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Resilient nations.*

# Sustainable Development Goals

## 2016 ANNUAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT



Cover page Photo: Douglas Keh UNDP Country Director, Deputy Minister Rahimi and CSO Director during the Consultative Workshop on Data Availability and Data Collection of SDGs.

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

## DONORS



Ministry of Economy  
Government of Afghanistan



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## PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project ID:** 00094634

**Duration:** May 2016– Dec 2017

**ANDS Component:** Good Governance

**Contributing to NPP:** -----

**CPD Component:** Improved legitimate, transparent and inclusive governance at all levels that enables the progressive realization of human rights.

**UNDP Strategic Plan Component:** Strengthening accountable and responsive governing Institutions

**Total Project Budget:** \$ 1.5 M

**Total Annual Budget 2015:** \$ 500,000

**Un-funded Amount:** \$ 0.00

**Implementing Partner:** UNDP

**Key Responsible Parties:** Ministry of Economy

**Project Manager:** Sajed Taqwa

**Responsible Assistant Country Director:** Nadia Nivin

## ACRONYMS

SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
ASDGs	Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals
GDP&RBM	General Directorate of Policy & Results-Based Monitoring
AEPU	Aid Effectiveness and Policy Unit
AMP	Aid Management Policy
ANPDF	Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework
BCI	Budget Circular I
BCII	Budget Circular II
BU	Budgetary Unit
GoIRA	Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
LMs	Line Ministries
NPPs	National Priority Programmes
PFM	Public Finance Management
TMAF	Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
NPPs	National Priority Program
MoEc	Ministry of Economy
CMRS	Central Monitoring & Reporting System
PMRS	Provincial Monitoring & Reporting System

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## I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Adopted by the world leaders at the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25 September 2015, the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Agenda presents a radical new approach to transforming our world, focusing on the integrated pillars of Sustainable Development: economic, social, environmental. It also includes within the framework key elements of peace, justice, and institutions which were not part of the MDG framework.

In this context, the Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA) is deeply committed to attaining the SDGs. With the cabinet decision of 7th October 2015, the Ministry of Economy (MoEc) has been designated as the lead ministry and focal point for SDGs and assigned to take lead in coordinating, planning, monitoring and reporting on SDGs for the GOIRA. The main reason behind the compilation of second and third month of the 2nd quarter to this comprehensive project is to avoid duplication and presenting the overall achievement in one version with the 3rd quarter report.

During the reporting period, extensive support was provided to Ministry of Economy in process of Nationalization and Alignment of SDGs, several consultation meetings took place in various levels to identify the key indicators which are applicable in case of Afghanistan for Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals.

The project support unit which is embedded in MoEc played a vital role in coordination between the Ministry of Economy and central statistics organization in order to finalize and the localized indicators of SDGs. Moving on, Ministry of Finance who is leading the ANPDF where SDGs are supposed to be aligned with the ANPDF, several consultation meetings took place in technical level and deputy ministerial level in order to identify the activities which are covered under the ANPDF where the base is the six development councils and SDGs base is the eight budgetary sectors.

Since the beginning of the project the mandate which the project is designed for is the localization, alignment, and monitoring of SDGs in country level, luckily Ministry of Economy who is the main beneficiary of the project has successfully finalized the nationalized indicators for the eight budgetary sectors.

## II. RESULTS

The SDGs project's efforts and resources have been garnered towards supporting Ministry of Economy. The project unit has played a pivotal role in the MoEc towards facilitating the coordination, planning, and monitoring of SDGs in Afghanistan. All resources of the project for 2016 were planned under output 1- 3, therefore all the project activities are carried out through in various outputs.

### **OUTPUT 1: MoEc is structurally organized to lead on SDGs coordination, Planning, and monitoring.**

**Activity 1.1: Support in carrying out functional General Directorate of Policy and Result Based Monitoring & Evaluation with emphasis on its role in coordination, planning, and monitoring SDGs.**

The 2017 year which was the most challenging year where both the project unit and the government counterpart were engaged with Line Ministries in data collection of Localized indicators for SDGs.

