



# STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

---

GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN

-

UNDP

2019 - 2021

From a global perspective, impressive progress has been made on many development-related fronts. According to UN data, world poverty has dropped from 35% in 1990 to below 10% in 2016, meaning that the number of people worldwide living in extreme poverty<sup>1</sup> has fallen by over 1 billion. The world has united to recognize and tackle climate change, and in 2015 the heads of State and of Government adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as the roadmap for humanity.

Nevertheless, there are challenges ahead on the path to achieving the 2030 Agenda's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These obstacles include eliminating the extreme poverty in which 650 million people are still living, and reducing inequalities between countries and within countries, whether their causes are economic, social, or based on gender or sexual orientation. Vulnerable groups are marginalized by structural barriers and by discriminatory standards and practices. Moreover—unless their positive potential is harnessed—rapid urbanization, demographic changes, and the use of new technologies could set humanity back in its progress towards development.

Climate-related disasters have increased in number and scale, undermining advances in development. In the past decade, as a result of disasters over 700,000 people have lost their lives, more than 1.4 million have been injured, and approximately 23 million have been left homeless. In addition, as the effects of climate change are becoming increasingly apparent, the world is exceeding other planetary limits, such as the loss of biodiversity and forest cover. Conflicts, sectarian aggression, and political instability have increased. Over 1.6 billion people live in fragile contexts affected by conflict, including half of the world population that is living in extreme poverty. Of the approximately 244 million international migrants, 65 million of them are victims of forced displacement. The causes of crises are closely intertwined, and require multifaceted responses.

To offer a satisfactory and effective response to these challenges, the United Nations Development System (UNDS) is undergoing a reform process to provide effective support to countries in implementing the 2030 Agenda. Spain, which is firmly committed to the path to sustainable development that the 2030 Agenda represents—and to implementing that Agenda—fully backs this reform. Spain's support is expressed formally in the Joint Communiqué between Spain and the United Nations on Collaborating for Sustainable Development, which was agreed on 26 February 2019 between UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed, and the President of the Spanish Government, Pedro Sánchez, during the meeting held in the framework of the Deputy Secretary-General's visit to Spain.<sup>2</sup>

The 2030 Agenda proposes a roadmap for sustainable progress that leaves no one behind. The Government of the Kingdom of Spain and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) share their commitment to making the 2030 Agenda a reality—and to this end, have agreed to formalize a strategic partnership through this Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF).

---

<sup>1</sup>People living on less than USD 1.9 per day.

<sup>2</sup><https://www.agenda2030.gob.es/sites/default/files/Joint%20Communiqu%C3%A9%20Spain-NNUU.pdf>

This SPF is concluded between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of the Kingdom of Spain, each party acting on its own behalf.

UNDP, created by the UN General Assembly on 22 November 1965, is the UN development organization that promotes change and connects countries with the knowledge, experience, and resources necessary to help their people build better lives for themselves.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Union and Cooperation of Spain (MAUC) shall represent the Government of the Kingdom of Spain in the implementation and monitoring of the SPF. The Directorate-General for Sustainable Development Policies (DGPOLDES) shall be responsible for coordination on behalf of MAUC, as its entity for planning and evaluating sustainable development policies, together with the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID),<sup>3</sup> as its entity for managing Spain's international development cooperation policy, within AECID's scope of authority.

UNDP may receive financial contributions from the Government of the Kingdom of Spain to fulfil its mandate, and

CONSEQUENTLY, the Government of the Kingdom of Spain and UNDP, referred to collectively as the "Signatories" and separately as "Signatory", agree the following:

## **PART I – PROGRAMME TERMS**

### **1. BACKGROUND**

Spain and UNDP signed a Collaboration Framework Agreement on 13 April 2005<sup>4</sup> for the purpose of promoting cooperation and collaboration in areas of mutual interest, sharing information and documentation on both parties' development policies, and carrying out joint development programmes and projects.

On 10 November 2009 the MAUC and UNDP signed the first SPF—for 2010-2012—with the aim of strengthening Spain's strategic planning with UNDP and of improving its quality and effectiveness.

On 16 April 2015, MAUC and UNDP signed a second SPF,<sup>5</sup> which specified the administrative framework, instruments, and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation, and thematic priorities for 2015-2016. This SPF stated the common objectives of UNDP's Strategic Plan for 2014-2017 and Spanish Cooperation's Fourth Master Plan (2013-2016).

