Government of
the Kingdom of Bahrain &
United Nations

Strategic Partnership Framework
2018-2022

October 2017

Foreword by the Government of Bahrain

The Government of Bahrain is pleased to present this Strategic Partnership Framework with the United Nations system, for the period 1st January 2018 until 31st December, 2022. This Framework highlights both ongoing and future cooperation opportunities between the Government and UN system agencies and it reflects their mutual commitment to country development priorities and the **Sustainable Development Agenda & Goals**.

The Framework provides a solid basis for strategic cooperation between United Nations system agencies and the Government. It responds clearly and effectively to specific policy and program priorities of the Government, as laid out in its **Economic Vision 2030** and the **Government Programme of Action, 2015-2018.** The value of this Strategic Partnership Framework is two-fold:

1. It offers **a comprehensive picture** of where and how UN system agencies are working in cooperation with the Government for the achievement of country strategic priorities and related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, and

2. It improves the UN system's focus on results and provides a platform for **common policy work** and **stronger coordination and delivery** of support from UN system agencies that is fully aligned with Bahrain's development needs and priorities.

The Government wishes to thank the UN Resident Coordinator and heads of UN system agencies for their many contributions to the process. The Government is fully committed to working with the UN system in Bahrain for the implementation of this Strategic Partnership Framework and we express confidence in this and future productive cooperation.

Foreword by the Resident Coordinator of the UN System in Bahrain

As Resident Coordinator of the United Nations System in Bahrain, I express my sincere thanks to the Government of Bahrain for its leadership, and to my fellow heads of UN system agencies for their cooperation. This Strategic Partnership Framework between the UN system and the Government of Bahrain that will guide our current and future cooperation until 2022. With it, we now have a comprehensive and coherent statement of UN system support for country development priorities. It demonstrates how the diverse agencies of the UN system will bring to bear their multiple skills and knowledge sets to address complex challenges.

Importantly, **performance indicators** for Government policies and programmes and the contributing results expected from cooperation with UN system agencies have been aligned, wherever possible, with the indicator framework for the SDGs. It is expected that UN system agencies will continue to support the Government to collect SDG-related data and use it to strengthen future policy and planning.

The Framework also puts emphasis on **South-South cooperation** in order to support the Government to identify lessons and good practices from its policy and program work that can be offered to other countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and throughout the wider Arab region.

As the Government of Bahrain prepares for its next national programme, the UN system will continue to provide **coherent, coordinated support** to address the complex and integrated challenges that it faces. The success of this and future partnership frameworks will lie in our common commitment to implementation.

The United Nations system in Bahrain is grateful for its partnership with the Government. We express our appreciation to all who participated in the development of this Strategic Partnership Framework and their collective desires for a Bahrain where everyone can enjoy stability, fulfillment, and reach their full potential.
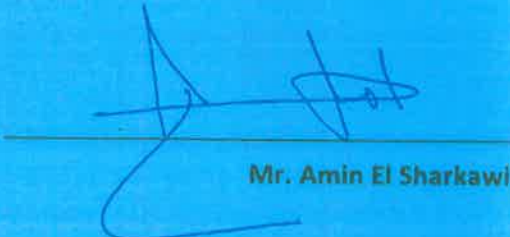
Declaration of commitment

The Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain (GoB) and the United Nations are committed to working together to achieve the country's national vision of '...a *society where justice, security, stability and prosperity prevail'.*

This Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) will assist the work of the GoB and the UN system in Bahrain until 2022. This framework builds on the successes of past cooperation between the GoB and UN system agencies and it bolsters their coordinated and joint work to achieve national strategic priorities, policies and programmes.

This SPF represents a joint commitment by the GoB and the UN system to work in close partnership for the achievement of country priorities, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and other internationally agreed development goals. It will help to secure the changes that will help the people of Bahrain to live longer, healthier and more prosperous lives.

In signing hereafter, the participating partners endorse this Strategic Partnership Framework and underscore their joint commitment towards the fulfilment of its objectives.

Government of Bahrain:	United Nations Country Team:
Shaikh Khalid Bin Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Khalifa	Mr. Amin El Sharkawi
Minister of Foreign Affairs	United Nations Resident Coordinator

Signatures

In witness thereof, the undersigned[1], being duly authorized, have signed this Government of Bahrain-UN Strategic Partnership Framework for the period 2018-2022 on 24 October 2017 in Manama Bahrain, underscoring their joint commitment to its priorities and partnership results.

Mr. Gerold Bödeker
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Ms. Najat Mokhtar
International Atomic Energy Agency

Dr. Ruba Jaradat
International Labour Organization

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x

x

Mr. Stefano Pettinato
United Nations Development Programme

Mr. Sami Dimassi
United Nations Environment Programme
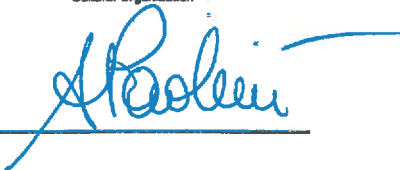
Dr. Anna Paolini
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

x

x

x

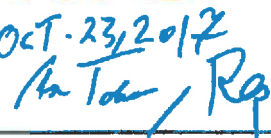**Mr. Asr Toson**
United Nations Population Fund

Dr. Tarek El-Sheikh
United Nations Settlements Programme

Mr. Khalid Khalifa
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

OcT·23,2017

x

x

x

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[1] UN system agencies in alphabetical order.

Signatures

Ms. Shahida Azfar
United Nations Children's Fund

x _Shahida Azfar_

Mr. Jaime Moll de Alba Cabot
United Nations Industrial
Development Organization

x

Dr. Hatem Aly
United Nations Office on Drugs and
Crime

x

Mr. Mohammed Naciri
United Nations for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

x

Dr. Ibrahim El Ziq
World Health Organization

x

Ms. Khawla Mattar
United Nations Economic and
Social Commission for Western Asia

X As confirmed to the RC by e-mail on 19
October 2017

**Dr. Hesham Abdelghany
Moussa**
World Meteorological Organization

X As confirmed to the RC by e-mail on 22
October 2017

Executive summary

This Government of Bahrain (GoB) and United Nations (UN) Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) offers a framework of results that is based on the **Vision 2030** of the GoB. The results and strategies will contribute to the achievement of strategic priorities in the **Government Programme of Action**, 2015-2018 (PoA), the **Government Priorities Framework**, 2015-2018 (GPF2.0), and the **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs).

Planned partnership results between the GoB and UN system agencies[2] fall in 5 out of 6 strategic priorities, clustered around **12 policies** and related programmes, and including **9 GPF2.0 programmes**. These results were identified jointly by the GoB and UN system agencies and they align with specific SDGs and targets. This SPF underscores a core principle for Government-UN cooperation to work together in a coordinated and coherent manner to promote human dignity, and inclusive economic growth to **leave no one behind**.

This framework builds on the strong cooperation between the GoB and the UN system, and on a period of analysis and consultation that began in late 2014. The GoB has the primary responsibility and accountability for achieving the PoA strategic priorities, policies, and programmes. Based on their comparative advantages in Bahrain, UN system agencies will contribute with policy advice, in accordance with international norms, standards, best practices, and develop capacity at national and local levels to strengthen the implementation and monitoring of national policies and programmes and to prevent negative social, environmental, and economic impacts. Emphasis is placed on policies and programmes that promote the achievement of the SDGs and their targets.

For continuity, the period of this SPF extends to 2022. Partnership results and strategies will be *updated* to respond to the priorities of the next Government Programme, 2019-2022, and biennium budget for the period 2019-2020.

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[2]**UN system agencies** is a collective term for the UN funds, programmes, and specialised agencies working in support of Bahrain, both resident and non-resident.

Bahrain: Basic Data

Location	Middle East, archipelago in the Gulf, east of Saudi Arabia
Area	778 sq km
Capital	Manama
Administrative units	4 governorates (Muhafazat): Asimah (Capital), Janubiyah (Southern), Shamaliyah (Northern), and Muharraq. Each is administered by an appointed Governor.
Government type	Constitutional monarchy
Political system	Political parties are prohibited. Political societies legalized, July 2005.
Population	1,423,726 ; Urban population: 100%
Annual pop. growth	3.9% (2016 est.)
Median age:	Total: 30 years; male: 31 years; female: 28 years
Dependency ratio	29%
HDI	Value: 0.824; Rank 47/ 188 countries (2016)
Life expectancy at birth	Total population: 76.7years; male: 75.9 years; female: 77.8 years (2016 est.)
Total fertility rate	2.1 children born/woman
Languages	Arabic (official), English
Labour force	776,565 (Bahraini and Non-Bahraini (59% of the population in the 15-64 age group is non-Bahraini (2015 est.)
GDP	2016 GDP at Current Prices (BD Million): 12,099.33 GDP per head (BD)- Current Prices: 8,498.4 2016 GDP at Constant Prices (BD Million): 11,949.06 GDP per head (BD))- Constant Prices: 8,392.8 Non-oil sectors contribute to 80.2% of total GDP. The financial and banking sector is one of the most important non-oil sectors. Bahrain currently has about 404 financial institutions, which contribute to 16.3% of total GDP. The Manufacturing industries contribute 14.7% of GDP
Inflation rate	2.7% from January to December 2016
Unemployment rate	4.1% (2016 administrative data); Ages 15-24 8.5% (official estimates; actual rates may be higher)
Budget	Revenues: 1,897,777,453 BD; Expenditures: 3,121,413,053 BD
Public debt (% GDP)	Fiscal deficit: 12.6% of GDP; Government debt: 62.1% of GDP (est.2016)
Natural resources	Bahrain has 0.05% of global oil reserves. Arable land represents 9% of Bahrain's land area. Fishing is a significant economic activity. There are 18 species of mammals, 330 species of birds, and Bahrain is a major stopping point on the Eurasian flyway.

Sources:
GoB-Information & e-government Authority.

The UN system signing the Strategic Partnership Framework in support of Bahrain

» A total of 16 UN system agencies will sign the Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF).

» Four UN system agencies signing the SPF are resident: UNDP, UN Environment, UNIDO and WMO.

» There are eight non-resident UN system agencies covering Bahrain: ILO, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC and WHO

» There are four non-resident extended UNCT members covering Bahrain: ESCWA, FAO, IAEA and UN Women.

» The UN system in Bahrain is led by the UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC) who is in charge of coordinating UN activities.

