

CHAPTER 3

UNSDCF PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION

Country ownership shall be the overriding principle of cooperation. The UNSDCF should contribute to the national development priorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In formulating and implementing all programmes, projects and activities thereof, there shall be full respect for social, cultural, ethical and religious values of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Assistance to the Government under this Cooperation Framework shall be made available and shall be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions, decisions, rules and procedures of each United Nations System Organization.

The primary purpose of the UNSDCF is to profile how the United Nations System in Iran will contribute, in a coordinated manner, to the development priorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Therefore, any operational development activities within the UNSDCF shall contribute to the priority areas and policy orientations identified by the Government.

As a matter of working principle, the focus of joint activities within the purview of the UNSDCF shall remain sustainable development, with the achievement of the identified outcomes in all its forms and dimensions as its overarching objective, consistent with the national policies and plans for development.

The Government is the prime partner of the United Nations Country Team, and does have the primary responsibility for its country's development and for coordinating, on the basis of national strategies and policies, all types of external assistance, including that provided by multilateral organizations such as the United Nations System, in order to effectively integrate such assistance into its development trajectory.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs takes leadership in coordinating implementation of the UNSDCF, and the UNSDCF will be executed under its overall supervision.

The United Nations recognizes the ownership and leadership of the Government of Iran in the implementation of the UNSDCF. Activities will be implemented in accordance with established United Nations country programme agreements with the Government of Iran. National implementation is the preferred implementation modality while the United Nations can support with other implementation modalities at the request of the Government of Iran.

Subject to the discretion of the relevant government implementing partners and under their coordination and supervision, other partners such as officially registered civil society organizations and private entities may participate in the implementation of UNSDCF-related activities.

The fundamental principle of national ownership and leadership underpins any form of cooperation under the UNSDCF and is to be respected by partners at all stages of their partnership in order to ensure the full alignment of the joint operational activities with national development policies and priorities.

Formulation and implementation of any joint activities relating to the UNSDCF outcomes shall fully respect the national norms and values of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The government implementing partners and the United Nations cooperating agencies employ officially-approved data and statistics of the country as the point of reference in their work plans.

The provisions of the 1946 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and/or the provisions of the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies including its applicable Annex, to which the Islamic Republic of Iran is a party, will apply to each United Nations System Organization and its personnel for the purposes of the activities conducted in the country under this Cooperation Framework. The provisions of any legal agreement between the Government and any United Nations System Organization will also be applied to that United Nations System Organization and its personnel. Without prejudice to such privileges and immunities, it is the duty of all persons enjoying them to respect the laws and regulations of the Host Country. Any difference will be resolved amicably.