



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS YAMAN



MEMORANDUM

TO : All Bureau Directors

The Directors
Policy and Planning Service
Climate Change Service
Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service

FROM : The Undersecretary
Policy, Planning and International Affairs

SUBJECT : FINAL VERSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK (UNSDCF)
2024-2028

DATE : NOV 24 2023

May we refer the herein letter dated 14 November 2023 from Assistant Secretary Maria Teresa T. Almojuela of the Office of United Nations and International Organizations, Department of Foreign Affairs, transmitting the final version of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2024-2028 signed by the Philippines on 24 October 2023 at the President's Hall of Malacañang Palace, coinciding with the celebration of the 78th founding anniversary of the UN.

The document defines the areas of cooperation between the Philippines and the UN and provides strategic direction for all UN operational activities in the country from 2024 to 2028. It is oriented to support Philippine government policies and priorities embodied in the President's eight-point socioeconomic agenda, the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028, AmBisyon Natin and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

With the new cooperation framework, the Philippine government and the United Nations have agreed to work on three overarching Strategic outcomes:

- Strategic Priority 1: Human capital development, inclusion, and resilience building;
- Strategic Priority 2: Sustainable economy economic development, decent work, and innovation; and
- Strategic Priority 3: Climate action, environmental sustainability, and disaster-resilience.

The Remarks delivered by the President during the signing can be accessed via the following link: <https://pco.gov.ph/presidential-speech/speech-by-president-ferdinand-r-marcos-ir-at-the-ceremonial-signing-of-the-unsdcf-2024-2028/>.

The opinion piece of the DFA Secretary entitled "Forward-looking partnership with the UN" published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer on 23 October 2023 can be accessed via the following link: <https://opinion.inquirer.net/167389/forward-looking-partnership-with-the-un>.

The opinion piece of the NEDA Secretary entitled "Building a prosperous, inclusive, and resilient future: The Philippines' new partnership with the United Nations" published by Business World on 24 October 2023 can be accessed via the following link: <https://www.bworldonline.com/opinion/2023/10/24/553145/building-a-prosperous-inclusive-and-resilient-future-the-philippines-new-partnership-with-the-united-nations/>.

For your information and guidance.



ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES



DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
KAGAWARAN NG UGNAYANG PANLABAS

OFFICE OF UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

14 November 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Department of Foreign Affairs respectfully transmits the enclosed final version of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2024-2028 signed by the Philippines on 24 October 2023 at the President's Hall of Malacañang Palace, coinciding with the celebration of the 78th anniversary of the founding of the UN.

H.E the President witnessed the signing of the Cooperation Framework by the Secretaries for Foreign Affairs, and NEDA on behalf of the Philippine Government, as well as Mr. Gustavo Gonzáles, UN Resident Coordinator in the Philippines on behalf of the UN.

The DFA underscores that the finalization and signing of the UNSDCF reaffirms the country's highest level of commitment to the UN. The document defines the areas of cooperation between the Philippines and the UN and provides strategic direction for all UN operational activities in the country from 2024 to 2028. It is **oriented to support Philippine government policies and priorities** embodied in the President's eight-point socioeconomic agenda, the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028, AmBisyon Natin and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

With the new cooperation framework, the Philippine government and the United Nations have agreed to work on three overarching Strategic outcomes:

- Strategic Priority 1:** Human capital development, inclusion, and resilience building;
- Strategic Priority 2:** Sustainable economy economic development, decent work, and innovation; and
- Strategic Priority 3:** Climate action, environmental sustainability, and disaster-resilience.

The UNSDCF document also **provides guidance on the present and future programs and activities of such agencies in the Philippines**. Concerned PH Agencies are strongly encouraged to assess your respective programs and projects with UN entities and to phase out projects that are incompatible with and superseded by the new UNSDCF. Agencies may wish to refer to **Annex 3 on the Results Framework** and to **explore new programs and activities that will reinforce the outcomes of the strategic priorities**.