---

<sup>3</sup>AECID is a public law entity under the aegis of MAUC through the State Secretariat for International Cooperation and for Ibero-America and the Caribbean (SECIPIC), as provided for in Act 23/1998, of 7 July, on International Development Cooperation, and Royal Decree 1403/2007, of 26 October, approving AECID's Statute, most recently amended by Royal Decree 1424/2012, of 11 October.

<sup>4</sup>Published in the Official State Gazette [BOE] of 1 February 2006.

<sup>5</sup>Published in the BOE of 14 November 2015.

Spain and UNDP are firmly committed to renewing their collaboration for 2019-2021, and this new SPF will be the tool for channelling common priorities.

This SPF also reflects their resolve to forge common strategies and policies, combining efforts, creating synergies, and improving the effectiveness and efficiency of our actions to fulfil the 2030 Agenda, the framework in which both the UNDP's Strategic Plan and Spanish Cooperation's Master Plan have been designed.<sup>6</sup>

Furthermore, UNDP administers the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the United Nations Volunteers programme, both of which are important assets for Spanish Cooperation.

## **2. STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

In today's rapidly changing world, humanity is facing complex challenges. Unquestionably, the main challenges include poverty and inequity in their multiple dimensions, as well as the state of the planet, given that changes are occurring which affect our standard of living, and the outlook for the future is not bright.

Spain considers that committing to sustainable development is the best way to tackle these challenges, and that this commitment, which encompasses global public goods, in this increasingly globalized and interconnected world, can only be carried out through multilateralism and the forging of alliances between different actors.

On the basis of this context and this conviction, in September 2015 Spain adopted the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as its roadmap, together with the other UN countries.

In February 2019, in the Joint Communiqué on Collaborating for Sustainable Development, Spain and the United Nations reaffirmed that the 2030 Agenda is their shared roadmap for the future. In this Joint Communiqué, Spain renewed and reinforced its support to the UN in order to promote and strengthen the 2030 Agenda as our overarching global framework towards sustainable development, to the United Nations system reform to enhance its contribution to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, and, in particular, to the repositioning of the UN Development System (UNDS). Spain also reaffirmed its support for the United Nations Secretary-General's and Deputy Secretary-General's leadership, as well as for the entities of the UN Development System, in their efforts to support the achievement of the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda.

Spain believes that a successfully reformed Resident Coordinator system, an enhanced role for the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), and the alignment of the entire UN system around the SDGs are all essential to making the 2030 Agenda a reality.

For these reasons, the basic elements of Spain's support to the UN and, in particular, to the reform of the UNDS, are as follows:

---

<sup>6</sup>Another tool for integrating the SDGs into Spanish public policies is the National Plan for Implementing the 2030 Agenda, 2018-2020.

- Support for the UNSDG at the international level, as well as for the Resident Coordinator (RC) system; and
- Support for the implementation of the strategic plans and strategies of the entities, organizations, funds, and programmes of the United Nations Resident Coordinator group.

Spain considers that the repositioning of the UNDS is now at its most critical moment, and that the Funding Compact proposed by the UN Secretary-General is a fundamental instrument for the necessary shift to increased, more predictable and non-earmarked funding, and the enhanced efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency of its use, for strong UN support to the 2030 Agenda. For all of these reasons, Spain undertakes to support the reform of the UNDS in every way possible, and to fully comply with the Funding Compact.

Through these commitments, Spain aspires to improve the quality of its contributions to the UNDS and to support UNDS efforts to strengthen transparency, efficiency, accountability, cooperation, and the achievement of results through the actions of the entire system.

**Spain believes that UNDP has a key role to play in the reform of the UNDS and in achieving the SDGs. Its Strategic Plan for 2018-2021, which takes the 2030 Agenda as a framework, is aimed at helping countries to achieve sustainable development and to accelerate the structural transformations required. For all of these reasons, and given, moreover, that both Spain and UNDP are firmly committed to the development effectiveness principles, Spain wishes to strengthen its strategic alliance with UNDP and its collaboration for the implementation of UNDP's Strategic Plan for 2018-2021, as one of the means by which to support the UNDS in achieving the SDGs.**

As previously mentioned, Spain undertakes to comply with the Funding Compact proposed by the UN Secretary-General, and seeks to increase its contributions to core resources as a preferential instrument, as well as strengthening its contributions to joint initiatives with other donors and to the UNDP's thematic funds. This focus is based on mutual trust, which will be strengthened by the establishment of a permanent high-level political dialogue.

This SPF sets out the commitment of the Government of the Kingdom of Spain to UNDP, as well as the mutual commitment to governments and individuals to help them find their own solutions to global and national sustainable development challenges—solutions which inspire this SPF and are detailed herein.

