

2.3 COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOMES

OUTCOME 1:

By 2027, people of Iran enjoy shock responsive socio-economic development and sustainable growth integrated into development policies and programmes.

Contextual Setting

In order to reduce the adverse impacts of unilateral sanctions, the Government has increased fiscal policy allocations towards compensating social protection measures, especially cash transfers. Given the above external factors, domestic financing becomes an increasingly important resource mobilization option for national development activities. An integrated approach that links public planning/finance, socio-economic and environmental dimensions with improved allocations, management of natural resources, and the mainstreaming of socially-responsive and environmentally friendly economy approaches is also important, including through financing.

For approximately the last 15 years and continuing for another four decades, Iran has been and will be able to benefit from the “demographic dividend” when the proportion of the population of working age is high and age dependency ratios are low, providing an exceptional opportunity for economic development. Out of a total Iranian population of 85 million, close to a quarter are under 15 years old, while a fifth are between the ages 15-29, representing a youth bulge and a possible favourable demographic opportunity for development. However, population projections also provide evidence that Iran will soon also face rapid ageing of the population; hence appropriate human capital investment in young people and the working-age population’s education and skills development are required to raise productivity and reduce poverty.

The socio-economic resilience development pathway incorporated in Outcome 1 adopts an inclusive growth and development perspective and builds on the Technical Assistance Package

(TAP) of the United Nations, which is aligned with socio-economic resilience, and both introduce solutions and best practices to meet the objectives of this outcome.¹



Development Pathway and United Nations Intervention Strategies

The United Nations System's support for Outcome 1 will be provided through a set of five intermediate outcomes that define the strategic thrust of the United Nations offer. Around these outcomes, participating United Nations entities will collaboratively develop output-based rolling Joint Work Plans to take the Cooperation Framework's implementation forward. The intermediate outcomes are:



Intermediate Outcome 1.1:

Strengthened development planning and programming

The UNSDCF will support strengthening development plans and programmes. Based on their comparative advantage and with an emphasis on joint initiatives, United Nations agencies will support national efforts through provision of services in the following areas: • Technical support for developing integrated plans and programmes designed to achieve sustainable economic, social, and human capital outcomes:

- improved inter-sector and cross-sector development programming methods and coordination mechanisms;
- life-cycle, circular economy and environmentally friendly approaches integrated into planning and programming processes;
- sustainable fiscal space for micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) development and for poorer populations seeking enterprise and employment opportunities;
- integrated planning for adequate housing and urban informal settlements resolution;
- the development of sustainable tourism, including the preservation of cultural heritage;
- Advocacy and policy dialogue, such as developing sustainable cost-effective industrial policies that integrate industrial development, job creation and environmental impact;
- Capacity-building through adoption of global best practices and mobilization of international financial resources;

¹ . The United Nations Technical Assistance Package (TAP) document takes a similar perspective as Outcome 1 on socioeconomic resilience in order to support national initiatives to continue growth and development.

- Knowledge transfer and experience exchange through South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) initiatives.

Intermediate Outcome 1.2:

Human and social capital development promoted through improved access to inclusive programmes and use of life-cycle approaches

While keeping in perspective human and social capital development through promotion of access to inclusive education and skills development, the UNSDCF will aim to strengthen education and skills development systems, community/area-based development and MSME capacity development with a focus on inclusive growth, innovation, digitalization, and enterprises like cooperatives.

United Nations agencies on the ground, based on their comparative advantages in the development and humanitarian areas and with an emphasis on joint initiatives, will support national efforts through provision of services in the following areas:

- Technical support for integrated plans and programmes that support inclusive, equitable learning, education, and skills development for:
 - improved life-cycle skills development for children and adolescents, men and women, ensuring smooth transition from learning to earning;
 - improved digital/innovative solutions;
 - strengthened coordination to address gaps in inter-sectoral frameworks and mechanisms;
- Advocacy and policy dialogue; capacity-building through adoption of global good practices and mobilization of international financial resources;
- Knowledge transfer and experience exchange through South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives.

Intermediate Outcome 1.3:

Increased institutional capacities and enhanced access to social protection services

In order to ensure that the social protection system remains agile and adaptive in responding to existing and potential shocks, the UNSDCF will focus on strengthening the social protection system, moving towards shock responsive and integrated systems to ensure that no one is left behind from the development process. United Nations agencies on the ground, based on their comparative advantages and with an emphasis on joint initiatives, will support national efforts through provision of support in the following areas: • Technical support to integrated plans and programmes supporting poverty eradication and integrated social protection outcomes;

- Advocacy and policy dialogue;
- Capacity-building through adoption of global good practices and mobilization of international financial resources;
- Knowledge transfer and experience exchange through South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives.



