



UNITED NATIONS
BOTSWANA



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework



2022–2026

United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022–2026

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Acronyms

AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area	MoPAGPA	Ministry of Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration
AGYW	Adolescent girls and young women	NAHPA	National AIDS and Health Promotion Agency
AU	African Union	NDP	National Development Plan
BIRRO	Botswana Institute of Rehabilitation & Reintegration of Offenders	OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
BOCONGO	Botswana Council of Non-Governmental Organisations	PSC	Government-UN Programme Steering Committee on the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
BOS	Business Operations Strategy	RCO	Resident Coordinator's Office
BWP	Botswana Pula	SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
CCA	Common Country Analysis	SBAA	Standard Basic Assistance Agreement
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women	SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
CF	Cooperation Framework	SERP	Socio-Economic Response Plan
CSO	Civil Society Organization	UMIC	Upper-Middle-Income Country
DCEC	Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime	UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women
EU	European Union	UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations	UNCG	United Nations Communications Group
FIES	Food Insecurity Experience Scale	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
GBV	Gender-based violence	UNDG	United Nations Development Group
GII	Global Innovation Index	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
IEC	Independent Electoral Commission	UNDPPA	United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	UNDSS	United Nations Department for Safety and Security
ILO	International Labour Organization	UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
IOM	International Organization for Migration (United Nations)	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
JNUSC	Joint National United Nations Steering Committee	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
JUTA	Joint United Nations Team on AIDS	UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
LGBTQI+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex, plus other sexual identities	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
LNOB	Leave No One Behind	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
MDJS	Ministry of Defence, Justice and Security	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
MELS	Ministry of Employment, Labour Productivity and Skills Development	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
MENRCT	Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources Conservation and Tourism	UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
MFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development	UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Framework
MIAC	Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation	UNSDF	United Nations Sustainable Development Framework
MITI	Ministry of Investment, Trade and Industry	UPR	Universal Periodic Review
MLG&RD	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development	WFP	World Food Programme
MLWS	Ministry of Land Management, Water and Sanitation Services	WHO	World Health Organization
MMGE	Ministry of Mineral Resources, Green Technology, and Energy Resources	WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
MNH	Maternal and Neonatal Health		
MNIG	Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs		
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security		
MoBE	Ministry of Basic Education		
MoHW	Ministry of Health and Wellness		

Joint Statement and Signatures

The Government of Botswana and the United Nations in Botswana are pleased to present the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF, or Cooperation Framework) 2022–2026 for the Republic of Botswana.

The UNSDCF is a crucial tool to enable the Government and the UN, in partnership, to address the country's development needs, with particular attention to vulnerable and marginalized groups. This will be done in line with Botswana's national development plans, including NDP 11 (2017–2023), Vision 2036: Achieving Prosperity for All, and the forthcoming NDP 12 (2023–2029). Through this UNSDCF, we in the Government and in the United Nations will jointly work towards realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Botswana.

We are confident that the UNSDCF will help Botswana seize new opportunities and respond effectively to existing and new challenges presented by the country's post-2020 development landscape, including "building back better" in the post-COVID-19 era and supporting Botswana's aspiration of being a high-income country by 2036. Informed by Botswana's development needs and capacities, and the United Nations own comparative advantage and expertise, programming under the new UNSDCF will be strategically focused on five major outcomes, organized around the 'five Ps' of sustainable development: **People, Planet, Prosperity, and Peace and Partnerships**. We believe that through achieving these outcomes, the Government and the United Nations will help to build a more equitable Botswana where women and girls can fulfil their potential and fully realize their human rights; where all people, including the most marginalized, can access quality services in health and education; where the

environment is protected through sustainable management and food security is assured; where a resilient, sustainable economy provides employment and raises people out of poverty; and where leaders are accountable and good governance fosters empowerment for all.

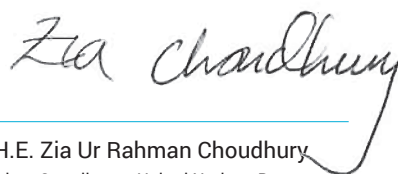
The United Nations will contribute to the achievement of each outcome through various outputs with the support of partners including Government, civil society, academia and the private sector. The 22 United Nations entities operating in Botswana will work together towards accomplishing the outcomes of this Cooperation Framework. The UNSDCF stands as the guiding document for the whole United Nations family.

On behalf of the Government of Botswana and the United Nations in Botswana, we would like to extend our gratitude to all of those who contributed valuable time and efforts in the development of the UNSDCF and voice our commitment to ensuring the effective implementation of the UNSDCF 2022–2026, supporting its contributions to the 2030 Agenda and increasing the welfare of the people of Botswana.

With the signature of this document, the Government of Botswana and the United Nations in Botswana hereby endorse this Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework as the basis for cooperation between the two entities for the 2022–2026 period.



Hon. Peggy O. Serame
Minister of Finance and Economic Development



H.E. Zia Ur Rahman Choudhury
Resident Coordinator, United Nations Botswana

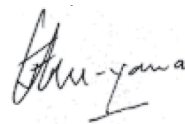
We, the undersigned, commit to work together in pursuing the strategic priorities laid out in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2022-2026, towards achieving the 2030 Agenda. In line with Botswana's national development plans, including NDP 11 (2017–2023), Vision 2036: Achieving Prosperity for All, and the forthcoming NDP 12 (2023–2029).



René Czudek
FAO Representative



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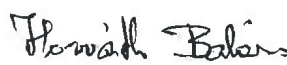
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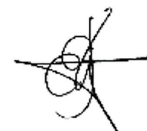
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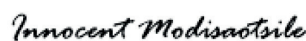
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WHO Representative

Executive Summary

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2022–2026 reflects the collaboration between the United Nations and the Government of Botswana, and their joint commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals embodied in Agenda 2030. The Cooperation Framework is renewed every five years and articulates government expectations of the United Nations development system.

Botswana gained independence in 1966, since when it has become a constitutional democracy and transformed itself from one of the poorest countries in the world into an upper-middle-income country (UMIC). At the same time however, it is one of the 10 most unequal countries in the world, with a Gini index value of 53.3¹ in 2015. Poverty levels are almost three times higher than the UMIC average and the pre-pandemic unemployment rate was four times higher than this average; social indicators also lag behind those of a typical UMIC. Inequality is thus the major overarching challenge which this United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (or Cooperation Framework) has identified and intends to reduce.

The focus is on marginalized groups and those left furthest behind. These have been identified by the Common Country Analysis (CCA), a living document that the United Nations devises to guide its development strategy in each country in which it has an operational presence. They are made up of people at risk of being excluded in development – economically, socially, spatially and/or politically – due to gender, age, disability, social mores or a combination of these. They face multiple discriminations. Women (especially rural women and female heads of poor households), people with disabilities, members of the LGBTQI+ community, adolescent girls and young women, youth, migrants, refugees, survivors of GBV and children are those least likely to be able to claim their civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights in Botswana.

The level of national commitment and ownership of the Cooperation Framework is reflected by the degree to which the Government has led and engaged in the critical stakeholder dialogues that went into formulating it. Several ministries put their expertise to work to capture Government priorities accurately, and the Results Framework has been validated by them and Statistics Botswana. This close engagement has established what indicators need to be monitored to ensure progress is measured, and has contributed to determining the targets that the UNSDCF 2022–2026 will achieve.

The level of national commitment and ownership is reflected by the degree to which the Government has led and engaged in the critical stakeholder dialogues around the CF. This not only established which indicators are to be monitored in measuring progress, but also determined the targets to be achieved during the course of the CF implementation period.

The UNSDCF 2022–2026 is the successor to the United Nations Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDF), and builds upon it. In particular, it has increased inclusiveness at every stage of its development: planning, prioritisation, implementation and governance. It was formulated by the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and partners from government, civil society, the private sector and beyond. It is informed by the development priorities of the Government of Botswana, including those set out in the country's national development plans, and translated into five major outcomes:

OUTCOME 1: By 2026, gender inequality is reduced, and women and girls are empowered to access their human rights and participate in and benefit from inclusive development.

OUTCOME 2: By 2026, all people, particularly vulnerable and marginalized groups, have equitable access to quality services of health, nutrition, education and social protection.

OUTCOME 3: By 2026, Botswana sustainably uses and actively manages its diverse natural resources, improves food security and effectively addresses climate change vulnerability.

OUTCOME 4: By 2026, Botswana has strengthened resilience to shocks and emergencies, and is on a sustainable, equitable economic trajectory, reducing levels of inequality, poverty and unemployment.

OUTCOME 5: By 2026, Botswana is a just society, where leaders are accountable, transparent and responsive, corruption is reduced, and people are empowered to access information, services and opportunities and participate in decisions that affect their lives and livelihoods.

¹ The Gini index, or Gini coefficient, measures income distribution across a population. The coefficient ranges from 0 (or 0%) to 1 (or 100%), with 0 representing perfect equality and 1 representing perfect inequality.

These five outcomes are interlinked and woven together, so that progress achieved under any one outcome should bolster and reinforce results under the others. For example, improvements in fighting gender inequality should complement achievements in economic prosperity, as this will create a much more inclusive workforce from which talent can be drawn. Similarly, boosting partnerships with businesses and the private sector will make direct contributions across the other outcomes, given the strong role businesses play not just in terms of service delivery, but also towards employment generation and thus towards reducing poverty. This means that working across the five outcomes will help reinforce and accelerate the results achieved, and contribute to the overarching aim of reducing social and economic inequalities across society.

The Cooperation Framework has taken into account the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, from which the country has yet to recover. The social impact – especially for women and those in the informal sector – has been severe, and the economic impact significant, cutting across most sectors of the economy. The Framework has been informed by the Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan and other sectoral plans, developed in the context of the pandemic response and recovery. These include the Socio-Economic Response Plan (SERP), drafted by the United Nations in close collaboration with Government. Much of the Framework has been formulated to “build back better”, increase social and economic resilience, and ensure a sustainable recovery.

The theory of change underpinning the Framework is therefore based on Government priorities, development deficits identified by the CCA, and the impact of COVID-19. Working with a diverse set of partners through clearly defined and feasible outputs and activities should ultimately lead to reduced inequalities, propelling Botswana towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 and bringing it closer to its aspirational goal of becoming one of Africa’s earliest high-income countries.

To facilitate the achievement of the Framework’s aims and to promote accountability, the United Nations and its partners have agreed certain governing structures. The top-level governance body is the Joint National–United Nations Steering Committee (JNUSC), which will provide strategic oversight and direction. The UNCT will oversee the Framework’s implementation, and prepare Joint Work Plans identifying the activities of each United Nations entity, planned for a two-year period. Each outcome will be supported by a Results Group, co-chaired by a Government representative and a United Nations agency representative. A Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Group will provide monitoring and take account of lessons learned, ensuring that the Framework will be responsive to risk and any unintended or unforeseen outcome, and pivot accordingly. A Cross-Cutting Thematic Group will ensure that marginalized groups are engaged and that their diversity and realities are reflected and respected across all Cooperation Framework structures.

The United Nations in Botswana is committed to dedicating its combined efforts and comparative advantage to supporting the country to achieve its development goals and targets, in

alignment with the SDGs and Botswana’s national goals, as reflected in Vision 2036, NDP 11 (2017–2023) and the forthcoming NDP 12 (2023–2028). It will do this through the Cooperation Framework, by providing policy development support, technical specialized assistance and capacity building, to implement initiatives which contribute to ending discrimination and reducing inequalities, and by developing a favourable policy, legal and institutional environment for economic growth and prosperity for all, with respect for the rule of law and environmental sustainability. The United Nations will also support partnerships and resource mobilization, knowledge dissemination based on national studies, and the sharing of international norms, standards, good practices, and guidance tools. Each participating United Nations entity will also play a key role in supporting advocacy for the ratification and domestication of international conventions, and on human rights issues affecting the most vulnerable and marginalized, guided by the United Nations core principle of ‘leaving no one behind’. The UNSDCF 2022–2026 thus strives to be inclusive, not only by addressing the Botswana’s core development challenges, but also in the way it goes about achieving this, by seeking to contribute to dismantling the structures that support and perpetuate inequalities and discrimination, and by working closely and in a more collaborative manner with all stakeholders, to ensure meaningful participation during the Framework’s implementation.

Leave no one behind (LNOB) is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It represents the unequivocal commitment of all United Nations Member States to eradicate poverty in all its forms, end discrimination and exclusion, and reduce the inequalities and vulnerabilities that leave people behind and undermine the potential of individuals and of humanity as a whole.

LNOB not only entails reaching the poorest of the poor, but requires combating discrimination and rising inequalities within and among countries, as well as their root causes. A major cause of people being left behind are the persistent forms of discrimination, including gender discrimination, which leave individuals, families and whole communities marginalized and excluded. It is grounded in the UN’s normative standards that are foundational principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international human rights law and national legal systems across the world.

LNOB compels us to focus on discrimination and inequalities, often multiple and intersecting, that undermine the agency of people as holders of rights. Many of the barriers people face in accessing services, resources and equal opportunities are not simply accidents of fate or an unavailability of resources, but rather the result of discriminatory laws, policies and social practices that leave particular groups of people further and further behind. The United Nations approach to leaving no one behind puts the imperative to combat inequalities and discrimination at the forefront of United Nations efforts to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Chapter 1

Country Progress Towards the 2030 Agenda







The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022–2026 reflects the three dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals – economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection – and the people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnerships at the core of Agenda 2030. It thus supports the Government of Botswana in its commitment to achieve the SDGs and its Vision 2036: Achieving Prosperity for All.

1.1 Country context

The Republic of Botswana is a landlocked African country, covering 581,730 square kilometres, and bordered by South Africa, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe. It has an estimated total population of 2.38 million, comprising 1.21 million females (51.6 per cent) and 1.14 million males (48.4 per cent). Its population is young, with 33 per cent aged under 15 and just 4.7 per cent aged 65 or older.

Botswana is comparable in size to France, but 70 per cent of the country is occupied by the Kalahari desert and the population is concentrated primarily in the south and east. Population density is the second lowest in Africa at four people per square km of land. The economy relies heavily on mining, particularly diamonds, with tourism an increasingly important sector; its

purchasing power parity is good but the lack of economic diversity creates economic instability and gives cause for concern. The country is in the process of recovering from the socio-economic shocks occasioned by the COVID-19 pandemic, with growth rate for 2022 forecast at 4.3 per cent, which is reasonably buoyant compared to the 3 per cent just before the pandemic struck. Agriculture, on which the climate crisis is having an increasingly serious impact, supplies just 50 per cent of food needs, and the country's economic potential is severely compromised by effects of HIV/AIDs and the inadequate provision of anti-retroviral treatment.

Botswana gained its independence in 1966 and is now a constitutional democracy. The Executive headed by the President implements the laws passed by Parliament, while the Judiciary provides the checks and balances necessary to the democratic process. Customary courts play a significant role in access to justice, dealing with approximately 80 per cent of legal issues. The Botswana Democratic Party has held power since independence.

The Government of Botswana has ratified six of the nine core international human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) but not the following three treaties: the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (ICMW), and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CPED).



H.E. Zia Choudhury (left) and Hon. Peggy Serame (right) with the signed agreement.

Botswana has transformed itself from one of the world's poorest countries at independence into an upper-middle-income country and is perceived to have low levels of corruption, ranking 34 out of 198 countries in Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index.² However, it remains one of the 10 most unequal countries in the world, with an estimated Gini Index of 53.3 in 2015. It has unequal income distribution and consumption expenditure, despite an improvement of 11.9 per cent since 2009.³ Income inequality is likely to have worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic, which would be consistent with trends in other countries; wealthy individuals are not only in a better position to cope with the socio-economic impact of such a shock, but are also able to recover much more quickly.

In terms of women's equality, Botswana has made progress in addressing gender gaps in education, health and the economy, but lags behind in women's political participation.⁴ Those being left behind include children, adolescent girls and young women, women, youth, the rural poor, the elderly, indigenous people, people with disabilities, the LGBTIQ+ community, migrants and refugees, and people accused and detained. Members of the LGBTIQ+ community, female sex workers, migrants and asylum seekers often face discrimination and are unable to avail the same rights and opportunities as others in Botswana.⁵

Every five or six years since independence the Government of Botswana has prepared a National Development Plan (NDP) around which all development efforts in the country are aligned. Each NDP sets out various programmes and projects to be implemented to achieve the Plan's strategy, as well as estimates of revenue during the period of the Plan, and expenditure and manpower growth projections.⁶ NDP 11 2017–2023 is aligned to the country's long-term Vision 2036: Achieving Prosperity for All, and focuses on six national priorities:

- developing diversified sources of economic growth
- human capital development
- social development
- sustainable use of natural resources
- consolidation of good governance and strengthening national security
- implementation of an effective monitoring and evaluation system.

The Government of Botswana sought to align NDP 11 with its global, continental and regional commitments, as reflected in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the African Union's Agenda 2063, and the Southern African Development Community's Revised Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan.⁷ The United Nations will support the development of the forthcoming NDP 12 and updates to the Framework will ensure it continues to be aligned to the NDP's new priorities.

² Transparency International (2019). Corruption Perception Index. (<https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2019/results/bwa>).

³ World Bank (2015). World Bank Open Data. (<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.GINI?locations=BW>).

⁴ The Global Gender Gap Index 2021 ranks Botswana 71 out of 165 countries, with a score of 0.716. World Economic Forum (2021). Global Gender Gap Index 2021. (<https://www.weforum.org/reports/ab6795a1-960c-42b2-b3d5-587eccda6023>).

⁵ Government of Botswana (2017). National Development Plan 11 April 2017–March 2023.

⁶ Ministry of Finance, National Development Plan. (https://www.finance.gov.bw/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=28&Itemid=126)

⁷ Government of Botswana (2017). National Development Plan 11. Op. cit.

2.2 Progress towards the SDGs, challenges and gaps⁸

The Government of Botswana, in common with all United Nations Member States, adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015. It has established an inclusive SDG National Steering Committee and SDG Technical Task Team, and in 2017 participated in a Voluntary National Review on progress made on SDGs 1, 2, 5, 9 and 17, with a focus on SDG 1 and other indicators contributing to poverty eradication. The Voluntary National Review noted that although the country had made substantial progress, reducing poverty remained a high priority. In the United Nations Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review, January 2018, Botswana received 207 recommendations, the majority of which related to SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions (31 per cent of recommendations), SDG 5 on gender equality (23 per cent), SDG 10 on reducing inequalities (10 per cent), SDG 1 on poverty eradication (9 per cent) and SDG 4 on education (8 per cent). The Government has committed to implementing 93 of these 207 recommendations, and noted several others regarding the protection of journalists, freedom of opinion and expression, abolition of the death penalty, protection of LGBTIQ+ rights, prohibition of corporal punishment against children, and ensuring the right to a nationality for all children. It has also committed to conduct another Voluntary National Review in 2022.

The Common Country Analysis which informs the Cooperation Framework has identified the opportunities for the United Nations in Botswana to support the Government and its other partners in accelerating progress towards achieving Botswana's domesticated SDGs. It also identifies a range of challenges. These include vulnerable and marginalized groups being left behind, deep-rooted gender inequality, the need for better access to healthcare, the effects of the climate crisis, inequitable access to energy, high rates of poverty and unemployment, the continued legality of corporal punishment for adults and children, and inadequate legal frameworks impacting negatively on human rights. Annex 4 of this document provides more specific details of the SDGs and their progress in Botswana.

The United Nations, in formulating the UNSDCF, worked hand-in-hand with the Government and numerous stakeholders from across society in its stated aim to be representative and inclusive. The next chapter explains the formulation of the Cooperation Framework and how the United Nations will hold itself accountable in its commitment to support the Government of Botswana to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030.



⁸ All data in this section of the Cooperation Framework were sourced from the Common Country Analysis unless indicated otherwise.

⁹ SDG 1: "End poverty in all its forms everywhere"; SDG 2: "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture"; SDG 5: "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls"; SDG 9: "Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation"; and SDG 17: "Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development". United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2021). United Nations – The 17 Goals. (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>).

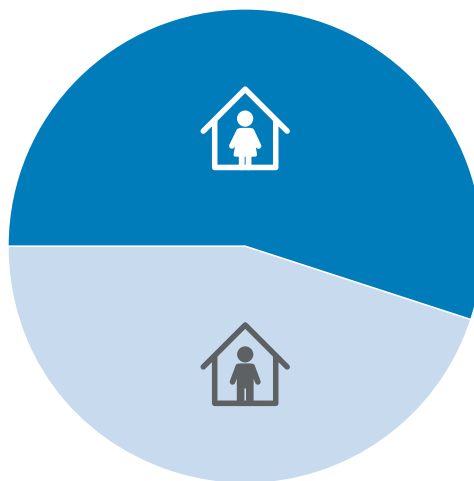
Poverty remains high among the most marginalized groups

On average, youth remain dependent up to age 32, which is late compared to other upper-middle-income countries, underscoring heightened youth vulnerabilities

1 in 3 youth is unemployed



Higher percentage
55%
of poor female-headed households



Than male-headed households
45%

Average poverty rate of people living in remote and sparsely populated areas is higher than the average poverty rate for all villages and the national average



Chapter 2
United Nations Support
to the 2030 Agenda





Botswana Parliament. Photo by Gary Ashworth

The United Nations supports the Government of Botswana in its commitment to the urgent timeline to realize the SDGs as part of Agenda 2030. In this regard, the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework is the most important instrument for planning and implementing United Nations development activities at country level.

This chapter describes how the UNSDCF was formulated and what it expects to achieve. Section 2.1 explains how two documents inform the Framework, the intention of the United Nations in Botswana to be inclusive, and why it is the optimum choice of agency to get the work done. It also briefly describes how the Framework will be implemented (detailed in Chapter 3). Section 2.2 presents the theory of change that informed its four Strategic Priorities, and the activities that the United Nations and Government of Botswana will put into action over the Framework's five-year period.

2.1 | From Common Country Analysis to Cooperation Framework

The Cooperation Framework is underpinned by the Common Country Analysis (CCA), a living document prepared by the United Nations and used to identify the key development issues in each country in which it has a presence. In addition, an evaluation of the Framework's predecessor, the United Nations Sustainable Development Framework (UNSDF, 2017–2021), identified a number of key areas to be addressed, including the need for more joint programming (noting that joint projects perform better), closer cooperation with partners (including closer monitoring of the commitments made in the new Framework and the mechanisms for holding the United Nations accountable for them), joint fundraising, and greater engagement with the private sector. Inclusiveness was highlighted as something to be

strengthened at all stages of the new Cooperation Framework, including at the planning, management, oversight and implementation stages. In particular, the evaluation informed the Framework's governance and management structures, detailed in Chapter 3.

The Framework was formulated by the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) working together with the joint Government–United Nations Programme Steering Committee (PSC) and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development. The PSC includes representatives from Government, civil society and the private sector. This collaborative effort addressed four specific stages of the work: developing the UNSDCF road map, engaging stakeholders in the CCA process, the Cooperation Framework prioritisation process, and finalisation of the Results Framework.

At the core of the work was the United Nations commitment to making the process inclusive. Over 170 stakeholders were consulted, including a wide range of government representatives (for example, technical personnel from appropriate line ministries),¹⁰ members of vulnerable and marginalized groups, and other civil society, private sector, academia and development partners. A series of consultative strategic foresight workshops enabled a systematic approach to looking beyond the expected, in order to better frame the prioritisation of development challenges in the volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous context of COVID-19 and the post-pandemic period.

