

PROJECT DOCUMENT
NIGERIA



Project Title: Promoting Transparent, Inclusive and Peaceful Elections in Nigeria Project

Project Number:

Implementing Partner: UNDP

Start Date: 01 – 10 - 2022

End Date: 31 – 12 - 2025

PAC Meeting date: 15 – 12 - 2022

Brief Description

The support for democracy has remained strong and the trust of Nigerians in the democratic process is resilient since 1999. The 2023 elections represent another crucial step in the consolidation of Nigeria's democracy. The democratic process in Nigeria is challenging. At the federal level, there is evidence of incremental improvement despite the initial challenges encountered between 1999 and 2007. Nigeria has organized six consecutive elections since 1999, attaining a significant milestone in 2015 with a change of power between the ruling party and the opposition. The new Electoral Act 2022, repealing the 2010 Electoral Act, provides for improved transparency, accountability, inclusivity and timelines for elections, a clearer legal basis for the use of new technology, timely release of funds to INEC, a year in advance; strengthens integrity measures in results transmission process, streamlines dispute resolution processes, and provision for the inclusion of persons with disabilities (PWDs). INEC has developed a Strategic Plan for the period 2022-2026, as well as an Election Project Plan outlining processes and key milestones. Challenges remain, including absence of an administrative mechanism to handle electoral disputes.

On gender equality, largely some progress has been achieved through several initiatives and policy directions taken by the consecutive Nigerian governments. Nigeria has a comprehensive legal framework related to gender equality with laws passed to regulate violence against persons. Efforts are still being made to have these laws domesticated across states, although significant progress has been made. However, work still needs to be done to achieve gender equality. The country currently, ranks 181 of 193 countries on the Gender Equality Index for reasons, such as the prevalence of patriarchal norms and inadequate inclusion of women and girls' perspectives in policy-making decisions. Women have been facing record low representation at all levels of governance. The national average of women's political participation in Nigeria remains at 6.7 percent in elective and appointive positions, far below the Africa regional average of 23.4 percent. The exclusion of women from active participation constitutes a mass silencing of women's voices and their ability to exercise their full political rights. Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) face all forms of discrimination and exclusion on daily basis and are consciously and constantly segregated from the wider population in key areas. This is compounded by the fact that almost all sectors are not inclusive including electoral process, public infrastructures e.g., access to polling units and election materials, political participation and services are inaccessible by citizens with disabilities and has continually added to their predicament.

Nigeria has the largest population of youth in the world, with a median age of 18.1 years. About 70% of the population is under 30, and 42% are under the age of 15. The Age Reduction Bill popularly known as 'Not Too Young To Run Bill' conceived by youth organizations, was signed into law in 2018. Yet, youth is scarcely represented in Nigerian politics, struggling to make their voice heard. From the documentation done by YIAGA Africa, only 6.8 per cent of members-elect in the House of Representatives were youth, 22 out of the 68 of them were beneficiaries of NTYTR Act in the states House of Assembly. The need to enhance the political and legislative participation of youth cannot be overemphasized, especially ahead of the 2023 general elections.

The country has experienced continuous increases in violent conflict across the nation in the past two decades, especially in the country's north. This situation comes with the attendant human rights implications for displaced populations, disrupting markets, and interrupting Nigerians' livelihoods and children's education, thereby curtailing progress towards the SDGs. Nigeria ranked 143rd in the Global Peace Index in 2022, as the country continues to face challenges on both safety and security and recorded, over the past year, further deterioration in militarization, intercommunal violence, ethnic tensions, and peacefulness. Nigeria's peace environment is facing serious threats that

the government and its development partners should address to avoid a major conflict, especially as the country moves closer to the elections in 2023.

These drawbacks espoused in the narrative above will be addressed under for four pillars and their corresponding outputs as illustrated in the project document viz:

Pillar 1: Capacity

Pillar 2: Transparency

Pillar 3: Inclusion

Pillar 4: Peace

Contributing Outcome (UNSDCF, CPD, RPD): More inclusive, participatory, transparent and gender-sensitive governance, justice and human rights systems are in place at all levels to promote acceleration in achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs for a peaceful, inclusive and cohesive society.

Indicative Output(s) with gender marker¹:

Output 1.0: Institutional capacity of electoral stakeholders enhanced. [GEN2](#)

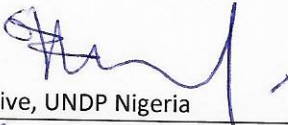
Output 2.0: Transparency in the electoral process advanced. [GEN2](#)

Output 3.0: Inclusion in electoral process promoted and citizens' engagement strengthened. [GEN3](#)

Output 4.0: Violence free elections improved peaceful co-existence in Nigeria. [GEN2](#)

Total resources required:	US\$15,048,800	
Total resources allocated:	UNDP TRAC:	US\$2,500,000
	Donor:	
	Government:	
	In-Kind:	
Unfunded:	US\$12,548,800	

Agreed by (signatures)²:

UNDP	
	
Print Name: Mohamed Yahya, Resident Representative, UNDP Nigeria	
Date: 13 JAN 2023	

¹ The Gender Marker measures how much a project invests in gender equality and women's empowerment. Select one for each output: GEN3 (Gender equality as a principle objective); GEN2 (Gender equality as a significant objective); GEN1 (Limited contribution to gender equality); GEN0 (No contribution to gender quality).

² Note: Adjust signatures as needed

1. DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE

Agenda 2030/SDG's/Government plans

Nigeria is the largest country in sub-Saharan Africa, both in terms of size of the economy and population. Yet, the country is grappling with rising inequality, with nearly half of the population living in extreme poverty, high rates of youth unemployment, over 13 million children currently out of school and over two million persons displaced in the North-East. Nigeria has experienced two episodes of recession: first due to the oil shock of 2016 and most recently due to the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020. While the country has been able to overcome the recession, the rate of growth is still too low to create the kind of economic opportunities that Nigeria needs for sustainable development. This has negatively impacted not just the macroeconomy but also the households and general country context. Nigeria's population as at the end of 2020 is estimated at 206 million³. The estimates are, however, limited by the absence of an official census since 2006. This has consequences for many SDG indicators which are indexed to the population and makes development planning significantly more difficult. Although Nigeria has made considerable efforts in the progress towards attaining the SDGs, the country is still not on track to meet the 2030 Agenda. Most of the SDGs are either stagnating or worsening while three are moderately improving.

The UNSDCF 2023-2027 is informed by a Common Country Analysis (CCA) of the country's context which reveals that Nigeria is faced with multifaceted and multidimensional problems, inhibiting its progress towards achieving the SDGs. The Government of Nigeria is yet committed to the implementation of the national, regional and global agenda for sustainable development by mainstreaming them into the National Development Plan (2021–2025). The intended results for achieving the SDGs are well stated in the country's National Development Plan (NDP). The NDP aims to create 21 million full-time jobs and lift 35 million people out of poverty by 2025. Nigeria aims to achieve this goal through accelerated, sustained, and inclusive economic growth, effective and expanded social-protection initiatives, improved governance structures at both the federal and state levels, and deep engagement between the private and public sectors.

Electoral environment

Since 1999, the support for democracy has remained strong and the trust of Nigerians in the democratic process is resilient. Nigeria is a federation consisting of three tiers of government, namely the federal, state, and local. The 2023 elections represent another crucial step in the consolidation of Nigeria's democracy. The democratic process in Nigeria is challenging. At the federal level, there is evidence of incremental improvement despite the initial challenges encountered between 1999 and 2007. Nigeria has organized six consecutive elections since 1999, attaining a significant milestone in 2015 with a change of power between the ruling party and the opposition.

The legal electoral framework is composed of the Constitution, legislation, judicial decisions, as well as guidelines and regulations developed by INEC. The new Electoral Act 2022, repealing the 2010 Electoral Act, provides for improved timelines for elections, a clearer legal basis for the use of new technology, a provision on the release of the funds to INEC a year in advance; it also strengthens integrity measures during the results transmission process, streamlines dispute resolution processes, and provides for the inclusion of persons with disabilities (PWDs). The INEC has developed a strategic Plan for the period 2022-2026 as well as an Election Project Plan outlining processes and key milestones. Challenges remain, including that Nigeria does not have an administrative mechanism to handle electoral disputes. Thus, all complaints must be taken to court for judicial adjudication. For all

³ National Population Commission – 2020.

elections, petitions are filed with respective election tribunals, formed ahead of the elections. In addition, the vastness of the country and the size of the electorate - with the number of polling units recently raised from 119,973 to 176,864 – implies that the process requires a high amount of permanent and ad-hoc electoral officials as well as capacities.

The official registration period ended on 31 July 2022. According to the INEC, 12,298,944 voters registered, approximately half of them are women and 8.7 million of them are within the age bracket of 18 to 34. The political campaign is set to start officially on 28 September, with 18 approved political parties, and the APC and the PDP dominating the political landscape. The APC nominated former Governor of Lagos State, Bola Tinubu, and the PDP, former Vice President, Atiku Abubakar. With third-party candidates, former Anambra State Governor Peter Obi (Labour) and former Kano State Governor Rabiu Kwankwaso (NNPP) gaining momentum, the viability of a third force is higher in this election than in any other elections before. There is a serious possibility that there will be a run-off among major (i.e., APC or PDP) and third force (i.e., Labour). If the February Presidential candidates do not gain at least 25% of the votes in 2/3rd of the 36 states, INEC will need to lead the country through a run-off which needs to be held within 7 days of the 1st round of elections. Given the challenges facing the country for the presidential and gubernatorial elections, it is possible that INEC will need even more support to manage the workload of the run-off at the national level.

