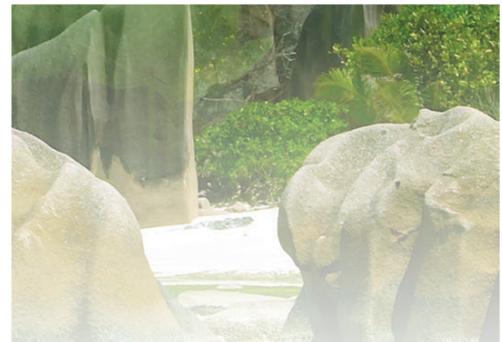
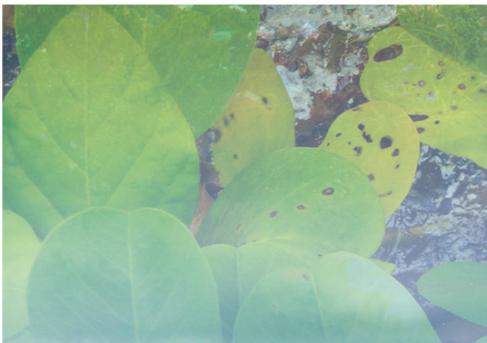




**Government of the Republic of Seychelles  
& The United Nations  
Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF)**

**2019 - 2023**

**‘Securing Human Development for Generations’**



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**UNITED NATIONS SEYCHELLES**

Office of the UN Resident Coordinator

## Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	I
Foreword.....	II
Acronyms.....	III
Signature of the SPF .....	IV
Executive Summary .....	V
1. Introduction.....	1
1.1 The Seychelles Development Context.....	1
1.2 The Seychelles National Development Vision.....	4
1.3 Development of the Strategic Partnership Framework .....	5
2.The Strategic Results Areas: Strategic Partnership Framework: 2019-2023 .....	7
2.1 Strategic Priority Area One: Economic Transformation .....	7
Outcome 1 – The Blue Economy.....	8
Outcome 2 – Agriculture. Livelihoods. Food and Nutrition Security .....	13
2.2 Strategic Priority Area Two: Environmental Sustainability and Resilience .....	19
Outcome 3 – Environmental Sustainability, Climate Change Mitigation and Resilience.....	19
A Environmental Sustainability .....	19
B Sustainable Energy .....	23
C Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Building.....	25
2.3 Strategic Priority Area Three: Human Capital Development and Quality of Life.....	29
Outcome 4 – Human Capital Development and Quality of Life .....	29
A Communicable, Non-Communicable Diseases and Risks to Quality of Life.....	29
B Health Systems Strengthening .....	31
C Harnessing the demographic dividend.....	32
D Gender Equality, Women’s Empowerment, Social Development and Human Rights .....	33
2.4 Strategic Priority Area Four: Data Development, Science, Technology and Innovation .....	38
Outcome 5 – Data Development, Science, Technology and Innovation .....	38
A. Data for Development.....	38
B. Science, Technology and Innovation.....	39
3. The SPF Theory of Change Summary Matrix .....	42
4. Management and Accountability .....	51
5. Monitoring and Evaluation.....	52
6. Resources and Resource Mobilisation.....	52
7. Communication for Results .....	54
Annex 1: Legal Annex to Seychelles Strategic Partnership Framework .....	55
Annex 2: Results and Resources Framework: GoRS-UN Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF):2019-2023	56
Annex 3: Indicative Resources by UN Agency: Core-Regular/Other Resources: SPF 2019-2023.....	81

## Foreword

This Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) 2019-2023 outlines the nature and scope of the cooperation agreement between the Government of the Republic of Seychelles (GoRS) and the United Nations system. It summarises joint collaboration in four strategic areas of work drawn from the draft National Development Strategy (NDS): (1) Enhancing opportunities for sustainable utilisation of the blue economy, industrialization and agriculture development, (2) Environmental sustainability, resilience and disaster risk management, (3) strengthening human capital development through quality health care, education and promoting quality of life, and (4) promoting science, technology, innovation and data development to facilitate socio-economic development. Under each of these strategic areas of work, crosscutting areas address specificities in Governance, Gender Equality and Human Rights. The SPF is guided by the principle of Delivering as One to support national development aspirations.

The SPF 2019-2023 is the first United Nations System and Government of the Republic of Seychelles cooperation framework. Though the country has encouraged the UN Delivering as One (since 2013), agencies have been implementing individual country programme documents. The current UN Reform calls for a more coordinated approach among the UN Country teams to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals; therefore, a joint framework of cooperation between the UNCT and the Government of the Republic of Seychelles is timely.

The formulation of the SPF is a culmination of a participatory consultative process, anchored on the principles of; leaving no one behind; underpinned by a human rights-based approach to programming; gender equality and women's empowerment; capacity development; sustainability and resilience; as well as promotion of innovation and evidence-based policy making. Seychelles seeks to further strengthen capacity, stimulate and sustain growth to realise its 2032 development vision. To this extent, through this SPF, and in line with the NDS, for the next five years, the UN System commits to collaborate with, and support the Government of the Republic of Seychelles to sustain and build on the gains made to achieve its goal of a prosperous, dynamic, just, healthy and resilient nation, as well as lay firm ground for the attainment of the 2030 SDGs, the AU Agenda 2063, the SAMOA Pathway and other international and regional commitments. As a high-income country, the SPF cooperation agreement envisages Government contribution and cost sharing plus collaboration with various partners to achieve the desired results.

Against this background, the Government of the Republic of Seychelles and UN System pledge their commitment to working together in the spirit of partnership and mutual accountability to implement and deliver on the SPF results as a contribution towards the achievement of national development endeavours and securing sustainable human development for generations.



**H.E. Ambassador Barry Faure**  
Secretary of State and Executive Head in the  
Department of Foreign Affairs  
For the Government of the Republic of Seychelles



**Ms Christine N. Umutoni**  
UN Resident Coordinator

## Acronyms

CPD	Country Programme Document
DAO	Delivering as One
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
HDI	Human Development Index
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
IOM	International Organization for Migration
ITC	International Trade Centre
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MIC	Middle Income Country
NDS	National Development Strategy
NRA	Non-Resident Agency
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
REFLECS3	Regional Fusion and Law Enforcement Centre for Safety and Security at Sea
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPF	Strategic Partnership Framework
SSDS	Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNS	United Nations System
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UN WTO	United Nations World Tourism Organisation
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
WHO	World Health Organisation
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organisation
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation
WTO	World Tourism Organisation

## Signature of the SPF

IN WITNESS THEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized, have signed this Government of the Republic of Seychelles - UN Strategic Partnership Framework 2019-2023 on this 30<sup>th</sup> day of August 2018, in Victoria, Seychelles.

.....  
**Ms. Christine N. Umutoni**  
 UNDP Resident Representative

.....  
**Mr. Jude Padayachy**  
 UNAIDS Country Director

.....  
**Mr. Serge Bounda**  
 UNFPA Country Director

.....  
**Mr. Charles Kwenin**  
 IOM Regional Director for Southern Africa

.....  
**Ms. Leila Pakkala**  
 UNICEF Regional Director

.....  
**Mr. Amado Philip de Andres**  
 UNODC Regional Representative

.....  
**Ms. Ann Therese Ndong-Jatta**  
 UNESCO Regional Representative

.....  
**Ms. Juliette Biao**  
 UN Environment Regional Representative

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**Mr. Naison Mutizwa-Mangiza**  
 UN-Habitat Regional Director

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**Mr. Zhu Shanzhong**  
 WTO Executive Director

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**Ms. Severine Deboos**  
 ILO Representative a.i.

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**Mr. Shaukat Abdulrazak**  
 IAEA Director, Africa Division

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**Ms. Izeduwa Derex-Briggs**  
 UN Women Regional Programme Director

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**Mr. Mahamane Cisse-Gouro**  
 OHCHR Chief, Africa Branch

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**Mr. Patrice Talla Takoukam**  
 FAO Representative

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**Mr. Emmanuel Kalenzi**  
 UNIDO Representative

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**Ms. Teniin Gakuruh**  
 WHO Liaison Officer a.i.

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**Mr. Ibrahima Bamba**  
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**Ms. Christine N. Umutoni**  
 United Nations Resident Coordinator

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**H.E. Ambassador Barry Faure**  
 Secretary of State and Executive Head  
 Department of Foreign Affairs



## Executive Summary

Seychelles has experienced rapid economic growth and attained high-income status in 2015<sup>1</sup>. It is mainly a service driven economy with services representing 75% of GDP. Tourism and fisheries have predominantly been the largest contributors to the country's economic development. They contributed significantly, not only to real GDP growth, but also in terms of foreign exchange and employment. Tourism is the largest contributor, accounting for more than 70%<sup>2</sup> of foreign currency earnings, while the fisheries sector accounts for 8% of GDP<sup>3</sup>. As reflected by socio-economic development indicators, Seychelles has achieved high levels of development with respect to education, health, poverty eradication and environment conservation. The Central Bank estimates for the last five years (2013 – 2017) indicate an average annual growth rate of 4.8% in real GDP (GDP at constant prices was 7,357 for 2013, 7,688.4 for 2014, 8,068 for 2015, 8,431.4 for 2016 and 8,788.7 for 2017.)<sup>4</sup>

Despite commendable growth and development, due to its over-dependence on tourism and fisheries, Seychelles faces various challenges and is vulnerable to a range of internal and external economic and environmental shocks, including natural disasters. There is insufficient economic diversification to ensure sustainable growth and development, hence the need to put more thrust on the green economy and inclusive growth to protect the country's fragile natural environment. Furthermore, food insecurity, limited capital and human resources also constrain the country's ability to harness its demographic dividend and benefit from economies of scale in production. Other challenging issues relate to limited technical capacity, weak policy, legislation and regulatory frameworks, weak institutional capacity, high prevalence of non-communicable diseases including obesity, alcohol and substance abuse all creating the urgent need to strengthen the health delivery system and quality of life, as well as human rights.

To address many of these critical development issues, Seychelles needs to partner with various development partners for technical support and capacity development. The country seeks to sustain the current developmental achievements, accelerate its progress, and address issues, including disparities in incomes, social and economic opportunities within the population. Government is still working on its National Development Strategy (NDS) to be anchored on six pillars namely; 1) Governance, 2) Human Capital Development, 3) Social Cohesion, 4) Science, Technology and Innovation Development, 5) Economic Transformation, and 6) Sustainability and Resilience.

The Seychelles Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) 2019-2023, seeks to support national development aspirations as encapsulated in the draft NDS and national sectoral plans, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063 and other international commitments. Given its Small Island Developing State (SIDS) status, the SPF is further guided by the principles and commitments of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and other regional obligations such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan. The SPF also seeks to consolidate and build on the gains made by providing contextualized support, not only to enable Seychelles realise its sustainable development

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<sup>1</sup> Seychelles graduates to high-income country status according to World Bank standards.

[http://www.mfa.gov.sc/static.php?content\\_id=18&news\\_id=1071](http://www.mfa.gov.sc/static.php?content_id=18&news_id=1071)

<sup>2</sup> 2018 CIA WORLD FACTBOOK AND OTHER SOURCES; [https://theodora.com/wfbcurrent/seychelles/seychelles\\_economy.html](https://theodora.com/wfbcurrent/seychelles/seychelles_economy.html)

<sup>3</sup> National Report Republic of Seychelles, Government of Seychelles, National Preparations for the United Nations Conference for Sustainable Development, Rio 2012

<sup>4</sup> Annual Report, Central Bank of Seychelles, 2017

vision, but also in achieving the SDGs. The Seychelles SPF is the result of a series of consultations between the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and National Stakeholders and describes the United Nation's Systems' areas of collaboration with the Government for the period 2019-2023. It is a collective, coherent and integrated response by the United Nation's System aligned with the Seychelles Government's national development priorities, needs and challenges.

The SPF brings together the UN's collective support, comparative advantage and collaboration towards four broad but inter-related strategic priority areas of: 1) Economic Transformation, 2) Environmental Sustainability and Resilience, 3) Human Capital Development and quality of life, and 4) Science, Technology, Innovation and Data Development as critical SPF enablers. The SPF also includes crosscutting areas under each of these four strategic priority areas that address aspects of Governance, Gender Equality and Human Rights identified as critical elements for sustainable development in a peaceful society. The SPF strategic priority areas are all aligned to the pillars of the draft NDS. The SPF further articulates Five Outcome results areas to which the UN System will contribute. The framework also translates these results areas into a common strategic Results and Resources Framework (RRF) from which UN agencies, individually or jointly, will formulate their development interventions. UN support will be provided primarily in the form of strategic technical assistance, capacity development, policy formulation and research<sup>5</sup>.

UN support will target the following specific results areas:

- i. **Strategic Priority Area One: Economic Transformation** interventions will focus on:
  - a. **The Blue Economy:** Support is aimed at assisting the Government to establish a comprehensive Blue Economy strategy and promote the Blue Economy as a driver for wealth creation and equitable wealth distribution, still prioritizing the tourism sector. The UN seeks to strengthen institutional and legislative capacity for management and governance of the blue economy for diversified opportunities and increased utilisation of the ocean economy. In addition, advancing maritime security will be a priority to ensure a stable and secure ocean environment is achieved and maintained. Industrialization and manufacturing will also be supported among priority areas in diversification of the economy. Support is aimed at advancements in use of technology to produce goods and services, promoting entrepreneurship, development of industrial estates and enterprise centers and fostering deeper regional integration and structured migration.
  - b. **Agriculture, Livelihoods, Food and Nutrition Security:** Support will go towards enhancing local agricultural productivity, food and nutrition security, and creating sustainable livelihood opportunities, including fighting pockets of poverty and social exclusion for the vulnerable groups.

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<sup>5</sup> In case of disasters and emergencies, OCHA represented by the Regional Office for Southern and Eastern Africa (ROSEA) will support emergency response and response readiness activities that the UNCT might undertake in support of the Government.

ii. **Strategic Priority Area Two: Environmental, Resilience and Disaster Risk**

**Management** interventions will focus on:

- a. **Environmental Sustainability:** Fighting over-exploitation of natural resources and environmental degradation and ensuring efficient utilisation of natural resources and sustainable development.
- b. **Sustainable energy:** Supporting development, access and utilisation of renewable energy technologies.
- c. **Climate Change and Resilience Building:** Building national and community level response and resilience against disasters and effects of climate change.

iii. **Strategic Priority Area Three: Human Capital Development and Quality of Life,**

interventions will focus on:

- a. **Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), and Risks to Quality of life:** Reducing incidences of communicable (including HIV/AIDS) and NCDs and other health complications, especially for high risk and vulnerable populations. Promoting healthy lifestyles and fighting social ills such as alcoholism and substance abuse.
- b. **Health Systems Strengthening:** Building national capacities for health preparedness and response to emergencies and disasters. Support to strengthening the national health system by enhancing effective coordination and innovation in service delivery.
- c. **Harnessing the Demographic Dividend:** investing in young people with particular attention to the population dynamics through development of a national roadmap on harnessing the demographic dividend, addressing fertility decline, education and skills development, decent work and eradication of societal inequalities among others.
- d. **Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment, Social Development and Human Rights:** Gender equality promotion, elimination of violence against children, women and girls, protection of children's rights and enhancing access to quality education for all. This focus area will also increase human rights awareness and practices in social and economic development processes as well as support compliance with international human rights norms and standards. Human capital development will also be harnessed by supporting development and implementation of a structured framework for immigration and human mobility aimed at ensuring local availability of all necessary human capital.

iv. **Strategic Priority Area Four: SPF Critical Enablers: Science, Technology and Innovation, and Data Development** will focus on:

- a. **Data for Development:** Strengthening the National Statistical framework and systems to support evidence-based policy and planning, as well as monitoring the implementation of SDGs and national strategic plans.
- b. **Science, Technology and Innovation (STI):** Enhancing development of legislative policy frameworks, institutional capacity and structures to enhance efficient and effective use of science, technology and innovation for sustainable development.

The total indicative resources required for the implementation of the SPF 2019-2023 are estimated at USD 60 million of which USD 35 million is expected from the UN and the remainder USD 25 million will be Government cost-sharing contribution. Of the USD 35 million from the UN, USD **6,760,565** million is from Regular Resources (RR) and USD **28,239,435** will be mobilised from other sources. The estimated financial requirements translate into a combined average annual budget of USD 12 million.

Private sector, foundations and academia will also play a critical role in supporting implementation of the SPF and contributing to UN and GoRS efforts to achieve SDGs. Public-private partnership and corporate social responsibility will be key in addressing pockets of poverty and contributing to achieving the SDGs.

An overall Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework will be elaborated to support and accompany the SPF 2019-2023, providing a common tool to ensure achievement of the planned results. Both the Government of the Republic of Seychelles and the UNCT will be accountable for the implementation and results of the SPF and will adopt a cost-effective approach to delivering the planned results.

# I. Introduction

## I.1 The Seychelles Development Context

Seychelles is a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) in the western Indian Ocean with an estimated population of 95,800<sup>6</sup> and land surface area of about 500 km<sup>2</sup>. The country comprises a total of 115 islands, but most of the population lives on just three of the inner granitic islands of Mahé (home to 86% of people), and Praslin and La Digue (11% combined). Besides, Seychelles has an exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of approximately 1.37 million km<sup>2</sup>. Health and education services are free in the country, which has contributed to achieving higher levels of development, as seen in its impressive human development indicators with respect to health, education, life expectancy and low levels of poverty. Seychelles' Human Development Index (HDI) reached 0.782 in 2015, ranking 63 out of 188 in the world, and first in Africa<sup>7</sup>. However, there is indication of deterioration in the quality of health and education services with increasing number of Seychellois preferring to seek treatment outside the country and higher demand for private education compared to public.

Since independence in 1976, Seychelles experienced rapid economic growth with per capita output expanding roughly seven times compared to the pre-independence near-subsistence level, moving it into the upper-middle-income group of countries<sup>8</sup> and reaching high-income status by 2015 and a highest GDP per capita of USD 26,382<sup>9</sup> in 2017. This economic growth trend has been facilitated by prudent fiscal and monetary policies, macroeconomic stability, and comprehensive structural reforms, coupled with continued political stability<sup>10</sup>. With a GDP of USD 1.49 billion in 2017<sup>11</sup>, tourism, agriculture and fisheries are the lifeline economic sectors for Seychelles. However, the key drivers of the country's economic performance have predominantly been the tourism and fisheries industries, two sectors highly dependent on the environment and which, therefore, contribute to the country's vulnerability to environmental change and other human-induced impacts. The two sectors contribute significantly to both real GDP growth and foreign exchange. The tourism sector employs about 30% of the labour force and provides more than 70% of foreign currency earnings<sup>12</sup>, fisheries accounts for 8% of GDP<sup>13</sup>. Seychelles is mainly a service driven economy with services representing 75% of GDP. However, the Government has moved to reduce the dependence on tourism by promoting the development of farming, fishing, and small-scale manufacturing. The medium-term growth outlook is moderate with GDP having grown by 5% in 2017 and projected at around 3.3% in 2018 driven by the traditional tourism and fisheries sectors, while inflation was expected to remain in single digits in 2018<sup>14</sup>. Going forward, traditional tourism and fisheries sectors are expected to remain the main drivers of growth, along with information and communications technology (ICT).

<sup>6</sup> The Seychelles population in 2017 has been rebased using the 2010 census results. Figures were retrieved from the National Bureau of Statistics, End 2017 Population Bulletin.

<sup>7</sup> UNDP. Human Development Report 2016.

<sup>8</sup> 2018 CIA WORLD FACTBOOK AND OTHER SOURCES; [https://theodora.com/wfbcurrent/seychelles/seychelles\\_economy.html](https://theodora.com/wfbcurrent/seychelles/seychelles_economy.html)

<sup>9</sup> Retrieved from: <https://tradingeconomics.com/seychelles/gdp-per-capita-ppp>

<sup>10</sup> [www.africaneconomicoutlook.org](http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org)

<sup>11</sup> Retrieved from: <https://tradingeconomics.com/seychelles/gdp-per-capita-ppp>

<sup>12</sup> 2018 CIA WORLD FACTBOOK AND OTHER SOURCES; [https://theodora.com/wfbcurrent/seychelles/seychelles\\_economy.html](https://theodora.com/wfbcurrent/seychelles/seychelles_economy.html)

<sup>13</sup> National Report Republic of Seychelles, Government of Seychelles, National Preparations for the United Nations Conference for Sustainable Development, Rio 2012

<sup>14</sup> [www.africaneconomicoutlook.org](http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org)



*Photo from RCO Archives*

With a population today of about 95,800 inhabitants, the current Seychellois are composed largely of people who have immigrated. International migration trends are rapidly changing in Seychelles, which could have an impact on the country's socioeconomic profile. To ensure sustained economic growth, low-skilled foreign workers are often required to respond to local labour demand in key areas such as construction and tourism and related productive sectors. Administrative sources based on residence permit and border crossing records up to 2013, confirm that Seychelles has become a country of net immigration. By 1 January 2013, the total reaching 14,000 that time<sup>15</sup>.

Absolute poverty is very low with only 0.25% of the population living on USD 1.25 or less a day<sup>16</sup>. Whereas 40% is income poverty, food poverty accounts for 24% and 39.3% of the population fall under the poverty line (2013 Household Budget Survey (HBS)<sup>17</sup>. However, inequality is significant<sup>18</sup> with a Gini coefficient of 0.658 (2013)<sup>19</sup>. Overall unemployment rate is low at 4.2% in the first quarter of 2018, but youth unemployment is comparatively high with 11.3% of youth unemployed<sup>20</sup>. Seychelles faces the challenge of structural unemployment combined with a high living standard leading to recruitment of foreign workers even for unskilled jobs. Measured by new and renewed

<sup>15</sup> Migration in Seychelles, A country profile 2013, International Organization for Migration (IOM), 2014

<sup>16</sup> Seychelles 2017. African Economic Outlook ([www.africaneconomicoutlook.com](http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.com)).

