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**Country programmes and related matters**

**Country programme document for Nepal (2023–2027)**

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## I. UNDP within the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

1. Multidimensional poverty in Nepal has decreased substantially, from 30.1 per cent in 2014 to 17.4 per cent in 2019.<sup>1</sup> Nepal falls in the medium human development category with a Human Development Index of 0.602 in 2021-2022,<sup>2</sup> exceeding the average for least developed countries (LDCs). Yet, approximately 5 million Nepalis remain multidimensionally poor with widespread inequality.<sup>3</sup> Certain population groups and people in remote geographical areas remain below the poverty line and experience exclusion based on class, region, gender, caste and community.<sup>4</sup> Nepal ranks 143 of 191 countries<sup>5</sup> on the Gender Development Index with a value of 0.942.

2. The economy and people's livelihoods rely largely on natural resources, ecosystem services and agriculture. There is potential for enhanced economic performance through improved productivity and skills, decreased reliance on foreign remittances, enlarging the tax base and shifting from consumption to a production-based economy. The 2015 earthquake and the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic significantly disrupted progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and highlighted social and economic vulnerabilities. Some 70 per cent of the economically active population is involved in the informal economy. Youth unemployment stands at 9.5 per cent and women earn, on average, 68 per cent of what men earn,<sup>6</sup> highlighting disparities in the labour market. Employers report that skills gaps among returning migrants limit their employability.

3. Nepal is extremely vulnerable to climate change and natural hazards including earthquakes, storms, landslides, floods (including from glacier lake outbursts), forest fires and droughts, with nearly 80 per cent of the population directly exposed to these risks. Threats to livelihoods and environmental security loom large, especially for poor and marginalized groups and key sectors and infrastructure, such as hydropower and agriculture.<sup>7</sup> Nepal struggles to harness its significant natural and cultural resources for economic growth and diversification.

4. The 2015 Constitution established a three-tiered governance structure, comprising local, provincial and federal governments, based on the principles of coordination, cooperation, coexistence and inclusion. Local governments are largely responsible for delivering basic services, aiming at more inclusive and accountable governance practices. However, provincial and local governments struggle to perform their duties – in terms of accountability, transparency, inclusion and service delivery – to their full potential. One reason is the delay in implementation of administrative federalism, with key bills yet to be passed and enacted.<sup>8</sup>

5. The proposed country programme 2023–2027 aims to address these challenges in support of the milestones outlined in the Government's Fifteenth Plan (Fiscal Year 2019/20 – 2023/24). Wide-ranging national, provincial and local-level consultations informing this programme have acknowledged the need for UNDP to bring a mix of policy and programme interventions to support federalism, build capacity for resilience to climate change and disasters and, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, promote green pathways to equitable economic growth that

<sup>1</sup> Government of Nepal (2021), [Multidimensional Poverty Index: Analysis Towards Action, 2021](#).

<sup>2</sup> UNDP. 2022. [Human Development Report 2021-22: Uncertain Times, Unsettled Lives: Shaping our Future in a Transforming World](#). New York.

<sup>3</sup> Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative, UNDP (2022), [Global Multidimensional Poverty Index: Unpacking deprivation bundles to reduce multidimensional poverty](#).

<sup>4</sup> Government of Nepal, Ministry of Finance, Budget Speech of Fiscal Year 2022/23.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> World Economic Forum, 2021, [Global Gender Gap Report 2021](#), Geneva.

<sup>7</sup> UNDP. 2020. National Human Development Report 2020: Nepal: Beyond Graduation: Productive Transformation and Prosperity. New York.

<sup>8</sup> Andrew Young School of Public Policy at the Georgia State University and the Nepal Administrative Staff College. 2019. Nepal: Capacity Needs Assessment for the Transition to Federalism. 10 July 2019.

include those who are left furthest behind, all in close collaboration with the United Nations country team (UNCT).