Security

The country has experienced continuous increases in violent conflict across the nation in the past two decades, especially in the country's north. This situation comes with the attendant human rights implications for displaced populations, disrupting markets, and interrupting Nigerians' livelihoods and children's education, thereby curtailing progress towards the SDGs. Nigeria ranked 143rd in the Global Peace Index in 2022, as the country continues to face challenges on both safety and security and recorded over the past year further deteriorations in militarization, intercommunal violence, ethnic tensions, and an overall deterioration in peacefulness. Terrorist attacks by Boko Haram and the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) continue in the Northeast. Other parts of the country are marked by banditry and organized crime in the Northwest where arson and kidnappings for ransom are on the rise, recurring farmer-herder conflicts in the North Central, and secessionist movements in the Southeast. Old and emerging wars threaten the continued existence of many residents and their access to livelihood sources. While many have remained in volatile locations, others have willingly or been forcefully displaced: nearly 3.2 million are internally displaced persons (IDPs). The efforts of Nigerian security operatives have not managed to stop the tide of terror. Indeed, communities still face varying degrees of violence. The Nextier Violent Conflict Database recorded 1,137 incidents leading to 4,379 casualties and 2,801 kidnap victims in 2021. In the first five months of 2022, 75.2 per cent of 2021 casualty figures have been recorded. Nigeria's peace environment is facing serious threats that the government and its development partners should address to avoid a major conflict, especially as the country moves closer to the elections in 2023.

Inclusion challenges

Largely, some progress has been achieved through several initiatives and policy directions taken by the consecutive Nigerian governments. However, work still needs to be done in Nigeria to achieve gender equality. Nigeria has a comprehensive legal framework related to gender equality with laws passed to regulate violence against persons. Efforts are, however, still being made to have these laws domesticated across states, although significant progress has been made. Some trends, such as on female genital mutilation, are improving, however others, such as on gender-based violence, are worsening. The persistence of negative gender norms perpetuates gender disparities. Only 75% of

legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor gender equality under the SDG indicator, with a focus on violence against women, are in place. The country currently, ranks 181 of 193 countries on the Gender Equality Index for reasons such as poor resource allocation in the economic and social sectors, frequent conflicts, forced displacements, the prevalence of patriarchal norms and inadequate inclusion of women and girls' perspectives in policy-making decisions.

Indeed, although they constitute half of the electorate, women have been facing record low representation at all levels of governance. The national average of women's political participation in Nigeria remains at 6.7 percent in elective and appointed positions, far below the Africa regional average of 23.4 percent. One of the most pervasive violence against women in elections stemmed from the systematic exclusion of women candidates. This exclusion of women from active participation constitutes a mass silencing of women's voices and their ability to exercise their full political rights. The lack of an adapted legal framework to encourage women's participation in political life explains such numbers. In March 2022, the government approved a revised National Gender Policy. The revision of the policy represents a set of minimum standards expected of the Nigerian government to meet its mandate for gender equality, good governance, accountability, and being socially responsive to the needs of vulnerable groups. Yet simultaneously, the national assembly rejected the bill which sought extra legislative seats for women and Affirmative Action for Women in Political Parties' Administration, both aimed at ensuring a better representation of women in political life.

The country has the largest population of youth in the world, with a median age of 18.1 years. About 70% of the population is under 30, and 42% are under the age of 15. The Age Reduction Bill popularly known as '*Not Too Young To Run Bill*' conceived by youth organizations, was signed into law in 2018. Yet, youth is scarcely represented in Nigerian politics, struggling to make their voice heard. From the documentation done by YIAGA Africa, following the 2019 general elections, after the age limitation amendment had been carried through in 2018, only 6.8 per cent of members-elect in the House of Representatives were youth, 22 out of the 68 of them were beneficiaries of NTYTR Act in the states House of Assembly. The need to enhance the political and legislative participation of youth cannot be overemphasized, especially ahead of the 2023 general elections.

Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) face all forms of discrimination and exclusion on daily basis and are consciously and constantly segregated from the wider population in key areas. This is compounded by the fact that almost all sectors are not inclusive including electoral process, public infrastructures e.g., access to polling units and election materials, political participation and services are inaccessible by citizens with disabilities and has continually added to their predicament. According to the World Bank, approximately 15% of people worldwide are persons with disabilities (PWDs). UNFPA estimated that over 20 million of persons with disabilities are citizens of Nigeria. Participation and representation of women and men with disabilities in political leadership roles are extremely low. It is at a zero percent in Nigeria. Some of the challenges in relation to political participation of women and men with disabilities include prevailing stereotypes, prejudices and limited expectations from the society, medical/charity approach to disability, limited access to information, infrastructure, transport, low quality segregated education, restrictions on legal capacity, violence against women with disabilities, lack of support for political participation and unequal resources.

Media Landscape

The Nigerian Media landscape is a rapidly evolving terrain in a country once dominated by print, radio and television and now facing the fast-paced rise of social media and digital platforms. The National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) estimates that there are around 700 TV and radio stations across the

country, including both public and private broadcasters. Moreover, there is at least one TV station and radio network based in each of the 36 states, with the federal government operating almost 70 national and regional TV stations. In terms of print, more than 100 newspapers are published on a daily or weekly basis.

With increasing use, as well as instrumentalization of social media and online news platforms, the sharing and publishing of information online has been sharply marked by phenomena of disinformation, misinformation and hate speech. The public consumes disinformation and misinformation from a variety of sources and young people are particularly more susceptible to the phenomenon. The major causes of fake news in Nigeria are quest for relevance, hostile government and civil actors, poor regularization of the internet and money making. New media technologies are used to spread fake news and misinformation in key critical areas like political communication, war against insurgency, the promotion of ethnic sentiments among Nigerians and more recently on covid-19. Fake news instigates confusion, tensions and conflict depending on the person or institution on the receiving end. Additionally, it undermines serious media coverage and makes it more difficult for journalists to cover significant news stories. The effect of it has been exacerbated with Nigeria facing different intra crises and the beginning of the political campaign for the 2023 elections. The effect of this is being exacerbated with Nigeria facing different intra-party crises at the onset of the political campaign ahead of the 2023 general elections.

Opportunities

From October 2010 to December 2016, the UN provided electoral support through UNDP's Democratic Governance for Development (DGD) Project. The provision of electoral assistance was discontinued for the 2019 elections, although the UN continued to support civic and voter education as part of the Electoral Integrity and Democratic Empowerment Project. UN support in facilitating messaging from the national to the local levels was generally considered valuable and so continued UN support to civic and voter education would be largely welcomed. Moreover, despite UNDP's late arrival to the electoral support 'sphere', the UN's natural convening power and coordinating role could prove relevant including with INEC, which has requested increased coordination amongst assistance providers, while re-building its presence in the post-electoral period.

2. PROJECT RATIONALE

STRATEGY

Alignment with existing Governmental and UN strategic framework

The Promoting Transparent, Inclusive and Peaceful Elections in Nigeria Project operates under UNDP's project strategy and in accordance with INEC's official request for assistance. The project aids institutions of democracy to achieve the immediate election events while also supporting the long-term capacity development needs of INEC and other institutions, as well as processes necessary to support sustainable democracy in Nigeria.

The strategy will consider the following working assumptions:

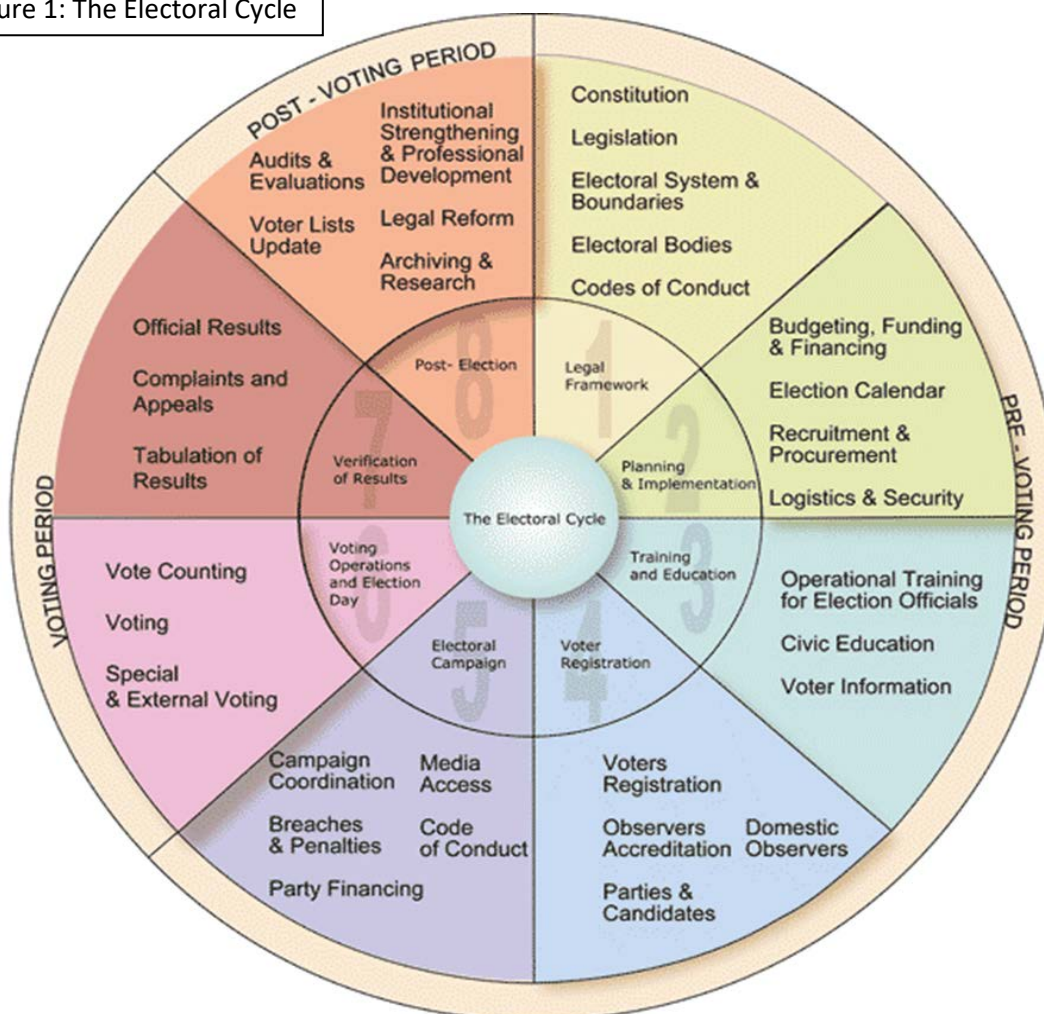
- UNDP elections support activities are strategically clustered in response to the electoral timeline.
- Adequate resources shall be mobilized to deliver the results described in this project.
- Refinement of programme activities and budget may occur if NEC decides to alter the electoral timeline or procedures.