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ANNEX A. PARTNERSHIP MATRIX

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Acronyms and abbreviations

National institutions and Frameworks

BDB	Bahrain Development Bank	MoF	Ministry of Finance
BIPA	Bahrain Institute of Public Administration	MoH	Ministry of Health
CIO	Central Informatics Organisation	MoHg	Ministry of Housing
GoB	Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain	MoICT	Ministry of Industry, Commerce & Tourism
GPF2.0	Government Priorities Framework	MoJ	Ministry of Justice
PMC	HRH The Prime Minister's Court	MoSI	Ministry of State for Implementation
iGA	Information and e-Government Authority	MoSLG	Minister of State for Local Government
MoF	Ministry of Finance	MoSY	Ministry of Sport and Youth
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	OFDPM	Office of the First Deputy Prime Minister
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture	PoA	Government Programme of Action (PoA)
MoE	Ministry of Environment	SCE	Supreme Council of the Environment
MoEI	Ministry of Energy and Industry	SCW	Supreme Council for Women
MoES	Ministry of Education and Sports		

United Nations System Agencies

FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	UNESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency		
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
ILO	International Labour Organization	UN Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
ITU	International Telecommunications Union	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
OHCHR	Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights	UNIC	United Nations Information Centre
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNCT	United Nations Country Team	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNDG	United Nations Development Group		
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UN Environment	United Nations Environment Programme	UNRC	United Nations Resident Coordinator
		UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization		
		WHO	World Health Organization
		WMO	World Meteorological Organization

Other

CCA	Common Country Assessment	JWP	Joint Work Plan
CSO	Civil Society Organisation	ME	Monitoring & Evaluation
DaO	Delivering as One	MDG	Millennium Development Goals
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction	MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
ECD/ECE	Early childhood development/ education	SPF	GoB-UN Strategic Partnership Framework, 2018-2022
ED2030	Education 2030 (Incheon Declaration)	RBM	Results Based Management
EFA	Education for All	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment	UNCBD	UN Convention on Biological Diversity
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council	UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
GDP	Gross Domestic Product	UPR	Universal Periodic Review
GhG	Greenhouse Gas		

1. Introduction

Purpose of the Strategic Partnership Framework

The Government of Bahrain-UN Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) 2018-2022 is a framework for achieving results that is based on the **Vision 2030** of the GoB. The results and strategies will contribute to the achievement of will contribute to the strategic priorities, policies and programmes as spelled out in the **Government Programme of Action**[3] (PoA), the **Government Priorities Framework**[4] (GPF2.0) for the period 2015-2018, and the Sustainable Development Goals[5] (SDGs).

For continuity, the period of this SPF extends to 2022. Partnership results and strategies will be *updated* to respond to the priorities of the next Government Programme, 2019-2022, and biennium budget for the period 2019-2020.

The current PoA provides six mid-term strategic priorities, each with a set of contributing policies and programmes, including a sub-set of 32 high priority target programmes in the GPF2.0. These policies and programmes are *equivalent to outcomes*. Planned cooperation results between the GoB and UN system fall in **5 out of 6** strategic priorities, clustered around **12 policies** and **23 related programmes**, including **9 GPF2.0 programmes**. The contributions of the UN system to these policies and programmes are shown in two ways:

(1) As **outputs**[6] expected from country programmes and projects supported by UN system agencies; and
(2) As **service lines**[7] of contributing UN system agencies, related to specific technical support and advisory services requested by the GoB.

It is important to note that the indicated financial support provided by GoB and UN system agencies is **already committed** and does not constitute a new request. Annex B contains *proposed, un-funded* initiatives that may be considered in future by the GoB, UN system agencies, and other partners.

This framework builds on the successes of previous cooperation between the GoB and UN system agencies. It describes how the GoB and UN can work together to deliver on these commitments, including jointly-managed coordination and implementation arrangements, joint resource mobilization, and effective progress monitoring and reporting. Given GoB efforts to develop an *'evaluation culture'*[8] for greater performance and accountability, **indicators** at both the policy and programme levels have been aligned, wherever possible, with the indicator framework for the SDGs. This helps to demonstrate a clear theory of change between the support provided by UN system agencies and the GoB's development results.

The GoB has the primary responsibility and accountability for achieving the PoA strategic priorities.

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[3] Government of Bahrain, Government Programme of Action, (PoA 2015-2018) – 'Towards Justice, Security, and Welfare of Community', January 2015 [UNDP Un-official translation].
[4] The GPF 2.0 was prepared by the Office of the First Deputy Prime Minister. It comprises a sub-set of 32 'high priority' target programmes from the 600 programmes included in the GoB Programme of Action, 2015-2018.
[5] Sustainable Development Goals and Targets http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html
[6] An output is for the entire programme period. It is a development result that relates to the availability of new skills and abilities, products or services. The outputs of GoB-UN cooperation can be measured and will make a direct, tangible contribution for the achievement of selected policies and programmes in the Government Programme, 2015-2018.
[7] A service line is a category of technical assistance that is of short duration and responds to a specific request from the GoB. The cooperation of UN system agencies in Bahrain may involve a mix of both programme outputs and service line activities.
[8] PoA 2015-2018, *ibid.*, 6.5.1, 52.

The GoB and UN system have identified contributing partnerships results and strategies that align strongly with the SDGs and targets[9], and that build upon **UN system comparative advantages:**

» Policy advice, in accordance with international norms, standards, and best practices,

» Provision of high level, technical expertise to address complex social, economic, and environmental challenges,

» A global perspective encompassing the norms, standards, and principles of international conventions and treaties ratified by the GoB,

» Capacity development to strengthen the implementation and monitoring of country strategies, policies and plans and to address the situation of needy individuals in society[10], and

» A trusted, neutral partner and *'honest broker'*.

Structure of the Strategic Partnership Framework

The Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) contains six parts:

» Part 1 continues to describe the principles for the SPF and a summary of the development context;

» Part 2 describes the planned GoB-UN partnership results that will contribute to the strategic priorities, policies and programmes of the GoB. It also describes initiatives supported by UN system agencies that are outside the SPF.

» Part 3 describes the mechanisms and processes for steering and review of the SPF;

» Part 4 outlines the arrangements for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting about SPF results, based on the partnership matrix and UN system agency work plans;

» Part 5 offers a summary of the communication strategy; and

» Part 6 provides the commitments of all parties.

The full partnership matrix is provided in **Annex A.**
Annex B offers proposed initiatives for future consideration, and **Annex C** (attached separately) provides an indicative budget.

1.1 Principles

This Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) reinforces the strong relationship between the GoB and the UNCT to work in a coordinated and coherent manner to achieve national development priorities, policies, and programmes, and the Sustainable Development Goals[11] and other internationally agreed development goals and treaty obligations[12]. As a strategic framework, it is based on Bahrain's Vision 2030 to contribute to '...a *society where justice, security, stability and prosperity prevail'*.

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[9] Indicators for the policies and programmes of the PoA and related GPF2.0 priorities are aligned with the SDG indicator framework Sustainable Development Goals, Targets, and Indicators. For ease of reference, indicator numbers have been maintained from their source documents. See: http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html, http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/

[10] This is also understood in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its focus on the vulnerable.

[11] The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development seeks to realize human rights of all (Preamble) and is grounded in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, international human rights treaties and other instruments, including the Declaration on the Right to Development (para 10), whilst emphasising the responsibilities of all States to respect, protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind (para 19). Sustainable Development Goals and targets.

[12] These refer specifically to international human rights and environmental agreements ratified by the Government of Bahrain, such as the CRC, CEDAW, UNFCCC, and CBD.

The SPF is based upon the following principles:

Table: Partnership principles

1. Bahrain priorities: The SPF shows how UN system agencies contribute to GoB efforts to achieve specific policy and programme priorities in the PoA and GPF2.0, 2015-2018.

2. International commitments: The SPF shows how the policies and programmes of the Government Programme are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the goals and targets of international conventions and agreements ratified by the GoB.

3. Partnership: The GoB and UN system agencies use joint structures to coordinate their cooperation.

4. Accountability: The GoB and UN system agencies are mutually accountable for the results in the SPF. This means that each one of them is accountable for its contribution to the planned results, including GoB policies and programmes and UN supported outputs and service lines. This will involve effective management arrangements (section 3), coordinated, effective monitoring, evaluation, and progress reporting (section 4), and communications (section 5).

5. Transparency: The GoB and UN system agencies share regular, detailed and timely information on the outputs of their partnership.

This SPF will, in respect of each of the signatory UN system agencies, be read, interpreted, and implemented in a manner that is consistent with the **basic agreements** between the UN system agencies and the Government of Bahrain.

1.2 Country context

The Kingdom of Bahrain is a high income country of nearly 1.4 million people. It has a diversifying economy and sophisticated Government machinery for engaging in international and regional economic, social, and political affairs. The country has an enviable record of converting its resource wealth into an ever increasing standard of living for its people. In 2015, Bahrain reported achievement of seven of the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – MDG 7 was partially achieved due to the country's geographic characteristics[13].

Going forward, the Government of Bahrain in its **Economic Vision 2030** aspires to build a globally competitive economy, with a productive, prosperous middle class that enjoys high-wage jobs and good living standards[14]. To achieve this vision, Bahrain's **Government Programme of Action (PoA)** for the period 2015-2018 provides six mid-term strategic priorities, each with a set of contributing policies and programmes that are *equivalent* to outcomes[15]. The process to develop the PoA was notable for the comprehensive committee discussions that took place in Parliament and for the thorough budget review process during the first semester of 2015. Implementation of the PoA is expected to also benefit from the $10 billion GCC Plan agreed by Gulf nations in 2013 to finance large-scale infrastructure and service projects[16] in Bahrain that will also create new long-term employment opportunities.

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[13] Government of Bahrain, Bahrain National MDG Report, 2015.
[14] Government of Bahrain, Vision 2030, EDB, May 2013.
[15] Government of Bahrain, Government Programme of Action, 2015-2018 – 'Towards Justice, Security, and Welfare of Community', Legislative Chapter IV, January 2015.
[16] Gulf News, Oman and Bahrain have lot to gain from GCC plan, June 19, 2013. Investment areas include: housing, health services, energy and water management, particular renewable energy,

In parallel with these achievements are some issues that are also creating headwinds for the achievement of Bahrain's vision 2030 and its mid-term strategic priorities:

» GDP growth slowed to 2.9% in 2015 compared with 5.4% in 2013, with a slowdown in non-oil sector and flat growth in the oil sector, which accounts for about 80% of government revenue. Economic diversification efforts, based on technology and innovation, are essential to counteract these forces[17].

» Significant fiscal consolidation measures have been taken to enhance Government revenues and reduce the generous **subsidy regime**, which is estimated to absorb more than 20% of the government budget[18].

» **Regional and local political tensions** including the ongoing conflicts in Syria, Iraq and Yemen are likely to continue to have negative impacts on flows of foreign direct investment and tourism and a generally greater emphasis on security priorities. The PoA contains clear policy directions and programmes to address this situation[19].

» Following the 2017 Universal Periodic Review[20], Bahrain has committed to implement 139 recommendations to meet its **human rights obligations**.

» As a small island state with an arid climate, limited arable land and fresh water, and extreme vulnerability to adverse weather events, are ever-present constraints to growth and development.

Process to prepare the Strategic Partnership Framework

On the basis of interest expressed by the Government of Bahrain, the process to prepare the SPF began with a country Analysis paper in 2015. It offered perspective on major development challenges in Bahrain and explored potential areas of cooperation between the Government of Bahrain (GoB) Programme of Action (PoA), 2015-2018 and the work of United Nations (UN) Agencies. Consultations and discussions organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator, led to the preparation of this Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) between September 2016 and April 2017. The SPF is highly suited to **net contributing countries (NCC)** and **upper middle income countries** where UN support is a selection of highly targeted, strategic interventions. As such, the SPF could become a model for Government-UN partnership in these country situations, globally.

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[17] For example, Bahrain is ranked 1st in the Arab region in terms of introducing and adopting e-Government services (UN-DESA index: eGDI).
[18] The subsidy regime was reported to have increased by 73% in recent years, to BD1.126bn ($2.99bn) per year The government has begun significant fiscal consolidate measures.
[19] GoB Programme, 2015-2018, Policy 1.1, Programme 1.1.3 and Policy 1.2; Programme 1.2.1.
[20] UN Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review - Bahrain, July 2017, A/HRC/36/3.

2. Partnership results and strategies

The Government of Bahrain-UN Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) 2018-2022 responds to country priorities, the SDGs, and other internationally agreed development goals and treaty obligations. The GoB Programme of Action (PoA) provides six mid-term strategic priorities, each with a set of contributing policies and programmes, including a sub-set of 32 high priority target programmes in the GPF2.0, that are *equivalent* to outcomes.

2.1 Results

Planned partnership results between the GoB and UN system agencies fall in 5 out of 6 strategic priorities, clustered around **12 policies** and related programmes, including **9 GPF2.0 programmes**. These expected results were identified jointly by the GoB and UN system agencies. They build on achievements and lessons from previous cooperation, they utilise the comparative advantages of the UN system agencies in Bahrain, and they align with *specific* **SDGs and targets**, especially to:

» Reduce vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other emergencies (SDG1),

» Support sustainable food production systems (SDG2),

» Reduce risks from non-communicable diseases, promote mental health and well-being, and strengthen capacities to prevent and manage national and regional health risks (SDG3),

» Promote productive employment, fostering innovation, and growing the MSME sector (SDGs 8, 9),

» Ensure inclusive, quality education with effective learning outcomes and support young people to gain technical and vocational skills (SDGs 4,8),

» Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls (SDG5),

» Ensure availability and access to safe drinking water (SDG6),

» Upgrade technology for modern and sustainable energy, including renewable energy (SDG7),

» Increase access to safe and affordable housing for the under-privileged (SDG11),

» Strengthen the management of chemicals and waste (SDG12),

» Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning (SDG13),

» Restore degraded land and soil and halt bio-diversity loss (SDG15),

» Combat illicit financial flows and organized crime (SDG 16), and

» Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation, and access to technology and financial resources (SDG17).

A summary of partnership results is provided below. The complete partnership matrix including indicators, baselines, targets, and means of verification is provided in **Annex A.**

Table: Summary of GoB-UN partnership results, 2018-2022

Strategic Priority 1. Promote security and stability, the democratic system and foreign relations				
Policy	**Partnership results**	**Partners**	**GPF2.0**	**SDG targets**
1.1 Preservation of security and realization of stability	» Increased capacity to prepare for, detect, and respond to radiation emergencies and health security threats	Ministry of Health (MoH) Supreme Council for Environment (SCE) IAEA; WHO		No poverty: 1.5.2, 1.5.3
	» Strengthened capabilities to address challenges related to drugs and crime in accordance with the related international legal regimes and standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice	Ministry of Interior; Royal Academy of Police; UNODC		Climate action: 13.1.2 Peace, justice: 16.4
1.2 Strengthening democratic system	» Improved criminal justice responses in accordance with international standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice and human rights instruments	Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments; Judicial and Legal Studies Institute; UNODC		
	» Strengthened application of international conventions and practices for implementation of international legal frameworks	Public Prosecutor's Office, Judiciary Training Institute, National institution for Human Rights, UNDP	Enhance Case Management	Peace, justice: 16.3
1.3 Strengthening foreign relations	» Enhanced policy making and international partnerships	Bahrain Institute of Public Administration (BIPA), UNDP		Partnerships: 17.6.1 17.16.1

Strategic Priority 2. Establish a strong and diversified economy and a stable financial system and currency				
Policy	**Partnership results**	**Partners**	**GPF2.0**	**SDG targets**
2.1 Concrete and sustained rates of economic growth	» Enhanced policies to strengthen Bahrain's trade competitiveness, innovation	Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), UNDP		Decent work, econ. growth: 8.1.1, 8.5.2
	» A growing MSME sector with new sources of finance and export development services	Bahrain Development Bank (BDB), Tamkeen. Other partners (*tbd*), UNIDO		Industry, Innovation: 9.3.1

Strategic Priority 3. Empower Bahrainis to raise their contribution to the development process				
Policy	**Partnership results**	**Partners**	**GPF2.0**	**SDG targets**
3.1 Quality and efficiency of educational services	» Improved education policy & planning and an effective, innovative TVET sector	Ministry of Education UNESCO	Quality teaching; Vocational qualifications	Quality education: 4.1.1, 4.3.1, 4.4.1

Strategic Priority 3. Empower Bahrainis to raise their contribution to the development process				
Policy	**Partnership results**	**Partners**	**GPF2.0**	**SDG targets**
3.2 Improvement of health services	» Strengthened health systems, with improved financing, Enhanced prevention and treatment of NCDs, Health policy and strategy harmonization with SDGs » Improved clinical nuclear medicine procedures	Ministry of Health, Supreme Council of Health WHO Ministry of Health IAEA		Good health: 3.4.1 End Hunger: 2.2.2
3.3 Quality housing services	» Effective housing policies that target the less privileged	Ministry of Housing UNDP; UN Habitat	Housing policy	Sustainable cities: 11.1.1
3.4 Support, care and effective social development	» Improved targeting of needy individuals for social protection systems and enhanced engagement of young people in national development » Greater capacity to implement measures for gender equality and women's advancement » Stronger labour market policies including mechanisms for dispute resolution and occupational health and safety	Ministry of Labour and Social Development (MoLSD) Ministry of Youth and Sport (MoYS) Ministry of Health (MoH) Supreme Council for Women ILO, UNDP	Occupational Standards Regulations for expatriates	Gender equality: 5.1 Reduced inequalities: 10.2.1 Decent work, econ. growth: 8.5, 8.6, 8.8

Strategic Priority 5. Sustainable management of strategic resources and ensuring sustainable urban development				
Policy	**Partnership results**	**Partners**	**GPF2.0**	**SDG targets**
5.1 Efficient use of resources and energy	» Integration of renewable energy and energy efficiency policies, including climate change considerations, into national strategies and policies » Reduce pesticide and mycotoxin Residues in water and food	Sustainable Energy Unit, Ministry of Oil and Gas, Supreme Council of the Environment UNDP Ministry of Health; IAEA	Sustainable Food Supply	Clean energy: 7.2, 7.b Clean water, sanitation: 6.1.1
5.2 Safe, convenient environment for residents	» High quality national reporting about climate change » A national strategy and action plan implemented to protect biodiversity and pearling sites » Policy, regulatory, monitoring capacities strengthened to improve air quality and the management of chemicals and hazardous waste	Supreme Council of the Environment UN Environment	Enhance Bahrain's land management model	Responsible consumption: 12.4.2 Climate action: 13.2.1 Life on Land: 15.3.1

Strategic Priority 6. Enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of government performance					
Policy		**Partnership results**	**Partners**	**GPF2.0**	**SDG targets**
6.1 Improve public sector productivity and governance	»	Improved policy and public administration capacities for Parliament and Ministries, and collaboration in the region	Bahrain Institute of Public Administration (BIPA), UNDP	National leadership development	Peace, justice, strong institutions 16.6.1 16.6.2
6.5 Government performance evaluation and follow-up	»	Increased capacity for evidence-based plans and policies for economic diversification, aligned w. SDGs	Government of Bahrain (*tbd*) UNDP		16.7.2

Table: Other initiatives with UN system agencies

Partners		**Partnership results**
Central Informatics Organization (CIO); UN ESCWA	»	Capacity development: Support and build capacities of CIO to compile and report on SDG related data
Bahraini Red Crescent; The Royal Charity Organization; UNHCR	»	Capacity development: Training programme for MoFA, MoI, and civil society groups on international refugee law and protection of refugees. The training examines links with the national legal framework, international protection law, and registration as a tool for protection, and inter-agency coordination.
	»	Medical Assistance, in consultation with the Royal Charity Organization (RCO), for Syrian refugees in Bahrain.
Ministry of Transport WMO	»	Global and regional technical programmes for meteorological observation systems and access to terrestrial, ocean and space-based data, global weather forecasting/climate prediction, and disaster risk reduction and multi-hazard early warning systems

2.2 Strategies

To contribute to country priorities and related SDGs and targets, the partnership results supported by the UN system agencies in Bahrain will employ the following general strategies. These are essential to promote human dignity and inclusive economic growth, whilst preventing negative social, environmental and economic impacts:

1. Further strengthen country capacities and strengthen cross-sectoral coordination

A capacity development approach will support Bahrain to achieve its vision and priorities in the PoA, GPF2.0, and related SDG targets. Planned initiatives supported by UN system agencies will provide high quality policy advice and alternatives to help the GoB to address a range of structural challenges, and they will involve tangible capacity development that will extend beyond training and skills development, to generate sustainability and support the scaling-up of good practices.

To promote cross-sectoral linkages between policy and programme priorities and related SDGs, the UN will support the GoB to apply multi-sectoral thinking and approaches. This will enable the consideration of different policy options and models with multi-sectoral benefits. It will also encourage greater inter-ministerial and inter-departmental coordination for enhanced planning, implementation, and monitoring of the coverage and quality of services in line with international standards.

2. Enhance cooperation with the GCC and other Arab States, and strengthen south-south cooperation

Regional cooperation, particularly amongst the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), is a critical dimension for many of the Government of Bahrain's policy priorities. The Government aims to strengthen regional integration with Bahrain's closest neighbours in political, social economic spheres, through a common market, institutions and ever more harmonized social and economic policies. Bahrain will also continue to play an effective role in the League of Arab States (LAS), cooperating with all Arab countries on areas of mutual economic and social interest[21].

Bahrain's GCC partners comprise the main market for non-hydro carbon exports and provide most of the 8 million tourists who visit Bahrain each year[22]. Bahrain is also the GCC focal point for work on regional projects that include: impacts of coastal reclamation, standardised air quality data collection, harmonised chemicals management system, and preparation of the annual State of the Environment report for the GCC.

Cooperation will continue to support the GoB to consider alternative policies for greater economic integration and efforts to move towards a single market, as well as measures to increase consistency between domestic and GCC regulations. These measures will also help to address common political, economic, social, environmental, and security challenges and to harness the potential for greater south-south and triangular cooperation arrangements. UN system agencies will continue to explore with the GoB the possibility of establishing Bahrain as a centre of excellence in areas of programming of critical concern to the GCC and wider Arab region.

3. Promote resilience and environmental sustainability

Population growth, urban and industrial development and expansion against a backdrop of limited natural resources and a fragile, arid environment, have created major environmental challenges: scarcity of fresh water, desertification, pollution and coastal and marine ecosystem degradation from oil production, and a lowered water table leaving the main *Dammam* aquifer, a trans-boundary resource, open to contamination from salt water.

Demand for clean water has increased over the past decade by over 4% per year and is reported to be three times the sustainable groundwater supplies. De-salinized sea water is expensive to produce and is estimate to account for 36% of the country's clean water supplies[23]. While Bahrain's food security is dependent on imports, agriculture consumes about 39% of the total water budget while accounting for less than 1% of GDP. Bahrain has a wealth of biodiversity but these ecosystems are under increasing stress. With a topography that is mostly flat and low, Bahrain is particularly vulnerable to climate change and to adverse weather events.[24].

Energy production and consumption accounts for approximately 85% of greenhouse gas (GhG) emissions, and energy consumption is projected to increase significantly in the mid-term. With very high levels of electricity consumption and greenhouse gas emissions[25] from energy production, energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies are a priority for economic growth.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has the objective to ensure the lasting protection of the planet and its natural resources, support inclusive and sustained economic growth, and enhance human

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[21] Draft National Development Strategy – unpublished background document, 2014. 59.

[22] WTO, Trade Policy Review Report by the Kingdom of Bahrain, WT/TPR/G/294,March 2014.

[23] Mohammed Saleh Al.Ansari , The Water Demand Management in the Kingdom of Bahrain, International Journal of Engineering and Advanced Technology (IJEAT),Volume-2, Issue-5, June 2013. 544.

[24] Using a moderate 0.3-meter increase in mean sea levels, it estimated that 11% of Bahrain's total land area would be lost by 2050, including 18 Km² of industrial areas that account for a substantial portion of economic productivity. Bahrain's Second National Communication under the UNFCCC , *Ibid.*, **12.**

[25] Average annual per capita electricity consumption of 12.8MWh/cap, is one of the highest in the world and expected to increase. *Ibid.*, **7.**

well-being. It has the resilience of societies and ecosystems at its core and aims to promote multi-sectoral, integrated approaches that harness the potential, assets, and capacities of institutions and communities to reduce risks and vulnerabilities. It will take an integrated approach, based on the 2030 and employ tools and safeguards to anticipate and prevent negative environmental impacts.

4. Enable young people to participate fully in the social and economic life of the country

Young people ages 15 to 24 account for about 40% of the population[26]. How they develop, and the support and opportunities afforded to them will play a major factor in Bahrain's future development. The challenges facing young people include: unemployment and under-employment, the ageing of the Bahrain population and growing pressures on health and social security, and climate change with the potential to radically alter economic and social conditions for the small island state. There is a challenge to adopt curricula in schools and universities that match changing economic activities. Effective education and skilling, with an increasing focus on STEM careers, is needed to remove obstacles for young people, especially the scarcity of decent work opportunities, and help them to seek out market-driven opportunities for employment, entrepreneurship, and productivity. The new National Youth Strategy 2017-2021 will consider youth engagement and an action plan to implement the strategy.

5. Strengthen country data systems and programme monitoring, aligned with the SDGs

Sound economic and social policies and effective strategic planning and performance management depend upon reliable, up-to-date data and information. Important gaps remain in terms of the availability and quality of data, including a need to strengthen capacities to produce high quality SDG statistics, for example: the inequality-adjusted HDI (IHDI), the multi-dimensional poverty index (MPI) which helps to reveal deprivations beyond income poverty, and the global Education for All indicators, linked to SDG4. Support is also required to ensure the national statistical system is more responsive to the information needs of policymakers and other users. Particular attention is needed to produce data disaggregated by gender, income groups, employment status, education status, and to more systematic dissemination and communication.

For all partnership results, the UN will work with the GoB, especially the Central Informatics Organisation, to strengthen the quality and availability of data for effective policy-making and programme implementation. Support can also be provided to effectively monitor the implementation of the PoA at policy and programme levels aligned with indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals.

6. Promote human rights and gender equality

Bahrain is a state party to all of the main UN human rights treaties. While the legislative and institutional framework for the observance of international human rights law is mostly in place, implementation requires greater consistency. UN partnership will help to develop and institutionalise new capacities to implement the recommendations of UN human rights mechanisms.

The Constitution guarantees equality between women and men without breaching the provisions of Islamic canon law (Shari'a) (Article 5). Bahrain is a signatory to CEDAW, with reservations on several articles insofar as they are seen as non-compliant with Shari'a law. With regard to gender equality and women's empowerment, Bahrain had a gender development index (GDI) value in 2016 of 0.970 indicating very low disparity between women and men for the measured indicators: long and healthy life, knowledge, and a decent standard of living[27]. Recent achievements include a new law on violence against family members (№ 17 for 2015) and a new family law (№ 19 for 2017) that unifies personal status laws and improves the legal status of women. The related gender inequality index (GII) score of

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[26] 2014 Population statistics, Bahrain Open Data Portal, http://www.data.gov.bh/
[27] UNDP, Gender Development Index and Gender Inequality Index, did. October 2016.

0.233 0. places Bahrain 47th out of 155 countries[28]. According to the 2016 Global Gender Gap Index, Bahrain was ranked only 131/144, due mainly to fewer opportunities for economic participation for women[29].

The UN will continue to work with Government and other partners[30] to promote gender equality across all areas of its work and to contribute to stronger GOB capacity for gender analysis and gender-responsive programming. To increase the numbers of women in the workforce, the UN system agencies can support the GoB to develop and implement inclusive labour market policies and codes for more female-friendly workplaces[31].

2.3 Resources

The budget[32] provides the GoB, the UN system agencies, and country and international partners with an overview of the estimated available resources to support implementation of planned partnership results. Budgets are indicative and may be subject to changes by the GoB, governing bodies of UN system. It is important to note that the indicated financial support provided by GoB and UN system agencies is already committed and does not constitute a new request. Annex B contains proposed, un-funded initiatives that may be considered in future by the GoB, UN system agencies, and other partners.

2.4 Risks and assumptions

Major risks and assumptions for the SPF are:

Risks
  » Depressed oil prices into 2017 and 2018 may further aggravate fiscal and debt pressures, leading to a reduction in social spending and increased social tensions[33].
  » Natural hazards and disaster risks and their possible aggravation due to climate change or the unsustainable use of natural resources[34].
  » Increased geo-political instability in the region.

Assumptions
  » Debt ceiling discussions in Parliament are successfully resolved,
  » National budget allocations for social and economic programmes in the PoA are adhered to, and
  » Financial support from the GCC to Bahrain will continue over the period of the SPF.

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[28] http://hdr.undp.org/en/composite/GII; UNDP, Human Development Indicators, January 2016. Lagging indicators are (1) political representation of women, and (2) a relatively low rate of economic participation.
[29] http://reports.weforum.org/global-gender-gap-report-2016/economies/#economy=BHR
[30] Including: Parliament, the private sector, accredited embassies and organisations, civil society organisations, media, universities, and independent institutions
[31] In 2012, the unemployment rate for women was 18% compared to 5% for men. Amongst young people (15-24 years) the unemployment rate for women was 32% compared to 25% for men World Bank, World Development Indicators, January 2015 [using modeled ILO estimate]. Bahraini women make, on average, 4% less than their male colleagues in the public sector and 33% less in the private sector. MDG National Assessment, CIO (Advanced draft) 2015, 5
[32] See Annex C, available separately
[33] World Bank, MENA Economic Monitor, Bahrain's Economic Outlook, Fall 2016; LSE-Kuwait Programme on Development, Governance and Globalisation in the Gulf States, The GCC States: Participation, opposition, and the fraying of the social contract, December 2012.
[34] UNISDR-ROAS, Overview of Disaster Risk Reduction in the Arab Region, 2013.

3. Management arrangements

In keeping with the principles and strategies, partnership is a key theme of this SPF. The management arrangements enable more effective coordination and implementation of UN support for the achievement of GoB strategic priorities, policies, and programmes in way that enhances joint work and reduces duplication.

The Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) is nationally executed under the overall co-ordination of a **Steering Committee.** The Steering Committee provides strategic guidance during implementation, including monitoring and progress reporting. It will serve an advisory function and endorse strategic decisions with regard to implementation of the SPF.

The Steering Committee will be co-chaired by a representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations. It will comprise representatives of: The Office of the First Deputy Prime Minister, The Ministry of Cabinet Affairs, and The Ministry of Finance, and heads of selected UN system agencies. Representatives of line Ministries and other implementing partners may be invited by the co-chairs to attend Steering Committee meetings on an ad-hoc basis.

The Steering Committee will meet annually during the last quarter of the year to:
>> Review overall progress in implementation of the SPF and gauge the extent to which outputs and major service line activities are contributing to targeted policies and programmes of GoB;
>> Consider major constraints and lessons from implementation, as well as future risks and good practices and innovations that can be taken to scale;
>> Review and approve adjustments to the expected outputs and service lines supported by UN system agencies;
>> Hold a comprehensive annual review meeting; and
>> Ensure that guidance and decisions are communicated effectively to all partners.

The work of the SPF Steering Committee will be supported by a joint secretariat of the Government of Bahrain and the UN Resident Coordinator's office. The joint secretariat will provide concise, timely inputs for the annual review meeting, including consolidated progress reports from GoB line ministries and UN system agencies, with indicators and data from the Partnership Matrix (see **Annex A).**

The SPF will be made operational through the development of agency-specific work plans and project documents as necessary which describe the specific results to be achieved and will form an agreement between the UN system agencies and each implementing partner as necessary on the use of resources.

The UN system agencies will provide support to the development and implementation of activities within the SPF, which may include technical support, cash assistance, supplies, commodities and equipment, procurement services, transport, funds for advocacy, research and studies, consultancies, programme development, monitoring and evaluation, training activities and staff support. Part of the UN system agencies' support may be provided to Non-Governmental and Civil Society organizations as agreed within the framework of the individual work plans and project documents.

Additional support may include access to UN organization-managed global information systems, the network of the UN system agencies' country offices and specialized information systems, including rosters of consultants and providers of development services, and access to the support provided by the network of UN Specialized Agencies, Funds and Programmes. The UN system agencies shall appoint staff and consultants for programme development, programme support, technical assistance, as well as monitoring and evaluation activities.

Subject to annual reviews and progress in the implementation of the programme, the UN system agencies' funds are distributed by calendar year and in accordance with the UNDAF. These budgets will be reviewed and further detailed in the work plans (WPs) and project documents. By mutual consent between the Government and the UN system agencies, funds not earmarked by donors to the UN system agencies for specific activities may be re-allocated to other programmatically equally worthwhile activities.

Where there are joint partnership results between the GoB and two or more UN system agencies, the partners may establish a results group and Joint Work Plan to ensure efficient planning, coordination and the timely delivery of support.

4. Monitoring and reporting

An effective monitoring, reporting, and evaluation system enables the SPF partners to compare actual progress against expected results. The primary responsibility for assessing progress in SPF implementation and the contribution of partnership results to PoA policy and programme priorities rests with the SPF Steering Committee and UNCT on the basis of routine monitoring and reporting by GoB line ministries and UN system agencies. As noted above in section 2.1 particular attention will be given to develop the capacity of GoB Ministries and the Information and e-Government Authority (iGA) to produce disaggregated data, aligned with the SDGs[35], and to strengthen the dissemination and use of data and statistics for evidence-based policy formulation and planning. The main steps involved in monitoring, reporting, and evaluation of this SPF are:

- » **Routine progress monitoring and reviews** by UN system agencies and their implementing partners about the achievement of planned partnership results (outputs and service line results) and any constraints for consideration of the Steering Committee.

- » **Annual reviews** that are focused on assessing the *contribution* of SPF results toward targeted PoA policies and programmes, which are equivalent to outcomes. Indicators are aligned, as far as possible, with SDG indicators.

- » Preparation of **one annual progress report**[36], on the basis of routine monitoring and reports by GoB line ministries and UN system agencies and the outcomes of the annual review. The progress report will describe actual outputs and service line results achieved against those in the SPF partnership matrix and progress toward targeted PoA policies and programmes, using specified indicators. The Steering Committee may highlight a smaller set of *sentinel* indicators at policy level, for which there are demonstrated contributions from UN system agencies.

The SPF does not have a stand-alone set of outcomes. It demonstrates the contribution of UN system agencies to higher level GoB policy and programme priorities that are *equivalent* to outcomes. As such an SPF evaluation is not appropriate. Where done, programme and project evaluations by UN system agencies will be used for reporting.

5. Communications

Successful steering and implementation of this SPF requires effective communications about the partnership results achieved. The United Nations Information Centre in Manama (UNIC-Manama)[37] will,

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[35] For example, by: Sex, income, education level, and disability status.
[36] The progress update will follow the UNDG Standard Operational Format and Guidelines for Reporting Progress on UNDAF.
[37] As confirmed to the RC by e-mail on 22 October 2017

in consultation with the RC Office, UN system participating agencies (and their communications focal points) and the government, prepare communication material on a **semi-annual basis on the progress updates** that tell compelling stories about the partnership framework and results achieved for the people of Bahrain based on inputs from different agencies. This will be in addition to routine progress reporting by UN system agencies and their partners.

6. Commitments by all parties

Joint leadership and ownership of this Strategic Partnership Framework by the GoB and the UN system agencies is essential to ensure the quality of the process and the full achievement of planned partnership results.
The commitments of UN system agencies with regard to principles, results and strategies, indicative resource requirements, and arrangements for management, monitoring, reporting, and evaluation are specified in sections 1 thru 5 (above).

The GoB commits to:

» Co-Chair the SPF Steering Committee and support the review and reporting process.

» Maintain and strengthen country development coordination structures, and promote the fullest possible links between these structures and those for management of the SPF.

» Support the UN system agencies' efforts to raise funds required to meet the needs of this SPF and will cooperate with the UN system agencies including:

- Encouraging potential donor Governments to make available to the UN system agencies the funds needed to implement unfunded components of the SPF;

- Endorsing the UN system agencies' efforts to raise funds for the SPF from the private sector both internationally and in Bahrain; and

- Permitting contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations in Bahrain to support this SPF which will be tax exempt for the Donor, to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law.

» Honour its commitments in accordance with the basic agreements with the UN system agencies.

Whereas the Government of Bahrain (hereinafter referred to as "the Government") has entered into the following:	
Agency	Agreement
ESCWA	Per UN system agency and/or regional mandate
FAO	Per UN system agency and/or regional mandate
IAEA	The Revised Supplementary Agreement Concerning the Provision of Technical Assistance by the IAEA to the Government of Bahrain, 30 January 2012 (with the relevant and applicable resolutions and decisions of the IAEA's policy-making organs)
ILO	Per UN system agency and/or regional mandate
UNDP	The "Standard Basic Agreement" signed between the Government of Bahrain and UNDP on August 3, 1978.
UN Environment	Host Country Agreement signed between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Kingdom of Bahrain on 14 February 2000.
UNESCO	Per UN system agency and/or regional mandate
UNFPA	"The Basic Agreement concluded between the Government and the United Nations Development Programme on August 3, 1978 (the "Basic Agreement") mutatis mutandis applies to the activities and

Whereas the Government of Bahrain (hereinafter referred to as "the Government") has entered into the following:	
Agency	**Agreement**
	personnel of UNFPA. This SPF together with any work plan concluded hereunder, which shall form part of this SPF and is incorporated herein by reference, constitutes the Project Document as referred to in the Basic Agreement."
UN Habitat	Host Country Agreement with Ministry of Municipalities, Urban Planning and Public Works for establishing Urban Capacity Center
UNHCR	Mutatis mutandis the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of Bahrain and UNDP applies
UNICEF	Per UN system agency and/or regional mandate
UNIDO	Per UN system agency and/or regional mandate
UNODC	Mutatis mutandis the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of Bahrain and UNDP applies
UN WOMEN	Exchange of letters stating that mutatis mutandis the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of Bahrain and UNDP applies
WHO	Per UN system agency and/or regional mandate
WMO	Per UN system agency and/or regional mandate

» Without prejudice to these agreements, apply the provisions of the Conventions on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations agencies to the Agencies' property, funds, and assets and to its officials and consultants. In addition, the GoB will accord to the Agencies and their officials and to other persons performing services on behalf of the Agencies, the privileges, immunities and facilities as set out in the cooperation and assistance agreements between the Agencies and the GoB.

» The GoB will be responsible for dealing with any claims, which may be brought by third parties against any of the UN system agencies and its officials, advisors and agents. None of the Agencies nor any of their respective officials, advisors or persons performing services on their behalf will be held responsible for any claims and liabilities resulting from operations under the SPF, except where it is mutually agreed by Government and the UN system agency that such claims and liabilities arise from gross negligence or misconduct of that Agency, or its officials, advisors or persons performing services.

See Annexes attached separately:

ANNEX A. Partnership matrix

ANNEX B. Proposed initiatives

ANNEX C. Indicative budget

Annex A. Partnership Matrix

This partnership matrix shows the contributions of UN system agencies to specific policy and programme priorities of the Government Program of Action[1] (PoA). The PoA provides six mid-term strategic priorities, each with a set of contributing policies and programmes, including a sub-set of 32 high priority target programmes in the GPF2.0[2]. These policies and programmes are *equivalent to outcomes*. Planned partnership results between the GoB and UN system agencies fall in 5 out of 6 strategic priorities, clustered around **12 policies** and related programmes, and including **9 GPF2.0 programmes**. The contributions of UN Agencies to these policies and programmes are shown in two ways:

  (1) As **outputs[3]** expected from UN Agency-supported country programmes and *projects for the full duration* of the SPF; and

  (2) As **service lines[4]** of contributing UN Agencies, related to specific technical support and advisory services requested by the GoB, *annually*.
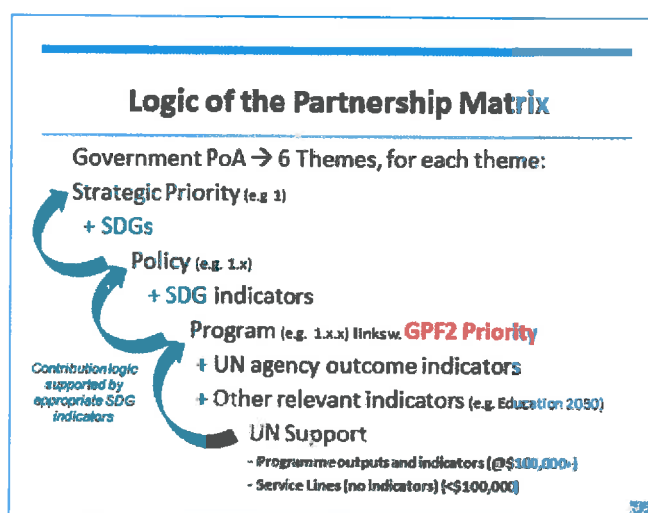
Partnership results that are aligned with the Government Priorities Framework 2.0 are so indicated.

For continuity, the period of this SPF extends to 2022. Partnership results and strategies will be *updated* to respond to the priorities of the next Government Program 2019-2022, and biennium budget for the period 2019-2020.

Performance indicators at both the policy and programme levels have been aligned, wherever possible, with the indicator framework for the SDGs. UN Agencies also support to the GoB to monitor these indicators. This helps to demonstrate a clear theory of change between the support provided by UN Agencies and the SDG-related priorities of the GoB.

For cross-referencing and data compilation, indicators maintain reference numbers to the SDG indicator list and from UN system agency programme or project documents.

The logic of the partnership matrix is presented in the diagram:

Logic of the Partnership Matrix

Government PoA → 6 Themes, for each theme:
Strategic Priority (e.g 1)
+ SDGs
Policy (e.g. 1.x)
+ SDG indicators
Program (e.g. 1.x.x) links w. **GPF2 Priority**
Contribution logic supported by appropriate SDG indicators
+ UN agency outcome indicators
+ Other relevant indicators (e.g. Education 2030)
UN Support
- Programme outputs and indicators (@$100,000+)
- Service Lines (no indicators) (<$100,000)

Contents

This matrix is organised according to the themes and strategic priorities of the Government Program (GP), 2015-2018.

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[1] Government of Bahrain, Government Program of Action, 2015-2018 – 'Towards Justice, Security, and Welfare of Community', Legislative Chapter IV, January 2015.

[2] The GPF 2.0 was prepared by the Office of the First Deputy Prime Minister. It contains 32 'high priority' target programmes from the 600 programmes in the GoB Program of Action, 2015-2018.

[3] An output is for the entire programme period. It is a development result that relates to the availability of new skills and abilities, products or services. The outputs of GoB-UN partnership can be measured and will make a direct, tangible contribution for the achievement of selected policies and programmes in the Government Program, 2015-2018.

[4] A service line is a category of technical assistance that is of shorter duration and responds to a specific request from the GoB. The partnership of UN Agencies in Bahrain may involve a mix of both programme outputs and service line activities.

Theme 1. Sovereignty

SPF Partnership Matrix [2018-2022]

Results	Partners, Timeframe, Indicators, Baselines, Targets	Means of Verification
	Government Strategic Priority 1. Promote security and stability, the democratic system and foreign relations	

To contribute to this strategic priority, UN system support will increase country capacity to prevent, prepare for, detect, and respond to radiation emergencies and other health security threats. It will develop new capabilities to address existing and emerging challenges related to drugs and crime, and it will strengthen criminal justice institutions and procedures. UN system support will also expand public administration capacity for policy making, performance management, and innovation leading to enhanced trade and diplomatic partnerships in the region and beyond. *Specific SDGs and targets* to which these initiatives will contribute are:

SDGs[5]: 1. End poverty in all its forms (1.5 Reduce vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other shocks and disasters)

3. Ensure healthy lives (3.d Strengthen the capacity for early warning, risk reduction and management of national, global health risks)

16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice (16.4 reduce illicit financial flows, combat all forms of organized crime)

17. Strengthen and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development (17.6 Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation; 17.16 Enhance global partnership for SD and access to knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources)

Policy 1.1	1.5.2 Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP)	
Preservation of security and realization of stability	13.1.2 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people	
	16.4.1 Total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows (in current United States dollars	
Programs	Continuous professional development programmes for law enforcement to address illicit trafficking and organized crime in accordance with international conventions, standards, norms and good practices	
1.1.1 Develop the country's defence and security capabilities (Prevent and combat organised crime and illegal trafficking of banned substances)	Level of implementation of drug control strategy, focused on both drug supply reduction and drug demand reduction	

UN Service Lines:	Partner(s)	Timeframe					Means of Verification
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
UNODC: Strengthen capabilities to address challenges related to drugs and crime, including emerging crimes, in accordance with international conventions, norms and standards	Ministry of Interior; Royal Academy of Police						MoI reports Media reports Project reports

Programs							
1.1.2 Enhance the readiness of government agencies to respond to hazards, emergencies and disasters	1.5.3 Existence of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies						
	3.d.1 National health systems comply with International Health Regulations (IHR) and health emergency preparedness standards						

UN Service Lines:	Partner(s)	Timeframe					Means of Verification
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
IAEA: Strengthen national capabilities for preparedness and response to radiation emergencies	Supreme Council for Environment (SCE)						SCE reports Media reports Project reports
WHO: Enhanced capacity and mechanisms for preparedness and response to health threats and risks and implementation of international health regulations	MOH, Supreme Council of Health						MoH, SCH reports Media reports Project reports

Policy 1.2
Strengthening the democratic system

Nº. Laws adopted/revised in accordance with international conventions, standards and norms

Programs
1.2.3 Develop the justice sector
GPF 2.0 Enhance Case Management

Performance monitoring system for judges and prosecution in place
Legal framework in place to ensure independence of Judiciary
16.3.2 Un-sentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population

UN Outputs[6]	Partners	Indicators	Means of Verification
UNDP 2.4. Capacity of relevant institutions that promote rule of law and accountability developed in line with international practices	Public Prosecutor's Office—Special Investigation Unit, Judiciary Training Institute, National Institution for Human Rights	2.4.1. Degree to which SIU adapts international norms and practices (on a scale of 1=to 5=excellent) Baseline: 2 (2017) Target: 4 2.4.2. E-library operational for legal professionals Baseline: No (2017) Target: Yes 2.4.3. No. of training initiatives for the judicial sector on international conventions and practices in implementation of international legal frameworks Baseline: 1 (2017) Target: 6 2.4.4. No. of training courses for the staff and partners of NIHR conducted to ensure foundational knowledge of human rights and outreach mechanisms in line with international standards	Partner reports Media reports Project reports

6 Please note that outputs are for the entire period of the SPF. For ease of reference, output numbering is based UN system agency programme documents.

	Partner(s)	Indicators	Means of Verification
UNDP 2.5. Key institutions have improved capacity to represent Bahraini citizens	**Parliament** **Bahrain Institute for Political Development (BIPD)**	**Baseline:** 0 (2017) **Target:** 8 **2.5.1. No. of standard operating procedures updated by the Parliament Secretariat** **Baseline:** 0 (2017) **Target:** 5 2.5.2. No. of capacity development and awareness sessions conducted with the Parliamentary Committees discussing international agreements **Baseline:** 0 (2017) **Target:** 10 2.5.3. No. of members of parliament receiving training on law-making, representation, oversight, and budget **Baseline:** 0 (2017) **Target:** 30	Parliament reports BIPD reports Project reports Media reports

UN Service Lines:	**Partner(s)**	Timeframe					**Means of Verification**
		2018	**2019**	**2020**	**2021**	**2022**	
UNODC: Support the national criminal justice reform initiative to improve responses to emerging issues in the fields of criminal justice, human rights, combating and preventing drugs and crime	**Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments; Judicial and Legal Studies Institute**						MoJ reports Media reports Project reports

17.16.1 Nº multi-stakeholder diplomatic, development, and trade initiatives in support of the SDGs in which Bahrain is a partner

17.6.1 Nº Science and/or Technology cooperation agreements and programmes between countries, by type of cooperation

Policy 1.3

Strengthening foreign relations

Programs

1.3.1 Strengthen cooperation with neighboring countries and regional and international organizations

1.3.2 Strengthen cooperation with the GCC

1.3.3 Strengthen cooperation with Arab states

1.3.4 Enhance cooperation with Islamic countries and the Organization of Islamic States

UN Outputs

UN Outputs	Partners	Indicators	Means of Verification
UNDP 2.1. Capacity of public administration developed on policy making, government performance, managing change, innovation and using international practice (*policy making and international partnerships*)	Bahrain Institute of Public Administration (BIPA)	2.1.2. No. of communication initiatives supported to position Bahrain's partnerships, diplomacy and negotiations Baseline: 1 (2016)　Target: 5 2.1.3. Nº regional, south-south and triangular cooperation partnerships that deliver measurable and sustainable benefits for participants Baseline: 1 (2016)　Target: 5	MOFA reports Media reports Project reports

Theme 2. Economy and finances

SPF Partnership Matrix [2018-2022]

Results	Partners, Timeframe, Indicators, Baselines, Targets	Means of Verification

Government Strategic Priority: 2. Establish a strong and diversified economy and a stable financial system and currency

To contribute to this strategic priority, UN system support will, building on the past successes of the EDIP programme, continue to grow the MSME sector with new sources of finance and expanded export development services. *Specific SDGs and targets* to which these initiatives will contribute are:

SDGs[7]: 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (8.1 Sustain economic growth; 8.5 Full and productive employment and decent work for all); **9.** Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (9.3 Access of MSMEs to financial services and integration into value chains and markets

Policy 2.1

| Achieve concrete and sustained rates of economic growth | 8.1.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per capita
8.5.2 Un-employment rate, disaggregated by major sector, sex, and age | |

Program 2.1.4

| Diversify national economy through improvement of economic activities in different sectors | Non hydrocarbon sectors share of GDP
SME exports as % of total merchandise exports | |

UN Outputs	Partners	Indicators	Means of Verification
UNDP 1.1. Capacity of key institutions developed to conduct research, coordinate and implement	Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI)	1.1.1. No. of competitiveness studies conducted Baseline: 0 (2017)　Target: 2	BCCI reports Project reports Media reports

[7] Sustainable Development Goals, Targets, and Indicators http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html, http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/

UN Outputs	Partners	Indicators	Means of Verification
policies that strengthen Bahrain's competitiveness, innovation, and harness the preferential market access benefits		1.1.2. Toolkit is available for Bahraini businesses to utilize the preferential market access Baseline: No (2017) Target: Yes 1.1.3. Integrated Plan for Hawar Islands developed Baseline: Not developed (2017) Target: Fully developed	
UNIDO: Continue to support entrepreneurs, enterprise development, and investment promotion The SME sector is growing and MSMEs have new sources of domestic finance and access to export development services	Bahrain Development Bank (BDB) Tamkeen Other partners (tbd)	1. No. formally registered MSMEs in Bahrain Baseline: 87,000 (est. 2016) Target: TBD 2. No. MSMEs using export support services Baseline: TBD (2017) Target: TBD	BDB reports Tamkeen reports

Theme 3. Human Development and Social Services

SPF Partnership Matrix [2018-2022]

Results	Partners, Timeframe, Indicators, Baselines, Targets	Means of Verification

Government Strategic Priority 3. Empower Bahrainis to raise their contribution to the development process

To contribute to this strategic priority, UN system support will strengthen education policy & planning and support the development of an effective, innovative TVET sector. It will improve services that address childhood obesity and enhance clinical nuclear medicine procedures. UN support will also support more effective housing policies that target the less privileged. Young people are critical for Bahrain's future growth and development. UN system support will provide means to help young people and their organisations become more engaged in national development, it will enhance country capacity to implement measures for gender equality and women's empowerment, and it will strengthen labour market policies and governance, including mechanisms for dispute resolution and occupational health and safety. *Specific SDGs and targets* to which these initiatives will contribute are: SDGs[4]: 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages (3.4 Reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being)

4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all (4.1 Ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary with effective learning outcomes; 4.4 Increase number of youth with technical, vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship)
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities; 8.6 Reduce proportion of youth not in employment, education or training)

SPF Partnership Matrix [2018-2022]

Results	Partners, Timeframe, Indicators, Baselines, Targets	Means of Verification

11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (11.1 Ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services)

Policy 3.1
Improvement of the quality and efficiency of educational services

4.1.1 % Young people (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex

4.4.1 % Young people and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill*

(*Disaggregated: female/male; income quintiles; disability status)

Programs

3.1.2 Improve the quality of teaching and school administration

GPF 2.0 Quality teaching and school management

3.1.7 Harmonize educational outcomes with labor market requirements

GPF 2.0 Vocational qualifications

ED2030[9] 37. Percentage of teachers qualified according to national standards by education level and type of institution

ED2030 43. Percentage of teachers who received in-service training in the last 12 months by type of training

ED2030 14. Participation rate in technical-vocational education programmes (15- to 24-year-olds)

4.3.1/ ED2030 15. Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months by sex and age group

UN Service Lines:

Partner(s)	Timeframe					Means of Verification
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
UNESCO: Strengthen national capacity for education policy & planning and to implement Education 2030 Framework for Action.[10] Ministry of Education						MoE reports Media reports
UNESCO: Provide technical policy advice for an effective TVET sector and strengthen capacity to design and implement innovative TVET policies Ministry of Education						Project reports

Policy 3.2
Improvement of health services

3.4.1 Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease

Programs

3.2.1 Develop and intensify preventive healthcare programmes

3.2.3 Provide high quality health services

N°. Hospitals/Clinics that meet intl' standards for Nuclear Medicine and Radionuclide Therapy

UN Service Lines:

Partner(s)	Timeframe					Means of Verification
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
IAEA: Improve Clinical Nuclear Medicine and Radionuclide Therapy Procedures Ministry of Health Supreme Council of Health						

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[9] ED2030: Indicators from Incheon Declaration and Framework for Action for the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 4, ED-2016/WS/28.

[10] UNESCO-supported initiatives are regional in scope. Indicative budgets are estimates only for country programming.

		Means of verification
IAEA: Strengthening National Radio-Analytical Capabilities		Ministry reports SCH reports Media reports Project reports
WHO: Support Supreme Council of Health to advocate for SDG health-related priorities and targets across sectors and harmonize existing strategies, targets and indicators	Ministry of Health Supreme Council of Health	
WHO: Assess and compile evidence and best practices for quality and safety improvement in trauma care	Ministry of Health Supreme Council of Health	
WHO: Health Systems Strengthening (HSS): Moving towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) with focus on service delivery and health care financing	Ministry of Health Supreme Council of Health	
WHO : Improving Health Information Systems (HIS), incl. Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS), mortality and morbidity indicators	Ministry of Health Supreme Council of Health Ministry of Interior CIO	Ministry reports SCH reports Media reports Project reports
WHO: Establish ICD-10 and Diagnosis-Related Groups (DRGs) for patient coding and payment systems	Ministry of Health Supreme Council of Health	
WHO: Strengthen prevention, diagnosis, treatment of non-communicable diseases (NCD) and Mental Health concerns	Ministry of Health Supreme Council of Health	
WHO: Improve regulations and cost-effectiveness of Medicines, Vaccines and Medical Devices	Ministry of Health Supreme Council of Health	
WHO: Develop a national strategic framework for action on health and environment, including climate change A&M and food safety	Ministry of Health Supreme Council of Health Ministry of Environment Ministry of Agriculture	
Policy 3.3 Providing housing services to citizens at the best possible quality and speed	11.1.1 % Urban population living in inadequate housing	
Programs[11] **3.3.1 Enhancing housing policies** 3.3.2 Reduce the waiting time by accelerating the pace of providing housing units	National Housing Policy approved with budget for implementation, monitoring 1.2.6. Waiting period for a housing service by eligible applicants Baseline: 10-15 years; Target: 5 years	

[11] Other possible indicators at programme level: (1) No. new mortgage and home financing products and services available to general public; (2) No. new fiscal, regulatory measures that promote private sector investment in social housing development; (3) % increase in stock of social and affordable housing

3.3.3 Strengthen the private sector's role in providing social housing projects

3.3.4 Facilitate citizens' access to sufficient funding for home ownership

UN Outputs	Partners	Indicators						Means of Verification
UNDP 1.2. Capacity of relevant ministries developed to identify, formulate and implement policies, and deliver efficient and innovative social services that target Bahrain's less privileged citizens	Ministry of Housing (MoH)	1.2.5. Housing policy updated and aligned with relevant international standards **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes						MoH reports Media reports Project reports

UN Service Lines:	Partner(s)	Indicators						Means of Verification
			Timeframe					
			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
UN Habitat: evidence-based National Housing Policy and Strategy with short, medium and long term plans of action formulated and debated with stakeholders	Ministry of Housing (MoH)							MoH reports Housing Policy Document
UN Habitat: institutional and human resource capacities developed for evidence-based Housing Policies and Strategies implementation, improved targeting and financial modelling	Ministry of Housing							MoH reports Project reports
UN Habitat: capacities strengthened to produce housing information for monitoring housing strategy implementation, market performance and better targeting	Ministry of Housing Central Information Agency							MoH reports Bahrain Housing Profile
UN Habitat: private sector and community led housing and land development guidelines, technology-based and energy/environmentally sustainable solutions, advocacy tools and simplified procedures for partnerships and delivery developed	Ministry of Housing Ministry of Municipalities, Urban Planning and Public Works							MoH reports

Policy 3.4

Providing support, care and effective social development

5.1.1 Legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex

5.2.1 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months

8.5.2 Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities

8.6.1 % Youth not in employment, education or training

Programs
3.4.2 Provide the necessary care for children and the young and develop their abilities and skills.