Intermediate Outcome 1.4:

Improved institutional capacities for inclusive growth, employment generation, industrial development and harnessing the demographic dividend

Given the current economic and industrial development approach and the structural age transition under way in Iran, with an increasing number of aged, and the importance of restructuring industrial and economic development pathways and integrating the demographic dividend into policies and plans, the United Nations System in Iran will support national efforts to boost economic growth, inclusive and sustainable industrial development and sustainable employment and to harness the demographic dividend, through provision of support in the following areas:

- Technical support to integrated plans and programmes towards full employment outcomes and industrial development outcomes (such as market access, innovation and diversification) and to realize the demographic dividend;
- Advocacy and policy dialogue;
- Capacity-building through adoption of global good practices, including integration of improved regional/international value chains and markets, and mobilization of international financial resources;
- Knowledge transfer and experience exchange through South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives.



Intermediate Outcome 1.5:

Integrated and sustainable development and implementation frameworks in place, targeting less advantaged populations.

The United Nations System in Iran will build on its existing experience and comparative advantages to provide coherent and integrated support in the areas agreed with the Government as being in need and targeting less advantaged populations. In full coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and central line Ministries, the United Nations would provide

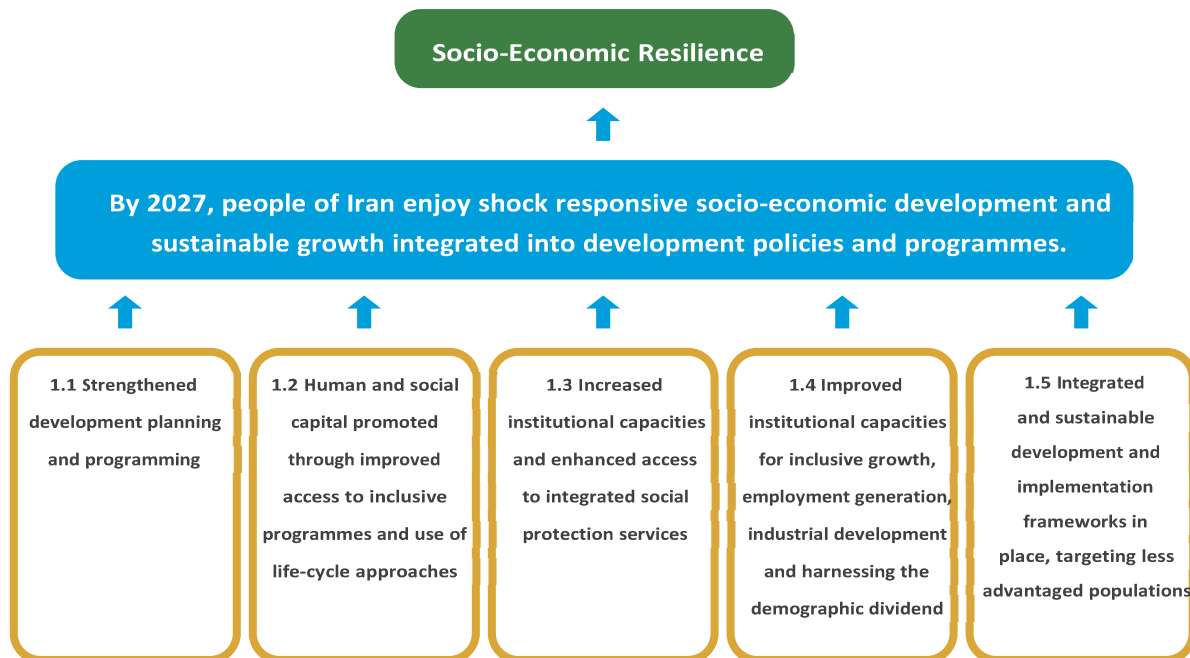
support to strengthen development plans and implementation frameworks, bringing together and drawing on the expertise of relevant United Nations agencies, in the following areas:

- Technical support to integrated plans and programmes towards sustainable development at the local level;
- Greater access and provision of inclusive social protection and social services, such as in the area of health infrastructure and health-care services, and education/skills services;
- Employment generation support and livelihoods promoting income-generating opportunities;
- Fiscal space, and inclusive finance (including conditional cash transfers, public private partnerships, technology investment promotion, etc.); • Integrated ecological, social and economic systems strategies;
- Disaster risk reduction, management and preparedness;
- Environmental protection and sustainable resources management, including waste management;
- Innovation hubs, digital economy solutions, and reducing the digital divide at the local level;
- Capacity-building through adoption of global good practices and mobilization of international financial resources;
- Knowledge transfer and experience exchange through South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives.

Less advantaged areas identified by the Government will be prioritized, including those with lower socio-economic and human development indicators. This integrated United Nations support would promote synergy between the humanitarian and development pillars of the work of the United Nations.

This integrated United Nations support would be implemented through a cross-cutting approach with relevance to many aspects of the UNSDCF, particularly for the development plans and programmes, public health management, and socio-economic priority areas.

Development Pathway for Outcome 1



The United Nations Approach to Socio-Economic Resilience

In order to strengthen sustainability, the United Nations System will support strengthening of national capacity and institutional arrangements to scale up impact under the stated outcome. Guided by the principle of national ownership and leadership, all programmes and projects under the socio-economic recovery paradigm will be led by the Government and will include specific exit strategies, indicators, and operating procedures for monitoring² and evaluation.