- The possibility that various political, social and environmental dynamics can influence the success of the project but are external to the sphere of influence of a programme of support.
- Promoting Transparent, Inclusive and Peaceful Elections in Nigeria Project is implemented within a framework of existing and planned projects by various national and international actors in support of Nigeria's democratic transition.

UNDP's Promoting Transparent, Inclusive and Peaceful Elections in Nigeria Project is based on the concept of the Electoral Cycle which addresses both one-off and resource-intensive election support and capacity development for democratic institutions based on a longer-term development agenda within the broader context of democratic governance. This approach, therefore, emphasizes institutional capacity building for the INEC, IPAC, and other governance institutions; encourages sustainable electoral policies and the participation of traditionally disadvantaged groups.⁴ The Electoral Cycle approach promotes stability and accounts for the critical post-electoral phase which sets the stage for the next election thereby strengthening the democratic process.

The project's electoral cycle approach is comprised of three general phases outlined in the diagram⁵ below:

Figure 1: The Electoral Cycle



⁴ With reference to *Electoral Assistance Implementation Guide*, UNDP Democratic Governance Group: New York, 2007

⁵ Ibid

Most of the cycle focuses on the preparatory “pre-electoral” period. The upper right quadrant sets forth the first steps of preparation by ensuring an enabling environment through proper legal framework and overarching policies for electoral events. This is followed by planning and training periods. Subsequently, registration and campaigning are the first milestone events. The preparatory period lays the necessary groundwork for the operations-heavy “electoral” period of polling and results collation. The strategic “post-electoral” period strengthens the institutional mechanisms for elections, such as, voters’ list updates and INEC audits, and re-evaluates policies which then feed into the next election. In the cyclical approach, the electoral process strengthens over time.

The project is anchored on the national priorities set by the Government of Nigeria in the Medium-Term National Development Plan 2021-2025, as well as the *2030 Sustainable Development Agenda* to which Nigeria is a signatory; the project aligns with the Outcome 1.4 and Outcome 4.1 and 4.2 of the United Nations Sustainable Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2027, the UN system’s partnership framework with the Government of Nigeria. The project is also aligned with the ‘IMAGINE Nigeria’ a recently launched collaboration between the Federal government and UNDP, exploring alternative pathways to further the country’s development. The initiative will feed into the medium-term national development planning efforts of the government, the Vision 2050, as well as serve as inputs for the private sector and civil society in general in their decision making.

The project further aligns with Africa’s Promise, UNDP’s renewed strategic offer for Africa⁶, the Renewed Governance and Peacebuilding Framework for Africa 2022-2025⁷, and is guided by the recommendations of the Nigeria Needs Assessment Mission (NAM) led by the UN Electoral Assistance Division (EAD) in April 2022. The assessment highlighted the need for assistance to strengthen transparency and trust in the electoral process, with a specific focus on capacity strengthening of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC); increased civic and voter education; support to strengthen electoral security and conflict mitigation; the need for the prevention, monitoring and mitigation of violence against women in politics; management of election dispute resolution; increased outreach and stakeholder engagement; and lastly, coordination of electoral assistance providers. Post-electoral support was further included to ensure that lessons are drawn, challenges identified, addressed and gains consolidated.

An Inclusive Governance Approach to Elections

In line with the Electoral Cycle approach, the project’s strategy takes the view that the pre- and post-electoral periods should be capitalized on to strengthen institutions and consolidate the hard-won gains; to identify and address triggers of violence, which threaten peace and to foster trust and resilience.

Lessons learned from past electoral cycles as well as global experiences demonstrate that a holistic approach centred around the enabling environment for credible, transparent, and fair elections through coordinated responses from a wider range of stakeholders (EMBs, CSOs, the judiciary, media, security forces, etc.)¹ have an impact on the democratisation process. Through the proposed four pillars of **Capacity, Transparency, Inclusion** and **Peace** and project’s duration until the end of 2025, the proposed electoral support is embedded in the electoral cycle approach. This approach recognizes

⁶ [Strategic Offer in Africa \(3\).pdf](#)

⁷ https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2022-07/Renewed%20Governance%20and%20Peacebuilding%20Framework%20for%20Africa%202022-2025_Summarised%20Document_0.pdf

that electoral support is most effective when provided across phases, with a specific focus on the post-electoral period.

The backbone of the project is formed by SDG 16 to “promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels” and interrelated SDGs in particular SDG 5 and 10. This goal is translated into the four abovementioned pillars. By building the areas of support around the key pillars of sustainable development as laid out in SDG 16, the approach shifts from an institutional to a thematic outlook, bringing together a range of electoral stakeholders. To this end, the key features of the approach are the following:

- It is **multi-dimensional**. The strategy for electoral support is framed around 4 key dimensions responding to the INEC’s Strategic Plan, the Government’s Medium-Term National Development Plan (2021-2025) and the Sustainable Development Goals: *capacity, transparency, inclusion, and peace*. Achieving inclusive, independent and resilient democratic institutions requires a comprehensive project that addresses the various dimensions of the electoral processes.
- It involves **multiple stakeholders**. The project promotes multi-stakeholder coordination, fostering much needed inter-institutional and state-non state cooperation, as well as ownership by actors involved in the process. Furthermore, given that several actors are engaged in electoral assistance and related activities, the focus on coordination and harmonization is key.
- It focuses on higher order results, embedding the project in **the broader governance portfolio** of UNDP Nigeria and ensuring synergies with UNDP projects and beyond. Deriving the project’s pillars from SDG 16 and interrelated SDGs including SDG 5 and 10 speaks to its significance for guiding overall progress in the implementation of the Agenda 2030, given its focus on key pre-conditions for sustainable development.
- It is **long-term**, focusing both on targeted interventions in the pre-electoral period some of which have already kick-started through the phase 1 support and long-term interventions in the post-electoral period whereby the activities supported in the post-electoral period are aimed at implementing the lessons learned from the 2023 General Elections; consolidating the gains; and addressing the required improvements.

Partnerships and Coordination

Given the short timeframe between now and election day, the ongoing support provided by other electoral assistance providers and the broader UN presence and ongoing support to Nigeria, the project will build on opportunities for synergies and coordination both between UN/UNDP projects and programmes and beyond. Rather than duplicating, complementing existing efforts by tapping into existing relations and networks, and building on existing research and topping off where gaps exist, will serve to maximize impact in the few months left before the elections. Some of the activities included in this project document have already kick-started through the availability of internal UNDP funds, which are highlighted as “Phase 1 activities”.

Partnership building will be vital for the post-electoral phase, as well. The current project builds upon the previous electoral assistance provided through the Democratic Governance for Development Project that ran from 2010 to 2015 and the underfunded Support to Integrity and Democratic Empowerment Project that ran from 2018 to 2019, and the continued support provided to strengthen the enabling environment for elections. The current project will further build upon a number of governance-related priority areas that UNDP is supporting through other projects including support

to the security sector and peace architecture, youth empowerment and the opportunities created through Imagine Nigeria; building synergies and ensuring complementarity to increase impact in the long term. By framing the project's objectives as thematic pillars aligned with the SDGs, areas of collaboration are easily identified.

Sustainability

The project mainstreams sustainability at two levels. Firstly, every activity included in this project has been designed, and will be implemented, in a sustainable manner to ensure that either the activity itself or the impact of the action lives on without continued support. Secondly, the activities and outputs collectively contribute towards a sustainable future for Nigeria, through their focus on higher order results. Thirdly, in institutional terms, the project will be implemented through and by permanent statutory bodies and structures including INEC, which will remain in place after the end of the project. The project does not create new and parallel structures, which are unsustainable in the long run.

Digitalization

In line with UNDP's digital strategy, the project intends to build on the benefits of digitization where useful, advisable and feasible. While digitalization has been identified as a key factor for impactful implementation of some of the activities spelled out in the project document, including using the I-Verify software for countering disinformation and hate speech; given the benefit digital technology brings in giving a voice to marginalized and vulnerable groups, it simultaneously recognizes its limitations. The approach will therefore always be two-fold, seeking digital solutions where it adds value, increases cost-effectiveness and enhances efficiency while promoting digital literacy and looking for complementary, country relevant options to ensure no one is left behind. UNDP is uniquely placed to practically weigh the benefits and limitations as it can tap into regional and global lessons and best practices.

Inclusion and Gender Mainstreaming

Beyond the dedicated activities to promote and implement gender equality, youth participation and access for persons with disabilities within the Inclusion and the Peace component, some key principles and areas of work will be mainstreamed throughout all the project activities. This includes sustainability, partnership and digitalization as set out above, but also encompasses national sovereignty and ownership, a human rights-based approach, as well as inclusion of gender, youth and people with disability, and conflict sensitivity.

Theory of Change

United Nations electoral assistance is based on the premise that peaceful and inclusive societies require effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. A key condition for government institutions to be effective, accountable and inclusive is for every citizen to be able to meaningfully and safely participate in public life, including by voting and choosing representatives that genuinely articulate, and are accountable to the will of their constituencies. Genuine elections require credible and transparent information to be shared, that not only fosters a general understanding of the election process but is able to articulate the relevance of voting in a manner that speaks to the different groups in society. Election management bodies are the custodians of credible and transparent elections, yet for an enabling, peaceful environment for elections, other institutions (Security Sector, the Judiciary), as well as civil society need to come together. Elections will thereby serve the broader purpose of strengthening the social contract and collectively create a desired future for Nigeria.

The sequence of the TOC that inform the outcomes and outputs of this project is as follows:

- If the capacities of the EMB and the other state institutions and mechanisms (Judiciary, Security Sector) to discharge their duties in relation to electoral management, security and justice matters are strengthened;
- If the EMBs and other relevant institutions collaborate constructively and transparently in pre and post electoral processes;
- If citizens receive fit-for purpose civic and voter education and are actively and meaningfully engaged in electoral processes through credible and transparent information sharing mechanisms from EMBs, CSOs and the media;
- If women, youth, IDPs and PWDs are included in all electoral processes and take ownership of the process by seeing the elections as an opportunity for building their desired future; and
- If the Peace Architecture is strengthened from the central to the local levels to facilitate early warning, mediation and post-election healing,
- Then, the enabling environment is created for the conduct of peaceful, transparent and inclusive elections in 2023 which can pave the way for a strengthened social contract.

Strategic Pillars

The project is articulated around these 4 pillars:

Capacity

Strengthened capacity and preparedness of INEC and other institutions to effectively manage electoral processes in a credible manner through capacity-building and technical assistance in cooperation with other electoral assistance providers.

Transparency

Enhanced transparency in the electoral process through continued and gender responsive voter education and stakeholder engagement and strengthened capacity of the media to monitor issues around VAWE/P, hate speech, disinformation, and misinformation.

Inclusion

Improved participation and representation of women, youth, persons with disabilities, IDPs and other underrepresented groups through support to a few electoral stakeholders including the INEC.

Peace

Reduced risk for election-related violence and VAWE/P through capacity building of different structures that identify potential sources of conflict, mitigate against the risks, allow for dialogue and resolve disputes if and when they arise.

2.RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

PILLAR 1 – CAPACITY

Output 1.0: Institutional capacity of electoral stakeholders enhanced

In line with SDG 16 target A to “strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation, for building capacity at all levels ...”, the capacity pillar is aimed at strengthening national institutions with a role in the electoral process. This concerns first and foremost the Electoral Management Bodies namely the Independent National Electoral Commission, so that it can implement key electoral activities effectively. Nonetheless, the pillar is inclusive of support to other electoral stakeholders. Sustainable capacity strengthening is thereby envisioned through the strengthening of the INEC’s Electoral Institute and the Academy set up by the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution as a permanent training and capacity development facility, directed at national and subnational public servants, as well as the public. The pillar further builds on the principle of peer support and sharing of knowledge and experiences amongst regional and global institutions and individuals, where it concerns leadership.

The country’s size and population density require a high number of polling units (raised from 119,973 to 176,864), which all need to be managed by permanent and ad-hoc electoral officials to facilitate the conduct of the elections. Cascade training needs to be organized for around one million staff in total, which naturally demands a well-organized **training strategy and roll-out**. Beyond capacity building for the technical support staff, the technological innovations introduced by the INEC ahead of the 2023 elections including the use of the BVAS and real-time uploading of the polling results requires clear communication to both the public, as well as electoral stakeholders including in the form of training. Moreover, this is ever pertinent given the new Electoral Act and the need to ensure its understanding of all electoral stakeholders.

INEC has developed a **Strategic Plan** for the period 2022-2026, as well as an Election Project Plan. The plan incorporates the new Gender and Inclusion Department and highlights the intention to support the vote of internally displaced persons (IDPs), amongst others. Given the timeframe until 2026, the strategy incorporates the plans for the post-electoral period, which can be facilitated and further carved out through a post-electoral lesson learned supported at various levels.

Several international development partners are currently providing support ahead of the 2023 general elections including the European Union, USAID, the UK, Norway, Switzerland, the Kofi Annan Foundation, amongst others. UNDP has also started providing support to INEC, Yiaga and the Cedar Seed Foundation through what it calls Phase 1 of UNDP support to the 2023 General Elections in Nigeria. Given that technical and advisory support to INEC is thereby covered by several providers including UNDP, **coordination and cooperation is key**.

Output 1.1: INEC’s institutional and professional capacity to deliver on its mandate strengthened, complementing support provided by other electoral assistance providers.

The size of the country and the high number of eligible voters means that the INEC is embarking upon an enormous logistical operation for the 2023 general elections, while the planned off-cycle elections create a continuous election mode for the Commission – from the national to the state levels. Newly introduced technologies serve the purpose of strengthening the integrity of the process, but simultaneously increase logistical complexity. The process is further complicated by the electoral security challenges, which requires risk management and scenario planning around questions, such as, “what if a certain percentage of polling stations is not able to open on election day”.

Ahead of the 2023 elections, INEC, with support of IFES and DAI, has planned for the training of its permanent staff as well as ad-hoc electoral officials through the in-house Electoral Institute. Training plans and manuals exist, yet funding gaps remain as the number of staff requiring training, from the national to the local levels, is extremely high. For example, IFES support to the TOT of staff is only able

to cover for 100 out of the 1,000 national level trainers, with the cascading currently not being supported.

Beyond the question of numbers lies the question of impact. How trainings are delivered (e.g., the level of interaction) and the extent to which refreshers or pocket guides are provided for, has an important impact on the extent to which electoral officials internalize the information. There is no clear vision on how effective trainings are when they reach the local level, yet these local level staff are the ones that make or break the process on election day.

Training has also been planned for the 9,000 registration area technicians (RATECHs) that will be on stand-by on elections day. Yet, the latest by-election in Osun has showcased that, beyond training needs for the technical support staff, awareness raising of polling workers on how to make use of this support function is key.

Due to these challenges and opportunities, this output will include the following activities in phase 1:

Activity 1.1.1 Capacity building workshops on INEC operational guidelines, data collection, reporting tools and communication strategy for Desk Officers of INEC Election Monitoring and Support Centres (EMSC).

This activity aims to support INEC in the conduct of capacity building workshops for INEC's Heads of Departments (HODs) from all states and the Headquarters (HQ) to gain a better understanding of the EMSC's reviewed processes, procedures, optimized indicators, the validation of reports and quality reporting. The activity helps INEC HODs from all states and HQ to jointly discuss challenges, review the indicators, different monitoring tools and validation of reports. This will enhance INEC's Election Monitoring and Support Centre, improve electoral processes and strengthen INEC's capacities to deliver on its mandate. This activity will cut across the two phases of this project.

In phase 2 of the project, the following activities will be supported:

Activity 1.1.2 Support to INEC Election strategic and operation plans and organize Train of Trainers for INEC staff.

This activity aims to enhance the strategic and operation plans capability and efficiency of INEC in the election management for 2023 and beyond. Train of Trainers (ToT) will broadly focus on key electoral activities to improve transparency and credibility of elections. The ToT will enable INEC to train both its staff and the civil societies on all election specific activities including BRIDGE, electoral laws, election guidelines, BVAS and voting procedures.

Activity 1.1.3 Deliver training for RATECH through support to the ToT.

INEC intends to train 9,000 registration area technicians (RATECHs) that will be on stand-by on elections day. The project aims to come in and provide complementary support to the training alongside awareness raising amongst polling staff to ensure they are aware of the existence of the RATECHs.

Activity 1.1.4 Support to organise regional and international exchanges to facilitate the sharing of best practices and technical advice.

The project will assist INEC to organize regional and international exchanges to enrich its experience on the overall election management and best practice and technical advice from election management bodies from the West Africa sub-region and the African continent. The project will facilitate this exchange using south-south and triangular cooperation on election administration, in

line with the capacity pillar's focus on the principle of peer-to-peer support and the advancement of leadership skills, whereby the meaning of leadership is not limited to effective management skills but rather one's ability to manage in an accountable and inclusive manner.

Activity 1.1.5 Support INEC to expand the scope and implementation of the Election Violence and Monitoring Management Tool (EVMAT).

The activity will assist INEC to strengthen the Election Violence and Monitoring Tool and facilitate its capacity to expand the scope of EVMAT to states not yet covered by INEC.

Output 1.2: INEC's Electoral Institute supported to facilitate training of electoral stakeholders

The existence of INEC's Electoral Institute aligns well with the project's capacity development pillar, which centers around sustainable capacity building. Moreover, it aligns with the project's strategic focus on electoral stakeholders beyond INEC. Where valuable, the project will complement support provided by IFES and DAI for training provided through the Electoral Institute to the Judiciary and the Security Sector. Lastly, it will build on existing UNDP support to electoral stakeholders, including the Police through the Police Reform Project.

Given the important role that the Police plays in securing a peaceful environment, the project intends to support election preparedness, through **training on election security, prevention and mitigation of Violence Against Women in Elections (VAWE), and the promotion of human rights**. The project will partner with the National Human Rights Commission, which has provided training to the Police in the past and has extensive expertise and experience in providing training on human rights and electoral security.

In phase 1 of the project, the following activity will be supported

Activity 1.2.1 Support training of judges to strengthen electoral dispute resolution.

The project will support the organization of capacity building workshops for election Tribunal members (trial, appeal and supreme courts) on Electoral Act and practice procedures

In phase 2 of the project, the following activities will be supported

Activity 1.2.2 Support training on election security, the prevention of violence against women in elections and the promotion of human rights for the Inter Agency Consultative Committee on Election Security (ICCES) members.

Through INEC's Electoral Institute, trainings on election security are planned. Existing funds however only cover for trainings close to the elections, whereas there is value in ensuring training earlier on, which the project aims to cover. The training will equally partner with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

Output 1.3: The Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution's Academy supported to centralize capacity building in a single institution.

This output is informed by the **capacity strengthening pillar's focus on sustainable capacity development**, as the project intends to centralize capacity building in a single training centre/institution such that the knowledge products developed through the project can benefit many Nigerian institutions and individuals and human capital flight is countered to the extent possible. With the IPCR's Academy being an existing institute with training modules covering topics relating to peace

and conflict resolution, the project intends to support the institution in enhancing its reach and developing new high-quality courses/modules.

Activity 1.3.1 Develop an impactful and multi-functional training modules on Information Integrity.

Building on the Youth leadership training on social media (activity 3.3.3) and project output 2.3, this activity aims to support the development of a range of modules and chapters on Information Integrity for broad use, including modules around fact-checking, safety of journalists and media literacy.