Ministry of Economy who is leading the agenda in Afghanistan where the GDP&RBM is assigned as the main coordinator of SDGs in country level and the support which is provided by the project in carrying out the functional activities of the GDP&RBM will be in place once the Nationalized indicators are finalized.

MoEc who is leading the agenda in Afghanistan has been engaged with various government entities to clear all the leading and supporting agency role in the implementation of SDGs. Coordination which is the cornerstone of the SDGs implementation in the country, various level of coordination committees has been established starting from High level (Political Level) to technical and Secretariat where the main focus is on the daily work on SDGs implementation.

Moving on to the planning aspect of the GDP&RBM where extensive support has been provided from project's end for focusing on restructuring the directorate in order to perform the functions in a very well manner, such as the establishment of the SDGs secretaries where permanent governmental staff has been engaged in the process.

Taking into account the portfolio of the GDP&RBM where Monitoring of the SDGs also comes under the portfolio, the project embed in ministry is in process of hiring a MIS and Monitoring Officer, the officer will be closely engaged with the Monitoring unit of the General Directorate to develop an M&E mechanism for Directorate and also for the nationalized SDGs.

**Activity 1.2: Establish National Level SDG Coordination Committee to guide and coordinate SDG in the country. This Coordination committee is envisaged to be represented by the Minister or Deputy Minister within the membership of major Ministries, the UN agencies and the development partners.**

During the course of 2017, where all the partners of the project were fully engaged in technical level discussion to finalize the SDGs local indicators for SDGs. The national level coordination committee meetings were held in where the extensive discussion took place on the 8 budgetary sectors local indicators.

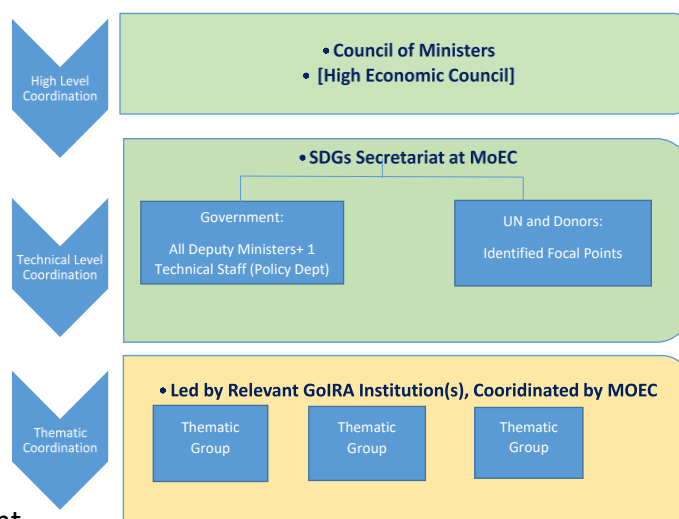
Taking into account the capacity of the line ministries who are engaged in this process has always been a challenge especially during the data collection process. Moving on the coordination of the line ministries in order to make the coordination meeting take place, this has always been fortunate that the line ministries leadership has been supportive in order to shape the local indicators for SDGs.

Considering the importance of the coordination committees in the implementation of agenda in the country level, the snapshot represents how the coordination committees are functioned and designed:

During the reporting period, almost six high-level coordination meeting took place where the SDGs nationalized targets and indicators was presented for approval of economic council. Almost six budgetary sectors out of eight

have been approved by the economic committee. Moving on to the technical level coordination committee all the six budgetary sectors has been discussed taking into account the various aspects of each nationalized indicators and targets such as Gender, Budget, and Data availability in technical level.

Most of the coordination committee meeting was attended by the senior management of the UNDP country office where all the technical support was provided by the SDGs project. the Ministry of Economy who has been very cooperative in the process of coordination with other budgetary units and LMs has taken the initiative of planning several sectorial meetings where the main focus was on the nationalization process.



The coordination committee meetings can be summarized as follows:

#### High-Level Coordination:

As previously mentioned all the approval of nationalized indicators are channeled through the high-level coordination body which is the Economic committee of the council of ministers.