This partnership encompasses Spain's financial support to UNDP, but it also represents a much broader commitment of political support for the mutually agreed objectives. The Government of the Kingdom of Spain offers to UNDP our support as a State actor, and the leadership of our authorities and their technical capabilities, in the defence of our shared objectives.

UNDP and the Government of the Kingdom of Spain undertake to work together in this endeavour, through joint participation in different kinds of communication and awareness-raising initiatives, at the highest possible level.

This SPF lays the foundation of the strategic partnership between Spain and UNDP for 2019-2021, as a continuation of the SPF signed on 16 April 2015 for 2015-2016, which was subsequently renewed. All of the Spanish Cooperation actors interested in this relationship with UNDP may accede to this SPF, subject to the prior agreement of the parties.

This SPF is based on the principles that inspired the 2030 Agenda—universality, leaving no one behind, interconnectedness and indivisibility, inclusiveness, and multi-stakeholder partnerships—and on the development effectiveness principles of country ownership, focus on results, inclusive development partnerships, and transparency and accountability.

This SPF reflects the common priority lines of action at the heart of the strategic partnership, which are included in UNDP's Strategic Plan for 2018-2021, in the Kingdom of Spain's Action Plan for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and in Spanish Cooperation's Fifth Master Plan (2018-2021), and are aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### 3. PURPOSE OF THE PARTNERSHIP

Spain's purpose in supporting UNDP is to **strengthen the strategic role, intellectual leadership, and capacities of UNDP, in order to support the work carried out by countries to achieve the 2030 Agenda following a system-wide approach, in the framework of the new UNDS** and in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and with the development effectiveness agenda.

To this end, it is indispensable to maintain fluid, constant, and strategic political dialogue with Spanish Cooperation's different actors, both at their offices and on the ground.

### 4. PRIORITY GENERAL OBJECTIVES

In order to promote the greater integration of efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda in the UNDS on the ground, as well as to promote the human development and capability approach, Spain and UNDP reaffirm their joint commitment to achieving sustainable development by eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, accelerating structural transformations for sustainable development, and building resilience in the face of shocks and crisis.

Spain will support UNDP in its adaptation to the programme of reforms promoted by the UN Secretary-General and, in particular, to the comprehensive reform at headquarters and in countries to reposition the UNDS with respect to the SDGs.

Spain considers that UNDP has a key, fundamental role to play in the aforementioned reform process as a platform that integrates the UN development system. Bringing together, as it does, the technical experience and know-how of all UN bodies, the UNDP is capable of designing multi-sector responses, and is thus able to offer political and operational support to governments for implementing, localizing, and monitoring the SDGs.

## 5. LINES OF ACTION OF COMMON INTEREST AND PRIORITY APPROACHES

The Government of the Kingdom of Spain is especially interested in working with UNDP on SDG 17, given that the partnerships and resources for implementing the 2030 Agenda will be key to achieving the other 16 SDGs. In this regard, UNDP's work through national platforms to strengthen mechanisms that integrate national actions are strategic to transformation processes in partner countries, governability, and resilience building, and in line with aid effectiveness principles.

Specifically, Spain's priorities for its collaboration with UNDP are as follows:

1. The global platform for human development and the Human Development Report Office;
2. The development of national capabilities and, therefore, the support of national platforms for implementing the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement, and the design of mainstreaming actions, under the leadership of the resident coordinator;
3. The localization of SDGs;
4. The improvement of alignment and coherence among the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) to the Paris Agreement, and the national strategies and plans for applying the 2030 Agenda and achieving the SDGs.

All of these priorities are to be pursued following an approach integrating the different sectors and actors (private sector, civil society, and academia).

To this end, this SPF will focus on supporting UNDP in achieving its Strategic Plan for 2018-2021, preferentially with the following lines of action:

- **Signature solution 1: Keeping people out of poverty**

Target all the barriers and vulnerabilities, of all kinds, that keep people in poverty or that push them back into poverty, in particular when shocks and crises occur.

- **Signature solution 2: Strengthen effective, inclusive, and accountable governance.**

Build inclusive, effective and accountable institutions and mechanisms for the peaceful resolution of conflict and for advancing social cohesion. This requires ensuring the inclusion of women, youth, people with disabilities and other traditionally marginalized groups, such as the LGBTI+ collective.

- **Signature solution 3: Enhance national prevention and recovery capacities for resilient societies.**

Promote conflict prevention, peacebuilding, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and crisis response, to help countries avoid crises and return quickly to stable development after crises occur.

