



COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT FOR MONGOLIA 2023–2027

Programme priorities and partnerships



THESE PROGRAMME PRIORITIES ARE PART OF THE OFFICIAL UNDP MONGOLIA COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT WHICH CAN BE ACCESSED BY SCANNING THE QR CODE BELOW OR USING THE LINK BELOW



UNDP Mongolia Country Programme Document



https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2022-09/mongolia_cpd_2023-2027_final.pdf



UNDP's Strategic Plan 2022-2025

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Firmly anchored in the government's development aspirations and priorities this country programme is an integral part of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF 2023-2027). It is aligned to the UNDP Strategic Plan 2022–2025 and is informed by inclusive consultations with stakeholders including the government, development partners, donors, civil society, vulnerable groups, the private sector and other United Nations entities. The focus is on expanding the capabilities of Mongolians to make sustainable and equitable choices for a just transition, especially benefiting vulnerable people. It builds on achievements of the previous country programme, progress on the Socio-Economic Response Plan, lessons learned from COVID-19 response and a thorough common country analysis, and draws on recommendations from the independent country programme evaluation.

Based on the principle of national ownership, UNDP will support government and citizen efforts to accelerate achievement of the SDGs, leveraging the signature solutions and enablers in UNDP's Strategic Plan. It will also work towards the three directions of change: structural transformation, leave no one behind and build resilience to respond to uncertainty and risks. Multidimensional initiatives will be consolidated into two portfolios, one addressing inclusive and green development, and the other a just and accountable transition.

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







DIVERSIFIED, INCLUSIVE AND GREEN ECONOMIC TRANSITION



NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND GOALS:

Vision 2050 Goal 2 (human development),

Goal 3 (quality of life), Goal 6 (green development); and
Sustainable Development Goals 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 17



UNDP OUTCOME (1) (UNSDCF OUTCOME 2):

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



RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME: OUTCOME 2:

No one left behind, centring on equitable access to opportunities and a rights-based approach to human agency and human development

OUTPUTS:

- **1.1:** Public institutions strengthened for an enabling policy environment, enhancing employability and sustainable, diversified sources of livelihoods across the country
- **1.2:** Responsible business practices and inclusive and innovative financing opportunities promoted, contributing to a sustainable, diversified and low-carbon economy



STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS AND EMPLOYMENT

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



generation. Support for SDGs financing through an integrated national financing framework will provide an enabling environment for a just and green transition.

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



PROMOTING A LOW-CARBON, CLIMATE-RESILIENT ECONOMY

UNDP will contribute to strengthening the financing architecture of the SDGs by operationalizing the integrated national financing framework and innovative financing opportunities. UNDP will promote responsible investment in the public and private sectors that complies with global environmental, social and governance standards and is gender responsive. UNDP will promote sustainable infrastructure development, with a focus on climate change adaptation and a low-carbon and net-zero-emissions economy, creating employment opportunities and reducing dependence on the extractive industry. The private sector will be supported to leverage access to sustainable financing, including instruments such as green loans and bonds, complementing interventions under outcome 3 of the country programme. UNDP will work with the public and private sectors on investor mapping and financing for the SDGs. It will also build on leadership by the private sector to catalyse growth in responsible, inclusive and green businesses. In this work, UNDP will partner with the Mongolian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of Digital Development and Communication, and Ministry of Economy and Development (MED). Ongoing support to the measurement, reporting and verification scheme for climate mitigation actions in the construction and road transportation sectors will continue, in partnership with the Ministry of Road and Transportation Development and the Ministry of Construction and Urban Development.





RISK-INFORMED CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL ECOSYSTEMS



NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND GOALS:

Vision 2050 Goal 6 (green development),

Goal 9 (regional and local development);

Sustainable Development Goals 5, 12, 13, 15, 17



UNDP OUTCOME (2) (UNSDCF OUTCOME 3):

By 2027, communities and ecosystems in Mongolia are more resilient to climate change, with improved capacity for evidence-informed and gender-responsive sustainable natural resource and environmental management and disaster risk reduction



RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME:

OUTCOME 3: Resilience built to respond to systemic uncertainty and risk

OUTPUTS:

- **2.1:** Climate adaptation mechanisms and capacities strengthened at national and local levels through risk-informed planning and nature-based solutions
- **2.2:** Institutions, communities and regulatory frameworks strengthened for sustainable, inclusive management of natural resources while improving livelihoods and biodiversity



Strengthening mechanisms and capacities for risk-informed climate adaptation

UNDP will continue to promote nature-based adaptation solutions and support the government with digital technology and equipment to develop longer term climate change models and more accurate early warning systems. At the same time, it will prioritize investment in the river basin management and livestock husbandry sectors to develop water and land use plans for better risk-informed decision-making at the national level





and in selected provinces. UNDP will help to expand the knowledge and skills of women and men in herder groups and cooperatives to improve livestock management, build resilience to climate risk and supply sustainably sourced livestock products. A traceability system for such products (cashmere, meat, dairy, leather) will be improved, including by adding incentives to engage herder producers throughout programme implementation. This will help to improve climate mitigation actions in the agriculture and livestock sectors as pledged under Mongolia's nationally determined contributions to cut emissions.

