G U I D A N C E

ON INTEGRATING THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN PROCESSES FOR UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORKS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Members of the United Nations interagency Issue-Based Coalition on Environment and Climate Change provided suggestions and comments on the draft document.

The development of this document was supported by funding from the United Nations Development Coordination Office. The Guidance is provided “As Is”, without warranty of any kind.

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ACRONYMS

AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
CC	Climate Change
CCA	Common Country Analysis
ESD	Education for Sustainable Development
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
HRBA	Human Rights-Based Approach
IBC	Issue-based Coalition on Environment and Climate Change
ILO	International Labour Organization
JWP	Joint Work Plan
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
LNOB	Leaving No One Behind
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
NHRI	National Human Rights Institutions
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PM2.5	Atmospheric particulate matter (PM) with a diameter of less than 2.5 micrometres
PRTR	Pollutant Release and Transfer Register
RC	Resident Coordinator
RG	Results Group
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SME	Small or Medium-Sized Enterprise
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNCSD	United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDOCO	United Nations Development Operations Coordination Office
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation

RELEVANT TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Carbon footprint is the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions caused by an individual, event, organization, service, or product, expressed as carbon dioxide equivalent. GHG, including the carbon-containing gases carbon dioxide and methane, can be emitted through the burning of fossil fuels, land clearance and the production and consumption of food, manufactured goods, materials, wood, roads, buildings, transportation and other services.

Domestic material consumption is defined as the total amount of materials directly used in the economy (used domestic extraction plus imports), minus the materials that are exported. It is a useful indicator, as it provides an assessment of the absolute level of use of resources and, combined with GDP, it provides an insight into whether decoupling between the use of natural resources and growth of the economy is taking place.

Integrated earth system data policy, encompassing all relevant earth system data: weather, climate, hydrology, ocean, atmospheric composition, cryosphere, space weather. It builds on existing WMO data policies used successfully in the past: Resolutions 40 (weather), 25 (hydrology) and 60 (climate).

Education for sustainable development (ESD) means including into teaching and learning key sustainable development issues such as poverty alleviation, citizenship, peace, ethics, responsibility in local and global contexts, democracy and governance, justice, security, human rights, health, gender equity, cultural diversity, rural and urban development, economy, production and consumption patterns, corporate responsibility, environmental protection, natural resource management and biological and landscape diversity. ESD also aims to enable a transition to greener economies and societies by equipping learners with skills for green jobs.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a process of evaluating the likely environmental impacts of a proposed project or development, taking into account inter-related socioeconomic, cultural and human-health impacts, both beneficial and adverse.

Environmental appraisal is the process by which account is taken of the environmental dimensions of development interventions in each phase of a programme or project cycle.

Green jobs are decent jobs that contribute to preserve or restore the environment, be they in traditional sectors such as manufacturing and construction, or in new, emerging green sectors such as renewable energy and energy efficiency. Green jobs help improve energy and raw materials efficiency, limit GHG emissions, minimize waste and pollution, protect and restore ecosystems, and/or support adaptation to the effects of climate change.

Material footprint is the quantity of material extraction that is required to meet the consumption of a country. The total material footprint is the sum of the material footprint for biomass, fossil fuels, metal ores and non-metal ores. (SDG Tracker)

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a systematic process for evaluating the environmental implications of a proposed policy, plan or programme and provides means for looking at cumulative effects and appropriately address them at the earliest stage of decision making alongside economic and social considerations.

Stakeholders are all those interested and concerned, including local communities, indigenous peoples, and persons, groups and peoples in vulnerable situations; civil society, volunteer, non-governmental organisations and advocacy groups.

1. CONTEXT, PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE OF THE MAINSTREAMING GUIDANCE

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF, or "Cooperation Framework") has been designed to serve as "the most important instrument for planning and implementation of the UN development activities at country level in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda)"[1] Further, the 2030 Agenda is the most comprehensive framework for sustainable development , building on the foundations of numerous previous commitments and events (see Box 1).

BOX 1: KEY MILESTONES OF THE UN NORMATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE MAINSTREAMING[2]

1948 The Universal Declaration of Human Rights – articulated, besides the others that "everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family".

1987 Brundtland Report, "Our Common Future" – defined sustainable development as a broader concept of linked economic and ecological policies in an integrated framework.

1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro (Rio Summit) - adopted Rio conventions on climate change, forests and biodiversity, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, and established the UN *Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD).*

2000 UN Sustainable Development Summit (Millennium Summit) – committing nations to a new global partnership to reduce extreme poverty and setting out a series of time-bound targets known as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg - led to more governmental commitments and helped extend the concept's reach into the areas of business, local government and civil society.

2012 Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development – adopted "The future we want" document to renew UN commitment to ensure the promotion of an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable future for our planet and for present and future generations.

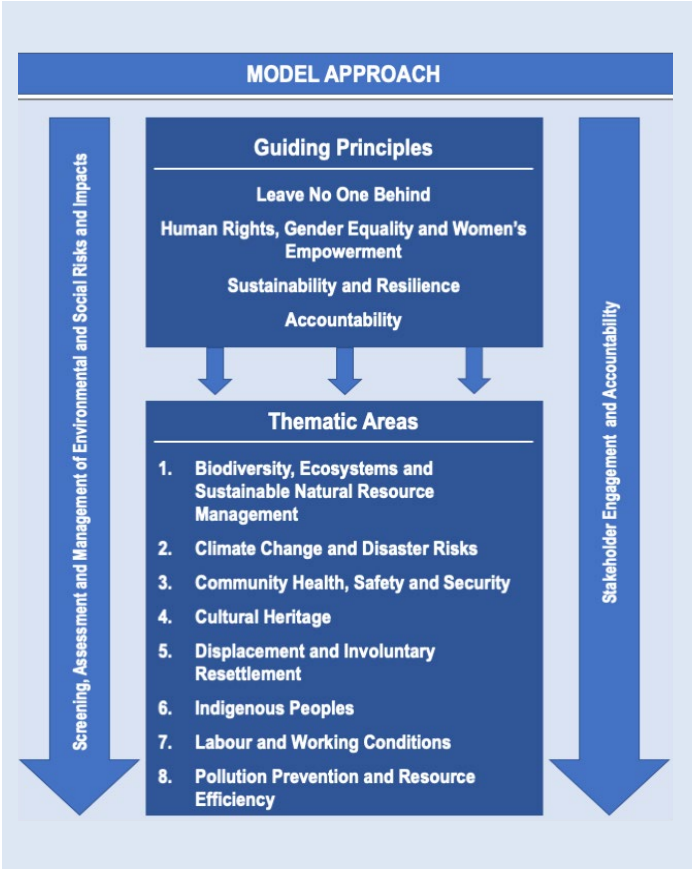
2015 UN Sustainable Development Summit – adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets

2015 Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) – commitment to reduce the risks and impacts of climate change by holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels.

2015 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 – commits the states, beside the others, to integrate, as appropriate, both disaster risk reduction and the building of resilience into policies, plans, programmes and budgets at all levels and to consider both within relevant frameworks.

2021 WMO Extraordinary Congress – submission of a new Data Policy for Earth System Data Exchange in 21st Century

[1] See https://unsdg.un.org/resources/united-nations-sustainable-development-cooperation-framework-guidance
[2] UNCSD, Framing Sustainable Development: The Brundtland Report – 20 Years On, UN, 2007; https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/frameworks



The Senior Officials of the UN Environment Management Group decided in September 2009 to undertake a consultative process and prepare a report that outlines options for a common United Nations System approach for "environmental and social safeguards".[3] Starting from 2016, the Environment Management Group effort to operationalize the safeguards system has resulted in the elaboration of a Model Approach to Environmental and Social Standards in UN Programming.[4]

The present Guidance on Integrating the Environment and Climate Change in Processes for UNSDCFs (mainstreaming guidance) complements the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework Guidance (UNSDCF Guidance)[5] by providing recommendations to United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) on how to apply the environmental and climate change related standards throughout the entire programming cycle.

Elaboration of the mainstreaming guidance responds to the request by Resident Coordinators (RCs) in the Europe and the Central Asia region to provide support in identifying and mainstreaming key regional environmental and climate change risks, challenges and opportunities. Development of the mainstreaming guidance was initiated and coordinated by the Issue-based Coalition on Environment and Climate Change (IBC)[6]. The IBC is co-chaired by UNECE, UNEP and UNESCO and its membership includes 15 other UN agencies. It was established in March 2020 to promote coordinated support to all member States in Europe and Central Asia in their implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to support RCs and UNCTs on environmental and climate change issues.

The overall purpose of the mainstreaming guidance is to support integration of the environment and climate change regulations, consisting of standards and recommended practices and procedures, in the UNSDCF programming cycle. Specifically, the guidance will:

- Increase awareness and understanding of the environmental and climate change issues and their developmental impacts, especially on the rights and well-being of the most vulnerable groups
- Assess climate change risks and opportunities

[3] UN, A Framework for Advancing Environmental and Social Sustainability in the United Nations System, UN, 2012
[4] Published on the Environment Management Group website in 2019: https://unemg.org/modelapproach/.
[5] UNSDG, United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework Guidance, 2019 Available at
[6] See https://unece.org/issue-based-coalition-environment-and-climate-change.

- Introduce and facilitate practical application of mainstreaming based on internationally recognized and applied approaches, such as strategic environmental assessment (SEA) and climate change risk screening
- Identify good practice examples of environmental mainstreaming into CCA and UNSDCFs

The mainstreaming guidance is designed for the following target audience:

- UNCTs, Results Groups, Thematic groups and other relevant teams created within the UNSDCF governance and management structure
- UN and external specialists who support or conduct the mainstreaming
- UN and external specialists involved in UN programming
- Representatives of government, civil society, academia, and other country stakeholders involved in the CCA preparation, UNSDCF planning, design, implementation, reporting, monitoring and evaluation

2. RATIONALE FOR MAINSTREAMING

People have a right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment upon which we all depend for our health and wellbeing.[7] There is a growing understanding that for future sustainable and human rights based socioeconomic development, good health and quality of life, environmental harm such as pollution, biodiversity loss, unsustainable use of natural resources and the climate crisis must be addressed. The 2019 Global Environmental Outlook states that 6 to 7 million premature deaths per year are caused by air pollution, and land degradation affects about 29 per cent of the world's land inhabited by about 3.2 billion people.[8] Three-quarters of all emerging infectious diseases are zoonotic, transmitted from animals to humans, which is supported by the destruction of the environment and by the wildlife-related crime.[9]

Environmental degradation, unsustainable production and consumption, and advancing climate change will also have an adverse effect on national and world economies. Investing in nature conservation and combating climate change will not only prevent damage to the world economy, but can lead to economic benefits, provided that the right approaches and development policies are applied. For instance, according to a recent study commissioned by the Campaign for Nature, achieving the 30 per cent nature conservation target (in the oceans and on land) would increase economic production by between $ 64 billion and $ 454 billion a year if conservation efforts were focused on areas that have potential to bring other benefits as well.[10]

The 2030 Agenda recognizes that countries need to design and apply an integrated, human rights-based, partnership-led approach to development planning in order to achieve the SDGs. Urgency to address climate change is expressed in *SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate*

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7 See e.g., Human Rights Council resolution 46/7 (2021), and UN Secretary-General, The Highest Aspiration: A Call to Action for Human Rights (2020), calling to increase "United Nations support to Member States at field level for laws and policies that regulate and promote the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and for effective individual access to justice and effective remedies for environment-related concerns"

8 UNEP, Global Environmental Outlook 6, UNEP, 2019

9 UNODC, World Wildlife Crime Report: Trafficking in protected species, UN, 2020

10https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/jul/08/protecting-30-planet-could-bolster-economy-study-says?fbclid=IwAR3wFvlCZ_VUaJ11Pe2dhMFKnrvRMEkJ_QmYogjRjJ0FJ6KeQf3n4hj3OQQ

change and its impacts, with one of the targets specified as "Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning". Environment protection is explicitly addressed in *SDG 6: Ensure access to water and sanitation for all, SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development* and *SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss*, but the environment is integrated throughout the whole SDG framework. UNEP indicates that 93 SDG indicators (out of 244) are related to the environmental dimension of the SDGs. [11]

The relevance of environment and climate change mainstreaming for achieving the "non-environmental" SDG targets is illustrated by the examples below.[12]

For more information on the links between environment, climate change and the non-environmental development sectors and priorities, see Annex B, "Links between the environment and climate change and development priorities", attached to this mainstreaming guidance.

11 UNEP, Measuring Progress Towards achieving the environmental dimension of the SDGs; UNEP, 2019

12 For information on relevance of mainstreaming for all SDGs, see the 2016 EU Guidance on Integrating the environment and climate change into EU international cooperation. Its Annex 1 lists all SDG Targets that EU considers being environment and/or climate change related.

3. MAINSTREAMING CONCEPT, GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND SCOPE OF APPLICATION

Integration of the environment and climate change into UN programming means their systematic integration into the process of UNSDCF development, implementation and evaluation, in order to incorporate aspects of the environment and climate change into economic and social goals of sustainable development frameworks and interventions.

The overall objective is to support UN entities' efforts to attain environmentally beneficial, as well as sustainable development outcomes and "to ensure that development and humanitarian actors are held to the principles they proclaim and that interventions do not result in inadvertent harm to people and the environment."[13]

The mainstreaming process is expected to result in:

1. Identifying and addressing the risks and challenges associated with climate change and the environment, which may jeopardize the success and overall impact of development goals and interventions
2. Identifying and preventing the negative impacts of development interventions on the environment and climate change
3. Identifying and enhancing positive environment- and climate change-related benefits and opportunities of the development interventions to support environmentally sustainable, low-emission and resilient development.
4. Identifying indicators for measuring the achievement of environmentally sustainable, low emission and resilient development

The mainstreaming process must adhere to and support the application of the UNSDCF guiding principles of *leaving no one behind (LNOB), the human rights-based approach to development (HRBA), gender equality and women's empowerment, resilience, sustainability and accountability* (see Box 2).

13 See https://unemg.org/modelapproach/

BOX 2: ADHERENCE OF MAINSTREAMING WITH THE UNSDCF GUIDING PRINCIPLES

LNOB: Mainstreaming objectives and activities should always consider the socially and economically vulnerable groups of the population, who are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change and environmental degradation. Where applicable, the opportunities and capacities of those groups to face the challenges should be enhanced.

HRBA: The ultimate goal of mainstreaming is to ensure that peoples' rights to healthy, clean and safe environment are not compromised or violated. It should further support that people have access to information, participation and access to justice in the environment and climate related matters. The protection of environmental human rights defenders, who increasingly face repercussions and reprisals and are often labelled "anti-development", is important. [14]

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT: Within the mainstreaming process the impact of environmental degradation and climate change on men and women should be identified and addressed; women's equal access to and ownership of natural resources should be strengthened, and women participation in policy and decision making in the area of the environment and climate change as well as women's participation in green jobs should be promoted.

RESILIENCE: Mainstreaming should include objectives and measures that enhance resilience to natural, biological and technological hazards caused either by climate change or environmental degradation and pollution.

SUSTAINABILITY: Proper mainstreaming of environmental and climate change dimensions in development planning and programming will ensure that the economic, social and environmental benefits of development interventions and long-term and sustainable.