- **Signature solution 4: Promote nature-based solutions for a sustainable planet.**

Help governments to identify and access new financing opportunities, promote policy coherence on natural resources, and help transitions to green economies.

In turn, the Spanish Cooperation Master Plan for 2018-2021 is based on fighting poverty and inequality in all its forms, on building resilience, and on contributing to providing global public goods. This strategic framework coherently integrates the following cross-

cutting principles of Spanish Cooperation: the mainstreaming of human rights and fundamental freedoms; gender equality; respect for cultural diversity; and environmental sustainability. Moreover, Spanish Cooperation commits to working with UNDP using the multidimensional approach to poverty.

In addition, pursuant to the Seville Commitment (2019), Spain will support UNDP, together with other actors, to build and cement the local-global movement to accelerate and scale up the localization of the SDGs, improving multi-actor and multi-level dialogue and promoting a new institutional approach that takes local and regional governments into account.

Moreover, in line with the vision of the 2030 Agenda, Spanish Cooperation's Fifth Master Plan proposes incorporating a resilience-building approach into its strategy for combatting poverty—understood as a multidimensional phenomenon—and inequality.

Spain and UNDP have a long history of collaborating to achieve advances in fundamental areas of debate. Such collaboration encompasses the human development approach; the work of the Human Development Report Office; the understanding of poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon; and the need to move away from the use of per capita income as a preferred criterion for measuring countries' development levels—something that is crucially important when addressing the realities of middle-income countries in general, and the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in particular. This is why Spain wants to advance further with the multidimensional approach, and will continue to accord particular relevance to sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Spain therefore undertakes, in the framework of this strategic partnership, to pay particular attention to the use of the multidimensional approach to poverty in the preparation of Human Development Reports on this region.

For its part, UNDP will push further with the multidimensional approach in its Human Development Reports as of 2020, improving the measurement of environmental variables, in order to address inequalities more broadly.

These will be the **priority lines of action and approaches** that this SPF will primarily focus on, but this does not preclude other goals or outcomes from being considered by Spanish Cooperation. The gender approach and the environmental dimension are included on a cross-cutting basis.

The correlation between UNDP's thematic results and Spanish Cooperation's mandate to fulfil the 2030 Agenda can be seen in the table below, and will serve to guide the subsequent selection of funds and programmes for those targets listed as meriting special attention:

UNDP 2018-2021 Strategic Plan	Spanish Cooperation's Master Plan Lines of Action (L.A.)	Priority Targets of the 2030 Agenda
<b>Signature solution 1: Keeping people out of poverty</b>	<p><b>L.A.1.3.A.</b> Strengthen contingency networks to reduce insecurity in the face of crises and avoid the risk of people falling back into poverty</p> <p><b>L.A.1.5.A.</b> Support public administrations to ensure effective responses in the face of disasters</p>	<p><b>SDG 1.</b> Fight against poverty and inequality, especially severe poverty and child poverty.</p> <p><b>Target 1.2.</b> By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.</p> <p><b>Target 1.3.</b> Implement appropriate social protection systems and measures.</p> <p><b>Target 1.5.</b> Build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations.</p>
<p><b>Signature solution 2: Strengthen effective, inclusive and accountable governance</b></p> <p>Build inclusive, effective and accountable institutions and mechanisms for the peaceful resolution of conflict and for advancing social cohesion. This requires ensuring the inclusion of women, youth, people with disabilities, and other traditionally marginalized groups</p>	<p><b>L.A. 16.1.A.</b> Accompany peace-making and peacebuilding processes</p> <p><b>L.A. 16.1.B.</b> Prevent radicalization and violence</p> <p><b>L.A. 16.3.B.</b> Work to guarantee that citizens know their legal rights and how to exercise them</p> <p><b>L.A. 16.6.A.</b> Strengthen public sector management systems</p>	<p><b>SDG 16.</b> Peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p><b>Target 16.1.</b> Significantly reduce all forms of violence.</p> <p><b>Target 16.3.</b> Promote the rule of law and ensure equal access to justice for all.</p> <p><b>Target 16.6.</b> Develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions.</p>
<p><b>Signature solution 3: Enhance national prevention and recovery capacities for resilient societies</b></p> <p>Conflict prevention, peacebuilding, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and crisis response, to help countries avoid crises and return quickly to stable development after crises occur</p>	<p><b>L.A. 1.3.A.</b> Strengthen contingency networks to reduce insecurity in the face of crises and avoid the risk of people falling back into poverty</p> <p><b>L.A. 1.5.A.</b> Support public administrations to ensure prevention and effective responses in the face of disasters</p> <p><b>L.A. 13.2.A.</b> Support partners in actions aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE)</p>	<p><b>SDG 1.</b> Fight against poverty and inequality, especially severe poverty and child poverty.</p> <p><b>Target 1.5.</b> Build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations.</p> <p><b>SDG 13.</b> Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</p> <p><b>Target 13.2.</b> Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning</p>
<p><b>Signature solution 4: Promote nature-based solutions for a sustainable planet</b></p> <p>Help governments to identify and access new financing opportunities, promote policy coherence on natural resources, and help transitions to green economies</p>	<p><b>L.A. 12.6.A.</b> Promote the transformation of business models to align the business sector with sustainable practices</p> <p><b>L.A. 13.2.A.</b> Support partners in actions aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions (GGE)</p>	<p><b>SDG 12.</b> Responsible production and consumption.</p> <p><b>12.6.</b> Encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle</p>