Cooperating Entities

In full consultation and coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the overall Government coordinating entity, the United Nations System in Iran will cooperate with relevant ministries, and international partners.

National partners that can potentially contribute to this outcome include the Plan and Budget Organization; Vice Presidency for Rural and Deprived Areas; Vice Presidency for Science and Technology; the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs; the Ministry of Interior; the Ministry

² . Throughout the UNSDCF, the term "monitoring" refers, and is limited to the joint assessment of progress being made through the United Nations contribution in achieving the results under the Cooperation Framework.

of Cooperative, Labour and Social Welfare and its relevant affiliated bodies; the Ministry of Agriculture Jihad; the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Trade; the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development; the Ministry of Education; the Ministry of Justice; the Ministry of Research, Science and Technology; the Ministry of Health and Medical Education; the Ministry of Cultural, Heritage, Handicrafts and Tourism; and the Ministry of Youth and Sport.

OUTCOME 2:

By 2027, people of Iran benefit from enhanced health care and social services and enjoy healthier lifestyles.

Contextual Setting

Iran has a globally well-regarded health system, with strong national health indicators, defined by a pioneering and well-established primary health-care system, emphasizing equity and inclusivity along with community and inter-sectoral participation.³ A key strength in this health system is the distribution of primary health-care facilities throughout the country in both urban and rural areas where active services are provided by community health workers.

Iran has good overall capacity in terms of hospital beds, medical equipment, medical staff, and health quality assurance even though not all are evenly distributed across the country. The continued impediments that resulted from external factors as well as the COVID-19 pandemic placed unparalleled stress on the country's well-developed health system, which had been working to achieve universal health coverage. As in many countries, the pandemic put pressure on the health system in terms of staffing, facilities, medicines, and access.

³ . Iranian National Committee for NCDs Prevention and Control (2015). National Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs and Related Risk Factors in the Islamic Republic of Iran, 2015-2025 , 22 July 2015.
https://extranet.who.int/ncdccs/Data/IRN_B3_NAP_NCD_Iran.pdf.

Iran has adopted a national plan to prevent and control non-communicable diseases for 2015-2025, which aims to bring about a 25 per cent reduction in premature mortality due to major non-communicable diseases.⁴

Communicable diseases continue to be one of the most important public health problems. Some infectious diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, viral hepatitis, and pneumonia, remain responsible for deaths, and others, such as diarrhoeal diseases, leishmaniasis, and other zoonoses and vector-borne diseases, continue to affect poor populations.

Based on the latest Global AIDS Monitoring data, the HIV population of Iran was estimated at 54,000 in 2020, while 88 per cent of the estimated number of new HIV infections occurred in the 15-49 age group. Fewer than 1,000 adolescents (age 10-19) and 1,600 persons in the 15-24 age group, are estimated to be living with HIV in Iran.

In terms of reproductive health, in 2015, 99.3 per cent of deliveries were performed by a skilled birth attendant.⁵ Iran was one of only nine countries that achieved the global development goal of reducing the maternal mortality ratio by half from 1990 to 2015.⁶



Development Pathway and United Nations Intervention Strategies

The United Nations System's support for the high-level outcome focusing on enabling people in vulnerable situations will be provided through a set of two intermediate outcomes that define the strategic thrust of the United Nations offer. Around these outcomes, participating United Nations entities will collaboratively develop output-based rolling Joint Work Plans to take the Cooperation Framework's implementation forward.

These intermediate outcomes include:



Intermediate Outcome 2.1:

The health system is resilient and addresses a range of vulnerabilities in diverse settings and emergencies.

The development pathway for this intermediate outcome uses a life-cycle approach and the three lenses of equality, vulnerability, and inclusiveness to map pathways where the health system would benefit most from United Nations support and where the United Nations System believes it has the greatest comparative advantage. This may help the health system better

⁴ . Iranian National Committee for NCDs Prevention and Control (2015). National Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs and Related Risk Factors in the Islamic Republic of Iran, 2015-2025 , 22 July 2015.
https://extranet.who.int/ncdccs/Data/IRN_B3_NAP_NCD_Iran.pdf.

⁵ . <http://aidsreportingtool.unaids.org>

⁶ . [https://www.amar.org.ir/پایگاه اطلاعاتی MDG \(amar.org.ir\)](https://www.amar.org.ir/پایگاه اطلاعاتی MDG (amar.org.ir)).

monitor (and thus identify) the populations, settings and locations where the disparities exist and to formulate targeted, sustainable, and customized solutions to address them. In addition, the health system will stress resiliency to better respond to health emergencies and to prepare for emergencies by advocating, supporting and facilitating risk assessment and preparedness.

Upon request of the Government, as a guiding principle, the United Nations will support the health system to strengthen service delivery and health information systems, capacity development of the health workforce, enhancement of accessibility, affordability and utilization of essential medicines and services. This will also include nutrition-related aspects of the health system, equipping it to provide universal coverage of essential nutrition services. In the area of health and nutrition emergencies, the United Nations will offer support to national partners for development, strengthening and maintaining national capacities and having a resilient health system to effectively detect, assess, report and respond to public health risks and emergencies. In addition, technical support will be provided to meet the requirements of the International Health Regulations (IHR 2005) as a means to protect and improve health. Given the negative impact of external factors, the United Nations will also provide technical advice and support and facilitate the procurement and importation of medicines and medical/pharmaceutical supplies.