ACCOUNTABILITY: Mainstreaming framework should include the accountability mechanism enabling development interventions' beneficiaries and other stakeholders to address potential interventions-related grievances; and guiding the UNCT compliance review process in case affected or interested stakeholders claim that UNCT does not comply with its environment- and climate change-related polices and standards.[15]

14 See e.g., Human Rights Council resolution 40/11 (2019)," Recognizing the contribution of environmental human rights defenders to the enjoyment of human rights, environmental protection and sustainable development" UN Doc. A/HRC/RES/40/11

15 As a concrete example see the UNDP Social and Environmental Compliance Review and Stakeholder Response Mechanism.

In this mainstreaming guidance, the term “environment and climate change” covers the following thematic areas, adapted from the Model Approach to Environmental and Social Standards in UN Programming:

- Biodiversity, ecosystems and sustainable natural resource management
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Pollution prevention and resource efficiency
- Community health, safety and security

Accordingly, effective mainstreaming should ensure that the UN programming[16]:

a) Contributes to biodiversity conservation, avoids adverse impacts on *biodiversity*, maintains and enhances the benefits of *ecosystem services*, promotes integrated management and sustainable use of *natural resources*, and ensures the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources.
b) Identifies opportunities to promote *climate change mitigation and adaptation*, ensures that supported activities are designed and implemented in a manner sensitive to climate change impacts and disaster risks, and minimizes programming-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
c) Avoids and minimizes adverse impacts on human health and the environment from *pollution* (including short and long-lived climate pollutants and water pollution) and from the risks posed by the biological and technological hazards; promotes *sustainable and efficient use of resources*, including energy, land and water; avoids or minimizes the generation of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes; and promotes safe, effective, environmentally sound pest management.
d) Avoids or minimizes community exposure to disaster risks, diseases and hazardous materials associated with programming activities; ensures that safeguarding of personnel and property minimizes risks to communities and is carried out in accordance with international human rights standards and principles; and ensures the effective measures are in place to address emergency events, whether human-made or natural hazards.

Mainstreaming in the CCA and UNSDCF should be done by combining (i) analysis, outcomes and outputs focused specifically on the environment and climate change, and (ii) integration of the environment and climate change as a cross-cutting aspect in the non-environmental development priorities and solutions. In current UNSDCFs, the environment and climate change are treated as a sector, thus receiving the same attention as the other non-environmental sectors and development priorities. Therefore, the major objective of the mainstreaming guidance is to ensure that the environmental and climate change risks and opportunities are properly considered in the non-environmental development results.

The mainstreaming approach is set within the process of UNSDCF design and implementation, described in the UNSDCF Framework Guidance, and the related UNSDCF Companion Package documents; in particular the Cooperation Framework Companion Package, Guiding Principles Cooperation Framework Companion Piece and the Consolidated Annexes to the Cooperation

16 EMG: Moving towards a Common Approach to Environmental and Social Standards for UN Programming, UN, 2019

Framework Guidance (version from 2019), which outline the CCA and UNSDCF documents' content. Accordingly, **the entry points for mainstreaming** in this guidance are:

- Country Framework Roadmap
- Common Country Analysis
- UNSDCF design
- UNSDCF implementation
- UNSDCF monitoring and evaluation

The main focus of the mainstreaming guidance is on the CCA and UNSDCF design stage. The UNSDCF is being implemented through more focused programmes and projects, which require application of a mainstreaming at different scale, scope and using different types of impact assessment approaches and tools. It is recommended that the specific guidance for the stage of UNSDCF monitoring and evaluation is elaborated.

According to the UNSDCF Guidance, it is not expected to collect primary data or to conduct complex (impact assessment) analysis in the process of the CCA and UNSDCF design. The same is valid for the mainstreaming process which should also draw primarily on existing sources of evidence and research.

The mainstreaming guidance is complemented by the following annexes:

- Annex A, listing the examples of resources and tools that may support different stages of the environment and climate change mainstreaming process

- Annex B, providing more details on links between the environment and climate change and the following sectors or development areas: Human rights, including the right to a healthy environment, children's rights and the rights of women; Economic and trade development, including SMEs and decent work; Food security and agriculture; Infrastructure and sustainable use of resources, including energy, water and waste management; Quality education; Good health; Good governance; and Disaster reduction and conflict prevention. As the review of the UNSDCFs of selected countries show, these are the areas typically covered by the UNSDCF strategic priorities and solutions.

- Annex C, providing information on the following areas - integrated water resource management*, waste management and chemicals, climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity and air pollution* – to support their better integration in the UNSDCF processes.[17]

17 These areas were selected upon the request of the Europe and Central Asia region RCs.

4. MAINSTREAMING IN THE ROADMAP FOR NEW COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

Overall objective: Ensure that planning of the key milestones, timelines, support needs and the roles in the Cooperation Framework cycle provides room for the proper integration of the environment and climate change in all UNSDCF stages, guiding process and content.

Table 4.1 Link between roadmap preparation and mainstreaming

ROADMAP PREPARATION STEPS	RECOMMENDED MAINSTREAMING STEPS
Establishment of the Joint National-UN Steering Committee and identification of stakeholders	A. Engage environment- and climate change-related actors and concerned and interested stakeholders, including social partners, civil society and members of the public
UNCT capacity development	B. Make the case and build capacity for environment and climate change mainstreaming.
Budget for the elaboration of CCA and UNSDCF	C. Ensure the budget is available for mainstreaming the environment and climate change

A. Engage environment- and climate change-related actors and stakeholders

The Joint National-UN Steering Committee is established based on the ToR that is shared and reviewed by UNCT. It is recommended to use this step to advocate for the inclusion in the Committee of focal point(s), ideally with a certain level of influence, who may advocate for and support integration of the environment and climate change in the CCA and UNSDCF elaboration. Focal points should represent the Government or the other stakeholder groups, such as social partners, if applicable.

The stakeholder analysis and mapping, or any other stakeholder identification and engagement tool applied by UNCT, should include the mapping and engagement of the key government and other actors responsible for or active in addressing environmental protection, use and management of natural resources and climate change, or those expected to be affected by climate change and environmental degradation. The role of these stakeholders at different stages of the UNSDCF cycle should be stated and the mechanism for consultations and meaningful public participation developed.

***Examples**: ministries responsible for protection of environment, including the national meteorological and hydrological services, addressing climate change, use of natural resources such as land, water, and energy; local governments, especially from the areas (but not only) exposed to natural hazards related to the environment and climate change; institutions with the relevant expertise; national human rights institutions (NHRIs), local*

communities – including indigenous peoples, and persons, groups and peoples in vulnerable situations; social partners, i.e. employers' and workers' organizations, especially regarding green jobs and education for sustainable development (ESD); civil society, volunteer, non-governmental organizations and advocacy groups active, concerned and knowledgeable of environmental and climate change conditions in the country.

B. Make the case and build capacity for environment and climate change mainstreaming

UNCT engages with the relevant authorities representing the sectors of finance, economy, industry, energy, agriculture, regional development, transport, etc., that usually have stronger decision-making power to promote the need to reflect environmental and climate change issues in all aspects of the country development planning.

UNCT advocates for environment and climate change mainstreaming during the consultations on the draft roadmap. It may formulate a presentation or discussion around some of the questions shown in Box 3, based on the relevant information and data available at this stage.

BOX 3: GUIDING QUESTIONS TO FORMULATE DISCUSSION ON THE RELEVANCE OF MAINSTREAMING[18]

- How much do the country's main natural resource sectors contribute to economic development?
- How do the natural resources contribute to key sectors (agriculture, forestry, water and sanitation, mining and industry, health, trade, energy and infrastructure and tourism)?
- What is the size of the population depending on natural resources for their livelihoods? How dependent are poor households on natural resources?
- How are sectors that are the largest employment providers impacted by climate change?
- What are the health-, productivity- and human rights-related impacts of air, soil and water pollution?
- How are different socioeconomic groups (e.g., women, men, children, the elderly, indigenous peoples, minorities and ethnic groups and income groups – in particular, persons, groups and peoples in vulnerable situations) being affected by these various issues?
- What is the legal status of the human right to a healthy environment in the country?
- How are the rights to access to information, participation and justice protected, respected and fulfilled in the country? What is the situation for environmental human rights defenders?
- How vulnerable is economic development to environmental hazards such as flooding, drought and climate change?
- Which regional or transboundary resources need to be considered, for example rivers, lakes or aquifers shared with neighbouring countries
- What are the effects and costs of environment- and climate change-related hazards on health, the economy, human rights, livelihoods, decent work and vulnerability?
- Are there rapidly growing green sectors or subsectors that present opportunities for job creation?

18 UNDG, Mainstreaming Environmental Sustainability in Country Analysis and UNDAF: A Guidance Note for United Nations Country Teams and Implementing Partner Teams, UNDOCO, 2009

If needed, UNCT and/or additional experts involved in the CCA or UNSDCF preparation improve their own capacity for environment and climate change mainstreaming through, for instance, roundtables, meetings, workshops, training, distribution of advocacy or policy briefs or studies demonstrating environment- and climate change-economic linkages, experience exchange or study visits, etc.

C. Ensure the budget is available for the process of environment and climate change mainstreaming

Ideally, the mainstreaming process is supported by relevant experts within the UN system. If not possible, UNCT ensures that budget for the CCA and UNSDCF elaboration includes funding, for instance, for external experts to support mainstreaming and for the meetings and consultations, including travel to the regions, if needed.

CHECKLIST OR GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR THE ROADMAP PREPARATION

- ☐ *Who are the key Government, donor and civil society actors who shape development priorities and influence environmental policy and natural resources management?*
- ☐ *Who amongst these actors would "champion" environmental mainstreaming in ongoing country analytic work and national development planning?*
- ☐ *Who are the Government, donor, civil society, academia and other stakeholders who possess knowledge on environmental and climate change aspects of development?*
- ☐ *Is there a common understanding among the Joint National-UN Steering Committee members, UNCT and other relevant actors on a need for and the benefits of environment and climate change mainstreaming in national development planning and UN programming?*
- ☐ *Does UNCT have sufficient capacity to guide and conduct mainstreaming in the CCA and UNSDCF elaboration. If not, is there a possibility and/or the opportunity (material, financial, time) to involve external experts?*
- ☐ *Does the budget for the CCA and UNSDCF elaboration process include items (training, advocacy and awareness raising materials, experts) to support environment and climate change mainstreaming?*

5. MAINSTREAMING IN THE COMMON COUNTRY ANALYSIS

Overall objective: Understand and highlight the key environmental and climate change aspects within the broader country development context in order to provide well-informed support to and influence the process of setting UNSDCF priorities.

Table 5.1 Link between CCA design and mainstreaming (simplified)

CCA PREPARATION STEPS	RECOMMENDED MAINSTREAMING STEPS
Develop the CCA methodology and workplan	A. Integrate the process of environment and climate change mainstreaming in the CCA methodology and work plan
Analyse the country's development context	B. Identify and analyse key environmental and climate change issues within the broader context of the country development
Analyse the country's development priorities and needs and implementation of its commitments under relevant internationally agreed norms and standards and UN Charter values	C. Identify national environmental and climate change priorities and commitments under the multilateral environmental agreements, and under other relevant internationally agreed norms and standards, and briefly assess the implementation status
Outline the country's progress towards the 2030 Agenda, including the set-up of institutional mechanisms	D. Assess progress towards the SDGs and targets related to the environment and climate change, including within the non-environmental SDGs
Identify the risks, significance and drivers of risks that could impact progress towards SDGs	E. Identify and evaluate the risks associated with environmental degradation and/or with the impacts of climate change
Identify and analyse the main bottlenecks that prevent the country from accelerating progress on the SDGs	F. Examine and identify the existing gaps and challenges for achieving the key environment- and climate change-related development goals and targets
Provide analysis of the domestic, foreign, public and private finance for SDGs	G. Include public and private financing for addressing the environment and climate change in assessment of SDG financing

A. Integrate the process for environment and climate change mainstreaming in the CCA methodology and work plan

- UNCT provides qualified UN programme staff and external experts (if needed) that will support the environment and climate change mainstreaming process. It includes relevant experts in the inter-agency team that will prepare the CCA report. These experts present an approach for mainstreaming to the rest of the team.

- If needed, repeat the step of making the case for mainstreaming, described in the Roadmap section above.

- Relevant experts outline how the CCA will be linked with and draw on other country reports and analyses of environmental and climate change challenges and, if available, studies providing evidence of the links between environment, climate change and other development areas. Identify data gaps, and approaches and tools for gathering additional information (for instance comprehensive climate risk assessment or economic valuation of environmental asset degradation), results of which could be reflected in one of the CCA periodic reviews.

B. Identify and analyse key environment and climate change issues within the broader context of the country development

Actions within this and the following steps are conducted by the experts designated to support environment and climate change mainstreaming:

- Gather information, qualitative and quantitative, on the status, trends, challenges and opportunities in the area of biodiversity and ecosystems, climate change, including weather patterns and related disaster risks, use and management of natural resources (forest, land, water and other natural resources), waste and chemicals, and other pollutants generation and management, and water and energy efficiency. Relevant transboundary, regional and subregional factors of the named issues should be included, where relevant.

- Select challenges for deeper analysis, applying the suggested criteria:[19]
  - The persistence, severity and scope of the problem as evidenced by relevant reports
  - Negative trends
  - Trends that might lead to man-made crises or natural disasters
  - Disparities suggesting unequal treatment and discrimination, impacts on the effective enjoyment of human rights
  - Particular opportunities for UNCT advocacy and programme cooperation
  - Opportunities for multiple impacts where problems are closely linked or have a causal relationship.

19 UNDG, Mainstreaming of Environmental Sustainability in Country Analysis and UNDAF: A Guidance Note for United Nations Country Teams and Implementing Partners Teams, UNDOCO, 2009

For instance: "Air pollution, pollution of water bodies, improper waste management, climate change impact, loss of biodiversity, and forest degradation are key environmental challenges that will need tackling to meet the EU's environmental standards and policies." (North Macedonia CCA)

- Analyse how the key environmental challenges and opportunities are affected or how they affect the economic and social dimensions of sustainable development, including decent work and fulfilment of human rights. Make sure to also identify the root causes of those challenges in order to direct the UNSDCF interventions towards systemic changes.

For instance,, while the immediate cause of the increased deforestation may be the agricultural land expansion, one of the root causes may be institutional factors, such as unclear and overlapping responsibilities and mandates of the state forestry and environmental protection authorities (ministries) in forest management.

Identification of the common environmental and climate change related causes of multiple problems will increase the likelihood that policy or programmatic responses will yield multiple positive impacts.

There are several tools that may support the analytical process of identifying climate change and environment and development links. A matrix indicating the synergies between the environment and climate change and development issues and/or problem trees are possible approaches (see the examples in Table 5.2 and Figure 5.1).