#### Technical Level Coordination:

The identification of Nationalized targets and indicators in the country level, inter-ministerial meeting, Central statistics verification on the nationalized targets has been the coordination which is led by the technical level.

#### Sustainable Development Goals secretariat:

SDGs secretariat establish in Ministry of Economy headed by the director for economic policy is engaged in day to day arrangement of the data collection, coordination of the high level and technical meeting, the SDGs Secretariat has been fully supported by the project in the Ministry of Economy.

## **OUTPUT 2: SDGs are successfully nationalized, aligned with the national development plans and linked with the budgeting process**

### **Activity 2.1: Formulation and finalization of national SDG goals, targets, and indicators.**

As reported in the third quarter the Ministry of the Economy with the support from project unit was almost in the middle of nationalization process of SDGs, taking into account the modality of the government structure and the data collection procedure within the government. All the 8 budgetary sectors nationalized targets and indicators formulated and four of budgetary sectors nationalized targets and indicators have been approved by the economic committee of the council of ministries and the remaining four sector targets and indicators are under revision by the central statistics organization.

Moving on to, the validity of the data which has been received from the LMs, number of consultation workshop took place both in technical and high level in order to identify the indicators and targets which are applicable in the national level in Afghanistan. As long as the government structure is concerned, the Central statistics organization is the main custody of the data where the validation of the nationalized targets, indicators and baselines has been made by MoEc through various consultation workshops.

Nationalization process of the SDGs in Afghanistan took longer than it was planned to be, several layers within the National Unity government and approval of Economic Committee of



اهداف کشنای پایدار افغانستان (A-SDGs)													
بعضی از تارگیتها و شاخصها بگونه مثال													
اهداف	تارگیتها 2030	تارگیتها 2025	تارگیتها 2030	تارگیتها 2025	تارگیتها 2030	تارگیتها 2025	تارگیتها 2030	تارگیتها 2025	تارگیتها 2030	تارگیتها 2025	تارگیتها 2030	تارگیتها 2025	تارگیتها 2030
هدف 1: برونسازي فقر	1.1.1	1.1.2	1.1.3	1.1.4	1.1.5	1.1.6	1.1.7	1.1.8	1.1.9	1.1.10	1.1.11	1.1.12	1.1.13
هدف 2: امنیت غذایی، زراعت و ماهیگیری	2.1.1	2.1.2	2.1.3	2.1.4	2.1.5	2.1.6	2.1.7	2.1.8	2.1.9	2.1.10	2.1.11	2.1.12	2.1.13
هدف 3: سلامت و رفاه	3.1.1	3.1.2	3.1.3	3.1.4	3.1.5	3.1.6	3.1.7	3.1.8	3.1.9	3.1.10	3.1.11	3.1.12	3.1.13
هدف 4: آموزش باکیفیت	4.1.1	4.1.2	4.1.3	4.1.4	4.1.5	4.1.6	4.1.7	4.1.8	4.1.9	4.1.10	4.1.11	4.1.12	4.1.13
هدف 5: برابری جنسیتی	5.1.1	5.1.2	5.1.3	5.1.4	5.1.5	5.1.6	5.1.7	5.1.8	5.1.9	5.1.10	5.1.11	5.1.12	5.1.13
هدف 6: آب تمیز و بهداشت	6.1.1	6.1.2	6.1.3	6.1.4	6.1.5	6.1.6	6.1.7	6.1.8	6.1.9	6.1.10	6.1.11	6.1.12	6.1.13
هدف 7: انرژی تمیز و مقرون به صرفه	7.1.1	7.1.2	7.1.3	7.1.4	7.1.5	7.1.6	7.1.7	7.1.8	7.1.9	7.1.10	7.1.11	7.1.12	7.1.13
هدف 8: رشد اقتصادی	8.1.1	8.1.2	8.1.3	8.1.4	8.1.5	8.1.6	8.1.7	8.1.8	8.1.9	8.1.10	8.1.11	8.1.12	8.1.13
هدف 9: صنایع، ساختار و زیرساخت	9.1.1	9.1.2	9.1.3	9.1.4	9.1.5	9.1.6	9.1.7	9.1.8	9.1.9	9.1.10	9.1.11	9.1.12	9.1.13
هدف 10: کاهش نابرابری	10.1.1	10.1.2	10.1.3	10.1.4	10.1.5	10.1.6	10.1.7	10.1.8	10.1.9	10.1.10	10.1.11	10.1.12	10.1.13
هدف 11: شهرها و مناطق سالم	11.1.1	11.1.2	11.1.3	11.1.4	11.1.5	11.1.6	11.1.7	11.1.8	11.1.9	11.1.10	11.1.11	11.1.12	11.1.13
هدف 12: مصرف مسئولانه	12.1.1	12.1.2	12.1.3	12.1.4	12.1.5	12.1.6	12.1.7	12.1.8	12.1.9	12.1.10	12.1.11	12.1.12	12.1.13
هدف 13: اقدامات اضطراری	13.1.1	13.1.2	13.1.3	13.1.4	13.1.5	13.1.6	13.1.7	13.1.8	13.1.9	13.1.10	13.1.11	13.1.12	13.1.13
هدف 14: حیات دریایی	14.1.1	14.1.2	14.1.3	14.1.4	14.1.5	14.1.6	14.1.7	14.1.8	14.1.9	14.1.10	14.1.11	14.1.12	14.1.13
هدف 15: حیات خشکی	15.1.1	15.1.2	15.1.3	15.1.4	15.1.5	15.1.6	15.1.7	15.1.8	15.1.9	15.1.10	15.1.11	15.1.12	15.1.13