6. The 2021 evaluation of the previous country programme (2018-2022) concluded that the contribution of UNDP is highly relevant to the development of Nepal, bringing impartial values to the development discourse; addressing the root causes of challenges and inequalities through its core values (rule of law, diversity, equality, peace and harmony) and expertise in leaving no one behind; supporting the Sustainable Development Goal localization process; and implementation of federalism, gender equality and social inclusion and human rights-based development approaches. The proposed programme builds on the evaluation's recommendations, in particular: (a) intensifying engagement with the federal, provincial and local governments in support of effective and inclusive implementation of federalism; (b) ensuring that localization of the Goals and gender equality and social inclusion remain at the core of its interventions; and (c) continuing long-standing support to foster inclusive economic growth and resilience, balancing immediate response and medium- to long-term development impacts.

7. The UNDP programme will contribute directly to three of the four outcomes of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2027: sustainable and inclusive economic transformation; governance, federalism, participation and inclusion; and environmental sustainability, climate and disaster resilience. Guided by its Strategic Plan, UNDP contributes to the UNSDCF governance architecture and focuses on improving the policy environment, institutional frameworks and governance capacities across the outcomes.

8. Building on its engagement in post-COVID recovery, the technical lead role of UNDP to support the planned contributions of the United Nations system to the country's LDC graduation process has been fully recognized. UNDP will expand current programming engagements with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on joint advocacy and institutional support; co-lead the UNCT working group on leaving no one behind; and lead the inter-agency collaboration around the governance and/or environment outcome. UNDP will work closely with the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), UNICEF, United Nations Volunteers programme, UN-Women, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to support the Government's implementation of federalism. UNDP will collaborate with the International Labour Organization, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UN-Women to enhance skills, decent jobs and disability rights, and to strengthen the country's social security systems; and with UNICEF, the World Health Organization and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to strengthen health systems, including improved health waste management.

9. UNDP will liaise with UNCDF and UN-Women to raise additional financing for the Sustainable Development Goals, and with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UNICEF, UN-Women, the World Food Programme (WFP) and others, to enhance resilient infrastructure development, climate-change adaptation and risk-sensitive land-use planning. UNDP will closely work with the UNCT, especially on localization and integration of the Goals and sustainable graduation from LDC status. Reinforcing its position as a trusted development partner and provider of integrated solutions, UNDP deploys its six signature solutions and three enablers of innovation, digitalization and development financing towards achievement of the UNSDCF outcomes.

10. Among the key comparative advantages of UNDP in Nepal are its ability to offer integrated policy advice to inform public choices towards achievement of the Goals; a well-recognized role supporting the implementation of the Constitution, exemplified by multiple engagements in the federalization and inclusion arenas; and its physical presence in provinces, adding valuable dimensions to local development through tailored solutions grounded in people's needs. A portfolio approach to programme design and implementation ensures synergies across development outcomes and helps to tackle both immediate needs and systemic structural

barriers. This is illustrated, for example, by the UNDP approach to disaster risk response and recovery capacities of federal, provincial and local governments.

11. The country programme's theory of change is based on the premise that if prosperity is shared among all people, and if the most vulnerable and marginalized are empowered to exercise their rights and participate meaningfully in all spheres of life, then all people in Nepal could achieve a better quality of life. Enhanced inclusion, resilience, peace and security are important preconditions to empower all people to contribute to the country's social and economic transformation and accelerate achievement of the Goals. The theory of change underlines the critical role of inclusive and green growth as a driver for reducing poverty, unemployment and vulnerability and building resilience. Strong systems and institutions that promote inclusive and gender-responsive (e-)governance are critical for the realization of human rights, access to justice, political participation, enhanced accountability and service delivery, especially for marginalized and vulnerable people. The theory further posits that long-term benefits of economic and social gains can be realized only through sustainable consumption and production models. Whole-of-society participation and public policies and actions focusing on promoting green financing, the prevention and reduction of disaster-related risks and enabling adaptive capacities to reduce long-term vulnerability of the population and protect development investments are key elements of a sustainable development pathway, contributing to a prosperous and equitable life for all. Key assumptions are political stability and resource availability.

## **II. Programme priorities and partnerships**

12. Aligned with the UNSDCF, the country programme seeks to: (a) promote inclusive and resilient economic growth founded on decent jobs, an integrated social security and protection system and sound policies that enhance productivity and investments and reduce multidimensional poverty; (b) improve the coherence and quality of governance across the three tiers of government to ensure constitutional rights, access to justice and empower people, especially women and marginalized communities, to exercise agency over their lives; and (c) advance resilient and sustainable systems for use of natural resources through public policies, strong institutions and active community participation.