Activity 1.3.2 Facilitate the conduct of a series of training courses informed by the post-electoral lessons learned exercises.

Informed by the lessons' learned exercises to be conducted under output 1.4 and the needs, the project will be developing several training courses to be housed with the IPCR while supporting the delivering of these courses during the second and third year of the project to a variety of electoral stakeholders.

Output 1.4: Post-electoral lessons learned exercises conducted at various levels to inform future electoral support activities.

From every electoral process, important lessons can be derived as some parts of the process may have gone according to plan, while others may have proved more challenging. It is important to capture these lessons' pro-actively and in an inclusive manner such that arrangements can be made to make improvements and modifications where needed in time for these to be meaningfully carried out, while simultaneously highlighting the progress that may have been made.

It is important to organize lessons learned workshops in an inclusive manner such that not only different voices can be heard, but to ensure that any proposed changes are broadly accepted. Where observation reports can be an important starting point for these discussions, for changes to be implemented in a meaningful way, a discussion needs to happen with all electoral stakeholders involved as well as rooted in the specific context in which they will be implemented.

The project will therefore support lessons learned exercises at various levels, around several thematic areas, and with a variety of actors to inform the post-electoral activities to be supported by the project:

- *Activity 1.4.1 Support to the organization of a large lessons' learned workshop with all electoral stakeholders.*
- *Activity 1.4.2 Support to the organization of an INEC internal lessons' learned workshop with all departments present.*
- *Activity 1.4.3 Support to the organization of a dedicated lessons' learned workshop for the Civic and Voter Education department.*
- *Activity 1.4.4 Organize a lessons' learned workshop on inclusion with all relevant stakeholders.*
- *Activity 1.4.5 Support the mid-term review of the strategic plan 2021-2026 as well as the drafting of the planning documents for 2027.*
- *Activity 1.4.6 Support implementation of recommendations of some of the lessons learned workshops for the off-cycle elections and future electoral support activities Where feasible and legally permissible.*

The project will support INEC in the organization of a mid-term review workshop with all department's present, to review the strategic plan considering the various lessons' learned workshops organized and to follow up with the drafting of a workplan and related budget for 2027.

PILLAR 2 - TRANSPARENCY

Output 2.0: Transparency in the electoral process advanced.

In line with the target 6 of the SDG 16, which aims to “develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels”, and target 10 which aims to “ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements”, the transparency pillar aims to ensure that not only electoral institutions are open and capable, but also that media reporting is independent and balanced (with respect to the nature of information that is being communicated to the public) and stakeholder engagement is conducted in transparency.

Nigeria has a very **vibrant media landscape**, with over 100 daily newspapers and a large number of TV and radio stations. While this allows for the circulation of information to all parts of the country, questions have been raised around the transparency of media ownership while Nigeria ranked 120 out of 180 on the World Press Freedom Index 2021, compiled by the Reporters Without Borders, partly due to what was framed as a ‘culture of intimidation and harassment’. Social media is widely used, with an estimated **50 percent of Nigeria’s vast population being present ‘online’**. This presents new opportunities due to the reach that social media brings, impacting on Nigeria’s social and political landscape. It, however, also has its pitfalls and downsides, as is being seen at a global scale, with the increase of hate speech and disinformation.

Despite commendable improvements in the electoral law, paving the way for a more transparent electoral process, some challenges and gaps remain, including with regards to the regulatory framework for the media. Moreover, **INEC’s engagement with the media**, and through that, the public could be more strategic and targeted to facilitate information sharing around the electoral process due to the introduction of new technologies and the need for **frequent, open and inclusive stakeholder engagement and information sharing around its use and benefits** up until the lowest level. Lastly, the absence of issue-based debates casts a cloud on the potential of the media as the fourth ‘power’ to facilitate transparency and accountability. In view of these challenges, the project will support the following three outputs:

Output 2.1: Transparency and citizen oversight strengthened through debates and tracking of results and promises.

During Phase 1 of the project, the following activities will be supported

Activity 2.1.1 Organize television/townhall debates for political office holders, especially the presidential, vice presidential, governorship and deputy governorship aspirants in selected states, to assist voters to make an informed decision.

UNDP, in partnership with Yiaga Africa, seeks to support the conduct of citizens dialogues, as well as vice-presidential and presidential debates to promote electoral awareness regarding the upcoming 2023 general elections. In the planned televised programme, citizens and relevant stakeholders will engage on topics around voter registration, voter participation and critical thematic election topics leading up to the elections.

This activity will expand to second phase to cover off-cycle governorship elections.

Activity 2.1.2 Support Yiaga Africa in the preparation and roll-out of the Election Result Analysis Dashboard.

Channels Television and Yiaga Africa have launched an Election Results Analysis Dashboard (ERAD) to promote transparency of election results. The dashboard is based on official results uploaded on the INEC's Results Viewing Portal (IREV). The portal allows members of the public to create personal accounts and log-in details with which they can gain access to all uploaded results stored as PDF files. The real-time publishing of polling unit-level results and transmission of results by INEC using the IREV will increase transparency and accessibility in results management.

Phase 1 of the project will support preparations to allow for the roll-out of the digital dashboard through the organization of planning meetings, support to carry out research and collation of existing datasets and sources as well as the facilitation of new data collection; providing required equipment and covering for operational costs.

In phase 2 of the project, the project intends to support the actual roll out of the Dashboard:

The dashboard was piloted during the Ekiti and Osun States elections in June and July 2022 and will be rolled out nationally for the February presidential and parliamentary elections. The project will support the roll out of the tool at the national level.

Activity 2.1.3: Support to civil society to track promises by political parties and leaders (pre- and post-electoral).

It is not uncommon in Nigeria politics and particularly during the campaign period to hear political actors make promises without genuine intention of fulfilling them. Therefore, tracking such promises before, during and after elections will no doubt provide a foundation for holding public office holders and the government accountable. The project will aim to support civil society organizations working to monitor and track promises of political actors on issues, such as, inclusion regarding increase women participation in Governance, youth empowerment and improvement of the quality of education in educational institutions.

This activity is a follow up to the dialogues and debates organized during the electoral campaign at the national level. Together with Yiaga Africa, the International Press Centre (IPC) and the Nigerian Association of Women Journalists (NAWOJ), an online public Digital Dashboard will be deployed to identify and track the promises made by political parties and leaders during the campaign and to discern whether these have been addressed or not in the post electoral period. The Dashboard will be published online and updated regularly to allow citizens to inform themselves and encourage issue-based debates, increasing trust in the electoral processes.

Output 2.2: Trust and confidence of stakeholders in the electoral process enhanced through increased engagement and dialogues between INEC and the public.

INEC, as the official electoral management body, oversees the drafting and publishing of elections related key information and content. The INEC is also in charge of answering questions and concerns of Nigerian citizens regarding key aspects, such as, registration, PVC pick-up, transfers to another polling Units, etc. To spread necessary information, as well as to answer and engage with citizens, INEC created the INEC Citizen Contact Center (ICCC). Yet, the ICCC's lack of capacity and resources, as well as the lengthy bureaucratic processes of approval impedes the ability and the reactivity of the center to respond to the citizen's concerns and interrogations. The project will support the ICCC's capacity with the following activities:

Activity 2.2.1: Support the upgrade of ICCC to be more citizen friendly and responsive.

The ICCC needs to improve its responsiveness by exploring possibilities to shorten and improve the efficiency of its internal line of approval. Currently, before a question can be answered or an information published on the ICCC platforms, a lengthy process must be followed as the information must be approved by several lines of management. Such bureaucratic hurdle delays the publication of key answers and information to the public.

Activity 2.2.2 Support INEC to engage Media owners in a roundtable.

The project will collaborate with journalists' associations and media stakeholders to organise a joint roundtable with INEC's relevant members (including the ICCC) to discuss and exchange experiences and best practices.

Activity 2.2.3 Support INEC to engage political parties and spokespersons around electoral legal framework.

This activity will engage political parties and their spokespersons on key legal frameworks to preventively ensure that political communications during and after the campaign respects current regulations.

Activity 2.2.4 Training media practitioners, journalists and public media on INEC processes and procedures, public enlightenment and civic responsibility.

This activity will assist INEC to effectively engage media practitioners, journalists and public media on its processes and procedures regularly. These include its operation plan, election guidelines, legal framework, technological innovations and other pertinent activities.

Activity 2.2.5 Support effective dissemination of information on credible elections and adverse impact of vote buying.

The project will support the 'YES Project' to launch a national level enlightenment/edutainment campaign via radio, focusing on the negative impact of vote buying and promoting improved participation of youth, women, and vulnerable populations in elections through the #ValueYourVoteNaija Campaign. This radio campaign will contribute to the efforts of Civil Society Organizations and INEC to have an unprecedented voter turnout in the 2023 general elections.

The activity will help to promote credibility, transparency, and legitimacy in elections through mass sensitization on key issues that impact election negatively, such as, vote buying or inducement and improve inclusivity of youth, women and vulnerable media channels especially radio.

Output 2.3: Capacity of national stakeholders to prevent and mitigate threats to the integrity of information (misinformation, disinformation and hate speech) strengthened.

The advance in the internet, social media and Artificial Intelligence, has contributed to inclusion, transparency and participation of citizens in governance but also carries risks and challenges to the integrity of the information landscape with ramifications on the democratic processes and peace and security. The Nigerian media landscape is a rapidly evolving terrain in a country once dominated by print, radio and television and now facing the fast-paced rise of social media and digital platforms. With increasing use, as well as instrumentalization of social media and online news platforms, the sharing and publishing of information online has been sharply marked by phenomenon of disinformation, misinformation and hate speech. Nigeria is among the countries in Africa where fake news has had rippling effects. Disinformation, misinformation and hate speech instigates confusion, tensions and conflict depending on the person or institution on the receiving end. Additionally, it

undermines serious media coverage and makes it more difficult for journalists to cover significant news stories. Another challenge relates to the introduction of regulations and the need to ensure that any form of legislation fully respects freedom of expression and freedom of the media.