**Activity 2.2: Align the Nationalized SDGs with the national development plans/projects and link with the budgeting process.**

In addition, the project unit coordinated the high-level meeting of Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Finance who is leading the agenda of ANPDF. Taking into account the mechanism which ANPDF is developed and the SDGs are being designed in Afghanistan which covers a very broad range where its segregated into eight budgetary sectors, moving on to the structure of ANPDF which only concentrates on the six-developmental council which covers only the existing NPPs which are in place.

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indicators of SDGs with the policy department of Ministry of finance to incorporate that within the action plan of the ANPDF.

As part of the project activities, the project unit staff provided technical inputs on the action plan of the ANPDF which is the base for policy development and budgeting process of the GoIRA. During the reporting, the SDG coordinator in MoEc and the Project manager participated in various meetings on the alignment of the SDGs with the ANPDF with the Ministry of Finance.

Taking into account the standard practice of coordination within the government of Afghanistan, the project unit supported the Ministry of Economy to showcase the progress of nationalized SDGs and the alignment mechanism of SDGs with GoIRA policies in several coordination platforms such as civil society, youths and other relevant institution which are part of SDGs coordination committee.

To present the senior management of Afghan Government with the possible options of mechanisms to align the Nationalized SDGs with the national policies and budgeting process, the SDGs project management team, took the initiative to draft the SDGs alignment with ANPDF concept paper. The paper will help the key decision makers within Ministry of Economy to take concrete decisions in finalizing the joint action plan for SDGs and ANPDF. This paper will facilitate the establishment of any coordination mechanism within government, donor partners and the beneficiaries of the SDGs in Afghanistan.

In order to well manage the activities of the project while keeping in mind the importance of the Nationalized SDGs alignment with national policies and budgeting process, and extensive coordination between Ministry of Economy and Finance the thematic group establishment is given priority by both the government the project unit. Minister of Economy decided to raise the establishment of thematic groups in High Economic council which is the sole decision makers in the implementation of policies within Afghan government context.

### **Output 3: MoEc has a strengthened M&E system to effectively monitor, report and undertake advocacy for the SDGs**

**Activity 3.1: Develop SDG monitoring and data management mechanism and institutionalize it within MoEc. While developing this framework, the Global SDG monitoring and reporting guidelines (being prepared) would have to be referred.**

In order to have a successful SDGs in place for Afghanistan, monitoring and data management mechanism are a must. As long as the development of M&E mechanism is concerned the final process of recruitment of a permanent staff within the project is taken forward. Moving on to the current M&E mechanism of MoEc the CMRS and PMRS where various aspects of Monitoring and data management has been taken into consideration.