<sup>17</sup> Household and Budget Survey 2013, National Bureau of Statistics

<sup>18</sup> The Republic of Seychelles Systematic Country Diagnostic: The Document of the World Bank Group, July 2017

<sup>19</sup> Background Report for the Preparation of a Social Impact Assessment Framework for Seychelles, Government of Seychelles, 2016

<sup>20</sup> Statistical Bulletin: Quarterly Unemployment Statistics 2018. National Bureau of Statistics, Seychelles

Gainful Occupation Permits, the number of foreign workers rose to 16,792 in 2016, an approximate doubling since 2014, and account for about a quarter of the Seychelles' total workforce, fuelling mostly the construction and tourism sectors<sup>21</sup>. In parallel, the government is committed to promoting full employment and developing skills in line with the needs of the private sector, with a view to foster employment opportunities and address inclusiveness.

Seychelles already achieved almost all of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) especially with respect to education, health, poverty eradication and the environment, putting it on track to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). More than 95% of the population has access to safe drinking water and electricity<sup>22</sup>. Seychelles also enjoys a stable political system with good public-sector governance, ranking 2<sup>nd</sup> with a score of 73.4 in the 2017 Mo Ibrahim Index of African Governance. Within the context of South-South Cooperation, Seychelles' successes could provide important lessons to benefit other countries within the region aspiring to be the same. However, within the same index Seychelles drops to 11<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> in areas of participation, human rights and civil rights respectively, indicating the need for some attention in those areas.

Despite its developmental progress, Seychelles, as a small and remote archipelago, highly dependent on tourism and fisheries leaves the country exposed and vulnerable to a range of economic and environmental shocks. It is unavoidably vulnerable to natural disasters such as floods, rising sea levels, landslides, and tsunamis, as well the effects of climate change, all of which pose high risks to human and economic development. Other key challenges include insufficient economic diversification and vulnerability to external shocks. There is a need to put more emphasis on green economy and inclusive growth to protect the country's fragile natural environment against the adverse impacts of climate change and to ensure that growth benefits the whole population and leaves no one behind. Furthermore, food security remains a major issue in view of the country's dependence on imported food, and the increased pressure to further convert existing agricultural land to mostly residential use. Limited land, capital, and skilled human resources constrain the country's ability to benefit from economies of scale in production. Rising bottlenecks in infrastructure also remain among key critical constraints. The investment climate is constantly being strengthened to harness private sector growth.

On the social front, despite the evident achievements and progress, the Government intends to address issues of poverty and inequality in income and economic opportunities across the social strata, with major focus on gender-based disparities, which are persistently rising. With respect to gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE), though the country has made great strides, where for example the 2017 Mo Ibrahim Index ranks Seychelles 2<sup>nd</sup> in Africa for Gender Equality, challenges still remain. In the private sector, for example, men are more than twice the number of women employed<sup>23</sup>. Statistics also show that 70.6% of persons receiving social welfare in 2017 assistance were women, particularly single young mothers<sup>24</sup>. Women also comprise 47% of the welfare applicants for supplementation of monthly earnings<sup>25</sup>, implying women are more disadvantaged and disempowered than men in Seychelles. However, the fact that women are working albeit requesting for supplementation of income does not necessarily imply they are generally

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<sup>21</sup> The World Bank in Seychelles, 2018

<sup>22</sup> Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy 2012-2020

<sup>23</sup> Seychelles 2017. African Economic Outlook ([www.africaneconomicoutlook.com](http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.com)).

<sup>24</sup> Information obtained from Seychelles Agency for Social Protection

<sup>25</sup> Household and Budget Survey 2013, National Bureau of Statistics

disadvantaged or disempowered. The context of the household also needs to be considered, for example in many instances women tend to head households and work, hence do not qualify for welfare, among other reasons. Seychelles has a Ministry of Family Affairs, which highlights the way the GoRS approaches issues of women, and gender affairs in a holistic manner. Also, in 2016 the government adopted a national gender policy to guide the design and implementation of gender equality promotion programmes across all sectors within the framework of the SDGs, the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), as well as the 28 targets of the Southern African Development Community Protocol on Gender and Development<sup>26</sup>. However, incidence of gender-based violence (GBV) remains relatively high with 58% of women and 43% of men having experienced some form of GBV at least once in their lifetime<sup>27</sup>, with evidence suggesting that women and girls are most vulnerable to violence and majority of the perpetrators of GBV are men.

Furthermore, high prevalence of behavioural and environmental risk factors combined with the rising threat of communicable and non-communicable diseases threaten the health of the nation. While non-communicable conditions are the main causes of morbidity and mortality, increases in communicable conditions such as leptospirosis, STIs and vector-borne disease are on the increase with HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C remaining serious concerns<sup>28</sup>. Other issues of national concern include deteriorating quality of education, Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) and substance abuse, which are increasing, especially among young people and other key affected populations. Also, there are concerns about the degenerating family structure manifesting itself in for example, 75% of all births take place outside of marriage and 46% of children not living with both of their biological parents<sup>29</sup>.

## 1.2 The Seychelles National Development Vision

The Government of the Republic of Seychelles is currently preparing a long-term vision (“Vision 2032”) for the country and drafting the first five-year National Development Strategy (NDS) to implement this vision. Goals under Vision 2032 are being informed by the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the AU Agenda 2063 and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway. These efforts are part of the overarching public-sector reforms agenda on results-based management approved in 2013 and are expected to lead to greater linkages between planning, budgeting, performance management and monitoring and evaluation. In developing the vision, emphasis is being placed on ensuring a collaborative and inclusive process. The recognition from the visioning process thus far is that any long-term vision for the country will need to be anchored on knowledge development and creation of a critical, strategic resource for sustainable development. This stems from the recognition that Seychelles cannot exist without its natural and unique environment, and champions the preservation of the environment as an asset for the present and future generations<sup>30</sup>.

Building on the longer-term Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy (SSDS) 2012-2020, the draft NDS aims to build a modern, diversified and resilient economy anchored on six pillars: 1)

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<sup>26</sup> Seychelles 2017. African Economic Outlook ([www.africaneconomicoutlook.com](http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.com))

<sup>27</sup> Gender Based Violence National Baseline study, Ministry of Family Affairs, 2017

<sup>28</sup> Draft Seychelles National Health Strategic Plan 2016-2020, Ministry of Health, November. 2016

<sup>29</sup> Background Report for the Preparation of a Social Impact Assessment Framework for Seychelles, Government of Seychelles, 2016

<sup>30</sup> Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy 2012-2020

Governance, 2) Human Capital Development, 3) Social Cohesion, 4) Science, Technology and Innovation Development, 5) Economic Transformation, and 6) Sustainability and Resilience. All the six pillars in the draft NDS are directly linked and aligned to the SDGs. A fundamental principle of the NDS is the promotion of people-centered sustainable development that the country embraced in its previous Strategy 2017. The NDS also draws on other pertinent national plans such as, the Environmental Management Plan for Seychelles (EMPS 2000-2010), the Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy (SSDS) 2012-2020, the Seychelles Vision 2032 and the Sustainable Development Framework (SDF).

The draft NDS therefore, envisages a comprehensive, coherent and holistic approach to sustainable development and planning, which sets out the vision and goal for the country. Moreover, in line with international commitments, the draft NDS gives more impetus to the blue economy. Through the draft NDS, Government sees the development of the private sector as central to achieving a more diversified economy. Advancing an enabling environment to exploit its potential and expand into new business areas is a major priority of the Government to ensure sustainable growth and development. The Government continues to demonstrate its commitment to sustainable development at local, international and regional levels by being signatory to international protocols, regional partnerships and through national policies, action plans, as well as institutional and regulatory frameworks developed to date.

Despite achieving the high-income status, Seychelles has limited technical capacity and human resources required to stimulate the growth rate envisioned and realise its development vision. To address this challenge, the Government requires strategic partnerships with UN agencies for technical support and capacity development to address some of these critical sustainable developments constrains highlighted above. Against this background, the Government of the Republic Seychelles and the UN system, through the Strategic Partnership Framework, seek to consolidate and build on the gains made by providing contextualized support, not only to enable Seychelles realise its sustainable development vision, but also to achieve the SDGs. The United Nations System and UN Country Team (UNCT)<sup>31</sup> contribution will mainly be focused towards technical support, capacity building, promoting policy dialogue and advocacy, sharing best practices and lessons learnt, including promoting South-South Cooperation, and support for research and development, where feasible.

### **1.3 Development of the Strategic Partnership Framework**

The Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) is the overarching partnership framework between the Government of the Republic of Seychelles and United Nations System for the period 2019-2023. The SPF has been developed through discussions between the UN System and the Government of the Republic of Seychelles dating back to 2015. The bilateral discussions emanate from the need to strengthen cooperation, coordination and partnerships within the context of the principles of Delivering as One (DaO)<sup>32</sup>. Prior to the SPF, Seychelles had a non-harmonised country programme approach in which individual UN agencies signed separate bi-lateral agreements with the Government at sector and ministry levels. The SPF builds on the on-going efforts between the GoRS and the UN

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<sup>31</sup> The United Nations Country Team in Seychelles is composed of 19 members: WHO, FAO, IAEA, IFAD, ILO, IOM, UNIDO, UNFPA, UNAIDS, OCHA, OHCHR, UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNEP, UN-HABITAT, UN Women, UNODC, and the WTO. The UN Resident Coordinator's Office is based in Mauritius. Other UN agencies, funds, and programmes actively engage with the Government of Seychelles but are not members of the UN Country Team, these include: ICAO, UNWTO, ITC, IMO, WIPO, WMO, IMO, UNECA, UNCTAD, UNDESA, UNITAR, UNV, and ISDR.

<sup>32</sup> The DaO Principles: One Leader, One Budget, One Programme and One Office.

with a view to ensure strategic support that adds value to national development aspirations. The development of the SPF is therefore, intended to better harmonise, align and strategically position the UN's contribution in supporting the national development agenda. The SPF development process also engaged non-state stakeholders, including civil society organisations (CSOs). Through this multi-stakeholder consultation process, the GoRS articulated its priority areas for the next five years and the priorities were agreed upon with the UN System.

The SPF is aligned to and guided by; the Seychelles national development priorities and vision, as spelt out in the draft NDS and strategic policy documents mentioned above; the UN Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals; other internationally agreed goals; and the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063 that articulates, “a *Shared Strategic Framework for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development*” for Africa. The First Ten Year Implementation Plan 2014-2023 of the AU Agenda 2063 outlines the aspirations and priority areas for development, goals and targets<sup>33</sup>. Of critical relevance to the SPF is Aspiration I, whose seven goals define inclusive and sustainable development that clearly relate to Seychelles' development vision. Further, the SPF is also guided by, and aligned with the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway<sup>34</sup>. The SAMOA Pathway identifies some of the key development priority areas, including: ensuring sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth with decent work for all; poverty eradication; sustainable tourism; climate change; sustainable energy; disaster risk reduction; special needs for oceans and seas; food security and nutrition; sustainable consumption and production; health and combating NCDs; gender equality and women's empowerment; and social development<sup>35</sup>, among others. The commitments are directly linked to most international obligations on sustainable development such as the SDGs, the Rio Declaration, the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

Development of the SPF was also advised by the four UN principles for integrated programming namely: 1) Leave no one behind; 2) Human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment; 3) Sustainability and resilience; and 4) Data Development. Based on the national strategic focus and Seychelles' development challenges, the SPF prioritises support towards four of the six pillars of the draft NDS, namely, Economic Transformation, Sustainability and Resilience, Human Capital Development, as well as Science Technology and Innovation Development. In line with the overall theme of the SPF “Securing Human Development for Generations”, the agenda of young people, adolescent girls, including their sexual and reproductive health and the elderly will remain at the core of the SPF to harness the demographic dividend, and as such leave no one behind.

The next section of the SPF presents, in greater detail, each of the strategic priority areas in terms of status, challenges and opportunities for UN collaboration, and expected results following programme intervention. The strategic priority areas are further articulated into thematic specific results of intervention.

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<sup>33</sup> The African Union Commission, Agenda 2063, The First Ten-Year Implementation Plan 2014-2023, 2015

<sup>34</sup> At the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, held in Apia, Samoa, in September 2014, Heads of State and Government and High-Level Representatives with the full participation of civil society and relevant stakeholders, reaffirm their commitment to the sustainable development of Small Island developing States (SIDS). The commitments seek to strengthen cooperation and enable strong, genuine and durable partnerships at the sub-national, national, sub-regional, regional and international levels to enhance international cooperation and action to address the unique and particular vulnerabilities of SIDS to ensure their sustainable development.

<sup>35</sup> Outcome of the Conference Draft outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, United Nations, 2014

## 2. The Strategic Results Areas: Strategic Partnership Framework: 2019-2023

### Introduction

The SPF focuses the UN's collective support and collaboration towards four broad strategic priority areas of: 1) Economic Transformation, 2) Environmental Sustainability and Resilience, 3) Human Capital Development, and 4) Science, Technology and Innovation Development and Data Development, as critical interrelated enablers. Each of the broad areas is further elaborated into specific results and outcomes below. Furthermore, the SPF also mainstreams cross-cutting issues such as gender, human rights, capacity development and, disaster risk reduction management for a holistic approach to programming. It should be noted that, the concept of the Blue Economy<sup>36</sup> and Sustainability and Resilience within the context of Seychelles are closely interlinked and many times inseparable.

### 2.1 Strategic Priority Area One: Economic Transformation

Under Economic Transformation, the draft NDS seeks to create an innovative, diversified, globally competitive, technologically advanced, resilient and sustainable economy driven by the private sector. The GoRS also aims to create a thriving tourism sector promoting responsible, ethical and sustainable practices to achieve economic empowerment, environmental protection and socio-cultural integration. Based on this, Seychelles seeks to establish a comprehensive Blue Economy strategy that is adapted to the local context and promote the Blue Economy as a driver for wealth creation and equitable wealth distribution<sup>37</sup>.

In 2014, the Government launched the Seychelles Blue Economy Vision to promote ocean based sustainable and resilient development as a pathway to Seychelles' shared prosperity. The GoRS has embraced the "Blue Economy" concept as an organizing principle to drive growth further, while not only preserving but also building the natural endowment. Many Small Island Developing States (SIDS) as a mechanism to realise sustainable economic development in ocean-based economies have embraced the emerging concept of the Blue Economy. The initiative focuses on the sustainable use of coastal and ocean environments, including tourism and fisheries, economic diversification, food security, and the protection of unique natural assets for the benefit of all citizens. With an economy based primarily on tourism and fisheries, Seychelles remains highly vulnerable to the effects of globalisation and external economic volatility. Hence, the GoRS seeks to break new ground and position itself as a world leader in ocean governance and management. The overarching Blue Economy outcomes seek to provide an action-oriented path to sustainable development while enhancing sustainable economic growth and income opportunities.

The country supports some of the world's most pristine, diverse and productive marine ecosystems, though their full extent and conditions are yet to be fully explored. Seychelles' exclusive economic zone ranks 7<sup>th</sup> out of 221 on the Ocean Health Index<sup>38</sup>. The fishing grounds are abundant with a wide variety of species. There is immense opportunity for Seychelles to consolidate its regional, and even

<sup>36</sup> In the Seychelles' Blue Economy Roadmap (*Defining a Pathway to Prosperity*), the Blue Economy refers to "those economic activities that directly or indirectly take place in the ocean and coastal areas, use outputs from the ocean, and places 'goods and services into ocean's activities and the contribution of those activities to economic growth, social, cultural and environmental wellbeing. The green economy is a concept in which the [economy](#) seeks to reduce environmental risks and ecological scarcities aiming for [sustainable development](#) without [degrading the environment](#)

<sup>37</sup> Draft Outline of the National Development Strategy

<sup>38</sup> The Republic of Seychelles Systematic Country Diagnostic The Document of the World Bank Group, July 2017

global, leadership status in the management and sustainable use of these resources. In line with the ambitious “Blue Economy” agenda, the GoRS developed the Blue Economy Strategic Framework and the National Blue Economy Roadmap which is aligned to SDG Goal 14: “*Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development*”. The Roadmap aims at ensuring economic diversification & resilience to reduce economic vulnerability and reliance on a small number of sectors, as well as to increase the GDP contribution from marine sectors. The framework also seeks to create high value jobs and increase local investment opportunities while ensuring food security, well-being and integrity of habitats and ecosystem services, promoting sustainable use of water resources and climate resilience. The critical gap however, is the mechanism for its implementation at the national level. There is limited information on the practical implementation of the blue economy concept in view of the fact that the concept is relatively new; the Seychelles will be developing a Marine Spatial Plan where 30% of its EEZ will be designated as Marine Protected Areas as part of a debt swap. It is also finalising the issuing of the world’s first blue bond, which will mobilise public and private investments for a more profitable and sustainable fisheries sector.

A stable and secure ocean has been the foundation of the massive expansion of trade, communications and wealth across the region. This expansion has been accompanied by new challenges brought about by an increasingly dynamic maritime environment. Increased international trade and ocean exploitation are also interlinked to increased movement of people<sup>39</sup>.

The SPF focuses on two main areas under the Economic Transformation priority area; (i) the Blue Economy focusing on exploring and utilising the opportunities presented by marine resources, as well as increasing the capacity utilisation of the tourism and fisheries sectors and enhancement of maritime security to ensure a stable and secure ocean environment to facilitate trade and migration and. It also encompasses industrialisation and manufacturing as part of the steps towards diversification of the economy in general; (ii) Agriculture, Food Security and Livelihoods aimed at enhancing agricultural productivity, food and nutrition security, and livelihood opportunities, including fighting pockets of poverty and social exclusion for the vulnerable groups.

## **Outcome I – The Blue Economy**

### **SPF Outcome I: By 2023, the Seychelles economy is diversified and provides varying investment opportunities in the blue economy**

This first outcome of the SPF focuses on two key components of Seychelles’ economic development including: effective and efficient utilisation of the blue economy, including ensuring maritime security and diversification of the blue economy by increasing industrialisation and manufacturing, but still retaining priority focus on further development of the country’s tourism sector.

Achieving more productivity-based growth is a key challenge for Seychelles. While economic growth performance has been strong, both over the long and short term, and employment rates are high, structural transformation of Seychelles’ economy remains limited<sup>40</sup>. Seychelles considers the Blue Economy as the long-term growth engine for the country and has recently developed a roadmap code named “Defining a Pathway to Prosperity”. It considers the blue economy approach as the vital way to provide both social and economic benefits for present and future generations, hence

<sup>39</sup> Retrieved from: [IOC Ministerial Conference on Maritime Security](#)

<sup>40</sup> The Republic of Seychelles Systematic Country Diagnostic: The Document of the World Bank Group, July 2017

protection of the oceans is very critical. With a vast Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 1.37 million km<sup>2</sup>, the second largest in Africa, Seychelles wishes to maximise the full potential of its ocean territory through the development of the blue economy. With the establishment of a Blue Economy Department within the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning in January 2015 (the Department is now in the Vice-President's Office since October 2017), the Government has committed to implement the Blue Economy concept at the national level as a framework to foster an integrated approach for sustainable development programmes.

Utilisation of the blue economy as a driver of inclusive growth is central to addressing a number of Seychelles' socio-economic development issues, including poverty and exclusion, unemployment, gender equality and women's empowerment and other imbalances in the population such as income inequality. There is great but untapped potential to diversify economic growth opportunities beyond tourism and fisheries. In addition, the GoRS needs to put in place a network platform to understand how to achieve higher growth, especially in fishing and farming.



*Photo from RCO Archives*

As part of on-going efforts to support its blue economy strategy, the Government is implementing the Third South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Governance and Shared Growth Project (SWIOFish3) with funding from the World Bank, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and from the issuance of a sovereign blue bond. Specifically, the SWIOFish3 project supports the Seychelles Marine Spatial Planning Initiative, which will expand sustainable use of marine protected areas to conserve

biodiversity across 15% of the EEZ. Improved governance of priority fisheries will also be supported, with key objectives that include ending open access, stock rebuilding, addressing overcapitalization, and adoption of rights-based approaches. Opening the ocean space would also lead to promotion of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) investment in the blue economy. Recently the National Assembly approved the Enterprise Seychelles Agency (ESA) Bill that replaces the Small Enterprises Promotion Agency (SEnPA) with a broader mandate to implement policies, strategies and provide MSMEs with necessary services and support.

Maritime security is a major challenge for countries of the Indian Ocean Region and for island countries most particularly. Three of the challenges are particularly of concern, namely migration and border management, maritime data and cooperation. Maritime security encompasses, inter alia, piracy, cross-border crime and trafficking (arms, drugs, human, money laundering, etc.), border management, fight against maritime pollution (oil spills, plastic pollution, etc.), illegal, unregulated, unreported (IUU) fishing, biodiversity, etc., all of which affect the economic potential of the blue economy, hence need to be addressed.

Industrialisation is also seen as a potential area to provide opportunity for diversification of Seychelles' blue economy and the national economy in general. The Department of Industry and Entrepreneurship Development in collaboration with the Blue Economy Department are working on interventions in areas such as Biotechnology focusing mainly on increasing MSME's investment in industry and manufacturing. In addition, in 2015 the GoRS adopted the Seychelles Inclusive Industrial Competitiveness Policy broad strategic framework for industrial development in Seychelles. This policy makes special consideration of the SADC Industrialization Strategy and Roadmap 2015-2063. The strategy also provides MSMEs in Seychelles with a regional focus and is therefore a catalyst to address the supply-side constraints and challenges of states with limited land resources within the region.

However, in order to fully realise the benefits of the blue economy, key bottlenecks to be addressed include: limited technical capacity to explore and unlock value of the ocean economy to drive economic growth and development, weak legislative and regulatory capacity to manage the sector and limited knowledge of the blue economy concept, as it is currently defined, across social and economic sectors. The carrying capacity of communities to handle increases in tourism activity, as well as the capacity of government to monitor development in the sector has been highlighted as threat in the tourism sector<sup>41</sup>. According to the World Bank Systematic Country Diagnostic of 2017, there are shortfalls in the private sector enabling environment; aspects of opening & operating a business are difficult (e.g. in the vertically integrated tourism sector); limited state capacity to regulate, monitor and evaluate strategically where productive resources are allocated, and the historical dominance of State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) have reinforced the high concentration of resources<sup>42</sup> and growing maritime insecurity and related challenges. To address these challenges, among others, the GoRS places focus on improving synergy and formulating appropriate legislation and regulatory frameworks, policies and working models for optimal development and maximization of resources, value chain studies, research, training as well as technology and innovation and enhancing maritime

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<sup>41</sup> Coastal Livelihoods in the Republic of Seychelles (NY)

<sup>42</sup> The Republic of Seychelles Systematic Country Diagnostic: The Document of the World Bank Group, July 2017

security. Moreover, the Blue Economy Department is still relatively new and needs capacity building to meet national demands and expectations.

### **Areas for UN Collaboration**

In line with the Government's vision for the Blue Economy, the UN will provide technical support to enable Seychelles sustainably tap the potential of the EEZ. The UN will support the GoRS to implement its Blue Economy Strategic Framework and the Strategic Roadmap in support of Seychelles' transition to a more integrated ocean-based economy. This support will include domestication of mostly SDG 14 "Life Below Water" and SDG 8 "Decent Work and Economic Growth". Seychelles requires technical expertise to unpack and implement the Roadmap. The Roadmap will require strategic planning and definition of short, medium and long-term actions across a broad range of sectors as well as compel fundamental changes to the traditional institutional arrangements that exist to support marine sector resource management in Seychelles. Within the context of improving access to blue economy opportunities by the business sector, the UN will support Government to improve access to finance by MSMEs with major focus on youth and women and any other vulnerable groups, as well as in the development of a legal framework so that banks support the expansion of the MSMEs sector. The UN will also support the update, development and implementation of policies, strategies, frameworks and guidelines that support the development and use of marine resources for economic activity. In the fisheries sector, for example, such support will focus on the development and implementation of capacity building programmes for the blue economy. This includes strengthening policy, technology and innovation, institutional capacity development, mobilising appropriate expertise and, research and development for expanding opportunities and utilisation. Technical support to monitoring and evaluation of progress towards set objectives will also be provided.

These interventions in marine and fisheries governance will provide a foundation for the development of seafood value chains, which are a cornerstone of the country's blue economy strategy. Interventions in the value chains will include support to the development of small pilot projects to assist communities in ensuring effective and targeted efforts towards gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment are achieved. UN will also provide technical assistance in conducting gender-responsive sectoral needs assessments, building knowledge and awareness on the blue economy and integration of the blue economy concepts in basic and tertiary school curricula. This is expected to ensure increased knowledge, demystification and integration of the blue economy concept at community level, as well as improve access to diversified business opportunities in the blue economy for productive sectors and individuals, especially women and youth. Some of the key interventions will include: promoting aquaculture, exploitation of hydrocarbons, port development and renewable energy generation. Relevant UN agencies, under the Nagoya Protocol, are already working with the GoRS in establishing the necessary legal Framework and legislation. These efforts will also include Policy on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) of genetic resources. These interventions, especially within the context of exploiting relevant value chain, wherever supported by the UN, will aim to ensure gender-responsive and human rights-based approaches (HRBA) are integrated in design, implementation and monitoring of all activities and technical assistance. Through these approaches, ensuring women receive equal opportunity and there is no discrimination of any

inhabitants in accessing economic opportunities will remain a priority. These opportunities will aim to address issues of unemployment, with key focus on youth and women, income poverty and any other relevant inequalities. In this context, the UN will advocate for better distribution of wealth and more equitable sharing of the resources. Through South-South and Triangular Cooperation, the UN will also facilitate knowledge management and technological exchange at regional and global levels.

In support of the GoRS mission to enhance productivity and diversity within the blue economy through industrialisation, the UN through relevant UN agencies will provide mainly technical assistance in the design and development of supportive infrastructure, formulation of gender-responsive legislation and other enabling regulatory environment and capacity building for both policy makers and MSMEs in different value chains with most focus on manufacturing and industry. Support will also be provided in science, technology and innovation relevant to enhancing productivity of industries.

The UN will also provide support to the GoRS aimed at enhancing maritime security through various interventions ranging from technical assistance in identification and implementation of priority actions in response to maritime transnational risks and crimes and support development of collaborative and comprehensive approaches to addressing threats to maritime safety in the ESA-IO region.

Following the above UN programme interventions, if by 2023, the following aspects are in place: legislative framework for governance of the blue economy, an enabling gender-responsive policy and legislative environment are set by the Government for productive sectors, the Blue Economy Department and relevant institutions are strengthened, there is improved knowledge and application of the blue economy concept across all sectors, barriers that impact the ability of the productive sector to access diversified economic opportunities within the ocean economy are removed, and no citizen is excluded from engaging in income generating activities within the blue economy, then Seychelles will have realised the SPF Outcome One.

Furthermore, productive sectors and individuals would have access to diversified business opportunities for utilising the ocean economy. There would be transformed and sustainable MSMEs and the country would be more competitive in imports and exports. There would be increased investment in diversification of existing ocean-based economic sectors (particularly tourism, fisheries and ports) to realize greater value and efficiency from the existing resource base, thus propelling inclusive growth. These would also in turn have a ripple effect of addressing problems of unemployment, poverty and inequality and capacity to support social welfare and safety net programmes for the vulnerable groups, especially the youth and women.

### **Key assumptions and risks**

The overarching assumption is that both the UN and the Government of the Republic of Seychelles will honour and deliver on schedule, their commitments to the Strategic Partnership Framework 2019-2023. This includes each partner honouring duties and responsibilities as stipulated in the agreement.

Achieving the ultimate results also rides on the assumption that national stakeholders share the same national vision and that a thorough needs assessment on the blue economy is conducted to ensure precise and more targeted interventions that will trigger change.

Another key assumption is that relevant and robust data is available to inform programme interventions. It is also assumed that there are enough human resources with the required skills and expertise to support programmes.

However, the risk noteworthy regarding the new approach to the development of the blue economy could be changes in the Seychelles political landscape as this could affect decision-making at national level. Unless all national stakeholders can contribute to, and fully endorse, this approach to the development of the blue economy, the political situation could have negative impact on the enactment of policy legislation as well as weakened political commitment to the development initiatives.

Other possible risks include; the protracted delays in mainly sourcing expertise for timely implementation of the 5-year work plan.

Fostering close collaboration with national institutions and ensuring the SPF focus is maintained on holistic sustainable development will be used to mitigate most of these risks. Also, utilisation of the UN's comparative advantage to source experts within the UN system will be explored to curb potential delays in sourcing expertise.

## **Outcome 2 – Agriculture. Livelihoods. Food and Nutrition Security**

**SPF Outcome 2: By 2023, the population, especially most vulnerable, has increased agricultural productivity, food and nutrition security, and enhanced livelihood opportunities**

This second outcome of the SPF focuses on developing the Seychelles agriculture, livestock and fisheries sector to not only provide more economic opportunities for the citizens but also enhance food and nutrition security.

Seychelles seeks to develop a resilient, innovative, high-value and climate-smart agricultural sector, as well as facilitate entrepreneurship and private sector development in the agricultural sector value chain<sup>43</sup>. However, Seychelles is very land-scarce, having little land in absolute terms and amongst the smallest amount of arable land per person globally<sup>44</sup>. Cultivated area is 7000 ha or 15% of the total area of the country, of which arable land covers 1,000 ha and permanent crops 6,000 ha<sup>45</sup>. Hence, there are few land-based economic opportunities in Seychelles, thus, agriculture and forestry naturally contribute far less economically, with an estimated contribution of only 2.3% in 2014<sup>46</sup>. However, the social contribution cannot be over emphasised. Apart from saving precious foreign exchange, local production makes food more accessible to vulnerable groups in the population and provides a source of locally grown fresh and nutritious food for the population. This supply source is to be appreciated most by those individuals challenged by diet related diseases and those with the potential to develop NCDs.

<sup>43</sup> Draft Outline of the National Development Strategy

<sup>44</sup> The Republic of Seychelles Systematic Country Diagnostic: The Document of the World Bank Group, July 2017

<sup>45</sup> [http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/countries\\_regions/SYC/SYC-CP\\_eng.pdf](http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/countries_regions/SYC/SYC-CP_eng.pdf)

<sup>46</sup> Systematic Country Diagnostic, The World Bank Group, 2017



*Photo from RCO Archives*

Agriculture in Seychelles, as in many other SIDS, is very much for social benefits although its economic contribution may not be as prominent as other economic sectors. Seychelles imports almost 80% of its national food requirements<sup>47</sup> and import prices are constantly rising. This makes it difficult for vulnerable and low-income groups in the population to access food. Population food poverty stands at 24%<sup>48</sup>. The agricultural sector's contribution towards the economy has remained low due to several factors such as limited land size, unfavourable topography, natural disasters and limited human capital. Also, prior to the preparation of the Seychelles Strategy 2017, importation of food was prioritised as an effective option to meeting local demand and insufficient production<sup>49</sup>. However, this is not sustainable and does not provide for stability in the longer term. With increasing risks related to imports such as climate change, logistics, piracy in the Indian Ocean and imminent global crises around the food industry, it is in the interest of the Government to provide a supportive framework which allows for increased local food production. Furthermore, infertility

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<sup>47</sup> Seychelles and FAO

<sup>48</sup> Household and Budget Survey 2013, National Bureau of Statistics

<sup>49</sup> Seychelles Strategy 2017

of local soils has affected the productivity and livelihoods of Seychellois farmers as well as food security for inhabitants. As the country's population grows at a rate of 1.2% annually and is projected to reach, 100,000 by 2020<sup>50</sup>, it is becoming increasingly urgent to increase farm productivity to ensure food security and on-farm income generation to safeguard vulnerable populations' livelihoods. According to Government officials, other challenges facing the agriculture sector include; the high cost of inputs, increasing pests and diseases infestations and loss of farm produce mainly through theft which has been linked to illegal drug use and is contributing to discouraging people from venturing into agriculture. All these challenges can be overcome with the right investments, the right technologies and the right production framework that recognises agriculture as a social pillar to sustainable development.

Against this above background, food sovereignty and security remain a high priority for the small developing island as currently food imports surpass local production<sup>51</sup>. The Seychelles National Agriculture Investment Plan 2015-2020 (SNAIP) aims to enhance agriculture production and productivity and to ensure food and nutrition security. However, the SNAIP is being implemented with difficulty mainly due to the lack of adequate financial resources. The Government priority focus is on ensuring adoption of climate smart agricultural practices, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), capacity building for agricultural personnel and recruitment of high level professional in the agricultural sector, introduction of adapted varieties of crops and breeds of livestock and associated technologies, as well as management of small agri-business enterprises and promotion of backyard farming. There is need to create an enabling environment to facilitate farmers embrace and adopt new and appropriate technologies to increase the scale of production and productivity. Some of the technologies to be promoted include; aquaculture, city farming, vertical farming and film farming, among others<sup>52</sup>.

Through domestication of relevant SDGs, the GoRS also seeks to enhance poverty reduction strategies. Creation of employment opportunities for most vulnerable populations such as women and youth is anticipated as a key driver to poverty reduction. Increasing investment opportunities through diversification of the existing ocean-based economic resources to realise greater value addition and efficiency will lead in guiding the design and implementation of interventions in the agriculture and related sectors. There are potential opportunities for collective coastal livelihoods' projects around the large marine ecosystem of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region<sup>53</sup>. Small scale fisheries and other key coastal economic activities, including various forms of tourism, aquaculture, shipping and coastal transport, renewable energy production, agriculture, forestry and mining are very important contributors to the economies of the countries of the WIO. These opportunities are critical in reducing the income gap and food poverty, especially for demographics that have been traditionally economically disadvantaged. Small scale fisheries, for example, currently contributes 1-2% of GDP annually and 17% of the total population is employed in fisheries of which 30% are mostly active in small-scale operations on which 10% of the entire population is directly dependent<sup>54</sup>.

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<sup>50</sup> <http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/9104/Seychelles+population+rises+.+percent%2C+closing+in+on+%2C>

<sup>51</sup> <http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/1159/Boosting+the+agricultural+sector+to+ensure+food+security++Seychelles+is+finalizing+national+agricultural+investment+plan> 23/3/2018

<sup>52</sup> Draft Outline of the National Development Strategy

<sup>53</sup> Coastal Livelihoods in the Republic of Seychelles (NY)

<sup>54</sup> Coastal Livelihoods in the Republic of Seychelles (NY)

Tourism in its various forms is one of the major sources of livelihoods for most of the people of Seychelles. However, most of the local communities and local operators remain limited in their understanding of, and engagement with, sustainable tourism<sup>55</sup>, implying that various environmentally degrading actions continue to be perpetuated, consequently affecting agriculture and fisheries production. Few mariculture<sup>56</sup> activities are currently operational in Seychelles, with only prawn, giant clam and pearl oysters being produced in small-scale commercial operations. Inadequate policy formulation, planning and/or comprehensive assessment of opportunities pertaining to mariculture has been developed in the country<sup>57</sup>.

Therefore, to enhance Seychelles agriculture, livestock and fisheries production and productivity, some of the key issues to be addressed include: the adverse impact of climate change and its effect on national food production (agriculture and fisheries), facilitating policies, regulatory, and institutional frameworks for agribusiness development while protecting marine environment. There is also limited specialised technical capacity and knowledge to support not only agricultural and fisheries but also sustainable tourism development. Existing crop and livestock breeds also need to be improved to enhance yield potential. A centre of excellence in agriculture development needs to be established to enhance access to new inputs that will support local agriculture development, for example improved and adopted seeds and livestock breeds, modern farming and aquaculture technologies, among others. Also, optimal use of factors of production in agriculture, especially land, water and finance ought to be addressed.

### **Areas for UN Collaboration**

UN technical assistance will focus mainly on supporting the GoRS in systematic implementation of the SNAIP that aims to enhance agriculture, livestock and fisheries production and productivity to ensure food and nutrition security, improve inhabitant's livelihoods and minimise the national import bill. As a focal point of implementation of the SDGs, the UN will support the Government in collaboration with relevant CSOs, development partners and private sector in the domestication of the applicable SDGs, in this case specifically SDGs One "No Poverty" and SDG Two "Eliminate Hunger". Other interlinked SDGs will also be integrated in the domestication process of the two SDGs under this SPF Outcome. These SDGs will include but not be limited to SDG 5 "Gender Equality"; SDG 10 "Reduced Inequalities"; SDG 14 "Life Below Water", SDG 13 "Climate Action", SDG 8 "Decent Work and Economic growth" and SDG 17 "Partnerships for Goals".

The UN will provide support to address policy related challenges, usurpation of agricultural land and land allocation policies, water resources insecurities, climate change, access to finance, amongst other issues. Emphasis will be placed on how these issues can be addressed with a view to enhancing the productive capacities of women and youth. UN through the relevant UN agencies is already supporting the country in the implementation of a multi-sectoral food and nutrition security project that also envisages the development of a national multi-sectoral nutrition policy, as well as a coherent and practical regulatory and legislative framework to support implementation of the National Food and Nutrition Security Policy (NFNSP)<sup>58</sup>. Further support will be provided to build on, and sustain

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<sup>55</sup> Coastal Livelihoods in the Republic of Seychelles (NY)

<sup>56</sup> Mariculture: the cultivation of fish or other marine life for food.

<sup>57</sup> Coastal Livelihoods in the Republic of Seychelles (NY)

<sup>58</sup> Seychelles and FAO

the gains made so far towards enhancing national food and nutrition security with special attention given to vulnerable communities and groups, especially women and youth. There is an on-going poverty profiling exercise that ends in 2018. The NBS states that results will shed more light on food insecurity among households considered to be poorest in the country<sup>59</sup>.

The UN in Seychelles will invest in capacity building, research and development focused especially on climate-resilient crop varieties and animal breeds, this being at the core of the agro-industry and food security sub-sectors. Through partnerships with actors such as the Seychelles Agricultural Agency, Non-government organisations (NGOs) engaged in agriculture development, private investors and other local stakeholders, UN agencies competent in this area will collaborate to further enhance soil and water management and crop productivity to improve local food security. The UN will also provide technical support towards training agricultural personnel and entrepreneurs, support partnerships to facilitate establishment of a centre of excellence in agriculture, and document through pilots, best practices on farms and back yard gardens that mitigate the impact of climate change<sup>60</sup>. Such interventions are envisaged to enhance Seychelles' ability to mitigate and adapt to climate change and global warming, support agriculture in technical areas and limit dependency on imported food, subsequently reducing vulnerability and improving the status on food security and ability to run profitable agricultural ventures, where feasible.

To enhance expansion of livelihood opportunities for local communities and vulnerable groups, the UN will support knowledge and capacity building for communities using human rights-based approaches to enhance local community's capacity and ability to productively engage in agricultural and fisheries economic activities. In these intervention programmes, special focus will be towards enhancing gender mainstreaming, equality and empowerment of women as guided by the national gender policy. To enable more targeted and sustainable developmental support the UN will support the GoRS to build capacity to produce poverty profiling reports; develop a Poverty Alleviation Strategy and Action Plan; as well as facilitate regional information exchange through South-South Cooperation.

Given that addressing multi-dimensional poverty through interventions in especially agriculture development requires holistic approaches, the UN system will prioritise implementation of joint programmes that will bring together the different specialised UN agencies to address the multitude of challenges identified herein. Joint programmes will engage UN agencies and local partners to design, implement and monitor multifaceted interventions that will endeavour to ensure no one is left behind, economic inclusivity is addressed through agricultural development in rural areas linked with concentrated interventions targeting specifically youth engagement in agriculture and fisheries. Throughout all this, gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment strategies will be developed and integrated in all the approaches supported by the UN system.

If by the end of the programme cycle, the SPF would have succeeded in adopting and implementing gender-responsive climate smart agricultural practices; strengthened national capacity to mitigate and adapt to climate change and global warming is in place; high yielding and resilient crop varieties and livestock breeds are introduced; trained technical professionals are available to support agriculture and fisheries development in terms of research and extension; micro, small and medium agri-business

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<sup>59</sup> <https://www.nbs.gov.sc/news/92-seychelles-food-insecurity-experience-survey-fies-2017>

<sup>60</sup> Climate Change: Change in global or regional climate patterns, in particular a change apparent from the mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> century onwards and attributed largely to the increased levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide produced by the use of fossil fuels

enterprises are able to operate profitably and all categories of the population are food and nutrition secure, the nation of Seychelles will have been able to improve its agricultural productivity and food security. Furthermore, if the increased local agricultural production sufficiently addresses food and nutrition security, there will be reduced vulnerability status on food security; improved ability to run profitable agricultural, fisheries and related income generating ventures that will contribute to poverty reduction, employment creation, especially for women and youth, subsequently improving food and nutrition security and improving the general populations' livelihoods and wellbeing.

### **Key assumptions and risks**

The UN and GoRS will realise the planned results provided sufficient resources and capacities are available on time to implement interventions on schedule. It is assumed that Government has the political will and commitment and adequate financial resources to develop and promote the required technologies and that the resources will be allocated to finance investment programmes in climate-smart agriculture. On the other hand, it is also supposed that the UN possess the ability and comparative advantage to mobilise the required technical assistance to support gender-responsive climate-smart agriculture policies, strategies and technologies and to implement all the relevant intervention areas suggested in the SPF.

Notwithstanding the above, it should be noted that it will take a considerable amount of time, technical expertise and financial resources to realise the impact of investment in, for example, climate smart agriculture technologies, Good Agricultural Practices, introducing resilient crop varieties and livestock breeds, adoption of the new farming and aquaculture technologies by the local communities and for these interventions to translate this into increased agriculture productivity, food and nutrition security and subsequently economic transformation.

It is also assumed that the new crop varieties and livestock breeds with its associated technologies will adapt and thrive within the climate and environment in the long run. However, the risk is that effects of climate change and global warming over time are dynamic, non-linear and unpredictable. The net effect being partly unpredictable. This implies constant investment in adaptation of technologies, which is costly. Another possible risk is the reluctance of Seychellois to consume traditional foods that are seen to be inferior to the imported foods, thus negatively affecting national food security status.