The United Nations will provide support to national counterparts in expanding and improving health-care services, information, and surveillance systems for communicable diseases (such as HIV/AIDS) and emerging, and re-emerging, diseases through an integrated approach. The United Nations support would also aim to expand multisectoral collaboration for controlling communicable diseases, including prevention of antimicrobial resistance through the "One Health" approach, conducting risk assessment and mitigation, and also updating plans, capacity-building, innovation and knowledge-sharing.

The United Nations will provide support to national counterparts in expanding and improving integrated essential non-communicable disease (NCD) and mental health-care services into the health system, focusing on primary health care. This will support the important areas of early detection of NCDs, treatment and rehabilitation. The increasing rate of cancers, including preventable gynaecological cancers, will be addressed. Furthermore, the United Nations will also support advocacy, updating results-based plans, technical guidelines and health policies, and capacity-building of human resources and institutions.

In line with the cooperation principles governing this document and in full conformity with the national goals, priorities and needs in the area of HIV/AIDS, the United Nations Country Team will support the National AIDS Programme to achieve its objectives.



Intermediate Outcome 2.2:

All relevant partners contribute to addressing health determinants and risk factors, and promote healthy lifestyles.

Based on a life-course approach to health, the United Nations will support national partners in implementing such policies as "Health in All Policies", the whole-of-government approach, and community engagement and empowerment. The adoption of the life-course approach across the whole of Government aims to improve health and well-being in all age groups and address health risks (including addressing the needs of young people), promote healthy environments and healthy lifestyles, incorporate social determinants of health in relevant work plans and programmes and promote health and nutrition in different settings (e.g. urban settings, schools, workplace, and so forth) and contribute to sustainable development and inclusive growth and wealth.

Part of the life-course approach will be addressing malnutrition in all its forms (including both under- and over-nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies). This will include community awareness and nutrition education of mothers including Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling and engagement on social protection, social safety nets and policy guidance for provision and support of adequate maternal, infant and young child nutrition, in full coordination with the Government.

A wider life-cycle approach to population ageing will support national efforts to benefit from a multidimensional set of age-sensitive measures that promote healthy ageing, ensuring that people at every age are prepared for quality ageing. This approach would include implementing social safeguards for older persons, upgrading knowledge on older people, and supporting implementation of the National Document for Older Persons.

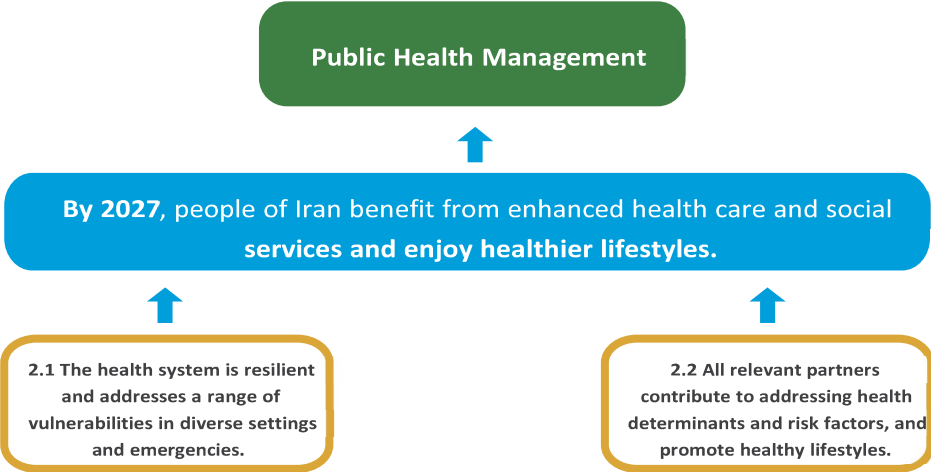
United Nations agencies will support the Government to promote appropriate maternity care and address provincial disparities in maternal mortality based on reproductive health indicators and services (including addressing infertility issues) to improve the long-term health of mothers and their newborns, as well as promoting positive lifestyle for adolescents and youth.

Mental health and related support and promoting healthy family relationships will be a key consideration under the life-cycle approach, and in the continuum of change that leads to positive health outcomes and healthy lifestyles.

Moreover, the United Nations System will support national partners in addressing the needs of persons with disabilities, elderly persons and female-headed families. This will cover the whole continuum of health and relevant social services, ensuring that such services are properly provided based on an informed needs assessment.

The United Nations would provide support to national counterparts in addressing modifiable risk factors of NCDs, mental disorders, disabilities and road traffic injuries through establishing and strengthening a comprehensive multisectoral mechanism where all partners including the health sector and sectors beyond it and communities work together in a participatory manner. United Nations would provide support to national counterparts in highlighting the role of healthy lifestyles, including healthy eating and physical activity.

Development Pathway for Outcome 2



Under the UNSDCF and through the cooperation with the Government, the United Nations System would take a multidimensional approach, working with a range of Ministries and national partners.