CMRS and PMRS are the current systems that Ministry of Economy as reporting the body of the government on the developmental project is using. While developing the Monitoring and

data management mechanism for SDGs, MoEc is planning to link both the database in a way which can be friendly used and avoid duplication of data.

### **Activity 3.2: Develop capacity of MoEc to undertake policy studies and advocacy campaign on SDG.**

Advocacy campaign on SDGs has been given top priority, bearing in mind the public knowledge on regarding the SDGs. Various public awareness campaign with youth societies, academia, civil societies and government officials were held in 2016 which can be summarized as follows:

#### **Fly Afghanistan:**

Flying kite is one of the Afghan-led festivals which is also part of Afghan Culture, UNDP in coordination with Ministry of Economy organized a one-day event where youth and government officials participated by flying a kite where the UNDP and government experts on SDGs briefed the participants on the SDGs Agenda.



#### **Together with Sustainable Development Goals:**

The SDGs Project in partnership with the Generation Positive a recently established Civil society organized a day talk for a student in Dunya university in order to educate the student on the internally accepted agenda where Afghanistan will be playing their role as a member state of the united nations.

During the course of the reporting period, various advocacy campaigns were planned where some of them due to some security reasons of a senior official from government side was delayed for 2017.

2016 BASELINE	2017 ANNUAL TARGETS	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2016 ACTUAL	COMMENTS
A - Existence of Multi-sectoral SDG team in MoEc for SDG planning and monitoring.	Yes (SDG working group for nationalization process within the MoEc established and formalized in May 2016)			x		Met	
B - Number of National SDGs with targets and indicators finalized and approved.	80% (National SDG goals and targets prepared, approved and published by the end of 2016)				x		
C - Number of SDG awareness campaign organized.	2-3 (At least 2-3 SDG awareness campaign organized by the end of 2016)			x	x		
					x		

## **EXPENSES FOR THE QUARTER**

During the year 2016, a total of USD \$ 79,745.58 was spent for all outputs. For more financial details, please refer to Annex 1, Annex 2 and Annex 3.

## **III. GENDER SPECIFIC RESULTS**

As long as the Gender specific results are concerned, almost all of the activities which were planned to take place in 2016 has been fully mainstreamed with the gender results. SDGs which is a cross-cutting issue all the activities which were planned in 2016 has been fully coordinated with the gender-specific results and the CO gender focal point.

## **IV. PARTNERSHIPS**

As long as the activities which were planned in course of 2016, it was fully channeled through UNDP internal management system. Internally, the project has been intensifying collaborations with the UNDP various projects to carry over the various activities which come under the mandate of another project. In the coming months, UNDP will further strengthen collaboration among the project to ensure project activities complement each other.

## **V. ISSUES**

- Difficulties in collecting data for the Afghanistan Sustainable Development Goals document.

As reported in the third quarter the difficulties in data collection and finalization of the nationalized targets and indicators have been in place, while various consultation workshop was organized to resolve the issue within various LMs. Moving on the data collection within Afghan government this has been a challenge for all development project.

The issue cannot be tackled by SDGs project staff and requires dialogues between the leadership of the two entities, while the technical support has been provided to both entities.

- Validation of the Data received from LMs through CSO.

Taking into account the validity of the data received from LMs have affected the project activities and made some of the activities to face a slowdown.

## **VI. RISKS**

During the course of 2016, no Risk has been identified at the project level.

## **VII. LESSONS LEARNED**

- Establishment of a technical Coordination body

Taking into account the hierarchy of the Afghan government, the project unit proposed Ministry of Economy to establish a senior technical coordination body where all of the issues raised and cannot be resolved in technical level will be addressed to the senior technical coordination body.