Table 5.2: Example of a matrix identifying synergies between environment and development issues and objectives

Key environmental (and social) issues or objectives	Air pollution	Deforestation	Scarce water supply	Loss of biodiversity	GHGs emissions	.....
Development areas or objectives						
Transport improvement	1	0	0	0	1	
Country energy independence	1	1	1	1	1	
Agriculture	0	1	1	1	1	
Address corruption	0	1	1	1	0	
Good quality health	1	1	1	0	0	
Public fiscal reform	1	1	1	1	1	
Improved strategic planning	1	1	1	1	1	

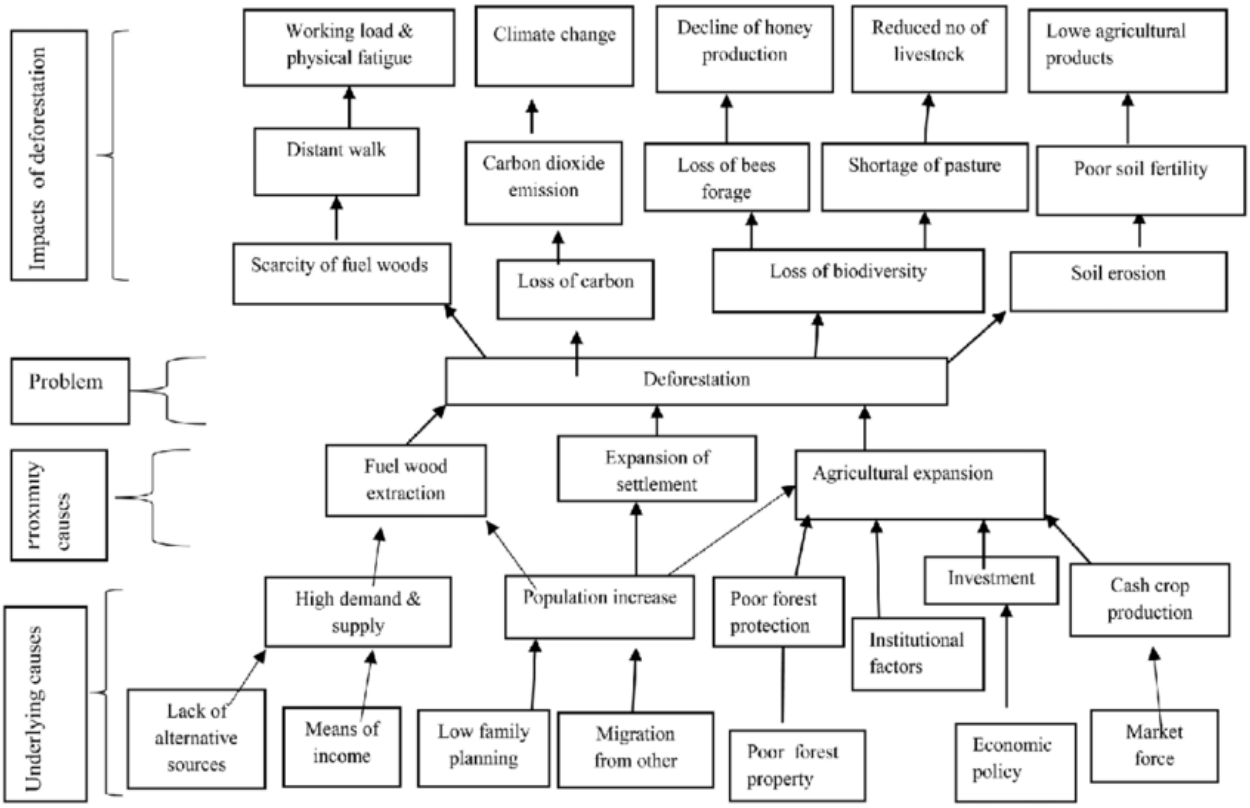
A very simple scale can be applied for the identification of links:
0 – There is no (strong) link between sector or development area and a given environment or climate change priority (i.e., sector would not affect the issue (strongly), neither negatively nor positively)
1 – There is a (strong) link between sector and a given environment or climate change priority (i.e., sector would likely have an effect on the issue, positive or negative)

The application of such a simple matrix may help to identify synergies that are not particularly obvious but nonetheless relevant.

For instance, the possibility to apply public fiscal instruments in the area of environment and climate change as such (e.g., green or climate budgeting or accounting), or the benefits of applying such instruments for addressing the environmental and climate change challenges (e.g., energy tax on fuels affecting air pollution and GHGs emissions; tax on pesticides or harmful agriculture subsidies affecting biodiversity and water quality; affordable water charges of scarce water supplies).

It is reasonable to use the matrix of synergies only in case socioeconomic development issues are clearly pointed out in the CCA country context description. Very often the CCA section on the country context is rather general.

Figure 5.1 Example of a problem tree[20]



[20] See https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Diagram-of-Problem-Tree-Analysis-developed-during-PRA-exercise-in-the-field_fig6_332325690

- Analyse how the specific groups that have been left behind or at risk of being left behind may be affected by the identified environmental and climate change challenges.

  *For instance: In many countries, women are discriminated against because there is still a lack of adequate provisions for **women** to hold land rights independently of their husbands or male relatives. Statutory law often does not provide for women's independent rights and when such legislation does exist, mechanisms to enforce it are often absent. Progress in the issue is inhibited also by the still existing gender stereotypes.[21] Besides the other consequences, women have less opportunities to learn about and apply sustainable agriculture practices.*

  *Higher poverty and isolation of **remote communities** may increase their vulnerability in the areas where the natural disasters caused by climate change become more frequent and more devastating.*

  *While the relationship between climate change, disasters and human mobility is complex, it is clear that climate change intensifies existing vulnerabilities of **those displaced and on the move**. Other risk factors including natural hazards, conflict, socio-economic conditions, and multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination contribute to this heightening of vulnerabilities.[22] **s**.[23]*

- Using the existing information sources (studies, reports, strategies, etc.), complement the results of the interlinkage and casual analysis by more specific, where possible quantitative, information on the impact of development issues on environmental and climate change challenges, and impact of the environment and climate change on development. Document the findings in both the environmental and relevant non-environmental CCA sections of the country context, while avoiding duplications. In case the particular linkage is sufficiently described in the CCA section focused specifically on the environment and climate change, include at least a brief reference to that link in the relevant CCA section analysing the country's social or economic development dimensions.

21 See http://www.fao.org/3/y4308e/y4308e05.htm
22 See e.g. UNFCCC Decision 1/CP.16 Cancun Climate Change Adaptation Framework, paragraph 14f
23 See https://en.reset.org/knowledge/environmental-refugees-%E2%80%93-how-climate-change-affects-peoples-lives

BOX 5.1: GOOD EXAMPLES

ALBANIA CCA DESCRIBES THE TRANSBOUNDARY AND REGIONAL CHARACTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGES AND THEIR IMPACT

Economic growth in the Western Balkan region is dependent upon climate-sensitive natural resources, implicating high costs with regard to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Among other impacts, researchers predict increased flood risks, particularly along the Danube, Sava and Tisza rivers. The Adriatic Sea and its coastline are polluted by plastic waste and other pollutants entering from the rivers and coastal cities. Pollution hotspots (contaminated soil and chemicals) remain a concern across the region, and several cities in the Western Balkans rank among the worst in Europe in terms of air pollution.

GEORGIA CCA INFORMS ON THE RISK POSED BY CLIMATE CHANGE TO AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

By 2050, climate change is expected to raise temperatures within a range of 1.3 to 2.8 degrees Celsius in Georgia, limit the availability of potable water, and increase the frequency and magnitude of extreme weather events. All these events can have significant negative impact particularly on agricultural sector and threaten food security. The severity of food insecurity at household and individual level is at 8.9% in Georgia, second highest in the region after Albania. The prevalence of undernourishment is the highest in the region at 7.4%. 41.7% of the population lives in rural areas, 43% of the total workforce is engaged in agriculture, and 43% of the total territory is designated as agricultural land. Climate change would likely cause losses in yields due to an increase in the size of drought-prone regions, and degradation of agricultural land because of heightened soil salination and increased evaporation intensity.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA CCA IDENTIFIES CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS ON THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN OR MAY BE LEFT BEHIND

Most affected by May 2014 floods were rural households, small and medium businesses, and agricultural producers, as well as vulnerable population groups (flood affected negatively 78,564 unemployed, 60,000 children and 10% of persons with disabilities). The alarming experience of the flood disaster brought much deeper, long-term development consequences for Bosnia and Herzegovina, which equal a five-year set back on achieving targets of greater gender equality, lower poverty rates, reduced marginalisation and greater equality for minority groups and persons with disabilities.

C. Identify national environmental and climate change priorities and commitments under multilateral environmental agreements and assess the implementation status

- For the key challenges identified above, provide a snapshot of the priorities the country has identified in the strategies, policies and plans specifically addressing the environment and climate change. Importantly, include environment and climate change-related priorities set in the flagship country mid- and long-term development strategies and policies, and in the strategic planning documents for the natural resource-based sectors (such as agriculture, energy, water, industry, etc.).

- Provide a brief analysis of the country's implementation of its commitments under relevant international, regional and transboundary multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and other international norms and standards. The analysis should contain: (i) the list of the MEAs, norms and standards; (ii) commitments (including quantitative ones, where possible), under those agreements; (iii) gaps and challenges in terms of compliance with the obligations, regarding the related environmental legislation, enforcement, monitoring and reporting. Highlight those outstanding commitments delivering on which would translate into progress on SDGs. Make sure to include information on the actual commitments, not only a list of relevant MEAs.

BOX 5.2: GOOD EXAMPLES

KAZAKHSTAN CCA QUANTITATIVE DATA ON COMMITMENTS TO SELECTED MEAS

Under the Paris Agreement, Kazakhstan pledged an unconditional 15% reduction in GHG emissions by 31 December 2030 compared to the base year and a conditional 25% reduction in GHG emissions by 31 December 2030 compared to the base year, subject to additional international investments, access to a low-carbon technologies transfer mechanism, green climate funds and flexible mechanisms for a country with an economy in transition. At a Ministerial Roundtable in 2018, Kazakhstan committed to restore 1.5 million hectares of degraded and deforested land by 2030 under the Bonn Challenge and an additional 300,000 hectares subject to funding support.

ALBANIA CCA HIGHLIGHTS THE OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT DELIVERING ON WHICH WOULD SUPPORT A NUMBER OF SDGS

CCA reports that provisions of the UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention) and its Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs) can be used as procedural cross-cutting tools to support the country's efforts in the implementation, follow-up and review of a number of SDGs, in particular Goal 16, as well as Goals 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, in conjunction with Goal 17.

D. Assess progress towards the SDGs and targets related to the environment and climate change

- Report whether the environment- and climate change-related SDGs are considered as priority goals for the country.
- Further provide an overview of the status of SDGs and targets related to the environment and climate change throughout the whole SDG framework.
- Identify and, where possible, report on progress towards the environment- and climate change-related targets that support the achievement of the non-environmental goals (e.g., level or exposure to air pollution under the SDG 3 on health, or proportion of women with ownership or control over land under the SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 16 as relating to public participation, access to information and justice in environmental matters, and SDG 10 on inequalities in general).
- Assess whether the existing process of SDG nationalization and the institutional mechanism enables addressing the environment and climate change as an issue cutting through all relevant sustainable development goals.

BOX 5.3: GOOD EXAMPLE

North Macedonia CCA includes an assessment of the environmental and climate change factors within 13 of the 17 SDGs. The table below presents selected examples.

SDG GOALS AND SELECTED TARGETS	ASSESSMENT
SDG 2: Sustainable and resilient food production	Cultivable area under organic farming is not available. However, area under "productive and sustainable agriculture" is 0.31 percent.
SDG 3: Ending or reducing AIDS and other diseases	Current levels of population exposure to PM2.5 are responsible for 1,794 deaths annually in the cities.
SDG 5: Ensuring an equal access of women to economic resources	According to the National Agency for Real Estate Cadastre data as of 2019, only 27 percent of landowners are women.
SDG 16: Promote rule of law and justice for all, and equal participation in decision making at all levels	The Aarhus Centre that provides a platform to engage citizens, governments and the private sector in a dialogue on environmental challenges can serve as a bridge between public authorities, the members of the public and business operators in addressing environmental matters and dissemination of environmental information to the public.
SDG 17: Enhancing policy and institutional coherence	Coherence among policy documents is assessed to be medium. Strategic environmental assessment (SEA), a tool of coherent integration of environmental and green economy aspects, is often bypassed by sectoral documents.

E. Identify and evaluate the risks associated with environmental degradation and/or with climate change

- When applying the multi-dimensional SDG-based Risk Framework, as instructed in the Cooperation Framework Companion Package document, provide an overview of the environment and/or climate change risk, its significance (magnitude and impact) and early warning indicators that will be monitored over time to inform necessary changes in the country's and the UN development system's responses. Also identify how other risks could affect the environment and climate change.

- Considering the fact that the CCA has a character of a framework analytical document and the limited time for its preparation, only the rapid climate and/or environment risk assessment based on expert' judgement and review of the existing (risk assessment) studies would be a feasible tool to apply. The UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure provides guidance for rating the risk significance based on its impact and likelihood. Analysis of mutual influence between the country-specific environmental and climate change challenges and social and economic development issues, described in step A above could be instrumental in the risk assessment.

BOX 5.4: GOOD EXAMPLE

Extraction from the North Macedonia CCA Multi-Dimensional Risk Assessment

Risk factor	Assessment or affected SDGs or indicators to be tracked	Impact	Likelihood	Early warning indicators
Infrastructure and access to services	Drinking water supply and water quality are high risk factors. Water quality is deteriorated by discharging untreated waste waters into the rivers and pollution of surface and ground waters.	Medium or high	Medium or high	- Monitoring of drinking water quality and consumption - Monitoring of surface and ground water quality
Environment and climate change	Significant increase in frequency of extreme weather events with increased risks of river floods, droughts, landslides, fires; forest degradation and increased risks to human health and damage of economic sectors.	High	Medium	- PRTR or meteorological data - State of the environment or thematic reports - Extreme weather events - Sendai framework early warning system - Subregional data

F. Examine and identify the existing gaps and challenges for achieving the key environment- and climate change-related development goals and targets

- Assess the current status of capacity and the enabling environment for progressing towards achieving the environment- and climate change-related SDGs, especially referring to the existing institutional and legal framework, institutional capacity to implement and deliver on relevant national programmes, coordination mechanisms and data availability to report on the relevant national SDG indicators. Identify the gaps and capacity needs for improvement. Include information related to the mechanisms and instruments (policy, legal, economic) supporting the process of integrating the environment and climate change in development policy and decision making per se, such as environmental impact assessment, strategic environmental assessment, access to information, public participation in policy and decision making, access to environmental justice, green or sustainable public procurement and green budgeting.

BOX 5.5: GOOD EXAMPLE

Georgia CCA refers to the environmental and climate change areas in the section gaps and challenges towards achieving the 2030 agenda

"Policy makers and data producers recognize: (i) considerable data gaps, especially in relation to urban development, quality of urban infrastructure, housing, urban poverty and homelessness; Specific information gaps have been identified by different actors. They include information in the area of agriculture and environment, such as the data on productivity of agri-businesses, income and expenditure of agricultural holdings, climate-related information, and the information on forest and water resources. The availability of data at municipal level is minimal, which mostly relates to limited budget."

G. Include public and private financing for addressing the environment and climate change in assessment of SDG financing

- Provide information on the available or envisaged sources of domestic, foreign, public and private finance for the area of the environment and climate change. Analyse national budget allocations in terms of their direction towards environmentally sustainable, resilient and low-emission development.

- If relevant, describe the status, barriers and challenges but also potential for introducing green budgeting tools for incorporating environmental and climate change dimensions into fiscal frameworks, including the annual budget document, evaluation of tax and expenditure policies and long-term sustainability analysis.

- Where possible identify resources allocated and needed not only within the environmental sector but also natural resources-based sectors and sectors affecting or affected

by climate change. Where available, use studies assessing economic costs of an environmental asset, for example, the economic cost of land degradation, or the cost of climate change impact on relevant sectors, to identify SDG finance gaps and to argue for more effective budget allocations.

BOX 5.6: GOOD EXAMPLE

Uzbekistan CCA:

- Presents 2019 State budget expenditures for the implementation of all SDGs, with very low spending on the SDG 13 and SDG 15 (0.3 and 0.2 % of total expenditures, respectively).
- Lists phasing out of fossil fuel consumption subsidies (in 2018 accounted for 16% of GDP) and modernizing the outdated and inefficient irrigation infrastructure (costing the country 8% of GDP), causing water wastage, among the factors that could increase SDG financing. It does not indicate, though, how those resources would be used.

CHECKLIST OR GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR INTEGRATING THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN CCA

- ☐ *Is there a common understanding in UNCT and relevant stakeholders of (i) interlinkages between the environment and climate change, and social and economic development, decent work, human rights and human well-being; and (ii) the need to mainstream the environment and climate change throughout the UNSDCF cycle?*
- ☐ *Is the process of environment and climate change mainstreaming reflected in the CCA methodology and work plan?*
- ☐ *Is the inter-agency technical team well-resourced to conduct environment and climate change mainstreaming? Is there a need to build or bring in additional capacities?*
- ☐ *Is there sufficient information (reports, studies, statistics) available for analysing environmental and climate change challenges at the country, regional and transboundary levels? Is there a need to collect additional primary information and conduct additional studies? If so, at what stage of UNSDCF cycle would they be utilized?*
- ☐ *What are the key country specific and transboundary environmental and climate change issues (e.g., biodiversity and forest loss, climate change adaptation, water scarcity), and related trends, challenges and opportunities?*
- ☐ *What is the mutual relation among those issues (see the point above) and the priority economic, social, decent work, human right and human well-being aspects of country development?*
  Are these well understood and captured in both the environmental and/or non-environmental CCA sections describing the country context?
- ☐ *How are or could environmental and climate change challenges and opportunities affect or be affected by those left behind or those in risk to be left behind? Do persons, groups and peoples in vulnerable situations have access to information, participation and remedies in environmental matters?*
- ☐ *For the key environmental and climate change challenges, what are the national priorities and commitments under the multilateral environmental agreements?*
- ☐ *What environment- and climate change-related SDGs have been included among the country priority development goals for the national 2030 Agenda? What is the actual progress towards their achievement?*
- ☐ *There are environment- and climate change-related national or SDG targets that support the achievement of the non-environmental SDGs. Which are those and what is the actual progress towards their achievement?*
- ☐ *Do challenges in the environment and climate change present significant risks to achieving the SDG priorities by the country? Will development trends and challenges in the non-environmental sectors present significant risks for achieving national priorities, goals and targets set for the environment and climate change?*
- ☐ *What are the existing gaps and challenges (regulatory, institutional, data availability, etc.) for achieving the key environment- and climate change-related goals and targets? How effectively does the country apply - mechanisms and instruments, such as EIA, SEA, environmental justice, public participation and green or sustainable public procurement, that support the mainstreaming process?*
- ☐ *What are the available and envisaged sources of finance and/or finance gaps to address the environment and climate change, including in the natural resources-based sectors and non-environmental sectors? Does the country apply or plan to apply tools for incorporating environmental and climate change dimensions into budgeting and fiscal frameworks?*

6. MAINSTREAMING IN THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK DESIGN

Overall objective: Ensuring that UNCT identifies and proceeds towards sustainable development results that help the country to achieve low-carbon and climate resilient development without degrading the environment and depleting the natural resources.

Table 6.1 Link between UNSDCF design and mainstreaming (simplified)

UNSDCF PREPARATION STEPS	RECOMMENDED MAINSTREAMING STEPS
Appoint the UNCT members who will oversee the UNSDCF design process and involve the wider range of stakeholders	A. Create an enabling environment for mainstreaming
Provide a brief overview of the country context and progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda as determined by the CCA	B. Confirm the key environmental and climate change issues, risks or challenges and opportunities
Identify UNSDCF strategic priorities or catalytic development solutions and related theory of change	C. Integrate the environment and climate change in the UNSDCF strategic priorities and Theory of Change
Formulate the UNSDCF results framework: outcomes, (outputs,) indicators and targets	D. Integrate the environment and climate change in the UNSDCF Results Framework
Describe the UNCT configuration agreed with the Government	E. Integrate the environment and climate change in the UNCT configuration

A. Create an enabling environment for mainstreaming

- UNCT ensures that the team responsible for the UNSDCF design includes experts on the environment and climate change, and that interested and concerned stakeholders, including social partners, are consulted during the UNSDCF preparation process.

- UNCT creates a mechanism for the environment and climate change experts (internal or external) involved in the UNSDCF design to communicate and cooperate with the experts working on the formulation of the non-environmental development solutions and results.

B. Confirm the key environmental and climate change issues, risks or challenges and opportunities

It is recommended that all the following steps are conducted by the members of the UNSDCF design team with expertise in the environment and climate change (mainstreaming):

- Using the CCA results, point out the key environmental issues, challenges, risks and opportunities, relevant for the country's social and economic development, employment

and the well-being of its population, including those left or at risk of being left behind. For the selected issues add the list of the national priorities and international commitments (as set out in national strategic documents and reports), related SDG targets and describe major gaps and capacity development needs for progressing towards their achievement. Well-defined national priorities, commitments and SDG national environment- and climate change-related targets are inevitable for environment and climate change appraisal of non-environmental development results – see the Table 6.2.[24]

Table 6.2: Illustrative example

KEY ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES	OFFICIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE OBJECTIVES	RELATED SDG TARGETS (HIGHLIGHTED IN THE SDG VNR)
CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION: - *GHG emissions* - *High fossil fuel consumption by sectors*	Reduce GHG emissions by 25% by 2030, compared to base year	7.2: increase the share of renewable energy in total energy mix by 2030 13.2: integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies, and planning 13.3: improve education, awareness raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning
WATER AVAILABILITY: - *Low access to clean drinking water* - *Water pollution* - *Seasonal droughts* - *Transboundary water challenges*	Increase access to drinking water to 97% in cities and to 74% in rural areas	6.1: by 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all 3.3: by 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases
CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION: - *More frequent and extreme weather events (droughts, floods, etc.)*	Integrate CC adaptation aspects into relevant sectors' development policies, plans and programmes	11.5: by 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations 13.1: strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate related hazards and natural disasters
- …….	……	……

24 Approach of documenting key environmental issues, challenges, risks and opportunities, and related objectives is partially adapted from the: GTZ, UNDP, UNECE: Training Manual on Strategic Environmental Assessment & Regional Development Planning

- Briefly report on the status and progress of the relevant SDGs as established through the CCA and reported through the evidence-based Voluntary National Review(s).

C. Integrate the environment and climate change in the Cooperation Framework strategic priorities and their Theory of Change

- Within the visioning exercise build on the CCA causal analysis and identify the linkages between envisaged development solutions and the selected environmental and climate change challenges, risks and opportunities (highlighted in section A above). If needed, and if the level of detail in part of the UNSDCF is sufficient, use again the simple matrix or a problem tree shown above in the chapter on CCA, to identify those linkages. In the theory of change describe how they affect each other and examine the alignment of the proposed development solutions or strategic priorities with the relevant environment- and climate change-related national priorities, international commitments (global and regional multilateral environmental and climate change agreements, WMO data policy and regulations, etc.), the related national SDG targets and the gaps for accelerating progress towards their achievement. This would help to identify the gaps within non-environmental development areas that need to be addressed in order to tackle climate change and environmental degradation.

For instance, the illustrative table above shows that the changes in policymaking and development planning, as well as in education, are fundamental for bringing systematic solutions to reduce GHG emissions.

Annex B to this guidance also supports understanding and illustrates links between the environment and climate change and other development areas and sectors, such as agriculture and food production, good health, gender equality, decent work and good governance.

- Apply the results of the causal relationship analysis mentioned above, along with other criteria specified in the UNSDCF Framework Guidance (such as the UN mandate and comparative advantage), for integrating the environmental and climate change issues in the formulation and specification of Cooperation Framework Strategic Priorities. Integration may be realized by either (i) focusing one strategic priority explicitly on addressing the environment and climate change, or (ii) including adjectives indicating an environmentally sustainable and climate change sensitive approach in the formulation of other priorities, and/or (iii) by referring to the environment and climate change in the description or specification of the identified strategic priority.

BOX 6.1: GOOD EXAMPLES

Kazakhstan UNSDCF links the environment and climate change with gender in the theory of change

" If women have equal access to and control of new sources of energy and economic resources and are resilient towards climate change and other shocks and global challenges, then women can fully realise their equal participation which contributes to inclusive economic growth and the achievement of higher living standards for all people in Kazakhstan."

Priority Area # 3: Protecting the environment and addressing climate change **(UNSDCF Azerbaijan)**

Thematic Area 3: Inclusive economic growth and environmental sustainability **(UNSDCF Kazakhstan)**, or Priority area or pillar: Green, sustainable and inclusive economic development **(UNSDCF Armenia)**

Specification of the Strategic priority I: Sustainable, resilient and inclusive growth refers to the requirement of a shift to low-carbon and resilient economy and living, to support green and decent jobs and to coordinate implementation of natural and cultural resource management policies and plans **(UNSDCF Bosnia and Herzegovina)**

It is highly recommended to refer to the environment and climate change or the related terms at the level of selecting Strategic Priorities even though these may sound too general to provide for the right entry point for mainstreaming. This is because the Strategic Priorities set the framework for selecting the UNSDCF development results (outcomes and outputs) and thus indicating where to invest its collective efforts, capacities and resources.

D. Integrate the environment and climate change in the UNSDCF Results Framework

Mainstreaming in the UNSDCF Results Framework means that the role the environment and climate change play in country development is well understood and the key environmental and climate change challenges, risks and opportunities are considered when formulating development results (outcomes and outputs). The mainstreaming process will result in:

1. Setting the development result(s) focusing specifically on addressing the environment and climate change, as well as
2. Cross-referencing and aligning the non-environmental development results with the country's environmental and climate change priorities and commitments.

The recommended mainstreaming approach should comprise of the following actions:

- Identification of synergies between proposed development results and the identified environmental and climate change priorities and commitments.

- Impact analysis: analysis of (i) how the proposed development result may affect the achievement of the environmental and climate change objectives and commitments; and/or (ii) how may action towards achieving the environmental and climate change priorities and commitment contribute to a better development result or, on the other hand, how may inaction compromise the achievement of the development result.

- Formulation of at least one outcome (and related outputs) specifically focused on addressing the environment and climate change.

- Review and reflect on the environment and climate change dimension in the relevant non-environmental development result either by their reformulation or by adding a new development result. Respective implementing measures may be indicated to inform the Joint Work Plan preparation process. The extent of the modification may depend on the level of development result (outcome and output) that the UNSDCF contains. Some UNSDCFs identify only outcomes, with the outputs planned to be identified within the preparation of the Joint Work Plan (JWP). Some UNSDCFs also include outputs, which, by being more specific, provide a better opportunity for mainstreaming.

- Identification of indicators; each outcome or output supporting the environment and climate sensitive approach will be linked with the relevant SDG (based) indicators, listed under the related SDG target.

- Identification of the right partnerships necessary to pursue the agenda of environment and climate change mainstreaming in the relevant, including non-environmental, outcomes.

See the illustrative example below and Annex B that explains links between the environment and climate change and development sectors and areas and provides examples of the respective outcomes or outputs, indicators and implementing measures.

BOX 6.2: ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE

Country X identifies in the CCA, and confirms (see the section A above) the following key national priorities in the area of the environment and climate change:

- Reduce GHG emissions by 25% by 2030, compared to base year
- Increase access to drinking water to 97% in cities and to 74% in rural areas
- Integrate CC adaptation into relevant sectors' development policies, plans and programmes

Country X[25] formulates the following environment- and climate change-related outcome in order to progress towards achieving the priorities listed above:

- By 2025, all people, without discrimination, enjoy enhanced resilience through improved environmental governance, climate action and sustainable management and use of natural resource(s) in Country X
  - Output 5.1: Environmental governance and institutional capacity enhanced to enable rational, equitable and sustainable use of natural and land resources, to ensure conservation of ecosystems and make communities more resilient to environmental shocks
  - Output 5.2: Climate-sensitive, resilient and risk-informed development ensured, without discrimination, in AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use), health, water safety, construction, energy and food production sectors to increase adaptive capacities and mitigate impact of climate change pursuing LDN (Land Degradation Neutrality)
  - Output 5.3: Innovative and climate-friendly technologies used for inclusive green economy, energy efficiency and clean energy production to enhance Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and support long-term decarbonization strategies

Country X formulates, besides others, a good governance focused outcome and outputs:

- Outcome 1: By 2025, all people in Country X enjoy improved good governance, more open, resilient and accountable institutions, rule of law, equal access to justice, enjoyment of human rights, and increased representation and participation of women in decision making
  - Output 1.1: Inclusive national and local governance systems have greater resilience and capacities to mainstream gender, migration and ensure evidence-based and participatory policymaking, map and address inequalities and deliver quality services to all
  - Output 1.2: National legislation and policies to eliminate discrimination, enhance human rights and equal access to justice in Country X
  - Output 1.3: Legislative frameworks, policies and governance systems deliver gender-equal results, combat gender-based violence, violence against children and other harmful practices towards women and girls

The relevance of a good governance as such (outcome) for effective environment protection and management and addressing climate change is clear – see Annex B for more information. Therefore, the matrix in Table 6.3 analyses the links between the environmental and climate change objectives and priorities and the outputs supporting the implementation of the good governance-focused outcome.

25 All outcomes and outputs below are from the UNSDCF Georgia 2021-2025

Table 1: Example of matrix showing synergies between the environment and climate change and the development results (outputs)

Key environmental (and social) issues or objectives	Reduce GHG emissions	CC adaptation in policymaking	Drinking water supply	……
UNSDCF Outcome 1 on Good Governance: simplified outputs				
Output 1.1 Governance systems for improved participatory policymaking	1	1	1	
Output 1.2 Legislation to eliminate discrimination, enhance human rights and access to justice	1	1	1	
Output 1.3 Governance system to address violence against children, girls and women	0	0	0	

0 – There is no (strong) link between the sector or development area and a given environmental or climate change priority (i.e., the sector would not affect the issue (strongly), neither negatively nor positively)
1 – There is a (strong) link between the sector and a given environmental or climate change priority (i.e., the sector would likely have an effect on the issue, positive or negative)

The next step – impact analysis – is conducted only for the issues evaluated as "having a link" (i.e., with rating "1") in the above link analysis.

Table 2: Example of impact assessment and appraisal matrix[26]

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE PRIORITY: INTEGRATE CC ADAPTATION ASPECTS INTO RELEVANT SECTORS' DEVELOPMENT POLICIES, PLANS AND PROGRAMMES		
LIKELY EFFECTS ON THE KEY ISSUES		
UNSDCF outcome and outputs	**Likely effects**	**Possible implementing interventions (UN entities projects)**
OUTCOME 1: Improved governance **OUTPUT 1.1:** Governance systems for improved participatory policymaking	**Brief description of likely effects (both positive and negative) of the outcome or output on the environmental or climate change priority or vice versa** - Likely positive effect on CC adaptation mainstreaming due to improved process of integrated policymaking, including its transparency and accountability **Key concerns associated with these effects** - Low political will to mainstream CC adaptation in policymaking or development planning - Insufficient capacity for CC adaptation mainstreaming	- Commission studies providing evidence on the CC adaptation benefits for development - Advocacy for CC adaptation - Build capacity (guidelines, training, etc.) for mainstreaming CC adaptation in policymaking

OUTCOME 1: Improved governance **OUTPUT 1.2:** Legislation to eliminate discrimination, enhance human rights and access to justice	**Likely effect** - Likely positive effect due to enhanced rights to participate in decision-making and access to justice, including in environmental and climate change matters **Key concerns associated with these effects** - Non-existing or not efficiently applied laws and regulations for free access to information, public participation and access to justice, including in environment and climate change matters - Low awareness of the public of the right to information, right to participate and access to justice, including in environmental and climate change matters	- Support compliance with the Aarhus Convention on access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters - Introduce or enforce better national legislation on free access to information, public participation and access to justice, including in environmental and CC matters - Increase public awareness of the above

RECOMMENDED CHANGES AND MODIFICATIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT RESULTS: OUTCOME AND OUTPUTS:

OUTCOME: Formulation of the outcome is relatively general and therefore provides the opportunity to address cross-cutting issues, including the environment and climate change, without a need to modify or reformulate it.

SUGGESTED REFORMULATION OF THE OUTPUT 1.1: Inclusive national and local governance systems have greater resilience and capacities to mainstream gender, migration, **and the environment and climate change**, and ensure evidence-based and participatory policymaking, map and address inequalities and deliver quality services to all

SUGGESTED REFORMULATION OF THE OUTPUT 1.2: National legislation and policies to eliminate discrimination, enhance human rights and equal access to justice, **including in gender equality and environmental matters,** in Country X

PROPOSED INDICATORS:
Legislation in support of environment and climate change mainstreaming in place and enforced; Number of strategic development documents (national, sectoral, sub-national or spatial) that integrate the environment and climate change as a cross-cutting issue; Extent to which national laws are in accordance with the provisions of the Aarhus Convention; % of people (of the total asked) with knowledge of their rights to free access to information, participation in decision-making and access to justice, including in environmental matters.

26 Approach documenting impact assessment and appraisal is partially adapted from the: GTZ, UNDP, UNECE, Training Manual on Strategic Environmental Assessment & Regional Development Planning

The example above shows that the environmental and climate change specific outcome itself aims for improved environmental governance (see the Output 5.1 in the Box 6.2 above). It is however important to ensure that the environment and climate change (along with other cross-cutting issues) is addressed and considered when introducing or improving different governance processes supported within the implementation of the non-environmental outcomes. For instance, not considering a need to adapt to climate change in strategic planning of sectors as agriculture, construction or water management, or in urban and rural planning may have a significant impact on economy, human health, well-being and lives in the future.

BOX 6.3: GOOD EXAMPLES

Bosnia and Herzegovina UNSDCF Outcome 1. "By 2025, people benefit from resilient, inclusive and sustainable growth ensured by the convergence of economic development, and **management of environment and cultural resources**"; **Indicator** "Policy, financial or other stimulus measures endorsed to **promote sustainable, green economy and low-carbon growth and living**".

Kazakhstan UNSDCF Outcome 1.2. "By 2025, all people in Kazakhstan, especially the most vulnerable are empowered **with knowledge and skills to equally contribute to sustainable development** of the country"; **Indicator** "Number of teachers trained **on education for sustainable development (ESD)** including gender equality and human rights"

Armenia UNSDCF Outcome 4: "People, communities and regions benefit from equitable economic opportunities, decent work and sustainable livelihoods, enabled through competitiveness and inclusive **green growth**"; **Output 4.3** "**Green and sustainable investments** are promoted to drive equitable and export-oriented growth".

In the Georgia UNSDCF Outcome 4: "By 2025, conflict affected communities enjoy human rights, enhanced human security and **resilience**"; **Output 4.2** "Socio-economic conditions, **community resilience** and self-reliance improved with programmes benefiting conflict affected communities, particularly those left behind". **Indicator 4.2.3** "Number of people with improved community **resilience against climate-induced multi-hazard natural disasters**".

E. Integrate the environment and climate change in the UNCT configuration

- In case UNCT commits to systematically integrate the environment and climate change in the UNSDCF implementation, monitoring and evaluation, it should be clearly articulated during the configuration exercise (workshop).

- The Government and technical counterparts that understand a need to bring the right arguments (including at the configuration workshop) for integrating the environment and climate change across the Cooperation Framework development results should be involved in configuration of the UNCT capacities.

- The existing UNCT capacity, expertise and resources for both implementing the environment- and climate change-focused interventions (programmes and projects) and for systematic integration of environmental and climate change aspects in the non-environmental projects should be assessed. Box X presents examples of guiding questions for such assessment.

- UNCT should propose the corresponding configuration, in terms of synergies for delivering, cooperation and coordination of the mainstreaming efforts among the UN entities.

BOX 6.4: GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR THE UNCT MAINSTREAMING CAPACITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Is Government supportive of environment and climate change mainstreaming?
- Are there government institutions specifically mandated to support environment and climate change mainstreaming?
- Is UNCT (officially) committed to environment and climate change mainstreaming?
- Are individual UN entities (officially) committed to climate change and environment mainstreaming?
- Does UNCT or do UN entities orient their staff to adopt a mainstreaming culture?
- Do UN entities have their own policy and standards for mainstreaming? If so, has the system or process of the policy or standards been developed?
- Would the mainstreaming system and standards of one UN entity be applied by the whole UNCT or would UN entities apply or develop their own systems and standards (ideally aligned with the UN Model Approach to Environmental and Social Standards in UN Programming)?
- Will UNCT establish the group or team to support and coordinate mainstreaming?
- Does the UNCT or UN entities' staff have capacity for mainstreaming?
- Are there guidelines, tools and training materials available? If so, are they being followed?
- Have indicators to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of mainstreaming been identified and included in the JWP or other UN programming documents?
- Is there budget allocated to develop or improve the system and capacity for mainstreaming?

CHECKLIST OR GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR INTEGRATING THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK DESIGN

- ☐ *Is the UNCT well-resourced to conduct environment and climate change mainstreaming? Is there a need to build / bring in additional capacities?*
- ☐ *Are the experts working on formulation of the 'non-environmental' development solutions and results aware that CF design includes the environment and climate change mainstreaming? Are they ready to cooperate with the environment and climate change experts? Is the means of such cooperation and communication defined?*
- ☐ *Does the CF brief country overview reflect upon the key environment and climate change challenges, risks and opportunities identified in the CCA, including the related national priorities, international commitments, SDG targets and progress towards their achievement?*
- ☐ *How would the key environmental and climate change challenges affect the desired changes / strategic priorities and development solutions in the country? On the other hand, are the proposed 'non-environmental' strategic priorities / development solutions aligned with the identified environmental and climate change priorities, commitments and related SDG targets?*
- ☐ *Is it clear from the strategic priorities' formulation and/or specification (description) that it provides for the development solution(s) that are environmentally sustainable, and support low-carbon and resilient development?*
- ☐ *Are the key environmental and climate change priorities, commitments and SDG targets sufficiently reflected in the CF Results Framework? In other words:*
- ☐ *Is there at least one Outcome focused specifically on achieving key environment and climate change priorities, commitments and targets?*
- ☐ *Are relevant 'non-environmental' development results (outcomes and / or outputs) appraised to reflect upon a need to support environmentally sustainable, low-carbon and resilient development? Is it clear from such development result's formulation and / or specification (description)?*
- ☐ *Are development results (outcomes / outputs) that promote environment and climate sensitive approach to development linked with the relevant SDG (based) indicators?*
- ☐ *What partnerships are inevitable to pursue the agenda of the environment and climate change mainstreaming in the relevant, including 'non-environmental' outcomes?*
- ☐ *Is UNCT committed to systematically integrate the environment and climate change in the CF implementation, monitoring and evaluation?*
- ☐ *Does UNCT have capacity, expertise and resources to ensure that environment and climate change are integrated in relevant, including 'non-environmental' programmes and projects?*
- ☐ *Does the proposed UNCT configuration provide for a systemic mainstreaming?*
- ☐ *Does the proposed UNCT call upon UN entities to unify and coordinate their mainstreaming efforts?*

7. MAINSTREAMING IN THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK IMPLEMENTATION

Overall objective: Ensure that the environment and climate change are integrated as a cross-cutting issue in programmes and projects implementing the UNSDCF.

Entry points for mainstreaming in UNSDCF implementation:

- JWPs and their reviews
- CCA and UNSDCF reviews
- UN entities' or agencies' programmes and projects

Integration of the environment and climate change in Joint Work Plans

It is recommended that the UNCT takes the following actions for effective mainstreaming in JWPs:

- Include government authorities responsible for the environment and climate change among the partners and stakeholders to be consulted, including the departments formulating and overseeing compliance with legal and regulatory frameworks for environmental mainstreaming (legislation on environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment[27]), if such departments exist.

- Partner and consult with the natural resources-based sectors, such as energy, agriculture, forestry, water, fisheries and construction. UNCT would benefit from partnering with the other stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations, other donors and international organizations that have been advocating for and building country capacity for environment and climate change mainstreaming.

- Advocate for mainstreaming among the partners on an iterative basis, as needed.

- In JWPs include the outputs for implementing the environmental and climate change specific outcome and ensure the other non-environmental outputs are cross-referenced with the environment- and climate change-related objectives and modified, as needed. The team may apply an approach illustrated in the Chapter 6, Section D. Integrate the environment and climate change in the UNSDCF Results Framework.

- In order to mainstream the environment and climate change (along with the other cross-cutting issues) in UNSDCF implementing interventions (programmes and projects) on a systematic basis, UNCT should commit to mainstreaming and include the respective statement in the JWP. Reference should be made to the UN Model Approach to Environmental and Social Standards in UN Programming. Based on the UNCT capacity assessment for mainstreaming (possibly using the guiding questions in the section "Integration in the UNCT configuration"), the JWP should outline the process and system

27 Likely based upon the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment.

to be introduced or applied by UNCT for systemic environment and climate change mainstreaming in UN entities programmes and projects.

- Ensure that the UNSDCF implementation governance mechanism enables systemic environment and climate change mainstreaming. One option is to include the Results Group (RG) to oversee the implementation of the environmental and climate change specific outcome, and to broaden its mandate to also advise on and oversee the process of mainstreaming. Having one member of the RG on the environment and climate change participating in the work of the other Results Groups could be one of the modalities to realize it in practice. Another option could be establishment of a separate cross-cutting Thematic Group on environment and climate change mainstreaming, considering however the related transaction costs.

- Conduct training on environment and climate change mainstreaming for all other Results Groups.

Integration of the environment and climate change in UN entities' programmatic sub-outputs (programmes and projects)

The formulation, implementation and review of the UN entities' and agencies' programmes and projects is another entry point for mainstreaming. Whether the UN entities apply the common system for mainstreaming or apply their own (if existing), the following steps should be completed at minimum:

- **Environment and climate change screening** of agencies' programmes and projects; the screening process will determine whether the programme or project has any linkage with the environmental and climate change aspect, and if so, what level of impact assessment is needed during the project design. UNDP's Social and Environmental Screening Procedure[28] provides a comprehensive checklist of potential risks the programme or project may pose to biodiversity, climate change and pollution prevention and resource efficiency.
- **Environmental and climate change assessment** of programme or project interventions; the analysis and reporting of environmental and climate change risks and opportunities, and the encouragement of public engagement throughout the process. At a minimum national and local laws and regulations for environmental assessment will be followed. In the absence of national legal frameworks, agency assessment procedures will be applied. Where there are none, agencies should consider a strategic environmental assessment for programmes, or an environmental impact assessment for projects. The conduct of either is a complex endeavour that will normally require the services of an external experts or consulting firm.[29]
- **Management of environmental and climate change risks and impacts** includes a range of measures necessary for the programme or project to proceed. These will include mitigation and monitoring measures, as well as ongoing engagement with and reporting to interested and concerned stakeholders.

28 UNDP, UNDP's Social and Environmental Screening Procedures (SESP), 2021
29 UNDG, Mainstreaming of Environmental Sustainability in Country Analysis and UNDAF: A Guidance Note for United Nations Country Teams and Implementing Partners Teams, UNDOCO, 2009

8. MAINSTREAMING IN COOPERATION FRAMEWORK MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Overall objective:

a) Assessing whether the outcomes and outputs that directly or indirectly address the environment and climate change are on track or have been achieved
b) Assessing the functionality of the mainstreaming system and process established and applied by UNCT (if applicable)

The following actions should be conducted within the UNSDCF monitoring and evaluation:

- Criteria and indicators for environment and climate change mainstreaming to assist monitoring, evaluation and, where applicable, revisions for further improvements, need to be constructed and included in the UNSDCF results framework and monitoring plan. Besides indicators and targets for measuring the environment and climate change responsiveness of the relevant outcomes, outputs and related interventions (see examples in Annex B), the criteria to track and evaluate the UNCT process or system for mainstreaming should be introduced and applied as well.

- In a broader sense, internal and external evaluators will apply relevant criteria and indicators to evaluate the system for mainstreaming in terms of:
  - Articulation of the UNCT commitment to mainstreaming
  - Enabling environment for mainstreaming: existing policy or strategy, approaches and tools, unified or coordinated approach to mainstreaming by UN entities, existing governance mechanism for mainstreaming, awareness and capacity building of staff and stakeholders, monitoring and evaluation framework
  - Level of mainstreaming in CCA, UNSDCFs and JWPs and their revisions
  - Level of mainstreaming in UN entities' programmes and projects.

- It is recommended that further, more detailed guideline is elaborated on evaluating the results and effectiveness of mainstreaming, in cooperation with the UN Evaluation Office and the Environmental Management Group.

- A monitoring, evaluation and learning group (MEL) should have the capacity to set up and implement a MEL plan that includes the elements for monitoring and evaluating risks and opportunities related to the environment and climate change, as well as the effectiveness of the mainstreaming process or system. Training sessions on mainstreaming techniques for the MEL group are recommended.

- Criteria and indicators are applied in the Annual Performance review and consequent possible amendment of the Cooperation Framework and/or the following year's Joint Work Plan, and in the external final evaluation of the Cooperation Framework.

ANNEX A: EXAMPLES OF USEFUL APPROACHES AND TOOLS

The list below presents examples of resources, and tools that may be used, if relevant, as complementary to the resources listed in the document UNSDG, Cooperation Framework Companion Package, May 2020.

Frameworks for the environment and climate change mainstreaming applied by UN agencies, development banks and other development assistance organizations

UN Model Approach to Environmental and Standards (ESS) in UN Programming
UNDP Social and Environmental Standards
World Food Programme Environmental Policy
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Environmental and Social Management System
GUIDELINES Integrating the environment and climate change into EU international cooperation
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD): Environmental and Social Policy (ESP)
World Bank Environmental and Social Framework
International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability
Asian Development Bank (ADB) Environment Safeguards
International Labour Organization: Integrating a Just Transition towards Environmentally Sustainable Economies and Societies into Decent Work Country Programme Development (Guidance Note)
Global Framework for Climate Services
Alliance for Hydromet Development

International framework for standardization and interoperability, provided by WMO technical regulations, based on requirements and designed to bring efficiency and interoperability and to support policy and decision-making in many areas – disaster risk management, agriculture, aviation, shipping, water management, health, etc. Four Volumes, and a number of Annexes called Manuals, are part of these as follows:

- Volume I - General Meteorological Standards and Recommended Practices
- Volume II - Meteorological Services for Air Navigation
- Volume III - Meteorological Services for Hydrology
- Volume IV – Quality Management (in preparation)
- Guide to the Implementation of Quality Management Systems for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and Other Relevant Service Providers
- Manual on the High-quality Global Data Management Framework for Climate
- Manual on the Implementation of Education and Training Standards in Meteorology and Hydrology (WMO-No.1083) | World Meteorological Organization
- Manual on the WMO Information System
- Manual on the WMO Integrated Global Observing System
- Manual on the Global Data-processing and Forecasting System

Background information on relation between environment and climate change and the UNSDCF guiding principles

UN Committee for Development Policy (CDP): Leaving no one behind
UN International Organization for Migration (IOM) Environmental Migration Portal
United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (UNOHCHR): Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment
UNEP, UNOHCHR: The Human Rights, the Environment and the Covid-19 – Key Messages
The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Environment and Climate Change
UN Women: The Beijing Platform for Action Turns 20 – Women and the environment
UNEP Gender Equality and the Environment: Policy and Strategy
UNECE Gender mainstreaming in environmental performance reviews
UNDP Gender and Climate Change training module
UNESCO Water and Gender - Towards gender equality in the water realm!
UN Climate Resilience Initiative A2R
UNFCCC Adaptation and resilience
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Work on Climate Change
UNDRR Making Cities Resilient
IUCN Social and Environmental Accountability
UNDP Accountability: Environmentally Sustainable Operations

Stakeholder analysis

UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES): Guidance note on Stakeholder Engagement
UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES): Stakeholder Response Mechanism – Overview and Guidance
Climate Adapt Urban Adaptation Support Tool: Identifying and engaging stakeholders
International Trade Union Confederation: Just Transition Centre
Guide to the Implementation of Quality Management Systems for National Meteorological and Hydrological Services and Other Relevant Service Providers
Guide to Information Technology Security
Guide to Participation in Radio-frequency Coordination
Guide to Agricultural Meteorological Practices
Guide to Aircraft-based Observations
Guidance on Integrated Urban Hydrometeorological, Climate and Environmental Services - Volume I: Concept and Methodology
Handbook on Use of Radio Spectrum for Meteorology: weather, water and climate monitoring ad prediction

Making the case for environment and climate change mainstreaming

General or country / region specific policy briefs, fact sheets, infographics and other advocacy, awareness and communication materials based on the studies and reports providing evidence on links between the environment and climate change and development sectors and identifying

costs and benefits of 'green' approaches to socio-economic development and human well-being. For example:

Issue-Based Coalition on Environment and Climate Change, Measures to Green the Post-Pandemic Recovery
EU Capacity4dev: Sector Notes for the Integration of Environment and Climate Change
UNEP Knowledge Repository factsheets
UN Sustainable Development Goals Fact Sheet
Climate Adapt Urban Adaptation Support Tool: Communicating adaptation to different target audiences
International Institute for Sustainable Development
The value of Surface-Based Meteorological Observation Data: Costs and benefits of the Global Basic Observing Network
The value of GBON: Exploring the Insurance Sector
Guidelines on the Role, Operation and Management o... | E-Library (wmo.int)
Exchanging meteorological data: guidelines on rela... | E-Library (wmo.int)

Capacity development for environment and climate change mainstreaming

Guidelines and training modules developed by the IBC member agencies or other development assistance organizations, for example:

EU Training Seminar: Mainstreaming Environment and Climate Change in Development Operations
https://unccelearn.org/course/
https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/public-environment-climate/wiki/quick-tips-integrate-environment-and-climate-change-key-sectors
UNDP Climate Change Adaptation: Training & Tools
UNDP Mainstreaming Climate Change in National Development Processes and UN Country Programming
UN Climate Change: Gender and Climate Change Guidelines & Tools
OECD: Applying Strategic Environmental Assessment: Good Practice Guidance for Development Co-operation
EU and UNECE Partnership for Environment and Growth: Application of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment: Manual for Trainers
The Global Climate Change Alliance Plus initiative: Training – Mainstreaming Climate Change
One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership
WMO Guidelines on capacity building strategies in public weather services, including public policy development, socio-economic assessment, resource mobilization and role of partnership (government, private and academic sector)
WMO Learn: a Global Campus Resource

Identifying key environmental and climate change issues, challenges and opportunities within the broader context of a country development

National state of the environment reports; those for Western Balkan countries available also at the European Environment Agency (EEA) web site
National statistics
GHG inventories

UNFCCC National Communications
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery: Disaster Risk Country Profiles
National Development Strategies
UN National Human Development Reports and Country Profiles
National reports on compliance with Multilateral Environmental Agreements: CBD reporting, UNFCCC reporting; UNCCD reporting
EEA: The European environment — state and outlook 2020: knowledge for transition to a sustainable Europe, applicable for the Western Balkan countries
European Commission Country Environmental Profiles
World Bank Country Environmental Analysis
Environmental analysis and assessments from regional development banks
UNEP Global Environmental Outlook: Regional Assessments
International Labour Organization: International Labour Organization: Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all
Green Growth Knowledge Platform
Green Growth Working Group (GGWG) of the Donor Committee for Enterprise Development (DCED)
Handbook on Use of Radio Spectrum for Meteorology: weather, water and climate monitoring and prediction

Identify environment and climate change national priorities and commitments under the international environmental agreements

National development policies / strategies / plans
national SDG Frameworks
National Strategies for Sustainable Development
National sector plans
National Environmental Strategies and National Environmental Action Plans (NEAP)
National Strategies, Action Plans and report for major MEAs, particularly Biological Diversity, Climate Change, Desertification, and Hazardous Chemicals
National environmental legislation
National Adaptation Plans (NAPs)
Nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs)
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
WMO Strategic Plan 2020-2023

Assessing progress towards the SDGs and targets related to environment and climate change

UN Sustainable Development Goals Report
SDG National Voluntary Reviews
UNECE: Commitment to the SDGs in the UNECE region
EEA: Sustainable Development Goals and the environment in Europe: across-country analysis and 39 country profiles; relevant for the Western Balkan countries
2020 Sustainable Development Goals Report: Country Profiles
WMO Country Profile Database

Identifying and evaluating risks and impacts associated with environmental degradation and/or with climate change

National legislation and guidance (if available) on Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment
Guidance Note UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES): Social and Environmental Screening Procedure
Guidance Note UNDP Social and Environmental Standards: Social and Environmental Assessment and Management
OECD: Applying Strategic Environmental Assessment: Good Practice Guidance for Development Co-operation
UNECE: Resource Manual to Support Application of the Protocol on SEA to the Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context
UNDP Climate Change Adaptation: Users Guide to the Vulnerability Risk Assessment
UN Climate Change: Methodologies and Tools to Evaluate Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation
The Equator Principles Association: Guidance Note on Climate Change Risk Assessment
C40 knowledge: Climate Change Risk Assessment Guidance and Screening Template
UNDP, Camp Alatoo: Climate Risk Assessment Guide – Central Asia
Handbook of Drought Indicators and Indices | World Meteorological Organization (wmo.int)
Drought Indicators and Indices are available as an online tool on the IDMP website.

Examine and identify the existing gaps and challenges for achieving the key environment and climate change related development goals and targets

UNECE Environmental Performance Reviews
SDG National Voluntary Reviews
EC Environmental Governance Assessment - Methodology
Environmental Performance Index
GSDRC: National climate change governance
The gaps in the Global Basic Observing Network (GBON)
WMO Performance assessment report
WMO Key performance indicators

Public and private financing for addressing the environment and climate change in assessment of SDG financing

National public budget / expenditure review: public funds allocated / spent on environment / climate change, including in the relevant sectors
National Environment and / or National Climate Funds' budgets / expenditures
Bilateral and multilateral donor funding on environment and climate change
UN funds for environment and climate change, such as Green Climate Funds, Global Environment Facility
Development banks' funding on environment and climate change
Climate Funds Update: Data Dashboard
UNDP: A Methodological Guidebook - Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review
OECD: Green Budget Tagging - Introductory Guidance & Principles

UNDP, Republic of Kenia: A Training Handbook Climate Finance: Budget Coding, Tracking and Reporting
Enhanced Transparency of Climate Finance in Kenya
International Capital Market Association: Sustainable bonds database
The Value of GBON: Exploring the Insurance sector
Systematic Observations Financing Facility

Formulation of environment and climate change sensitive development results, solutions, indicators and targets

Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
Country-specific SDG frameworks (goals and targets)
GUIDELINES Integrating the environment and climate change into EU international cooperation; Annex 1: SDGs and targets relevant for mainstreaming
UNHCR Environmental Indicator Framework
European Environment Agency Indicators
EC: Environmental indicators for Environmental Policy Reviews
UNEP: A Guidance Manual for Green Economy Indicators
OECD: Green Growth Indicators
EC: Circular Economy Indicators
IMF: Climate Change Indicators Dashboard
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Climate Change Data
Indicators in Climate-ADAPT
FAO: Tracking adaptation in agricultural sectors - Climate change adaptation indicators
WHO: Environmental Health Indicators – Framework and Methodologies
State of the global climate 2020: unpacking the indicators

ANNEX B:
LINKS BETWEEN THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

COMPLEMENTS THE GUIDANCE FOR INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN PROCESSES FOR UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORKS

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN

Facts demonstrating the linkages:

More than 80 per cent of UN Member States have recognized the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment through their constitutions, legislation or ratification of regional human rights treaties.[i] A safe climate is one of the key substantive elements of the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment.[ii] **- - -** Entrenched and systemic discrimination can lead to gender-differentiated impacts of climate change and environmental degradation on health, food security, livelihoods and human mobility, among other things. Intersectional forms of discrimination can further increase the vulnerability of some women to climate change, while the exclusion of women from climate action limits its effectiveness and further increases climate harms.[iii] **- - -** Climate change may seriously affect children's enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, access to education, adequate food, adequate housing, safe drinking water and sanitation – with children in developing countries often sustaining its worst effects.

Examples of development results:

Recognition of the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment through constitutions, legislation or ratification of regional human rights treaties // All people have free access to information, access to justice, and the right to participate in decision making for sustainable development // Proportion of population (disaggregated by sex, age and other criteria) exposed to pollution and toxic substances has decreased by XY% // Women enjoy equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance, and natural resources in accordance with national laws (adapted SDG Target 5.a) // Women have equal opportunities to be actively and meaningfully involved in economic and political life

Examples of indicators:

Existence of provisions recognizing the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment in national legislation // Enforcement of national law(s) that guarantees public access to information, access to justice and participation in decision making, including, in environmental matters // Level of integration of children's rights in environment and climate change related policies // Proportion of children/ women and other groups exposed to pollution and toxic substances // Share of women among owners or rights-bearers of agricultural land, by type of tenure (SDG indicator 5.a.1 // Number of ministries and sub-national authorities in the 'environment and natural resources sectors' headed by women

Examples of implementing interventions:

Introducing tools (e.g., open data) for improving public access to information and fundamental rights, according to national legislation and international conventions // Introduction / improved enforcement of legislation providing for people access to justice and right to participate in decision-making, incl. in environmental matters // Integrating children's rights to the environmental and climate change policies and policies related to the sectors affecting the environment and climate change // Improve measures that strengthen women's status in agricultural value chains by expanding their access to the basics of work productivity, including land tenure, financing, inputs, extension services, training, markets, paid work, and decision-making authority // Introduce and apply mechanism for promoting women to senior positions in the management of natural resources, environment protection and climate change address

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ECONOMIC AND TRADE DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING INNOVATIONS, SMEs AND DECENT WORK

Facts demonstrating the linkages:

The present economic model is undermining natural resources and ecosystem services and thereby eroding the viability of many economic activities and livelihoods and the prosperity of future generations.[iv] **- - -** Globally, 1.2 billion jobs depend directly on a healthy environment.[v] **- - -** Green jobs are decent jobs that help to improve energy and raw materials efficiency, limit greenhouse gas emissions, minimize waste and pollution, protect and restore ecosystems, support adaptation to the effects of climate change. **- - -** Trade can accelerate the use of natural resources and exacerbate poor environmental practices. It may also facilitate the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and the introduction of environmental regulation.[vi] - - - Taken together, SMEs have a greater impact on the economy and the environment than larger companies; thus, the dynamics of green growth very much depend on how small businesses can integrate sustainable practices into their activities.[vii] SMEs in many countries are also responsible for the majority of employment. - - - Green technologies and innovations contribute to improving human welfare and social equity and reduce the risk of resource scarcities. They can help reach underserved communities that lack access to electricity, clean water and sanitation, but also to financial means and create jobs.

Examples of possible development results:

By 2025, people benefit from resilient, inclusive and sustainable growth ensured by the convergence of economic development and management of environment and cultural resources (CF Bosnia and Herzegovina outcome) // By 2025, women and men in Kosovo, particularly youth and vulnerable groups, have increased access to decent work and benefit from sustainable and inclusive economic development that is more resilient to impacts of climate change, disasters, and emergencies (CF Kosovo outcome) // Resource efficiency in consumption and production is improved and there is an endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation (adapted SDG Target 8.4) // Enabling environment created / improved to support private sector, especially SMEs, as drivers of green and innovative economy

Examples of indicators

GHG emissions per GDP // Coal consumption intensity // Material footprint per capita, and material footprint per GDP // Domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP // Energy productivity // Employment and gross value added from market production of the environmental economy // Trade in environmentally sensitive commodities // Development of environment-related technologies, inventions per capita

Examples of implementing interventions

Introducing fiscal and economic instruments in support of green economy (e.g., environmental taxes, removal of environmentally damaging subsidies; green budgeting / accounting, green bonds) // Improving legal and regulatory instruments in support of green economy (EIA and SEA, green procurement) // Mainstreaming environmental and climate change into public budgets // Investing in research and development of green and innovative technologies and facilitate access to green technologies among SMEs // Support better resilience of MSMEs to environment-related hazards // Identifying skill gaps and promoting skill development for green jobs, facilitating dialogue among government, workers and employers' organisations // Ensure compliance with decent work standards and non-discrimination (ILO conventions) // Providing decent alternative employment in areas with excessive pressure on natural resources. // Improving national capacities to monitor and facilitate the legal trade and to detect and prevent illegal trade in environmentally sensitive commodities

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE

Facts demonstrating the linkages:

Environmental degradation and limited access to natural resources and water scarcity undermine food security and exacerbate poverty, with women and children most at risk. **- - -** Agriculture can have positive (e.g., conservation of wildlife habitats) or negative (pollution, soil degradation) effects on the environment. **- - -** Excessive logging, hunting, fishing or over-harvesting of wildlife species poses a serious threat to endangered species of animals and plants. There are many endangered species though, especially birds, which are heavily dependent on agricultural land. **- - -** The impacts of climate change on water resources, soil, pests and diseases lead to significant changes in agriculture and affect the quantity, quality and stability of food production. **- - -** Agriculture contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions: 17% directly through agricultural activities and another 7 to 14% through land use change (e.g., felling of natural forest at the expense of agricultural land).[viii] On the contrary, agriculture associated with tree planting - the creation of agri-forest systems - has several positive effects such as carbon sequestration and thus contributing to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, reducing soil erosion, promoting biodiversity and creating a favourable microclimate

Examples of development results:

Agricultural productivity and the incomes of small-scale food producers, particularly women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers are increased, including through secure and equal access to land and water, other productive resources and inputs, knowledge, financial services, markets, and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment (adapted SDG Target 2.3) // Sustainable food production systems and sustainable and climate resilient agriculture practices, including in forestry and fisheries, are implemented to contribute to economic profitability, a healthy environment, and social and economic equity. // Land productivity is raised, the production of locally cultivable, including organic food crops and agricultural exports are increased. (CF Bosnia and Herzegovina) // Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, and promote appropriate access to genetic resources

Examples of indicators:

Volume of production per labour unit by classes of farming / pastoral / forestry enterprise size (SDG Indicator 2.3.1) // Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable, including organic agriculture (adapted SDG Indicator 2.4.1) // Nitrogen balance per hectare / Phosphorus balance per hectare // Conversion from natural and semi-natural land to cropland, % // Total timber exports / Fish catch; fish stocks; fishing quotas; size of spawning stocks. // Amount of investment in local infrastructure / agricultural research, technological development, etc

Examples of implementing interventions:

Improve and enforce regulations for the use of pesticides, fertilizers and antimicrobials, animal welfare, environmental protection and land fragmentation and ownership // Introduce agricultural practices that support the efficient use of natural resources, such as water, while increasing soil productivity // Apply financial instruments to support sustainable agriculture, such as redirecting support from subsidizing factory farming based on hectares (discriminating against smaller farm holders) to rewarding a farmer for applying stainable and climate-smart practices, such as precision agriculture, agro-ecology (including organic farming), carbon farming, agroforestry and carbon-efficient livestock farming // Integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values in national or local development plans // Promote sustainable forest management and sustainable fisheries // Acknowledge the importance of forests for human health and well-being and integrate the health and nutrition aspects in forest management planning // Increase investment in rural infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services, technology development, and plant and livestock gene banks

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF RESOURCES, INCLUDING ENERGY, WATER AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Facts demonstrating the linkages:

Harmful CO2 emissions are mainly caused by the combustion of fossil fuels. On the contrary, the electricity from renewable sources does not contribute to climate change or local air pollution. **- - -** Climate change affects the predictability of water availability, due to lack of precipitation, long droughts or floods. Many countries urgently need to improve water management and increase water efficiency. **- -** Lack of wastewater collection and treatment can cause water pollution (lakes, rivers, groundwater and seas), and hygiene and health problems. **- --** Inconsistent waste management - from non-existent collection systems, insufficient recycling, to inefficient disposal - causes air, water and soil pollution. [ix] **- --** Investments in expanding public transport and improving vehicle efficiency could create between 3 million and 23 million net jobs annually in non-OECD cities, in the period to 2050. **- - -** In the future, buildings may be affected by increased risk of collapse, significant loss of value due to more storms, snow or landslides, and shortening of the building's service life. **-- -** ´Green roofs ´ bring benefits such as water retention, increased biodiversity, reduced noise, reduced heating and cooling costs and so on.

Examples of development results:

The enabling policy, regulatory environment, capacities at central and local level and community actions strengthened for low-emission development and multi-sector resilience to climate change (CF North Macedonia output) // People benefit from access to clean drinking water, and access to adequate sanitation and hygiene; with special focus on the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations (adapted SDG Targets 6.1 and 6.2) // People have access to reliable, sustainable, clean and resilient infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being (adapted SDG Target 9.1) // Cities impact on environment is reduced, including by paying attention to air quality, municipal and other waste management (adapted SDG Target 11.6) // Waste generation is reduced, through prevention, reduction, recycling, and reuse (adapted SDG Target 12.5)

Examples of indicators:

GHG emissions (per GDP) // Proportion of population with access to clean drinking / safe sanitation and hygiene // Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality (SDG indicator 6.3.2) // Change in water-use efficiency (by sector) // Degree of integrated water resources management (SDG indicator 6.5.1) // Proportion of transboundary basin area covered by an operational arrangement for water cooperation (SDG indicator 6.5.2) // Air pollutant emissions of transport modes in the urban area // Proportion of green spaces in urban areas // National recycling rate, tons of material recycled (SDG indicator 12.5.1) // Hazardous waste generated per capita; and treated, by type of treatment (adapted SDG indicator 12.4.2)

Examples of implementing interventions:

Invest in resilient water and sanitation infrastructure and systematic hygiene services for all // Support sustainable water management by increasing water-use efficiency across sectors and through ensuring sustainable withdrawals and supply to reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity // Support transboundary water cooperation // Support measures, including innovative solutions and technologies, to increase use of renewable sources and to increase energy efficiency // Introduce environmentally sound waste, including healthcare waste management, including through application of Best Available Techniques and Best Environmental Technologies // Improve legislative and regulatory framework for energy efficiency in the building sector, including institutional capacity development and good coordination between government agencies, municipalities and the private sector // Support construction of buildings resistant to the effects of climate change // Promote low-carbon urban transport through improved urban planning, shifting to sustainable travel means, improved vehicles fuel efficiency and electrification

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND QUALITY EDUCATION

Facts demonstrating the linkages:

Raising awareness on environment and climate change and their importance for sustainable development is essential for building skills that future generations will use back to protect nature (biodiversity and the environment as a whole) and to combat climate change. - - - Enabling a transition to greener economies and societies by equipping learners with skills for green jobs. - - - Clean water and sanitation are important factors for students' participation in classes and for health, of both students and teachers. - - - Pollution of the surrounding nature and deforestation must be prevented during the construction of schools and school facilities. - - - Polluted or otherwise affected environment, such as by drought or floods, contributes to school irregularities. In some developing and even transition countries, more time spent collecting firewood and water means less time for school

Examples of development results:

Capacity, knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles is increased (adapted SDG Target 4.7) // Education, awareness raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction, and early warning is improved (adapted SDG Target 13.3) // Built and improved educational facilities have appropriate health and hygiene conditions, resistant to the risks associated with climate change and environmental degradation / pollution

Examples of indicators:

Extent to which education for climate change and sustainable development is mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment (adapted SDG indicator 4.7.1 and 13.3.1) // Proportion of learners attending education facilities with the appropriate health and hygiene conditions, resistant to climate change and risks of environmental degradation / pollution //

Examples of implementing interventions:

Incorporate education components into projects with the potential to increase awareness of the links between environment and climate change and the development and quality of life; for example, a project to reduce children's morbidity from infectious diseases that may be associated with a lack of clean water, adequate sanitation; a project to increase access to clean water; etc. // Develop and integrated education for sustainable development in national education policies; curricula; teacher education; and student assessment // Develop and apply education programs focused on skills for green jobs, sustainable development and climate change, with and for various stakeholders: educational institutions; non-governmental sector, private sector; etc. // Build / operate education facilities with access to drinking water and adequate sanitation, in areas that are not exposed to natural disasters and extreme weather conditions / facilities that are resistant to natural disasters and extreme weather conditions

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND GOOD HEALTH

Facts demonstrating the linkages:

Polluted air is one of the biggest health risks associated with the quality of the environment. In the countries of Eastern Europe and the Caucasus, air pollution causes approximately 256,000 premature deaths per year. Of these, approximately 88,000 deaths are due to unsatisfactory indoor air quality, and approximately 168,000 deaths are related to ambient air pollution.[x] **- - -** UN experts warn that the incidence of zoonoses / zoonotic diseases transmitted from animals to humans is increasing and will continue unless wildlife protection and nature conservation in general are strengthened. For example, Ebola, Sars, but also Covid-19 are zoonotic diseases: they first occurred in animals and were transmitted to humans. This transmission is also due to the still high human demand for animal protein, unsustainable agriculture and climate change.[xi] **- - -** Climate change will create new health risks and multiply current health problems. A direct observable effect is a change in the intensity and frequency of extreme weather conditions, such as high heat waves and floods. Direct effects are, for example, collapse during heat, injuries / deaths during floods, skin diseases due to UV radiation, and the like. Indirect impacts are manifested in the increased incidence of insect-borne diseases (vector-borne diseases caused by mosquitoes and ticks), rodents or changes in water, food and air quality.[xii] **- - -** Forests have important benefits for human health (mental, physical and spiritual), well-being and nutrition. Forests provide edible products (fruits, leaves, nuts and seeds, mushrooms, honey, wild meat, etc.) that contribute macro- and micronutrients to a healthy diet. At least 60% of current medicinal plant products may be obtained from wild harvesting. Physical activity conducted in parks and forests reduces the risk of both mental illnesses such as depression and non-communicable diseases. Forests and parks buffer noise, reduce the urban heat island effect and absorb pollution from traffic and industry.[xiii]

Examples of development results:

Cases of hepatitis, water-borne diseases, and other communicable diseases reduced (adapted SDG Target 3.3) // Number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water, and soil pollution and contamination reduced (adapted SDG Target 3.9) // Number of deaths and people of disabilities due to natural disasters is decreasing

Examples of indicators:

Tuberculosis incidence per 100,000 population / Malaria incidence per 1,000 population / Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population (SDG indicators 3.3.2, 3.3.3, and 3.3.4) // Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution (SDG indicators 3.9.1) // Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services) (SDG indicator 3.9.2) // Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisoning (SDG indicators 3.9.3) // Probability of dying from chronic respiratory diseases between age 30 and exact age 70 (%) // Proportion of deaths / people with disabilities due to natural disasters // Proportion of green areas in cities

Examples of implementing interventions:

Introduce measures to reduce the number of deaths and diseases due to dangerous chemicals and polluted air, water and soil, and due to epidemics (AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria), hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases // Raise public awareness, including among local communities, of the impacts of air, water and soil pollution and the effects of climate change on their health, and promote a healthy lifestyle in harmony with nature // Provide for an adequate sanitation, supply of drinking water, clean energy for heating, cooking, etc. // Introduce early warning systems for natural disasters and increase capacity for their management // Develop contingency plans for the distribution of medicines in the event of natural disasters / capacity building for planning // Support research and studies / health impact assessments showing the evidence of pollution impact on health / impact of forest on health

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

Facts demonstrating the linkages:

Ecosystems and their services are still underestimated by governments, which leave them mismanaged and / or poorly regulated and controlled. Governments do not use (sufficiently) a system of assessing and expressing the value of ecosystems and goods and do not have a comprehensive system of payments for ecosystem services, which are still considered to be economic externalities. Governments also do not integrate those values into national and local development strategies and planning processes, national accounting, as appropriate. This lack of "ownership" enables and promotes unsustainable use and corruption in the use of natural resources. **- - -** Failures in governance at various levels (from international, through national to local) are behind many environmental problems. **- - -** Better governance generally leads to better environmental governance. **- - -**Environmental governance can be an effective entry point for broader governance reform and other public affairs.

Examples of development results:

Improved legal, policy and institutional frameworks, and capacity development lead to advanced rule of law, access to justice, access to information and participation in decision-making in matters related to sustainable, inclusive, low-carbon and resilient development // Non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development are promoted and enforced (adapted SDG Target 16b) // Introduced economic instruments for environment and climate change mainstreaming lead to economic transformation to green, low-carbon economy // Laws and regulations eliminate corruption and support non-discriminatory ownership and management of natural resources

Examples of indicators:

Degree of public access to information and fundamental rights, according to national legislation and international conventions // Degree of public participation (men and women) in decision-making processes, according to national legislation and international conventions // Existence of non-discriminatory policies and legislation for sustainable development // Participation rate of the population (men and women) in local water users' associations // Corruption rate in sectors using natural resources // Proportion of women owning and managing land or other forms of property // Proportion of women with access to financial services supporting sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries

Examples of implementing interventions:

Support transparent and participatory management of natural resources (water management, land management, waste management) // Introduce tools (e.g., open data) for improving public access to information and fundamental rights, according to national legislation and international conventions // Introduce / improve legal and regulatory instruments for the environment and climate change mainstreaming, such as environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA) // Introduce / improve application of economic instruments for the integration of the environment and climate change in development (green tax; green accounting; budget codes for the environment and climate change in national / local budgets, green public procurement) // Build capacity for integration of the environment and climate change into national, local and sector policies, strategies and plans // Promote measures to increase the proportion of women owning and managing land or other forms of property

ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER REDUCTION AND CONFLICT PREVENTION

Facts demonstrating the linkages:

In 2020, in the Europe and Central Asia region, disasters resulted in 1,180 people lost their lives, above 59,000 people saw their dwelling damaged, economic losses of USD 514 million, and in damage to 261 educational facilities, 67 health facilities, 208 other critical infrastructure.[xiv] **- - -** In 2018, around 16 million people were displaced by extreme climate events. People from poorer countries flee more often as a result of climate events.[xv] **- - -** During the war time in Donbas, eastern part of Ukraine, operation of 247 enterprises (of mining industry, water supply facilities, chemical and coke-chemical industry, etc.) were compromised by military activities, some of which pose great potential danger for the environment and human health.[xvi] **- - -** The dispute over Tajikistan's Rogun Hydropower Plant Project represents a concrete example of the water-energy-food nexus in the region. As tension between energy-deprived Tajikistan and water-starved Uzbekistan grows, water becomes a source of conflict, posing a significant threat to regional stability.