The United Nations System would help create and support networks of knowledge and participation, broker technical dialogue on health policy, and support mechanisms for meaningful and effective collaboration. Recognizing the inter-linkages between environmental, economic and social areas, such as education, and the health of the population, United Nations health agencies will also work under the environment priority area and under the socio-economic resilience priority area to address determinants of health that are relevant to those pillars.

Cooperating Entities

The multisectoral approach requires the engagement, involvement, and active contribution of a wide range of partners. Together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the overall government coordinating entity, the United Nations System will help facilitate dialogue among national institutions and international partners at the level of technical exchange and dialogue, planning and programming mechanisms, and knowledge management forums.

Key national partners that can potentially contribute to this outcome include the Ministry of Health and Medical Education; the Ministry of Interior; the Drug Control Headquarters; the Ministry of Youth and Sports; the Ministry of Education; the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology; the Ministry of Agriculture Jihad; the Department of Environment; the Iranian Red Crescent Society; the National Disaster Management Organization; the Ministry of Cooperative, Labour and Social Welfare; the Ministry of Energy; and the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development.

OUTCOME 3:

By 2027, environmental conservation and integrated natural resource management are enhanced, and the capacity to address climate change challenges is strengthened.

Contextual Setting

As a semi-arid country with limited water resources, Iran is experiencing the impact of global climate change with profound consequences. Similar to the other parts of the world, Iran is impacted by environmental degradation. The impact includes changes in precipitation patterns, persistent droughts, heat stress, air pollution, water pollution, soil erosion, and loss of biodiversity, habitats, and natural resources. These phenomena are affecting Iran's economy and population, especially those who are directly dependent on nature for their livelihood and survival.

Iran's high material footprint per capita plus high CO₂ emissions have resulted in reducing the Iran Human Development Index (HDI) by about 12 per cent from what it otherwise would have been.⁷ The country has great capacity to utilize energy resources such as solar power towards developing a sustainable and environmentally friendly economy, reducing emission of hazardous air pollutants, and removing the pressure on its scarce water resources. Tackling issues of climate change and its potential consequences is prompting new policy approaches, and initiatives are being undertaken through energy efficiency and energy intensity reduction approaches.

Development Pathway and United Nations Intervention Strategies

The United Nations System's support will be provided through a set of three intermediate outcomes that define the strategic thrust of the United Nations offer. Around these outcomes,

⁷ . UNDP (2020). Human Development Report 2020.

United Nations entities will collaboratively develop output-based rolling Joint Work Plans to take the Cooperation Framework's implementation forward. The intermediate outcomes are:



Intermediate Outcome 3.1:

Support for an environmentally friendly economy, including through the sustainable use of natural resources, is developed in all sectors.

To address the challenges faced by diminishing natural resources in a rapidly urbanizing country, the United Nations System will support the Government in connecting different aspects to address the complex sustainable development and natural resources management issues through policy advice, capacity-building, modern technology support and knowledge-sharing. The support will also include research on such issues as integrated approaches in managing natural resources and on the sustainable treatment of waste and pollutants, promoting plastic-free and sustainable consumption lifestyles, developing environment friendly and sustainable transportation infrastructure, reducing the use of hazardous wastes, and reforming polluting practices in agriculture and industry while enhancing capacity-building of MSMEs and their suppliers on climate resilience and resource efficiency. The United Nations System offers its facilitation and advocacy capacities to enhance the framework of South-South and Triangular Cooperation to mobilize international resources for improved integrated natural resources management and environmentally friendly development.



Intermediate Outcome 3.2:

Effective management of habitats and conservation of biodiversity support the health and sustainable services of ecosystems.

The United Nations System will support the Government in its efforts to address the condition of the health and biodiversity of Iran's ecosystem and in exploring diversified solutions for financing conservation efforts. The United Nations System will provide assistance to the Government in improving ecosystem protection and biodiversity conservation through capacity-building and knowledge-sharing, identification and mobilization of financial resources, including global funds and facilitating international and South-South cooperation. The United Nations System will also support the Government in reducing the usage of harmful substances in industry and agriculture that affect the health of ecosystems and biodiversity. The protection of marine and terrestrial ecosystems including wetlands, seas, forests, deserts, and rangelands as well as the corridors of the migratory species will be another area of collaboration with the Government.

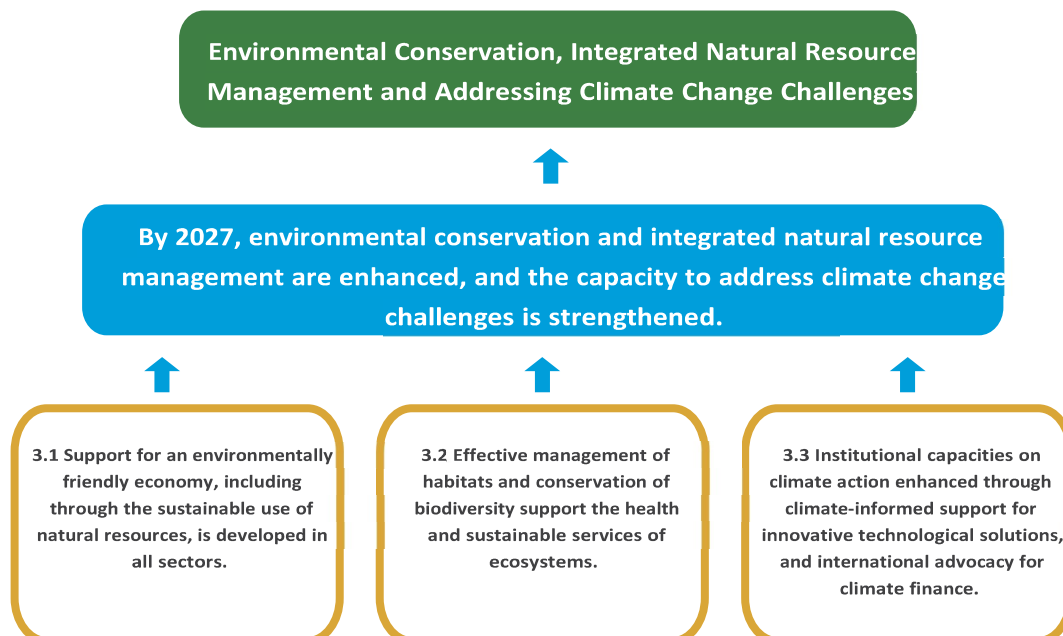
Intermediate Outcome 3.3:

Institutional capacities on climate action enhanced through climate-informed support for innovative technological solutions, and international advocacy for climate finance.

The United Nations System in Iran will offer an integrated approach to assist the Government in improving climate action through climate-informed contributions, supporting the Government to establish and diversify mechanisms for financing, supporting capacitybuilding and knowledge-sharing. Through its technical expertise, the United Nations System will propose environmentally protective and promotive measures that work to encourage innovative and technological approaches on usage of clean energy, reduce the level of consumption of natural resources, and reduce the emission of greenhouse gases and other atmospheric pollutants while promoting sustainable and climate-smart industrial and agricultural development.

The United Nations System through its international advocacy role will facilitate regional cooperation on combating sand and dust storms and South-South and Triangular Cooperation and will help mobilize global financial resources for environment financing including through advocating for reinvigoration of Global Environment Facility projects to address the country's challenges created by climate change.

Development Pathway for Outcome 3



The United Nations System will support the Government in establishing inter-linkages between environment, health, urbanization, resilient economy approaches, and disaster risk reduction and management. The work under this outcome area will also contribute to work under

Outcome 1 (socio-economic resilience), Outcome 2 (health), and Outcome 4 (disaster risk reduction and management).

The United Nations System will support the mobilization of international and regional financial resources, modern technological support, and establish synergies among the countries in the western Asia region to address transboundary environmental challenges, especially those related to sand and dust storms, transboundary ecosystems, conservation of migratory species and their corridors and reduction of pollution, to reduce and mitigate the environmental, health and socio-economic impacts of the degradation of natural resources.

To promote sustainability, the United Nations System will support strengthening national and local capacities in integrated natural resource management, climate action, and development of environmentally friendly economic approaches through capacity-building, technological support, technical advisory support, technology transfer and introduction of sustainable financial mechanisms. The United Nations System will develop a coordinated approach to support multi-agency joint programmes in a synergized manner.

Cooperating Entities

Together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the overall government coordinating entity, the United Nations System in Iran, in collaboration with the specified non-resident United Nations agencies, will collectively address the multisectoral issues related to ecosystem degradation and climate change impacts.

Key national partners that can potentially contribute to this outcome include the Vice Presidency Department of Environment; the Ministry of Agriculture Jihad; the Islamic Republic of Iran Meteorological Organization; the Ministry of Energy; the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology; the Ministry of Mines, Industry and Commerce; the Ministry of Interior; the Ministry of Petroleum; the Ministry of Health and Medical Education; and the Plan and Budget Organization.

OUTCOME 4:

By 2027, the national and local resilience to disaster impacts is enhanced by improving disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery.

Contextual Setting

Iran is a disaster-prone country, and recent decades have witnessed several disaster events that have caused significant damage and losses and adversely affected Iran's development gains. In addition, climate and weather-related hazards such as droughts, sand and dust storms, and floods have sharply increased in recent years.

In the past decade, the country started to move away from a traditional disaster response-focused approach to an approach that, in addition to planning for effective preparedness and response, looks at disaster risk reduction and endeavours to mitigate and reduce disaster risks by reducing hazards, vulnerabilities and exposure to risks. Iran has updated and passed its National Disaster Management Law in 2019, which provides a comprehensive and holistic approach with regard to short- and long-term aspects of disaster management and bridges disaster risk reduction and management with development planning and programming in the country. Accordingly, the National Disaster Management Organization has been given a more strategic role in coordinating and supporting disaster management and risk reduction.

The recent legislative and organizational developments in the disaster management agenda of Iran are a very positive and important step forward. Enhanced institutional and operational capacities in terms of strategic planning, knowledge, and modern technology and equipment in the areas of disaster risk assessment, hazard monitoring and early warning, disaster preparedness, response and recovery will help realize the goals of disaster risk management, reduction and response plans.

The implementation of the recently adopted National Disaster Management Law and National Disaster Management Strategy and other pertinent national frameworks will benefit from being based on a risk-informed development approach, with full engagement and support of key national entities responsible for planning and development.

In addition to institutional and operational capacities, engagement and participation of people are essential so that they can serve as agents of solutions to reduce the risk and negative impacts of disasters. To play such a role, it is important for people to acquire the necessary knowledge and skills and for disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) planning.

Development Pathway and United Nations Intervention Strategies

The United Nations System's support will be provided through a set of two intermediate outcomes that define the strategic thrust of the United Nations offer. Around these outcomes, participating United Nations entities will collaboratively develop output-based rolling Joint Work Plans to take the Cooperation Framework's implementation forward. These intermediate outcomes are:

Intermediate Outcome 4.1:

Disaster risk reduction is integrated into development planning and programmes, and institutional capacities for effective disaster preparedness, response and recovery are strengthened.

United Nations agencies on the ground, based on their comparative advantages and with an emphasis on joint initiatives, will support national efforts through the following strategies:

- Supporting the national and sectoral development institutions and line ministries to integrate disaster risk reduction in development policies and planning, by sharing available international expertise and experiences and providing financial and technical support to assessments and coordination;
- Providing the National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO) with technological support, international expertise and global best practices, and knowledge support to improve multi-hazard risk reduction, response, preparedness, and recovery in national planning; risk transfer, distribution and retention mechanisms, and financial protection for investments; the integration of climate change considerations into preparedness, risk reduction, and recovery planning; and disaggregated data for humanitarian preparedness and response, as well as for contingency planning;
- Providing technical support including transferring knowledge, guidelines, standards, good practices, and lessons learned through South-South and Triangular Cooperation initiatives in integrating risk reduction and management in planning processes, resource mobilization and in assisting the Government in localizing knowledge-based products and adapting them to the national development requirements of the country;
- Supporting the resource mobilizing activities of the Government through the donor community and United Nations agencies for improving the functioning of its DRRM mechanisms by helping to procure equipment for effective disaster preparedness and response;
- Providing research and knowledge support to the Government on DRRM through cooperation with the Natural Disaster Research Institute (NDRI).



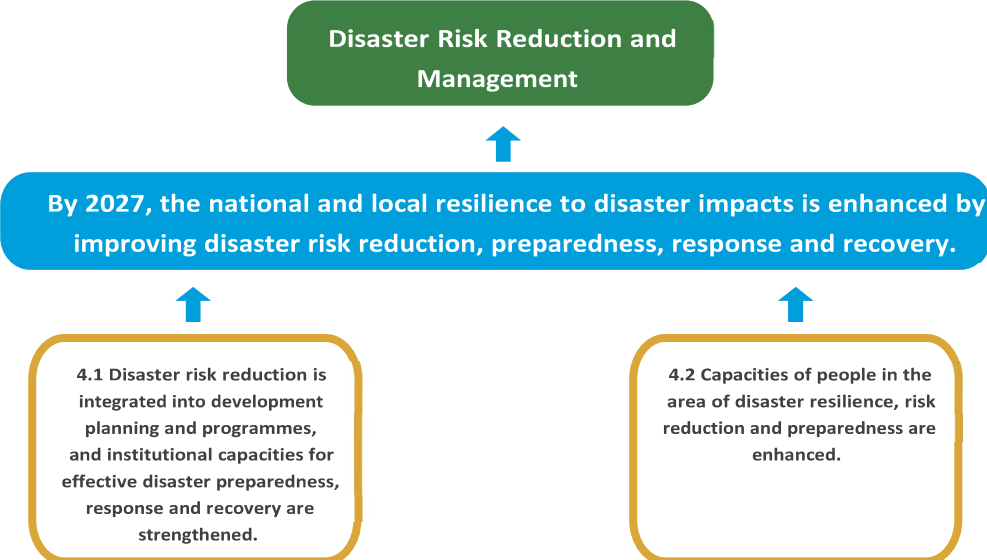
Intermediate Outcome 4.2:

Capacities of people in the area of disaster resilience, risk reduction and preparedness are enhanced.

United Nations agencies on the ground, based on their comparative advantages and with an emphasis on joint initiatives, will support national efforts through providing technical support

including sharing of good international practices to promote participatory approaches, thereby enhancing collaboration between government authorities and populations.

Development Pathway for Outcome 4



The DRRM outcome embodies the humanitarian-development nexus in its approach to disaster risk management, reduction, response and recovery and the impact of disasters on development, addressing the needs of people of Iran.

As disasters recognize no borders, the DRRM outcome will take into consideration transboundary hazards such as sand and dust storms and drought. It will further require consideration of regional cooperation mechanisms such as bilateral, South-South and Triangular Cooperation on disaster risk management to facilitate sharing of data and information on risk assessment, and early warning systems, as well as exchange of expertise and experiences with the countries of the region and beyond.