13. Across the outcomes, special attention will be paid to: (a) supporting national reforms and upholding the values of justice, human rights, equity and transparency; (b) promoting gender equality and social inclusion by supporting the strengthening and implementation of legislative and institutional frameworks related to international commitments; and (c) ensuring that the rights to economic and social security and potential of all marginalized groups are realized.

14. UNDP will target the poorest of the poor and geographically remote areas with higher incidences of multidimensional poverty. Gender equality and social inclusion and a human rights-based approach will be integrated in project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, following targeted interventions in line with the principle of leaving no one behind. Empowerment of women and excluded and marginalized groups and addressing the multiple and intersecting forms of inequalities will form an integral part of programme implementation.

15. Informed by results and lessons from past programmes and the evaluation of the previous programme, UNDP will continue to support the Government with capacities for anticipatory, adaptive and agile responses to complex and emerging challenges by: (a) evidence gathering and analysis to address multidimensional poverty, keeping nature and the environment at the heart of social and economic development; (b) promoting inclusive, human-centric digitalization and localized innovations; (c) reframing policy choices and enabling shifts to address systemic gaps; (d) testing and scaling-up of successful implementation models; and (e) developing platforms to improve fiscal planning and resource mobilization.

16. UNDP will assist national institutions to access knowledge and resources through South-South and triangular cooperation, including related to LDC graduation (with Bangladesh and the Lao People's Democratic Republic), implementation of federalism and the guiding

principles on business and human rights. UNDP will leverage its Global Policy Network, network of country offices, communities of practice and Accelerator Labs to connect Nepal with global knowledge, expertise and good practice.

### **Outcome 1. Sustainable and inclusive economic transformation**

17. Linking with the other two outcomes, UNDP will support national institutions to promote inclusive and green growth to reduce poverty, unemployment, informality and vulnerability, and build resilience. This will include policy advisory and technical support for the inclusive design and implementation of a (gender-responsive) integrated national financial framework, a sustainable LDC graduation strategy and related tools.

18. UNDP will support the consolidation of reforms, strengthen capacities, address the skills mismatch and support development of an enabling environment for job creation and volunteering opportunities, focusing on women, youth and marginalized groups, including in the informal sector. To increase employment, UNDP will support interventions that enhance access to agricultural value chains and promote nature-based tourism that sustains livelihoods and the environment. UNDP will continue to promote competitiveness and productivity of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises focusing on women and youth, partnering with labour-market stakeholders to boost employment and entrepreneurship, including through enhanced access to digital infrastructure and support to digital connectivity and transformation.

19. With IOM, UNDP will contribute to the safe migration and skills development of returnee migrants, often from economically disadvantaged communities, and support them in establishing their own enterprises, generating income and employment. Building on social protection schemes piloted as part of the socioeconomic recovery from the pandemic, with UN-Women, UNDP will explore the expansion of unconditional cash transfers through temporary basic income to benefit women from marginalized communities.

20. The capacities of federal, provincial and local governments will be strengthened to create green jobs and entrepreneurship opportunities for urban poor and vulnerable populations, focusing on sustainable environmental management and promotion of a circular economy.

21. UNDP will continue to provide technical leadership to implement the United Nations socioeconomic framework for recovery from the pandemic as needed, building community resilience.

### **Outcome 2. Governance, federalism, participation and inclusion**

22. UNDP interventions under this outcome are anchored around strengthening of (e-) government institutions towards ensuring gender-responsive and inclusive governance; support to legal, policy and institutional reforms concerning human rights, civic awareness and participation; and capacity development for (evidence-based) policymaking and monitoring, rule of law and access to justice, inclusive service delivery transparency and accountability.

23. The effective implementation of federalism is a national priority. While blueprints exist for the provincial and local government public sector reform, implementation remains a challenge due to limited capacities, systems and procedures. The implementation of federalism therefore requires continuous policy dialogues, learning exchange across stakeholders and building capacities at the federal, provincial and local government levels.