## 2.2 Strategic Priority Area Two: Environmental Sustainability and Resilience

According to the draft National Development Strategy, the Government of the Republic of Seychelles seeks to strengthen environmental conservation and climate change resilience by adopting integrated sustainable development practices and ensuring balance between sustainable development and environmental protection<sup>61</sup>. Substantial progress has been made in the implementation of sustainable development practices, but Seychelles still faces a wide range of challenges predominated by global economic recessions, inadequacies in agreements that address climate change and local socio-economic developmental pressures<sup>62</sup>. In addition, weak institutions and inadequate governance frameworks hinder the balance between socio-economic development and sustainable environment. Seychelles expresses its intention from the Rio 2012<sup>63</sup> to ‘adopt’ the principles of the green economy – “*improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities, and endorses the principles of low carbon, resource efficiency and social inclusion*” - but also intends to ‘adapt’ these approaches to the circumstances and needs of the country. To this end, Seychelles has made significant progress, for example, the implementation of national effluent quality standards, the elimination of the turtle shell industry, construction of the Victoria Sewerage System and an 18 MW wind energy farm on Mahe, which is providing about 8% of the country’s energy needs<sup>64</sup>, establishment and enforcement of environmental laws and standards in biodiversity conservation as well as development-related activities, promotion and implementation of sustainable tourism development in collaboration with the tourism industry, especially the introduction of the Seychelles Sustainable Tourism Label.

### Outcome 3 – Environmental Sustainability, Climate change mitigation and resilience

**SPF Outcome 3: By 2023, national, sub-national, and community levels have enhanced capacity for sustainable management of natural resources and the environment to mitigate and cope with disasters and the effects of climate change**

The Outcome addresses three important key results areas, including: ensuring environmental sustainability, increased access to renewable energy technologies, as well as resilience building through adaptation for climate change.

#### A Environmental Sustainability

The country’s comparative advantage lies in its natural ‘capital’ making the thriving tourism and fisheries sectors dominate the economy. However, these are highly dependent on the health of coastal and marine ecosystems whose main threats include overfishing, marine pollution and climate change. Almost 90% of the world’s fish stocks are either fully fished, overfished, depleted or recovering<sup>65</sup>. An analysis done by the World Bank showed that globally, more than USD 80 billion in

<sup>61</sup> Draft Outline of the National Development Strategy

<sup>62</sup> National Report Republic of Seychelles, Government of Seychelles, National Preparations for the United Nations Conference for Sustainable Development, Rio 2012

<sup>63</sup> The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), also known as Rio 2012, Rio+20, or Earth Summit 2012 was the third international conference on sustainable development aimed at reconciling the economic and environmental goals of the global community.

[https://rio20.un.org/sites/rio20.un.org/files/a-conf.2161-1\\_english.pdf.pdf](https://rio20.un.org/sites/rio20.un.org/files/a-conf.2161-1_english.pdf.pdf)

<sup>64</sup> <https://masdar.ae/en/media/detail/masdar-launches-wind-farm-in-republic-of-seychelles>

<sup>65</sup> <https://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/world/africa/2018-02-27-seychelles-in-deep-drive-to-protect-blue-economy/> ...22/3/18

economic benefits are foregone every year as a result of overfishing<sup>66</sup> mainly due to illegal fishing mostly from fishing nations with licence to fish in the Seychelles EEZ. The heavy mortality rates of bycatch<sup>67</sup>, for example, is an unsustainable practice that needs to be addressed. A new Policy prepared by the Ministry of Agriculture is under review on Management of bycatch. The policy has the potential to regulate and avoid overexploitation of some species. However, limited and possibly outdated legislation and institutional capacity to govern and ensure sustainable utilization of natural resources, especially in the fisheries sector, through enforcing policy implementation remains a challenge. More still, capacity to effectively manage and monitor the maritime zone for illicit transactions is limited.



*Photo from RCO Archives*

Unsustainable practices tend to erode the country's natural capital and incomes for fisheries and tourism operators, jeopardizing future investments in the blue economy. Overfishing poses significant risks to nutrition and food security in a country where almost all fish consumption is based on local fisheries production. The impact is compounded by climate change; therefore, precautionary fisheries management is required to promote ecosystem resilience. During the conference on Financing Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Ocean Economies in Africa held in February 2018, Government noted that the global community was beginning to recognize the ailing health of the oceans<sup>68</sup> and therefore, the need to devise strategic remedial measures. A fragile natural environment subjected to any levels of environmental stress arising from over-exploitation

<sup>66</sup> <https://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/world/africa/2018-02-27-seychelles-in-deep-drive-to-protect-blue-economy/> ...22/3/18

<sup>67</sup> Bycatch, in the fishing industry, is a fish or other marine species that is caught unintentionally while catching certain target species and target sizes of fish, crabs etc. Bycatch is either of a different species, the wrong sex, or is undersized or juvenile individuals of the target species.

<sup>68</sup> <https://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/world/africa/2018-02-27-seychelles-in-deep-drive-to-protect-blue-economy/> ...22/3/18

or unpredictable global phenomena, such as climate change gradually or immediately translate into adverse impacts on human livelihood, population mobility and displacement, and ecosystem health. This has been evidenced through more frequent occurrence and magnitude of floods, droughts, landslide, rising temperatures, strong winds, and coastal erosion. There have been cases of coral bleaching and the islands usually far removed from severe weather are more frequently affected by severe tropical storms, for example in 2013, storm 'Felleng' caused widespread flooding and USD 8.3 million worth of damages and losses<sup>69</sup>.

With respect to the tourism sector, island tourism destinations such as the Seychelles present three key characteristics: small size, with implications for pressure on resources and limited economic diversity; remoteness and isolation, contributing to challenges for trading but also delivering a unique biodiversity and cultural richness; and a maritime environment, providing strong tourism assets but vulnerable to climate change. There are four key distinctive challenges for islands: the crucial role of tourism in the sustainable development of islands, following the approach of the Rio+20 Conference which paid specific attention to tourism and its contribution to sustainable development; climate change, which is a great threat to many islands and requires a response from the tourism sector (especially the ability and capacity for the sector to integrate disaster risk reduction in tourism infrastructural developments, and to prepare for any multi-natural hazards in terms of emergency response and evacuation plans); air connectivity, requiring a strong link between tourism and air transport policies; and market positioning, including tourism products diversification and establishment of niche markets that would contribute to competitiveness and decreased vulnerability.

In the hospitality industry, Seychelles has had minimum standards since the early 1990s. These have been used to guide new developments and for monitoring purposes to ensure acceptable standards in the sector. The introduction of a hotel-grading programme has been discussed over the years and in 2016-2017, the Government in collaboration with the UN and relevant agencies developed a hotel classification system for the tourism sector to raise the standards of its tourism accommodation sector and to improve its competitiveness.

### **Areas for UN Collaboration**

The UN in Seychelles, the organisation will provide detailed support to the development, implementation and enforcement of the relevant components of legislation focused on governance to combat and reverse trends in over-fishing and reduce stress on the tourism environment. The UN also intends to support education and advocacy interventions that will promote protection and sustainable practices in utilising natural resources to ensure environmental sustainability. The UN will provide technical assistance to the GoRS to build capacity to negotiate mutually beneficial fisheries agreement with some of the leading European Union (EU) nations. The UN will also support Seychelles with technical assistance to further develop the fisheries sector value chain in areas such as processing, marketing, packaging, financing, insurance and others.

UN will further support Seychelles in protecting its marine resources. The country targets to have 16% of its territory become Marine Protected Areas by 2018. This means Seychelles will have

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<sup>69</sup> <http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/691/Sea+level+rise+is+climate+changes+biggest+threat+to+small+islands+-+says+SIDS+foresight+report>

significantly exceeded — three years before expected — the UN Convention of Biological Diversity target for 10% marine protected areas<sup>70</sup>. The remaining 70% of Seychelles’ ocean area is included in the country’s Marine Spatial Plan that aims at increasing regulatory attention and government oversight of all activities that take place in its marine economic zone. Support from the UN will also focus on strengthening operations in solid waste management by facilitating the construction of appropriate infrastructure, which will, among others, contribute to the continued reduction in production of mostly plastic waste and ensure effective and environmentally friendly waste disposal and management.

In the tourism sector, while hotel classification criteria focuses mainly on the service aspect, the Department of Tourism will need further technical assistance, especially in the fields of competitiveness and quality standards to ensure better environmental practices in tourism. The UN through some of its agencies will support the GoRS to develop interventions, legislation, enforcement and monitoring mechanism to ensure public and private sector actors in the tourism industry implement and adhere to environmental conservation codes of conduct and implement climate-smart management practices such as use of renewable energy, water recycling and appropriate waste management. The UN will also support information, education and communication (IEC) interventions targeted at local coastal communities. These IEC interventions will focus on educating and empowering local communities, including fishermen, youth, women and others who mostly rely on incomes from fisheries and marine tourism activities on essential sustainable environmental conservation principles and practices. Further integration of principles and practices of environmental conservation and climate-smart actions into all levels of formal education curricula will also be supported by the UN. Most of these educational and sensitisation activities will follow a human rights-based approach and will ensure no affected coastline inhabitants are excluded from the interventions. Interventions will ensure women are sensitised as much as the men are, to ensure gender balance in environmental conservation planning and implementation.

The UN will also provide technical support to the Department of Tourism in the implementation of a study to establish the carrying capacity of the Seychelles’ EEZ. This study will aim to determine the levels of economic development, such as nautical tourism activities, that can occur in the Seychelles waters whilst ensuring it's the ecosystems conservation and sustenance.

Overall the UN system in Seychelles will support the GoRS in partnerships with CSOs, development partners, private sector and other actors, engaging especially those involved in fisheries and tourism sectors, to domesticate the relevant SDGs. SDG domestication under this SPF results area will focus mainly on contextualising and developing strategies to ensure Seychelles achieves relevant targets under SDG 14 “Life Below Water”, SDG 13 “Climate Action” and SDG 12 “Responsible Consumption and Production”.

If by 2023, legislation to protect over-exploitation of natural resources and measures to avert environmental degradation are adopted and implemented sustainably; all categories of inhabitants are educated on sustainable environmental conservation practices and the importance of protecting natural resources; institutions responsible for management of environment and natural resources acquire necessary capacities to plan, implement and monitor conservation programmes; then good

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<sup>70</sup> <https://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/world/africa/2018-02-27-seychelles-in-deep-drive-to-protect-blue-economy/> ...22/3/18

progress will have been made towards meeting SDG targets relevant to environmental conservation and climate change.

### **Key assumptions and risks**

To achieve the SPF targets under sustainable environmental conservation, the key assumption is that the GoRS has the political will and is committed to put in place mechanisms that combat all the trends in over-exploitation of natural resources and environmental degradation.

The SPF also assumes that the Government has the resources (human and financial) required to develop the capacity necessary to enforce implementation of relevant sustainable environmental policies, legislation and regulations.

The SPF assumes that there will be full cooperation and support from all national, especially civil society and private sector, and regional stakeholders in fighting over-exploitation of mostly marine resources.

Another assumption is that there is sufficient and robust data to adequately support and inform programme interventions to ensure delivery on results is not compromised.

However, the major risk could be that, the enactment and implementation of policies to conserve the environment may create conflicts of interest, especially if these take away perceived benefits from affected groups/stakeholders. Combating issues like over-fishing, for example, may be met with apathetic commitment from many stakeholders who would prefer the status quo to prevail for profitability. For example, the strong lobby of leading tuna fishing nations for increased tuna fishing could be a hindrance for proper management of fish stocks and sustainable management of resources. As a small nation, Seychelles may not be able to withstand the pressure from such strong lobbies from influential EU countries. It is for such reasons that enhancement of the GoRS capacity to negotiate and engagement of the private sector in policy formulation and regulation will be prioritised as a key mitigation measure supported by the UN in Seychelles.

### **B Sustainable Energy**

Expanding renewable energy generation and utilisation is a key priority for the Government of the Republic of Seychelles with a long-term vision to achieve sustainable energy security with reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through implementation of the Renewable Energy (RE) Roadmap by 2050 that will be further tackled under the Green Climate Finance (GCF) – Simplified Approval Process Pilot Scheme (SAP). Currently, all energy needs for Seychelles are met through imported petroleum products though there is also considerable use of solar energy at household levels. An energy policy 2010-2030 is in place and being used as a guide towards reducing consumption of fossil fuels by 15% in 2030<sup>71</sup>. Petroleum products' imports account for 22% of GDP<sup>72</sup>. Consequently, Seychelles remains vulnerable to external shocks related to international oil prices. Following recent increases in oil prices, Seychelles realised the need to transform its energy sector and diversify into other forms of energy, especially those with little or no greenhouse gas emissions. Although Seychelles is not required under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

<sup>71</sup> <http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/6629/Planned+solar+farm+in+Seychelles+to+benefit+local+consumers%2C+reduce+oil+imports>

<sup>72</sup> National Report Republic of Seychelles, Government of Seychelles, National Preparations for the United Nations Conference for Sustainable Development, Rio 2012

(UNFCCC) and the Kyoto Protocol to implement emission reductions (unlike the Paris Agreement), it is nevertheless of strategic and economic importance that Seychelles reduces its dependence on fossil fuels and embraces low carbon fuels and renewable forms of energy that are apparently abundant in country.

Seychelles also depends on long-haul travel for its tourism industry, hence mechanisms to reduce its tourism carbon footprint are critical to the continued development of its tourism industry and national development. Against this background, Seychelles is intent on launching various programmes to increase the contribution from renewable energy to its national energy grid and to develop a policy framework for effective and efficient energy utilisation that is currently a critical gap.

To realise Seychelles aspirations in the energy sector, some bottlenecks need to first be addressed. Some of these include: existence of barriers to clean transfer, obsolete legislation which tend to limit development of and access to renewable energy technologies and limited education and awareness of renewable energy technologies within the general population. Also, the lack of robust data to enable planning for energy sector development is a hindrance. This is one of the recurring constraints in undertaking greenhouse gas (GHG) emission inventories, or in many cases data are not properly kept. To enable better planning and assessment of GHG, the GHG emissions report makes several recommendations, including the establishment of a database and repository for all archived data.

### **Areas for UN Collaboration**

UN technical support will mainly focus on developing the national legislative and policy framework for enhancing effective and efficient energy utilisation as well as addressing barriers that hinder Seychelles' ability to transfer to a clean energy framework. For example, the UN will support revision of the Energy Act to integrate all other legislation like Energy Efficiency and the Public Utilities Cooperation (PUC) Act. In addition, the UN will also support international networking to help finance implementation of the 100% Renewable Energy Roadmap and other initiatives for mitigation and adaptation across various sectors, such as the assessment of climate financing opportunities other than the Green Climate Finance (GCF).

Elimination of barriers of development and access to clean energy is expected to contribute towards: capacity to transfer such technologies, including support infrastructure; availability of technologies at affordable prices; improved implementation of renewable energy technologies; and increased financial resources to implement mitigation activities, including financial incentives for industry to implement GHG emission mitigation measures. The UN-GoRS partnership is also expected to focus on various areas including: enhancing the capacity for national energy management within the context of the islands; improving access to and adoption of technologies appropriate for mitigation of GHG emissions at household and industrial level and increasing awareness of GHG mitigation measures at policy and programme levels. Another critical area for support, especially within the context of implementation and monitoring of SDGs and Agenda 2063 goals, is improving energy data collection and management. All the interventions supported by the UN will ensure men, women and youth are engaged equally and benefit equitably from all the support provided. To ensure no one is left behind in terms of access to clean renewable energy the UN will support robust data collection and management that will enable identification of any excluded inhabitants and the GoRS along with the private sector will be supported to ensure the most vulnerable and those with least access are reached by the sustainable energy initiatives.

The UN will also support the GoRS in the domestication of relevant SDGs. Private sector and civil society with initiatives in renewable energy generation and transmission will be engaged in the domestication process to ensure they benefit from the different funding mechanisms but also legislation and policy developed facilitate their operations in the Country. In this context, the UN will support domestication and actions to meet targets most specific to SDG 7 “Affordable and Clean Energy” and SDG 13 “Climate Action”.

By the end of this SPF programme cycle, it is expected that: barriers that impact on the ability of Seychelles to transfer to a clean energy system would have been minimised or eliminated, the Energy Act will have been revised in order to integrate all other relevant legislation and there would be increased awareness at both policy and community level on the adoption of clean energy technologies. There will also be improved implementation of renewable energy technologies and enhanced capacity for national energy management. In addition, Government would have strengthened data management for evidence-based planning. Realisation of these key results is expected to translate into improved access to technologies appropriate for mitigation of GHG emissions in a small island context at national and sub-national levels. This leads to sustainable natural resource conservation and management.

### **Key assumptions and risks**

The success of the programme intervention hinges on the assumption that GoRS not only has the political will and commitment, but also the resource capacity to develop and promote renewable energy technology.

The major risk is that high initial cost outlay could inhibit the uptake of clean energy technologies, even though in the long run, costs significantly go down. This will be mainly mitigated through investment in research and innovation in development and dissemination of affordable alternatives.

Another risk may be that some segments of the population, especially low-income households, may not be receptive to the adoption of such clean energy technologies, especially if they are costly. The Government in collaboration with partners ought to invest in identifying alternative financing models for scaling up relevant renewable energy projects.

### **C Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Building**

For a small island state like Seychelles, climate change effects are felt in areas ranging from the economy, agriculture, livelihoods, health to social life. Climate change could for example lead to rising sea-levels, stronger storms, higher ocean temperatures and acidification. The Government of the Republic of Seychelles therefore, prioritises mainstreaming climate change action into national policies, strategies and sustainable development plans. In addition, the Government seeks to update and strengthen the national disaster risk management plan, as well as build national capacity and social empowerment at all levels to adequately respond to disasters and climate change effects.

The risks posed by climate change to communities, livelihoods and economic investments, have rarely been included in sustainable development planning. Climate change is not mainstreamed, and there is resistance to adopting approaches and technologies. In the absence of mainstreaming adaptation to address climate change, sustainable resilience building remains a challenge. Furthermore, there is limited knowledge on how Small Island states can better adapt to climate change through mainstreaming of adaptation at policy, institutional and community levels in Seychelles. Therefore, the

GoRS is focusing on the integration of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and climate change mitigation in tertiary level education. Such interventions are expected to increase national and community awareness and understanding of climate change, its impact and appropriate responses. Mainstreaming adaptation creates an effective framework for building national and community resilience as it links to sustainable development, integration of policy, socio-economic issues, coastal and ecosystem-based adaptation, knowledge transfer and capacity building that address climate change as well as effective climate risk reduction. To further facilitate this process, Government has established the Climate Adaptation Management Section within the Department of Energy and Climate Change. This Section is tasked to deal with coastal issues such as beach management and storm-water drainage and coastal erosion. However, there is still a critical lack of sufficient capacity to implement measures to reduce climate-associated risks.

Some of the areas in which Government needs support include: review of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) on climate change document to be better integrated with the Seychelles Renewable Energy Roadmap (and, conversely, PUC plans for increasing emissions by traditional power generation), sector strategies and, the National Adaptation Strategy (at proposal stage). Further support is needed to support the NDC implementation and investment and monitoring plans. Seychelles also intends to establish a national research council to ensure there is coordination of research and monitoring, knowledge transfer at national level resulting from research, and ensure that appropriate knowledge platforms are maintained and accessible.

### **Areas for UN Collaboration**

In line with the gaps highlighted in relation to climate change adaptation and resilience building, the UN will provide technical support in building national and local level capacity in climate change and disaster risk management, especially for women who tend to bear most of the effects at household level. The UN will also support the formulation of research based policies to leverage the possibility of using well managed migration as an adaptation strategy to climate change and increase the resilience of vulnerable populations, including the so-called “trapped populations”<sup>73</sup> who do not have the means to migrate away from affected areas, populations at the risk of being displaced and migrant communities.

Most of the UN support at local levels will focus on empowering most vulnerable women located in high risk zones specified in the national disaster risk atlas or disaster risk management plan. Support to national levels will include strengthening the policy and regulatory framework and implementation plans to integrate and mainstream disaster risk management and climate change adaptation. Technical support will also be provided in strengthening national capacity for disaster risk preparedness, recovery and disaster management as well as for implementing programmes to combat the effects of global warming. Due consideration will be given to disadvantaged groups such as women and children. More specifically UN will provide technical support towards institutional capacity building as well as research and development in for example, the National Meteorological Services and, strengthen the

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<sup>73</sup> **Trapped populations:** The United Kingdom, Government Office for Science (2011) identifies trapped populations as populations who do not migrate, yet are situated in areas under threat, [...] at risk of becoming ‘trapped’ [or having to stay behind], where they will be more vulnerable to environmental shocks and impoverishment.” This applies in particular to poorer households who may not have the resources to move and whose livelihoods are affected by environmental change.

capacity of the University of Seychelles and other institutions to develop research programmes and deliver capacity building programmes aimed at implementing identified activities on climate change.

The UN will also provide coordination and advocacy support to the proposed Adaptation Task Force to engage all sectors in the promotion and compliance to policies and laws, mobilising the required resources for mainstreaming, including the private sector, CSO and communities. Adequate coordination is also needed with other departments such as tourism, transport, land and infrastructure. The expected net effects are reduced risks through long-lasting and environmentally sound, economically viable, and socially acceptable changes implemented at various levels of programming leading to a strong resilient society at both national and community levels. These communities and sectors should be capacitated to respond to climate change and disasters and minimise reliance on Government. Support will also be provided to promote a more compact and climate resilient urban planning and development, hence reducing emissions and fuel consumption as well as better designing key infrastructure/physical investments to withstand potential disaster impact.

The UN will support Seychelles to forge international partnerships to exchange information and invest in innovative climate resilient development pathways, technology development and transfer. For example, the UN will facilitate South-South Cooperation for knowledge exchange, development and reinforce partnerships with other institutions in the region, for example, Meteo-Reunion and internationally, for example, with the Hadley Centre and the University of Hawaii's Sea Level Centre. Support will be provided to ensure that national policies and institutions are aligned with needs to build adaptive capacity.