Existence of approved, budgeted National Youth Strategy and Action Plan

UN Outputs	Partners	Indicators	Means of Verification
UNDP 1.2. Capacity of relevant ministries developed to identify, formulate and implement policies, and deliver efficient and innovative social services that target Bahrain's less privileged citizens	*To be determined*	1.2.1. A secretariat to coordinate the social strategies (childhood, elderly, disability) is functional **Baseline:** Functional **Target:** Fully functional 1.2.2. % Targeted beneficiaries reached by MoLSD programmes and initiatives [12] **Baseline:** (Beneficiaries %, 2014): **Target:** Children (19%) 25% Elderly (10%) 30% People with disabilities (90%) 100% 1.2.3. A comprehensive study on social targeting options developed to inform social entitlements **Baseline:** Not developed **Target:** Partially developed 1.2.4. Youth strategy and action plan updated with reference to SDGs **Baseline:** Not updated **Target:** Partially updated	MoLSD reports Media reports Project reports
UNDP 2.2 Capacity of selected partners from youth organisations strengthened to support and advocate for national development	Ministry of Youth and Sport (MoYS)	2.2.1. № SDG awareness campaigns co-organized with youth partners. **Baseline:** 0 **Target:** 20 2.2.2. № SDG Youth conferences conducted with youth partners. **Baseline:** **Target:**	MoYS reports MoL reports Media reports Project reports

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[12] Disaggregated by sex.

UN Outputs

UN Outputs	Partners	Indicators		Means of Verification
Programs		0	2	
3.4.10 Provide suitable job opportunities for citizens and regulate the labour market	Alignment of national labour laws and rights with International Labour Organization (ILO) standards (SDG 8.8.2)			
GPF 2.0 Occupational Standards; Regulations for expatriates				

UN Service Lines:

UN Service Lines:	Partner(s)	Timeframe					Means of Verification
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
ILO: Review of labour market policies and governance modalities (including *Bahrainization* and labour market segmentation) to enhance policies and targeted capacity building	Ministry of Labour (MoL)						Ministry of Labour (MoL) reports
ILO: Labour study to assess strengths and weaknesses of existing dispute prevention and resolution mechanisms, along with targeted training	MoL						Project reports
ILO: Comprehensive assessment of labour inspection and occupational health and safety (OSH) modalities	MoL						

Note. The Output and service lines above will also contribute to GoB Programs: 3.1.7 Harmonise educational outcomes with labour market requirements; 3.4.6 Social and economic empowerment of individuals and families with low income

Theme 5. Environment and Urban Development

SPF Partnership Matrix [2018-2022]

Results	Partners, Timeframe, Indicators, Baselines, Targets	Means of Verification

Government Strategic Priority 5. Sustainable management of strategic resources and ensuring sustainable urban development

To contribute to this strategic priority, UN system support will help to integrate renewable energy and energy efficiency policies, including climate change considerations, into national strategies and policies. It will support consistent, high quality national reporting about climate change and promote a national strategy and action plan to protect biodiversity and pearling sites. UN system support will also strengthen policy, regulatory, and monitoring capacities to prevent air pollution and enhance the management of chemicals and hazardous waste, including efforts to reduce pesticide and mycotoxin residues in water and food. *Specific SDGs and targets* to which these initiatives will contribute are:

SDGs[13]: 2. Achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture (2.4 Sustainable food production systems and resilient agricultural practices.

6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water (6.1 Access to safe drinking water..)

SPF Partnership Matrix [2018-2022]

Results	Partners, Timeframe, Indicators, Baselines, Targets	Means of Verification
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (7.2 Increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix; 7.b Expand infrastructure and upgrade technology for supplying modern and sustainable energy services) **12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns (12.4 sound management of chemicals and wastes in accordance with international frameworks)** **13. Combat climate change and its impacts (13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning)** **15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems.. halt land degradation and biodiversity loss (15.3 Restore degraded land and soil)**		

| **Policy 5.1**
 Enforce efficient use of resources and energy | 7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption
 7.b.1 Investments in energy efficiency as a percentage of GDP | |
| **Programs**
 5.1.2 Find new sources of renewable energy to meet the growing demand in Bahrain | 1.2 Renewable energy as % of total installed capacity
 1.3. National energy efficiency (EE) targets are set and achieved. | |

UN Outputs	Partners	Indicators	Means of Verification
UNDP **1.4.** Ministries have the capacity to integrate and implement renewable energy and energy efficiency policies, environmental standards; climate change considerations and natural resource management into national strategies and policies	Ministry of Oil and Gas, National Oil and Gas Authority, Electricity and Water Authority, Supreme Council of the Environment (SCE) Sustainable Energy Unit (SEU)	1.4.1. National Energy Efficiency Action Plan developed **Baseline:** 1 (2016) **Target:** 4 1.4.2. National Renewable Energy Action Plan developed **Baseline:** 1 (2016) **Target:** 4 1.4.3. Nᵒ Energy Efficiency sectoral initiatives implemented **Baseline:** 0 (2016) **Target:** 6 1.4.4. Extent to which comprehensive measures to achieve low-emission and climate-resilient development objectives improved **Baseline:** Not improved (2015) **Target:** Partially improved	Partner reports EDB database and reports SEU annual reports

Programs
5.1.3 Achieve food security

GPF 2.0 Sustainable food supply

Existence of national standards, testing and treatment protocols for pesticides and mycotoxins in water and food

UN Service Lines:

UN Service Lines:	Partner(s)	Timeframe					Means of Verification
		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
IAEA: Determine pesticides and mycotoxins in water and food	Ministry of Health						MoH reports

Policy 5.2
Provide a safe and convenient environment for residents

- % Population using safely managed drinking water services (SDG 6.1.1)
- Hazardous waste generated and treated (SDG 12.4.2) - *Aggregate reduction in HCFC consumption (ODP tonnes)*
- Availability of funded, integrated policy/strategy/plan which increases the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and lower GhG emissions (SDG 13.2.1)
- % Land that is degraded over total land area (SDG 15.3.1)

Programs
5.2.2 Ensure environmental protection

- Extent of implementation of HCFC Phase-Out Management Plan (HPMP)
- 3rd National Communication (NC) and Biennial Update Report (BUR) for the UNFCCC (Climate Change) submitted on time
- Existence of an approved, budgeted National Strategy on Air Quality with concrete air pollution reductions measures and targets (SDG 13.2.1)
- National Integrated Waste Management Strategy approved and budgeted

UN Outputs	Partners	Indicators	Means of Verification
UN Environment Institutional capacity strengthened to prepare national reports for the UNFCCC, and stabilise nationally determined contributions (NDC) under the Paris Climate Agreement	SCE	Preparation of 3rd national communication report and updated report for the biennial agreement for the UNFCCC **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes Stabilisation of the NDC for the Paris Agreement **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes	SCE reports Project reports Media reports
UN Environment Strategy and action plan for biodiversity implemented and ecosystem-based management established for pearling Project (Alherat)	SCE Ministries Universities NGOs	Existence of funded road map and workplans for implementation **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes Existence of harmonized and standardised policies **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes A functional system in place for ecosystem-based management of the Alherat pearling project **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes	SCE reports Project reports

UN Outputs	Partners	Indicators	Means of Verification
UN Environment Policy, regulatory, enforcement, and monitoring capacities are strengthened to improve air quality and the management of chemicals and hazardous waste	SCE Ministries Universities NGOs	**Existence of a national air quality strategy** **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes **Existence of a national implementation plan (NIP) for Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP)** **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes **Existence of a national strategy for the management of electronic waste** **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes **Existence of action plans to ensure compliance with the Montreal Protocol to eliminate ozone depleting substances and use low-impact alternatives** **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes	SCE reports Project reports
UN Environment Prepare State of the Environment report with Indicators to measure environmental sustainability in the Kingdom linked with the SDGs and indicators, including strengthening data and indicator frameworks for monitoring and reporting on the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs	SCE CIO Universities NGOs	**Existence of a set of environmental indicators and updated data** **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes **Existence of SoE report for Kingdom of Bahrain** **Baseline:** No **Target:** Yes	SCE reports CIO Reports Project reports

Theme 6. Government Performance

SPF Partnership Matrix [2018-2022]		
Results	**Indicators, Baselines, Targets**	**Means of Verification**

Government Strategic Priority: 6. Enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of government performance

SPF Partnership Matrix [2018-2022]

Results	Indicators, Baselines, Targets	Means of Verification
To contribute to this strategic priority, UN system support will strengthen public administration capacities, especially policy and budget preparation and management and improve the evidence basis for national plans and policies, aligned with the SDGs. *Specific SDGs and targets* to which these initiatives will contribute are: SDGs[14]: **16.** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development; **16.6** Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels 16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels		
Policy 6.1 Improvement of public sector productivity and governance	16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, (by selected sector) 16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience of public services % Change in real GDP	
Program 6.1.3 **Supervise the public sector** GPF 2.0 National leadership development	2.3 Nº knowledge products and effective practices implemented by public sector and other institutions through MENAPAR	

Partners	Indicators	Means of Verification
UN Outputs **UNDP** 2.1. Capacity of public administration developed on policy making, government performance, managing change, innovation and using international practice *(public administration capacities and collaboration in the region)*	2.1.1. Nº of participants in relevant BIPA public sector training courses, annually Baseline: Target: 3000 (2016) 5000 (20% female) 2.1.4. MENAPAR legally registered, and its by-laws and operational guidelines formulated Baseline: Target: no (2016) yes	BIPA reports MENAPAR reports
Bahrain Institute of Public Administration (BIPA)		

Policy 6.5 Development of government performance evaluation and follow-up mechanisms	16.7.2 Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive (by sex, age, disability and population group)	
Program 6.5.1 Promote the evaluation culture using performance indicators	2.1. GoB national statistics information adapted to encompass SDGs 2.2 % SDG indicators monitored by national information systems	
Program 6.5.2 Monitor government performance		

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[14] Sustainable Development Goals, Targets, and Indicators http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html, http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/

UN Outputs	Partners	Indicators	Means of Verification
UNDP **2.3 Selected ministries and stakeholders have the capacity to develop evidence-based plans and policies, which integrate the SDGs and national statistics, and align them to the Government Programme of Action (*evidence-based plans and policies, aligned with SDGs*)**	*To be determined*	**2.3.1. Extent to which the Government Programme of Action 2019 – 2022 is SDG-aligned.** Baseline: Not aligned (2016) Target: Fully aligned **2.3.2. Nº national policies that incorporate relevant SDG targets, indicators** Baseline: Target: 1 policy (2016) 5 policies **2.3.4. Extent to which updated and disaggregated data is used to monitor progress on national development goals aligned with SDGs** Baseline: Target: None (2016) Partial	Assessment of mainstreaming SDGs into the GPA (2016) Government reports UNDP Reg. Hub assessment. Government reports

Annex B. Proposed partnership initiatives

This Annex describes *proposed, un-funded* initiatives, for further discussion with the Government and other stakeholders.