The project will support the development and implementation of a mechanism, called iVerify, to: (1) increase the capacity of mandated national actors to identify and fact-check disinformation; (2) strengthen their capacity to timely respond to misinformation/disinformation and hate speech through local networks; (3) strengthen media literacy and provide a publicly available reference page for countering disinformation; and (4) provide for a supporting IT platform with automated features to facilitate identification, fact-checking and response coordination.

The iVerify system will be hosted with a civil society partner, to be determined during the assessment (see activity 2.3.1). In addition, partnerships with additional national actors will be fostered as part of the support to be provided. This will allow for a multi-stakeholder approach to the challenges associated with information pollution during elections.

With the support of the Brussels-based Taskforce on electoral assistance, specific actions to materialize the roll-out of a national mechanism for the identification, fact-checking and analysis of the mis/disinformation and hate speech phenomena include:

Activity 2.3.1 Conduct assessment of iVerify.

Conduct consultations with a broad range of stakeholders including state and non-state actors and assess the existing initiatives, legal framework and information/media landscape related to elections and disinformation/hate speech in Nigeria. The assessment will allow for the identification of whom to provide support to and collaborate with through the initiative.

Activity 2.3.2 Customize IT of iVerify.

Based on this assessment, customize the UNDP iVerify mechanism and IT Tool to fit the needs and context.

The Brussels-based Electoral Assistance Task Force, in partnership with the UNDP Chief Digital Office and working closely with the Crisis Bureau and the Oslo Governance Center built a package of support including programmatic solutions and digital tools to identify, analyse, and counter disinformation in challenging governance environments called iVerify. The project will be able to leverage this innovative tool that can be cost-effectively customized to the Nigerian context.

Activity 2.3.3 Deploy iVerify.

This activity will include training, roll-out and piloting of the national mechanism for the identification, fact-checking and analysis of the mis/disinformation phenomenon. The national civil society partner will be equipped and capacitated to roll out the mechanism and partnerships will be built to facilitate identification and response.

As part of the roll-out of the iVerify, this activity will include training for Journalists, bloggers, independent fact-checkers with known platforms and freelance journalists on various key issues, such as countering disinformation and misinformation in the electoral process, compliance with statutory and self-regulatory frameworks on media coverage of elections and protection and Safety of journalists:

The project will support the training of 25 journalists per state with minimum 50 percent women and 25 percent youth (including female) on:

- The iVerify fact-checking desk and countering disinformation/misinformation and hate speech.
- Compliance with the Electoral Act and the Nigeria Broadcasting Code.
- Compliance with the Nigeria Media Code of Election Coverage.
- Safety of journalists.

A system of mentorship and feedback mechanism shall be incorporated into the training to ensure that the journalists put into practice knowledge acquired beyond the immediate pledges made at the workshop. Trainees will also be expected to organise step-down trainings for their peers as a means of guaranteeing continuity. Through iVerify, the journalists trained will have access to a fact-checking desk. The usage of this desk may be extended to those that endorse the Nigerian Media Code of Election Coverage and have thereby shown a willingness to ensure factual, accurate reporting of the electoral and democratic processes.

Activity 2.3.4 Operationalize iVerify.

Finalize the mechanism and support to the operational phase, including ensuring system sustainability in the long-term.

PILLAR 3 – INCLUSION

Output 3.0: Inclusion in electoral processes promoted and citizen engagement strengthened.

In line with target 7 of the SDG 16, which aims to “ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels” and target 16.b to “promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development” as well as SDG 5 and 10 which aim to end discrimination and promote equality, the **inclusion pillar** is centered on the understanding that Democratic Governance is built on meaningful participation and representation of all people in democratic institutions and processes. Inclusion, therefore, entails that everyone has an equal right and opportunity to engage with and contribute to the functioning of public institutions and processes.

Building up on the newly launched ‘IMAGINE NIGERIA’, a collaboration between the Federal government and UNDP, exploring alternative pathways to further the country’s development, the project will seek to reinforce electorate awareness in political processes and increase participation and trust. IMAGINE NIGERIA, a report published in August 2022, links Nigeria's current challenges and opportunities in the context of prevailing and emerging global trends and setting out 5 key recommendations to mitigate future threats and build a more resilient and inclusive Nigeria. One of the key observations laid out in the report is the lack of meaningful and inclusive participation by women, youth and person with disabilities in political and administrative processes, including in decision making and coordination. The report also underlines the need to develop innovative approaches for holding elections, ensure the effective functioning of democratic institutions, improve parliamentary oversight and increase citizens' participation in political processes. As a response, the fourth recommendation is about building a Trusted and Dynamic government with a substantial and inclusive citizen engagement particularly on voting processes, encouraging a close collaboration between government entities (INEC) and civil society organizations to ensure persistency of democratic governance practices.

As illustrated by the by-election in Anambra State where around 10 percent of the eligible voters turned out to vote, voter apathy is considered to pose a significant challenge. Several reasons contributing to such low voter turnout include low levels of trust and a sense of scepticism over whether one’s vote counts alongside security concerns and more practical challenges including

incomplete voter registration and unavailability of voter cards. These challenges underline the need for a robust civic and voter education strategy and respective roll out. Despite the investment in electoral integrity measures on the part of INEC, particularly through ICT measures, **voter education and communication** alongside **genuine inclusion measures** to enhance access by marginalized groups including IDPs, remain a broader responsibility of all electoral stakeholders to facilitate an enabling environment for elections to take place.

Considering the **persistent challenges that women face**, both as voters as well as candidates, due to number of interrelated impediments ranging from violence against women in politics (VAWP) and intimidation, as well as lack of resources/finances for candidate nomination, a multi-stakeholder approach to gender equality is required. Recent attempts to have gender bills adopted into law have failed, however, a potential opening emerged with the Federal High Court ruling considering the failure to implement the 2006 National Gender Policy for both elected and appointed positions unlawful and in violation with the Constitution. Moreover, the limited inclusion of youth in a country where 65 percent of the population is estimated to be below 29 years old requires action, as does the systemic exclusion of PWDs, which is increasingly being addressed in the institutional and legal framework but requires additional practical improvement. Considering these challenges, the project will support the following outputs and activities:

Output 3.1: Voter apathy addressed by increasing the electorate's awareness of the electoral process.

Citizenship engagement is key to engendering trust. The voters' education component of this project will, in close collaboration with INEC, respond to voter apathy by increasing citizens awareness of the electoral process, as well as their rights and obligations. Participatory and inclusive voter education will contribute to renewing the social contract and building an inclusive society, ensuring more effective and efficient governance at all levels: federal, state and local.

One of the functions of INEC is to officially implement voters' education activities in Nigeria. INEC and civil society organizations have in the past implemented voters' education programmes utilizing a range of methodologies/media to educate society on the electoral process, voting procedures, voters' rights, and citizen's responsibilities. The need for a robust CVE strategy will especially become prevalent given the congested electoral calendar involving activities, such as the midterm census, civil and voter registration, boundary delimitation and the constitutional review process. The project will, therefore, support INEC in delivering voter education throughout all phases of the electoral process, including voter registration, candidate nomination, campaign, results transmission etc. Considering the time frame, the project encompassed post-electoral activities to ensure a smooth post electoral period, as well as prepare for the next electoral events.

The project will build on the scenarios and the recommendations laid out in the 'IMAGINE NIGERIA' report particularly on the 'African Giant Awake', setting out an enhanced governance at all levels with citizens engaged on key national issues, enabling the country to achieve a shared national vision. Using this scenario as a starting point, a digital and participatory campaign will be imagined demonstrating to Nigeria voters the possible future for Nigeria: encouraging them to engage with political and administrative processes while informing them about their rights and obligations.

In addition, the project approach also considers the ongoing and planned support to CVE by other partners. Given that many electoral stakeholders have engaged in civic and voter education activities, including IFES, Search for Common Ground, Yiaga and other civil society organizations, the project seeks to enhance coordination amongst these actors to harmonize and align messaging while ensuring all parts of the country and all target groups are covered. As such, it will develop a coordination

mechanism chaired by INEC as the lead institution in charge of CVE to avoid duplication, ensure synergies, and mutually reinforcing strategies.

The project will, therefore, support several activities and stakeholders and in consultation with the relevant actors to voters' education on key topics, such as, PVCs, Technology and Vote Buying with a focus on the post-election period to ensure a smooth transition and prepare for the upcoming electoral stages.

Support in phases 1 of the project includes:

Activity 3.1.1: Support INEC's civic education and voter education including capacity strengthening for the CVE officers and institutions for 2023 elections and beyond.

This activity will support INEC to fulfil its constitutional imperative of ensuring effective, wider and mass oriented civic education and voter education to guarantee that the citizens exercise their franchise but based on credible and reliable information and data. The approach will include stakeholder engagement, civic and voter education, placement of radio and television jingles, radio and television debates on all aspects of elections including women participation, gender equality and inclusivity of youth and vulnerable population.

The activity will equally assist INEC to build and strengthen the capacity of Civic and Voter Education providers to boost mass participation on election day.

Activity 3.1.2 Post Electoral sensitization around the legislation process and voters' registration.

The project will work on ensuring increase in registration and participation of citizens in future elections especially the off-cycle elections and bye-elections by implementing sensitization campaigns focusing on voter registration, and PVC's collection and legal framework. This campaign will emphasize enlightenment on the new technological innovations used by INEC to both register voters, as well as manage the election results. Information will be disseminated to inform the citizens, as well as to explain the timeline to manage expectations.

Output 3.2: Gender equality promoted throughout the electoral cycle.