With regards to tourism, while small islands only generate less than 1% of Greenhouse Gas Emissions globally, they face damage from global warming – storm surges, rising sea levels, beach erosion and coral bleaching, that directly and indirectly affect tourism. Therefore, support to development of guidelines and capacity building as well as legislative and regulatory measures will be provided to the Government and shared with especially the private sector to incorporate issues and mitigation measures in policy and actions pertaining to climate change and tourism.

The UN system in Seychelles will also support the nation domesticate relevant SDGs and provide contextualised technical assistance in the design, implementation and monitoring of interventions aimed at achieving applicable SDG targets. UN support in this domestication process will focus on the following SDGs: SDG 13 “Climate Action” and SDG 11 “Sustainable Cities and Communities”.

If by 2023, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction is well implemented and monitored; national disaster risk strategy and management plan that standardize risk assessment and response are developed, coordination and shared responsibility for risk management between the Government and stakeholders is streamlined, increased investment in risk mitigation at the local level is achieved, national and sub-national authorities are equipped with skills and capacity to cope with disasters; community knowledge and awareness on disaster risk reduction and management is enhanced; climate change is mainstreamed in sustainable national development planning and DRR is integrated in education curriculum; Seychelles will have strengthened its national and sub-national level capacity to mitigate and cope with disasters and effects of climate change.

## **Key assumptions and risks**

Delivering expected results largely assumes Government leadership and commitment in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, including willingness to support strengthening institutional capacity to cope with disasters.

The SPF also assumes the GoRS has both the capacity to develop and implement comprehensive, well integrated plans that mainstream DRR and climate change. It is assumed that Government has the education curriculum resources (financial resources, learning materials, and qualified educationalists) to develop and roll out implementation of the curriculum in schools and tertiary institutions.

A major risk is that Government may not fully adopt the Sendai Framework for DRR. Fragmentation in the distribution of responsibility to manage disaster risk, limited stakeholder engagement and public awareness, and recovery financing that fails to encourage investment in risk mitigation are significant governance barriers and risks that Seychelles should overcome to fully adopt the Sendai Framework. It is for this reason that support to elimination of these barriers will form most of the UN's support to mitigate the associated risks that could hinder realisation of the outcome of this SPF results area.

## 2.3 Strategic Priority Area Three: Human Capital Development and Quality of Life

Human capital development and enhanced quality of life encompasses various aspects of individual and institutional capacities across all sectors of socio-economic development. However, given the UN's comparative advantage and access to available resources, the SPF concentrates on promotion and attainment of the highest level of health & wellbeing. Seychelles has universal access to health and related services. The National Health Strategic Plan 2016-2020 (NHSP) guides the country's health sector. The overall objective of the NHSP is to increase the expectation of life at birth, reduce incidence of mortality associated with primary non-communicable and communicable diseases and increase the level of satisfaction of both beneficiaries and health professionals, consequently improving the overall health and wellbeing of the people of Seychelles. Overall, Seychelles is on track to achieving national and global health set targets. However, Hepatitis C, respiratory diseases, cancers and cardiovascular diseases continue to increase. Also, despite Seychelles' efforts towards meeting the UNAIDS 90–90–90 targets, new Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infections among key populations are continuing to grow, highlighting the need to reach populations at higher risk of HIV with effective HIV prevention and treatment services. Therefore, the new national health policy puts emphasis on strengthening the Public Health Authority and Health Care Agencies to enhance service delivery throughout the health sector.

Also, more than 50% of Seychelles' population is below 35 years<sup>74</sup> and fertility rates have drastically dropped from 4.0 to 1.5 over the last 38 years. The combination of a youthful population, reduced fertility rates and increased life expectation at birth has resulted in population concerns, which could put pressure on the government provision of pensions and healthcare in the long run, hence require dedicated attention.

### Outcome 4 – Human Capital Development and Quality of Life

**SPF Outcome 4: By 2023, the population of Seychelles, especially women, children, youth, vulnerable and high-risk groups, have increased access to quality, integrated healthcare, education and services that safeguard and promote quality of life**

This outcome of the SPF focuses on interrelated thematic areas including: Reducing communicable, non-communicable diseases and other risks to healthy living including drug abuse; improving quality of life, strengthening the national health care delivery systems, gender equality and women's empowerment, human rights, migration as a contributor to human capital development and harnessing the demographic dividend.

#### **A Communicable, Non-Communicable Diseases and Risks to Quality of Life**

The Ministry of Health (MoH) aims to achieve the SDG targets in relation to prevention and control of both communicable (CD) and non-communicable diseases (NCDs). The GoRS acknowledges challenges, such as high mortality from cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes reflecting some of the key health challenges of non-communicable diseases faced by the country. Like many other small island states in the region, Seychelles remains under the threat of

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<sup>74</sup> Statistical Bulletin: Population and Vital Statistics Mid-Year Population Estimates 2017. National Bureau of Statistics, Seychelles

outbreaks, particularly of arboviruses<sup>75</sup>. The island is experiencing the double burden of disease, having to contend with both communicable and non-communicable conditions. The predominance of chronic non-communicable diseases, other emerging infectious diseases, and rapid aging of the population cause significant new challenges for public health and the health system.



Photo from RCO Archives

Seychelles did not achieve MDG 6 “combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other communicable diseases”<sup>76</sup> and current figures show that the country is not on track to reach NHSP and SDG targets. Although there is 100% access to antiretroviral drugs (ARVs) for people living with HIV (PLHIV), there are still challenges regarding increasing injecting drug use especially among young people and incidence rates demonstrate the need to contain the HIV epidemic. HIV/AIDS and its infectious co-morbidities such as tuberculosis, Hepatitis C, leptospirosis, sexually transmitted infections and vector-borne diseases such as dengue, chikungunya, are among the other main concerns for Seychelles. Though the HIV prevalence among the general population is less than 1%, it is much higher in at risk populations—reaching 14% in males who have sex with males (MSM) group<sup>77</sup>. More studies indicate that the increasing prevalence of HIV/AIDS among key populations, NCDs in the general population, teenage pregnancies and substance abuse among youths and other health complications due to life-style choices among other societal, structural and environmental factors are adversely impacting socio-

<sup>75</sup> Arbovirus is a term used to describe a group of viral infections transmitted to humans from a group of insects known as arthropods

<sup>76</sup> Seychelles Country Profile, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Sub-Regional Office for Eastern Africa, December 2017

<sup>77</sup> The National Strategic Framework 2012 – 2016 for HIV and AIDS and STIs of the Republic of Seychelles

economic development. In light of these issues, comprehensive implementation of the NCD strategy is an existential priority for Seychelles, especially given the magnitude of the NCD-challenge. The four main NCDs; cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and obstructive pulmonary disease, account for more than 65% of all deaths in Seychelles<sup>78</sup>.

Over the last decade, one of the prominent threats to Seychelles' inhabitants has been the growing abuse of drugs, prompting the creation of the position of Secretary of State responsible for Prevention of Drug Abuse and Rehabilitation in 2016 to oversee prevention and mitigation measures against drug abuse and trafficking<sup>79</sup>. Issues of substance abuse are crosscutting, and the negative impacts could be physical (health), social (family and community) and economic. As such it is a hindrance to human development. The Seychelles National Drug Control Master Plan (2014-2018) embedding the National Coordination of the Seychelles Response to Drug Abuse and Trafficking (March 2015) highlighted that since 1993, drug abuse and trafficking have changed from targeting cannabis, alcohol and tobacco to focus on more lethal drugs such as heroin, cocaine, and ecstasy (heroin having become the first choice of drug since 2006). The master plan also confirmed that the prevalence of HIV and hepatitis C are linked to growing drug abuse since 2010.

Within the context of the SPF, the Government of Seychelles prioritises; achieving the SDG targets in relation to prevention and control of NCDs and, improving child, adolescent and maternal health. With respect to HIV, Government will also focus on; reduction of new HIV infections; Prevention, Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) and Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP); HIV testing, counselling, identification, early ART initiation and follow-up, treatment and management of co-infections; test and treatment for increased ART initiation and; protection of the rights of PLHIVs, key populations such as MSM, Sex Workers, Injecting Drug Users (IDU), and vulnerable populations such as teenage mothers, women, young boys and girls. Regarding NCDs some of the main issues to be addressed include; high prevalence of obesity in all age groups, high prevalence of cancer in both genders, abuse of alcohol and drug use and smoking driving the epidemic of cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory illnesses and diabetes and their associated complications. The main causes of mortality in 2016 were cardiovascular diseases (34%), cancers (19%) and respiratory system disease. Seychelles faces various challenges in the fight against drug abuse including inadequate coordination of comprehensive efforts at national level to address the problem, lack of sufficient and robust data on drug abuse and its effects limiting national capacity to make evidence-based decisions pertaining to drug abuse and overall limited availability of expertise in dealing with prevention and support of former drug abusers.

Programmes and interventions will also target to address the negative effects of globalisation and liberalisation of world trade on the health of the population (e.g. importation and consumption of unhealthy foods); low utilisation of Family Planning services, high rates of still births, increasing number of pregnant women using illicit drug that contribute to premature births and low birth weight babies and the effects of obesity associated with complications in pregnancies.

## **B Health Systems Strengthening**

Given the diversity of health challenges Seychelles is facing, there is need for a stronger and more coherent national response with new strategic direction, innovative service delivery approaches and

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<sup>78</sup> Seychelles Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, 2016-2025, Ministry of Health

<sup>79</sup> Seychelles Country Profile, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Sub-Regional Office for Eastern Africa, December 2017

more effective coordination. The GoRS also acknowledges the urgent need to not only concentrate on sustainable funding mechanisms, but also increase funding for the implementation of cost-effective, evidenced-based prevention and public health interventions. The inter-linkages between health and environment are also becoming critical. Risk factors driving up the disease burden are multiple, and include behavioural (alcohol and drug use, child malnutrition, suboptimal breastfeeding, diet risks, sexual abuse, tobacco use, physical inactivity, unsafe sex), environmental (unsafe water/sanitation, natural hazards), and metabolic (high BMI, high cholesterol, high blood pressure, and others) factors. Furthermore, the geographical isolation, the small and aging population and limited resources present major challenges for maintaining and sustaining an effective workforce of health professionals.

The introduction of a modern health information system (HIS) is long overdue. The Health Sector needs reliable and timely data to inform policy and action as well as to enable measurement of progress within the sector. Other challenges remain with building appropriate community/household demand for health services through improving awareness and health seeking behaviours and improving quality of care available to the people. The framework on health (including sexual and reproductive health), HIV/ AIDS and substance abuse, seek to support development strategies that introduce critical interventions aimed at addressing not only health challenges, but also but also to improve the existing quality of care as intended by the NHSP 2016-2020, and household/community demand for existing services. In addition, there is no routine data collection for the eight quality of care indicators for hospitals specified in the NHSP<sup>80</sup>. Implementing interventions to improve and measure quality of care will be a major focus of the Health Sector going forward.

Within the context of the SPF, the Ministry of Health prioritises, strengthening Seychelles' capacity for early warning, health risk reduction and management of national and global health risks, health data generation and management, and strengthening the mainstreaming health issues in all sector policies to achieve the SDGs, as the challenges in the sector have become cross-cutting. Other constraints to be addressed include; vulnerability of Seychelles to global health risk due to tourism, labour migration and open skies. Although the national level of impact of such health-related risks has not been ascertained, there is anecdotal evidence of health workers contracting locally unknown infections from foreign sources that have sometimes gone undetected and even contributed to fatalities. Other constraints that need to be addressed include; limited capacity in using available data for evidence-based decision-making; lower quality of health care, unmet needs for segments of the population, as well as disjointed policy formulation, implementation and evaluation.

### **C Harnessing the demographic dividend**

Slowed population growth, youthful age structure, and rapidly growing urban population characterize Seychelles' demographic profile. If Seychelles' birth rates continue to decline, the age structure will change from one dominated by dependent children and elderly to one dominated initially by youth and then later by working age adults. This transformation in the age structure could enable accelerated economic growth through the mechanism of the demographic dividend – the temporary economic benefit that can arise from a significant increase in the ratio of working-age adults relative to young dependents and elderly that results from fertility decline. Therefore, harnessing the demographic dividend by investing in young people, paying special attention to the population

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<sup>80</sup> These indicators are: 1. Average length of stay; 2. Perioperative mortality rate; 3. Number of hospital acquired infections; 4. Number of hospital acquired infections; 5. Proportion of preventable infant deaths; 6. Proportion of inpatient deaths; 7. Proportion of health facilities that are ready to provide services; and 8. Community health services quality (define quality index).

dynamics of Seychelles is important. The AU has highlighted the importance of the demographic dividend framework and its potential contribution towards the realisation of the socioeconomic transformation goals articulated in the AU's Agenda 2063 and national development visions. The AU's roadmap for harnessing the demographic dividend calls on all African member states to domesticate the demographic agenda and maximise their chances of harnessing the demographic dividend by prioritising investments in education and skills development, health, job creation and good governance<sup>81</sup>

## **D Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment, Social Development and Human Rights**

Gender and family promotion ought to remain at the centre of national development, especially in a country where family values and ethics are under threat from mostly negative external influences and other social vices. Gender equality, promotion and protection of family members, including children and parents, are prerequisites to achieving safe, equitable and sustainable development. Women's rights and access to economic opportunities have always been subdued and gender based violence (GBV) and violence against women and girls (VAWGs) continue to prevail as demonstrated by the increase in teenage mothers and adolescent pregnancies. Similarly violence against children, child labour, human trafficking, delinquency and other negative contributors to limited protection of children continue to affect peaceful societies. With the high prevalence of GBV across genders, but mostly affecting women, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is the most predominant with 54% of women and 35% of men having experienced IPV. GBV has been closely linked to alcohol consumption as most IPV experience and perpetration is attributed to alcohol consumption and drug abuse. Also most men tend to be more conservative towards progressive gender equitable norms. Although the Family Violence Act exists, the law does not cover domestic violence and GBV. It is anticipated that introduction of the 'Domestic Violence Act' will lead to the amendment of the Penal Code and address GBV and related VAWG. There is also still limited capacity to enforce mostly domestic violence related legislation, inadequate capacity and facilities to support and rehabilitate victims of GBV, low conviction of perpetrators and limited awareness of GBV prevention measures<sup>82</sup>.

Although Seychelles' constitution entails protection of fundamental human rights and the state is party to various international commitments and obligations on human rights including subject to the International Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review (UPR), the country still faces various challenges vis-à-vis human rights. The concept of human rights and how it relates to the fundamental aspects of social and economic development across sectors continues to elude many policy makers and implementers. There is also limited availability of disaggregated data required from mostly public institutions to enable them report against human rights treaty bodies, limited budgetary allocations toward treaty reporting, limited human resources available to monitor and report on human rights, especially in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and limited engagement of civil society on human rights promotion and protection<sup>83</sup>. Human mobility also needs to be harnessed to boost development

### **Areas for UN Collaboration**

The UN System will continue to support Seychelles health system in several areas. Through the SPF, the UN will continue to build capacity within the Government to respond to the emerging demands

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<sup>81</sup>African Union Commission, harnessing the demographic dividend through investments in youth, 2017

<sup>82</sup> Gender Based Violence National Baseline study, Ministry of Family Affairs, 2017

<sup>83</sup> Seychelles National Action Plan on Human Rights 2015 – 2020, GoRS, 2015

in health management. Seychelles needs capacity building in gender-responsive research, monitoring and evaluation (including development and roll out of an effective and sustainable M&E framework and system), effective transfer of research evidence into policies and implementation of the Health Infrastructure Master Plan. The UN will also support gender-responsive health policy formulation, implementation and evaluation of health response actions to achieve effective integration/alignment of policies. In addition, support will be provided in the development of national comprehensive health promotion programmes that go beyond health education and support in programme development to effectively address challenges relating to child, adolescent and maternal health.

The UN will support interventions targeted at strengthening, promoting and protecting integrated health care. This includes technical support and capacity building in finding solutions to the CD and NCDs disease burden as well as other infections and health complications. UNCT will include, providing technical support for in-depth studies of the various forms of cancer in Seychelles among women, men and children. The studies could be linked to the consumption patterns and imported food products with a view to explore various causes of cancers. Evidence from such studies will then be used to inform policies and interventions. Other areas, which also reflect national priorities and UNCT global priorities with respect to health include; support to the development of integrated inter-sectoral approaches in order to prevent and reduce disease, disabilities and premature deaths resulting from NCDs, mental health, violence and injuries; reducing the health and social burden of CDs and; addressing the health consequences of emerging disasters and any related crisis and their socio-economic impact.

The UN will also support building national capacity for disease surveillance, development of access to key health facilities and addressing Seychelles vulnerability to natural disaster and global pandemics such as HIV. The UNCT will also support the GoRS to improve national capacity for preventive measures and clinical management, as well as community awareness on lifestyle issues. Support will also be provided for interventions aimed at promoting research and innovation, and building adequate governance, partnership and participation mechanisms.

UN support in the health sector will be provided while ensuring human rights-based approaches are integrated in all programmes and no marginalised groups are excluded from receiving support. Gender will be mainstreamed through the cross-sectoral health support programmes and strategies and key target populations such as adolescents, teenage mothers, pregnant women and others will be a key focus of most community and public health interventions in the health sector supported by the UN.

Furthermore, the UN system will support the GoRS to domesticate the relevant SDGs in this results area of the SPF. This domestication process will engage the public sector, private sector, civil society and any other relevant stakeholders in the development of strategies and interventions focused on realising the relevant SDG targets. Specifically, UN will support in the domestication of SDG 3 “Good Health and wellbeing”, SDG 5 “Gender equality” and SDG 6 “Clean water and sanitation”.

If by 2023; there is enhanced national capacity to prevent and control potential health risks; improved quality care meeting the expectations of the service users, reduced unmet needs for segments of the population; effective integration of all policies by all sectors; then the MoH would have strengthened health care and delivery systems including capacities for health preparedness and response to emergencies and disasters. This improved health system will have reduced prevalence of obesity,

reduced incidence and prevalence of cancers; reduced substance abuse among key at risk populations; prevention and control of negative impacts of globalisation through improved screening for arrival of people from countries with severe epidemics, permanent and well maintained quarantine facilities, and strengthened capacity of sanitary inspectors for imported commodities and open trade; reduced unwanted pregnancies; increased utilisation of family planning services; reduced number of pregnant women using harmful drugs; and reduced number of still births; then there would be reduced incidences of CDs, NCDs and other infections leading to improved healthy living and positive behavioural change among the general population, especially among the high risk groups.

To address drug abuse in Seychelles, the UN will work with mainly the state Agency for the Prevention of Drug Abuse and Rehabilitation to enhance the institutions capacity to design and implement prevention and rehabilitation interventions. The UN will also support the harmonisation and alignment of drug abuse and rehabilitation related policies to enhance national coordination of comprehensive efforts to address drug abuse. UN technical assistance will be provided in the development of data generation and management systems that will aim to provide information necessary to track and provide evidence for decision making relevant in addressing the drug abuse scourge.

UN support in harnessing the demographic dividend will focus on technical assistance in revision of the current national population policy to address fertility decline, ageing as well as sexual and reproductive health. Support will also go towards the development of a national roadmap on harnessing the demographic dividend with strategic interventions to address among other priorities: fertility decline, maternal and child health, creating a healthy workforce through focusing on healthy living determinants, improving the quality of education and skills development, creating quality decent work and promoting self-reliance and harnessing the gender dividend and eradicating factors augmenting inequalities in society.

The UN will provide technical assistance to state and non-state institutions and the media to advance gender equality, women's economic empowerment (GEWE), political participation and decision-making at national and local levels and in the private sector. Specifically, the UN will reinforce its support to national partners for the implementation of relevant laws and policies and the development of gender-responsive budget-tracking tools for use by state institutions to demonstrate accountability, with improved staff capacities to undertake gender budget planning and execution tracking and reporting. Social norms and cultural change will be fostered to promote gender equality and women's empowerment through awareness raising and enhanced engagement of men, media, CSOs and faith based organisations. To fight GBV, the UN will support legislative reforms that, among others, criminalize domestic violence such as the bill for the Domestic Violence Act, currently being developed by the Ministry of Family Affairs, in collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General, review, update and strengthen GBV policies and provide technical assistance in development of services and infrastructure for support and rehabilitation of victims of sexual and gender-based violence. The UN will also strengthen its internal coordination on efforts to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and support the GoRS further implement its CEDAW commitments and reporting requirements and any other regional and/or global commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment.

UN will support all efforts to protect the rights of children, for example interventions to ensure children have access to opportunities that enable proper growth and development. Technical assistance will also be provided in the establishment of child rehabilitation centers to provide mostly psychosocial support to abused children. As part of the technical support in enhancing the quality of education, the UN will support the education sector in strengthening school's governance frameworks and capacity to empower schools' authorities for better-informed and sturdier decision-making. Also, technical assistance will be provided in enhancing parental and community engagement in formal education affairs to enhance student learning and sustain school, family and community partnerships.

The UN support will also include technical assistance in improving the quality of primary, secondary and tertiary education in Seychelles, as well as development of pre-primary system, i.e. Early Childhood Education (ECD).

Human mobility as an enabler can boost trade, business and ultimately economic growth contributing to socio-economic betterment of individuals, communities and societies, provided it is managed in a responsible, humane and dignified manner. This is very relevant in the context of island states like Seychelles: labour migration (both inflow and outflow), diaspora engagement for development, education, and migration management in general will be supported through the UN System that will provide technical assistance in the development and implementation of structured migration frameworks. Also, aspects of decent work and ethical recruitment will be addressed under this support area.