24. UNDP will strengthen coordination among federal ministries and provincial and local governments by providing support to establish and strengthen effective intergovernmental coordination mechanisms. It will leverage the achievements of the Government's Provincial and Local Governance Support Programme to strengthen the systems and procedures of provincial and local governments. In line with the recommendations of the country programme evaluation, UNDP will intensify its support to these levels of government through policy formulation and capacity development, documenting and exchanging learning and scaling-up of good practices, including through South-South cooperation with relevant countries and internalizing the findings and recommendations of midterm reviews and evaluations.

25. Special attention will be given to targeting of beneficiaries at the lowest administrative tier (ward level), sustainability of service benefits and increased capacity to implement planned investments to address the current underexpenditure, while strengthening the functionality and impact of existing performance assessment systems, including the Local Government Institutional Self-Assessment.

26. UNDP will continue to combat discriminatory social norms and gender stereotypes. It will support coordinated referral mechanisms and integrated services such as legal and specialized support for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence, largely women and girls. It will engage gender and diversity champions and support increased civic engagement and platforms for dialogue between people and government, civil society (including organizations of persons with disabilities, gender and sexual minorities and youth/volunteers, with UN-Women and UNFPA), academia, public/private entities, national human rights institutions and the media.

27. UNDP will strengthen data management at provincial and local levels for sectoral and cross-sectoral analyses and will promote a culture of accountability and performance. It will help strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems and reporting capacities of government agencies for evidence-based policy development and localization of the Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on gender equality and social inclusion.

28. UNDP will drive the vision of the UNSDCF around participatory and effective governance by building institutional and individual capacities of elected representatives and appointed officials, particularly representatives of disadvantaged groups, to perform their constitutional mandates and duties. This will involve continued strengthening of electoral processes and the functioning of assemblies in federal and provincial parliaments, building on lessons from the ongoing Parliament Support Project. UNDP will work to link parliaments with the public through oversight and post-legislative scrutiny, and advocate for increased transparency, participation, accountability, inclusion and integrity. Institutional support is envisaged for constitutional bodies appointed to provide oversight for work on inclusion and human rights.

29. Innovation and inclusive digitalization will be pursued to establish more robust, modernized and efficient service delivery based on e-governance approaches, contributing to enhanced accountability, transparency, better coordination and integration and further reach to remote areas and people left behind.

### **Outcome 3. Environmental sustainability, climate and disaster resilience**

30. UNDP support under this outcome is aligned with the Government's nationally determined contributions, the long-term strategy for net-zero emissions, the National Adaptation Plan 2021-2050, National Policy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Strategic Action Plan and other related strategies. UNDP will continue to support the Government's climate-change adaptation and mitigation efforts, including through implementation of the aforementioned frameworks and plans, in collaboration with UNEP. The proposed work is anchored around a strengthened risk and disaster management system, considering the national ambition to promote green, resilient and inclusive development.

31. UNDP will assist the Government to drive policies and actions focusing on green financing, prevention and reduction of disaster-related risks, increasing resilience of infrastructure, ecosystems and society and enabling adaptive capacities to reduce long-term vulnerability of the population and protecting development investments. Specific support will be provided for local-level risk assessments and the use of data and knowledge to inform prevention and mitigation measures. Key priorities include raising the national ambition to combat climate change and biodiversity loss; increasing resilience to natural and human-induced risk and reducing related health impacts for vulnerable people; and developing gender-responsive disaster strategies. UNDP and WFP will explore scaling-up of an ongoing partnership to enhance resilience of local infrastructure development.

32. National institutions will be supported to strengthen environmental safeguards for (air) pollution control, waste management, urban greenery, community-based environmental

protection and regeneration programmes, and specific actions towards conserving biodiversity hotspots and vulnerable ecosystems, including in higher mountains. Building linkages with the other two outcomes, local-level efforts to enhance resilience, mainstream gender equality and social inclusion, enhance risk-sensitive land-use planning and create green jobs through (pro-poor) partnerships will continue.

33. The programme will support Nepali efforts to improve institutional capacities for coordination, technologies, data analytics and financing related to climate change, disaster risk reduction, preparedness and management, environment, forestry and watersheds, at provincial and local levels. Building on its well-recognized work, UNDP will continue to provide dedicated support to reduce the risk of glacial lake outburst floods. It will strengthen institutional and community planning capacities for integration of climate change, biodiversity, forestry and watershed management in planning and budgeting; and for livelihood improvement through sustainable forest management, including non-timber forest products, ecotourism, circular economy and sustainable production and consumption.