In addition, a United Nations analysis confirmed its comparative advantage to significantly and meaningfully contribute to Botswana's sustainable development. The United Nations has been an integral partner throughout Botswana's development efforts since the country's independence, and is now widely recognised as an impartial, technically equipped and trusted partner.

¹⁰ Technical experts from the following ministries worked with the RCO to finalise the Results Framework and contributed to specific outcomes: Ministry of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs (Outcome 1), Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Ministry of Basic Education, Ministry of Health and Wellness (Outcome 2), Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security, Ministry of Environment, Natural Resource, Conservation and Tourism, Ministry of Health and Wellness (Outcome 3), Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (Outcome 4), Ministry of Defence, Justice and Security and Ministry of Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration (Outcome 5). In addition, Statistics Botswana contributed to the Results Framework.



Image by POCO BW

Its main comparative advantages are in its ability to:

- provide high-quality and impartial advice and technical assistance for policy formulation, problem analysis, and implementation strategies, in a range of thematic areas
- draw upon knowledge and expertise from the United Nations global networks
- provide support to monitoring of, and reporting against, international commitments, norms and standards
- support Government and other development partners with their capacity strengthening through training programmes, staff secondments, learning opportunities, exposure visits, and more
- advocate for and support development processes to be inclusive and 'leave no one behind'
- act as a convener of diverse national and international development agents (including civil society organizations, media, academia, private sector, trade unions, donors and diplomatic missions), to promote dialogue and partnerships
- provide comprehensive support for communication campaigns and advocacy initiatives to raise awareness, mobilize interest and encourage public engagement in development issues
- provide a trusted and neutral space in which to discuss sensitive issues around peace, security and human rights
- rapidly mobilize highly skilled emergency response personnel from a global network to supplement crises management during disasters or pandemics
- provide opportunities for interns, trainees and secondees from Botswana to learn, contribute and be nurtured into development professionals.

The major overarching challenge for Botswana which emerged from consideration of the CCA and the consultation and prioritisation processes is that of inequality, with the country's social, gender, economic and geographical disparities highlighted and exacerbated by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the consequent impeding of the realization of human rights for all. The Cooperation Framework organizes these challenges under four strategic priority areas:

Strategic Priority One: People

- persistent gender inequality and discrimination against women and girls
- inequitable access to quality education, health and social protection services
- challenges faced by vulnerable and marginalized groups (including children, youth, migrants and people with disabilities) in accessing their human rights

Strategic Priority Two: Planet

- lack of adequate action on climate change
- inequitable access to natural resources and weak natural resources management
- fragile and unsustainable food systems and food insecurity

Strategic Priority Three: Prosperity

- high levels of unemployment and underemployment, especially among youth and women
- high levels of poverty and economic inequality for an upper-middle-income country
- poor investment climate, with low levels of productivity and innovation, hindering inclusive and equitable growth

Strategic Priority Four: Peace and Partnerships

- lack of effective partnerships towards meeting the SDGs in the development system, including among Government, civil society, private sector and international agencies
- government systems which are not yet at optimal levels of efficiency, agility, resilience and accountability to achieve the SDGs and withstand shocks
- limited availability of quality data and robust monitoring and evaluation systems to inform development policy and programmes
- gaps in compliance with international and human rights frameworks (including laws, standards and guidance not adopted)



The inclusiveness that the United Nations and Government of Botswana has placed at the heart of the UNSDCF 2022–2026 will continue through the prioritisation, planning and implementation stages of the Cooperation Framework. The United Nations and Government will create several supporting documents to guide the various processes involved, including the development of two-year Joint Work Plans to operationalise the Results Framework, and a Resource mobilization and Partnerships strategy which will include details of the SDG financing landscape. In addition, further risk analysis and regional analysis

is planned, partly to inform the Joint Work Plans and also because the UNCT has committed to making these analyses the starting point of the next update to the CCA.

The next section presents the theory of change that provides the rationale for the Cooperation Framework. It then details the four Strategic Priorities and five outcomes of the Framework, and how these will be achieved.

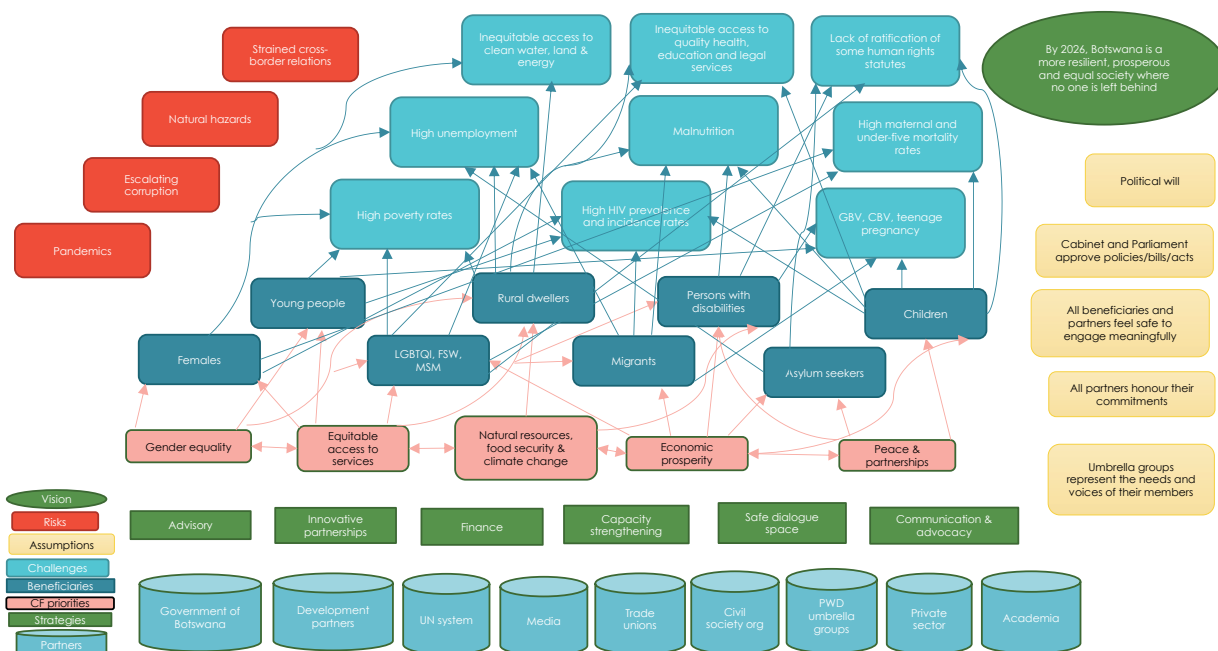


Figure 1: UNSDCF 2022–2026 theory of change

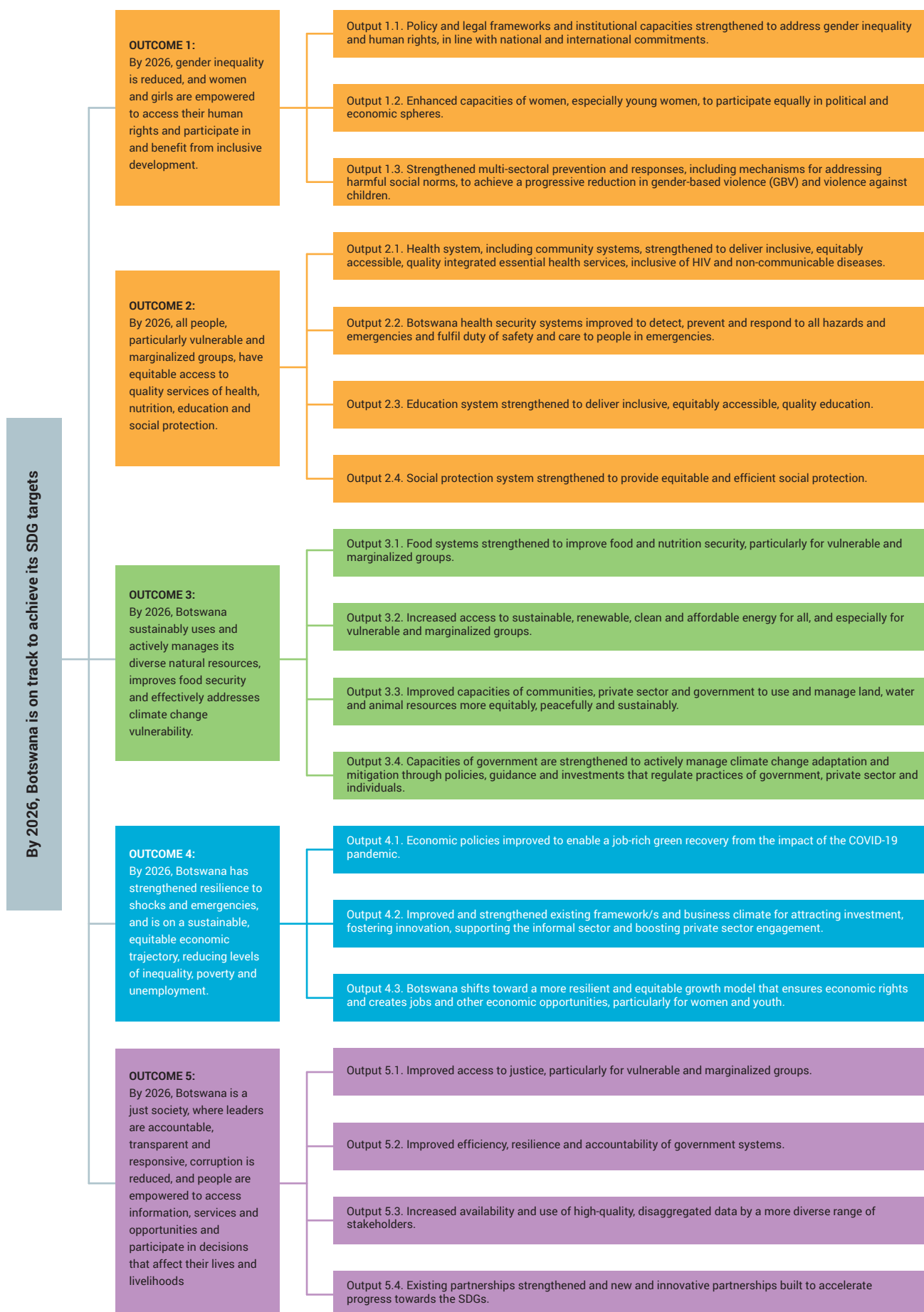
2.2 | Theory of change for the Cooperation Framework

The UNSDCF’s theory of change is represented in Figure 1. Its logic is that if all citizens are justly represented, partners to the Cooperation Framework honour their commitment to it, national protection mechanisms render all actors safe and able to engage meaningfully, and the political will exists, then by 2026, Botswana will be a more resilient, prosperous and equal society where no one is left behind. It identifies the people and organizations who will work in partnership with the United Nations and the Government of Botswana to implement the Cooperation Framework, the challenges the Framework addresses, and who it seeks to support. It also helps to identify the underlying assumptions and risks that may impact the outcomes.

2.3 | Cooperation Framework: outcomes, outputs and partnerships

The consultation and prioritisation process, including the review of the CCA and UNSDF, has led to the formulation of the Cooperation Framework structure, which presents five outcomes organized under four Strategic Priorities. These are represented in Figure 2 below, followed by a detailed explanation of how the theory of change applies to each Strategic Priority, the outputs for each, and how they will be achieved.

Figure 2: Cooperation Framework: outcomes and outputs



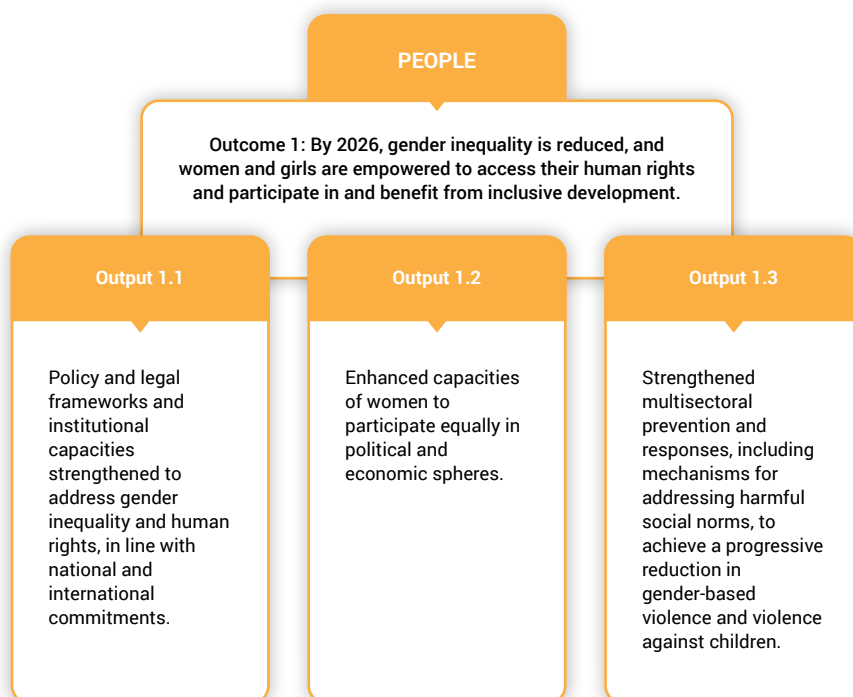


Figure 3: Cooperation Framework Outcome 1

Outcome One: People

By 2026, gender inequality is reduced, and women and girls are empowered to access their human rights and participate in and benefit from inclusive development.

SDGs and SDG targets:

SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and women's empowerment: 5.1, 5.2, 5.3; 5.4, 5.5, 5.6

Introduction

Aligned with SDG 5 and the country's national development frameworks, Outcome 1 aims to help build a Botswana in which gender inequalities and discrimination do not limit the rights of thousands of girls and women, and where women and girls can live free of violence and reach their full potential, in line with national and international commitments and standards. Gender equality is a fundamental human right, and achieving it will form the foundation for building a peaceful and prosperous Botswana. Advancing gender equality is critical to achieving the SDGs as women and girls represent about half of the population – and therefore half of the country's potential.

However, gender inequality and discrimination against women and girls is persistent in Botswana, driven by discriminatory laws and regulations, insufficient compliance with global and regional obligations, commitments and frameworks, and weak institutional capacities for effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of gender equality policy frameworks. Harmful social and cultural norms result in women and children, especially girls, being at greater risk of violence, sexual exploitation and discrimination. However, reporting of gender-based violence (GBV) is low – less than

three per cent of women report cases to the police, often because survivors fear retribution and victimization from perpetrators and the community. The COVID-19 pandemic has seen an increase in violence against women and children: 272 women – an abnormally high number – sought shelter and other assistance from NGOs during the April–May 2020 national lockdown. In the political arena, women's participation remains low, limiting spaces for women's voices to be heard and for women to actively and equally participate in political decision-making processes. In the economic sphere, opportunities for women remain limited; women-headed households are predominantly poor, and women are more likely to be unemployed and under-employed than men.

Theory of change

Reducing gender inequality requires combined actions at different levels. Policy, legal and institutional change is needed; programmes must be created and funded, and interventions to address gender imbalances in power relations must be made in both the private and public spheres. To address the structural barriers hindering gender equality and contribute to achieving transformative change in the lives of women and girls in Botswana, supportive mechanisms and an appropriate policy and legal environment must be put in place to increase accountability for the implementation of gender equality commitments. In addition, women's leadership and political participation at all levels must be increased; economic opportunities and economic security for women, especially the poorest and most excluded, must be created; and women, girls and children must be enabled to live a life free from violence of any form. If all this happens, women and girls will be better positioned to participate in and benefit from inclusive development.

A number of assumptions underpin the theory of change for Outcome 1. A key assumption is that policies, legal and institutional reforms informed by international gender and human rights mechanisms such as the Universal Periodic Review and CEDAW Committee (for example, the recommendation to adopt Special Temporary Measures to increase women's participation in politics) will be adopted and implemented, and that institutions are open to making the changes needed, as stated in national development frameworks. It also assumes that the technical support provided will increase capacities towards change in legal and institutional frameworks.

Next, national and international partners must be willing to support this work, including financially. We also assume that capacities among key national stakeholders, built in part through multi-stakeholder partnerships, can be strengthened

and expanded. Finally, the success of the Cooperation Framework counts on collaboration from women's civil society, government policies that will eradicate inequalities in Botswana being formally established, and the continued expansion of monitoring and evaluation capacities.

Outputs

The United Nations will contribute to the achievement of Outcome 1 through three outputs that focus on strengthening the capacities of duty bearers, and empowering rights holders to address gender inequality and empower women and girls.



Output 1.1: Policy and legal frameworks and institutional capacities strengthened to address gender inequality and human rights, in line with national and international commitments:

Government adoption of policy and legal frameworks promoting gender equality and human rights in line with international commitments and frameworks will reduce gender inequality. The recently drafted Gender-Based Violence Model Law provides guidance on the enacting of human rights and victim-centred laws on GBV that are consistent with international human rights. It provides a tool and opportunity for Botswana to review its national laws, and a yardstick for national policy analysts, legislators and implementers as to best practice in dealing with GBV. The current ongoing support by the United Nations system towards developing a national AfCFTA Implementation Strategy for Botswana will create a framework that will enable all stakeholders to fully and sustainably benefit from the opportunities ushered in by the Agreement.

The United Nations will support the Government to develop and strengthen policies and enforceable legislation, and to promote legal adherence to enable gender equality in line with gender and human rights norms and standards. It will identify legal gaps in relation to international standards of gender equality (including those related to labour market participation, parenthood, and sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights), and provide technical support for the ratification and domestication of relevant conventions promoting equal opportunities. It will also help to establish systems for ensuring and tracking public allocations related to gender, including offering support for gender-responsive budgeting and capacity-building in gender mainstreaming across all planning and budgetary decisions and processes. Further, the United Nations will work with rights holders to ensure their active engagement in requesting gender budgeting, and with parliamentarians to help boost their oversight role. It will also continue to support knowledge generation and knowledge sharing to enhance gender mainstreaming throughout progress towards achieving the SDGs.

Output 1.2. Enhanced capacities of women, especially young women, to participate equally in political and economic spheres:

Empowering women to participate more fully in political processes and leadership and in economic activity will support them to contribute to creating an enabling environment for policies and programmes which address gender inequality and empower more women in the social and economic spheres.

Advancing women's political empowerment and leadership requires action on multiple fronts. The United Nations will work to create and support the development and implementation of the legal frameworks and arrangements (including at the level of political parties, parliament and electoral management bodies) needed to achieve gender parity in politics and in decision-making positions. This will contribute to enhancing the leadership capacities of women in political institutions and of young women, and encouraging communities, civil society and media to perceive and promote women as legitimate political leaders.

Facilitating women to achieve greater financial autonomy, agency and capacity to address the structural social barriers related to gender roles and stereotypes will ensure the increase of women's

economic security and provide them with the means to prosper and effectively participate in and benefit from the development process. To achieve this, the United Nations will support the creation of macroeconomic policies which generate income opportunities for women, investment in the financial inclusion of women entrepreneurs, efforts to bring women out of the informal sector into the formal economy, the promotion of decent work through collective action, the assessment and review of labour laws in line with international normative frameworks, and the recognition and more equitable distribution of unpaid and domestic work.

Output 1.3. Strengthened multi-sectoral prevention and responses, including mechanisms for addressing harmful social norms, to achieve a progressive reduction in gender-based violence and violence against children:

Addressing the root and structural causes of GBV and violence against children by ensuring an effective prevention strategy and response measures will facilitate transformative societal change, enabling women to access economic opportunities and ensuring children thrive and fulfil their potential in education, enhancing their future prospects.

The United Nations will work with partners in Government, civil society and the private sector to prevent and respond to GBV and violence against children. The Cooperation Framework will contribute to developing positive social norms, attitudes and behaviours at community level, and the empowerment of women and children who have experienced violence to access quality services and recover. A main focus will be on supporting institutions to develop their capacity to review, strengthen and implement policy and legal frameworks to create a favourable environment to support the reduction in these particular categories of violence.

The United Nations will work to mobilize communities and support educational strategies in an integrated manner, and engage multiple stakeholders including traditional leaders and community leaders, who are influential and seen by many as custodians of social values and practices. It will work to ensure the availability of high quality, survivor-centred services, in line with international standards and guidance. The United Nations Joint Global Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence provides a set of recognised global guidance and tools on how to develop and implement global norms on multi-sectoral services and responses, with a focus on health, police, justice and social services, in addition to coordination and monitoring of these services. This will be an essential tool in the work to ensure the availability and accessibility of high quality, survivor-centred services to women and children.

A key component of United Nations support will be raising awareness about the rights of survivors of GBV and violence against children, and the availability of services for them. Support will also include capacity-building among a wide range of service providers, the development of protocols and guidelines for providing quality GBV services, and the promotion of initiatives for the economic empowerment of women survivors through entrepreneurship programmes.

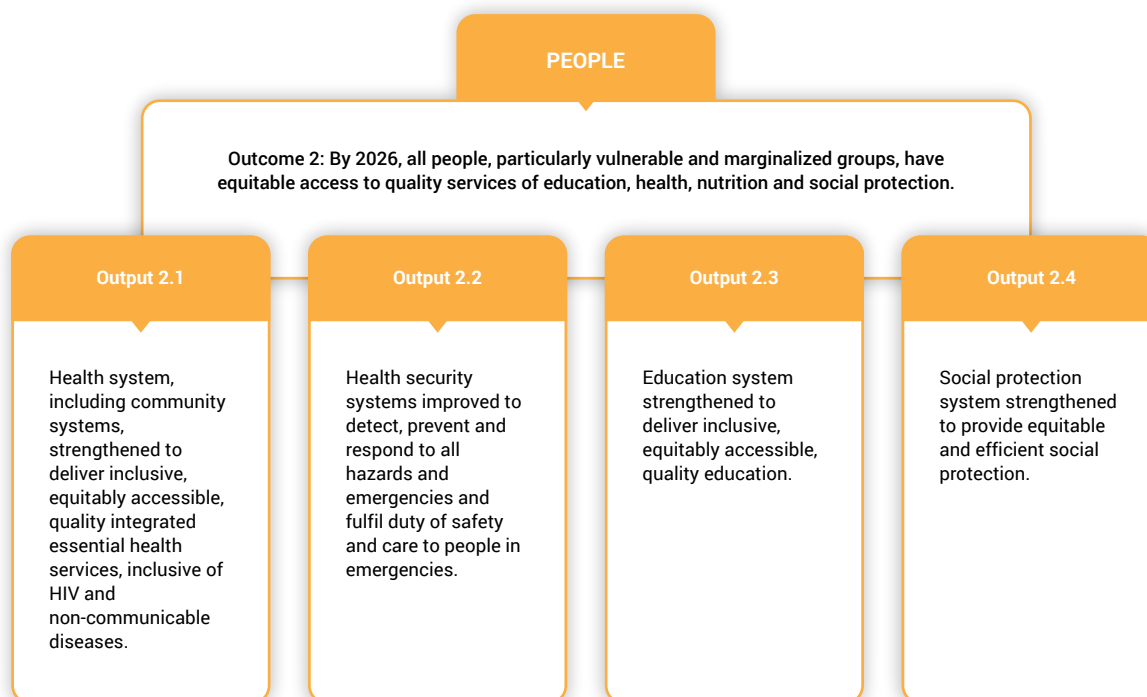


Figure 4: Cooperation Framework Outcome 2

Outcome Two: People

OUTCOME 2: By 2026, all people, particularly vulnerable and marginalized groups, have equitable access to quality services of health, nutrition, education and social protection.

SDGs and SDG targets:

SDG 1. End poverty in all its forms: 1.3; 1.4

SDG 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture: 2.1, 2.2

SDG 3. Ensure healthy lives: 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.7, 3.8, 3.c, 3.d

SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education: 4.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7

SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and women's empowerment (universal access to reproductive rights and health): 5.6

SDG 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries: 10.4

Introduction

Inequitable access to critical health and social services is a key driver of inequality in Botswana and perpetuates multi-dimensional deprivations among vulnerable and marginalized groups and children. Ensuring equitable access is therefore crucial to reducing inequality and enabling all people in Botswana to achieve their potential, but public health systems in Botswana are under stress and the quality of health services is variable.

As a signatory to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, CEDAW and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Botswana is obligated to ensure the realization for all of their right

to mental and physical health. Children, especially those living in rural areas, have poor health and nutrition outcomes; the mortality of under-fives is high (45 per 1000¹¹) as is stunting and malnutrition, especially for those in hard-to-reach districts and refugee camps, and children of undocumented immigrants. In terms of sexual reproductive health and rights, 66 per cent of the 30,533 young people (aged 15–24) living with HIV receive anti-retroviral treatment. Gender inequality is evident here too, with adolescent girls and young women accounting for nearly one-quarter of new HIV infections but receiving treatment less frequently than other groups. Rates of teenage pregnancy are high, especially among those who are poor, live in rural areas and/or have lost both parents. The COVID-19 national lockdown in 2020 further heightened adolescent girls' and young women's vulnerabilities to sexual and reproductive health and rights issues.

Education is a critical tool for breaking the cycle of poverty and inequality. However, the quality of public education is variable, due to inconsistent teaching standards, resource constraints and school infrastructure challenges. Children have unequal access to development opportunities in early childhood, which directly affects their learning and cognitive development and education outcomes in later years. Children with disabilities face exclusion from education, primarily due to a lack of trained teachers and support workers, while social norms and stigma limits their integration into mainstream schools. Taboos around sexuality and gender leave LGBTQI+ children isolated. Others at risk of exclusion are children living in hard-to-reach rural areas, children of foreign nationality, and children of refugees and asylum seekers.

¹¹ World Bank estimate, developed by United Nations Interagency Group for Child Mortality Estimation 2020. (<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.DYN.MORT?locations=BW>).



Photo by Poco BW

Social protection is a human right and United Nations Member States have an obligation to guarantee it to individuals at a minimal level. Inclusive, efficient social protection systems can achieve a significant reduction in poverty and inequality, accelerating the achievement of the SDGs and reducing the impact of shocks (as demonstrated in Botswana's response to the COVID-19 pandemic). Botswana's system of social protection is being strengthened with the adoption of the Government's National Social Protection Framework in 2020. The aspiration of the new framework is that it "will position the social protection system so that it can more effectively and efficiently respond to the varied risks and vulnerabilities faced by Botswana of all ages". The system also needs to be shock-responsive, to be able to adjust quickly to unforeseen shocks such as COVID-19.

Theory of change

The quality and accessibility of health, nutrition, education and social protection provided to poor people and marginalized groups is a major determinant of whether they live long, healthy and productive lives. Ensuring equitable access to services is essential for reducing inequality, and, hand-in-hand with empowering people to demand quality services, will ensure they are better educated, healthier and more likely to be employed, breaking the cycle of poverty.

Several assumptions underpin the theory of change for Outcome 2. A key assumption is that social sector spending will be protected in an environment in which serious budgetary constraints exist and that budgets will be spent effectively. It is also assumed that appropriate service delivery infrastructure is in

place and takes into consideration the needs of different population groups, ensuring accessible and affordable services for all. Achieving this outcome will require effective partnerships among all development actors, effective coordination by Government, and a multi-sectoral approach to tackle the multiple, reinforcing sources and layers of deprivation, disadvantage and discrimination. Another assumption is that the Government, civil society including NGOs and the private sector will contribute to service delivery based on their comparative strengths, so as to minimize duplication and gaps in service delivery. The United Nations will continuously work to prioritise programmatic interventions to understand, track and address the situation of the most marginalized and others at risk, and to empower them as agents of development, while creating enabling legal, policy and institutional environments to improve access to basic rights and services. Advocacy by civil society will also play a critical role in raising awareness of and enabling access to services by vulnerable and marginalized groups who must have the capacity and space to demand them.

Outputs

The United Nations will contribute to the achievement of Outcome 2 by supporting the efforts of Government and civil society organizations to improve equitable access to good quality health, nutrition, education and social protection services. It will focus on vulnerable and marginalized groups and children, and work towards accomplishing Outcome 2 through four outputs.

Output 2.1. Health system, including community systems, strengthened to deliver inclusive, equitably accessible, quality integrated essential health services, inclusive of HIV and non-communicable diseases:

Strengthening the health system, including at the community level, will improve the quality of health services, and if these services are high quality and equitably accessible, vulnerable and marginalized groups will have better health outcomes, which will contribute to reducing inequality. The United Nations will focus on strengthening health systems, including community systems, while emphasising health promotion at all levels of care – primary, secondary and tertiary – to improve the quality of integrated essential health services and ensure equitable access to services. Priority will be given to developing a defined health services package with a life-course approach to health, alongside an appropriate health financing strategy. The United Nations will pay particular attention to addressing the high incidence of HIV among adolescent girls and young women, child and maternal mortality, and non-communicable diseases. Other priorities will include immunisation and addressing child malnutrition and stunting, especially in rural areas. Working with civil society organizations, the United Nations will support advocacy and empowerment, especially of women and adolescent girls and young women, enabling people to demand access to health services and sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights.

Output 2.2. Botswana health security systems improved to detect, prevent and respond to all hazards and emergencies and fulfil duty of safety and care to people in emergencies:

Strengthening health security systems will enable Botswana to prevent and detect hazards and emergencies early and/or to respond to them in a timely and effective way, reducing the disproportionate impact on poor people and marginalized groups. This strengthening will also reduce the potential of hazards and emergencies to disrupt the continuity of essential health services which leads to reversals in health indicators and health system

gains. The United Nations will help strengthen capacity in surveillance, preparedness, response, risk analysis and vulnerability assessment, and assist in implementing the One Health approach in line with the International Health Regulations (2005) and the Global Health Security Agenda.

Output 2.3. Education system strengthened to deliver inclusive, equitably accessible, quality education:

Improving education outcomes for all children will help reduce inequality. The United Nations will work with Government to remove barriers to education and promote equal opportunities in education for children most at risk. This includes ensuring access to education for children with disabilities, children in rural areas, children in vulnerable and marginalized households, and youth at risk of exclusion from education. It will also support Government in addressing issues such as school drop-out and grade repetition, help to increase the availability of distance and/or online learning to ensure learning continuity in emergencies, and empower communities and groups to demand education of good quality.

Output 2.4. Social protection system strengthened to provide equitable and efficient social protection:

Reducing the vulnerability of poor (particularly women-headed) households, children, and elderly persons with limited means of support requires a social protection system. Ensuring social protection programmes are targeted, gender-responsive and efficient will lift everyone out of poverty, reducing inequality. The United Nations will support Government to strengthen the social protection system by implementing the new National Social Protection Framework and other relevant legislation and policy. This support will include assistance in targeting beneficiaries, working towards gender-responsive programming, and introducing efficiencies in the system to reduce waste. In terms of financing, the United Nations will support an effective and rights-based approach to budgeting for social protection, health and education.



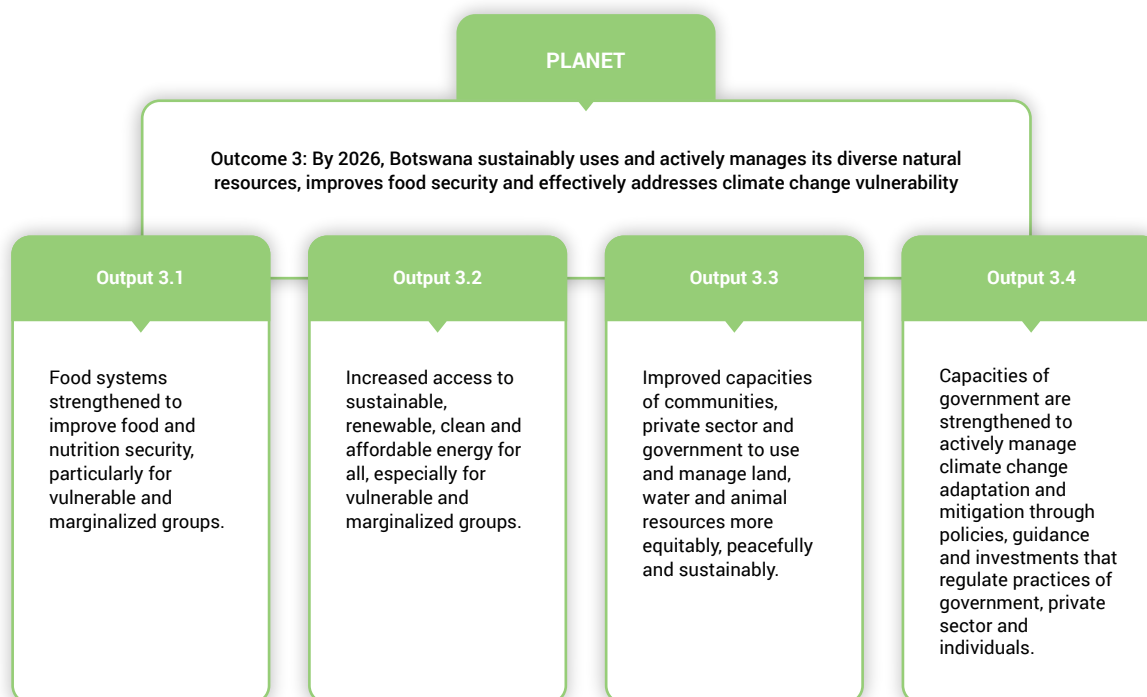


Figure 5: Cooperation Framework Outcome 3

Outcome Three: Planet

By 2026, Botswana sustainably uses and actively manages its diverse natural resources, improves food security and effectively addresses climate change vulnerability.

SDGs and SDG targets:

SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4

SDG 5: Equal rights to economic resources (access to ownership and control over land and other properties, inheritance and natural resources: 5.A

SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all: 6.1, 6.2, 6.4, 6.6, 6.b

SDG 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all: 7.1, 7.2

SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change: 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.b

SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, etc.: 15.1, 15.4, 15.5, 15.7, 15.a, 15.c

Introduction

The Cooperation Framework's third outcome is aligned with Pillar 3 (Sustainable Environment) of the Government of Botswana's Vision 2036. This envisages a sustainable and optimal use of the country's natural resources, leading to economic growth and improved livelihoods. Botswana has diverse natural resources offering great opportunities for prosperity for all, provided they are managed sustainably. However, land resources and biodiversity are under threat due to declining forest cover, damage to ecosystems, illicit trade in wildlife and wildlife products, and the proliferation of wild animals damaging crops, all of which pose a threat to the nation's resources.

The Framework highlights the need for greater efforts to address Botswana's vulnerability to climate change, which poses a major risk to the country's natural capital. Currently, there is an absence of a suitable policy framework to facilitate the required action, partnerships and investments on climate change. The issue of renewable energy is also a major challenge. Policies addressing the social and environmental responsibilities of individuals and the corporate sector are also needed to guide Government regulation; Botswana also needs to become better prepared to manage shocks from climate-related hazards.

Climate change also represents a threat to Botswana's food systems, as it has both a direct and indirect impact on agricultural production and agricultural yields, with consequences for food security. The country faces a number of challenges to the sustainable use of its natural resources, including limited access among poor people to renewable energy sources, unsustainable land use, low water storage capacity, and threats to fauna and flora. Government projections for 2050 indicate that climate change will result in decreased water inflow into the country's dams and exacerbate recurrent drought, with rural livelihoods and rural income also at risk. Water management, wildlife protection and safeguarding biodiversity in order to make progress towards attaining the environment SDGs and achieving measurable impact will require working closely with neighbouring countries, and a concerted regional and cross-border effort.

Economic recovery must be underpinned by a thoughtful review of the current energy mix. Greater investments in and adoption of renewables, especially in terms of energy sources where Botswana may have a comparative advantage (that is, solar), should be encouraged and incentivised as a matter of priority.

Theory of change

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented Botswana with an opportunity to “build back greener”, to improve social and economic conditions especially among vulnerable and marginalized groups and in particular those most affected by the COVID-19 crisis. The sustainable use and active management of Botswana’s diverse natural resources (minerals, wildlife) must be integral to the country’s climate-smart recovery, because ensuring that poor people – the majority of whom are women – and vulnerable and marginalized groups have access to and benefit from natural resources will improve their lives and livelihoods, and help to reduce inequality. The sustainable use and participatory management of natural resources can improve food security and reduce the cost of nutritious food, making it more accessible to vulnerable and marginalized groups, including children and rural women. Moreover, address the country’s vulnerability to climate change through these strategies will mean that inequality is reduced, as climate change has a disproportionate impact on poor rural households and smallholder farmers, many of whom are women.

There are three assumptions here. The first, key assumption is that Government can create an environment in which civil society and the private sector are able to actively partner with Government and participate in the management of natural resources, including contributing to decision-making forums and platforms. The second assumption is that Government can mobilize existing local and indigenous knowledge to inform decision-making processes and ensure that local communities participate and benefit from resource management. Finally, the assumption is that there is sufficient internal capacity to access adequate green finances from global funding facilities.

Outputs

The United Nations will contribute to Outcome 3 through four outputs. These will strengthen food systems, improve access to renewable energy sources, achieve better management of natural resources, and manage climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Output 3.1. Food systems strengthened to improve food and nutrition security, particularly for vulnerable and marginalized groups:

Strengthening Botswana’s food systems will improve food and nutrition security, giving vulnerable and marginalized households access to diverse and nutritious food that will improve their health and well-being. To achieve this, the United Nations will support the production of diverse and nutritious food, promote the use of climate-smart agriculture and other innovative technologies, encourage climate-proofed investments in existing and new infrastructure, and support the rehabilitation of degraded land. It will also support measures to ensure equitable access to agricultural land and other natural resources for women and smallholder farmers.

Output 3.2. Increased access to sustainable, renewable, clean and affordable energy for all, and especially for vulnerable and marginalized groups:

Providing everyone in Botswana with access to affordable, clean renewable energy will improve living conditions for all, enabling children to learn, and allowing poor households – especially female-headed households in rural areas – to improve their productivity. It will also help to conserve and protect Botswana’s natural resources. The United Nations will support measures to





improve access to sustainable, renewable, clean and affordable energy, especially for vulnerable and marginalized groups in rural communities. This support will include working with the Government and private sector to capitalise on new technologies and create opportunities to develop renewable energy sources.

Output 3.3. Improved capacities of communities, private sector and government to use and manage land, water and animal resources more equitably, peacefully and sustainably:

Equitable access to Botswana's natural resources will improve the lives and livelihoods of poorer communities and those in rural areas. All sectors of society are responsible for the management of the country's natural resources, and so all require the appropriate capacities to use and manage resources sustainably and effectively. The United Nations will work with Government, the private sector, civil society and communities to improve their capacities to manage and use land, water and animal resources more equitably. This will include strengthening existing policy frameworks for land use management, land tenure, and water resource management and use, support for climate-proofing existing and new public infrastructure and for protection of fauna and flora, and supporting communities in natural resource

management practices. To address wildlife crime, and money laundering stemming from the country's extractive industries, Government capacity to prevent cash, high-value goods and other prohibited items being smuggled across borders, and to identify and pursue financial investigations will be strengthened.

Output 3.4. Capacities of government are strengthened to actively manage climate change adaptation and mitigation through policies, guidance and investments that regulate practices of government, private sector and individuals:

Botswana will be more resilient to sudden shocks and climate-related emergencies if the Government has greater capacities to manage climate change adaptation and mitigation. Better resilience will help poor people and marginalized communities recover faster from emergencies and ensure they are not pushed deeper into vulnerability. The United Nations will help strengthen capacities in policy formulation and guidance, including by assisting in the establishment of a functional and integrated national climate information and disaster early warning system. It will also help build capacity to access external finance for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

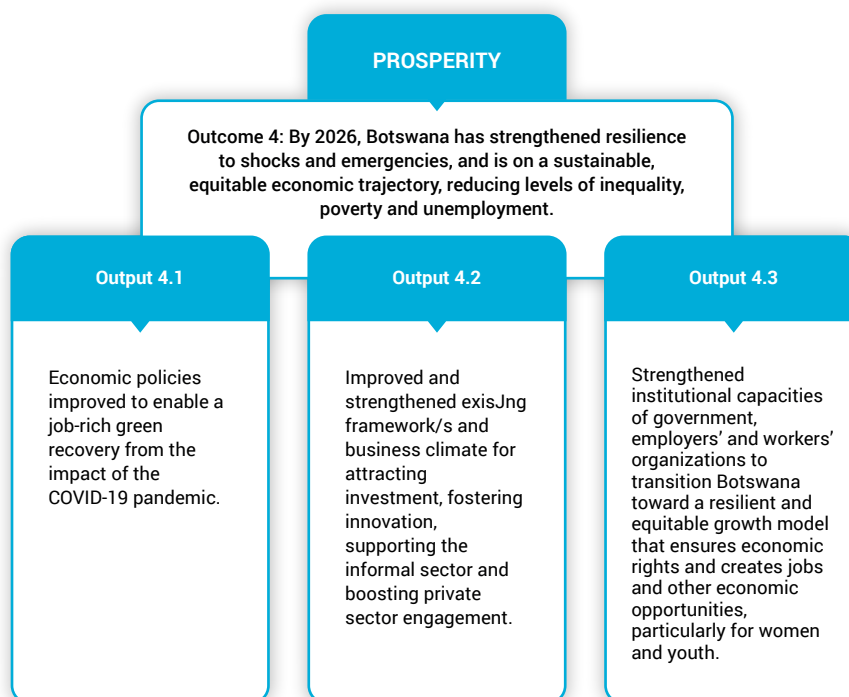


Figure 6: Cooperation Framework Outcome 4

Outcome Four: Prosperity

By 2026, Botswana has strengthened resilience to shocks and emergencies, and is on a sustainable, equitable economic trajectory, reducing levels of inequality, poverty and unemployment.

SDGs and SDG targets:

SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.b

SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls: 5.a, 5.b

SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all: 8.2, 8.3, 8.5, 8.6, 8.8

SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation: 9.2, 9.3

SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries: 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4

SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, etc. 15.1, 15.4, 15.5, 15.7, 15.a, 15.c

Introduction

Botswana has used its mineral wealth to invest in building infrastructure and human development, and its economic model has yielded steady economic growth over the past few decades. However, the natural resource-dependent economic model which served the country well in the past is no longer viable or sustainable. It is one of the few upper-middle-income countries in sub-Saharan Africa and yet has high levels of inequality, unemployment (22.3 per cent in 2020) and under-employment. Rates of poverty and income inequality are much higher than upper-middle-income country average. More young women (32.3 per cent) than young men (30.4 per cent) are unemployed, with rates also high among youth in urban villages (37 per cent). The country faces a huge deficit

in terms of access to basic infrastructure, including transport, water and sanitation, housing and energy.

COVID-19 had a severe impact on both Botswana's formal economy and informal sector, revealing the limitations of the country's current economic model, which relies heavily on the mining export sector and public sector-led development, and which generates growth that benefits just a sliver of the population. The economy is gradually diversifying, and Botswana has an opportunity to change the current growth model through focusing on (1) developing economic sectors with a greater likelihood of growth and employment, (2) improving the business climate to draw in and attract greater investment, and (3) addressing the economic burden of under-performing state-owned enterprises. Predicating recovery on sustainability and the aim to "build back greener" would help ensure greater equity in the economy, raising people out of poverty and providing economic opportunities to all.

Trade is critical, given Botswana's small domestic market and the fact that the country is landlocked. It will therefore have to seek strategic opportunities to boost trade, especially in regard to its relationship with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. It also needs to seize opportunities through other trade pacts, for example, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Better preparedness to deal with external shocks – whether financial, health-related or climate change-related – is critical to boosting Botswana's resilience. Lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic and climate-related shocks need to be incorporated into future development planning and policy decisions. Building resilience will go a long way in ensuring that Botswana stays on track for achieving the SDGs by 2030.

In sum, if Botswana is to reach its goal of becoming a high-income economy by 2036 it needs to pivot toward a more sustainable economic model that creates opportunities for everyone to contribute to future growth; the benefits of growth will also need to be more evenly distributed to significantly reduce the high levels of poverty and inequality.



Image by Poco BW

Theory of change

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a severe socioeconomic impact in Botswana, resulting in increased levels of unemployment and under-employment, and making existing inequalities worse. The likelihood is that it has driven more people into poverty and increased their vulnerability. In its recovery, Botswana has an opportunity to build a more resilient and inclusive economy, shifting away from its dependence on minerals (its diamond industry contributes around 35 per cent of GDP) and towards a focus on the building sector and industries that create opportunities for trade and investment. Due to its strong macroeconomic fundamentals and relatively favourable socioeconomic conditions, Botswana is in a strong position to attract foreign direct investment. However, the business climate could be further improved, as could the policies that channel much needed foreign investment. The private sector, especially small and medium enterprises, has a key role to play in boosting employment and reducing poverty. Building a more diverse economy in which investment and entrepreneurial activity is encouraged will both more opportunities and help build greater resilience.

Strengthening overall resilience to shocks and emergencies will reduce their impact on poor people and vulnerable and marginalized groups. To lessen inequality however, Botswana will need to go further, and address social exclusion and the limited economic participation of vulnerable and marginalized groups, particularly women and youth. This will require a reset of the current social protection system. It also needs more effective spending and improved targeting in key social sectors, including health and education, because although budgetary allocations for education and health are comparable with levels in other UMICs, the results do not measure up. Improved data collection is also needed, given

the paucity of disaggregated data for measuring SDGs indicators and targets. Strengthening data systems is also part of Government's focus on adopting technology and taking innovative measures in its quest to make Botswana a "knowledge economy".

The theory of change for Outcome 4 very much depends on the progress of the Framework's other outcomes, especially those focused on people and the environment (that is, outcomes 1, 2 and 3). Improvements in governance will also be instrumental in achieving results: current governance systems are not suited for the technology adoption needed to embrace the fourth industrial revolution. The post-COVID-19 recovery should be used to generate decent employment, especially for women, youth and other excluded groups, through boosting both the rural and the urban industrial economy. A green recovery very much depends on Government determination to fulfil its aspirations as highlighted in the Vision 2036 document, and the United Nations strongly supports this ambition, especially in its aim of changing the energy mix to one that relies more on renewables. One key assumption is that the institutions mandated to implement strategies and deliver projects for Botswana's economic recovery are efficient and able to deliver their intended aims and objectives effectively. A second assumption is that planning and implementation through social dialogue will take place between Government, employers and workers' organizations.

Outputs

The United Nations will contribute to Outcome 4 through three outputs. The focus of these is on strengthening existing economic policies and frameworks, and supporting the country's transition to embracing a more inclusive growth model.





Output 4.1. Economic policies improved to enable a job-rich green recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic:

The United Nations will work with Government to design economic policies to take advantage of opportunities presented by the green economy, and ensure that new, decent, ‘green’ jobs are open to those currently unemployed, especially women, youth and persons with disabilities. It will also actively support the implementation of policies and programmes that build resilience. Creating jobs will require complementing and supporting government efforts toward creating a more diversified economy—one that aims to broaden its manufacturing/industrial base and strengthen existing value chains. Leadership from the private sector and Government will be critical, especially as small and medium enterprises are instrumental in generating jobs and driving economic activity beyond the mineral/mining sector. To this end, the United Nations will work with businesses to create a local chapter of the Global Compact in Botswana.

The United Nations, collaborating with regional organizations including SADC and the African Union, will work with Government to help design economic policies that create a foundation to ensure a resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and “build back better”, emphasising inclusive policies which benefit those at risk of economic exclusion. It will also support Government in mainstreaming these policies in national short-, medium- and long-term plans and the budgetary process. The skills and capacities of those currently seeking employment may also need to be strengthened to enable them to take advantage of these opportunities.

Output 4.2. Improved and strengthened existing framework/s and business climate for attracting investment, fostering innovation, supporting the informal sector and boosting private sector engagement:

Improving the business climate will help Botswana to attract investments, and a sound policy framework and regulatory environment will enable those investments to be directed towards

labour-intensive sectors that can advance growth and prosperity. Investing in pro-employment innovations will improve productivity and competitiveness. The United Nations will support Government to make the necessary reforms for transition towards a digital and knowledge economy enabling improved availability, accessibility and affordability of internet connectivity, and related investment in Information and Communication Technology, as well as trade in services. Investing in human capital and infrastructure will help ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery.

The United Nations will support Government in improving and strengthening existing institutional frameworks and the business climate to attract investment and foster innovation towards achieving the SDGs. Attracting foreign investment will not only help boost local employment but also ensure the expansion of the economy and the transfer of knowledge and skills. The United Nations will also help Government to create the conditions needed to drive the greening of the economy and create jobs, skills and business opportunities for all. It will support the Government in increasing its engagement with business and the private sector and to further develop its capacity to promote and incentivise micro, small and medium enterprises

Output 4.3. Botswana shifts towards a more resilient and equitable growth model that ensures economic rights and creates jobs and other economic opportunities, particularly for women and youth:

The United Nations will work with Government and development partners to support the development of a more inclusive development model. The appropriate entry point would be through active engagement on NDP 12. Moreover, support toward implementing relevant aspects of the government’s Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan will increase the likelihood of Botswana “building back better” as it recovers from the socio-economic impact of COVID-19.

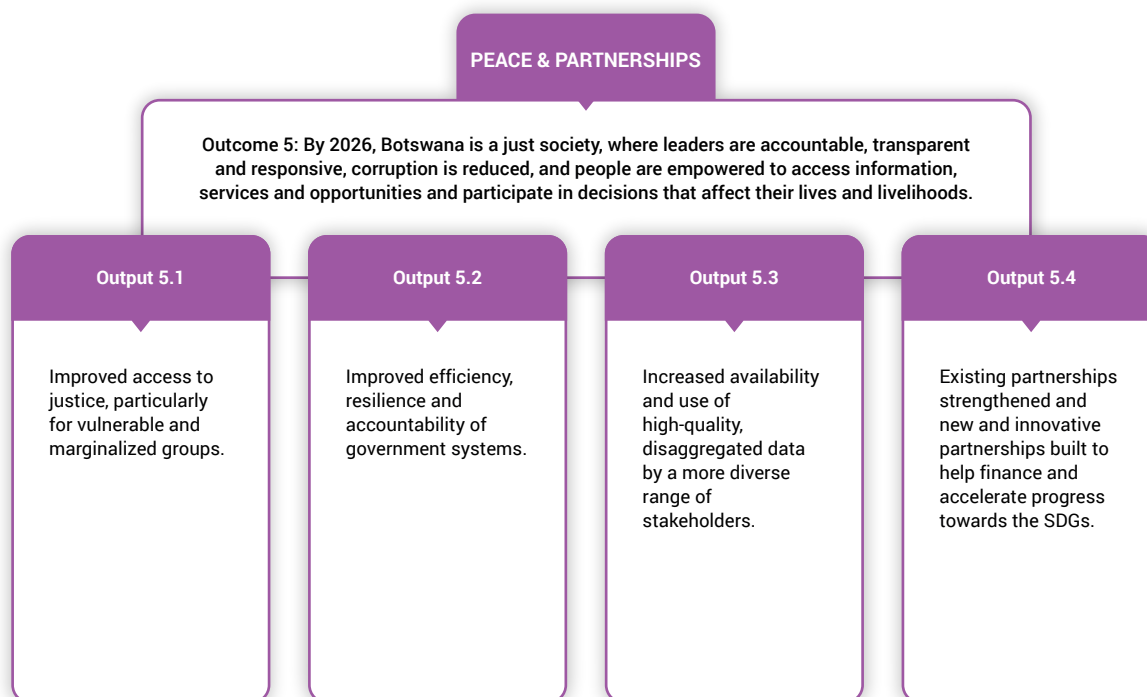


Figure 7: Cooperation Framework Outcome 5

Outcome Five: Peace and Partnerships

By 2026, Botswana is a just society, where leaders are accountable, transparent and responsive, corruption is reduced, and people are empowered to access information, services and opportunities and participate in decisions that affect their lives and livelihoods.

SDGs and SDG targets:

SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls: 5.a, 5.b

SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels: 16.2, 16.3, 16.4, 16.5, 16.6, 16.7, 16.10, 16.b

SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development: 17.18.2

Introduction

While Botswana ranks well on governance in global terms, the CCA and the United Nations stakeholder consultations in 2020–2021 identified challenges which are vital to address to ensure the country becomes more equal, just and prosperous.

Providing access to justice for poor people and vulnerable and marginalized groups is a challenge, with many not always understanding their rights or knowing how to access justice. Access to justice is primarily through customary courts, and customary law is not always aligned with international human rights commitments – for example, women’s access to justice is provided for in legislation but their ability in practice to exercise

that right and to bring cases of discrimination before the courts is limited by factors including legal costs, the persistence of traditional justice systems, illiteracy, lack of information about their rights, and practical and logistical difficulties. The justice system is also insufficiently equipped to handle children’s cases and GBV. Botswana’s integrity and oversight institutions lack the necessary frameworks to ensure they can function independently, effectively, and with autonomy. Government systems in general are not as efficient or as effective as they should be, which affects the quality of public services and impacts people’s ability to thrive. Such ineffective or insufficiently robust government systems also have a negative impact on the economy, as they inhibit the operational efficiency of businesses and the effective implementation of policies and projects. Botswana still does not have a national human rights institution.

Monitoring the SDGs requires quality data, and while there has been progress in data collection for domesticated SDG indicators, the majority of indicators still lack baselines with no data collected. Ministries are the main data sources for the SDGs and their capacities to collect and analyse data vary, meaning that the evidence base for informing decisions in relation to the SDGs is limited. Data limitations also have implications for accountability and transparency, as they leave the public and civil society without the quality information needed to hold the Government accountable. This also presents a challenge for parliamentary oversight committees and other integrity and oversight institutions.

The Government has relied on public finance to fund the implementation of its programmes, making financing the SDGs difficult even before the arrival of COVID-19. It has yet to tap the potential of private finance or blended finance instruments.



Theory of change

Botswana has established an international reputation as a peaceful and stable democracy, and in its Vision 2036, Government commits to promoting the constitutional rights of citizens, efficient and effective services, transparent and accountable leadership, zero tolerance for corruption, and partnerships with civil society. It is essential that Botswana builds on its good governance achievements and at the same time addresses the governance challenges that drive inequality in the country.

Building a just society that respects human rights and rule of law will enable all people, especially vulnerable and marginalized groups, to participate in and benefit from development. Services must be efficient and equitable and delivered with equality, transparency and accountability, which will reduce opportunities for corruption and better serve the country's citizens. Proceeds of crime including money laundering should be recovered to increase revenue and resources for Botswana to fund its own development initiatives. Vulnerable and marginalized groups in particular must be empowered with information, mechanisms and capacity to claim their rights, enabling them to participate in decisions that affect them, and access services and opportunities to improve their lives and livelihoods.

Two key assumptions underpin this outcome: firstly, that oversight institutions, including the Commission on Human Rights and Public Administration Integrity, parliamentary oversight committees and audit institutions can perform their oversight functions effectively, and secondly, that civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders will have the space to collaborate with Government and will want to do so.

Outputs

The United Nations will contribute to the achievement of Outcome 5 through four outputs that focus on improving access to justice, public sector efficiency, transparency and accountability, and strengthening the means of implementation for the SDGs.

Output 5.1. Improved access to justice, particularly for vulnerable and marginalized groups:

Improving policy and legislation frameworks, enhancing the justice system's institutional capacities, and ensuring vulnerable and marginalized groups know their rights and can access justice will build a more just society which promotes and respects human rights. Access to justice for women and children will also help to address GBV and violence against children. The United Nations will work to strengthen institutions mandated to promote justice and human rights, and with civil society organizations to support people to access justice and claim their human rights.

Output 5.2. Improved efficiency, resilience and accountability of government systems:

Making government systems more efficient in order to deliver better quality services in under-served districts and hard-to-reach rural communities will improve living conditions and reduce inequalities. The United Nations will help improve

services for vulnerable and marginalized groups, especially those in under-served districts, include supporting Government in reviewing policies, laws and regulations, and strengthening the implementation capacities of non-state and private sector actors in making services resilient to respond to future shocks and emergencies. It will also include support for platforms to help people including private sector and non-state actors to hold Government accountable, as well as anti-corruption measures to increase transparency and accountability. Lastly, it will include supporting Government efforts to address illicit financial flows and money laundering, measures to strengthen the recovery of assets to increase governmental revenue and de-incentivise crime.

Output 5.3. Increased availability and use of high-quality, disaggregated data by a more diverse range of stakeholders:

Ensuring transparency is essential to hold Government accountable and responsive to its citizens, and empowering the people of Botswana to access and use information will enable them to participate in decision-making on matters that affect their lives and livelihoods. Ensuring good quality data including gender-disaggregated data and gender statistics are available and accessible to diverse users and stakeholders will make progress on the SDGs and on policy and programme implementation more transparent, and create an evidence base to inform improvements to policies and programmes. This will contribute to better targeted policies and special measures to reduce gender and social gaps. Improving the availability of quality data will also be instrumental in enhancing evidence-based dialogue between Government and stakeholders in support of participatory and inclusive planning and policy decision-making.

The United Nations will continue to support Government in improving data quality, building capacity for analysing data, and making information accessible to stakeholders and the public. It will also help to empower people to access information and support civil society organizations in collecting and analysing data that can contribute to advocacy initiatives and to monitoring and measuring progress against the SDGs.

Output 5.4. Existing partnerships strengthened and new and innovative partnerships built to accelerate progress towards the SDGs:

Greater financial, technical and knowledge resources can be mobilized to finance and accelerate progress on the SDGs if the Government, civil society, the private sector and other development actors build strong partnerships with a diverse set of stakeholders. The United Nations will help strengthen multi-stakeholder platforms in which all partners can contribute according to their comparative strengths, support the Government in developing new and innovative partnerships to achieve more inclusive and sustainable development, including by developing South-to-South cooperative agreements, and contribute to strengthening coherence and build synergies in quality data production and dissemination, in collaboration with, among others, intergovernmental bodies, regional institutions, private sector, academia, and civil society.



Chapter 2 has explained the process behind the construction of the UNSDCF. Chapter 3 continues by explaining how the Framework will be implemented. Together, these chapters demonstrate the United Nations commitment to accountability and inclusiveness, from the planning to implementation and the setting up of governance structures, conducted with the extensive involvement of a broad range of stakeholders.

Chapter 3

Cooperation Framework Implementation Plan





Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Investing in rural people



International
Labour
Organization



IOM
UN MIGRATION



UNITED NATIONS
HUMAN RIGHTS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER



UNAIDS



UN
DP



DPPA
Preventing Conflict. Sustaining Peace



UN
environment
programme



UNDSS



United Nations
Economic Commission for Africa



UNESCO



UNFPA



UN-HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



unicef



UNIDO

UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



UNOPS



UN
WOMEN



WORLD BANK GROUP

The Cooperation Framework is supported by governance and management structures designed to ensure the careful monitoring and strict oversight essential to ensuring the achievement of its sustainable development activities in Botswana.

3.1 | Cooperation Framework governance

The United Nations in Botswana is well aware that the commitment of the UNSDCF to addressing inequality requires combined actions at numerous different levels, from contributing to policy, legal and institutional levels to investments in programmes and targeted interventions. These efforts must rely on a confluence of factors, including multi-stakeholder and inter-generational partnerships, evidence-based policies, and monitoring and evaluation capacities.

The Cooperation Framework will also ensure that investments in disaggregated data and the use of technology and innovation are capitalised by expanding on initiatives piloted by specific agencies, based on their capacities, mandates and comparative advantages.

The UNSDCF is supported by 22 United Nations agencies, programmes, funds and offices. They have committed to participating in its implementation by complementing the efforts of the Government of Botswana to realize the Framework's four strategic priorities:

- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Office of Development, Peace and Political Affairs (UNDPPA)
- United Nations Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
- World Bank Group
- World Health Organization (WHO)

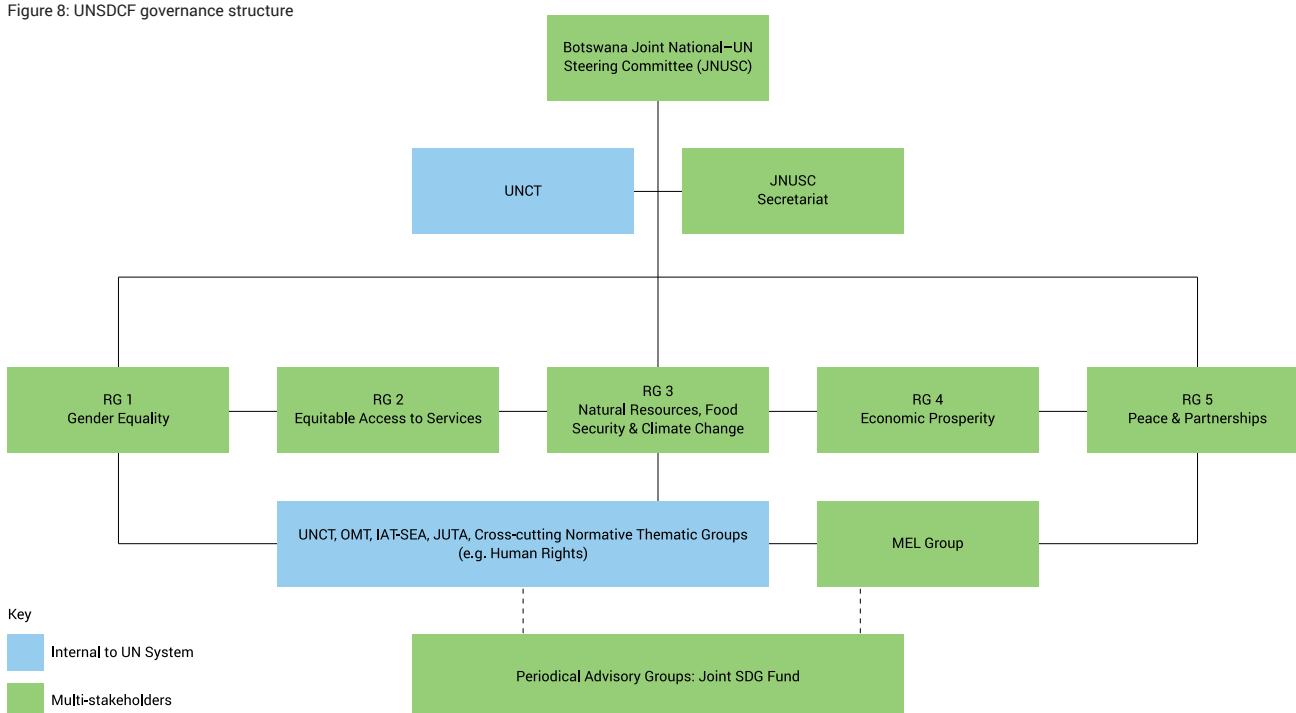
Governance structures are essential to ensure (1) effectiveness and efficiency in the execution of programmes, projects and activities, (2) transparency and accountability in the use of resources, and (3) appropriate and effective monitoring and evaluation of progress towards the established objectives. These governance structures also contribute to the Framework’s inclusiveness by ensuring broad participation of all stakeholders, including representatives of marginalized groups.

The development of these governance structures was guided by recommendations in the UNSDF evaluation (referred to in chapter 2.1), taking particular note of the need for closer engagement with

Government and partners in the joint national programme steering committee structure, and to have clear strategies for closer and more inclusive stakeholder engagement to hold the United Nations to account. The governance structures of the new Cooperation Framework strive to be more inclusive, with marginalized groups represented at the JNUSC and Results Group level.

With this in mind, the following governance structures were agreed:

Figure 8: UNSDCF governance structure



Joint National–United Nations Steering Committee

The Joint National United Nations Steering Committee (JNUSC) is the top-level governance body of the Country Framework governance structure. Its membership includes stakeholders from Government, the United Nations in Botswana, the private sector, international funding institutions such as the African Development Bank and World Bank Group, bilateral partners, members of academia and the media, and representatives of marginalized groups. Its job is to develop and institutionalize mechanisms, structures, protocols and guidance to facilitate the meaningful, inclusive engagement of marginalized groups and to ensure that their diversity and lived experiences are reflected, respected and involved in the Framework’s mechanisms and structures.

As the Framework’s highest governing body, the JNUSC provides strategic oversight and direction to the UNSDCF process, ensuring it remains aligned to the evolving country context, supporting resource mobilization and developing financing opportunities. It monitors progress, challenges and opportunities, conducts risk analyses, and steers the direction of the Framework’s implementation. The JNUSC is co-chaired by representatives of the Government and the United Nations in Botswana, and meets at least twice a year.



The United Nations Country Team (UNCT)

The UNCT is the main United Nations inter-agency mechanism in Botswana for decision-making and coordination, and is made up of representatives of all the United Nations agencies operating in the country, including those without a physical presence. The UNCT has the overall responsibility of overseeing the United Nations contribution to implementing the Cooperation Framework.

The UNCT is led by the Resident Coordinator who is designated by the United Nations Secretary-General to coordinate the operational activities of the United Nations in country. The Resident Coordinator relies on the Resident Coordinator's Office, whose mission is to (1) enhance the work and expand the voice of the agencies that work in Botswana, (2) promote coherence of the actions of the United Nations, (3) bring the organization closer to new partners and individuals, especially the marginalized, and (4) enhance the normative mandate of the United Nations in the various dimensions of development.



3.2 | Cooperation Framework Management Structure

The UNCT has adopted the following management structures to implement and oversee the UNSDCF:

i. Results Groups

Each of the five Cooperation Framework outcomes has its own Results Group¹² made up of experts from all United Nations entities represented in the UNCT, as well as government entities and other partners who support the achievement of the each outcome area. Each Results Group helps to develop and sign off on the detailed annual work plans, monitors and retains oversight of implementation including any issues that may arise, and help ensure that implementing partners and vulnerable and marginalized groups are involved throughout the process. They also provide guidance on strategies and new partnerships.

To keep transactional costs to a minimum and ensure equal representation, each United Nations entity is expected to nominate one member to a Results Group relevant to the results it supports in the Framework. Each Results Group is co-chaired by a representative of a government entity/partner, and a United Nations entity or its delegated senior technical leads contributing to results in the outcome area. The co-chairs may be rotated on a two-year basis, aligned to the two-year Joint Work Plans. At any one rotation, one of the co-leading agencies must be physically present in country.

This co-chairing of each Results Group by Government and United Nations representatives reflects discussions held following the UNSDF recommendations on strengthening dialogue and the monitoring of results by Government and other partners. As such, membership of each Results Group has been expanded to include diverse stakeholders, including representatives of vulnerable and marginalized groups.

ii. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Group

The MEL Group ensures coordination, coherence and effectiveness in monitoring, evaluation and learning among the United Nations entities implementing the Cooperation Framework. Specifically, the Group supports and contributes to Joint Work Plans, and reports to UN INFO (the United Nations online planning, monitoring and reporting platform) by completing and validating data on the Framework performance indicators, baselines and targets, as well as on the monitoring, evaluation and learning plan. It will also monitor annually the assumptions identified in the theory of change.

The MEL Group will also (1) support and contribute to SDG data monitoring and reporting in close coordination with the Result Groups, (2) support Statistics Botswana on the completion and verification of country data and metadata, (3) compile internationally comparable data, (4) support the submission

process (along with regional and global aggregates) to the United Nations Statistics Division, and (5) strengthen national monitoring and reporting capacities.

The MEL Group includes relevant representatives from all the United Nations agencies (preferably those who also perform monitoring and evaluation functions, who will act as focal points), the Resident Coordinator's Office, and technical-level officials from relevant Government and other stakeholder groups. Co-leads will be drawn from United Nations agencies and Government, and will chair on a rotational basis.

iii. United Nations Communications Group

Members of the United Nations Communications Group (UNCG) are communication officers from different United Nations entities. The UNCG is chaired on a rotational basis, and will ensure effective, coordinated and coherent communication and visibility of the Cooperation Framework process and results among key national stakeholders throughout the Framework cycle. Guided by the United Nations principle of Communicating As One, the UNCG's key tasks include (1) preparing a joint communications strategy for UNCT approval and implementing it, (2) coordinating the United Nations entity communication efforts in alignment with and support of the joint United Nations communication strategy, (3) producing high-quality joint communication products, branded in line with corporate standards, and (4) organizing joint United Nations public events and online campaigns to profile its support and advocacy for key issues to achieve progress on the 2030 Agenda. In line with the United Nations principle of leaving no one behind and building on its human rights-based approach and the United Nations normative areas, the UNCG will develop its communications to promote the human rights of marginalized groups.

iv. United Nations Operations Management Team

Working with the Results Groups, the United Nations Operations Management Team (OMT) will plan and monitor resource requirements, mobilization and allocation, and financial delivery, through Joint Work Plans. The OMT plays an important role in the planning and implementation of common services¹³ and the Business Operations Strategy (BOS). It reduces internal transaction costs and provides cost savings on externally sourced goods and services such as security, office cleaning, building/compound maintenance, recruitment processes and IT infrastructure and maintenance. A key focus for the OMT is to strengthen work on disability inclusion across the United Nations family in Botswana. The OMT meets quarterly; its members are senior operations staff from United Nations agencies within the relevant area of common service. The OMT will be chaired on a rotational basis.

v. Cross-Cutting Thematic Group and Gender Theme Group

A Cross-Cutting Thematic Group focusing on human rights and the inclusion of youth and people with disabilities will support the

¹² Resource Group (RG) 1 – Gender Equality; RG2 – Equitable Access to Services by marginalized Groups; RG3 – Sustainable Natural Resources, Food Security and Climate Change; RG4 – Economic Prosperity; RG5 – Peace and Partnerships).

¹³ Common (or shared) services are those used by two or more United Nations organizations. They include areas of finance, information technology, medical and travel services and building management.

Results Groups by ensuring that these core normative areas are mainstreamed throughout the Cooperation Framework’s implementation. It will also help to strengthen UNCT’s internal capacity to develop protocols and guidance for the meaningful engagement of these two sections of society, ensuring that their diversity and realities are reflected, respected and involved across all of the Framework’s structures.

In parallel, the Results Group on Gender Equality will act as the Gender Theme Group, working in close collaboration with other Results Groups and the Cross-Cutting Thematic Group to support gender mainstreaming across the Framework and to strengthen UNCT’s capacities and accountability in terms of gender equality and women’s empowerment.

vi. Inter-Agency Team on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (IAT-SEA)

The Inter-Agency Team on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (IAT-SEA) is the primary body providing coordination and oversight on prevention of and response to sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations staff. The Network is not responsible for investigation or adjudication of complaints, or for dealing directly with complainants; these functions rest exclusively with individual organizations or agencies. Under the Resident Coordinator’s leadership, the IAT-SEA develops, monitors and facilitates implementation of the UNCT strategy to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse.



vii. Joint United Nations Team on AIDS

The work of the Joint United Nations Team on AIDS (JUTA) is guided by the Unified Budget Results and Accountability Framework, an accountability mechanism which provides a basis for work planning, budget allocation, performance monitoring and reporting. JUTA leverages the strengths and capacities of co-sponsors – ILO, UNDP, UNESCO, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women, World Bank, World Food Programme (WFP) and WHO – to support the country to deliver jointly the results areas identified in the Global AIDS Strategy (2021–2026) and national priorities. JUTA will contribute its expertise to supporting the Cooperation Framework by strengthening capacity and closing gaps in terms of combating HIV/AIDS, especially for those left behind.

viii. Periodic Advisory Structures

As and when necessary, ad hoc structures will be established to enhance effective and coherent delivery of the Framework. For example, the Joint SDG Fund Group has been set up to coordinate implementation of the SDG Fund’s three-year project.

3.3 | Resourcing the Cooperation Framework

Botswana has proved over the years to have strong macroeconomic fundamentals (unemployment, supply and demand, growth and inflation, and others), and although in 2020 the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic caused a deep economic contraction of 8.5 per cent, 2021 saw a 9.7 per cent boost to the economy¹⁴, signalling a robust recovery. Botswana is on a par with other UMIC countries in terms of social sector spending, but the results do not match the resources spent. There is therefore a clear need to focus on the effectiveness of spending and programme design, and the Framework will seek to strengthen capacities and address long-standing challenges to implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

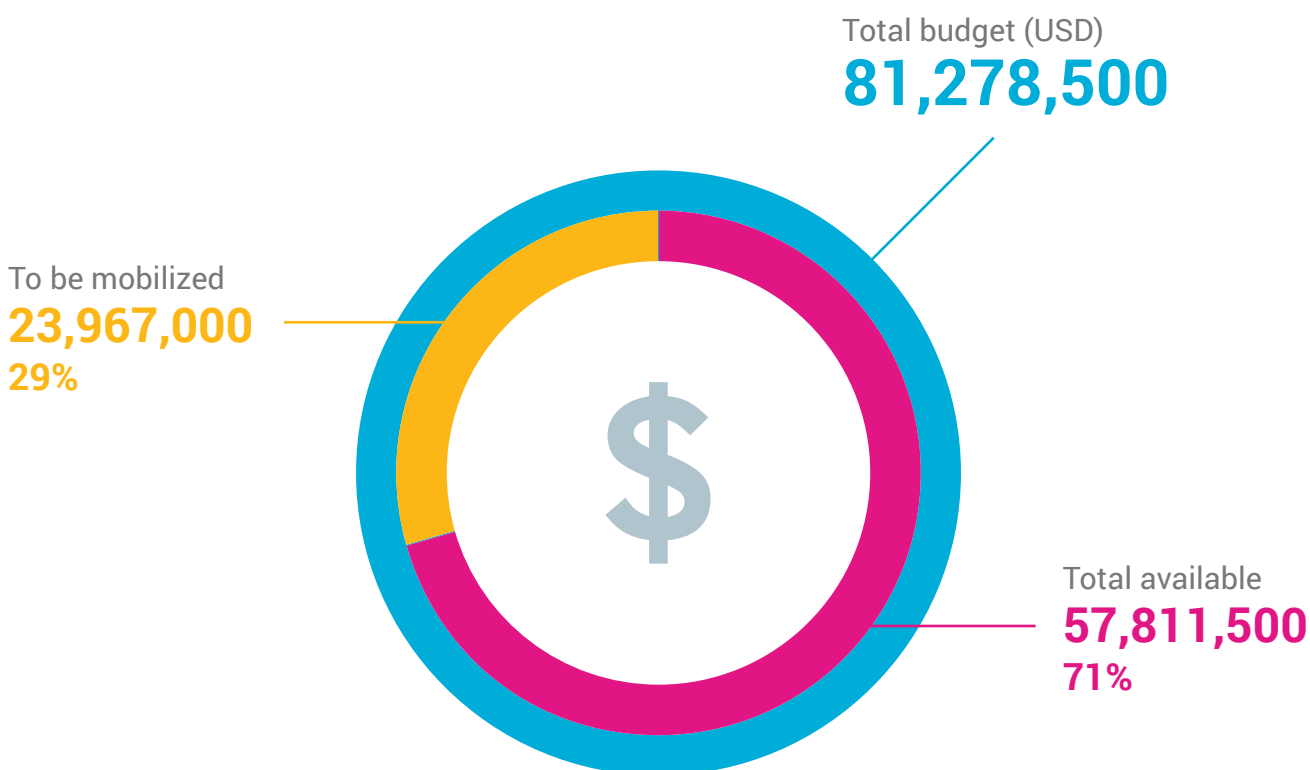
The UNCT will develop a United Nations Resource mobilization and Partnership Strategy, to provide a financial landscape analysis and partnership mapping, and strategically assess how best to effectively mobilize existing resources. It will ensure that the United Nations and Government work with a diverse set of effective partners to ensure that the Framework is achieved in an inclusive manner. Critical to success will be bringing civil society into the fold, while acknowledging the burgeoning private sector and strengthening public-private partnerships – especially in construction and infrastructure sectors – would boost the economic recovery process.

The Resource mobilization and Partnership Strategy will be partly guided by recommendations from the UNSDF evaluation report, gaps identified by the CCA, and the UNCT identification of the United Nations comparative advantages, the available technical

and financial resources, and potential funding. The exact resources will be determined under the guidance of the JNUSC after the Strategy's recommendations are adopted.

Ongoing processes for the development of an Integrated National Financing Framework will assist Botswana in domesticating the recommendations of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and also present an opportunity to strengthen collaboration and partnerships with a broad range of stakeholders.

The UNSDCF 2022–2036 is co-owned and co-financed by the United Nations and Government of Botswana; the latter is the key implementing partner. The initial total resource envelope for the Framework stands at approximately USD80 million, with 70 per cent of this already financed. The 30 per cent that remains unfunded does not include the resources that the Government provides towards development initiatives, especially those led by UNDP, UN Women and UNFPA. An initial estimated USD81,278,500 of contributions include “firm” resource commitments by each participating United Nations agency as well as “soft” commitments and other, as yet unknown resources that United Nations entities expect to mobilize. Substantial technical support is also expected from various regional offices and headquarters of the United Nations. Furthermore, the Framework's priorities and outcomes are areas in which other development partners active in Botswana (including the World Bank, African Development Bank, European Union and other bilateral development partners) are expected to have an interest, opening up avenues for broad partnerships and collaboration.



¹⁴ Botswana links economic growth forecast to 9.7%. Reuters, 30 August, 2021. ([https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/botswana-lifts-2021-economic-growth-forecast-97-2021-08-30/#:~:text=GABORONE%2C%20Aug%2030%20\(Reuters\),Serame%20told%20Reuters%20on%20Monday](https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/botswana-lifts-2021-economic-growth-forecast-97-2021-08-30/#:~:text=GABORONE%2C%20Aug%2030%20(Reuters),Serame%20told%20Reuters%20on%20Monday)).



Photo by Alessandro

3.4 | Derivation of United Nations entity country programming instruments for the UNSDCF

The Resident Coordinator and United Nations entities adhere to the mutual commitments and respective accountabilities and roles stipulated in the Management and Accountability Framework. Signing the Cooperation Framework determines Country Team membership and reflects each entity's endorsement and acceptance of the Framework, as well as accountability to it. At the level of strategic planning and programming, it also means that each UNCT member will align their agency programme cycle and content to support the Government to meet the goals of the 2030 Agenda. Each UNCT member will thus be informed by the Framework and draw on it when developing their agency's programme documents. There are three options for entities to do this:

- Option A – adopt the UNSDCF as own country programming instrument
- Option B – copy the UNSDCF outcomes
- Option C – adopt the UNSDCF outcomes verbatim and add agency-specific outcome(s)

Most United Nations entities in Botswana have adopted Option B: they follow the guidelines provided by their own HQ on how to derive their country development programme instrument from the Framework. This greatly increases the efficiency of the governance and accountability framework while reducing the transaction costs of the Framework's implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

3.5 | Joint Work Plans

The UNCT Joint Work Plans will present the planned activities and resource contributions of each United Nations entity contributing to the Cooperation Framework, with each activity aligned to the

Framework's theory of change. Joint Work Plans cover a two-year period and are reviewed as required, and annually as a minimum. They are prepared in UN INFO, which captures the Framework's outcomes, outputs, resources, SDG targets and indicators, as well as gender and human rights and other system-wide markers.

All UNCT members are involved in preparing Joint Work Plans. Technical Advisory Groups, Results Groups and the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Group will support the planning process by reviewing draft plans and validating data on performance baselines and targets, and by identifying gaps, overlaps and potential synergies. The Joint Work Plans are approved by the UNCT and endorsed by the JNUSC, and serve as the basis for the Annual Performance Review and the annual country results report.

3.6 | Business Operations Strategy to support the Cooperation Framework

Botswana has had a BOS in place since 2020. The BOS facilitates the enhancement of common services and business practices by focusing primarily on efficiency gains, cost avoidance, and reduction of costs through joint inter-agency long-term agreements. Under the Cooperation Framework, the continued identification, planning and implementation of potential common services and business practices will strengthen the coherence and integration of United Nations operational activities. At the same time, in adherence to the United Nations commitment to increased inclusiveness, the Business Operations team will scrutinize evolving internal systems, procedures and operations to ensure compliance with the principles, policies and strategies of LNOB, disability inclusion, gender parity and human rights

Chapter 4

CCA Update, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan



4.1 | Monitoring, evaluation and learning



The Cooperation Framework's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan comprises four elements:

- Monitoring
- Review and reporting
- Evaluation
- Learning

The detailed Plan is contained in Annex 2 and will be reviewed and updated annually.

Monitoring

The Results Groups are responsible for analysing monitoring data against each of the Cooperation Framework's outcome and output indicators. This is critical for tracking progress and to ensure that any challenges in implementing the Framework are identified and addressed early on.

The Framework indicators are aligned to the national SDG indicator framework. There are currently gaps in the data needed to monitor several of these indicators, which the United Nations will support Statistics Botswana and the relevant government ministries to address. In addition, joint United Nations monitoring missions will contribute to strengthening national data and information systems, including by monitoring COVID-19 Socio-Economic Response Programmatic Indicators.

Review and reporting

Each year, the UNCT will review the implementation of the Cooperation Framework and report on its results. This Annual Performance Review, conducted in collaboration with Government and including stakeholders from civil society and the private sector, will ensure the Framework is aligned to the new

priorities of the next national development plan. The JNUSC will also consider the results of the Review and use it to inform its work for the following year. The review will also be used to identify areas of the Common Country Analysis (CCA) that need updating. The UNCT, Government and other partners will closely monitor the risks identified in the theory of change and their implications through JNUSC Annual Review meetings.

The Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Group will be responsible for preparing the Annual United Nations Country Results Report. This report reflects the totality of results that the United Nations entities have achieved in supporting the Government to advance progress towards the 2030 Agenda. Its main audience is the Government, the United Nations development system, stakeholders including civil society and the private sector, and other multilateral and bilateral development partners. It is envisaged that the full United Nations Country Results Report will be published online, and that short e-reports/briefs with infographics will also be published to ensure accessibility to a wide and diverse audience, including the public. The report will be used to inform other mandated reports, such as the annual report of the Chair of the UNSDG to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

UN INFO data will be updated monthly, quarterly or annually according to respective reporting requirements. This is the responsibility of the MEL Group and is coordinated by the Resident Coordinator's Office.

The United Nations will support Government with its next Voluntary National Review process for submission in July 2022, which reviews and reports on progress against the SDG targets. It will also support Statistics Botswana to conduct, analyse and disseminate the 2022 Census and other national surveys. The United Nations will support the development of NDP 12 currently being prepared by Government, and ensure Botswana's priorities are incorporated in the Framework through the Annual Reviews. This will mean the Cooperation Framework is sustainable and contributes to the long-term vision of the country.

Evaluation

The MEL Group will conduct an Evaluability and Learning Assessment of the Cooperation Framework during the first year of its implementation. This assessment will ensure that progress is measured, and is essential for generating robust evidence for evaluation and for ensuring that evaluation of the Framework will generate learning to feed into the next programme cycle.

As part of the MEL plan, the JNUSC will commission an independent evaluation of the Framework in its penultimate year. Then, in its final year, a new CCA will be commissioned, and these two documents will form the basis for preparing the next UNSDCF.

Other evaluations of United Nations work in Botswana will be carried out throughout the life of the Framework. Individual United Nations agencies will conduct thematic evaluations, and evaluations of their respective country programmes and country strategies. The UNCT, through the MEL Group and Resident Coordinator's Office, will ensure that these evaluations are sequenced to minimize the burden on Government partners and other stakeholders, and where two agencies are conducting evaluations simultaneously they will be encouraged to combine stakeholder consultations. United Nations agencies will be encouraged to time the evaluations of their country programmes and country strategies to feed into the planning of the next UNSDCF, and the MEL Group will ensure that the results of agency evaluations are used to update the CCA and feed into the Framework's evaluation.

Learning

The MEL Group will be responsible for documenting and collectively analysing lessons emerging throughout the Cooperation Framework cycle, and for establishing a learning mechanism or platform for these lessons to be shared across the United Nations and with the Government and other stakeholders.

4.2 | Updating the United Nations Common Country Analysis

The CCA is an internal, living United Nations document and the data it contains is used to inform a number of high-level United Nations and Government documents. It is also referred to in order to support the Government in strengthening data and information systems to achieve, among others, better evidence-based policy formulation and monitoring of the SDGs at disaggregated levels. The version of the CCA used to prepare the UNSDCF was based on the best and most recent data available at the time. However, new data has emerged during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the monitoring of indicators for Botswana's SERP suggests that these have also changed.



It is envisaged that the CCA will be reviewed annually and updated with new and more accurate information, including disaggregated data, to reflect the evolving country context.

This Cooperation Framework document represents the wholehearted and sincere efforts of the United Nations and Government of Botswana, working hand-in-hand with the best interests of the country at the centre of their working commitments over the next five years. If the principles and strategies it contains are followed, the people of Botswana will live more dignified, healthy, productive lives, with more opportunities to reach their full potential. The country's wealth will be more equitably invested for all people. Natural assets will be carefully nurtured to provide for the people, and in turn be protected for future generations to enjoy. Botswana will grow as a bastion of peace, stability and good governance, and extend its support to the region and beyond.



Annex 1

Selected development challenges facing Botswana

The selected data and challenges presented in this section have been gathered from the various consultations that took place during the CCA and CF development process. While a fact checking process has taken place, the information and analysis here is selected and not comprehensive or ranked. This section is designed to give the reader an general sense of issues.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

NO POVERTY

Botswana has not yet ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which is a key treaty relevant to elimination of poverty. Ratification would encourage the Government to be more accountable to citizens of Botswana for upholding their rights.

The country has also not ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) which contains several provisions to ensure that women do not live in poverty.

Botswana's poverty level remains significantly high relative to its status as an upper-middle-income country.

About half of the country's children live in multi-dimensional poverty, with seven out of every 10 children deprived of sanitation. Children from poor rural households have higher rates of deprivation.

Poverty remains high in rural areas, remote communities, and households headed by women. According to the 2015/16 Botswana Multi Topic Household Survey, there is a higher percentage (55 per cent) of poor female-headed than male-headed (45 per cent) households. A higher proportion of employed women than employed men live below the poverty line.

Women's livelihoods from agriculture activity remain unequal. While women and men have equal rights to land ownership, the Annual Agricultural Survey Report 2019: Traditional Sector indicates that women own less land, cattle, livestock and boreholes than men.

Women's livelihoods through informal sector activity are at risk, with their ownership of informal businesses severely compromised by social distancing requirements needed to curb the spread of COVID-19. Business ownership excludes women entrepreneurs from accessing social security protection measures (e.g. pensions).

Climate change continues to exacerbate the vulnerability of those living in remote, sparsely populated areas such as those living in Remote Area Dweller Settlements (RADS) and Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) villages across Botswana. Isolated, with only basic services (e.g. boreholes for potable water, health facilities and schools), these groups depend on an extensive livestock production system with very low productivity levels, and limited arable agriculture, wildlife resources and non-forest products. The average poverty rate in these communities is higher than the average poverty rate for all rural villages as well as the national average.

The national social protection system is cumbersome, inefficient and ineffective, with some 30 programmes spread across 10 government agencies. Spending on social protection constituted 3.5 per cent of GDP (2012/2013); the current budget allocation is estimated at 2.3 per cent of GDP.

Measures are needed to diversify the economy and accelerate economic growth aimed at increased productivity, poverty reduction and the attainment of equitable social development. Policies must also lift young people out of exclusion and poverty, especially those living in rural areas.

There are limited data, including disaggregated data, on people living below the international and national poverty lines, living in multidimensional poverty, and covered by the national social protection system. A review of Botswana's national census approach is needed in order to collect and analyse data disaggregated by ethnicity, religion and language, in full compliance with standards of personal data protection and privacy.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

ZERO HUNGER

Malnutrition remains prevalent among children, especially those living in rural areas. UNICEF's (2020) Situation of Children in Botswana reveals that in 2007, the stunting rate for children under 5 was 31.7 per cent and the underweight rate at birth was 12.5 per cent.

Children in Kgalagadi (North and South), Mabutsane, Gantsi, Okavango, Boteti and Bobirwa hard-to-reach districts and geographically isolated areas have the highest rates of malnutrition. Malnutrition is also observed among children in refugee camps and children of illegal immigrants.

The proportion of undernourished was 24.1 per cent in 2020. The 2020 State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World states that 64.5 per cent of Botswana cannot afford a healthy diet.

The number of food insecure people is increasing. Climate change, long and frequent drought, over-grazing in communal areas and over-harvesting of veld products are exacerbating food insecurity through livestock losses and crop failures. Crop yields are projected to fall in the future by as much as one-third in some areas. Due to persistent drought and reduced cereal production, the number of food insecure has surpassed the five-year average by 10.6 per cent (2019/2020 consumption year).

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated household food insecurity, especially in rural women-headed households, due to its impact on food production and income generation from informal rural businesses and casual labour.

50.8 per cent of the population in Botswana was affected by moderate to severe food insecurity in the year 2018/2019, while 22.2 per cent of the population was affected by severe food insecurity. Among the Cities/Towns, Urban Villages and Rural Areas the prevalence of moderate to severe food insecurity is estimated at 31.70 per cent, 46.60 per cent and 65.50 per cent respectively while the population experiencing severe food insecurity is 11.90 per cent, 17.50 per cent and 33.10 per cent for the same areas.

According to FAO a nutrient-adequate diet (a balanced diet which contributes to achieve or maintain a good state of health) costs P23.31 a day which is more than the international poverty line currently set at P20.89 a day. This means a sizeable number of Botswana cannot afford the nutrition-adequate diet even if the entire income is spent on food.

In the 2020 Global Hunger Index (GHI), Botswana ranks 80th out of the 107 qualifying countries.

According to Our World in Data, the daily per capita caloric supply in Botswana has been steadily increasing from a low of 1,871 in 1974 to 2,326 kilocalories per person per day in 2013. Although the prevalence of under-nutrition measures progress towards Sustainable Development Goal Target 2.1 which aims to end hunger and ensure access by all people, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round by 2030, the 2020 Global Nutrition Report Action on equity to end malnutrition highlights that Botswana will not meet the 2025 global nutritional target of achieving "a 40 per cent reduction in the number of children under-5 who are stunted", adding that Botswana will also not be able to reduce and maintain childhood wasting to less than 5 per cent by 2025.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Botswana has not yet ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights which imposes an obligation on the state to “recognise the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health”.

Child mortality is high; the under-5 mortality rate is 56 per 1,000, with over half of child deaths in this age range coming as a result of sepsis, severe malnutrition, diarrhea and pneumonia. Neonatal mortality accounts for 70 per cent of child deaths in the first year due to inadequate neonatal care facilities and other factors.

Maternal mortality is high, estimated at 133.7 deaths per 100,000 live births. About 8 per cent of maternal deaths occur among adolescents aged 15–19. Direct obstetric causes contribute to 73.2 per cent of total maternal deaths; the three leading direct contributing factors of maternal deaths are postpartum haemorrhage, abortive complications and hypertensive disorders.

Botswana still criminalizes abortion (except in cases of rape, incest, threat to life or health of the pregnant woman, or severe fetal impairment) under Section 160 of the Penal Code. This contributes to the incidence of unsafe abortions.

Children continue to have unequal access to HIV treatment and care services. There is inadequate parental support for children living with HIV.

Cost and lack of identity documents continue to limit access to healthcare and antiretroviral treatment for children living in remote areas and nomadic communities, refugee and asylum-seeking children, abandoned children, children living in alternative care institutions, and indigenous Basarwa/San children born outside of hospital.

The prevalence rate of HIV among young women is twice that of young men. New infections among adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) remain high (24 per cent of the estimated 9,500 new infections in 2019). Treatment coverage lags behind that of adults: only 66 per cent of the 30,533 young people (aged 15–24) living with HIV are receiving anti-retroviral treatment.

HIV incidence among AGYW is related to limited access to information on HIV prevention, limited access to contraception, inconsistent condom use, and the adverse influence of patriarchy, misogyny, dikgosi and customary law.

The national COVID-19 lockdown (April–May 2020) heightened vulnerabilities to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights and HIV by restricting access to contraception (including condoms), HIV testing and antiretroviral treatment.

More adult women live with HIV than men.

HIV among the elderly tends to go undiagnosed, as its symptoms are similar to those of other immunodeficiency conditions that can occur in later life. Also, health-care providers are reticent in enquiring about the sexual activity of the elderly.

People living with HIV and who are on treatment are living longer and face health complications as they age.

LGBTQI+ people, people with disabilities, and migrants and refugees experience discriminatory health service delivery.

Rural/urban disparities exist in the quality and supply of healthcare.

Botswana’s health system is struggling to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

QUALITY EDUCATION

Botswana has not yet ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights which imposes an obligation on the state to “recognise the right of everyone to education”.