Examples of development results:

Country and communities benefit from economic development that is resilient against climate-induced multi-hazard natural disasters // People benefit from the construction and retrofitting of resilient and resource-efficient infrastructure utilizing local materials // Improved legal, policy and institutional frameworks, and capacity development support sustainable, inclusive, low-carbon and resilient development // Nature based solutions integrated in national / local strategies for disaster prevention, reduction and management // Conflict and (environmental) security risks are reduced by improved resource governance and social resilience to natural resource shocks and stresses

Examples of indicators:

Number of dead / evacuated / displaced / impoverished people due to environment and climate change related disasters, per 100,000 population, disaggregated by sex, age and disability // Number of people (male, female) with no access to basic services due to disasters / weather conditions / conflicts // Disaster-related critical infrastructure damage rate // Number of gender-inclusive DRR and sectoral strategies that include nature-based solutions // Percentage increase in public investment in forest / coastline / river basin protection and restoration // Number / severity of environment and / or climate change induced conflicts

Examples of implementing interventions:

Support integration of adaptation to climate change to national, local and sectoral strategies, policies, plans, standards and norms // Build knowledge on and promote application of nature-based solutions for disaster prevention, reduction and management // Strengthen protection of ecosystems (forests, wetlands, mangroves, etc.) that eliminate / reduce impact of natural hazards on people or other ecosystems // Include DRR related criteria in the instruments for environment and climate change mainstreaming, such as EIA, SEA, green public procurement, etc. // Raise awareness on relationship between the environment, peace and security, and on link between the protection of the environment and the protection of civilians // Promote effective and sustained measures to mainstream the environment in peace and security discourses, policymaking, peacebuilding, and recovery // Engage local authorities, affected communities, local civil society groups and experts in the process for health and environmental risk assessments and remediation work in post-conflict settings[xvii] // Introduce or improve mechanisms to support dialogue and cooperation among countries / communities sharing scarce natural resources that pose

ANNEX C:
SELECTED ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES IN A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

COMPLEMENTS THE GUIDANCE ON INTEGRATING THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN PROCESSES FOR UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORKS

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (IWRM)

Characterization and links with UNSDCF development priorities

IWRM is a process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources, in order to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems.[xviii] // **Economic and financial instruments** (e.g., payments for water use, or for water pollution; and taxes including a fee for water and water services) present important tools in water management / sector, in the field of both operation and development including new construction, rehabilitation, nature protection and other aspects.[xix] // Investments in infrastructure and operation of water-related services can provide high returns for **economic growth** and for direct and indirect **job creation**.[xx] // IWRM is closely interlinked with the peoples' right to **safe water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).** // Application of the IWRM has shown several, arguably positive trends in water **governance:** a move away from command-and-control instruments focusing on supply-side water management, such as large-scale water infrastructure, towards demand side management through the use of economic instruments; more flexible, decentralised water management approaches involving diversified governance structures; increasing emphasis on stakeholder collaboration and the involvement of local communities in decision-making.[xxi] - - - IWRM has been internationally recognised as the way forward for efficient, equitable and sustainable development and management of the world's limited water resources and for coping with **conflicting demands.**[xxii]

Key SDG goals and targets

6.4: By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity /
6.5: By 2030, implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate /
6.6: By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes

Examples of implementing interventions:

Advancing national water, including groundwater **policies, plans and laws** into operation through awareness raising, supporting regulations and their enforcement; Harmonizing transboundary water laws, strengthen arrangements for transboundary water management in priority basins and build mutual trust // Establishing or supporting **multisectoral forums**, incl. National Policy Dialogues[xxiii] as a coordination mechanism for implementation of river basin management plans; strengthening sharing of information and experiences between different sectors; Improving the **participation** of the private sector and all stakeholders, incl. women, in water resources development and planning // Introducing or improving **management instruments** such as watershed management plans, aquifer and basin management instruments, ecosystem protection and management, disaster risk reduction, pollution control, national monitoring, data sharing incl., transboundary, etc. // Supporting application of **financial** instruments such as fees, taxes, sanctions, subsidies; Supporting application of the water-based **Payments for Ecosystems Services**

WASTE MANAGEMENT AND CHEMICALS

Characterization and links with UNSDCF development priorities

Waste is divided in two main categories: n**on-hazardous/solid waste** (paper, plastics, glass, organic waste etc.) and **hazardous waste** (E- waste; medical waste; and radioactive waste). Examples of **chemicals** used in materials and goods production are Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS), Mercury, Lead, and other heavy metals // Sound waste and chemicals management supports[xxiv]: (i) **better health and environment** by preventing impacts on air, water, soil, wildlife and the marine environment; protecting human health (including occupational safety and health); minimizing risks associated with hazardous waste; reducing GHG emissions; encouraging resource efficiency (ii) **economic opportunities** by providing savings to businesses, especially in resource extraction and use, by waste prevention actions, recovery and/or recycling activities; achieving economic savings by improvements in human health and the environment, leading to higher productivity, lower medical costs, better environmental quality and the maintenance of ecosystem services, and (iii) **social opportunities** by creating employment; professionalising employment in the informal sector (the route to addressing equity and poverty issues); delivering more attractive and pleasant human settlements and better social amenity; encouraging changes in community attitudes and behaviours. // The effectiveness of waste management depends on a **good governance** of the sector that involves different interests of many actors.

Key SDG goals and targets

3.9: By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination //
3.d: Strengthen the capacity of all countries, in particular developing countries, for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global health risks //
11.6: By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management

Examples of implementing interventions

Improving **governance** of the sector by good quality and enforced legislation, incl. for transboundary waste movements; clear delineation of responsibilities and mandates among actors (e.g., national and local authorities, producers); supporting institutions and coordination among them; coordination with other relevant areas of policy, e.g., trade policy; appropriate regulation and control of private sector behaviour; application of sustainable public procurement; community participation mechanisms; mechanisms for monitoring, review and reform. // Supporting more efficient application of **economic instruments** (pollution charges on emissions, types of waste and discharges) and user fees and earmarking them for waste-related purposes. // Promoting circular economy // Promoting well-coordinated and functional **waste infrastructure**, incl. recycling, and food loss prevention, including by building **administrative and technical capacities**, mainly at the local level. // Promoting (governments') investments in waste infrastructure and in SMEs designing or applying clean and green **technologies**.

AIR POLLUTION

Characterization and facts demonstrating links with UNSDCF development priorities

Major **outdoor sources** of a human-made air pollution include power generation, vehicles, agriculture, waste incineration and waste dumping, industry, and building heating systems**. Indoor air pollution** results mostly from burning fuels dung, coal and wood in inefficient stoves or open hearths.[xxv]// People have the **right to breathe clean air**. Despite of that more than six billion people, one-third of them children, are regularly inhaling polluted air putting their **lives, health and wellbeing at risk**.[xxvi] There has been a mounting evidence of the association between air pollution levels and higher **COVID-19 death tolls**. // Air pollution takes its toll on the **economy** in several ways: it costs human lives, it reduces people's ability to work, it affects vital products like food, it damages cultural and historical monuments, it reduces the ability of ecosystems to perform functions societies need and it costs money in remediation or restoration. Reducing emissions, including by promoting clean technologies, is a wise long term investment that contributes to several development goals and ultimately will yield substantial benefits. // **Environmental implications** of poor air quality include the dust and sandstorms that are worsening due to large-scale land degradation and climate change, reduced biodiversity, soil stripped of its nutrients, damaged vegetation and crops, etc.

Key SDG goals and targets

3.9 By 2030, substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination //
11.6: By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management //
12.4 By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their lifecycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment

Examples of implementing interventions

In the **energy** sector tackling the energy poverty as one of the factors contributing to indoor air pollution from utilizing dung, waste and wood in the obsolete stoves; promoting sustainable energy policies that spur economic growth and environmental protection; reducing pollutant emissions through post-combustion control technologies;[xxix] etc. // Reducing emissions from the **transport** sector by: compact urban and mobility planning and reducing passenger travel demand, shifting passenger travel mode from private vehicles towards more sustainable travel means, incl. walking and cycling, supporting decarbonization of road transport (increasing vehicle efficiency and electrification), etc. // Applying nature-based solutions (e.g., mix of vegetation and trees, species, shape, spatial distribution of public green space and vegetation coverage) to curb air pollution **in cities**. // Promoting measures for reducing emissions from **agricultural sources**, such as banning open burning of agricultural residues, or practising integrated manure management in livestock farming.[xxx] // Promoting more efficient application of **fiscal measures** such as taxes on polluting fuels or financial incentives for developing or using clean technologies in the air polluting sectors.

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

Characterization and facts demonstrating links with UNSDCF development priorities

Burning coal, oil and gas; deforestation; livestock farming; and fertilisers containing nitrogen are the key sources of GHGs emissions that cause **climate change**. // The benefits of **adaptation** consist of avoided damage by adjusting to climate change, while the benefits of **mitigation** consist of the avoided damage due to less climate change. On a global scale, studies show a large range in effects for a global warming of 2.5 °C, from small benefits to damage of 3% of **GDP**.[xxxi] // Climate change negatively affects **people's human rights** to health, adequate housing, water and food. Climate change increasingly contributes to migration both through sudden and slow onset events, which is sometimes mistakenly characterized as labour migration. Increasing negative climate change impacts will disproportionately affect people in vulnerable situations including, women, children, older persons, indigenous peoples, minorities, migrants, rural workers, persons with disabilities and the poor. // Climatic changes are already estimated to cause over 150,000 **deaths** annually (as a result of extreme weather conditions and climate driven disasters, changing transmission patterns
for many diseases such as diarrhoea and malaria, and shifted patterns of food production affecting the rates of malnutrition). // Climate change mitigation and adaptation measures can result in **economic** benefits in terms of employment creation, economic growth, personal income and building resilience . Evidence suggests that in Europe around 500,000 additional jobs will be directly and indirectly created by 2050 as a result of the increase in adaptation-related activities. Direct and indirect employment in the renewable energy sector could reach 24.4 million people in 2030 7.7 million in 2014).[xxxv] //

Key SDG Goals and Targets

13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries //
13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning //
13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

Examples of implementing interventions

Introducing **legal, regulatory and financial instruments** (e.g., carbon pricing, fuel taxation, removal of harmful subsidies, etc.) that promote low-carbon development by increased use of renewable **energy** sources, improved energy efficiency, fuel switching, low-carbon **transport** and other measures. // Supporting integrated **agricultural** production systems that use efficient climate-smart agricultural practices, emit fewer GHGs and can create significant carbon sinks, enhancing productivity and resilience to climate change impacts. // Support **forest** protection and sustainable forest management to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. // Conducting studies monitoring and assessing climate change impacts, vulnerability and risks, as well as costs and benefits of adaptation measures, including regarding the potential for green jobs. // Implementing **adaptation** measures such as reforestation and ecosystems restorations, erecting buildings and infrastructure that is safer and more sustainable, diversifying crops adapting to changing climates, investigating and developing innovative solutions to prevent and manage natural disasters, developing action plans for climate emergencies, multi hazards early warning systems, etc.

BIODIVERSITY

Characterization and facts demonstrating links with UNSDCF development priorities

"Biological diversity" means the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.[xxxvi] // Biodiversity and healthy ecosystems are key for enjoying a broad range of **human rights**, including the rights to **food and health**. For instance, the healing potential of forests has manifested itself also during the COVID-19 outbreak. In turn, exercising human rights, such as public participation and access to information, can foster stronger action for conservation and the sustainable use of bio- diversity and ecosystems. // An analysis of 163 industry sectors and their supply chains found that US$ 44 trillion of global value added (over half of the **world's GDP**) is dependent on nature and its services. Around 1.2 billion **jobs** globally directly depend on ecosystem services. // On the other hand, biodiversity loss is a key driver of emerging **infectious diseases**. Investing in biodiversity as part of the response to the **pandemic** can help to minimize risks, while providing jobs and an economic stimulus. // Research suggests that nature-based solutions could provide around 30% of the cost-effective mitigation that is needed by 2030 to stabilise warming to below 2°C. They also provide a powerful defence against the impacts and long-term hazards of **climate change**. // Measures to protect biodiversity must respect local and international laws and should not cause immense and needless suffering to **animals**.

Key SDG Goals and Targets

All targets under the **SDG 14**: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable Development; and **SDG 15:** Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Examples of implementing interventions[xl]

Maintaining or strengthening **regulation** on land use, wildlife trade and pollution // Reforming the system of **plastic** production, consumption, and waste management, applying the principle of avoid, reduce, reuse and recycle, mainly to reduce amount of plastics in **seas and oceans** // Integrating biodiversity values into countries' development **planning**, including by screening and monitoring development measures for their biodiversity impacts, and by setting biodiversity spending targets for development measures and recovery plans // Supporting environment-related **Research & Development** // Promoting **jobs** in biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and restoration // Engaging **businesses** in a biodiversity-positive development // Reforming biodiversity-harmful subsidies and scaling up **economic incentives** for biodiversity // Adopting and strengthening the One Health approach[xli]

SELECTED GLOBAL AND REGIONAL TREATIES

Integrated Water Resource Management

- *The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD)* (adopted in October 2000)
- *UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention;* in force 1996*)*
- *Protocol on Water and Health to the UNECE Water Convention* (in force from 2005) -
- *The Danube River Protection Convention (in force from 1998)*
- *Framework Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (Tehran Convention,* in force from 2006)

Waste management and chemicals

- *Basel Convention on Controlling Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal* (in force from 1992)
- *Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade* (in force from 2004)
- *Stockholm Convention on Protecting Human Health and the Environment from Persistent Organic Pollutants* (in force from 2004)
- *International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (Marpol Convention;* transformed into the Marpol Protocol that is in force from 1983, new amendments from 2005)
- *UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents*
- *Circular Economy Action Plan for a Cleaner and More Competitive Europe*[xlii]*;* one of the main blocks of the European Green Deal from 2020

Air pollution

- *UNECE Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (Air Convention*; in force from 1983*)* and its protocols
- *Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer*, (in force from 1988), including *the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer* (in force from 1989)
- *Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC,* in force from 1994), including *the Kyoto Protocol* (in force from 2005), and *the Paris Agreement* (in force from 2016*)*

Climate change

- *United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC,* in force from 1994), including *the Kyoto Protocol* (in force from 2005), and *the Paris Agreement* (in force from 2016*)*
- *EU 2030 Climate Target Plan and the European Climate Law* (2020) setting the to achieving the EU climate neutrality by 2050
- *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction* (2015-2030).

Biodiversity

- *Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD,* in force from 1993*)*
- *Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (the Bonn Convention,* in force from 1983*)*
- *Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES,* in force from 1975*)*
- *United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD,* in force from 1996*)*
- *International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (in force from 2004)*
- *Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (Raptors MOU,* in effect from 2008*)*
- *Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Convention on Wetland,* in force from 1975*)*
- *UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, (*in force from 1975*)*

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ii UN General Assembly Seventy-fourth session: Human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment; A/74/161; 2019
iii OHCHR Analytical study on gender-responsive climate action for the full and effective enjoyment of the rights of women (2019), available at: https://undocs.org/A/HRC/41/26 (A/HRC/41/26)
iv Large-scale logging, depletion of the oceans' fish stocks and the loss of arable soil are prime examples of this development. https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/en/economy-environment
v ILO 'World Employment and Social Outlook: Greening with Jobs' 2018. https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_628654.pdf
vi https://www.irishaid.ie/media/irishaid/allwebsitemedia/20newsandpublications/publicationpdfsenglish/environment-keysheet-2-trade.pdf
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viii https://www.oecd.org/agriculture/ministerial/background/notes/4_background_note.pdf
ix https://apo.org.au/sites/default/files/resource-files/2018-06/apo-nid204341.pdf
x https://www.unenvironment.org/resources/report/eastern-europe-caucasus-air-quality-regional-report
xi https://www.bbc.com/news/health-53314432?fbclid=IwAR1I1k2mXHACWYawWCCo5HsRYLf852fBb9bdEY3-x2th08TiUZiH3ZvoLs
xii More information on climate change impact on health: http://www.uvzsr.sk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2307%3Aklimaticke-zmeny-anzdravie&catid=100%3Aklimaticke-zmeny-a-zdravie&Itemid=106
xiii FAO, 2020: Forests for human health and well-being, FAO, Rome
xiv UNDRR, Sendai Framework Monitoring in Europe and Central Asia A Regional Snapshot; 2020
xv https://www.preventionweb.net/news/view/72027
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xvii Environmental Emergencies Centre: Witnessing the Environmental Impacts of War: Environmental Case Studies from Conflict Zones Around the World
xviii Definition by the Global Water Partnership (GWP)
xix http://www.cawater-info.net/bk/10-12_e.htm
xx UN Water, The United Nations World Water Development Report 2016: Water and Jobs, UNESCO, 2016
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xxiii NPD - process supporting the implementation of the EU Water Initiative as well as the UNECE/World Health Organisation Europe Protocol on Water and Health
xxiv UNEP, UNITAR: Guidelines for National Waste Management Strategies, UNEP, 2013
xxv https://www.conserve-energy-future.com/causes-effects-solutions-of-air-pollution.php; Top-10 kinds of air pollution are: Sulphur dioxide, Carbon monoxide, Carbon dioxide, Nitrogen oxides, Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), Particulates, Ozone, Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), Unburned hydrocarbons, Lead and heavy metals. Indoor air pollutants include carbon monoxide, methane, particulate matter (PM), polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) and volatile organic compounds (VOC).
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