UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK (UNSDCF)

AT A GLANCE

2023 – 2025

A partnership with the Government and peoples of Ghana
The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) is the most important instrument for planning and implementation of UN development activities at country level. It outlines the UN development system’s integrated contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) along with a commitment to leaving no one behind (LNOB), to fundamental rights and a human rights based approach (HRBA), to Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (GEWE), to building resilience and sustainability, and to strengthening accountability.

The UNSDCF is a partnership with the Government and peoples of Ghana. It is nationally owned and reflects national development priorities. It presents the UN’s collective commitment to Ghana through a set of development outcomes to be reached jointly between 2023-2025. The priorities of the UNSDCF are informed by an evaluation of the previous strategic framework and the UN’s Common Country Analysis (CCA) which analyses lessons, Ghana’s needs and development opportunities. It will be concluded and signed shortly.

The CCA identified eight priority SDGs accelerators, namely: 1) increasing development financing; 2) promoting green/climate transformations; 3) enhancing social and economic inclusion; 4) harnessing the digital transformation opportunities; 5) enhancing governance, transparency and accountability; 6) meeting the urbanization challenge and demographic opportunities; 7) ensuring a peaceful Ghana; and 8) expanded and innovative partnerships.

The priorities presented below are aligned with Ghana’s Medium Term National Development Policy Framework 2022-2025 (MTNDPF), sectoral strategies and national planning instruments. The UNSDCF promotes an integrated approach that supports Ghana’s developmental results, delivered collectively ‘as one’ by UN entities under the leadership of the UN Resident Coordinator and UN Country Team.

**WHAT IS THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK?**

The UN in Ghana will focus its support, resources, and partnership priorities on national sustainable development in Ghana around three main outcomes:

1. **Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth and Transformation**
   - Contributing to SDG 5, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

2. **Accessible, Inclusive, Sustainable Quality Basic Social Services**
   - Contributing to SDG 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 13, 15, 16, 17

3. **Durable Peace and Security in Ghana and the Subregion**
   - Contributing to SDG 5, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

**WHAT ARE THE KEY AREAS OF THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK?**
Taking account of the post COVID-19 environment, the global challenge of climate change and escalating conflicts that have the potential to trigger global recession, impacting livelihoods, resource availability and development priorities. The UN will adopt an integrated approach that maximizes opportunities to address Ghana’s geographic inequities and maintain a people centered approach that supports the priorities for sustained peace and security in a wider, connected planet.

Finally, the UN in Ghana will adopt key strategic-shift “ways of working” - moving from funding to financing/leveraging to meet the resource gap; strengthening utilization of data; new, innovative and expanded partnerships with the private sector and civil society; a significant increase in joint programmes; policy advocacy and leadership; as well as integrating cross-cutting issues – climate action, digital transformation, leave no one behind, governance and accountability, and innovation.

The UNSDCF signals a UN that is supporting Ghana on its WISER\(^1\) journey towards self-reliance and, ultimately, a Ghana-Beyond-Aid (GBA).

\(^1\)WISER is a Wealthy, Inclusive, Sustainable, Empowered, and Resilient Ghana, in line with the vision of Ghana Beyond Aid