Education quality remains low for infrastructural reasons, among others. Classroom shortages give rise to high student-classroom ratios. This situation is compounded by the in-class social distancing requirements for combating COVID-19.

Only 30 per cent of children aged 3 to 6 years have access to preschool education which remains driven by the private sector and is therefore unaffordable for the less privileged.

Children in remote areas have limited opportunities and access to early childhood education (ECE) and are more susceptible to dropping out or not registering for school.

Children’s limited access to early education is related to the lack of appropriate funding mechanisms for preschool education, insufficient infrastructure, equipment and qualified staff in ECE centres, limited awareness by policymakers of the learning gains and educational advantages of ECE, and the challenge faced by early learners of having to walk long distances daily to access school.

Rural, poor youth are at risk of exclusion from education due to the implementation of the government’s cost sharing policy, transport costs and the requirement to engage in family labour activities.

School dropout and grade repetition remains high among adolescent girls and young women due to pregnancy. Adolescent girls from poor, rural communities and of double orphan status are most affected by early and unintended pregnancy.

An issue of concern is the re-admission policy of public schools that requires pregnant girls who drop out of school to wait six months before they can return, and which expects pregnant girls to enter technical training instead of general education.

People with disabilities including children with disabilities (CWDs) are not mainstreamed into the education system. CWDs in rural areas do not have access to opportunities and services because appropriate facilities tend to be located in urban centres.

While primary education is free and compulsory under the Children’s Act, primary education is not free for children of foreign nationality.

Asylum-seeking and refugee children do not have equal access to education. Children in the Dukwi refugee camp receive basic education but after completing secondary level studies are unable to access higher learning institutions in the absence of Government funding and support for tertiary education. There have been instances where students have forfeited scholarships offered outside Botswana because of their inability to acquire travel documentation.

Human rights education needs to be promoted in schools.

Minority language speakers are disadvantaged by the education system. The United Nations Special Rapporteur on minorities has urged Botswana to adopt new educational policies that allow the teaching of minority languages and their use as a medium of instruction in private schools. It was also suggested that policies be developed for public schools to teach and use minority languages as the medium of instruction where reasonably possible and numbers warrant, to the degree appropriate and applying the principle of proportionality.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

GENDER EQUALITY

Botswana has not yet ratified the Maputo Protocol which provides for comprehensive steps that the state can adopt to ensure gender equality.

Botswana has not yet acceded to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which has a specific focus on women and girls with disabilities and the impact of intersecting discrimination and violence.

Gender-based violence (GBV) against women is pervasive across the country, with 37.1 per cent of women reporting sexual, physical, emotional and/or economic violence by a partner or non-partner.

Domestic violence increased during the April–May 2020 COVID-19 national lockdown with 272 women seeking shelter and other assistance from NGOs. This was a significant increase, relative to periods before the lockdown.

The number of shelters for GBV victims and the provision of medical and psychological rehabilitation services for GBV victims are inadequate.

Reporting of GBV is low due to fear of retribution and victimization of survivors by perpetrators and the community, and the low numbers of investigations, prosecutions and convictions of perpetrators. A high proportion of victims withdraw their complaints due to economic dependence on perpetrators, pressure from family and the length of time for cases to appear before the courts.

Legal protection of married women against GBV is hampered because marital rape is not recognised by law as a criminal offence. Marital rape should be criminalized in the Penal Code.

As of 1 December 2020, GBV specialized courts where GBV cases are filed as urgent applications began operation in 25 magistrate courts across Molepolole, Gaborone, Francistown, Maun, Palapye and Selebi Phikwe.

The prohibition on child marriage under the Children's Act of Botswana does not apply to customary and religious marriages under the Marriage Act.

As regards trafficking of women and girls, Section 9 of the Anti-Human Trafficking Act only provides for the imposition of a fine as a sanction against a perpetrator of trafficking in persons. There are insufficient shelters for victims of trafficking. Greater protection from trafficking is needed for women living in

poverty, unemployed women, rural women and women with disabilities, including by carrying out awareness-raising campaigns among them on available, accessible services and job opportunities, and increasing the early detection capacity of law enforcement personnel to promptly identify victims of trafficking and to facilitate the referral of victims to the appropriate services.

Female sex workers (FSW), who are at higher risk of contracting HIV, continue to face challenges in accessing the healthcare system due to stigmatization, threats and harassment.

While women and men have equal rights to land ownership, women are disadvantaged across the entire agriculture sector, owning less land, cattle and livestock, than men.

Botswana has one of the lowest number of women in political positions, namely in Parliament and Government, the House of Chiefs and local government, decision-making positions, and higher courts and at the international level. Temporary special measures with targets are needed with respect to women's participation in political and public life, as well as their access to health and housing.

Botswana has not yet adopted a comprehensive gender responsive budgeting process to ensure the allocation of sufficient budgetary resources to realize women's rights.

A comprehensive definition of discrimination against women is required in the Constitution and other national laws, covering all prohibited grounds (direct and indirect) in the public and private spheres and in customary law.

Domestic violence should be criminalized and further elaboration and implementation is needed of public policies to prevent, address, punish and eradicate all forms of violence against women.

The Customary Courts Act should be amended to introduce a defined system of transfers of civil or criminal proceedings from customary courts to civil courts for cases in which women are discriminated against or their rights are violated.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Botswana continues to rely heavily on fresh and saline groundwater, as existing perennial rivers, such as the Okavango, Zambezi, Orange-Senqu and Shashe-Limpopo river basins, are shared with neighbouring countries. Pressures from climate change, high demand and competition from the country's various economic sectors could further constrain Botswana's limited aquifers, whose water storage capacities are much lower than those of its counterparts in Africa owing to the country's relatively flat terrain. Agriculture, households, mining and urbanization place significant pressure on water withdrawals.

Poor maintenance of storage facilities and dilapidated water supply infrastructure remain major concerns, especially as the construction of strategic water infrastructure such as water transfer schemes, dams and wastewater treatment plants are considered expensive.

Access to water remains a challenge for rural women in Botswana. Although their rights of access to land generally include access to surface water resources, women's plots tend to be far from water points. Furthermore, borehole ownership is highly skewed towards men, with women owning only 27 per cent of the country's boreholes.

People in transition from a nomadic to a settled life, and women and girls, suffer from a lack of access to water and sanitation on disproportionate scales.

Women still do not participate in decision-making relating to water despite the disproportionate burden on women caused by the lack of access to water and sanitation.

There is a risk of contamination as there are still people who use pit latrines in areas where the ground water table is shallow, despite the government's efforts to encourage the use of conservancy tanks in these areas.

The country's current policy emphasis on increasing supply should be accompanied by attention being given to resolving complicated distribution problems and by acquiring the financial resources necessary to develop the country's water-related infrastructure.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Population with access to electricity stood at 65 percent (2018). However, there are significant disparities in access between rural and urban areas.

64 per cent (2018) of population have access to clean fuels and technology for cooking.

High tariff prices and poor infrastructure pose a challenge for Botswana's energy security needs.

The urgent requirement to transition to renewable sources of energy is hampered by existing policy, limited funding, lack of capacity and R&D.

Despite the potential health and environmental hazards associated with kerosene use, subsidies continued to be offered. In effect, increasing the demand for kerosene, especially among low-income communities.

Energy demand is currently being met through importing petroleum products and electricity. This poses several challenges including unsteady supply and rising transportation costs. This supply and transportation issues are exacerbated by insufficient local storage capacity and the significant distances required to supply the entire country.

Wind energy has potential; wind velocity is higher at high altitude locations, including in the Kwai Pan where wind velocities range between 6 m/s and 9 m/s.

There is potential for sustainable business opportunities in using, manufacturing and assembling solar energy equipment. Solar energy use is already prevalent in rural areas where access to conventional electricity is limited.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Botswana's unemployment rate (26 per cent, Q4 2021) remains significantly high relative to the country's position as an upper-middle-income country.

Unemployment among women (28 per cent) is at a 10-year high. Unemployment is higher among young women (38.1 per cent) compared to young men (30.6 per cent), with higher incidence occurring in urban villages.

One in three youth is unemployed (Q1 2020) and the number of young people who are not in education, not in employment or training (NEET) stand at 39.4 percent (Q4 2021). Many youth remain dependent up to age 32.

Youth unemployment arises from young people's lack of specific and technical skills, a mismatch of their skills to the needs of the economy, and the fact that Botswana's economy relies on a narrow economic base.

Government's response to youth unemployment and outcomes has been through policy and programme formulation. However, many of these policies and programmes are often poorly implemented and lack coordination between the different implementing ministries and departments, local authorities, the private sector and NGOs. Inadequate training, mentorship and monitoring have undermined the successful implementation of several youth policies and programmes.

Underemployment is prevalent, especially among women. The estimated overall inactivity rate is at 40.8 (Q4 2021) per cent, and is higher among women.

The female participation in the labour market is just 56.1 per cent (Q4 2021) compared to 63 per cent for men. In 2020 women's average cash earnings per month were BWP898 less than men (men BWP5,283 and women BWP4,385). Most of Botswana's female working population (75 per cent) are in the services sector. Women own 74 per cent of informal businesses, mostly in the services sector, which were severely impacted during the pandemic.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The digitisation of the economy is yet to take off. Digitisation should underpin the focus on trade in services if Botswana is to shift from a mineral-based economy to a knowledge-based one.

While the National Broadband Strategy (2018) aimed to ensure universal access to broadband services, and the Botswana National E-government Strategy (2011–16) promised that “by 2016 all appropriate government information and services will be available online through a single government portal”, these opportunities are yet to be realized.

While approximately 50 percent of population is using the internet and mobile broadband subscription stood at 88.4 per 100 (2019), there is weak fixed broadband coverage hampering business activity and potential FDI. As of March 2019, the penetration of fixed broadband stood at 1 per cent. Only 2 per cent of subscriptions are of speed over 10 Mbps.

Botswana’s expenditure on research and development (R&D) as a percentage of GDP stood at only 0.5 percent (2013).

In terms of scientific and technical journal articles published, the figure is <1 per 10,000 population (2018). Botswana’s value regarding The Times Higher Education Universities Ranking: -average score of top 3 universities (worst 0–100 best) is 17.7.

There are several innovation-based and digital oriented initiatives underway, including the flagship SmartBots initiative, which aims to improve efficiency and effectiveness of public service delivery through the adoption of technology. This and other initiatives are yet to show transformational results.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Botswana has not ratified the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of the Families, and the Maputo Protocol.

Botswana's economic success occurs at the expense of high levels of income inequality.

There is a lack of disaggregated data (urban/rural, regional, by gender, age, sex, ability/disability) on income inequality.

Inequalities in the distribution of income and consumption expenditure among individuals or households remain high even though there has been a 11.9 per cent improvement from 2009. Botswana's Gini Index was 53.3 in 2015, making it one of the top ten most unequal countries in the world.

While the industrial sector (and mining sub-sector) contributes more towards GDP than the agricultural sector, the industrial sector's relative contribution to total employment is much less than that of agriculture.

Asylum seekers, refugees and undocumented migrants face exclusion, limited access to services and justice, vulnerability to GBV, increased likelihood of exploitation, and psychosocial issues. Refugees in particular face additional problems due to restrictions on movements and prohibition to any form of employment.

Botswana made several reservations to the 1951 Refugee Convention including on (1) the freedom of movement of refugees and (2) their right to work, which is reflected in its Refugees (Recognition and Control) Act of 1967.

Despite the fact that Botswana has express non-discrimination provisions in some of its national instruments such as the Constitution and the Employment Act of 2010, no specific legislation currently exists on non-discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation.

To ensure that all children are apprised of their rights, Botswana needs to translate its Children's Act into Setswana and make it available in accessible child-friendly versions.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Botswana is one of the most urbanized countries in Southern Africa. Rapid urbanization, while not resulting in large informal settlements, has resulted in the poor (domestic workers, gardeners, casual labourers and others earning below the minimum wage, as well as hawkers and new rural–urban migrants) and international migrants renting accommodation in self-help housing agency areas and informal settlements such as Gaborone’s Old Naledi, Tlokweng and Mogoditshane, Monarch (Francistown) and Peleng (Lobatse).

urbanization continues to be accompanied by challenges. In Gaborone and Francistown, most migrants from rural villages have moved to degraded housing areas which show signs of slum or squatter habitation. urbanization is also placing heavy demand on infrastructure, housing and services, fertile farmland and less productive drylands, water resources, underserved waste management systems, and social amenities.

Pollution, littering, and overcrowding is common in low-income residential areas.

Pollution in Botswana is being driven by the country’s existing waste management practices which are mostly characterized by inadequate implementation and enforcement of waste management policies. As a result, the country continues to face increased risk to its terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity, and the lowered value of land in affected areas.

Significant sources of pollution include mines, breweries, textile industries and small-scale chemical industries.

Increased traffic congestion is another source of pollution. It continues to affect air quality, mobility, and physical space, thus constraining the overall socioeconomic progress of areas such as Gaborone and Francistown.

Integrated solid waste management is yet to be embraced, leading to a missed opportunity for generating employment through waste recycling enterprises.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

There is a paucity of data against SDG 12 Responsible consumption and production.

Of the six targets reported under Goal 12 in the 2021 Global SDG Report, Botswana is off-track (or has regressed) against three of them. They include: (i) SO₂ emissions embodied in imports (kg/capita); (ii) production-based nitrogen emissions (kg/capita); and (iii) production-based SO₂ emissions (kg/capita). However, in each case the latest data available is from either 2010 or 2012.

Botswana has performed reasonably well on Municipal solid waste management. The figure against this indicator is 0.4 kg/capita/day.

In general, evidence suggests that recycling takes place on a limited basis and responsible consumption has not taken hold.

The use of paper is extensive across offices—both government and otherwise—and the concept of ‘going paperless’ has yet to take hold.

In terms of businesses, the emphasis on Environment and Social Safeguards is lacking and Responsible Sourcing Principles (RSP) are generally not enforced.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

CLIMATE ACTION

Botswana is among those African countries most exposed to climate change risks. Increasing incidence of climate-driven aridity is aggravating the fragility of Botswana's biophysical environment, with drought conditions increasingly recurrent.

Government projections for 2050 indicate that climate change will result in decreased water inflow into the country's dams by between 3.5 to 19 per cent, which represents an actual loss of 34 to 75 mm³ by 2050. This situation will adversely affect available water resources, agriculture, ecotourism activities, public health, and the cost of doing business. It jeopardizes Botswana's trajectory towards the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, if no immediate adaptation and mitigation measures are put in place.

Cognizant of climate change risks, Botswana's Government has put forward a number of technical and policy interventions including policies on energy, climate change, waste management and Integrated Transport Policy. The country also continues to support ongoing global and regional policy processes on climate action, including the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

Climate Change poses a real and great threat to Botswana in that it precipitates large environmental shocks and stresses such as droughts and flash floods. A 2018 study ranked Botswana as one of the top countries in terms of both temperature and precipitation change as global temperatures rise (Nkemelang, et al., 2018). The IPCC is also unequivocal in its position that climate change is likely to increase the threat to human security, in the form of heightened natural disasters (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2014). The IPCC SP15 highlights just how damaging a global rise of 1.5 will be for Botswana (International Panel on Climate Change, 2018), where it will cause an even larger local temperature increase due to the specific geography of Botswana. Such a rise will create more severe and longer droughts, less frequent and more intense rainfall events, causing greater flash flooding and in turn greater human health impacts. Further these effects are expected to cause a drop of crop yields by 35 per cent as well as having a direct negative impact on livestock herds, causing both food and economic instability (Mark & Brendon, 2018). These events demand a rapid, data-driven and capacitated disaster risk management process and response.

Even though Botswana's contribution to global climate change is negligible, as a member of the global community of nations and a party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Paris Agreement, it is important that Botswana adopt measures to reduce the carbon-intensity of its economy and explore carbon abatement options in sectors with high greenhouse gas emissions. Effective mitigation will equip Botswana to meet its nationally determined contributions of reducing GHG emissions by 15 per cent by 2030, relative to 2010 emissions (Government of Botswana, 2015). Moreover, pursuing low-carbon approaches to economic growth and development may allow Botswana to reduce long-term costs linked to fossil fuel dependency, and will enable the country to be competitive in a highly likely carbon-constrained global future.

Botswana's transition to a low carbon, climate-resilient economy remains a challenge.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

LIFE BELOW WATER

Landlocked Botswana's main water bodies include the Okavango Delta, Chobe River system and over 300 small to large Dams.

These water bodies need to be managed sustainably, to allow for adequate water consumption, agriculture, biodiversity, industrial development, tourism, and aquaculture (fish farming).

Only target SDG 14.4.1 is domesticated, relating to fish stock sustainability.

There is strong political will to develop the nascent aquaculture industry, as a key intervention against various dimensions of poverty (e.g. food security, nutrition, employment) and as an economic diversification strategy. Various studies show good potential to develop a productive aquaculture industry.

Despite clear potential, production levels are relatively low compared to other SADC member states. In an effort to develop the aquaculture subsector, the Government with assistance from GIZ has developed a national aquaculture strategy, aligned to the SADC regional strategy.

Lack of a national aquaculture policy and legislative framework.

Governance of fisheries resources in Botswana is fragmented, and resides in the Ministry of Wildlife, Environment and Tourism for capture fisheries and Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security for aquaculture. This splits resources (financial and manpower), which hinders optimal development and growth of the sector. There is also a potential conflict between mandates focused on conservation versus commercialisation.

Lack of prioritisation in current national plans, although there has been recent indications that future plans will change this status.

Undeveloped fish value chains, including inadequate local inputs supply, high costs of imported inputs, unstructured market, high degree of wastage, poor handling techniques, lack of skilled personnel.

Limited information on freshwater aquaculture and poor economic data on the industry due to its infancy as well as due to lack of Research and Development.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

LIFE ON LAND

Botswana's large mammals such as the eland, gemsbok, giraffe, hartebeest, lechwe, sable spring and wildebeest are in significant decline. The loss of over 350 elephants at Okavango in 2020 was attributed to pathogenic microbes such as lethal cyanobacteria. Scientists and other experts pointed to warming conditions which increase the propagation of the toxic microbes in the country's watering areas frequented by elephants in dry seasons, a situation likely to be compounded by the limited availability of freshwater resources.

The number of small mammals such as endangered bats is reported to be in decline, attributed to vast habitat loss and disturbances emanating from various land use change and other human-induced activities.

Botswana's status of birds across all its ecosystems has been shown to be on a relatively good standing. The country provides important habitats to the Near Threatened (IUCN Red List) Lesser Flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*) and the Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus roseus*). Other bird species, such as the critically endangered white-backed vultures, face multiple threats from human activities such as the poisoning of wildlife carcasses, which often results in massive die-offs. The decline in the vulture population poses a significant threat to Botswana's livestock and human health, with the likelihood of major impacts on the country's economy. Vultures play a vital role in Botswana's ecological ladder, sweeping out carrion that can otherwise be a hub for zoonotic diseases. Such vulture decline-induced diseases have had catastrophic consequences in other parts of the world through surging cases of rabies and other morbidities.

Among key faunal species, the country's panhandle crocodile population residing in the Okavango is reported to be in decline.

Land resources are crucial to Botswana's desired development trajectory. Main land uses include agriculture, mining, and wildlife tourism. Agricultural land comprises 45.9 per cent of the country's land area, of which arable land has increased from about 58 per cent in 2014 to about 90 per cent in 2016. Agricultural productivity, which accounts for more than 80 per cent of income opportunities among rural populations, is tied to the vitality of the arable land. Crop production is declining due to declining soil fertility of arable lands and increased loss of soil and biodiversity. Forested land comprises 19.1 per cent of land area; annual deforestation occurs at a rate of 1 per cent.

Although rural women in Botswana represent 57 per cent of the agricultural labour force, they do not have equal access to or control over productive resources such as land, water, property and finance. More women than men in Botswana are engaged in crop and vegetable production, as they own more arable land than men (57.6 per cent against 41.6 per cent). However, according to the Annual Agricultural Survey Report 2019: Traditional Sector, women own less land, cattle, livestock and fewer boreholes than men.

Depleted soil fertility and freshwater resources, together with vegetation and soil losses, characterize Botswana's land degradation and desertification problem. Key among this problem's drivers are overgrazing of livestock, severe droughts, and deforestation common in the country's woodlands through overexploitation of wood resources for household energy in rural areas and the continued clearance of marginal lands for cultivation.

At risk are food security, livestock and crop production, the livelihoods of rural households and their increased susceptibility to environmental hazards such as severe droughts and outbreak of animal diseases, which in turn threaten public health systems when these diseases jump to humans.

The challenges of land degradation and desertification can be overcome through land restoration and sustainable land management, paired with robust policies. However, despite the progress made in addressing pertinent land tenure issues, Botswana continues to face challenges including administrative procedures which hamper the efforts of Government and those who hold various forms of rights from making optimum gains from their respective tenure systems; the most adversely affected groups are those under customary land tenure systems.

There continues to be poor record-keeping at many of the country's land boards, hampering land distribution while also weakening measures which address land disputes. There tends to be lack of clarity of roles and reporting structures among the different organizations involved in land administration, poor coordination of land administration institutions, overlapping legislation which result in delays and poor service delivery alongside high costs for communities to access services, and inadequate technical skills. There is inadequate capacity to execute land administration responsibly, including among the land board members; this compromises the quality of service delivery and the Government's value for money.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Botswana's integrity and oversight institutions do not have the requisite legal frameworks (including independence and autonomy) to function effectively.

Customary courts, which deal with approximately 80 per cent of justice issues in Botswana, have capacity challenges.

Botswana does not have a National Human Rights Institution despite Government's longstanding commitment to implementing recommendations made by several international bodies (Universal Periodic Review, UN Special Rapporteur reports, treaty body concluding observations) to establish one.

A more comprehensive human rights framework, including a review of the Constitution to ensure compliance with its international human rights obligations, is needed to ensure, among other things, a comprehensive Bill of Rights.

Peace, stability, and prosperity are best ensured when all segments of society are accepted and included and have equal opportunities and access to services. The nation-building efforts of Botswana need to reflect the diversity of its population more fully, including people with disabilities, the LGBTQI+ community and its non-Tswana population.

Botswana's international anti-corruption and human rights obligations must be domesticated, and reservations lifted where they are inconsistent with national law.

Accused and detained persons continue to face unequal access to affordable and high-quality legal assistance and representation. Although the Constitution of Botswana contains limited rights to a fair trial, there is no publicly funded legal aid or assistance available for criminal matters. Those accused without private legal representation are not likely to benefit from a fair trial. While pro-deo support is available to accused people facing trial for capital offences, such support is likely to be limited when junior or inexperienced counsel are appointed. Accused persons declared 'not fit to plead' at trial (e.g. due to lack of mental capacity or illness) may be detained indefinitely in mental health facilities or prison settings despite the lack of a trial and guilty verdict. The length of pre-trial detention violates fair trial rights, with detainees often serving longer than any likely sentence while awaiting trial or appeal.

Botswana is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights but not to its Second Optional Protocol aimed at abolition of the death penalty.

Reporting of perpetrators in child sexual exploitation and abuse cases remains low due to distrust in the authorities, stigma, shame, and reluctance of families and the general public to report such abuse. Parents discourage their children to report this abuse, with the social norm among community members, police and magistrates being that families will 'manage their own problems'.