		<b>SDG 13.</b> Climate action <b>Target 13.2.</b> Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning
--	--	---

These priority lines of action will be bolstered by supporting UNDP's core resources, and will be strengthened by UNDP's own current instruments (thematic funds, initiatives, projects and programmes) for working in these areas of common interest.

In addition, Spanish Cooperation may support initiatives in line with its global knowledge management strategy which will enable the two parties to exchange processes for gathering and systematizing data, lessons learned, and good practices, in order to establish action guidelines in the scope of the SPF's objectives. In this regard, it will be useful to foster mutual collaboration and alignment between UNDP's knowledge bases and communities as regards Spanish Cooperation's instruments, such as AECID's Thematic Networks, or INTERCOONECTA, and other regional, sector-specific networks such as CIMHET, RIOCC, and CODIA.

Moreover, humanitarian resilience-building actions will be supported. This will be done in accordance with the commitments assumed at the World Humanitarian Summit—in particular, the principles adopted in the so-called Grand Bargain—and with Spanish Cooperation's new Humanitarian Strategy for 2019-2026.

Spain and UNDP will support the presence of qualified Spanish staff in UNDP, at the different professional levels established in the United Nations System and in compliance with its rules on recruitment and hiring.

## 6. HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL DIALOGUE AND MONITORING

In keeping with the importance that the Government of the Kingdom of Spain and UNDP attribute to this strategic partnership to advance the SDGs, the parties will periodically hold bilateral high-level meetings for political dialogue and strategic monitoring of the progress and implementation of this SPF.

Spain, through its participation in the entity's Executive Board, will support UNDP in its adaptation to the reform programme promoted by the UN Secretary-General, and in particular, to the comprehensive reform of the UNDS, at different offices in different countries.

# PART II. ADMINISTRATIVE TERMS

## 1. BUDGET FRAMEWORK AND FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Spain will advocate predictability in its financial contributions to UNDP, subject to the availability of budget resources.

Spanish Cooperation's contributions can be channelled through two instruments:

- **Contributions authorized by Decision of the Council of Ministers.** In the case of contributions authorized by Decision of the Council of Ministers, the conditions for the implementation and monitoring of, and report on, the contribution shall be set forth in a Memorandum of Understanding agreed upon between Spain and UNDP.
- **Contributions made through a grant awarded by the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation.** In the event that the contribution is made through an international cooperation grant pursuant to applicable Spanish regulations, the conditions for the implementation and monitoring of, and report on, the grant shall be set forth in a Decision of AECID and shall be formalized through UNDP's acceptance thereof.

In both cases the documents shall be written in Spanish.

Earmarked contributions shall be subject to a 1% levy to be used for financing the UN Resident Coordinator System, pursuant to Resolution 72/279, approved by the General Assembly on 31 May 2018. This 1% shall not form part of the budget of the contribution to UNDP, and shall only be held in trust by UNDP until its transfer to the Special Purpose Trust Fund established by the United Nations to finance the UN Resident Coordinator System. This 1% levy shall be in addition to the indirect costs determined pursuant to the decision of the Executive Board. The Government of Spain acknowledges and agrees that once the 1% levy is transferred by UNDP to the Special Purpose Trust Fund, UNDP shall not be responsible for the use of this amount, and that the UN Secretariat shall bear sole responsibility for said use and for reporting the transfer to the Trust Fund. Moreover, the Government of Spain acknowledges and agrees that UNDP shall not administer said levy, nor issue reports on its use, provided that UNDP guarantees that it has been transferred.