In Nigeria, about 51 percent of women are involved in voting during elections. Despite these, women are still underrepresented in both elective and appointive positions. Available statistics revealed that currently in the House of Representatives, out of 360 members, only 13 are women; in the 36 State Houses of Assembly, only 45 out of 990 are held by female. The Senate has eight women out of 109 members, representing 7.34 per cent. Such trends run down all levels of governance in the states and local government areas. This shows that Nigeria has not attained 30 percent affirmative action as prescribed by the Beijing Platform of Action. Nigeria has been recording low participation of women in both elective and appointive positions. The country's first-past-the-post/plurality electoral system is widely known to be unfavorable to women candidates. Indeed, only one candidate is nominated for each constituency and political parties tend to go for male who are perceived as the safest and most broadly accepted candidates. In essence, there is very little incentive for political parties to nominate women and disrupt the status quo. On top of that, social norms and stigmas are still pervasive in the political landscape and in the Nigerian society, preventing women to get elected but also to get involved in political space at large.

The project intends to strengthen and build on the work that is being carried out to promote gender equality and women's empowerment. Sensitization, including political parties, remains high on the agenda to underline the need for women's inclusivity in the electoral process and to address sexual and gender-based violence, which the project will support through a dedicated activity under the Peace pillar. While INEC plays an important role in promoting women's inclusion into the electoral process, the challenges at hand require a multi-stakeholder approach to gender equality. The project will therefore support several actions and stakeholders in consultation with pertinent partners and implement the gender equality components throughout all pillars of the project. Specifically, it will support the following actions exclusively as part of phase 2 of the project:

Activity 3.2.1 Organize post-mortem conference on women participation in the 2023 general elections.

Women participation both as voters and candidates is very critical to deepening the Nigeria's democratic culture and inclusiveness. Over the previous electoral cycles, the participation of women has been on decline thereby diminishing the quality of women representation and inclusivity. To address the root causes of low women participation in elections particularly as candidates, a post-mortem conference of women participation in the 2023 general elections becomes imperative. The conference will include women political leaders, women candidates, women elected to political positions, women appointed into political offices, as well as women civil society groups and UN agencies especially UN Women. The outcome of the conference will be built upon to recommend both policy and programmatic initiatives that will expand will participation in politics and governance in Nigeria.

Activity 3.2.2 Support initiatives that will promote gender equality and women increased participation in politics.

The project will instigate and finance, in collaboration with UNWOMEN and civil society including women groups, initiatives that will promote and encourage women inclusion and participation in politics especially at the political party level. The initiatives will include but limited to leadership training, mentorship, advocacy for policies and laws that promote women participation at national and state levels, sponsorship of conferences and seminars on women political inclusion, and support to civil society organizations that advocate for expansion of women political participation in Nigeria.

Output 3.3 Youth participation in electoral processes increased.

In line with the National Youth Policy, adopted in 2019 by the Nigerian Parliament, the project will promote youth participation in electoral processes with the aim of building trust and confidence in the country's socio-economic and political system. With Youth being a key constituency, with over 40%⁸ of the population under 15, youth engagement is a key area for the project, ranging from raising awareness and sensitization of first-time voters to the promotion of youth leadership and the engagement in non-violence. The project will collaborate with several actors involved in increasing youth participation, with UNESCO as well as civil society actors. The project will target its support to the enhancement of coordination and harmonization of efforts amongst actors. Furthermore, while digitalization has the downside of disenfranchising parts of the population, youth engagement is an

⁸ UNFPA [United Nations Population Fund] (2019). State of World Population 2019: Unfinished Business, the Pursuit of Rights and Choices for All. United Nations Population Fund. [Online]

area in which it can prove valuable given they tend to be more connected and tech-savvy. More specifically, the following activities are foreseen as part of phase 1 of the project

Activity 3.3.1 Support to the youth and women participation in elections through registration, PVC collection and voting including the #60percentofus campaign.

UNDP has supported Yiaga Africa for the #60PercentOfUs project aimed at increasing youth and women political participation. Advocacy has been supported to encourage youth and women in states with low voter turnout to register, to collect their PVCs and to vote on election day. [The #60PercentOfUs project was indicated to have achieved 85,649 new registrations.]

During phase 2 of the project, the following activities are foreseen:

Activity 3.3.2 Foster partnerships between the youth and women's groups/CSOs.

Building on the *60 percent of us* work, the project intends to foster partnerships between youth groups and women's groups in acknowledgement of the idea that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. If the young people and the women stand together to work towards the theory of change of this project, they would go a long way given that together they constitute the majority while they simultaneously form the future leaders of the country. The project intends to facilitate engagement and synergies in the post-electoral period to pave the way for the next electoral cycle.

Activity 3.3.3 Facilitate the roll-out of competitions to actively engage the public.

This will be done through the set-up of a Youth Lab where young participants create videos that are actively distributed on Facebook and Instagram to tackle specific challenges in a creative and youth-sensitive manner, such as vote buying. This activity will benefit from global experiences and lessons from activities supported by the UNDP.

Activity 3.3.4 Youth leadership training on social media (with UNESCO).

The project will support Youth leadership online, particularly on social media by organising trainings on leadership and social media for youth leaders. The project will build upon UNDP's "60 percent of us campaign" as well as on the activities and knowledge network of UNESCO.

Output 3.4: Access to the electoral process for persons with disability enhanced.

The participation of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in an election process is essential to ensure that their political rights are exercised. The full enjoyment of the right to vote for all can only be fulfilled if accessibility is ensured, including for persons with disabilities. This project is informed by the lack of proper implementation and execution approach of the Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act 2018, clause 54 of the electoral act 2022, foreign laws and treaties in Nigeria. As a result, PWDs are continually marginalized, excluded and underrepresented in elections and political participation. To this end, INEC is committed to implement relevant actions, yet the issue is structural and often goes beyond the Commissions' strategy and actions. Specifically, inclusive policies will require knowledge on the specific needs of persons with disabilities (including the types of disabilities impeding on voting) which can be obtained through disaggregated data, as well as through the set-up of working groups at the ward levels. The dissemination and sharing of detailed data will also be key to allow inclusive participation in the following elections both at national and local levels. This

information can then feed into ensuring access to electoral polling booths. To this end, the following activities are foreseen in the second phase of the project:

Activity 3.4.1 Support an assessment of the accessibility of polling units and implement adaptations where needed.

The July 2022 NDI/IRI pre-electoral assessment recommended to assess the accessibility of polling stations to allow for evidence-based implementation. In line with the project's strategy to maximize impact of electoral assistance by complementing existing support, the project aims to implement the NDI/IRI recommendation.

Activity 3.4.2 Organize stakeholder meetings to discuss and disseminate the data gathered to identify key steps to improve the accessibility and inclusivity of the voting process.

This activity prioritizes stakeholder engagement including consultations and meetings to evaluate and validate data gathered on improvement of accessibility and inclusivity of PWDs in the election processes and its recommendations. It will support the dissemination of the data to relevant stakeholders especially INEC with the goal to enhance knowledge, data and information dissemination on the improvement of accessibility and inclusivity.

Output 3.5: Access to the electoral process for IDPs enhanced.

By some estimates, there are nearly 3.2 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Nigeria and there is a broad support across the political spectrum to enable them to participate in the electoral process. INEC has already put in place special registration PVC pickup procedures for IDPs for the upcoming elections. Yet, to increase the trust in the process, it is essential for INEC and other stakeholders to develop robust procedures and mechanisms to ensure IDPs are well informed and able to register and vote. The project will support the access of IDPs to the electoral process by strengthening the available data for INEC. UNHCR and IOM as the leading agencies dealing with IDPs in Nigeria have valuable data and knowledge on the displaced population, which is an essential resource for the planning of IDP voter registration. The following actions are planned for the second phase of the project:

Activity 3.5.1 Support INEC's IDPs data aggregation and update INEC's IDPs voter guidelines.

UNDP will closely collaborate with UNHCR and IOM on the gathering and dissemination of relevant data regarding the IDP population in the country. These data will be used in the planning of the next local and national elections to enable as many IDPs as possible to participate in the electoral process.

Activity 3.5.2 Support INEC's Voters Education for IDPs.

In partnership with IOM and UNHCR, CVE campaigns will be designed and promoted among IDPs populations specifically addressing issues such as registration and PVC pick up particularly relevant to displaced individuals.

Pillar 4 – PEACE

Output 4.0: Violence free elections improved peaceful co-existence in Nigeria

In line with SDG 16 target 1 “significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere” the Peace Pillar acknowledges the intrinsic connection between strong democratic

institutions and resilient and peaceful societies. The pillar speaks to the need to link electoral assistance to conflict prevention efforts, supporting conflict sensitive electoral assistance programmes while programming specific conflict prevention activities.

One of the main challenges for the upcoming elections will be the **deteriorating security situation**, which has become a challenge in almost all of the states, due to various types of conflict and violence. UNDP provides support to the peace architecture and security sector through the Stabilisation Programme to mitigate some of the security challenges, which often do not stem from the electoral process but are nonetheless likely to impact the elections and/or increase as we move closer to the elections. Various conflict prevention measures and components are vital to address the security challenges ahead.

With INEC in charge of coordinating electoral security, **the Inter-agency Consultative Committee on Election Security** has been set up to facilitate coordination with security agencies. Non-government organizations and civil society have an important role to play including through **early warning and early response mechanisms** at the grassroots level and several Situation Rooms that have been set up. These require support to facilitate that early response follows early warning signals. **Dialogue and mediation** are crucial, as the track record of the National Peace Committee (NPC) underlined. The NPC includes as its founding members religious leaders and have already secured an agreement by political parties for peaceful campaign and rallies for the upcoming elections. Lastly, with elections in Africa increasingly ending up in Court, the Electoral Dispute Resolution mechanisms are vital. The following outcomes and activities are supported as part of phase 2 of the project.

Output 4.1: Conflict prevention and mitigation mechanisms strengthened.

Activity 4.1.1 Support the existing National Peace Architecture through support to the currently unfunded state level peace committees.

The area of conflict prevention and peace has been identified as a priority area to facilitate an enabling environment for elections, whereby the focus will be on enhancing coordination and supporting multi-stakeholder approaches to peace through the following activities, including in the post-electoral period:

The National Peace Committee aims to strengthen the national peace architecture from the central to the local level by building state level peace committees with approximately 10 members per state. The European Union and the Swiss Government are supporting this endeavor in 15 states, while FCDO is discussing whether additional states could be supported through their funding. Nonetheless, a gap continues to exist as the 37 states will not be covered through additional FCDO funds. The project therefore aims to close the gap to ensure the existence of a complete peace architecture and support the set-up of state level peace committees in the remaining states. This support entails the identification and training of the 10 influential members per state in the remaining states.