In view of the UN's normative role in promoting human rights, there will be an emphasis on measuring the changes for different groups in society, in collaboration with key state and non-state actors. National monitoring and evaluation systems will be utilised fully possible. Joint research, surveys, studies and reviews will also be conducted to enhance monitoring, evaluation and reporting on commitments to gender equality, women's empowerment and human rights. Where possible, the UN will support national efforts in these areas and utilise their data for evidence-based decision-making. The UN will provide technical assistance to targeted public institutions and civil society organizations to enhance their capacities to increase coverage of quality justice for all, whilst upholding the application of gender equality, women's empowerment and human rights commitments. A specific focus will be placed on vulnerable groups, including women, children, and migrants. Staff in justice institutions could be supported to build technical skills to effectively discharge their functions. Juvenile justice actors and institutions at all levels will be capacitated to further strengthen their skills and knowledge to effectively handle cases that pertain to minors, including children under three detained with their mothers. Also, national capacities, especially in the ministry of foreign affairs will be enhanced to enable staff report against human rights commitments. Under this result area, the UN will continue to support the implementation of Universal Periodic Review (UPR) recommendations and subsequent reviews.

Finally, the UN will support the GoRS in the domestication of the SPF results area relevant to SDGs to enable Seychelles achieve the set targets. More specifically, the SDG domestication process herein will focus on delivering SDG 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions", SDG 5 "Gender Equality", SDG 10 "Reduced Inequalities" and SDG 4 "Quality Education".

## **Key assumptions and risks**

The SPF assumes strong leadership and commitment from all Government Sectors led by the Ministry of Health to fight the mostly NCDs. It also assumes that it will be possible to create positive behavioural change and that the population will be responsive to issues such as changing lifestyles, adoption of healthy living, shunning drug abuse and other social vices affecting health. Another assumption is that the UN can honour its commitments, especially in providing technical support in the various areas of demand.

The major risk is that health interventions may be too costly to implement effectively, as the UN has limited financial resources especially for high-income economies like Seychelles. Also risks in delayed procurement of expertise could affect timely realisation of SPF targets. To mitigate these risks, the UN through mostly south-south cooperation and global network of experts will utilise these comparative advantages to minimise risks associated with costs of experts and protracted procurement processes.

Potential risks include that it could be costly to implement some of the programmes such as the generation of quality and robust gender disaggregated data as required to monitoring progress in the results areas. The UN also acknowledges that human rights are sensitive area therefore mitigation measures will be put in place to ensure continued dialogue is prioritised, mutual respect is observed and focus on delivering peaceful and just socio-economic development remains on the SPF agenda.

## 2.4 Strategic Priority Area Four: Data Development and, Science, Technology and Innovation Development

### Outcome 5 – Data Development, Science, Technology and Innovation

**SPF Outcome 5: By 2023, Government has robust data, science, technology and innovation to support inclusive socio-economic development**

The SPF outcome 5 focuses on two key thematic areas including: strengthening of data management capacities, systems and processes and enhancing science, technology and innovation development and use in inclusive socio-economic growth and development

#### A. Data for Development

The SPF treats Data Development and, Science, Technology and Innovation Development as cross-cutting enablers. Strengthening data for development remains critical for sustainable development planning, monitoring and evaluation of policies, strategies and programmes, especially with respect to the SDGs. A National Statistical System is already in place, but not functioning to full capacity as it should, due to the lack of clear legislation outlining the obligation of stakeholders. It is paramount to strengthen the National Statistical Framework and systems to include the SDG indicators. The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is the central statistical authority and the repository of all official statistics produced in the country. Data development is a continuous process which involves improvements in data gathering and analysis techniques. There is a need to broaden the array of statistics being produced and also improve data collection, analysis and dissemination to the public and for evidence-based policy formulation and planning. Currently, the NBS has limited technical capacity in applying some of the conventional statistical packages such as STATA, R Software, CAPI<sup>84</sup> and others that are vital in social and economic data analysis. Other challenges relate to quality and integrity of administrative data used by NBS in its statistical compilations, and also limited in-house technical capacity to analyze and utilize household-based survey data. There is also limited capacity to generate robust sex-disaggregated data critical for monitoring implementation of especially SDGs and AU Agenda 2063 goals. This will require MDAS generating internal data to incorporate such disaggregation in their information systems/ databases.

For tourism development to be both sustainable and competitive, countries like Seychelles require an exhaustive understanding of their tourism sector and its role in the economy. This can only be achieved through a reliable and accurate System of Tourism Information generation and management. Traditionally, this information has been limited to collection of tourism statistics which measures the flows of foreign travelers to the country, combined with hotel occupancy rates, information provided through visitor surveys, and estimates of tourist expenditures based on balance of payments data. However, today more countries have found the need for more accurate information on types of visitors (both international and domestic), the activities they engage in, and their consumption patterns for goods and services. On the supply side, it is equally important to understand the industries which provide tourism services, in specific processes of production, use of labour, capital investments and other important facts. A national tourism statistical system should be developed through a partnership between the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Ministry of Tourism, Civil

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<sup>84</sup> STATA - a general-purpose statistical software package for economics which allows the analysis of poverty-related statistics; R Software - its features allow for modelling and time-series analysis; Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) for data collection

Aviation, Ports and Marine; Immigration; the Central Bank, as well as tourism players in the private sector, to improve tourism data management in Seychelles.

In tourism and beyond, spatial analytics and analysis is becoming increasingly important since new technology has enabled the more available multi-source datasets to be integrated with Location Intelligence to generate more useful information and knowledge. More precise, local-level insights and knowledge gained through geo-referenced information is allowing both private and public sector to strengthen data-driven development and thus support evidence-based decision-making. Consequently, exploiting opportunities derived from Location Intelligence offers destination stakeholders crucial information needed to achieve global development objectives like SDGs.<sup>85</sup>

## **B. Science, Technology and Innovation**

With regards to science, technology and innovation, the draft NDS' goal is to enhance the capacity for science and innovation to support increase in efficiency and effectiveness, as well as drive the diversification of the economy<sup>86</sup>. The Seychelles National Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation (NISTI) was established to support the development process across all sectors of the economy. To this extent science, technology and innovation is seen as an emerging driver of economic development cutting across all domains in Seychelles. It also bolsters broad based economic diversification, creates sustainable employment opportunities and fosters entrepreneurship. It is therefore, mainstreamed in all sectors to solve development problems, and improve sector effectiveness and efficiency. The Science Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy and Strategic Plan (2016-2025) sets the direction for achieving the national priority goals for the transition to a knowledge-based economy, while keeping focus on the SDGs<sup>87</sup> and AU Agenda 2063 aspirations.

However, despite progress in income and education standards in Seychelles, there is not much progress in terms of research and innovation. Though there are a large number of national / sectoral policies, which implicitly promote Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), for example, Fisheries, Agriculture, Health, ICT, SMEs, Industrialisation, Tourism, etc., there was no explicit national policy framework which integrates STI into the national development strategy<sup>88</sup>. In the context of Seychelles, the key priority areas for support, as identified by the NISTI include: enhancing the overall capacity of the NISTI; promoting research and the utilisation of research outputs in development; development of the policy and strategic framework for Eco-innovation; support towards the National Technology Transfer System and establishment of the National Research Foundation (NRF) as an entity to coordinate and manage research and development at national level.

Despite efforts by the Ministry of Environment to introduce new regulations in support of environmental protection and conservation, there is currently a void in policy coherence and strategic direction for eco-innovation. There is no coordinating body for research & development (R&D) at national level to ensure that Seychelles meets SADC Protocol on Science, Technology and Innovation target of gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) as 1% of GDP by 2020. The latest R&D and

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<sup>85</sup> Although many GIS-based sources are not entirely new in official statistics, such as, for example, satellite images, and georeferenced data have been used for many years in various sectors, it is only through new technological developments, with new sources and potencies of larger, stronger and faster computing (such as cloud computing, Big Data etc.) that geospatial data can be collected and used in new ways in all industries, including tourism.

<sup>86</sup> Draft Outline of the National Development Strategy

<sup>87</sup> National Institute for Science, Technology and Innovation, Strategic Plan 2018-2022

<sup>88</sup> National Institute for Science, Technology and Innovation, Strategic Plan 2018-2022

Innovation survey shows that Seychelles GERD is at 0.4% of GDP<sup>89</sup>. With regards to technology transfer, there is at present no established Technology Transfer System (TTS) to ensure that eco-friendly technology is transferred, adapted and adopted, and to support the commercialization of research.

### **Areas for UN Collaboration**

With respect to data for development, data is key to policy formulation and development planning. Therefore, the UN will support all efforts aimed at strengthening the National Statistical Framework and systems, including support for the revision and modernisation of the statistical law, to support the SDGs and AU Agenda 2063 monitoring and reporting, data management, addressing data deficiency as well as generation of new data, including demographic research, to inform policy decisions. The UNCT will provide technical support for capacity building of the NBS to enhance data collection, analysis and management. The UNCT will also facilitate technical expertise to train the NBS to comprehensively respond to the data needs of a robust monitoring and evaluation system, including the production and use of gender statistics, to meet the information demands of the SDGs and other internationally agreed instruments as well as the AU Agenda 2063.

The NISTI developed a new Strategic Plan approved in 2017, providing an opportunity for UN agencies to position themselves strategically to support key priorities of the NISTI Strategic Plan. As part of its support to implementation of the new NISTI, the UN will provide technical assistance and capacity building for the development of a national policy and strategy for eco-innovation as a signature of the national innovation system (NIS) in support of the Blue Economy and Green Economy. The GoRS needs expert advice and support for a situational analysis on policy coherence that will support development of an umbrella policy and strategy for eco-innovation. The UN will also provide technical assistance and capacity building to set up a National Research Foundation. This is expected to lead to increased R&D efforts to support initiatives that have a positive impact on the economy cascading to the livelihoods of the population especially women and youth. The UN will also support the setting up of the Technology Transfer System. The TTS will also be supported in ensuring it equips youth with modern skills and competencies that will foster and sustain entrepreneurship in younger generations.

As a specific example, in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Ports and Marine and the National Bureau of Statistics, the UN will launch a three-year project to strengthen the national tourism statistical system and develop a tourism satellite account (TSA). The project will focus on capacity building through a range of data collection and analysis, including design and implementation of a series of surveys; strengthening governance and partnerships between various government agencies involved in the tourism statistical system and the private sector; and the compilation of the ten tables that comprise the TSA according to the UN Statistical Commission. Additional technical assistance will be considered in the design of a GIS framework and data capture system with an objective to complement existing data, for example, using satellite images and other external sources and prioritizing areas of importance for tourism planning in Seychelles. The maps could aim to give better, up-to-date insights into, for example, tourism flows, attractions, ancillary services, transport and connectivity networks, impacts on protected areas, satisfaction of tourists

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<sup>89</sup> National Institute for Science, Technology and Innovation, National Innovation Survey, 2017

and the host communities and other areas, paying special attention to areas with potential to accelerate sustainable development of the tourism sector.

As a mechanism to promote gender equality and women's empowerment, dedicated technical assistance from the UN will focus on supporting the NBS and the Gender Secretariat to generate gender-disaggregated data from the different data collection systems and surveys. The next round of Population and Housing Census 2020 will enable the organisation of the next census in the country and the production of more disaggregated data. Capacity will be built within the NBS and the Gender Secretariat and across all levels of Government on how to utilise gender disaggregated data in policy formulation, budgeting and programming to ensure women, girls, youth and other marginalised groups are consistently and holistically targeted in all national development planning at central, local and across all sectors of the economy.

Apart from the data management results area providing information to be used to monitor Seychelles' progress against achievement of SDG targets, this SPF results area will also be used by the UN to domesticate relevant SDGs. Specifically, the SDG 9 "industry, innovation and infrastructure" will be domesticated in collaboration with state and non-state actors.

By 2023, UNCT programme interventions are expected to have strengthened the capacity of the NBS to collect, analyse and manage data for monitoring implementation of SDGs and Agenda 2063 goals across all thematic sectors. Capacity strengthening will be achieved through a number of interventions including; training NBS and other government staff on the use of STATA, R Software and CAPI for data collection. Government is expected to have strengthened data availability and management to support not only decision-making, but also robust tracking of development progress within the context of SDGs.

If by 2023 the NIS is developed in support of the Blue Economy and Green Economy; the National TTS is established to support commercialization of research and ensure eco-friendly technology are transferred, adapted and adopted; the NRF is established as an entity to coordinate and manage research and development to support initiatives that have a positive impact on the livelihoods of the population, especially women and youth, then science, technology and innovation will support inclusive growth not leaving behind any vulnerable groups.

### **Key assumptions and risks**

Realisation of the planned results assumes the GoRS is committed to establishing the necessary environment for strengthening data management and technology innovation. The SPF also assumes that the momentum for improved data collection, processing, analysis, storage and dissemination, and technology innovation, will be maintained, and that it will be both supply and demand driven. It is also assumed that the economy has the capacity to absorb new technology and that the necessary infrastructure to support it exists. Another important assumption relating to strengthening data is that there is competent human resource capacity to collect, process and analyse data. Furthermore, the SPF assumes the existence of parameters to measure unique data.

Potential risks include that it could be costly to generate quality and robust data as required for SDG and AU Agenda 2063 goals monitoring. With regards to technology, the major risk could be the unintended effects of technology such as unemployment and other social negative effects. Technology tends to replace labour and could also be abused to perpetuate cybercrimes. The potential high cost

for introducing and implementing technological innovations could act as a deterrent, especially since most organisational entities in Seychelles are still small in setup and operations. Another risk could be the possibility that innovations may clash with established modes of operating in all sectors and this may create resistance to change.

### **3. The SPF Theory of Change Summary Matrix**

The SPF Theory of Change (ToC) defines all the identified building blocks required to bring about the Seychelles 2032 Sustainable Development long-term goal, “*A prosperous, dynamic, just and resilient nation of empowered, educated and healthy people living together in harmony with nature*”, to which this strategic partnership aims to contribute to achieving. This set of interconnected building blocks—interchangeably referred to as outcomes, results or preconditions—is depicted on a pathway of the anticipated change process. The ToC presented in Figure I below defines the interconnecting actions, results and plausible effects or impacts of realising the SPF’s intended outcomes as well as potential risks and assumptions surrounding the realisation of the targeted goals.

**Figure 1: Theory of change summary matrix: Strategic Partnership Framework: 2019-2023**

Strategic Priority Area	Challenges /Bottlenecks to be addressed	Expected Outputs from strategic interventions by 2023	Outcomes	Assumptions	Risks and Mitigation
<p><b>Economic Transformation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited local technical capacity to explore and unlock value of the ocean economy to drive economic growth and development and effectively address the needs of women and youth</li> <li>Weak policy, legislation and capacity to monitor manage development of the Blue economy</li> <li>Limited institutional knowledge of the Blue economy concept</li> <li>Limited development of manufacturing and industry.</li> <li>Limited carrying capacity of communities to handle increases in tourism activity</li> <li>Barriers to doing business in the Blue Economy for the private sector; including difficulties in opening and operating Blue</li> </ul>	<p>1.1 Policy and Legislative policy framework for management and monitoring of investment in the blue economy strengthened</p> <p>1.2 A conducive business environment enabling MSMEs to operate in a diversified productive sector established</p> <p>1.3 The Blue Economy department and other relevant institutions' capacity strengthened to monitor and manage the ocean economy</p> <p>1.4 Increased investment in and productivity of the Tourism Sector</p> <p>1.5 Increased access to diversified economic activity opportunities within the blue economy for all categories of inhabitants, especially women and youth</p> <p>1.6 Government and general population knowledge and understanding of the application of the blue economy concept enhanced</p> <p>1.7 Increased investment in and productivity of industry and manufacturing</p> <p>1.8 Increased local agricultural and aquaculture production and productivity realized through introduction and promotion of climate smart agricultural</p>	<p><b>SPF Outcome 1:</b> By 2023, the Seychelles economy is diversified and provides varying investment opportunities in the blue economy</p> <p><b>SPF Outcome 2:</b> By 2023, the population, especially most vulnerable, has increased agricultural productivity, food and nutrition security and; enhanced livelihood opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The UN and GoRS honour and deliver their commitments on schedule.</li> <li>Private sector, civil society, development partners and local population share a national vision.</li> <li>The blue economy concept and framework is clearly understood by all relevant stakeholders</li> <li>Specialized expertise are available to support all planned interventions</li> <li>The UN is able to mobilise the required technical assistance on time to support climate smart agriculture technologies</li> <li>New crop varieties and livestock breeds adapt to and thrive within the climate and environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes in the political landscape affect SPF interventions and results at all levels.</li> <li>Unavailability of relevant and robust data to inform SPF interventions.</li> <li>Protracted delays in mainly sourcing expertise for timely implementation</li> <li>New crop varieties and livestock breeds fail to adapt to local climatic conditions</li> <li>Increase in invasive threats to agricultural production.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mitigation Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote transparent collaboration with GoRS and avoid engagement in partisan or national political affairs.</li> <li>Support in data development for all</li> </ul>