UN system agency	Partner	Focus	Alignment with GoB Programme of Action	SDG	Duration
FAO	Ministry of Agriculture	Fisheries and aquaculture. Contribute to food security and maximize benefits from limited freshwater resources. Support would entail: 1 Review and updating of the national aquaculture strategy for the period 2015 - 2025. 2 Capacity development in aquaculture fish pathology and aquatic animal health and disease management. 3 Capacity development in marine finfish farming. 4 Review of current fisheries stock assessment and management practices and preparation of a strategy for strengthening these, including through capacity development.	2.1.4; 5.1.3	2; 14.7	2018-2022
IAEA	Ministry of Health	Childhood obesity control: Assess energy expenditure and energy requirements of adolescents using the doubly labelled water (DLW) technique	Ministry of Health	2; 2.2	2018-2019
ILO	Ministry of Labour and Social Development	Strengthen unemployment insurance schemes; Promote and support stronger corporate social responsibility practices	3.4.6; 3.4.10	8	2018-2022
OHCHR	SIU, Ombudsman, PDRC	Strengthen capacities of commissioners and staff members for human rights (HR) monitoring and reporting	1.2.1; 1.2.2; 1.2.3	10; 16	2018-2022
		Support civil society actors to take an active and constructive role with regard to the newly established HR institutions/ bodies and the inter-ministerial human rights committee.			
		Strengthen national human rights institutions and protective mechanisms (SIU, Ombudsman, PDRC) particularly in detention and interrogation centers.			
		Strengthen engagement between GoB and international HR mechanisms			
UNESCO	Ministry of Education	Strengthen national capacities for the implementation of SDG 4 – ED 2030 Framework for Action in Bahrain through capacity needs assessment and capacity development for educational planning, monitoring and evaluation of SDG 4 in Bahrain	3.4	4	2018-2022

UN system agency	Partner	Focus	Alignment with GoB Programme of Action	SDG	Duration
UNESCO	Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities, Isa Cultural Centre	Develop a National Memory of the World Committee to reinforce coordination of cultural institutions and strengthen preservation of documentary of heritage at national level		11	2018-2022
UNFPA	Central Informatics Organization (CIO)	CD, collection, analysis, use of data about young people. Provide technical support to the GoB in order to develop its statistical capacities in areas of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) and data collection and analysis to identify performance indicators and maintain gender-segregated data to inform the decision makers in the health service and other relevant departments.	3.2.3	17.18, 17.18.1	2018-2022
	Isa Cultural Center (ICC)	Enhance Bahraini youth role in the SDGs nationalization process.	3.4.2	4.4 4.3.1	2018-2022
	Supreme Council for Women	Research, best practices, indicator selection, and identification of data gaps for database of indicators for women. Support effective coordination and implementation of National Plan for the Advancement of Bahraini Women (2013-2022).	1.2.1 3.4.8 3.4.8.1	5.5 5.a 5.c	2018-2022
	Ministry of Cabinet Affairs, CIO	Develop indicator framework for the *policy* and *initiative* levels of Gov Plan with links to SDGs; Assess and address data gaps	6.5.1 6.5.2	17.18	2018-2022
	Ministry of Health	Strengthen pace, quality of national health care reform and improve prevention and treatment of non-communicable diseases.	3.2.1 3.2.2	3.8	2018-2022
	The Active Leaders for Women Advancement in the Near East (ALWANE)	Assist in developing the skills of young men and women in Bahrain through Y-Peer Network.	3.4.8, 3.1	4.3.1 5.5	2018-2022
UNICEF	Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Ministry of Health and other line ministries	Strengthen national capacity to address early childhood development (ECD) through a multi-sector approach that includes interventions across the health, nutrition, protection and education spectrum.	3.1.2.5, 3.4.2.1, 3.4.2.11	4.2	2018-2022
	Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour and Social Development, Ministry of Health and other line ministries	Strengthen national capacity to support children living with disabilities through a multi-sector approach that considers services and support provided at the national, community and family level.	3.4.1.5, 3.4.2.1, 3.4.3	10.2	2018-2022
UNODC	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Public Prosecutor's Office	Technical cooperation in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice reform	1.1.1, 1.2.1.5, 1.2.3, 6.4.1.2, 6.4.1.3, 6.5.1, 6.5.2	16.3	2018-2022

UN system agency	Partner	Focus	Alignment with GoB Programme of Action	SDG	Duration
	Ministry of Interior, National Committee for Combating Drugs, all other key drug control stakeholders	Bolster national capacities and institutions for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of a comprehensive and evidence-based national drug control strategy that is balanced in focus between both drug supply reduction and drug demand reduction	1.1.1, 1.2.3, 3.2.1.1, 3.2.1.2, 3.2.2.1, 3.2.5.2, 3.4.9.6, 6.4.1.2, 6.4.1.3, 6.5.1, 6.5.2	16.3 16.4 3.5	2018-2022
	Ministry of Interior	Support the Government of Bahrain in strengthening its capacity to fight against terrorism through effective criminal justice responses as well as in the development and implementation of a functioning legal regime against terrorism in accordance with relevant international legal instruments and Security Council resolutions and in compliance with rule of law and human rights	1.1.1, 1.2.3	16.a 16.3	2018-2022
	Royal Academy of Police	Support the development and implementation of advanced capacity development curricula for law enforcement officers on combating and preventing drugs and crime including emerging crimes, in compliance with international conventions, standards, norms and human rights	1.1.1, 1.2.3	16.a 16.3 16.4	2018-2022
	Ministry of Interior	Support forensic services and capacity in Bahrain in accordance with the highest standards of practice in order to further promote reliance of the criminal justice system on quality forensic evidence and practices in keeping with international standards	1.1.1, 1.2.3	16.3 16.4	2018-2022
	Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, Public Prosecution's Office	Support law enforcement and criminal justice capacities to combat cybercrime and strengthen coordination amongst key stakeholders in developing and implementing a national strategy against cybercrime	1.1.1, 1.2.3, 6.2.3.3	16.3 16.4	2018-2022
	Ministry of Justice, Public Prosecution's Office	Assist Bahrain in improving and strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice response to violence against women in accordance with the relevant international standards, norms, human rights and good practices	1.2.3, 3.4.1.3, 3.4.8.3	5.2 16.1 16.3	2018-2022
	Public Prosecution's Office	Strengthen criminal justice responses to fight corruption in accordance with the UN Convention Against Corruption and international good practices	1.2.3, 6.3.2.2	16.5 16.3	2018-2022
	National Committee for Combating Human Trafficking (under the Labour Market Regulatory Authority)	Support the National Committee in strengthening capabilities and responses to prevent and combat trafficking in persons	1.1.1, .1.2.3	5.2 8.7 16.2 16.3	2018-2022

UN system agency	Partner	Focus	Alignment with GoB Programme of Action	SDG	Duration
UNODC	Ministry of Interior, Customs	Support the capacity of customs and other relevant law enforcement agencies in combating transnational organized crime by addressing illicit trafficking through containerized cargo	1.1.1, 2.1.2.3	16.4	2018-2022
UNODC, UNICEF	Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Public Prosecution's Office	Global Programme on Violence Against Children. Promote and assist in the effective implementation of the approved 'United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice'. This initiative supports children in contact with the justice system to be better protected by practical measures aimed at preventing and responding to violence against children	1.2.3, 3.4.1.3, 3.4.2	16.2	2018-2022
UN Women	Supreme Council for Women's Affairs (SCW)	Programme and technical support for GoB programme 3.4.8: Empower Bahraini women and raise their contribution to the development process. Proposed result: *GoB has increased capacity to implement SDG 5, and to meet regional and international commitments.* Major proposed initiatives include: A draft policy for gender responsive budgeting (GRB); a national strategy for implementation of CEDAW recommendations; Advocacy and awareness campaigns for SDG5; Inclusion of indicators to measure prevalence of VAW in CIO routine surveys; and Establishment of a global award for women's empowerment.	3.4.8	5	2018-2022

ANNEX C. Indicative Budget

Resource requirements

This indicative budget for the Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) provides the GoB, the UN system agencies, and country and international partners with an overview of the *estimated* available resources to support implementation of planned results. Sources of funding from UN system agencies include regular or core resources and other or non-core resources that UN system agencies are able to mobilize on the strength of the planned partnership results. Budgets are indicative and may be subject to changes by the GoB, governing bodies of UN system agencies and by internal management decisions. Resources are exclusive of funding received in response to emergency appeals.

Implementation of the SPF will require an estimated total of USD $16.301 million. This includes USD $11.679 million from the Government of Bahrain and USD $4.622 million from UN resources.

It is important to note that the indicated financial support provided by GoB and UN system agencies is **already committed** and does not constitute a new request. Annex B contains *proposed, un-funded* initiatives that may be considered in future by the GoB, UN system agencies, and other partners.

Table: Resource Requirements[1]

Strategic Priorities and Policies		Indicative Budget (USD, '000)			
		GoB Resources[2]	UN Regular Resources	UN Other Resources	Total
1. Sovereignty/ Justice and rights					
Policy 1.1	IAEA			90	90
	UNODC	*		532	532
	WHO			224	224
Policy 1.2	UNODC	*		786	786
	UNDP	1,720			1,720
Policy 1.3	UNDP	200			200
2. Economy and Finance					
Policy 2.1	UNDP	1,400			1,400
	UNIDO				
3. Human Development and Social Services					
Policy 3.1	UNESCO			78	78
Policy 3.2	IAEA			270	270
	WHO			290	290
Policy 3.3	UNDP	1,200			1,200
	UN Habitat			30	30
Policy 3.4	ILO			280	280
	UNDP	2,316			2,316
5. Environment and Urban Development					
Policy 5.1	UNDP	4,200			4,200
	IAEA			90	90
Policy 5.2	UN Environment	100		1,952	2,052
6. Government Performance					
Policy 6.1	UNDP	433			433
Policy 6.5	UNDP	110			110
	TOTAL	**$ 11,679**		**$ 4,622**	**$ 16,301**

* Cooperation with the GoB is based on memoranda of understanding that involve cost-sharing as implementation proceeds.

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[1] These figures are indicative only. They are estimates as of October 2017 and will depend on the availability of GoB resources, regular and other resources from UN system agencies and contributions from donors.

[2] GoB resources are **already committed** as per approved programme documents with UN system agencies. A portion of these will be used for joint programming with other UN system agencies. GoB resources are from: Parliament; Ministry of Finance and line ministries; the Judiciary; Semi-independent institutions such as the Supreme Councils of Health (SCH), Environment (SCE), and for Women (SCW); and other institutions and bodies. Figures do not include *kind* contributions.

Resource mobilisation

The GoB and UN system agencies will jointly develop a resource mobilization strategy to address any funding gaps that emerge during implementation *and* for potential future cooperation initiatives that are agreed between the GoB and UN system agencies (see **Annex B**). The strategy will include both joint and individual UN Agency fundraising initiatives along with responsibilities and mechanisms for fundraising. This will include a private sector engagement strategy to raise financial and in-kind contributions.

Types of support

UN system agencies provide support to the development and implementation of activities within the Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF). This may include technical support, cash assistance, supplies, commodities and equipment, procurement services, transport, funds for advocacy, research and studies, consultancies, programme development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, training activities, and staff support. Part of the UN system agencies' support may be provided to civil society organisations as agreed within the framework of UN system agency work plans.

Additional support may include access to UN Agency-managed global information systems, the network of the UN system agencies' country offices and specialized information systems, including rosters of consultants and providers of development services, and access to the support provided by the network of UN Specialised Agencies, Funds and Programmes. The UN system agencies shall appoint staff and consultants for programme development, programme support, technical assistance, as well as monitoring and evaluation activities.

Subject to annual reviews and progress in implementation, the funds of UN system agencies are distributed by calendar year[3]. These budgets will be reviewed and further detailed in UN system agency work plans. By mutual consent between the Government and the UN system agencies, funds not earmarked by donors to the UN system agencies for specific activities may be re-allocated to other programmatically equally worthwhile activities.

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[3] For cash assistance to implementing partners, some UN system agencies may apply the **Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT)**. These are: UNDP, UNICEF, and UNFPA. Cash transfers, where appropriate, are based on the Work Plans agreed between the Implementing Partner and the UN Agency. For HACT procedures please refer to relevant UN Agency agreement.