34. UNDP will support initiatives to increase access to reliable, affordable and efficient clean energy solutions by supporting installation of renewable energy (solar/micro-hydro) in remote areas, in partnership with ADB.

35. Key partners in the achievement of these development results will include the federal Government (particularly the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Finance, Federal Affairs, Forests and Environment, Law and Justice, the National Planning Commission, all seven provincial governments and local governments); international financial institutions (ADB and the World Bank); the private sector; civil society, including community-based organizations; and traditional bilateral partners (the European Union and the Governments of Japan, Norway, Republic of Korea, Switzerland and the United Kingdom), and emerging partners (Governments of China, India, Qatar and others).

### III. Programme and risk management

36. This document outlines the UNDP contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarter levels with respect to country programmes are prescribed in the organization's programme and operations policies and procedures and internal control framework.

37. The programme will be nationally executed. If necessary, direct execution may replace national execution for part or all of the programme to enable response to force majeure. The harmonized approach to cash transfers will be used in a coordinated fashion with other United Nations agencies to manage financial risks. Cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness will be charged to the projects concerned.

38. UNDP will review progress against the output indicators annually with the government coordination agency, the Ministry of Finance. UNDP will participate in the coordination mechanisms of government, development partners and the United Nations. Programme and project boards will be established to, inter alia, ensure compliance with social and environmental standards, effective implementation, oversight and accountability for results.

39. Potential risks are both on the resources and capacity side. Declining levels of traditional official development assistance may impact the UNDP resource base over the country programme cycle. Nepal is in the process of LDC graduation which may further impact the availability of third-party funding. The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly reduced the growth rate which has further implications for domestic revenue mobilization. At the implementation level, where federalism has empowered the provincial and local governments financially, it has also resulted in the devolution of additional roles and responsibilities for which capacities are limited. To manage these risks, UNDP will work with national institutions

to explore innovative instruments of financing and seek to diversify its donor base, including private financing. Ongoing projects which aim at building local capacities for implementation will be further strengthened to enhance capacities for effective implementation.

40. Nepal has been historically exposed to risks arising from natural hazards. UNDP will use systematic risk monitoring as a tool for early warning, risk management, risk mitigation and timely decision-making. Risks will be managed through coordination and partnerships; advocacy and policy dialogue; regular identification, mitigation and diversification, project and results monitoring; and updating of contingency plans for the country office.

#### **IV. Monitoring and evaluation**

41. UNDP will use innovative data-collection and monitoring methods, including collective intelligence and user-generated feedback, for monitoring and assessment of results, compiling lessons and informing course corrections. UNDP corporate tools including the Gender Seal and gender marker will be used to ensure that development interventions contribute to gender equality. UNDP will aim to allocate up to 70 per cent of resources towards initiatives advancing gender equality, and to monitor progress accordingly.

42. The LDC graduation process offers opportunities for the Government of Nepal and the United Nations system to emphasize linkages between the Sustainable Development Goals and national development goals. UNDP will engage with provincial and local governments to enhance capacities on local-level indicators where data gaps are more pronounced and support national statistical systems to improve data quality to monitor progress towards the Goals, for which UNDP is acting as a custodian, to support real-time decision-making. Strengthening the data ecosystems of provincial and local governments will be instrumental in monitoring of and guiding development to those who are left behind in development processes.

43. UNDP will continue partnerships with government authorities, research and academic institutions, think tanks, civil society organizations, including those headed by women and other marginalized groups, and development partners for policy research, knowledge management, and monitoring capacities to measure its contribution to national goals and communicate results and lessons to partners and the public.

44. UNDP will embed a robust, evidence-based monitoring and evaluation system that responds to gender equality and social inclusion in the programme and its projects, combining qualitative and quantitative data. An evaluation of the country programme will be conducted in 2026.

45. Between 2 and 4 per cent of programme budgets will be allocated for monitoring, and at least 1 per cent each for evaluation and communication of results. UNDP will support implementing partners to collect robust data, to be verified through staff or independent monitoring systems, including field visits and surveys. Citizen and beneficiary feedback will be solicited to validate impact and comparative advantages.