Access to justice is also limited because of (1) lack of awareness around rights and accessing justice, (2) police lacking capacity to report and respond appropriately and in a timely fashion to cases of violence, and (3) perpetrators tending to be disciplined and protected within the family. There is insufficient child-friendly legislation and guidelines in the justice system, no courts designated specifically to deal with children's cases, the majority of personnel in the justice system are not trained to handle children's cases, and lawyers are not permitted at customary courts when matters affecting children are heard.

Corporal punishment remains lawful in all settings in Botswana, including in the home, schools, childcare institutions, alternative care settings and in the administration of justice.

Botswana's high prevalence of GBV is attributed to deep-rooted patriarchal attitudes and gender stereotypes regarding the role and responsibilities of men and women in society. The Botswana National Relationship Study (2018) found regarding rape, 45 per cent of men believe that in any rape case, there is need to ask if the victim was not promiscuous, 34 per cent of men affirmed that in some rape cases women want it to happen, and 41 per cent of men believe that if a woman does not fight back, it is not rape.

Less than 3 per cent of women report cases to the police due to (1) fear of retribution and victimization of survivors by perpetrators and the community, and (2) the low incidence of investigation, prosecutions, and convictions. A high proportion of victims withdraw their complaint due to economic dependence on perpetrator, pressure from family and the length of time cases take to appear before the courts. Legal protection of married women against GBV is hampered because marital rape is not recognised by law as a criminal offence.

Botswana lags behind in terms of women's political participation, with a low number of women in political positions (in Parliament, Government, House of Chiefs and local government), in decision-making positions in higher courts and at the international level.

The unavailability of identity documents limits access to healthcare and antiretroviral treatment for children living in remote areas and nomadic communities, refugee and asylum-seeking children, abandoned children, children living in alternative care institutions and indigenous Basarwa/San children who are not born in hospitals.

Transgender persons are unable to access identity documents that reflect their gender identity. There are documented cases in which identity document barriers have resulted in delays in accessing healthcare, and even where access was impeded by health workers calling the police due to transgender persons present identity documents that do not reflect their gender identity.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / CHALLENGES

PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Botswana has established the SDGs Roadmap as a prerequisite for leveraging interlinkages, and the mainstreaming, localization and steering implementation of the SDGs across all sectors. The challenge is that sectors are not able to explicitly identify interlinkages across goals and targets in an integrated and holistic way, which is a prerequisite for systematic policy design, implementation and multi-stakeholder collaboration.

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development has developed SDG Planning Guidelines as a tool to identify practical ways to accelerate the rate of implementation of the SDGs in Botswana. The Guidelines provide a mechanism to move national discussions away from conversations around goals, to focus on planning for and implementing specific SDG targets, according to the development challenges facing the country. However, intensified effort is needed to roll out these guidelines across the sectors and line ministries.

SDG monitoring is held back by limited data availability, making it challenging to determine baselines for SDG indicators and setting of annual targets for the remaining measurable indicators.

There is a capacity gap within ministries, departments, and agencies to meaningfully integrate SDG principles, targets and indicators into development plans, policies, programmes, and projects. More appreciation is needed of Botswana's SDGs Domesticated Indicator Framework (DIF) Baseline Stats Brief (2018).

Human resources capacity challenges remain prevalent including in the areas of statistical knowledge, data analysis and reporting at the administrative level. While government sectors collect administrative data, the sectors are not well equipped in terms of statistical processes concerning refinement of data collection tools, automation of data collection systems and processing of administrative data. Furthermore, a significant proportion of data available are not adequately disaggregated on issues of gender, socio-economic status, disability, and other relevant diversities. There is also a lack of national standards and guidelines for setting of annual performance targets.

Statistics Botswana is the main institution for collecting and publishing national statistics. However, it is only responsible for providing 35 per cent of the SDG-related data; the majority (60 per cent) of data needed to monitor the SDGs is to be provided by the various line ministries, departments, and agencies and only 5 per cent by international data sources.

Think tanks, civil society organizations, academia and research institutions should produce knowledge products to support planning, policy and decision-making and implementation of the SDGs.

NGOs and Civil Society organizations are critical to achievement of SDGs, but independent non-government funding opportunities remain limited. Several leading NGOs also report that the space for them to operate independently (especially those advocating for policy and practice change) is under threat as there are preliminary moves to institutionalize and extend government state oversight and coordination of their activities.

Private sector partnerships with Government and development organizations are seeing growth, and this is an area for expansion, to support private sector to be more aware of SDGs and the various formal development plans (e.g. NDP, UNSDCF), and to contribute to their achievement.

Annex 2

United Nations Botswana Results Framework

Strategic Priority One: People	
Impact	<p>Regional frameworks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Africa Agenda 2063, SADC Gender and Development Protocol • African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child <p>SDGs and SDG targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and women's empowerment: 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6
National development priorities from NDP 11 and Vision 2036:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gender equality and women's empowerment • and protection of human rights • gender-based violence

Results	National SDG Indicators/Performance Indicators	Baseline (Year)	Target (Duration of Cooperation Framework)	Source/MOV	Assumption Statement
Outcome 1 By 2026, gender inequality is reduced, and women and girls are empowered to access their human rights and participate in and benefit from inclusive development	SDG indicator 5.1.1: Extent to which legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex	50% (CEDAW Report 2018)	75% (2016)	MNIG (National Reports on CEDAW, MDJS)	Government has prioritized gender equality and is able to mobilise and devote sufficient resources and attention to the priority
	SDG 5.2.1: Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age	32% Botswana National Relationship Study 2018	30% (2026)	MNIG, MLG&RD	Policies and National Strategy towards ending GBV are implemented and monitored
	SDG Indicator: 5.5.1: Percentage increase in women's participation and representation in the democratic electoral processes: (a) Proportion of seats held by women on local councils and (b) Proportion of seats held by women in national legislature	(a) 11% (2021) (b) 19% (2021)	(a) 50% (2026) (b) 50% (2026)	Parliament, Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) MLG&RD, IEC	Government, Parliament and political parties have put in place deliberate interventions (policies and strategies) to promote women's participation in democratic electoral processes
Output 1.1 Policy and legal frameworks, and institutional capacities strengthened to address gender inequality and human rights, in line with national and international commitments	Indicator: Number of CEDAW recommendations on legal and policy frameworks implemented	0/13 CEDAW recommendations (2019)	13/13 (100%) of CEDAW recommendations (by 2026)	MIAC, MNIG, MOPAGPA, MLG&RD	
	Indicator 1.1.1: Gender assessment of the National Constitution is conducted	No (2021)	Yes (2023)	MNIG, MoPAGPA	Will exist to make changes to legislative frameworks if needed
	Indicator 1.1.2: Number of public sector institutions and local authorities with enhanced knowledge and skills on gender-responsive budgeting	0 (2021)	10 (2026)	MFED, MNIG	Institutionalization of gender-responsive budgeting in public institutions and private sector is progressing
	Indicator 1.1.3: Existence of legislation that recognize children's right to be heard in civil and administrative proceedings that affect them (in line with Article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child) (CRC)	No (2021)	YES (2026)	MLGRD, MDJS	Political will exists to ensure the existence of child-friendly justice systems

<p>Output 1.2 Enhanced capacities of women, especially young women, to participate equally in political and economic spheres</p>	<p>Indicator 1.1.4: Number of gender statistical products and Monitoring and Evaluation initiatives developed to support monitoring of implementation of SDG 5</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.1: Number of laws and regulations reformed to promote women and young women's political participation in politics and decision-making positions</p> <p>Indicator 1.2.2: Number of (a) women parliamentarians, young women, media professionals and CSOs trained in leadership and (b) women in leadership and political participation</p>	<p>2 (2021): The M&E framework of the National Gender Policy and the Gender Links gender barometer</p> <p>0 (2021)</p> <p>(a) 178 women trained in 'Women's Political Participation' (WPP) (2018) by Gender Links</p> <p>(b) 145 women participated in leadership training (2019), conducted by TAWLA</p>	<p>10 (2026)</p> <p>1 (2024)</p> <p>300 (2026)</p> <p>300 (2026)</p>	<p>Statistics Botswana, MNIG, MFED</p> <p>MNIG, IEC, Parliament (women Caucus) on Women, MLG&RD</p> <p>MNIG, IEC, Parliamentary Caucus on Women, Media organizations</p>	<p>Gender mainstreaming across sectors takes place</p> <p>Equal participation of women and men in leadership is a high priority</p> <p>Coordination capacity is in place to mobilize and engage key stakeholders</p>
<p>Output 1.3 Strengthened multi-sectoral prevention and responses, including mechanisms for addressing harmful social norms, to achieve a progressive reduction in gender-based violence and violence against children</p>	<p>Indicator 1.3.1: Number of social service workers with responsibility for child protection per 100,000 children, per type (with/without post-secondary education; governmental and non-governmental)</p> <p>Indicator 1.3.2: Number of national laws and policies reviewed in accordance with CEDAW and CRC to prevent and address GBV and violence against children</p> <p>Indicator 1.3.3: Availability of administrative data routinely collected and published on GBV and violence against and exploitation and abuse of children, disaggregated by age and sex</p> <p>Indicator 1.3.4: Number of public institutions, CSOs and stakeholders supported to implement initiatives to prevent GBV against women and children</p> <p>Indicator 1.3.5: Number of capacity-building initiatives conducted to increase capacities of public institutions (police, justice, health, dikgosi, education) to implement laws, regulations and policies on GBV</p> <p>Indicator 1.3.6: Number of institutional and CSO stakeholders with enhanced capacities to coordinate intersectoral GBV and VAC response in line with international standards</p>	<p>54 (2020)</p> <p>50% (2021)</p> <p>No (2021)</p> <p>8 (2021)</p> <p>11 (2021)</p> <p>15 (2021)</p>	<p>121 (2026)</p> <p>75% (2026)</p> <p>Yes (2026)</p> <p>20 (2026)</p> <p>20 (2026)</p> <p>25 (2026)</p>	<p>MLG&RD</p> <p>MNIG, MLG&RD</p> <p>MLG&RD, MDJS</p> <p>MNIG, MLG7RD</p> <p>MNIG, MLG&RD</p> <p>MNIG, IMC, National Gender Commission, BIRRO, Shelters, MDJS, MLGRD, MoHW, MoBE</p>	<p>Traditional and community leaders support interventions to address GBV and violence against children</p> <p>Botswana is committed to fully domesticate CEDAW and CRC</p> <p>Botswana is committed to fully implement CEDAW and CRC</p> <p>Technical and financial capacities are in place to support initiatives from CSOs and other stakeholders</p> <p>Technical and financial capacities are in place to support initiatives from CSOs and other stakeholders/buy-in by targeted sectors</p> <p>Gender cross-sectors with GBV response plans are mainstreamed; gender-responsive budgeting is institutionalized; the Inter-Ministerial Gender-Based Violence Committee is fully operational</p>

¹⁵ The M&E framework of the National Gender Policy and the GenderLinks gender barometer.

Strategic Priority One: People	
<p>Impact</p> <p>National development priorities from NDP 11 and Vision 2036:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> health: improve access to quality health care services; Essential health service package; National Response to HIV and AIDS; Prevention of Non-Communicable Diseases; Household Food Security & Nutrition education: improve quality and relevance of education and training; Implementation of inclusive education policy social protection: provision of social safety nets and harmonization of social protection programmes; Eradication of absolute poverty 	<p>Regional frameworks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SADC Protocol on Health, SADC Protocol on Education and Training, Maseru Declaration on fighting HIV/AIDS African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child <p>SDGs and SDG targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDG 1. End poverty in all its forms: 1.3, 1.4 SDG 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture: 2.1, 2.2 SDG 3. Ensure healthy lives: 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.c, 3.d SDG 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education: 4.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7 SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and women's empowerment (Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights): 5.6 SDG 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries: 10.4

Results	National SDG Indicators/Performance Indicators	Baseline (Year)	Target (Duration of Cooperation Framework)	Source/MOV	Assumption Statement	
<p>Outcome 2</p> <p>By 2026, all people, particularly vulnerable and marginalized groups, have equitable access to quality services of education, health, nutrition and social protection</p>	SDG 1.2.1: Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by location, sex and age	16.3% (2015/16) 9.4% cities/towns 13.3% urban villages 24.2% rural areas 15.8%, 16.7% (M, F)	TBD	Multi Topic Household Survey (2015) - Statistics Botswana	Social spending is protected in an environment where budgets are generally constrained Budgets allocated are spent effectively Government, private sector and NGOs contribute to service delivery based on their comparative strengths Vulnerable and marginalized groups and civil society have capacity and space to demand services	
	SDG indicator 2.2.1: Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 years of age	22.8% (2017)	TBD	Botswana Family Health Survey, Health Statistics Report	There is effective oversight of service delivery Infrastructure that addresses population needs is in place, particularly in rural areas	
	SDG indicator 3.1.1: Maternal mortality ratio	166.3/per 100,000 live births (2019)	70 per live births (WHO)	Botswana Mortality Ratio Statistics Brief, Health Statistics Report - Statistics Botswana		
	SDG indicator 3.2.1: Under-five mortality rate	56/1000 (2017)	25/1000 (2026)	Botswana Demographic Survey		
	SDG indicator 3.3.1: Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population, by sex, age and key populations	1.35% prevalence (BAIS IV 2013)	TBD	NAHPA, MoHW, Statistics Botswana		
	NDP 11 indicator: Net enrolment rate (ECCE)	40% (2017/18)	TBD	MOBE, MLG&RD, Pre-primary Stats Brief - Statistics Botswana		
	NDP 11 indicator 2.3.2: Net enrolment rate (Primary)	96.1% (2017)	TBD	MOBE, MLG&RD, Pre-primary Stats Brief - Statistics Botswana		
	NDP 11 indicator 2.3.2: Net enrolment rate (Secondary)	70.9% (2019)	TBD	Secondary Stats Brief - Statistics Botswana		
	Output 2.1	Indicator 2.1.1: Percentage of children 12–23 months fully immunised who have received three doses of diphtheria tetanus pertussis vaccine (DTP3)	76.6% (2020)	95% (2026)	Immunisation Report - report, MoHW	Capacities are present to enable health system functionality (including health financing, human resources numbers and skills, essential health products and supplies, guidelines and Standard Operating

integrated essential health services, inclusive of HIV and non-communicable diseases	Indicator 2.1.2: Proportion of people diagnosed with HIV infection receiving ART	89% (2019)	95% (2026)	MoHW, SPECTRUM	Procedures, health systems research, use of evidence)
Output 2.2 Botswana health security systems improved to detect, prevent and respond to all hazards and emergencies and fulfil duty of safety and care to people in emergencies	Indicator 2.1.3: Percentage of breast and cervical cancers diagnosed early	34.5% (2019/2020)	60% (2026)	MoHW, Non-Communicable Diseases data	
Output 2.3 Education system strengthened to deliver inclusive, equitably accessible, quality education	Indicator 2.2.1: International Health Regulations core capacities index reported on annually ¹⁵	TBD (2021)	13 core capacities attained and sustained (2026)	International Health Regulations Assessment Report	
Output 2.4 Social protection system strengthened to provide equitable and efficient social protection	Indicator 2.2.2: Operational Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (PHEOC)	Guiding Documents available (2021)	Fully Functional Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) (2026)	MoHW	
	Indicator 2.3.1: Percentage of schools implementing holistic inclusive education policy	20% (2021)	100% (2026)	MoBE	Promote holistic implementation and design monitoring tool for tracking
	Indicator 2.3.2: Number of children supported with distance/home-based learning during emergencies, disaggregated by sex, disability, migratory status	70% (2021)	100% (2026)	MoBE, MLG&RD	Improve monitoring, provision of adequate resources and align tracking tools
	Indicator 2.4.1: The extent to which social protection systems are integrated into the life course programmes	Low (2021)	High (2026)	MLG&RD and other Ministries	Domestic resources to fund implementation of the National Social Protection Framework as demanded by National Protection Floor are made available in the government budget
	Indicator 2.4.2: Percentage of beneficiaries of social protection schemes and services, disaggregated by type of programme, territory (rural/urban), sex, age group, at-risk population	Old Age Pensioners: 126,426 Destitute persons: 40,690 Needy students: 29,999 Orphaned children: 20,809 World War II Veterans: 1,093 Community Home-Based Care patients: 1,015 (2021)	100% coverage (2026)	MLG&RD	

¹⁵Indicator definition: Percentage of attributes of 13 core capacities that have been attained at a specific point in time. - Numerator: Number of attributes attained; - Denominator: Total number of attributes (13). The 13 core capacities are: (1) National legislation, policy and financing; (2) Coordination and National Focal Point communications; (3) Surveillance; (4) Response; (5) Preparedness; (6) Risk communication; (7) Human resources; (8) Laboratory; (9) Points of Entry; (10) Zoonotic events; (11) Food safety; (12) Chemical events; (13) Radio-nuclear emergencies.

Strategic Priority Two: Planet	
<p>Impact</p> <p>National development priorities from NDP 11 and Vision 2036:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> environmental health sustainable management of natural and cultural resources climate change adaptation and mitigation sustainable human settlements 	<p>Regional frameworks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SADC Protocol on Wildlife Conservation and Law Enforcement, SADC Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security, Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) <p>SDGs and SDG targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4 SDG 5: Equal rights to economic resources (access to ownership and control over land and other properties, inheritance and natural resources: 5.A SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all: 6.1, 6.2, 6.4, 6.6, 6.b SDG 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all: 7.1, 7.2 SDG 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change: 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.b SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, etc.: 15.1, 15.4, 15.5, 15.7, 15.a, 15.c

Results	National SDG Indicators/Performance Indicators	Baseline (Year)	Target (Duration of Cooperation Framework)	Source/MOV	Assumption Statement	
<p>Outcome 3</p> <p>By 2026, Botswana sustainably uses and actively manages its diverse natural resources, improves food security and effectively addresses climate change vulnerability</p>	SDG Indicator 2.1.2: Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, by age, sex and location, based on Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)	50.8% Moderate to Severe (2018/9 - Q3) 22.2% Severe (2018/9 - Q3)	TBD	FIES Report – Statistics Botswana	Green/climate finance available Government creates space for civil society and private sector to partner with Government	
	NDP 11 indicator: Percentage contribution of renewable energy to total energy consumption	0.7% (2016)	TBD	Energy Bulletin, MMGE		
	NDP 11 indicator: Area of land under rehabilitation	627 ha (2016/17)	TBD	TBD	Land Degradation Rehabilitation reports, MoA	
	NDP 11 indicator: percentage of population with access to improved sanitation disaggregated by location	Total: 89.2% Cities/towns: 99.7% Urban villages: 98.1% Rural villages: 71.3% (2017)	TBD	TBD	Botswana Demographic Survey, Statistics Botswana	
	SDG indicator 15.5.1: Number of species on IUCN Red List of Threatened Species	35 (2020) 11 mammals 18 Birds 1 Reptile 2 fishes 3 plants	TBD	TBD	IUCN 2020	

	SDG indicator 13.1.2: Level of emissions from greenhouse gases	81307 Gg of CO2 eq 2014: 5,721.90Gg of CO2 eq 2015: 6,714.08 Gg of CO2 eq	TBD	Botswana National Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Report 2014/15 – National Committee on Climate Change	
Output 3.1 Food systems strengthened to improve food and nutrition security, particularly for vulnerable and marginalized groups	Indicator 3.1.1: Reduction rate of post-harvest losses for (at least) the five national priority commodities.	7.8% for maize and sorghum (2016)	10% (2026)	MoA Plant Protection Reports	Farmers adopt good agricultural practices
Output 3.2 Increased access to sustainable, renewable, clean and affordable energy for all, and especially for vulnerable and marginalised groups	Indicator 3.1.2: Share of agriculture land under sustainable management practices	29.59% (2017/18)	60% (2026)	MoA (Land-use Report)	Farmers adopt good agricultural practices
Output 3.3 Improved capacities of communities, private sector and government to use and manage land, water and animal resources more equitably, peacefully, and sustainably	Indicator 3.2.1: Percentage of households, disaggregated by sex and location adopting and using renewable energy technologies	<10% (2021)	off grid >50% on grid >30% (2026)	MMGE	Technology for renewable sources is available and affordable Government prioritises renewable energy through legislation, policy frameworks and strategies
	Indicator 3.3.1: Change in water-use efficiency over time for crop and livestock production	40% (2018)	80% (2026)	AquaStat – Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)	Farmers adopt good agricultural practices
	Indicator 3.3.2: Percentage of treated wastewater utilised for crops and livestock	4.7% (2016/17)	70% (2026)	MLWS	Farmers adopt good agricultural practices
	Indicator 3.3.3: Percentage of population reached with critical WASH supplies	Urban: 83.1% have access safely managed water Rural: 79% have access to at least basic water supply Urban: 94.1% have access to at least basic sanitation Rural: 52.4% have access to at least basic sanitation, 31.5% use open defecation.	TBD	MLWS	
Output 3.4 Capacities of government are strengthened to actively manage climate change adaptation and mitigation through policies, guidance and investments that regulate practices of government, private sector and individuals	Indicator 3.4.1: Existence of a functional and integrated national climate information and disaster early warning system	No (2021)	Yes (2026)	MENRCT	Government approves the National Climate Change Policy and Strategy and implements key actions of the implementation plan.
	Indicator 3.4.2: Proportion of farmers disaggregated by sex, implementing climate smart agricultural principles and practice in non-irrigated crop production.	<20% (2021)	50% (2026)	MoA, Botswana Institute for Technology Research and Innovation	

Strategic Priority Three: Prosperity	
Impact	<p>Regional frameworks: AU Agenda 2063; SADC Vision 2050; RISDP 2020 – 2030, African Continental Free Trade Area</p> <p>National development priorities from NDP 11 and Vision 2036:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> develop diversified sources for economic growth employment creation conducive environment for domestic and foreign investment regulatory framework for doing business infrastructure productive human resources Information Technology and Communication <p>SDGs and SDG targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.b SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls: 5.a, 5.b SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all: 8.2, 8.3, 8.5, 8.6, 8.8 SDG 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation: 9.2, 9.3 SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries: 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4

Results	National SDG Indicators/Performance Indicators	Baseline (Year)	Target (Duration of Cooperation Framework)	Source/MOV	Assumption Statement
<p>Outcome 4</p> <p>By 2026, Botswana has strengthened resilience to shocks and emergencies, and is on a sustainable, equitable economic trajectory, reducing levels of inequality, poverty and unemployment</p>	SDG 8.5.2: Unemployment rate by sex, residence and persons with disabilities	Cities & Towns 9.4%, Urban Villages 55.8%, Rural 26.4%; Male 31.2%, Female 30.4%; PWD 30.7% (2020)	TBD	Multi-Topic Household Survey, Statistics Botswana	Institutions which are mandated to implement strategies and deliver projects take timely and high-quality actions towards delivery
	SDG 8.6.1 Proportion of youth (aged 15–24 years and by sex) not in education, employment or training (NEET)	36.5%; 34.2%M, 38.8F (2020)	TBD	Multi-Topic Household Survey, Statistics Botswana	The economic growth rate is optimal for realization of the outputs
	SDG 10.4.1: Labour share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers	29.7% (2019)	TBD	MELS, National Accounts, Statistics Botswana	Continuity of essential/ basic social services is sustained throughout emergencies
	Indicator: Gini coefficient	52.2% (2015/16)	TBD	Multi-Topic Household Survey, Statistics Botswana	Government creates space for civil society and private sector to dialogue and partner with Government
<p>Output 4.1</p> <p>Economic policies improved to enable a job-rich green recovery from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic</p>	SDG indicator 8.3.1 - Proportion of informal employment in total employment by sex and sector (%)	47.2%; 47.3%M, 47%F (2020)	TBD	Multi-Topic Household Survey, Statistics Botswana	
	Indicator 4.1.1: Whether the country adopts fiscal, monetary and legislative stimulus packages for COVID-19 economic response and recovery that are climate and environmentally sensitive, gender and youth responsive	No (2021)	Yes (2026)		
	Indicator 4.1.2: Percentage currently employed by industry/economic activity by sex	Agriculture – 12.1%M; 4.3%F Wholesale Trade – 16.7%M; 23.5%F	TBD	Multi-Topic Household Survey, Statistics Botswana	Recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic leads to a boost in employment