UNDP shall administer contributions pursuant to UNDP standards, rules, procedures, and policies. All financial commitments and expenses that it incurs under this SPF shall be expressed in US dollars, at the UN's operational rate of exchange applicable on the date of each transaction.

Other Spanish entities desiring to collaborate with and make contributions to UNDP, including other Spanish public administrations such as the Autonomous Communities and Local Entities, may accede to this SPF through an addendum hereto, notwithstanding the fact that said entities' collaboration with UNDP may be conducted outside of this framework.

#### 1.1. Contributions to core resources<sup>7</sup>

The Spanish Central Administration undertakes to increase contributions to UNDP's core resources, with a view to making these kinds of contributions total 50% of all contributions (excluding humanitarian assistance) at the end of the period in which this SPF is in force, always subject to the availability of budget resources.

#### 1.2. Contributions to trust funds<sup>8</sup> and programmes

---

<sup>7</sup>Unless the Executive Board determines otherwise, the term "core resources" shall mean untied resources available to UNDP.

<sup>10</sup>Unless UNDP's Executive Board determines otherwise, the term "trust fund" means a co-funding mechanism, established as a separate accounting entity, through which contributions may be received in support of specific goals in line with UNDP's policies, targets, and activities.

Spanish Cooperation may make contributions to UNDP funds and programmes supporting specific activities of their working programmes, provided that the availability of budget resources so allows.

Pursuant to UNDP's financial rules, trust funds form part of UNDP's "other resources". Contributions made to trust funds shall be subject to a levy for indirect cost recovery, as approved by the body's Executive Board.

1.3. Spanish Cooperation may decide to make contributions to UNDP using resources from other funds, in accordance with the corresponding terms and conditions.

1.4. Spanish Cooperation and UNDP undertake to exhaustively monitor any residual funds from contributions made prior to the signature of this SPF and, unless the respective contribution agreements provide otherwise, to jointly agree, if appropriate, on their reprogramming for priorities established herein, provided that this complies with Spanish and UNDP regulations.

## **2. MONITORING**

In addition to the high-level political dialogue referred to above in "Part I – Basic Programme Structure", which is the foundation of this SPF, the Signatories shall hold at least one technical monitoring meeting per year, preferably in the last quarter, at a venue to be determined by agreement between the Signatories, or via video or teleconference.

The purpose of these monitoring meetings shall be to take stock of the partnership and of the activities included under this SPF, to exchange viewpoints, and to agree upon improvements to the activities or to the partnership.

Specifically, the meetings shall address:

- a) Reporting on, reviewing and monitoring the state of cooperation between the Signatories.
- b) Generally reviewing the contributions made by Spain, and the possible reallocation of any residual funds, by mutual agreement.
- c) Analysing reports submitted by UNDP, pursuant to the provisions of Section 4 below.

## **3. COMMUNICATIONS, CONSULTATIONS, AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

The Signatories shall maintain smooth communication, both between UNDP's head offices in New York, Spain's Permanent Mission to the UN, the MAUC head offices, and representatives of DGPOLDES and of AECID in Madrid, as well as on the ground, between UNDP's regional and national offices and AECID's Cooperation Units Abroad (Spanish acronym UCE), including Technical Cooperation Offices (Spanish acronym OTC) or others. This communication shall facilitate strategic dialogue and the exchange of ideas, policies, and lessons learned.

Moreover, Spain shall support, both in Spain and at its facilities on the ground, the dissemination of UNDP's Human Development Report for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Signatories shall update and consult each other on matters of mutual interest related to this SPF.

In the case of Spanish Cooperation's contributions to trust funds and programmes, AECID's UCEs (OTCs or others) located in the countries in which the project is implemented shall receive regular progress reports from UNDP's country offices to ensure optimal harmonization and continual coordination in each partner country.

Consideration may be given to the option of devising a strategy that enables greater coordination of the UCEs with UNDP's country offices, without prejudice to the corresponding communication and coordination with the UN Resident Coordinator in each country and the relationship between the respective head offices.

The consultation and exchange of information and documentation to implement this section must be in compliance with the terms agreed by the signatory entities to protect the confidentiality and the restricted nature of information and documentation.

The Signatories may invite each other to send observers to the meetings and conferences they organize or that are held under their aegis and which might be of interest to the other Signatory. These invitations are subject to the procedure applicable to each meeting or conference.

All of the above shall be without prejudice to the provisions of Section 4 of this SPF, relating to the official communications established in the framework of the grants awarded.