46. UNDP will foster an evaluation culture through conducting and using decentralized evaluations, midterm and/or final evaluations in line with the UNDP evaluation guidelines, as per the costed evaluation plan which indicates planned project, programme and thematic/outcome evaluations. Findings and recommendations will be used to strengthen accountability with partners and inform course corrections and new project design. The balanced evaluation plan will be reviewed and adjusted yearly to reflect an evolving programme portfolio. Socioeconomic, political and environmental risks have been considered when outlining the evaluation plan. Emphasis will be on national and provincial and local government ownership and capacity development in evaluations.

## Annex. Results and resources framework for Nepal (2023-2027)

NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: 15th Plan – Goal-3. High and sustainable production and productivity; Goal-4. High and equitable national income.				
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK (OR EQUIVALENT) OUTCOME INVOLVING UNDP #1: By 2027, more people, especially women, youth, the most marginalized and poor, increasingly benefit from and contribute to inclusive, resilient, and sustainable socioeconomic transformation at federal, provincial and local levels.				
RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME: Outcome-1: Structural transformation accelerated, particularly green, inclusive and digital transitions;				
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME INDICATOR(S), BASELINES, TARGET(S)	DATA SOURCE AND FREQUENCY OF DATA COLLECTION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES	INDICATIVE COUNTRY PROGRAMME OUTPUTS (including indicators, baselines targets)	MAJOR PARTNERS / PARTNERSHIPS FRAMEWORKS	ESTIMATED COST BY OUTCOME (\$)
<p>Annual growth (change) rate of real GDP per capita (SDG-8.2.1) Baseline: 2.6 (2020/2021) Target: 5.4 (2025)</p> <p>Proportion of informal employment in total employment (SDG-8.3.1) Baseline: 62.2% (2017/18) Target: 30% (2025)</p> <p>Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems (SDG 1.3.1) Baseline: 42% (2019) Target: 56% (2025)</p> <p>Women's ownership of property—land and house (SDG-5.a.2) Baseline: 26% (2016) Target: 35.3% (2025)</p>	<p>Source: National Accounts, Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) Frequency: Annual Responsibility: TBC</p> <p>Source: Labour Force Survey, CBS Frequency: TBC Responsibility:</p> <p>Source: Multiple indicator cluster survey Frequency: TBC Responsibility: TBC</p> <p>Source: National Planning Commission (NPC)/CBS Frequency: TBC Responsibility: TBC</p>	<p>Output 1.1. Strengthened policy environment leads to acceleration of SDG implementation and sustainable LDC graduation</p> <p>1.1.1. Number of strategic policy solutions developed and adopted by public and private sector, including for green and resilient development (UNDP Strategic Plan integrated results and resources framework (indicator#) - IRRF-1.1.1) Baseline (2022): 0 Target (2027): 10 Source/Frequency: NPC, MoF, MoFE, MoALD, Office of the Investment Board, provincial and local governments/Annual</p> <p>1.1.2: Number of SDG progress reports prepared by the government (IRRF-1.1.3) Baseline (2020): 1-federal Target (2027): 22 (1-federal, 7-provincial, 14-local) Source/Frequency: NPC/provincial and local governments/Annual</p> <p>Output 1.2. Expanded access to sustainable livelihoods and income for women, youth, poor and other marginalized groups.</p> <p>1.2.1 Number of green jobs created (IRRF-1.3.3)</p>	<p>Ministries: of Finance; (MoF), of Industry, Commerce and Supplies; of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation; of Education; of Federal Affairs and General Administration (MoFAGA); of Labour, Employment and Social Security (MoLESS); of Urban Development (MoUD); of Energy; of Forest and Environment (MoFE); of Agriculture and Livestock Development (MoALD); Central Bank; NPC; provincial and local governments; private sector; financial institutions; civil society/ community-based organizations; IFAD, ILO, IOM, UNCDF, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, UN-Women, WFP</p>	<p>Regular: \$7,800,000 Other: \$15,409,590</p>