	<p>economy enterprises and predominance of state-owned enterprises</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited investment in agriculture and mariculture due to factors including small arable land size, limited technical support and expertise and climatic challenges</li> <li>Growing maritime security insecurity in relation to piracy, cross-border crime and trafficking, border management, maritime pollution and illegal, unregulated, unreported fishing</li> </ul>	<p>practices, resilient crop varieties and livestock breeds</p> <p>1.9 Improvement of the agricultural research and extension support system through enhancement of the capacity of agriculture professionals</p> <p>1.10 Increase local population participation in agriculture, livestock production, aquaculture and agribusiness for income security.</p> <p>1.11 Improved management and performance of MSMEs</p> <p>1.12 Increased job creation and employment opportunities for all, especially women and youth</p> <p>1.13 Enhance maritime security</p>			<p>sectors of the economy through capacity building and technical assistance to relevant institutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support research and development in agriculture to ensure extensive testing of new technologies</li> <li>Develop a roster of experts required for all complex intervention area</li> </ul>
<p><b>Environmental Sustainability and Resilience</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unsustainable exploitation of natural resources including over-fishing</li> <li>Outdated policy and legislation unable to effectively govern evolving environmentally degrading activities such as bycatch and/or access to and development of alternative energy technologies</li> </ul>	<p>2.1 Adequate policies and legislation developed to promote effective, sustainable natural resources utilization and renewable energy production and inclusive access.</p> <p>2.2 Enhanced national capacity to negotiate mutually beneficial fisheries agreements with leading European Union nations</p> <p>2.3 Exploitation of the fisheries value chain enhanced to increase economic opportunities through employment and enterprise</p>	<p><b>SPF Outcome 3:</b> By 2023, national, sub-national, and community levels have enhanced capacity for sustainable management of natural resources and the environment to mitigate and cope with disasters and the effects of climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GoRS shows political will and commitment to implement mechanisms and policies to combat all forms of unsustainable natural resources exploitation and environmental degradation.</li> <li>GoRS has the human capacity and resources to enforce legislation, policy and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enactment and implementation to new legislation for environmental conservation creates conflicts and resistance from especially private investors and local population</li> <li>Limited availability of adequate data to inform decision making and</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited institutional capacity to govern and ensure sustainable and equitable utilization of land and water resources</li> <li>GoRS has limited capacity and resources to monitor maritime crime and illicit transactions</li> <li>Increasing occurrence of natural disasters associated with effects of climate change</li> <li>Limited economic diversity and land for human settlement increasing negative pressure from demand on environment and natural resources</li> <li>Weak linkages between the hospitality sector and environmental conservation regulation and practices</li> <li>High exposure and vulnerability of</li> </ul>	<p>development, especially for youth and women.</p> <p>2.4 National ability for transfer to a clean energy framework improved by revision of the Energy Act to enable integration of all relevant and applicable legislation.</p> <p>2.5 Innovation and development and access to renewable energy technologies enhanced.</p> <p>2.6 Capacity for national energy distribution and management strengthened</p> <p>2.7 Access to technologies appropriate for mitigation in small island context improved</p> <p>2.8 Robust data management for evidence-based planning in place</p> <p>2.9 Climate smart practices in productive sectors develop, promoted and implemented in agriculture, tourism, fisheries, industry and others.</p> <p>2.10 Improved competitiveness and enhanced sustainable environmental conservation practices adopted in the tourism, hospitality and other service sub-sectors.</p> <p>2.11 National and local capacity to mitigate in part and adapt to climate change and global warming strengthened</p>		<p>regulations for sustainable natural resources utilisation, environmental protection, renewable energy production, distribution and management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sufficient cooperation from the private sector, civil society, local population, regional and international stakeholders to support balanced resources exploitation and environmental protection</li> <li>Government has adequate resources to finance investment in climate change adaptation</li> <li>Government is committed to and will take a leadership role in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.</li> <li>Government has the capacity to develop and implement comprehensive</li> </ul>	<p>programme interventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High initial investment costs for establishing clean energy technologies slow down progress.</li> <li>Local population resist alternative renewable energy sources.</li> <li>Non-linear and unpredictable effects of climate change.</li> <li>GORS fails to fully adopt the Sendai Framework for DRR</li> <li>Fragmented responsibility to manage disaster risk, and limited stakeholder engagement and public awareness.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mitigation Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote transparent collaboration with GoRS and avoid engagement in partisan or national political affairs.</li> </ul>
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	<p>human activity, housing and infrastructure to natural disasters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited national capacity to fulfill international commitments to environmental and climate change obligations</li> <li>Limited availability to alternative and/or renewable energy sources and over reliance on fossil fuels contributing to higher GHG emissions</li> <li>Limited awareness of alternative and renewable energy sources among the local population</li> <li>Lack of robust data to enable planning for the energy sector</li> <li>A weak disaster risk reponse strategy and management plan and limited local capacity to implement the plan</li> </ul>	<p>2.12 Increased awareness and adoption of disaster risk reduction, response and governance principles and practices among national leadership and the general population.</p> <p>2.13 The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction implemented</p> <p>2.14 Climate change and environmental conservation mainstreamed in development planning and budgeting</p> <p>2.15 Enhanced sustainable and environmentally sound urban planning and adaptive infrastructure development</p> <p>2.16 Waste management infrastructure developed for effective and environmentally friendly waste disposal and management.</p>		<p>integrated plans that mainstream DRR and climate change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support in data development for all sectors of the economy through capacity building and technical assistance to relevant institutions</li> <li>Support innovation, research and development in climate smart technologies and renewable energy</li> <li>Extensive support to creating awareness of the importance environmental conservation, effects of climate change and DRR among local population and the private sector</li> <li>Support the GoRS in development of a coherent DRM plan and supporting coordination structure</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Human Capital Development and Quality of Life</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing prevalence of Communicable and Non-Communicable diseases across all age groups and gender</li> <li>Increasing new HIV infections, especially among at risk populations such as MSM and IDU</li> <li>Increasing abuse of alcohol, drugs, tobacco and other anti-social behavior, especially among youth population</li> <li>Negative effects of globalization such as drug trafficking and liberalisation of world trade on the population health and economy</li> <li>Low awareness and knowledge of reproductive health issues especially among local communities and adolescents contributing to growing teenage pregnancies and perinatal mortality</li> </ul>	<p>3.1 Quality health care is improved following implementation of the Health Infrastructure Master Plan</p> <p>3.2 Enhanced capacity of Government and health sector professionals to responds to emerging demands of health management</p> <p>3.3 Strengthened strategies, policies and legislation enabling effective integrated health care</p> <p>3.4 Increased awareness among the local population on issues and best practices in adolescent sexual reproductive health and child and maternal health</p> <p>3.5 Research in cancer causes, treatment and prevention to reduce the incidence and prevalence of cancers in the general population</p> <p>3.6 Increased awareness of causes of non-communicable diseases and adoption of positive lifestyle practices that reduce incidence and prevalence of NCDs in the general population</p> <p>3.7 Increased awareness of HIV/AIDS testing, counseling and treatment services with mainly targeted focus on high-risk populations</p> <p>3.8 Increased awareness of the dangers of substance abuse, alcoholism and smoking to reduced prevalence of anti-social behavior and promote healthy and peaceful living.</p>	<p><b>SPF Outcome 4:</b> By 2023, the population of Seychelles, especially women, children, youth, vulnerable and high risk groups, have increased access to quality, integrated healthcare, education and services that safeguard and promote quality of life</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strong leadership and commitment from the Ministry of Health to enhance the quality of health services and fight NCDs and CDs.</li> <li>General population is responsive to healthy lifestyles and recommended best practices for healthy living</li> <li>The UN is able to honour its commitments especially in providing technical support in the various areas of demand.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited availability of specialized expertise to support interventions in health.</li> <li>Insufficient funding to support effective implementation of programmes holistically.</li> <li>Protracted delays in mainly sourcing expertise for timely implementation</li> <li>High cost to produce of quality and robust data gender disaggregated data</li> <li>Interventions in human rights create tension between state and non-state actors (development partners, CSO, general population</li> <li>Negative perceptions of women's empowerment especially from men hinder GEWE</li> </ul> <p><b>Mitigation Measures</b></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High exposure and vulnerability of Seychelles to arboviral diseases and global health risks</li> <li>• Limited data and capacity to use available data for evidence-based and gender-responsive decision-making to address social challenges.</li> <li>• Weak health system and lower quality of health care attributed to mostly limited professional capacity.</li> <li>• Disjointed policy formulation, implementation and evaluation in the health sector</li> <li>• Family values and ethics exposed to negative external influences and social vices.</li> <li>• Existence of GBV, VAWGs and prevalence of teenage mothers and adolescent pregnancies</li> </ul>	<p>3.9 Timely and reliable data for informed policy formulation, action and disease surveillance availed.</p> <p>3.10 Enhance gender equality and women’s empowerment by increasing women’s participation in leadership and decision making and elimination of gender-based violence</p> <p>3.11 Children’s rights are protected, and all children have access to adequate growth and development opportunities including access to quality education</p> <p>3.12 Robust and credible gender disaggregated data is generated to monitor progress in governance, gender equality and human rights</p> <p>3.13 GoRS enabled to comply with and report on its international commitments to GEWE and Human rights e.g. CEDAW and UPR.</p> <p>3.14 Facilitate safe, regular and orderly migration</p> <p>3.15 Harness the development potential of migration for both migrants and societies</p> <p>3.16 Customized Demographic and Health Surveys introduced, developed and implemented</p> <p>3.17 Capacity built for the operationalization of a Gender Information Management System</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a roster of experts required for all complex intervention area</li> <li>• Support the MoH develop a sustainable funding and resource mobilisation strategy for the health sector</li> <li>• Through mostly south-south cooperation and its global network of expert the UN will utilise this comparative advantage to source experts within its system.</li> <li>• Ensure continued dialogue is prioritised, mutual respect is observed and focus on delivering peaceful and just socio-economic development remains on top of the SPF agenda.</li> <li>• Develop and implement interventions focused on engaging men in</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Violence against children, malnutrition, human trafficking and delinquency affecting growth, development and wellbeing of children</li> <li>• Limited awareness, knowledge and understanding of gender equality, women's empowerment and human rights among policy makers, enforcers and general population.</li> <li>• Limited capacity to report against international human rights commitments</li> </ul>				gender equality promotion
<p><b>Data Development and, Science Technology and Innovation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NBS has limited technical capacity in applying some of the latest statistical packages in social and economic data collection and analysis</li> <li>• Limited technical capacity to analyze household-based survey data and utilize findings in programming, and development planning</li> </ul>	<p>4.1. The NBS's capacity is strengthened in collecting, analysing and utilising data to support development planning across sectors and for monitoring implementation of SDGs and AU Agenda 2063</p> <p>4.2. Improved public and NBS access to statistical data by enabling NBS acquire its own servers reduce reliance on micro-data</p> <p>4.3. Enhanced quality of the household based survey and national ability to generate robust gender-disaggregated data and utilize the same to inform formulation of</p>	<p><b>I. SPF Outcome 5:</b> By 2023, Government has robust data, science, technology and innovation to support inclusive socio-economic development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government commitment to establish the necessary environment for strengthening data management and technology innovation</li> <li>• There is momentum to improved data collection, processing, analysis, storage and dissemination, and technology innovation (both supply and demand driven).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of parameters to measure unique data which may compromise quantity and quality.</li> <li>• Unintended effects of technology such as unemployment and other social negative effects.</li> <li>• The potential high cost for introducing and implementing technological</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited institutional capacity to generate robust gender disaggregated data critical for monitoring implementation of SDGs and Agenda 2063.</li> <li>Lack of policy coherence and strategic direction for eco-innovation</li> <li>Absence of a coordinating body for R&amp;D at national level to ensure that Seychelles meets the obligations of SADC Protocol on Science, Technology and Innovation</li> <li>Lack of an established Technology Transfer System</li> <li>Inadequate tourism sector data management to enable more informed decision making for the sector</li> </ul>	<p>national policies laws and development strategies, and national monitoring, reporting and evaluation processes</p> <p>4.4. National policy and strategy for eco-innovation (NIS) developed in support of the Blue Economy and Green Economy</p> <p>4.5. National Research Foundation (NRF) as entity to coordinate and manage R&amp;D at national level established</p> <p>4.6. R&amp;D efforts improved to support initiatives that have a positive impact on the livelihoods of the population, esp. women and youth</p> <p>4.7. National Technology Transfer System established to support commercialization of research, and ensuring eco-friendly technology are transferred, adapted and adopted.</p> <p>4.8. Strengthened national tourism statistical system, GIS mapping capacity and compilation of tourism satellite accounts for more effective management and planning for the tourism sector</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The economy has the capacity to absorb new technology as well as the necessary infrastructure to support it.</li> </ul>	<p>innovations could act as a deterrent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The possibility that innovations may clash with established modes of operating in all sectors</li> </ul> <p><b>Mitigation Measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prioritise research and innovation that prioritises social development and inclusivity</li> <li>Support the GoRS to develop a comprehensive funding and resources mobilisation strategy for science and technology.</li> <li>Prioritise south-to-south cooperation for knowledge sharing</li> </ul>
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## 4. Management and Accountability

This SPF is considered a living document as well as a policy dialogue instrument. It facilitates partnerships and discussions and is flexible and responsive to the evolving social, economic and political context in Seychelles. The SPF will not result in creating new or additional coordination structures, as the approach is to work with and within existing government structures already being used for coordination purposes.

Provisions of the SPF will be implemented through individual UN agencies' funds and programme country cooperation frameworks and country programme as agreed separately with relevant partners in the government. Selection and definition of individual agencies' goals, outcomes and strategies will seek to be consistent with the SPF and Results Frameworks. Individual UN agency Country Cooperation Frameworks and CPDs should also specify how they contribute to SPF objectives and cooperation strategies.

UN agencies, funds, and programmes may also work outside of the four main determined results areas, in areas of GoRS priority with agreed key results, whilst respecting intent of the SPF, in terms of reporting to ensure totality of the UN support is reported on annually to the government to gauge its intended impact.

At operational level, Results Groups drawn from the SPF outcome areas aligned to existing government structures will be used to enhance programmatic coordination in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Operational guidelines and ToR for the Results Groups will be approved by the UNCT and Government. Strategic Results Groups will contribute to specific and agreed outcomes. Each Results Group is led by a designated Government representative or Head of Agency where possible who is a member of the UNCT and is responsible and accountable for driving joint approaches for results, as well as monitoring and reporting within a harmonized and coordinated framework. The Results Group lead is delegate to fulfil a coordination and leadership function on behalf of the Government and the UN.

The Results Groups implementation will be jointly monitored and reviewed in coordination with the GoRS and adjusted as necessary. UN agencies will formulate Country Programme Documents (CPDs) and Annual Work Plans for 2019-2023 to support and reinforce the SPF to achieve maximum impact in line with the international standards. The UN country programme documents and annual work plans whatever is the desired results they are contributing to, will strongly consider the environmental sustainability, human rights and gender equality dimensions to ensure that all activities undertaken in the context of this partnership document translate the crosscutting character of the environment and human rights into action. UN agencies will further jointly report on agreed indicators within the identified results frameworks.

In all the implementation activities, the UNCT will ensure that partnerships are built with broad groups of national and international stakeholders. Implementation arrangements will especially support capacity development and use of national systems for planning implementation, management and monitoring of reforms and development strategies, based on internationally recognized standards and good practices.

In the event of a major disaster or emergency, the UNCT will naturally assist the GoRS in mobilizing any additional humanitarian and emergency support necessary outside the scope of this SPF.

If the GoRS and the UNCT jointly identify other new areas of support appropriate for UN action during this SPF period, additional individual and joint UN agency activities may be developed and implemented to address specific development needs currently outside the SPF Results and Resources Matrix.

To undertake coordinated implementation and oversight of the SPF, the existing NDS Steering Committee which has a multi-stakeholder national forum, will be used as the platform at a strategic level under the leadership of the GoRs and on an ad hoc basis the United Nations Resident Coordinator.

## **5. Monitoring and Evaluation**

Development is a process and the Strategic Partnership Framework needs to be responsive to changes in the economic or social situation in Seychelles. Follow up and review of the Strategic Partnership Framework in Seychelles will reflect this. Results of the SPF at all levels will be tracked through a manageable set of objectively verifiable and repeatable performance indicators essential for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on SPF achievements in a Result-based Management (RBM) approach. A mid-term and final evaluation of the SPF will be conducted to feed into future programming. Key performance indicators will be formulated for the outcomes of each of the four SPF results areas of cooperation. Indicators will be accompanied by baselines, targets and means of verification to adequately trace changes. In addition, assumptions and possible risk factors have been formulated for each SPF outcome. As much as possible indicators will be drawn from the NDS and other existing approved government policies and strategies, to enable the monitoring of the UN contribution to set national priorities.

In line with the work of the Results Groups, an annual SPF Results Report, based on the outcome areas and Strategic Results Group outputs will document the collective work of the UN development system and the contribution of the UN to the national development agenda.

## **6. Resources and Resource Mobilisation**

The total anticipated resources for implementation of the SPF 2019-2023 is estimated at USD 60 million, of which USD 35 million is expected to come from UN Agencies. As a high-income country, GoRS will contribute about USD 25 million as part of cost-sharing to fund the SPF Outcomes. Of the total UN contribution, USD 10,254,420 million is projected to be available from UN agencies' core resources and USD 24,745,580 million is to be mobilised from other sources. The figures are indicative, as they include both financial allocations by each participating UN organisation, or core resources, and a projection of financial resources that organisations expect to mobilise during this SPF cycle to supplement core resources. The estimated financial requirements translate into a combined average annual budget of USD 12 million. The financial figures, while only indicative, are as accurate as possible at the time of the drafting the SPF. Resource commitments will continue to be made only in agency programme and project documents, according to the procedures and approval mechanisms of each agency. The SPF budget will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect the different cycles of specialised and non-resident agencies.

In terms of financial and human resources mobilisation, private sector, foundations and academia will play a critical role in implementing the SPF and contributing to UN and GoRS efforts to achieve SDGs. Public-private partnership and Corporate social responsibility will be key in addressing pockets of poverty.

The UNCT and the Resident Coordinator on behalf of all UN agencies and individual UN agencies, funds, and programmes in partnership with government will undertake fundraising efforts to close any gaps between the indicative budgets in the results frameworks and the actual resources available to implement the commitments to contribute as much as possible to the outcomes of the SPF.

## Summary of Results and Resources

Strategic Priority area	Outcomes	Resources (USD\$)		
		Indicative Resources	Contributing UN Agencies and amount	
1. Economic Transformation	1. By 2023, the Seychelles economy is diversified and provides varying investment opportunities in the blue economy	1,321,409	UNIDO UNICEF UNESCO IAEA IOM UNECA	300,000 75,000 150,000 280,000 230,000 400,000
	2. By 2023, the population, especially most vulnerable, has increased agricultural productivity, food and nutrition security and; enhanced livelihood opportunities	5,879,330	FAO IAEA IFAD UN Women Others	940,000 780,000 3,822,920 50,000 172,819
2. Sustainability and Resilience	3. By 2023, national, sub-national, and community levels have enhanced capacity for sustainable management of natural resources and the environment to mitigate and cope with disasters and the effects of climate change	21,471,928	UNDP UNEP UNWTO FAO UNIDO UNODC UNESCO UN-HABITAT ILO IOM Others:	17,700,000 785,000 89,418 600,000 300,000 741,000 300,000 200,000 297,500 172,600 286,410
3. Human Capital Development and Quality of Life	4. By 2023, the population of Seychelles, especially women, children, youth, vulnerable and high-risk groups, have increased access to quality, integrated healthcare and education services that safeguard and promote quality of life	3,366,810	WHO FAO UNAIDS OHCHR UNFPA IOM UN Women Others:	2,500,000 110,000 28,000 20,000 150,000 172,400 100,000 286,410
4. Data Development and, Science, Technology and Innovation	5. By 2023, Government has robust data, science, technology and innovation to support inclusive socio-economic development	2,960,523	UNDP UNWTO FAO UNIDO UNODC UNICEF UNESCO IAEA UNFPA ILO UN Women Others:	100,000 100,000 821,000 200,000 588,113 125,000 300,000 190,000 150,000 50,000 50,000 286,410
Total UN Agencies Contribution				35,000,000
Government cost-sharing contribution				25,000,000
Grand Total				60,000,000

## 7. Communication for Results

Communicating as One is a key component of the Delivering as One Agenda in Seychelles and providing a solid foundation for heightened visibility of the contribution of the UN to Seychelles' development will remain a priority of the communications function during this SPF.

Based on this, under the SPF a greater emphasis will be given to UN system-wide advocacy, communication and partnerships. The communication approach will be based on the SPF Results Areas to better enable opportunities for joint advocacy, communication, partnership and resource mobilization. The joint UN communication capacities based in the Office of the Resident Coordinator will be strengthened. Every Results Group and Joint Programme will have a coordinated communication action plan, a joint communication looking at cross-cutting issues and common advocacy will also be implemented. The communication focal persons from each Results Group will meet at least twice each year and as part of Results Groups meetings to review progress and address emerging issues jointly. When necessary, existing UN communication resources will be mobilised by the team to work on specific assignments.

In support of the SPF, the Agenda 2030 and the Secretary-General's reforms will guide the UN in Seychelles' communication. This calls for the UN to be more responsive to the larger public through joint advocacy, communications and creation of strategic partnerships and alliances with actors in the private sector, philanthropic organizations, civil society and government to ensure that the UN continues to maximize comparative advantages to remain the preferred development partner. This will also help with fostering ownership of the SDGs, with "leave no one behind" as the core principle.

The UN in Seychelles to strengthen outreach and communication around the SPF will adopt a set of core strategies, including:

**Joint advocacy on common issues:** Based on the SDGs, NDS, and the SPF Outcomes, the UNCT will strengthen partnerships with the GoRS and stakeholders to undertake sustained joint outreach and advocacy campaigns on agreed thematic areas focusing on policy, social and behavioural change. A wide range of communication materials and resources will support this.

**Joint communication of results:** As individual and Joint Workplans become evident, the UNCT will translate results into multiple formats of easy-to-access communication materials targeting decision-makers, partners and the public. In addition, the significant achievement of the SPF will also be highlighted through similar media and initiatives, to be used by the UN system and by individual agencies.

**Joint field visits:** The UNCT will organize regular joint field visits with Government, private sector, development partners, CSOs, the media and other stakeholders, to monitor progress and interact with beneficiaries on the impact of the UN-supported development and humanitarian programming.

**Enhanced partnerships with the media:** A strong and responsive two-way partnership between the UN and the media is critical to ensure that reliable information and key messaging are available to the public and targeted groups. The UNCT, through the Office of the RC and Communications persons will organize regular interactions, such as media breakfasts, workshops and press briefings to keep the public fully informed of latest developments in the UN system. This will also assist with building up confidence in the UN brand as well as stronger ownership of the development process by the general population.

## **Annex I: Legal Annex to Seychelles Strategic Partnership Framework**

### **I. Partnerships, Values and Principles**

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

- a) WHEREAS the Government and the United Nations Development Programme (hereinafter referred to as UNDP) have entered into a basic agreement to govern UNDP’s assistance to the country (Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA), which was signed by both parties on 01 December 1977. 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 Programming Procedures resulting from the UNDG simplification and harmonization initiative. In light of this decision this SPF together with a work plan (which shall form part of this SPF and is incorporated herein by reference) concluded hereunder constitute together a project document as referred to in the SBAA.
- b) With the World Health Organisation (WHO) the Agreement with the Government of Seychelles for technical cooperation was signed by both parties on 07 December 1980.
- c) With regard to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the text to be used in this section of the SPF depends on the specific legal circumstances prevailing. A menu of options for the appropriate text is available on the UNFPA Policies and Procedures Manual (PPM), Programme. Country Offices are requested to select the appropriate text from this menu of options. Alternatively, they may contact UNFPA's Legal Unit, OED, for the correct text to be used.
- d) With the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Seychelles is under FAO Office for Madagascar, Comoros, Mauritius and Seychelles: 159, Route circulaire, BP 3971, Antananarivo 101 – Madagascar. The Office was officially created on 20th January 1981.
- e) With the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) the agreement with Government of Seychelles for technical cooperation signed by both parties since the establishment of the office in Madagascar in August 1996, to also cover Mauritius, Comoros and Seychelles.
- f) With the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Revised Supplementary Agreement Concerning the Provision of Technical Assistance by the IAEA (RSA) entered in force on 26 October 2006.
- g) For the remaining signing Non-Resident 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 UN system agency’s governing structures.

The SPF will, in respect of each of the United Nations system 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 system agency and the Host Government.