While promoting public-private partnerships, UNDP will work alongside other United Nations entities to help develop partnerships among professional associations, research entities, non-governmental organizations, cooperatives, herder organizations and international organizations, and to identify public-private-community partnerships for sustainably sourced, climate-resilient livestock products. Key partners will be the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET), Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Light Industry (MoFALI), and the Agency of Land Administration and Management, Geodesy and Cartography. Based on its SDGs integrator role, UNDP will work with its partners to improve economic incentives for climate adaptation measures at national and local levels and enhance the co-benefits of adaptation activities in agriculture and land usage.



Strengthening mechanisms for sustainable and inclusive management of natural ecosystems

UNDP will help to advance ecosystems and biodiversity contributing to Vision 2050's green development priorities, through (a) integrated land use planning, to ensure that use of land and natural resources is oriented to optimize production without harming ecosystem services or degrading biodiversity; (b) making production practices more environmentally appropriate in the animal husbandry, arable farming and infrastructure development sectors; (c) offering technical support to line ministries and subnational governments to enhance regulatory and legislative frameworks on access to benefit-sharing of genetic resources; and (d) developing innovative financing solutions (such as debt-for-nature swaps, biodiversity funds) and other area-based conservation measures.

To contribute to an inclusive and green COVID-19 recovery, UNDP will invest in systemic changes and dialogues among diverse stakeholders. It will also put nature at the heart of development to accelerate climate action and achieve progress towards the SDGs and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework targets. UNDP's collaboration with ministries and specialized government agencies, FAO and other stakeholders will contribute to achieving national priorities on sustainable forest management and ecosystem restoration. Interventions will address diversification of livelihood options for communities and herders to improve production practices.





WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT, INCLUSIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE, AND PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDG



NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND GOALS:

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



UNDP OUTCOME 3 (UNSDCF OUTCOME 4):

By 2027, making and implementation of policies are more gender-responsive, participatory, coherent, evidence-informed and aligned with the SDGs; governance institutions at all levels are transparent and accountable; and people, especially marginalized groups, have access to justice and rule of law for full realization of human rights



RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME:

OUTCOME 1: Structural transformation accelerated, particularly green, inclusive and digital transitions

OUTPUTS:

- **3.1:** Capacities strengthened and structural barriers addressed for women's leadership and participation in politics and public sector
- **3.2:** Capacities of public institutions on results-based, integrated national planning and budgeting, and business practices strengthened for greater transparency and accountability



Addressing structural barriers in advancing women's leadership and participation

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



raise public awareness on gender equality, break down stereotypes and strengthen mechanisms to help women become decision-makers.

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



Strengthening institutional capacities for transparency, accountability and accessibility

UNDP will help Parliament and the government to improve transparency and accountability and reduce corruption through an approach to inclusive governance based in human rights, benefiting women and men equally. This will be done by building capacities and strengthening laws, policies and mechanisms that encourage citizen participation and trust in public institutions. To do so UNDP will build on its support to civil service reform and technical support to the National Human Rights Commission. Partnerships with the private sector will help to ensure that practices are in line with human rights and environmental standards. The media will be engaged for advocacy on government transparency and accountability, encouraging government responsiveness to the needs of the most vulnerable people. Capacities of civil society groups will be enhanced to increase their participation in policymaking processes.





use of advanced data analytics and innovative financing; adoption of a balanced, inclusive, sustainable, forward-looking approach to development (beyond growth); and measurement of SDGs targets using disaggregated indicators and metrics.

To deliver the programme and ensure results are sustainable, UNDP will partner with government entities, civil society, development actors, donors and the private sector. Collaboration will be strengthened with international financial institutions including the World Bank, ADB and International Monetary Fund. UNDP will continue to work with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility and expand its partnerships with the European Union (EU) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and with Germany, Japan and South Korea.

South-South and triangular cooperation will be facilitated through technical assistance and sharing of knowledge and experience, including through cooperation with China through the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund. UNDP will also pursue sharing of solutions among countries through the accelerator lab network and engagement of volunteers with support of UN Volunteers. Ongoing efforts to engage with non-traditional partners will be strengthened, particularly to expand the governance portfolio, as suggested in the independent country programme review, while exploring alternative and sustainable financing mechanisms. Also, in line with review recommendations, and capitalizing on UNDP's partnership with international financial institutions and other partners, UNDP will continue to conduct socioeconomic analysis to capture the aspects of a sustainable and inclusive future needed to reach those left furthest behind.