Furthermore, the UNSDCF reflects PH ownership in operational terms including through:

- **emphasis on consent** of Government and relevant agencies
- **review and monitoring of work plans** (i.e., UNJP) and non-continuation of ongoing programs without expressed consent of government;

.../data to be published pertaining...

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- **data to be published** pertaining to the Philippines are made available to all relevant authorities to ensure credibility of its assessments and reports, and improving the timeliness and integrity of data quality and statistics;
- joint GPH-UN management to enhance efficient joint oversight, ensure alignment with Government mechanisms, sustain GPH ownership of United Nations support to GPH and confirm the United Nation's commitment to address government priorities
- UNCT to strive to be inclusive, transparent and participatory in managing and monitoring the implementation of the Cooperation Framework.

The Remarks delivered by the President during the signing can be accessed via the following link:

<https://pco.gov.ph/presidential-speech/speech-by-president-ferdinand-r-marcos-jr-at-the-ceremonial-signing-of-the-unsdcf-2024-2028/>.

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UNIO expresses its deep appreciation to agencies that sent their inputs and comments during the UNSDCF negotiation process. Should there be questions, clarifications, and other concerns or disagreements encountered with UN agencies, if any, on the Cooperation Framework, please feel free to contact unio.div1@dfa.gov.ph.

Also enclosed is a one-pager briefer on the UNSDCF.

Thank you and please accept the assurances of our Department's continued support and cooperation.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of Foreign Affairs:


MARIA TERESA T. ALMOJUELA
 Assistant Secretary

Enclosures: As stated.

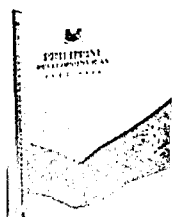
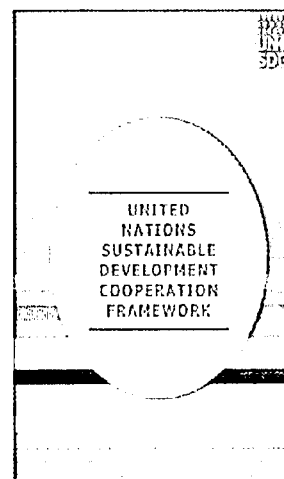
UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF 2024-2028)

What is it for?

- The UNSDCF serves as a joint strategic planning framework for the UN Development System's cooperation with the Philippines supporting national development priorities and achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- It reflects the country's new generation engagement with the UN and guides implementation of UN activities at country level.

What's new with the UNSDCF 2024-2028?

- Strengthens Philippine ownership of the UNSDCF, with government agencies in the driver's seat, and ensures alignment with the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028 and AmBisyon Natin 2040, as well with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- Institutionalizes safeguards and governance mechanisms to guide and monitor activities under the Cooperation Framework to promote UN accountability and transparency.
- Ensures that implementation, monitoring and reporting will be co-led by the Government of Philippines, through the Department of Foreign Affairs and the National Economic and Development Authority from the government side and the United Nations Resident Coordinator, through a Tripartite Steering Committee.
- Mandates that UN programmes are designed and implemented in close consultations and upon the request of government agencies and national stakeholders.



UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2024-2028)	
Strategic priorities	Outcomes
Human capital development, inclusion, and resilience building	Outcome 1: By 2028, all people, especially those at risk of being left behind, have increased resilience to economic, climatic, disaster, and public health risk through improved, equitable, and gender-responsive access to and utilization of quality social services, social protection, healthy habitat, enhanced good governance and peace.
Sustainable Economic development, decent work, and innovation	Outcome 2: By 2028, all people, benefit from a more integrated, innovative, inclusive, and sustainable economy that generates decent work and livelihood opportunities.
Climate action, environmental sustainability and disaster-resilience	Outcome 3: By 2028, all people benefit from just transition to low-carbon, climate-resilient development, sustainable management of environment, natural resources and biodiversity and strengthened resilience to disasters and natural hazards.