## Annex 2: Results and Resources Framework: GoRS-UN Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF):2019-2023

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework			
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)	
<b>Strategic Priority Area One: Economic Transformation</b>								
<b>Related national development priority or goal:</b> Draft National Development Strategy: An innovative, diversified, globally competitive, technologically advanced, resilient and sustainable economy driven by the private sector; Establish a comprehensive Blue Economy strategy that is adapted to the local context and promote the Blue Economy as a driver for wealth creation and equitable wealth distribution; Facilitate entrepreneurship and private sector development, Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy 2017-2022								
<b>Related SDG (s):</b> 1, 8,9, 14; <b>Related AU Agenda 2063 Goals:</b> 1, 4, 6								
<b>I.0: SPF Outcome One:</b> By 2023, the Seychelles economy is diversified and provides varying investment opportunities in the blue economy				UNIDO	300,000	Nil	300,000	
				UNICEF	75,000	Nil	75,000	
				UNESCO	150,000	50,000	100,000	
				IAEA	280,000	280,000	Nil	
				IOM	230,000	230,000	Nil	
				UNECA	400,000	Nil	400,000	
		<b>Indicator:</b> Total investment (FDI & Domestic) as a % of National GDP	GoRS annual economic reports NBS GDP report CBS Report					
		<b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx						
		<b>Indicator:</b> Gini Coefficient	GoRS annual economic reports NBS GDP report					
		<b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx						
<b>Indicator:</b> National Unemployment rate	NBS GDP report Central Bank of Seychelles Report							
<b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx								

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage change in contribution of the sectors (tourism, fisheries, industry etc.) to National GDP <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	GoRS annual economic reports NBS GDP report CBS Report				
	Policy and Legislative policy framework for management and monitoring of investment in the blue economy strengthened	<b>Indicator:</b> Number of Legislative and regulatory framework reforms implemented <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Government ministry reports				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Level of compliance with international best practices governance of the blue economy <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Blue Economy Ministry reports				
	The Blue Economy department and other relevant institutions' capacity strengthened to monitor and manage the ocean economy	<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage increase in contribution of blue economy to GDP <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Blue Economy Ministry				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
	Increased investment in and productivity of the Tourism sector	<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage increase in the contribution of the Tourism sector to National GDP <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx					
	Increased access to diversified economic activity opportunities within the blue economy for all categories of inhabitants, especially women and youth	<b>Indicator:</b> Numbers of registered businesses operating in the Blue economy <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Blue Economy Ministry Ministry of Investment				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of Population employed in the blue economy ( <i>disaggregated by age and gender</i> ) <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development annual economic reports Ministry of Employment NBS Employment Statistical Report				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Number of types of economic activities in the blue economy ( <i>disaggregated</i> )	Blue Economy Ministry				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		<i>by typology and annual turnover)</i> <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Investment				
	Increased investment in and productivity of industry and manufacturing	<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage increase in the contribution of the industry sector to National GDP <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx					
	A conducive business environment enabling MSMEs to operate in a diversified productive sector established	<b>Indicator:</b> Numbers of MSMEs operating in the Blue economy ( <i>disaggregated by Formal and Informal</i> ) <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Blue Economy Ministry Ministry of Investment NBS Employment Statistical Report				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
<b>2.0: SPF Outcome Two:</b> By 2023, the population, especially most vulnerable, has increased agricultural productivity, food and nutrition security and enhanced livelihood opportunities				FAO	940,000	340,000	600,000
				IAEA	780,000	780,000	Nil
				IFAD	3,822,920	3,822,920	Nil
				UN Women	50,000	Nil	50,000
				Others	172,819	Nil	172,819
		<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage contribution of Agriculture to National GDP <b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target: Xxx</b>	Xxx				
		<b>Indicator:</b> National malnutrition rates (disaggregated by age) <b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target: Xxx</b>	Xxx				
Increased local agricultural and aquaculture production and productivity realized through introduction and promotion of climate smart agricultural practices, resilient crop varieties and livestock breeds	<b>Indicator:</b> Quantity of annual fish catch <b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target: Xxx</b>	Annual reports from Ministry of Fisheries					
	<b>Indicator:</b> Total land cultivated using climate smart agro-practices (disaggregated: improved and unimproved breeds/Varieties) <b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target: Xxx</b>	Ministry of Agriculture annual reports					

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage increase in total crop and livestock production for 4 main products <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Agriculture annual reports				
	Improvement of the agricultural research and extension support system through enhancement of the capacity of agriculture professionals	<b>Indicator:</b> Number of local research publications and innovations in agriculture <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Xxx				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Number of agricultural officers equipped with skills to promote climate smart agricultural practices. <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Xxx				
	Increased local population participation in agriculture, livestock production, aquaculture and agribusiness for income security	<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of Population employed in the agriculture (disaggregated by age and gender) <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Xxx				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of population below the National poverty line (Disaggregated by	Xxx				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		<i>absolute, income and food poverty</i> <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx					
<b>Strategic Priority Area Two: Environmental Sustainability and Resilience</b>							
<p><b>Related national development priority or goal:</b> Draft NDS: A global leader in environmental conservation and climate change resilience, adopting integrated sustainable development practices; Ensure the right balance between the country's development and environmental protection; A thriving tourism sector promoting responsible, ethical and sustainable practices to achieve economic empowerment, environmental protection and socio-cultural integration; Develop sustainable fisheries to its full potential whilst safeguarding the marine environment and resource base; Develop a resilient, innovative, high-value and climate-smart agricultural sector; Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy 2012-2020,; Seychelles National Agriculture Investment Plan 2015-2020: Seychelles is producing enough food to ensure its availability to meet the country's food security and nutrition needs and reduce risks and vulnerability in the event of local and/or external factors which may limit or hinder access to the global food market</p>							
<b>Related SDG (s): 2,5, 6, 7, 11,12, 13, 15; Related AU Agenda 2063 Goals: 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 , 7, 17, 18</b>							
3.0: <b>SPF Outcome 3:</b> By 2023, national, sub-national, and community levels have enhanced capacity for sustainable management of natural resources and the environment to mitigate and cope				UNDP	17,700,000	50,000	17,650,000
				UNEP	785,000	200,000	500,000
				FAO	600,000	550,000	50,000
				UNIDO	300,000	Nil	300,000
				UNWTO	89,418	Nil	89,418
				UNODC	741,000	Nil	741,000
				UNESCO	300,000	100,000	200,000
				UN-Habitat	200,000	Nil	200,000
				ILO	297,500	297,500	Nil
				IOM	172,600	172,600	Nil
			Others	286,410	Nil	286,410	

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
with disasters and the effects of climate change		<b>Indicator:</b> % of public and expenditure in environment, natural resources conservation and climate change, as part of total public expenditure.  <b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target: Xxx</b>	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development annual economic reports				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Hectares of coastal ecosystems under management/restoration  <b>Baseline:</b> 1,293 ha Marine Protected Areas and Mangroves (2016) <b>Target:</b> 4,020 hectares marine protected areas and 3,000 hectares sea grass beds (2020)	Ministry of Environment annual report				
	Exploitation of the fisheries value chain enhanced to increase sustainable economic opportunities through employment and enterprise development,	<b>Indicator:</b> Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels  <b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target: Xxx</b>	SDG; Agenda 2063 goals monitoring reports  Seychelles Fishing Authority				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of population employed across the fisheries value	Seychelles Fishing Authority				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
	especially for youth and women.	chain ( <i>disaggregated by sex, age and activities</i> )  <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx					
	Adequate policies and legislation developed to promote effective, natural resources utilization and renewable energy production and inclusive access.	<b>Indicator:</b> Number of sustainable natural resources utilisation and renewable energy related policies and strategies responsive to climate change developed  <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Environment annual report				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage increase in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and other unsustainable natural resource exploits  <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Environment annual report  Seychelles Fishing Authority				
	National and local capacity to mitigate in part and adapt to climate change and global warming strengthened	<b>Indicator:</b> Area of watershed outside protected areas brought under integrated planning for sustainable development	MEECC reports  National Bureau of Statistics				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		<p><b>Baseline:</b> 0 Ha (2016) <b>Target:</b> 2,169 Ha by 2020</p>					
		<p><b>Indicator:</b> Area of forest managed to reduce flooding and protect water resources during drought</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 3,102 hectares (Morne Seychellois) 2016</p> <p><b>Target:</b> 5,337 hectares (2020)</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment Annual Reports Reports to Convention Mid Term and Terminal Project Evaluations</p>				
		<p><b>Indicator:</b> Area of land managed sustainably under an in-situ conservation regime, a sustainable use regime and an access and benefits sharing regime</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 44,200 Ha protected areas estate 0 Ha terrestrial sustainable use areas, 0 Ha access and benefits sharing (2016)</p> <p><b>Target:</b> 121,695 ha protected areas 2,169 ha terrestrial sustainable</p>	<p>Ministry of Environment Annual Reports Reports to Convention Mid Term and Terminal Project Evaluations</p>				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		use, access and benefits sharing to be determined (2020)					
	Climate change and environmental conservation mainstreamed in development planning and budgeting	<b>Indicator:</b> Number of Sector and Decentralised development action plans that mainstream climate change and environmental conservation  <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Environment Annual Reports				
	Improved competitiveness and enhanced sustainable environmental conservation practices adopted in the tourism, hospitality and other productive sectors.	<b>Indicator:</b> Number and % of tourism sector service providers that adopt and implement climate smart practices  <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Tourism Annual Reports				
	Innovation and development and access to renewable energy technologies enhanced.	<b>Indicator:</b> Number of renewable energy innovations developed and adopted  <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx	Xxx				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		<p><b>Target:</b> Xxx</p> <p><b>Indicator:</b> Ratio of population primarily reliant on renewable energy to fossil fuel energy sources</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> Xxx</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Xxx</p>	Reports on Green economy				
	Capacity for national energy distribution and management strengthened	<p><b>Indicator:</b> Number of households benefiting from grant and loan schemes for Renewable Energy Technology and Energy Efficient appliances (<i>sex-disaggregated</i>)</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0 poor and 35 female-headed households (2016)</p> <p><b>Target:</b> 200 poor and 300 female headed households</p>	Reports on Green economy Seychelles Energy Commission Reports				
		<p><b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of total renewable energy produced and consumed on the national grid</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0%</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Xxx</p>	Reports on Green economy				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
	Increased awareness and adoption of disaster risk reduction, response and governance principles and practices among national leadership and the general population.	<b>Indicator:</b> Level of alignment of national DRR framework with Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030 according to assessment indicators.  <b>Baseline:</b> 0 /38 <b>Target:</b> XX	Ministry of Environment-Department of Risk and Disaster Management				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Area of rehabilitated water provisioning and watershed flooding attenuation systems  <b>Baseline:</b> 0 hectares (2016) <b>Target:</b> 3,300 hectares	Ministry of Environment Department of Risk and Disaster Management				
	<b>Indicator:</b> National institutional structure for disaster and emergency preparedness and response fully functional in accordance to international standards.  <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Environment Department of Risk and Disaster Management					

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		<b>Indicator:</b> Value of Annual losses resulting from natural disasters <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b>	Ministry of Environment Department of Risk and Disaster Management				
	Enhanced sustainable and environmentally sound urban planning and adaptive infrastructure development	<b>Indicator:</b> Proportion of population living in slums, Informal settlements or inadequate housing ( <i>disaggregated by urban and rural</i> ) <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Xxx				
	Waste management infrastructure developed for effective and environmentally friendly waste disposal and management	<b>Indicator:</b> Proportion of solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Xxx				
<b>Strategic Priority Area Three: Human Capital Development and Quality of Life</b>							
<b>Related national development priority or goal:</b> National Health Strategic Plan 2016-2020: To continue to promote, protect and restore the health and well-being of all people in Seychelles throughout their life course; Draft National Development Strategy: Promote the attainment of the highest level of health & well-being; Happy, healthy people living in a harmonious and peaceful community; Ensuring cultural sustainability for the well-being of all; Integration of spirituality in our daily							
<b>Related SDG (s): 2, 3, 5,6; Related AU Agenda 2063 Goals: 1, 3, 17</b>							
4.0: <b>SPF Outcome 4:</b> By 2023, the population of				WHO	2,500,000	2,500,000	Nil
				FAO	110,000	110,000	Nil
				UNAIDS	28,000	28,000	Nil

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
Seychelles, especially women, children, youth, vulnerable and high risk groups, have increased access to quality, integrated healthcare, education and services that safeguard and promote quality of life				UNFPA	150,000	Nil	150,000
				IOM	172,400	172,400	Nil
				OHCHR	20,000	20,000	Nil
				UN Women	100,000	Nil	100,000
				Others	286,410	Nil	286,410
		<b>Indicator:</b> Neonatal mortality rate <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Health				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Health				
		<b>Indicator:</b> National life expectancy (disaggregated by sex) <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Health NBS				
	Increased awareness among the local population on issues and best practices in adolescent sexual	<b>Indicator:</b> Adolescent birth rate (10-14 years & 15-19 years) per 1,000 women in that age group <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Health SDG and Agenda 2063 goals monitoring reports				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
	reproductive health and child and maternal health	<b>Target: Xxx</b>  <b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of health facilities in target areas providing services for key populations (female sex workers etc.)  <b>Baseline: Xxx</b>  <b>Target: Xxx</b>	Ministry of Health SDG and Agenda 2063 goals monitoring reports				
	Increased awareness of causes of non-communicable diseases and adoption of positive lifestyle practices that reduce incidence and prevalence of NCDs in the general population	<b>Indicator:</b> NCDs incidence per 1,000 population  <b>Baseline: Xxx</b>  <b>Target: Xxx</b>	Ministry of Health				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Number of people reached through NCD/Lifestyles campaigns ( <i>disaggregated by sex, gender and geographical location</i> )  <b>Baseline: Xxx</b>  <b>Target: Xxx</b>	Ministry of Health				
	Enhanced capacity of Government and health sector professionals to responds to emerging demands	<b>Indicator:</b> International Health Regulations (IHR) capacity and health emergency preparedness  <b>Baseline: Xxx</b>  <b>Target: Xxx</b>	Ministry of Health				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
	of health management	<b>Indicator:</b> Health worker density and distribution ( <i>number and geographic distribution</i> ) <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Health  Department of Risk and Disaster Management				
	Quality healthcare is improved following implementation of the Health Infrastructure Master Plan	<b>Indicator:</b> Proportion of the population with access to affordable medicines and vaccines on a sustainable basis <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Health  NBS				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Health worker to patient ratio ( <i>disaggregated by health worker typology and geographical location</i> ) <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Ministry of Health				
	Increased awareness and availability of contraceptives and HIV/AIDS testing, counselling and treatment services with mainly targeted focus on	<b>Indicator:</b> Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population ( <i>by sex, age and key populations</i> ) <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Xxx				
<b>Indicator:</b>		Xxx					

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
	high-risk populations	Contraceptive prevalence rate. <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx					
		<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of HIV+ patients on ART (Disaggregated by children 0-14 years, pregnant women, persons 15+). <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Xxx				
	Increased awareness of the dangers of substance abuse, alcoholism and smoking to reduced prevalence of anti-social behaviour and promote healthy and peaceful living.	<b>Indicator:</b> Alcohol per capita consumption (Aged 15 years and older) within a calendar year in litres of pure alcohol <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Xxx				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	Xxx				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		<b>Indicator:</b> Number of drug related offences recorded <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx	National Police				
	Timely and reliable data for informed policy formulation, action and disease surveillance availed.	<b>Indicator:</b> A National Health Management Information System established <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx					
	Enhance gender equality and women's empowerment by increasing women's participation in leadership and decision making and elimination of gender-based violence	<b>Indicator:</b> Number of legislative and policy reforms done to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination based on sex <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx					
		<b>Indicator:</b> % of population that experienced sexual or gender base violence in previous 12 months <i>(Disaggregated by sex, age and location)</i>					

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		<b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target: Xxx</b>					
	Children's rights are protected, and all children have access to adequate growth and development opportunities including access to quality education	<b>Indicator:</b> Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx					
		<b>Indicator:</b> Proportion of children aged 1-17 years who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression in the past month <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx					

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
	Robust and credible gender disaggregated data is generated to monitor progress in governance, gender equality and human rights.	<p><b>Indicator:</b> Proportion of children under 5 years who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being, by sex</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> Xxx</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Xxx</p>					
		<p><b>Indicator:</b> Proportion of schools with access to:</p> <p>(a) Electricity; (b) Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes;</p> <p>(d) Adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water; (f) single sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic hand washing facilities</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> Xxx</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Xxx</p>					

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
	GoRS enabled to comply with and report on its international commitments to GEWE and Human rights e.g. CEDAW and UPR	<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage of reports submitted and recommendations from human rights mechanisms (UPR, TB, SP, Regional System) implemented. <b>Baseline:</b> Xxx <b>Target:</b> Xxx					
<b>Strategic Priority Area Four: Data Development, Science, Technology and Innovation</b>							
<b>Related national development priority or goal:</b> Science and Technology Innovation Policy and Strategy Plan 2016-2025: Transform Seychelles into a knowledge-based and innovation-driven economy that will attain its national as well as the United Nations' sustainable development goals by 2030; Draft National Development Strategy: Enhanced capacity for science and innovation to support increase in efficiency and effectiveness, as well as driving the diversification of the economy							
<b>Related SDG (s): 2, 3, 5, 6; Related AU Agenda 2063 Goals: 1, 2, 4, 6</b>							
<b>5.0: SPF Outcome 5: By 2023,</b> Government has robust data, science, technology and innovation to support inclusive socio-economic development				UNDP	100,000	100,000	Nil
				FAO	821,000	756,000	65,000
				UNIDO	200,000	Nil	200,000
				UNWTO	100,000	Nil	100,000
				UNODC	588,113	Nil	588,113
				UNICEF	125,000	Nil	125,000
				UNESCO	300,000	100,000	200,000
				IAEA	190,000	190,000	Nil
				UNFPA	150,000	Nil	150,000
				UN Women	50,000	Nil	50,000
				ILO	50,000	50,000	Nil
				Others	286,410	Nil	286,410

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		<p><b>Indicator:</b> Number of domesticated SDG indicators the national systems report on reliably</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> Xxx</p> <p><b>Target:</b> Xxx</p>	Xxx				
	The NBS's capacity is strengthened in collecting, analysing and utilising data to support development planning across sectors and for monitoring implementation of SDGs and AU Agenda 2063	<p><b>Indicator:</b> Framework and system for monitoring the SDGs and Agenda 2063 established</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> SDG National Oversight Committee established in 2017.</p> <p><b>Target:</b> SDG Baseline Survey completed by 2019/1<sup>st</sup> VNR produced in 2019</p>	NBS annual reports/ SDG and Agenda 2063 monitoring reports				
<p><b>Indicator:</b> Number of surveys and evaluation conducted;</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b></p> <p><b>Target</b></p>		NBS annual reports/ SDG and Agenda 2063 monitoring reports					
<p><b>Indicator:</b> Number of SDG and Agenda 2063 goals monitoring, and evaluation report produced:</p>		NBS annual reports/ SDG and Agenda 2063 goals					

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
		<b>Baseline:</b> <b>Target</b>	monitoring reports				
	National Technology Transfer System established to support commercialization of research, and ensuring eco-friendly technology are transferred, adapted and adopted.	<b>Indicator:</b> Legislative policies enacted to enhance science, technology and innovation <b>Baseline:</b> <b>Target</b>	NISTI Reports				
	Improved public and NBS access to statistical data by enabling NBS acquire its own servers (necessary ICT infrastructure) reduce reliance on micro-data	<b>Indicator:</b> Number of support structures, systems and institutions established to enhance access to data <b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target: Xxx</b>	NISTI Reports				
		<b>Indicator:</b> Level of demand and supply driven science, technology and innovation uptake by sectors <b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target: Xxx</b>	NISTI Reports				

Result/ Outcome	Key Output(s)	Indicator(s)	Data Source	UN Partners	Medium-Term Common Budgetary Framework		
					Total (C) (USD)	Projected to be available (A)	To be mobilised (B)
	Enhanced quality of Household Budget Survey data and national ability to generate robust gender disaggregated data	<b>Indicator:</b> Number of central and local government entities using HBS findings in planning and budgeting <b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target:</b>	Xxx				
	R&D efforts improved to support initiatives that have a positive impact on the livelihoods of the population, esp. women and youth	<b>Indicator:</b> Number of local innovations developed to address challenges faced by most vulnerable ( <i>disaggregate by sources of funding/support</i> ) <b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target: Xxx</b>	Xxx				
	Strengthened national tourism statistical system, GIS mapping capacity and compilation of tourism satellite accounts for more effective management and planning for the tourism sector	<b>Indicator:</b> Percentage increase in contribution of the tourism sector to the National GDP <b>Baseline: Xxx</b> <b>Target: Xxx</b>	Xxx				
<b>Total Contributions from UN Agencies</b>							<b>35,000,000</b>
<b>Government cost-sharing contribution to the SPF</b>							<b>25,000,000</b>
<b>Grand SPF Total</b>							<b>60,000,000</b>

### Annex 3: Indicative Resources by UN Agency<sup>90</sup>: Core-Regular/Other Resources: SPF 2019-2023

UN Agency	Outcome contributing to:	Core-Regular Resources (US\$)	Other Resources (US\$)	Total (US\$)
WHO	4	2,500,000		2,500,000
UNICEF	1 & 4		200,000	200,000
UNDP	3 & 5	150,000	17,650,000	17,800,000
FAO	2,3,4&5	1,756,000	715,000	2,471,000
IOM	1, 3, 4	75,000	500,000	575,000
IAEA	1,2 & 5	1,250,000		1,250,000
UNAIDS	4	3,000	25,000	28,000
ILO	3 & 5	227,500	120,000	347,500
UNEP	2	200,000	585,000	785,000
UNIDO	1, 3 & 5		800,000	800,000
UNODC	3 & 5		1,329,113	1,329,113
UNESCO	1,3 & 5	250,000	500,000	750,000
WTO Tourism	3 & 5		189,418	189,418
UN-Habitat	3		200,000	200,000
IFAD	2	3,822,920		3,822,920
OHCHR	4	20,000		20,000
UN Women	2,4 & 5		200,000	200,000
UNFPA	4&5		300,000	300,000
UNECA	1		400,000	400,000
Others <sup>91</sup>			1,032,049	1,032,049
	<b>Total UN Funding</b>	<b>10,254,420</b>	<b>24,745,580</b>	<b>35,000,000</b>

<sup>90</sup> In case of emergencies, OCHA represented by the Regional Office for Southern and Eastern Africa (ROSEA) will support emergency response and response readiness activities that the UNCT might undertake in support of the Government.

<sup>91</sup> Provisioned for other agencies and/or departments and relevant partnerships that could arise after signing of the SPF

# 17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



**1 NO POVERTY**

**2 ZERO HUNGER**

**3 GOOD HEALTH**

**4 QUALITY EDUCATION**

**5 GENDER EQUALITY**

**6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**

**7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY**

**8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**

**9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

**10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES**

**11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**

**12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION**

**13 CLIMATE ACTION**

**14 LIFE BELOW WATER**

**15 LIFE ON LAND**

**16 PEACE AND JUSTICE**

**17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS**