United Nations support will follow a balanced approach in providing the hardware (e.g. equipment) and software (e.g. knowledge, best practices and modern technological support) support in order to contribute to the development of national capacities.

Cooperating Entities

Considering the complex and multi-dimensional nature of disaster risk, the area of DRRM requires a multi-stakeholder approach and broad internal and external cooperation. Together with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the overall government coordinating entity, the United

Nations System in Iran, in collaboration with the relevant non-resident agencies, will collectively engage to cover key development and emergency/humanitarian components of DRRM.

The key national partners that can potentially contribute to this outcome include the Ministry of Interior; the National Disaster Management Organization (NDMO) and the NDRI; the Plan and Budget Organization (PBO); the IRIMO; Iranian Red Crescent Society; the Department of Environment; Ministry of Road and Urban Development; Ministry of Energy; Ministry of Agriculture Jihad; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Health and Medical Education; Ministry of Cooperative, Labour and Social Welfare; Ministry of Science, Research and Technology; and Ministry of Education.

OUTCOME 5:

By 2027, more people of Iran are protected from drug use, and the capacity for effective border management and countering illicit trafficking is enhanced.

Contextual Setting

Iran is heavily affected by the problem of drug use and drug trafficking due to its close proximity to the greatest producer of opiates in the world. Drug use presents a societal issue too. The resolution of the issue of drug use and its adversities requires that interventions modify underlying causes, patterns and consequences through relevant strategies, products and services for preventing and treating drug use and reducing harm ensuing from drug use.

The Government has been successfully establishing many diverse interventions on drug prevention, treatment and harm reduction in the country. However, the existing services are not necessarily covering all the populations in need of them who are at the epicentre of drug use issues.

The country has built, over the years, one of the strongest counter-narcotics enforcement capabilities in the region. The country has spent heavily and has sustained huge human losses and incurred approximately one billion dollars to counter the flow of illicit drugs. One of the priorities identified for improving drug supply reduction in the country is to enhance national capacity for effective border management and illicit trafficking control, including drug-related crime.



Development Pathway and United Nations Intervention Strategies

The United Nations System's support will be provided through a set of two intermediate outcomes that define the strategic thrust of the United Nations offer. Around these outcomes and guided by the principle of national ownership and leadership, participating United Nations entities will collaboratively develop output-based rolling Joint Work Plans to take the Cooperation Framework's implementation forward. The intermediate outcomes are:



Intermediate Outcome 5.1:

Access to evidence-based drug prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and drug-related protection services is improved.

The United Nations contributes technically to ongoing national efforts and programmes and for piloting, implementation, and equipping relevant centres to meet the needs of various populations affected by drug use in close cooperation and coordination with the relevant governmental organizations. Financial, technical and knowledge-based support will be provided as add-ons to existing programmes for improving access to quality, userfriendly, comprehensive, and tailored services. The focus lies on the empowerment of people to improve family functioning and healthy family relationships, improve health and well-being, and address the psychosocial needs of people in vulnerable situations.



Intermediate Outcome 5.2:

National capacity for effective border management and illicit trafficking control, including drug-related crime, is improved.

The United Nations will support the strengthening of Iran's active engagement at regional and international drug and precursors control forums, thereby helping to increase technical knowledge and capacities of counterparts through specialized training and provision of drug control equipment and supplies to improve law enforcement status and drug control mechanisms. Through strengthening border management and illicit trafficking control, in collaboration with national and international stakeholders, the United Nations System in Iran will provide support in strengthening the capacity of law enforcement agencies, resulting in the increase in the number of operations conducted against drug trafficking networks and in the volume of seizures of drugs and illicit chemical precursors.

While adopting a multi-dimensional approach, supportive measures under these intermediate outcomes will create mutual synergies with other UNSDCF priority areas. The United Nations will

develop and implement Joint Work Plans and programmes to avoid duplication and to encourage synergized action promoting higher effectiveness and efficiency. Under the Cooperation Framework, the United Nations will give high priority to supporting capacity development and systems strengthening to improve the quality of services.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the areas of drug prevention, treatment, harm reduction and border control will continue to be part of United Nations support, contributing to improved cooperation within the region and to the exchange of good practices.

The implementation of interventions will involve institutions, services and centres selected from among existing institutions to ensure continuity of action. The United Nations System would support the Government to ensure continued national ownership and leadership of joint programmes and initiatives under this outcome and establish necessary institutional arrangements and capacity for the successful implementation of joint programmes and for the sustainability of their results and impacts.

Development Pathway for Outcome 5



Cooperating Entities

While the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the overall government coordinating entity of the United Nations System, the Iranian Drug Control Headquarters (DCHQ) works as the overarching coordination body for drug control in the country, which is comprised of the Ministry of Health and Medical Education; the Ministry of Education; the Ministry of Sports and Youth; the State Welfare Organisation; the Police; the Customs; the Prisons Organisation; the Iranian Red Crescent Society; the Ministry of Interior; and other relevant entities. The drug control system in

Iran attaches high value to the involvement of academia and civil society organizations in matters of drug control.