#### **4. REPORTS**

**4.1. Contributions to the regular budget:** UNDP shall send the annual reports pertaining to the regular budget approved by its Executive Board. These shall include the narrative annual report or activities report and the auditor's report on the audited annual accounts.

**4.2. Contributions to trust funds, programmes, and projects:** In the case of multi-donor funds, or other types of programmes, reports shall be consolidated and may include information regarding contributions made by other donors. The reports shall be prepared in accordance with UNDP's internal rules and procedures.

- a. If the contribution has a duration of one year or less, the following reports shall be prepared:
  - (i) A final report drafted by the Country Office (or corresponding Unit in New York, in the case of regional or global projects) summarizing the Project's activities and their outcomes, as well as its provisional financial information, which must be submitted within six months of the end date or operational conclusion of the Project.
  - (ii) A certified final financial statement using the standard UNDP format, which must be submitted no later than 30 June of the year following the financial conclusion of the project.
- b. If the contribution has a duration exceeding one year, the following reports shall be prepared:
  - (i) An annual report drafted by the Country Office (or corresponding Unit in New York, in the case of regional or global projects) setting forth the

progress made by the Project, and the latest available budget; this report must be submitted within six months of the end of the annual period to which it refers.

- (ii) A certified annual financial statement at 31 December, using the standard UNDP format, which must be submitted no later than 30 June of the following year.
  - (iii) A final report drafted by the Country Office (or corresponding Unit in New York, in the case of regional or global projects) summarizing the Project's activities and their outcomes, as well as its provisional financial information, which must be submitted within six months of the end date or operational conclusion of the Project.
  - (iv) A certified annual financial statement at 31 December, using the standard UNDP format, which must be submitted no later than 30 June of the year after the financial conclusion of the Project.
- c. If there are multiple donors contributing to the Project, a single report addressing the progress made and the financial statement shall be accepted.
- d. After the funds have been substantiated through the certified final financial statement, using the standard UNDP format, if there are any residual funds, UNDP shall request, if possible, before the end of the substantiation period established for the contribution, the use of these residual funds for an activity of a nature analogous to that for which the funds were granted, provided that it is substantiated that the objectives were achieved and that the residual funds are due to efficient management.

These reports shall be submitted pursuant to the provisions of Section 4.2. above, except for those cases in which the Grant Award Decision or corresponding Memorandum of Understanding determines otherwise.

Reports shall be submitted internally pursuant to UNDP's standards, rules, procedures, and policies. For coordination with AECID, and with a view towards substantiation of the contribution, whether this is through a Grant Award Decision or a Decision of the Council of Ministers, the UNDP country office (or the corresponding unit in New York in the case of regional or global projects), with the support of the UNDP central office, shall be responsible for compiling reports on each implementing unit, and sending them to Spain, in accordance with the contribution made. Reports must always be submitted through official channels to the General Registry of the Spanish entity that approved the contribution, and shall preferably be in Spanish, or failing that, in English.<sup>9</sup> The reports shall document the Euro-US dollar exchange rate applied on the date that the contributions were paid. In its reports on monitoring and substantiating Spanish contributions, UNDP shall include the US dollar amounts of these contributions according to the UN exchange rate.

## **5. EVALUATION AND AUDITING**

UNDP funds shall be evaluated in accordance with UNDP's Evaluation Policy and pursuant to the rules and standards of the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG). The

---

<sup>9</sup>Reference shall be made to the case number assigned to that contribution.

evaluation report shall be published on the website indicated by UNDP, as well as on the website indicated by MAUC.

Similarly, consideration may be given to the possibility of conducting evaluations of Spain's cooperation with UNDP and of the programmes which have received funding from Spanish Cooperation, pursuant to the criteria recommended by the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC), and to UNEG's rules and standards.

Contributions made within the framework of this SPF shall be subject to the internal and external auditing procedures in UNDP's Financial Rules and Regulations, which shall be considered valid for the purpose of the controls set forth in the Spanish legislation in force.

## **6. RECOGNITION, VISIBILITY, USE OF THE EMBLEM OR LOGO**

The Signatories agree to give due recognition in public communications to the respective contributions made under this SPF. UNDP shall ensure that any publications (including activities reports and other types of reports), communications, press releases, and other informative materials produced by the entity in relation to an activity funded under this SPF clearly indicate that the activity in question received funding from the Government of the Kingdom of Spain/Spanish Cooperation. Such communications must at all times consider the security requirements of each Signatory, and be appropriate to the type of activity.

