

United Nations Sustainable Cooperation Framework in Guatemala

The 2020-2025 United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework with the Republic of Guatemala details the agreements established between the country and the United Nations System (UNS). It defines the actions of the UNS, through the Agencies, Funds and Programmes (AFP) that have signed this document, with the aim of contributing to the compliance of the 2030 Agenda For Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in addition to the 2032 K'atun National Development Plan (NDP) and the 2020–2024 national plan of the current administration (PGG, in Spanish). The 2030 Agenda was aligned with the K'atun NDP, which resulted in the adoption of ten national development priorities by the Government.

The Cooperation Framework is the product of arduous analysis, discussion, and joint development between the UNS - led by the Resident Coordinator's Office, and the State of Guatemala - led by the Secretariat of Planning and Programming of the Presidency (SEGEPLAN), through comprehensive discussions with different state institutions via workshops held throughout 2020. In addition, throughout the previous administration in 2019, discussion workshops were held with state institutions, as well as with organizations of women, indigenous peoples, youth, academia, tripartite constituents of the International Labor Organization (ILO), the private sector, organizations of migrants and refugees, people with disabilities and the LGTBIQ community.

The Cooperation Framework describes the outline of the country's situation regarding the attainment of the SDGs, which have been prioritized by Guatemala as part of its national development priorities. Also explained is the support that the UNS can offer the country in speeding up and advancing the efforts to reach these goals, as well as the Cooperation Framework's plan for implementation, monitoring and assessment. Regarding its implementation, the Cooperation Framework concentrates its efforts on supporting the country in five key areas: (a) **economic development**, focused on access to decent work, means of production and access to services; (b) **social development**, which includes decent housing, social protection, education, health, and food security and nutrition; (c) **strong institutions**, addressing issues of democratic governance, transparency and data, human mobility, and political and civic participation; (d) **peace, security and justice**, which focuses on violence against women, young people, teenagers and children; and (e) **environment**, concentrating on issues concerning ecosystem management and climate change, as well as the governance of natural resources.

The Cooperation Framework's five pillars correspond to the areas where the country sees greatest necessity and potential to advance in its development, as prioritized in the National Plan for Innovation and Development (PLANID) and the 2020-2024 general government policy. These, moreover, are the areas that the UNS has supported, making the most of its comparative advantages and added value, based on its work concerning the triple nexus in humanitarian response, sustainable development and peacebuilding in Guatemala.

It is important to note that these five high-priority areas of the Cooperation Framework are detailed, in turn, in a series of principles that direct the Organization's response in the context of the reform initiated by the United Nations General Assembly's historic 2018 resolution 72/279 on the repositioning of the UN development system. These principles include leaving no one behind, with a view to closing the gaps that affect the most vulnerable and excluded population groups. They also include a development approach based on human rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women, which make it possible to address the multidimensional causes of poverty, discrimination, inequality, social exclusion and conflict. Resilience, sustainability, and accountability are also key principles of the UNS, so that the individual, community and institutional capacities of the country are strengthened in the long term, based both on a prevention and a holistic approach to society (whole-of-society) and government (whole-of-government).



A governance structure has been established for the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2020-2025 in Guatemala. It comprises (a) standards for direction and strategic political dialogue, with a Joint Steering Committee led by SEGEPLAN and the Resident Coordinator's Office of the United Nations in Guatemala as well as the establishment of a United Nations Countries Team (UNCT) and a consultative space with civil society; (b) standards for strategic and operational implementation, which consists of a Program Coordination Group and Results Groups, the latter focusing on each one of the five areas prioritized by the UNSDCF; and (c) standards for consultancy and specialist support, comprising specialized groups focusing on (among other aspects) operations, communication, monitoring and evaluation, as well as human rights and gender focus.

The UNSDCF will subsequently be complemented by a long-term financing framework based on an estimation of the necessary resources for its implementation, which also includes a resource mobilization strategy. The Cooperation Framework will also be translated and put into action via the development of UN joint work plans. At that stage, opportunities for closer inter-organizational collaboration will be identified (through joint programmes, for instance), and there will be collective monitoring process and updates on progress towards joint results.

The monitoring and evaluation of the Cooperation Framework is also a fundamental aspect of its effective implementation. To this end, reporting activities have been established within the SEGEPLAN's System of Management, Execution and Analysis of International Cooperation, as well as in UN INFO, an internal global tool of the UNS to monitor and record the results of UNSDCF implementation. This will be complemented by annual revisions of the UNSDCF, which will enable the updating of the Results Matrix of the latter and reporting back on progress of attaining its results. In addition to this, a final independent evaluation will be carried out at the end of the cycle to measure the progress made towards the desired results.

UNSDCF is the United Nations System's collective value proposition to support and accelerate Guatemala's progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in line with its national development priorities. As a symbol of the spirit of a strong and continued alliance with the Government of Guatemala, civil society, the academic world, the private sector and other development partners of the United Nations System in Guatemala, we are convinced that this will be an important step towards prosperous Guatemala with solidarity and leaving no one behind.

BASELINE INDICATORS REFERENCE TABLE FOR THE GUATEMALA COLLECTIVE FRAMEWORK 2020 - 2025¹

Collective Framework Pillar	Sustainable Development Goal	Indicator	Baseline	Source
Economic development	SDG 8	8.5.1: Average monthly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and persons with disabilities.	2,128	Bank of Guatemala (BANGUAT) and National Statistics Institute of Guatemala (INE)
Social development	SDG 1	1.a.2: Proportion of total government spending on essential services (education, health and social protection).		Ministry of Public Finance
		Health and social assistance.	9.81	
		Education, science and culture.	24.71	
		Social protection.	9.85	



	SDG 2	2.1.2: Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES).		Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance / Secretariat for Food and Nutritional Security
		Severe food insecurity.	12	
		Moderate food insecurity.	24.9	
	SDG 3	3.1.1: Maternal mortality ratio (deaths per 100,000 live births).	108	Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance
SDG 4	4.6.1: Proportion of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex (per 100 people aged 15 and over).	86.9	Ministry of Education	
Strong institutions	SDG 5	5.5.1: Proportion of seats held by women in (a) national parliaments and (b) local governments.	Available monitoring system	UN Women
	SDG 10	10.7.2: Number of countries with migration policies that facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people.	Successful implementation of migration policies	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
	SDG 16	16.5.2: Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months.	11.3	UN Database of SDG global indicators
Peace, security and justice	SDG 16	16.2.3: Proportion of young women and men aged 18-29 years and experienced sexual violence by age 18.		UN Database of SDG global indicators
		Women aged 18-29.	4	
		Men aged 18-29.	1	
		16.1.1: Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age.	29.5	Ministry of the Interior
Environment	SDG 13	13.1.1: Number of deaths, missing persons and directly affected person attributed to disasters per 100,000 population.	14.299	UN Database of SDG global indicators