		<p>Baseline (2021): 8,780 (51% women, 38% youth, 17% Dalit)                      Target (2027): 48,780 (50% women, 40% youth, 20% Dalit)                      Source/Frequency: UNDP/Annual</p> <p>1.2.2. Number of marginalized people, including urban poor, with: (a) enhanced skills; (b) accessing temporary basic income (IRRF-1.2.2)                      Baseline (2021): (a) 14,075 (45% women, 40% youth, 5% Dalit); (b) 2,387 (77% Dalit, 10% ethnic communities, 6% Persons with disabilities (PWDs), 1% survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV)                      Target (2027): (a) 74,075 (50% women, 40% youth, 20% Dalit); (b) 7,387 (60% Dalit, 20% Ethnic communities, 10% PWDs, 3% SGBV)                      Source/Frequency: UNDP/Annual</p> <p>1.2.3. Number of digital solutions and innovations developed and sustained in key sectors (IRRF-E.2.2)                      Baseline (2022): 0                      Target (2027): 4                      Source/Frequency: UNDP/Annual</p> <p>1.2.4. Number of innovative enterprises promoted and sustained to foster green and circular development and reduced environmental pollution (IRRF-1.3.3)                      Baseline (2022): 9                      Target (2027): 19                      Source/Frequency: UNDP/Annual</p>		
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<p>Baseline (2019): 77.9% Target (2025): 88.7%</p> <p>2.3. Rule of Law index (15th Plan indicator 8.1.1) Baseline (2021): 0.52 Target (2027): 0.65</p> <p>2.4. Transparency, accountability, and corruption in public (score out of 6) Baseline (2021): 2.5 Target (2025): 4</p> <p>2.5. Proportion of population who believe there are sufficient opportunities to participate in the decision-making processes of public institutions (disaggregated by sex, age, federal/local level) Baseline: TBC – pending baseline survey (2023) Target: TBC – pending baseline survey (2023)</p>	<p>Source: Country Policy and Institutional Assessment Frequency: Annual Responsibility: TBC</p> <p>Source: Trust in Governance Survey Frequency: TBC Responsibility: UNDP, UN-Women</p>	<p>systems/mechanisms for effective service delivery (IRRF-2.3.1) Baseline (2021): Federal-2; Provincial-7; LG-75 Target (2027): FG-3; PG-7; LG-175 Source/Frequency: MoFAGA, provincial and local governments, Parliaments/Annual</p> <p>Output 2.2. Rule of law institutions and systems strengthened for expanded access to justice, human rights, and freedom from discrimination, in line with universal periodic review recommendations (IRRF-2.2.1)</p> <p>2.2.1. Number of people benefiting from integrated legal aid services (IRFF-2.2.3) Baseline (2021): 6,627 (61% women) Target (2027): 60,000 (67% women) Source/Frequency: MoLJPA, Nepal Bar Association/Annual</p> <p>2.2.2. Per cent increase in confidence of marginalized groups in the formal justice system (IRFF-2.4.5) Baseline (2022): TBD (Baseline survey ongoing) Target (2027): Confidence level increased by 20% (pending baseline survey) Source/Frequency: UNDP Surveys/Periodic</p> <p>2.2.3. National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights, in line with United Nations Guiding Principles, enacted (IRFF-2.2.1) Baseline (2022): No Target (2027): Yes Source/Frequency: MoLESS/Annual</p> <p>Output 2.3. Improved mechanisms for promoting transparency and public participation.</p> <p>2.3.1. Number of federal/provincial/local governments improving access to information, including through digital tools (IRFF-2.2.2) Baseline (2022): FG-0; PG-0; LG-0 Target (2027): FG-2; PG-5; LG-100</p>		
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		<p>Source/Frequency: MoFAGA, National Innovation Centre (NIC), Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority , provincial and local governments/Annual</p> <p>2.3.2. Number of people (particularly marginalized groups) utilizing open forums for enhanced participation in decision-making processes (IRFF-2.4.5) Baseline (2021): 1,200 (25% women; 7% Dalit; 29% ethnic communities; 35% youth/volunteers) Target (2027): 70,000 (40% women; 10% Dalit; 35% Ethnic communities; 40% youth/volunteers) Source/Frequency: Parliaments/provincial and local governments/Annual</p> <p>2.3.3. Number of complaints received and addressed by grievance handling systems (IRRF-2.3.2) Baseline (2021): 43,645; 10% addressed Target (2027): 60,000; at least 30% addressed Source/Frequency: NIC/provincial and local governments/Annual</p>		
NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: Goal-7. A healthy and balanced environment.				
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK (OR EQUIVALENT) OUTCOME INVOLVING UNDP #3: By 2027, more people, especially women, youth, and the most marginalized and poor, increasingly benefit from and contribute to building an inclusive, sustainable, climate-resilient and green society and reduced impacts of disasters at federal, provincial and local levels.				
RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME: Outcome-3: Resilience built to respond to systemic uncertainty and risk.				
<p>3.1. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions per capita and per unit of GDP. Baseline (2011): Net GHG emissions of 31,998.91 Gg CO<sub>2</sub> eq. Target (2025): GHG emission of 1,774 Gg CO<sub>2</sub> eq.</p>	<p>Source: UNFCCC National Communication Report Frequency: TBC Responsibility: TBC</p> <p>Source: MIS, CBS Frequency: TBC Responsibility: TBC</p>	<p>Output 3.1. Innovative resilience-building solutions introduced at all levels to reduce risks from disasters and climate change.</p> <p>3.1.1. Number of provincial and local governments utilizing advanced Disaster Risk Management systems (IRRF-3.1.2) Baseline (2022): PG-3; LG-123 Target (2027): PG-5; LG-143 Source/Frequency: MoHA, NDRRMA/Annual</p>	<p>Ministries: of Home Affairs (MoHA); MoFAGA; MoF; MoFE; of Health and Population; MoUD; of Energy; MoWCSC; MoISC; National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority; Alternate Energy Promotion Centre; Asian Development Bank; Private sector; Academia; FAO, UNEP, UN-Habitat,</p>	<p>Regular: \$8,303,000 Other: \$56,421,099</p>