The use of either Signatory's logo or emblem in any communication shall be subject to prior written agreement between the Signatories.

### **6.1. Visibility**

The visibility and recognition of the contribution of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Union and Cooperation to the work of UNDP, are important to the Government of the Kingdom of Spain.

UNDP shall take the necessary measures to publicize the fact that a programme or project has received funding from Spain, without prejudice to the privileges and immunities of the United Nations.

In this regard, the Government of Spain expects that recognition of its support will be reflected in documents, publications, and audiovisual media, both on paper and in electronic formats, as well as press releases, statements to the media, speeches, official correspondence, and other official announcements and declarations. The final reports on each contribution must indicate the place in the text that refers to Spanish Cooperation's contribution and, where applicable, mention other possible materials promoting visibility that have been used.

The Signatories shall agree joint strategies of communication and visibility for the validity period of this SPF for the purpose of strengthening the partnership.

In the case of multi-donor funds, UNDP shall mention Spain's financial contribution to these funds in its different reports.

## 7. DURATION, AMENDMENT, TERMINATION, SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

7.1. **Timeframe.** The duration of this Strategic Partnership Framework shall begin upon its signature and last until the end of the UNDP Strategic Plan, coinciding with the end of the planning cycle of both Signatories. However, the Signatories may agree to extend it.

7.2. **Termination.** Either Signatory may terminate this Strategic Partnership Framework by giving the other party ninety days' notice. This termination shall not entail the finalization of any of the Memorandums of Understanding or Grant Award Decisions formalized under this SPF. This SPF shall remain in force insofar as is necessary whilst said Memorandums of Understanding and Grant Award Decisions remain in force.

7.3. **Amendments.** This SPF may only be amended by written consent of the Signatories, subject to prior notice of at least ninety days.

7.4. **Settlement of disputes.** Any dispute, controversy, or claim that may arise with regard to this SPF, or regarding its finalization, invalidity, or non-compliance herewith, shall be resolved amicably between the Signatories, notwithstanding other means of dispute resolution that may be included in the Memorandums of Understanding or Grant Award Decisions concluded under this SPF.

## 8. NOTIFICATIONS

Any amendment or request made in application of this SPF must be presented in writing. These notifications or applications shall be considered to have been duly delivered through their formal delivery at the official registry of the Spanish Administration.<sup>10</sup>

The addressees of the notifications or requests referred to in this Agreement are the following, except for those cases in which it is otherwise stated in the corresponding Grant Award Decision or Memorandum of Understanding:

### For MAUC:

Directorate-General for Sustainable Development Policy, DGPOIDES  
Torres Ágora. Torre Norte, 1ª Planta.  
Calle Serrano Galvache, 26.  
28071. Madrid. Spain.  
Fax: +34 91 394 89 39  
Email: [dgpoldes@maec.es](mailto:dgpoldes@maec.es)

### For AECID:

Directorate for Multilateral, Horizontal and Financial Cooperation, AECID  
Avenida Reyes Católicos, 4.  
28040 Madrid, Spain  
Fax: +34 91 583 82 34  
E-mail: [cooperacion.multilateral@aecid.es](mailto:cooperacion.multilateral@aecid.es)

---

<sup>10</sup>Pursuant to Act 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of the Public Administrations.

For UNDP:

Director, Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy  
UNDP  
One United Nations Plaza  
New York  
United States of America  
E-mail: [partnerships@undp.org](mailto:partnerships@undp.org)

**9. OTHER MATTERS**

This SPF presumes the full understanding of the Signatories as regards the purpose hereof, and replaces all prior agreements relating to the same purpose. The failure of one of the Signatories to comply with any provision of this SPF shall not constitute a renunciation of said provision or of any other provision herein. The invalidity or non-application of a provision of this SPF does not affect the validity of the other provisions herein.

This SPF shall be signed on four original documents, two in Spanish and two in English, all of them equally authentic. In the event of a difference in interpretation, the provisions of Section 7 and of the Grant Award Decisions, contribution agreements, or other instruments by which contributions are formalized shall prevail.

Nothing in this SPF shall be understood as a renunciation of the immunities and privileges of the United Nations, of which UNDP forms an integral part.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Signatories' duly authorized representatives sign this Strategic Partnership Framework in New York, on 22 September 2019:

**For UNDP:**

**For the Government of the Kingdom of  
Spain:**

Achim Steiner  
Administrator, United Nations  
Development Programme

Josep Borrell Fontelles  
Minister of Foreign Affairs, the  
European Union and Cooperation

\*\*\*