<p>Output 4.2 Improved and strengthened existing framework/s and business climate for attracting investment, fostering innovation, supporting the informal sector and boosting private sector engagement</p>	<p>Indicator 4.2.1: 'Starting Business Rank' indicator. Tracks procedures, time, cost and paid-in minimum capital to start a limited liability company</p>	<p>Construction – 13.6%M; 0.8F Public Admin & Defence – 14.6%M; 21.7%F (QMTS 2020)</p>	TBD	<p>MITI, Citizen Entrepreneurial Development Agency, Local Enterprise Authority, Botswana Investment and Trade Centre</p>	<p>Government continues to simplify procedures improving business climate and crowding in private investment</p>
	<p>Indicator 4.2.2: Global Innovation Index (GI WIPO): Ranks world economies according to their innovation capabilities</p>	<p>89 out of 133 countries (GII 2020)</p>	TBD	<p>Botswana Innovation Hub, University of Botswana, Botswana International University Of Science And Technology, MoPAGPA</p>	<p>Given their focus on innovation, knowledge economy and digitization, United Nations and Government interventions boost Botswana's ranking over the course of the Cooperation Framework time horizon</p>
<p>Output 4.3 Botswana shifts toward a more resilient and equitable growth model that ensures economic rights and creates jobs and other economic opportunities, particularly for women and youth</p>	<p>Indicator 4.3.1: Labour force participation rate for males and females</p>	<p>64.6%M; 56.1%F (2020 Q4 MTHS)</p>	TBD	<p>Statistics Botswana: Quarterly Multi-Topic Survey Indicators; MELS; MITI,</p>	<p>Labour force participation rate gauges the level of engagement of the working population with the labour market (i.e. to what extent is the labour market inclusive of its working population)</p>
	<p>Indicator 4.3.2: Discouraged job seekers (as % of total unemployed)</p>	<p>20.7% (2020 Q4 MTHS)</p>	TBD	<p>MITI, Gender</p>	<p>United Nations and Government focus on boosting employment, such that the rate of discouraged job seekers (those who have not found employment over a longer time horizon) are able to be gainfully employed</p>

Strategic Priority Four: Peace and Partnerships	
<p>Impact</p> <p>National development priorities from NDP 11 and Vision 2036</p> <p>Improving participatory democracy, transparency and accountability, and the rule of law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhanced citizen participation in various spheres during NDP 11 increased Government ability to provide information about government business across all sectors to encourage more effective and accountable institutions and better outcomes for citizens improved productivity through public sector reforms respect ensured for rule of law protect and promote human rights combat corruption 	<p>Regional frameworks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SADC Protocol on Corruption, Charter on Fundamental Social Rights in SADC. African Charter on Human and People's Rights, African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption <p>SDGs and SDG targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels: 16.2, 16.3, 16.4, 16.5, 16.6, 16.7, 16.10, 16.b SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development: 17.18.2

Results	National SDG Indicators/Performance Indicators	Baseline (Year)	Target (Duration of Cooperation Framework)	Source/MOV	Assumption Statement
<p>Outcome 5</p> <p>By 2026, Botswana is a just society, where leaders are accountable, transparent and responsive, corruption is reduced, and people are empowered to access information, services and opportunities and participate in decisions that affect their lives and livelihoods</p>	SDG 17.18.2: National statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	Yes – Statistics Act 2009	Act reviewed by 2026	Statistics Botswana	
	NDP 11 indicator: Corruption Perception Index	Score 60/110 and rank 35/180 (2020)	TBD	CPI, Transparency International	
<p>Output 5.1</p> <p>Improved access to justice, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised groups</p>	Indicator: Score in EIU Democracy Index	Overall score 7.62, rank 33 out of 167 countries (2020)	TBD	Economic Intelligence Unit Democracy Index Report	
	Indicator 5.1.1: Percentage increase of indigent people (disaggregated by men and women) benefiting from legal aid services (including GBV cases)	TBD (2021)	50% (2026)	Legal Aid Botswana.	The justice system (police, courts, prisons) carry out functions based on rule of law and respect for human rights
<p>Output 5.2</p> <p>Improved efficiency, resilience and accountability of government systems</p>	Indicator 5.1.2: Number of customary courts capacitated to deliver fair and uniform sentences for offences committed (including GBV cases)	0 (2021)	520 (2026)	Administration of Justice, MLG&RD	National Human Rights Institutions have sufficient capacity and resources to carry out their functions
	Indicator 5.2.1: Number of new platforms/mechanisms, at national and sub-national level, created to enable the population to express their voice freely and confidently, and to hold government and duty bearers accountable	0 (2021)	3 (2026)	MIAC, MLG&RD, BOCONGO, NGO Council, Botswana Government Communications and Information System	Effective oversight of government institutions is carried out by Supreme Audit Institutions and other oversight bodies
	Indicator 5.2.2: SDG progress reports submitted by type	2 Voluntary National Review (2017) & 2019 SDG Progress Report	3 (2026)	MoFED, BIDPA Report – MoPAGPA	
	Indicator 5.2.3: Number of additional anti-corruption measures for improved transparency and accountability implemented	2 (2021): Corruption and Economic Crime Act (CECA, 1994);	4 (2026):	DCEC, Parliamentary Oversight Committees	

Output 5.3 Increased availability and use of high-quality, disaggregated data by a more diverse range of stakeholders	Indicator 5.3.1: Number of national SDG indicators for which data are available	Whistleblowing Act (2016).	Revised CECA, Revised Whistleblowing Act	Citizens/communities are interested and have the capacity and capability to contribute to monitoring processes	
		Baselines for 55 out of 158 (34.8%) measurable indicators (2018)	TBD		Botswana Domesticated SDG Statistics Report - Statistics Botswana
		41 of 158 (26%) indicators disaggregated by sex (2018)	TBD		Botswana Domesticated SDG Statistics Report - Statistics Botswana
Output 5.4 Existing partnerships strengthened, and new and innovative partnerships built to accelerate progress towards the SDGs	Indicator 5.3.2: Number of national SDG indicators for which data are disaggregated at least for sex and disability, and other variables (e.g., migratory status) as may be relevant	0% (2021)	100% (2026)	BOCONGO, NGO Council	
	Indicator 5.3.3: Percentage of civil society organizations that are members of BOCONGO and NGO Council network capacitated to collect and analyse data for monitoring the Cooperation Framework	1 (2021)	3 (2026)	MFED, MIAC	
	Indicator 5.4.1: Number of South-to-South cooperative agreements to support SDGs	0 (2021)	5 (2026)	MFED	
	Indicator 5.4.2: Number of Formal commitments to SDG action (in an MOU or other agreement)	No (2021)	Yes (2026)	Statistics Botswana, University of Botswana	
	Indicator 5.4.3: Strengthened coherence and synergy on quality data production, dissemination in Botswana in collaboration with intergovernmental bodies, regional institutions, private sector, academia, and civil society among others.			All partners participate on an equal footing, and contribute according to their comparative strengths	

¹⁷ Corruption and Economic Crime Act (1994), Whistleblowing Act (2016).

¹⁸ Revised CECA, Revised Whistleblowing Act.

Annex 3

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan

Description of Activities	Data Collection Frequency	Use of Information	Responsible Results Groups	Lead UN Agencies	Timeline					
					Duration	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Monitoring										
United Nations Joint Monitoring missions – contribute to the strengthening of national data and information systems	Quarterly	To track development interventions; implementation progress; evidence-based reporting, knowledge management	MEL	UNCT	5 years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Support to national surveys especially for availability of disaggregated SDG indicators (e.g. on environment, health, education, nutrition, population, poverty)	Annually	To track development interventions; implementation progress; evidence-based reporting, knowledge management	MEL	UNCT	5 years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Support to development of Institutional Results-Based Monitoring and Evaluation Systems (frameworks, tools and processes)	Annually	To track development interventions; implementation progress; evidence-based reporting, knowledge management	MEL	UNCT	5 years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Collection and analysis of monitoring data against each Cooperation Framework outcome/output indicators by Results Group	Biannually	To track development interventions; implementation progress; evidence based reporting, knowledge management	Results Groups	Results Group chairs	5 years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Review and draft annual monitoring report of the UNCT Gender Scorecard	Annually	To track implementation of the Gender Scorecard Action Plan	Joint Gender Theme and MEL	Joint Gender Theme and Results Group lead	4 years	End 2022	End 2023	End 2024	End 2025	
Review and update MEL Plan regularly during implementation, providing direction, overview and diagnostics	Annually	To ensure the relevance and utility of selected indicators	MEL	MEL chair	4 years		2023	2024	2025	2026

Description of Activities	Data Collection Frequency	Use of Information	Responsible Results Groups	Lead UN Agencies	Timeline					
					Duration	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Review and Reporting										
Thematic studies/reviews and publications as relevant	Annually	Periodic "horizon scanning" or trend analysis	MEL	MEL lead	5 years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
UN INFO data updated for all reporting requirements by reporting agencies	Monthly, quarterly and annually	To show progress made against key indicators	MEL	RCO	5 years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Results Groups review of progress towards outputs and outcomes	Quarterly	To show progress made against the key indicators	MEL	MEL lead	5 years	Nov 2022	Nov 2023	Nov 2024	Nov 2025	Nov 2026
Revisit the UNCT configuration	Annually	To ensure regular updates in capacities based on the country situation	UNCT	RCO		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Joint National–United Nations Steering Committee (JNUJSC) Annual Performance Review	Annually	To ensure progress tracking, effectiveness of interventions and accountability for results	JNUJSC	RCO		Q4 2022	Q4 2023	Q4 2024	Q4 2025	Q4 2026
Preparation of UNCT Results Report	Annually	Reflect the totality of results achieved by development system entities in supporting the government to advance progress towards the 2030 Agenda	MEL	UNCT	5 years	Mar 2022	Mar 2023	Mar 2024	Mar 2025	Mar 2026
UNCT and Results Groups meet to review status of implementation of Cooperation Framework results	Mid-year and end-of-year (before JNUJSC meeting)	Informs Annual Joint Work Plans	UNCT and Results Groups	RCO	Twice yearly	Jun & Nov 2022	Jun & Nov 2023	Jun & Nov 2024	Jun & Nov 2025	Jun & Nov 2026
Provide support to annual Voluntary National Review process towards SDGs	Annually	Informs country progress towards achieving SDGs	MEL		5 years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Support Statistics Botswana in identification of groups left behind in the national statistical system especially in data collection, analysis and dissemination of national surveys	Annually	To ensure up-to-date data gathering and inform evidence-based development planning	MEL	MEL lead		2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Support Government processes to develop next National Development Plan (NDP 12) and its Monitoring Framework	Annually	Contributes towards tracking progress, achievement of National M&E System KPIs and setting new performance parameters for national development	MEL	MEL lead	2 years		2023	2024		

Description of Activities	Data Collection Frequency	Use of Information	Responsible Results Groups	Lead UN Agencies	Timeline				
					Duration	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Evaluation									
Conduct Evaluability and Learning Assessment of the Cooperation Framework	One-off	Ensures that the measurement of progress towards Cooperation Framework results is possible, and final evaluations can generate robust evidence on results and learning to feed into the next programme cycle	MEL	RCO	Quarter	Q3 2022			
Conduct evaluation of Joint Programmes	Programme completion phase	To ensure progress tracking, effectiveness of interventions and accountability for results	Results Groups and Thematic Advisory Groups	MEL					
Country Program evaluations of United Nations entities	Mid-point and programme completion phase	To ensure progress tracking, effectiveness of interventions and accountability for results	MEL	UNCT					
Independent evaluation of Cooperation Framework	One-off	Ensures accountability of the development system for its collective contribution to Botswana's SDG achievement	JNUSC	MEL, RCO				Q4 2025	
Update Common Country Analysis (CCA)	Annually	For vulnerability mapping, disaster risk assessment and early warning systems as well as to map where data gaps remain or quality issues such as disaggregation and reliability exist.	MEL	RCO		Apr 2022	Apr 2023	Apr 2024	Apr 2025
Conduct CCA to inform the new Cooperation Framework process	Last year of Cooperation Framework	The foundation for the design of the United Nations programmatic response through the Cooperation Framework	UNCT	RCO					Jan 2026

Description of Activities	Data Collection Frequency	Use of Information	Responsible Results Groups	Lead UN Agencies	Timeline					
					Duration	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Learning										
Identify regular learning opportunities or course correction as the Cooperation Framework is implemented	Annually	Informs the MEL Plan Review. Ensures the MEL group has adequate capacities and skills to be responsive and perform their functions efficiently and effectively	UNCT	RCO	5 years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Facilitate combined technical training and refreshers for MEL Group for all guiding principles including gender/human rights-responsive/disability-inclusive monitoring of the Cooperation Framework	Annually	Ensures data needed to report on Cooperation Framework indicators, related to the guiding principles, are actually gathered as planned and progress against these indicators is assessed	UNCT	UNCT						
Document and collectively analyse lessons emerging throughout programme cycle	Annually	For tracking progress made, utilizing lessons for annual planning, collecting data to be used for Cooperation Framework evaluations	MEL	UNCT	5 years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Establish a learning mechanism for making emerging lessons available across the United Nations	Annually	To document lessons utilized for evidence-based decision-making, design, programming and reporting	MEL	UNCT	5 years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Facilitate south-to-south cooperation for capacity development in Government, CSOs, private sector, youth and disability groups etc.	Annually	Development cooperation – United Nations as a convener for effective and efficient collaboration	Results Group 5	UNCT	5 years	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026

Annex 4
Legal Annex



This Legal Annex refers to the cooperation or assistance agreements or other agreements that are the already existing legal basis for the relationship between the Government of Botswana and each United Nations organization supporting the country to deliver on the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2022 to 2026).

Whereas the Government of Botswana (hereinafter referred to as “the Government”) has entered into the following relationships:

- a. With the United Nations Development Programme (hereinafter referred to as UNDP)** a basic agreement to govern UNDP’s assistance to the country (Standard Basic Assistance Agreement, or SBAA), signed by both parties on the 14th May 1975. Based on Article I, paragraph 2 of the SBAA, UNDP’s assistance to the Government shall be made available to the Government and shall be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions and decisions of the competent UNDP organs, and subject to the availability of the necessary funds to the UNDP. In particular decision 2005/1 of 28 January 2005 of UNDP’s Executive Board approved the new Financial Regulations and Rules and along with them the new definitions of “execution” and “implementation” enabling UNDP to fully implement the new Common Country Programme Procedures resulting from the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) simplification and harmonization initiative. In light of this decision, this UNSDCF together with an Annual Work Plan (which shall form part of this UNSDCF and is incorporated herein by reference) concluded hereunder constitute together the project document as referred to in the SBAA [or other appropriate governing agreement].
- b. With the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)**, a Basic Cooperation Agreement (BCA) concluded between the Government and UNICEF in 1968 and revised on 21st March 1994. The five-year new country programme document for 2022–2026 was approved by the UNICEF Executive Board on 8 September 2021.
- c. With the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**, operations are undertaken through tripartite agreements between the Implementing partners and Ministry of Defence, Justice and Security as a third signatory.
- d. With the World Food Programme (WFP)**, a Basic Agreement concerning assistance from WFP, which Agreement was signed by the Government and WFP on 15 July 1968.
- e. With regard to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)**, a letter from the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation dated 29th April 1997 to the effect that the SBAA signed by UNDP and the Government on 14th May 1975 be applied, mutatis mutandis, to UNFPA.
- f. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization’s (UNIDO)’s** assistance in Botswana is governed under the UNDP SBAA.
- g. With the Food and Agriculture Organization** of the United Nations by signing 5th March 2020 through an exchange of letters a new Host Country Agreement for the establishment of the fully-fledged FAO Representation in Botswana. The agreement supersedes the previous agreement signed in 1987 on the FAO operations in Botswana being done through a multi accredited FAO Representative based in the FAO Sub-Regional Office for Southern Africa/FAO Representation in Zimbabwe.
- h. With the International Organization for Migration (IOM)**, the Host Agreement was signed by the Government of Botswana and IOM on 7th February 2018.
- i. With the United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (OHCHR)**, OHCHR’s assistance in Botswana is governed under the UNDP SBAA.



j. With the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of Botswana and UNESCO which was signed in November 1988.

k. With the World Health Organization (WHO), a Basic Cooperation Agreement was signed on 17th June 1975.

l. United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) signed a MoU on 15th October 2008 with UNDP establishing UNEP in-country operations, through the UNDP basic agreement modalities.

m. UN Women's assistance in Botswana is governed under the UNDP SBAA.

n. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)'s assistance in Botswana is governed under the UNDP SBAA.

o. The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)'s operations governed under the UNDP SBAA.

For all agencies: Assistance to the Government shall be made available and shall be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions and decisions of the competent United Nations agency's governing structures.

The Cooperation Framework will, in respect of each of the United Nations agencies signing, be read, interpreted and implemented in accordance with and in a manner, that is consistent with the basic agreement between such United Nations agency and the Host Government.

The Government will honour its commitments in accordance with the provisions of the cooperation and assistance agreements outlined in paragraph on the Basis of the Relationship.

Without prejudice to these agreements, the Government shall apply the respective provisions of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations (the "General Convention") or the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the specialized Agencies (the "Specialized Agencies Convention") to the Agencies'

property, funds, and assets and to their officials and experts on mission. The Government shall also accord to the Agencies and their officials and to other persons performing services on behalf of the Agencies, the privileges, immunities and facilities as set out in the cooperation and assistance agreements between the Agencies and the Government. In addition, it is understood that all United Nations Volunteers shall be assimilated to officials of the Agencies, entitled to the privileges and immunities accorded to such officials under the General Convention or the Specialized Agencies Convention. The Government will be responsible for dealing with any claims, which may be brought by third parties against any of the Agencies and their officials, experts on mission or other persons performing services on their behalf and shall hold them harmless in respect of any claims and liabilities resulting from operations under the cooperation and assistance agreements, except where it is mutually agreed by Government and a particular Agency that such claims and liabilities arise from gross negligence or misconduct of that Agency, or its officials, advisors or persons performing services.

Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Government shall insure or indemnify the Agencies from civil liability under the law of the country in respect of vehicles provided by the Agencies but under the control of or use by the Government.

(a) "Nothing in this Agreement shall imply a waiver by the United Nations or any of its agencies or Organizations of any privileges or immunities enjoyed by them or their acceptance of the jurisdiction of the courts of any country over disputes arising of this Agreement".

(b) Nothing in or relating to this document will be deemed a waiver, expressed or implied, of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations and its subsidiary organs, including WFP, whether under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13th February 1946, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21st November 1947, as applicable, and no provisions of this document or any Institutional Contract or any Undertaking will be interpreted or applied in a manner, or to an extent, inconsistent with such privileges and immunities.

Annex 5
Glossary

1951 Refugee Convention (also known as the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees or the Geneva Convention of 28 July, 1951) is a United Nations multi-lateral treaty and a key legal document that forms the basis of the United Nations work. It defines the term 'refugee' and outlines their rights.

2030: Agenda for Sustainable Development is the United Nations plan of action for people planet and prosperity and seeks to strengthen universal peace. It describes the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets.

Addis Ababa Action Agenda is a comprehensive set of policy actions by Member States, with a package of over 100 concrete measures to finance sustainable development, transform the global economy and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights is a human rights instrument which emerged under the aegis of the Organization of African Unity in 1979.

The African Union consists of the 55 member states that make up the countries of the African continent. It was officially launched in 2002.

African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption was adopted in 2003 and as of 2020 had been ratified by 43 states and signed by 49.

Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want is Africa's blueprint and master plan for transforming Africa by providing a strategic framework which aims to deliver inclusive and sustainable development. It was adopted in 2015.

Basarwa are a marginalized minority indigenous group in Botswana. Basarwa are also known as bushmen, or, sometimes, the San.

Botswana Vision 2036: Achieving Prosperity for All is a Government of Botswana agenda that aims to transform Botswana from an upper-middle-income country to a high-income country by 2036.

CEDAW is an international treaty adopted in 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly.

CEDAW Committee consists of 23 independent experts on women's rights from around the world.

Customary courts deal with approximately 80 per cent of justice issues in Botswana.

Dikgosi are traditional chiefs or community leaders in Botswana.

Dukwi Refugee Camp was established in 1978. It occupies 20 square km and has approximately 1,500 inhabitants from over 10 countries.

Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan was devised by the Government of Botswana to support economic growth in the wake of COVID-19.

Global AIDS Strategy 2021–2026, devised by the United Nations, sets out actions and targets to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

Global Health Security Agenda is a group of more than 70 countries, with members from international organizations, NGOs and the private sector, with a vision of a world safe from global health threats posed by infectious diseases.

International Health Regulations (2015), produced by WHO, is an overarching legal framework which defines countries' rights and obligations in handling public health events and emergencies.

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is a multilateral treaty adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 16 December 1966 and is part of the International Bill of Human Rights.

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrants Workers and Members of their Families is a United Nations multilateral treaty protecting migrant workers and their families. As of August 2021, it was applied in 56 countries.

International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance is an international human rights instrument of the United Nations. As of February 2022, 98 states had signed the convention and 67 had ratified it.

Integrated National Financing Frameworks provide a framework for financial national sustainable development and the SDGs.

Ipelegeng is a public works programme launched in 2008 as one, among a myriad initiatives meant to reduce poverty for sustainable development in marginalized contexts.

Joint SDG Fund Group is a team of United Nations agencies, the Resident Coordinator and partners and over 100 countries, implementing joint programmes at country level and strategic funding.

National Social Protection Framework (2020) is an Action Plan developed to assist the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and its United Nations partners, to develop a National Social Protection Recovery Plan (NSPRP), to build back better after the challenges posed by the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The Plan was developed in close cooperation with MLGRD, in consultation with the University of Botswana and the Ministry for Presidential Affairs, Governance and Public Administration, and was supported and technically led by UNDP in partnership with UNICEF, ILO, FAO, UNFPA, RCO and the World Bank.

One Health is an approach to designing and implementing programmes, policies, legislation and research in which multiple sectors communicate and work together to achieve better public health outcomes.

Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 Parties at COP 21 in Paris, on 12 December, 2015 and entered into force on 4 November, 2016.

Socio-Economic Response Plan is the United Nations response focused on supporting the COVID-19 national response effort, especially where gaps existed, and where support was needed.

Tswana are an ethnic group native to Southern Africa. They make up around 85 per cent of the population of Botswana.

Universal Periodic Review of the United Nations Human Rights Council is a periodic review of the human rights records of all 193 United Nations Member States.



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