## **VIII. FUTURE PLANS**

The project management unit is closely working with the main beneficiary of the project which is a Ministry of Economy. Future plan of the project is concise in the following points:

- Recruitment of Vacant Position
- Consultation workshop with civil societies, government key stakeholders, and UN agencies
- Hiring International Consultant for High-level political form reporting
- Development of Website and Mobile Application for SDGs
- Photo Competition for SDGs public awareness

During the course 2016 the project senior management, in addition to supervising the routine project activities will concentrate its efforts on achieving the results which will have an overall impact on the achievement of UNDP

## IX. ANNEXES

### A. ANNEX 1: Financial Table

#### The Interim Donor Report for the period January to December 2016 (SDG)

##### Annex 1. Financial Table

Donor Name	COMMITMENT/ PREVIOUS YEARS RECORD					CURRENT YEAR - 2016					FUTURE EXPENSES		TOTAL RECEIVABLE		Available Resources o = (j-k-l-n)
	Commitment (a)	Carry over from/to other phases (b)	Revenue Collected 31/12/2015 (c)	Expenses 31/12/2015 (d)	IPSAS Adjustment (e)	Opening Balance (f)	Contribution Revenue (g)	Other Revenue/ Carry over from/to other phases (h)	Expenses (i)	Closing Balance j=(f+g+h-i)	Commitments (Unliquidated Obligations) (k)	Undepreciated of fixed Assets and Inventory (l)	(Future Due) m = (a-c-g)	(Past Due) (n)	
UNDP	380,520.00	-	-	-	-	-	380,520.00	-	79,745.58	300,774.42	20,031.48	41,100.05	-	-	239,642.89
Grand Total	380,520.00	-	-	-	-	-	380,520.00	-	79,745.58	300,774.42	20,031.48	41,100.05	-	-	239,642.89

##### Note:

- i) Data contained in this report is an extract of UNDP financial records. The accounting period for the report is an open period and data from some accounting processes may not have been processed. Financial data provided above may not be complete, and it is provisional.
- ii) Income received in currency other than USD is approximated to USD based on UN- Operational Rate of Exchange applied.

## B. ANNEX 2: Expenses by Output

### The Interim Donor Report for the period January to December 2016 (SDG)

#### Annex 2. Expenses by Output

Component/output ID & Description	2016 Budget (AWP)	Expenses (Jan - Sep 2016)	Expenses (Oct-Dec 2016)	Accumulated Expenses (Jan - Dec 2016)	Delivery Rate
Output 1 (00098730): MoEc is structurally organized to lead on SDGs coordination, planning and monitoring.	245,500	34,361	30,963	65,324	27%
Output 2 (00100786):SDGs are successfully nationalized, aligned with the national development plans and linked with the budgeting process process and second ANDS.	81,520		8,093	8,093	10%
Output 3 (00100704): MoEc has a strengthened M&E system to effectively monitor, report and undertake advocacy for the SDGs.	53,500		6,329	6,329	12%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>380,520</b>	<b>34,361</b>	<b>45,385</b>	<b>79,746</b>	<b>21%</b>

Note:



## C. ANNEX 3: Expenses by Donor

### The Interim Donor Report for the period January to December 2016 (SDG)

#### Annex 3. Expenses by Donor

Donor	Component/output ID & Description	2016 Budget (AWP)	Expenses (Jan - Sep 2016)	Expenses (Oct-Dec 2016)	Accumulated Expenses (Jan - Dec 2016)	Delivery Rate
UNDP	Output 1 (00098730): MoEc is structurally organized to lead on SDGs coordination, planning and monitoring.	245,500	34,361	30,963	65,324	27%
	Output 2 (00100786):SDGs are successfully nationalized, aligned with the national development plans and linked with the budgeting process process and second ANDS.	81,520		8,093	8,093	10%
	Output 3 (00100704): MoEc has a strengthened M&E system to effectively monitor, report and undertake advocacy for the SDGs.	53,500		6,329	6,329	12%
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>380,520</b>	<b>34,361</b>	<b>45,385</b>	<b>79,746</b>	<b>21%</b>

Note: