs of vulnerable and community groups. The programme will promote the establishment of gender equality standards and policies in the public and private sectors; comprehensive planning and institutional coordination at all levels; and the use of data and evidence to formulate sustainable development policy.

25. Given their desire to work in an integrated manner and build on their respective strengths, UNDP, UNFPA, UN-Women and UNICEF have agreed to promote, through their respective programmes, the necessary coordination mechanisms in to leave no one behind and to accelerate achievement of the Agenda 2030 objectives. The country programme will support Government efforts to achieve measurable results in terms of (a) management of the social protection system, with an emphasis on comprehensive care management; (b) skills development for adolescents and youth (education, employability, life skills, adaptation to climate change, prevention of adolescent pregnancy), and (c) prevention and precautions against all types of violence, including gender-based violence, suffered by adolescents, youth and women, within the framework of the provision of essential services.

III. Programme and risk management

26. Risks that may affect the implementation of this programme are strategic, political, institutional, financial, and environmental.

27. One of the main risks relates to the complex challenge of improving governance systems and access to justice. UNDP will support legal and institutional frameworks to facilitate the participation of people experiencing greater vulnerability and territories historically excluded from decision-making structures. Advocacy for civil service, effective participation, and accountability will continue.

28. Social and environmental risks include the possible collapse of essential services in the face of the COVID-19 crisis, and gender-based violence and social inequality during and after the pandemic. The economic revival in the early recovery phase of COVID-19 could focus only on economic and quick-profits “business as usual” solutions, ignoring nature-based solutions and the people who depend on them. UNDP will advocate making available state, private, and international organization planning and budget allocations that consider the people, nature, biodiversity and territories at risk of being left behind. It is expected that everyone will have access to basic social protection services, technical assistance, and financial resources during the COVID-19 recovery phase. The UNDP Social and Environmental Standards and Accountability Mechanism will be applied in the programme. To implement the grievance mechanisms, stakeholder mapping will be conducted to locate those who are lagging, create measures of inclusion, and strengthen local governance structures. This is particularly important to improve the access of indigenous peoples to information and timely, inclusive participation in relevant consultations and decision-making processes that may affect their livelihoods or the ecosystems on which they depend¹.

29. A programmatic risk is the potential difficulty of mobilizing resources for a high-income country in a changing development cooperation scenario. To that end, the

¹ The programme will continue with the implementation of the Social and Environmental Compliance Unit action plan.

partnerships and resource mobilization strategy will be redesigned, including alliances with state, private, and international actors.

30. An issues-based multidimensional approach will be adopted, with outputs under each thematic area complementing each other, and synergies sought in interventions that can impact multiple areas (such as opportunities for citizen participation). Operational synergies will be leveraged by combining various modalities of work depending on the objective (for example, capacity development, network promotion, mediation, research and communication). Programme implementation will adopt a networked approach that facilitates partnering with organizations and fosters collaboration among actors/projects and programme. A business continuity plan will ensure the continuity of the programme.

31. Findings and recommendations of the independent country programme evaluation and other evaluations will be used as references for this cycle. Risks will be monitored through strict compliance with institutional requirements.

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

33. The programme will be nationally executed. If necessary, national execution may be replaced by direct execution for part or all of the programme to enable a 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.

IV. Monitoring and evaluation

34. The Monitoring and Evaluation Plan registers and facilitates oversight, and identifies the factors that limit or enhance the achievement of results. The plan combines the lessons learned from project and outcome evaluations with monitoring the realization of identified national priorities. It focuses on the identification of best practices as linked to the implementation of the programme.

35. UNDP will work with government agencies, especially the National Institute for Statistics and Census, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and academia, to improve mechanisms and tools for generation of and access to data. UNDP will mainstream data generation into its projects. Dedicated efforts to improve the development of evidence, including support to the Ministry of Social Development to improve monitoring and analysis capabilities for effective implementation of public policies, and the partnership with the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the Ministry of Social Development, in compliance with the 'Panamá 2030' plan, will continue. UNDP will contribute to strengthening the generation and availability of national development statistics.

36. The programme disaggregates indicator data according to the most relevant criteria (such as gender, ethnicity, age and territory) for each intervention, based on the map of risks and resources methodology, and contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. To improve evidence-based competencies, internal capacities for data collection and analysis will be strengthened, in collaboration with academic institutions, through training and the introduction of new analytical tools. UNDP will use its new Accelerator Lab to help monitor the progress of the programme. Collaboration with the UNDP Regional Hub will be extended to increase access to South-South cooperation.

37. Innovation in tools and monitoring processes will provide a larger and better-quality pool of data and information, and will expand the possibilities of involving beneficiaries in its implementation through participatory statistics and visual data representation (such as maps and interactive sites) and the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure, continuously tracking every intervention. These methods will help develop the capabilities of partners to monitor their initiatives at the local level.

Annex. Results and resources framework for Panama (2021-2025)

<p>NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: Good governance, Rule of, law and order, Competitive economy that generates jobs, Fight against poverty and inequality, Education, science, Technology and culture, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9,10, 11, 12, 16, 17</p>				
<p>COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME INVOLVING UNDP No. 1. “By 2025, Panama favours economic, social, and environmentally sustainable and inclusive development: it ensures equitable access to essential quality services, livelihoods and ecosystem services for all people; it promotes inclusion, innovation, competitiveness, industrial development and entrepreneurship, with a territorial, human rights, intercultural, gender, and life-course approach, leaving no one behind”.</p> <p>IRRF 1.1.1.3. Country has data collection/analysis mechanisms providing disaggregated data to monitor progress towards the SDGs B: Yes (2020) T: Yes (2021)</p> <p>IRRF 2.1.2.1. Country has policy measures and institutional capacities in place to increase access to social protection schemes, disaggregated by target groups. B: Yes (2020) T: Yes (2021)</p>				
<p>RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME 1. Advance poverty eradication in all its forms and dimensions</p>				
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME INDICATOR(S), BASELINES, TARGET(S)	DATA SOURCE AND FREQUENCY OF DATA COLLECTION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES	INDICATIVE COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS (including indicators, baselines targets)	MAJOR PARTNERS / PARTNERSHIPS FRAMEWORKS	ESTIMATED COST BY OUTCOME (in thousands of \$)
<p>I: 1.2.2 Multidimensional poverty, by sex, location (urban/rural)</p> <p>B: 19% (2019) - men 19.5; women 18.6; urban 10.4; rural 37.8</p> <p>T: 15% (2025) - men 15.; women 14.6 urban 8.4; rural 27</p> <p>I: 1.4.2 Proportion of the population living in households with access to basic services</p> <p>B: 77 (2019) - men 76.8; women 77.8; urban 82.5; rural 66</p> <p>T: 82% (2025) - men 81.8; women 82.8; urban 85; rural 76</p>	<p>Data source: Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), annual</p> <p>Data source: Ministry of Social Development (MIDES), annual</p>	<p>1.1. Policies and strategic actions supported for the establishment of a social protection system to help improve the access of women and vulnerable groups to decent work and sustainable livelihoods</p> <p>I: Number of institutions supported to design/implement policy measures and/or strategic actions to improve women’s and vulnerable groups’ access to decent work and sustainable livelihoods. B: 3 (2020) T: 10 (2025) Data source: MITRADEL, annual</p> <p>I: Number of policy measures and strategic actions that improve women’s and vulnerable groups’ access to decent work and sustainable livelihoods designed/ implemented in the territories. B: 2 (2020) T: 10 (2025) Data source: UNDP, annual</p>	<p>Government:</p> <p>MIDES MEF Ministry of Education (MEDUCA) Ministry of Labour (MITRADEL) National Institute for Women (INAMU) National Institute for Skills Training and Human Development Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MIRE)</p> <p>Local governments</p> <p>Private sector</p> <p>NGOs Intercultural communities and indigenous groups Civil society</p> <p>Donors: Global Fund, GEF, Inter-American Development</p>	<p>Regular \$326</p>
				<p>Other \$59,800</p>

		<p>1.2. Local economic development processes promoted and implemented following an approach that fosters social and economic inclusion, innovation, competitiveness, gender equality, and environmental sustainability</p> <p>I: Number of municipalities that implement gender-sensitive and environmentally sustainable local economic development processes. B: 0 (2020) T: 10 (2025) Data source: Municipalities, annual</p> <p>I: Number of green/blue value chains supported to reduced poverty and improve resilience to shocks and crises (environmental, economic, and social) B: 0 (2020) T: 10 (2025) Data source: UNDP, annual</p> <p>1.3: Essential services (education, health, housing, water) are accessible and adaptable to the needs of the population at the subnational level</p> <p>Reduction in performance gap in Spanish and Math test scores² between top and lowest ranking schools B: 68.7% Spanish; 73.5% Math (2017) T: 50% Spanish; 50% Math (2025) Data source : MEDUCA test 'Crecer'</p>	<p>Bank, Corporacion Andino de Fomento, World Bank</p> <p>Other partners: UNFPA, UN-Women, UNICEF</p>	
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² Indicator measures third-graders' test scores.

		<p>T: 30% (2025) Data source: UNDP, annual</p> <p>I: Number of initiatives and/or mechanisms that promote access to reliable information and citizen participation B: 1 (2020) T: 15 (2025) Data source UNDP, Annual</p> <p>2.3. Capacities of institutions and key actors enhanced to protect human rights and promote social cohesion</p> <p>I: Number of instruments/plans that facilitate access to justice, protection of human rights and/or to prevent and address all types of violence, especially gender-based violence at the national and sub-national levels B: 5 (2020) T: 20 (2025) Data source: UNDP, Annual</p>	<p>Central American Regional Security Initiative, United States Embassy, Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo en Panamá, European Union, Korea, Banesco</p> <p>Other partners: United Nations system World Trade Organization</p>	
NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: Good governance; Rule of law; Competitive economy that generates jobs; Fight against poverty and inequality; Education, science, technology and culture; SDGs 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16,17				
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME INVOLVING UNDP No. 3. “By 2025, Panama is resilient and has implemented public policies for adaptation and mitigation of climate change, neutrality of land degradation, protection of biodiversity, integrated environmental management and risk reduction of disasters and health crises, with a territorial, intercultural, human rights, gender, and life-course approach”				
IRRF: 2.1.1.1 Country has targets for low emissions and climate-resilient development B: Yes (2020) T: Yes (2021)				
IRRF: 2.1.1.2 Country has national-level public-private partnerships to improve the enabling framework for economic diversification and green growth B: Yes (2020) T: Yes (2021)				
RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME 2.Accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development				
<p>I: 14.5.1 Proportion of the marine surface protected B: 12.6% (2019) T: 15% (2025)</p> <p>I: 15.2.1 - Area reforested by MiAmbiente and managers B: 65.4% (2019)</p>	Data source: Ministry of Environment (MiAmbiente), annual	<p>3.1. Government institutions and municipalities have improved institutional and legal frameworks and capacities to respond to climate change and ensure resilience to environmental vulnerabilities and emergencies</p> <p>I: Number of national/subnational development and key sectoral</p>	<p>Government: MiAmbiente Secretary for Science, Technology, and Innovation Authority of the Panama Canal</p>	<p>Regular \$327</p> <p>Other \$40,750</p>

<p>T: 70% (2025)</p>		<p>plans being implemented that explicitly address disaster and/or climate risk management, disaggregated by gender-responsiveness B: 10 (2020) T: 20 (2025) Data source: UNDP, annual</p> <p>I: Number of financial incentives and grants provided for energy efficiency and renewable energy, including credit services, that are accessible to both women and men B: 0 (2020) T: 5 (2025) Data source: UNDP, annual</p> <p>3.2. Integrated water and coastal management include climate resilience and good practices in green supply chains</p> <p>I: Number of chemicals and waste-integrated management initiatives implemented by the private sector in partnership with government and civil society B: 0 (2020) T: 10 (2025) Data source: Private sector, annual</p> <p>I: Rate of participation of men and women per district and sub-watersheds engaging in green value chains (blue/green economy) over time and rates of dis-adaptation B: 0% (2020) T: 10% (2025) Data source: MiAmbiente, annual</p> <p>I: Number of institutional and/or private sector systems to catalysing investments in low carbon and resilient green urban development B: 0 (2020) T: 5 (2025) Data source: MiAmbiente, annual</p>	<p>Institute for Scientific Research and High Technology Services Ministry of Health National Authority of Land Management</p> <p>National Energy Secretariat Local governments MIRE</p> <p>NGOs Intercultural communities and indigenous groups Productive organizations of the plural economy Civil society</p> <p>Donors: GEF Private Sector Green Climate Fund International Climate Initiative</p> <p>Other partners: UNEP, FAO, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, UN-Women, UNICEF</p>	
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		<p>3.3. Improved national capacities for nature-based solutions and climate change adaptation for livelihoods advanced</p> <p>I: Number of nature-based solutions and resilient cross-sectoral livelihoods finance mechanisms developed and funds mobilized B: 0 (2020) T: 10 (2025) Data source: MiAmbiente, annual</p> <p>I: Number of initiatives for environmental and climate change governance, environmental citizenship, public advocacy, and Escazu Regional Agreement B: 0 (2020) T: 10 (2025) Data source: MiAmbiente, annual</p> <p>I: Number of women participating in environmental climate change governance structures at the local level, trained and empowered in environment and climate change. B: 0 (2020) T: 1,000 (2025) Data source MiAmbiente, annual</p>		
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