<p>3.2. Ratio of renewable energy in total energy consumption (%) Baseline (2019): 5% Target (2025): 37.3%</p> <p>3.3. Total area of the country under forest cover (%): nationally determined contribution (second NDC), Area of wetlands (ha), area of degraded lands (ha) Baseline (2016): 40% Target (2030): 45%</p> <p>3.4. Reduction in annual loss of human life (deaths and missing persons) and directly affected persons attributed to disasters per 100,000 populations Baseline (2019): 1.6 Target (2024): 1</p>	<p>Source: Government of Nepal, National Communication and Forestry Report Frequency: TBC Responsibility: TBC</p> <p>Source: Government of Nepal, DRR Portal Frequency: TBC Responsibility: TBC</p>	<p>3.1.2. Number of local governments implementing electronic building permit systems, climate-friendly, resilient (infrastructure) guidelines and (health) waste management initiatives (IRRF-3.1.1) Baseline (2021): 17 Targets (2027): 34 Source/Frequency: MoFAGA/Annual</p> <p>3.1.3. Number of potentially dangerous Glacial Lakes with reduced risk of outburst flooding and flood early warning systems in place (IRRF-3.1.2) Baseline (2016): 2 Target (2027): 5 Source/Frequency: Dept. of Hydrology/Meteorology/Biennial</p> <p>Output 3.2. Environmental governance strengthened at all three levels for climate-change adaptation and mitigation, sustainable watershed, ecosystem and biodiversity management</p> <p>3.2.1. Number of watersheds incorporating integrated nature-based and climate adaptation measures (IRRF-4.1.2) Baseline (2021): 12 sub-watersheds Target (2027): 25 sub-watersheds Source/Frequency: MoFE, MoHA/Annual</p> <p>3.2.2. Number of people directly benefiting from enhanced management of natural resources, biodiversity, and watersheds (IRRF-4.2.1) Baseline (2021): 9,000 (40% women) Target (2027): 400,000 (50% women) Source/Frequency: UNDP/Annuals</p> <p>3.2.3. Number of federal, provincial and local governments s integrating climate-change adaptation responding to gender equality and social inclusion in plans based on NPC mainstreaming guideline (2019) (IRRF-4.2.1) Baseline (2022): 280 Target (2027): 424 Source/Frequency: NPC, MoFE/Biennial</p>	<p>UNICEF, UN-Women, WFP, WHO; civil society / community-based organizations</p>	
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				<p>Regular: \$24,103,000                      Other: \$99,187,138                      Total: \$123,290,138</p>