



Background Note

The UN Sustainable Development Partnership with Ghana 2018 - 2022

The Government of Ghana and the United Nations in Ghana have jointly signed the **UN Sustainable Development Partnership 2018-2022** (UNSDP), a 5-year partnership framework which outlines the UN's support to national development efforts. It sets out the collective support of 24 UN Agencies working in Ghana.

The UNSDP was signed in June this year by the Minister for Finance, Honourable Kenneth Ofori-Atta, and the Minister for Planning, Honourable George Yaw Gyan-Baffour, on behalf of the Government, and by Ms. Christine Evans-Klock, UN Resident Coordinator, and representatives of the 24 resident and non-resident UN Agencies comprising the UN Country Team in Ghana.

Its media launch today, on 29 October, is part of the 2018 commemoration of UN Day, which was celebrated on 24 October with the flag-raising ceremony organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration.

The UN works in partnership with the Government and people of Ghana for sustainable economic, social and environmental development, peace and democracy, and human rights.

Informed by findings of a common country assessment based on extensive consultations and a Human Rights Assessment, the **UN Sustainable Development Partnership** was developed to contribute to national development priorities. It aligns with the national **Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies, 2017-2024** (CPESDP).

The CPESDP was submitted to Parliament by HE President Nana Akufo-Addo on 20 October 2017. It sets out a vision for agricultural modernisation, industrial diversification, and youth employment and articulates a self-reliant pathway to economic transformation and inclusive growth. This vision for national development incorporates Ghana's global development commitments, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** is an ambitious, global and unified agenda for social, economic and environmental development, translated into concrete and measurable results through its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs are owned nationally, and each of the 196 UN Member States that signed the 2030 Agenda in September 2015 is responsible for setting its own strategies for how to achieve them - strategies that are enabled through national budgets and that are prioritised in development partnerships.

The UNSDP outlines the UN’s partnership for achieving the SDGs through four strategic **Results Areas**: 1) Shared prosperous economy; 2) Social investment in people; 3) Protected and safe environment; and 4) Inclusive, accountable governance.

These four Result Areas align closely to the components of the 2030 Agenda: **Prosperity, People, Planet, Peace, and Partnerships**, and to the five policy areas of the **Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies**: Economic development; Social development; Environment, infrastructure and human settlements development; Governance, corruption and public accountability; and Strengthening Ghana’s role in international affairs.

Correspondence across 2030 Agenda, CPESDP and UNSDP		
2030 Agenda component	Policy Areas in Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies 2017-24 (CPESDP)	UN Sustainable Development Partnership Results Areas for Ghana 2018-22 (UNSDP)
Prosperity	1) economic development	1) Shared prosperous economy
People	2) social development	2) Social investment in people
Planet	3) environment, infrastructure and human settlements development	3) Protected and safe environment
Peace	4) governance, corruption and public accountability	4) Inclusive, accountable governance
Partnership	5) strengthening Ghana’s role in international affairs	

Result Area One, *Shared prosperous economy*, promotes productive agriculture to drive sustainable industrialisation, ensure a hunger- and malnutrition-free nation and generate decent jobs that expand opportunities for inclusive economic growth.

Result Area Two, *Social investment in people*, supports Government capabilities to deliver equitable, quality and financially-sustainable social services in education, health and social protection, especially to vulnerable groups.

Result Area Three, *Protected and safe environment*, promotes effective and coherent environmental governance at national and local levels and seeks to build up the resilience of both urban and rural communities.

Result Area Four, *Inclusive, accountable governance*, strengthens the transparency and accountability of institutions at all levels that protect the rights of all Ghanaians.

Within these Results Areas, UN actions will help achieve **cross-cutting priorities** that reflect UN values on human rights, gender equality and women’s empowerment, data for development, avoiding stigma and promoting prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, and resilience to natural disasters and the impact of climate change. In following the priority set in the President’s Coordinated Programme for Economic and Social Development Policies (CPESDP), UN efforts across all areas of work will also explicitly target youth development. The entire UNSDP is designed to support Ghana’s commitment that private sector-led growth be inclusive and equitable growth.

This partnership agreement encompasses the entirety of the UN’s activities in Ghana, within a **One Programme** for Ghana. The signatures of the representatives of each of 24 UN

Agencies signifies their commitment to provide coherent, impactful and cost-effective support, drawing from their own mandates and expertise to “Deliver as One.”

Monitoring and guidance for UNSDP implementation will be carried forward through the High Level Ministerial Committee for the SDGs. This Committee was set up by HE President Akufo-Addo on 7 September 2017, under the Chairmanship of the Minister for Planning. Its governance of UNSDP implementation reinforces the shared ambition to achieve the SDGs in Ghana.

The UNSDP will be implemented through annual joint work plans agreed with Government Ministries and Agencies and carried out with many implementing partners in government, civil society, and academia.

The five-year UNSDP is costed at USD 441.5 million. Funding is expected from UN Agencies’ own resources, technical cooperation programmes supported by development partners, and resources to be mobilised through global or regional funds, such as on climate change.

The UNSDP succeeds the previous UN Programme, the *UN Development Assistance Framework, 2012-2017*.

The title for the UN programme for Ghana, **UN Sustainable Development Partnership**, reflects two commitments. First, it rightly signifies the nature of the work of the UN as partnership with the Government and people of Ghana rather than as provision of assistance or aid, which is appropriate for Ghana as a rising Lower Middle-Income Country.

Second, it focuses UN interventions on the shared commitment to meet the Sustainable Development Goals. The UN’s facilitation of South-South knowledge-sharing, advisory services for policy design and implementation, capacity-building, data collection and use, advocacy, and impact assessment all focus on helping Ghana achieve the SDGs.

Ghana’s leadership for the 2030 Agenda worldwide was recognised by the 2017 appointment of HE President Akufo-Addo to co-Chair the UN Secretary-General’s group of SDG Eminent Advocates. This global leadership helps drive SDG achievement at home. The UNSDP supports that effort, guided by the underlying principles of the SDGs to leave no one behind, to improve equity by meeting first the needs of those who are furthest behind, to promote gender equality, and to ensure access to justice for all.

The members of the UN Country Team in Ghana, and signatories to the new UNSDP, comprise representative offices of FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation), IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development), IOM (International Organisation for Migration), UNAIDS (United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS), UNDP (United Nations Development Programme), UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation), UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund), UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), UNICEF (United Nations Children’s Fund), UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organisation); UNOPS (United Nations Office for Project Services), UNU-INRA (United Nations University Institute for Natural Resources in Africa), WFP (World Food Programme), and WHO (World Health Organisation). Other UN agencies provide advisory and technical support through project offices in Ghana: ILO (International Labour Organisation), IMO (International Maritime Organisation), UNCDF (United Nations Capital Development Fund), UN-Habitat (United Nations Human Settlements Programme), and UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime), or from their regional or global Headquarters: IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency), OCHA (United Nations Office for Humanitarian Affairs), OHCHR (United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights), UNE (United Nations Environment), and UN WOMEN (UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women).