Activity 4.1.2 Strengthen information exchange between the Inter-agency Consultative Committee on Elections Security and civil society led situation rooms including the I-report.

A few of Election Situation Rooms exists, with most of them being brought back to life closely before election day. At the level of civil society, the Nigeria civil society situation room brings together several civil society partners, with the secretariat being hosted by PLAC. Simultaneously, some organizations operate thematic situation rooms including one for the media and one for violence against women (see activity 4.3). At the level of government and state institutions, the police operate an Election

Situation Room which feeds information into the Inter-agency Consultative Committee on Elections Security.

While the thematic situation rooms already feed into the Nigeria civil society situation room, there is room for strengthening the linkages between the Inter-agency Consultative Committee and the civil society led initiatives, which the project aims to support.

Output 4.2: Measures to mitigate violence against women in elections and politics (VAWE/P) enhanced.

The National Centre for Women Development operates a women's situation room around Elections to track violence against women. The infrastructure, including offices, volunteers and a hotline exist, yet the operationalization of the situation room can be strengthened including through awareness raising and benefit from a methodological approach to the gathering, categorization and response to information received. The project will support this endeavor jointly with UNWOMEN through the implementation of the I-report system.

Specific activities that will be supported include:

- *Activity 4.2.1: Customize IT platform (software) to strengthen analysis, communication and response.*
- *Activity 4.2.2: Update the Standard Operating Procedures spelling out the roles and responsibilities to enhance coordination.*
- *Activity 4.2.3: Strengthening community engagement and the network of monitors throughout the country including through training.*
- *Activity 4.2.4: Develop/revisit the list of indicators.*
- *Activity 4.2.5: Roll out of training in several areas including the System's architecture, monitoring as well as conflict prevention and mediation.*

Output 4.3: The Electoral Dispute Resolution mechanisms to build credibility and trust in the electoral process strengthened.

The 1999 Constitution recognizes three Election Tribunals with the Court of Appeal being responsible for overseeing electoral disputes. All election related disputes terminate in the Court of Appeal except for the Presidential which terminates at the Supreme Court. To deliver on this mandate, the Court of Appeal sets up the Election Tribunals comprising Justices of the Appeal Court as well as Judges from other courts including the High Courts, due to the high number of petitions filed. A total of 811 post-election petitions were filed during the 2019 General Elections, highlighting a general overloading of the judicial system. This generally increases the risks of inconsistencies in rulings and lengthy timelines in adjudicating electoral disputes.

Some improvements are contained in the new Electoral Act including the streamlining of the petitions process, while setting time limits for filing of petitions challenging the election results as well as deadlines for appeal and disposal of appeals. While Phase I of UNDP support to the Election Process will cover support to the Appeal Court to facilitate trainings around the clauses in the Electoral Law relating to Electoral Dispute Resolution, additional pre- and post-election activities will include:

Activity 4.3.1: Conduct an assessment looking at ways in which Alternative Dispute Resolution could be used in the context of Nigeria's elections.

Following an initial assessment conducted by the Appeal Court, the project will assess the feasibility of integrating ADR into the legal system in Nigeria, building on regional and international knowledge and best practices and identifying the suitable institutions and legal domains for implementation.

Activity 4.3.2: Increase access to regional and international exchanges, best practices and technical advice, including through South-South cooperation.

Given the enormous pressure that Judges are under in times of elections, the sharing of best practices and technical advice by Judges that have gone through similar experiences in other countries could become an empowering and powerful learning experience. The project aims to support the sharing of knowledge and experiences amongst like-minded individuals working towards electoral justice.

Activity 4.3.3: Support the digitalization of the election dispute resolution case management system.

The Appeal Court, which has responsibility for the election petition tribunal, currently does not have a digitalized case management system and the project aims to provide support to the Court in the form of digitalizing the system, to enhance efficiency and transparency. The system would allow for easier prioritization of cases while allowing complainants to track the status of their appeal.

Resources Required to Achieve the Expected Results

Financial Resources

The project will mobilize and fund its activities through a multi-donor basket fund, which will be administered under direct implementation by UNDP. The funds will be prioritised and sequenced in accordance with the decisions of the Project Board and informed by the deliberations of the Technical Committee, which will also be integral to the project risk management process. The procurement and administration of project assets will be conducted through the Country Office or specialised units of UNDP (e.g., the Procurement Support Office, PSO). The cost of project evaluations and audits will also be funded through the multi-donor fund, as well as actions that are necessary to ensure compliance with UNDP's financial rules and regulations. Informed by the Chief Technical Advisor, the prioritisation of use of the available funds will be subject to the recommendations of the Technical Committee and decisions of the Project Board.

The UNDP Country Office will undertake resource mobilisation for the project, in partnership with national institutions, and other relevant UN Agencies. The multi-donor basket fund will be used to complement national budget contributions to help finance state agencies and will include UNDP core resources to fund key pre-electoral activities.

Human Resources

UNDP will dedicate full-time staff to the project through the positions of the Chief Technical Advisor and five members of the Project Management Unit (see project management section). The UNDP country office staff will provide quality assurance on delivery of project outputs, in line with its global international programme management standards. The work on gender mainstreaming in electoral

management, and women's participation in the electoral process will be guided by the project management unit in coordination with UNWOMEN and the work relating support to the media will be coordinated with UNESCO. As necessary, the UN single roster of electoral experts will be used to identify and recruit staff for the project.

Equipment

The project will require material support for implementation. Equipment will be funded from project resources. The equipment purchased under this project shall be disposed in accordance with UNDP guidelines.

Partnerships

As set out under the project's strategy, the project considers coordination as one of its key objectives; implying it will work closely with national stakeholders and international partners active in the field of election to facilitate coordination and prevent duplication of efforts. Currently, IFES and EU/DAI provide direct electoral assistance to INEC, while the EU, USAID and FCDO through NDI, Norway, the Swiss and the Kofi Annan Foundation provide support to some CSOs, requiring effective coordination through regular stakeholder meetings. Mechanisms for coordination already exist, both at the technical and political levels. In addition to the NDPG, an election coordination group for international development partners exists at the technical level, and is co-chaired by the EU, US and the UK. At the ambassadorial level, the Key Political Partners Group (KPPG) touching on peace and security issues, including the elections, is led by the EU and chaired by the Resident Coordinator (RC) in attendance of the UNDP Resident Representative (RR) as well as other like-minded Ambassadors.

Moreover, the project operates within the Governance Portfolio of UNDP as well as the broader UN Governance, Development and Peacebuilding work. Notably, the project will work in synchrony with the current support provided by UNDP to Youth Participation and the Peace and Security Architecture, as it directly or indirectly contributes to fostering a conducive environment for inclusive, transparent, and peaceful elections and the attainment of SDG 5, 10 and 16.

Furthermore, the project will also continue to work closely towards these objectives with UN Women and the United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office and extend the cooperation to UNESCO on media-related issues and IOM and OHCHR where it relates to IDPs.

Risks and Assumptions

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mngt response	Owner
1	Security situation deteriorates and distracts project implementation particularly the conduct of the 2023 general elections.	30/09/2022	Security	Probability: 4 Impact: 4	The following counter measures will be undertaken to mitigate the impact of this risk if it occurs: i) Support INEC to strengthen its election risk management tool including EMSC and EVMAT. ii) Support the strengthening of	

					Inter-Agency Consultative Committee on Elections Security (ICCES) and its linkages with CSOs. iii) Close monitoring of the security situation including quarterly risk update in the monitoring & evaluation plan, identification of mitigation measures and programmatic alternatives to be applied as necessary.	
2	Voter apathy	30/09/2022	Political	Probability: 3 Impact: 3	Support INEC and CSOs to conduct intensive civic and voter education including inclusive voter registration, PVC collection and mass voting on e-day; promote issue-based politics and campaigns; and political dialogues and debates.	
3	Extensive misinformation and disinformation regarding electoral processes and hate speech.	30/09/2022	Political	Probability: 4 Impact: 3	The project will support and strengthen fact-checking capacity through partnership with media organizations to ensure that communication around electoral processes is based on fact and verified information.	
4	Inability to mobilize resources for project implementation timely and sufficiently.	30/09/2022	Financial	Probability: 3 Impact: 4	Given the priority of elections to enthroning legitimate government and the UNDP leadership commitment to sustenance of credible democracy in Nigeria, UNDP will galvanize the support of like-	

					minded development partners to mobilize resources to fund the project including deploying its TRAC resources.	
5	Sudden outbreak of global health emergency that may impact negatively on the project implementation.	30/09/2022	Health	Probability: 2 Impact: 4	The project will respond timely and effectively to any sudden outbreak of health emergency in accordance with the system wide guidelines and national government protocols.	

Stakeholder Engagement

Target groups that are the envisaged intended beneficiaries are identified as the key national stakeholders outlined above. Broken down further, target groups identified as critical to the project's successful implementation are:

- Project beneficiaries include national institutions that are involved in the electoral process, in particular the INEC, as well the Judiciary and the Security and Peace Architecture. These will be the beneficiaries of UNDP, technical expertise, capacity building and training sessions identified and delivered over the duration of the project.
- A second category of beneficiaries include marginalised groups within the Nigerian electorates. These include the broad categories of women, youth, persons with disabilities and IDPs. They will be reached through direct engagement with the INEC and through partnerships with CSOs which undertake the sensitization processes. These efforts will be conducted with support from UNDP, UN Women, UNESCO and IOM/OHCHR through technical expertise, capacity building and training sessions identified and delivered over the course of the project.
- Third, the public in general will be reached through public awareness raising campaigns related to the delivery of credible elections.

South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSC/TrC)

As part of Pillar 1 – Capacity within Activity 1.1, the project will support the cooperation of INEC with other election management bodies and relevant institutions where these demonstrably provide added value. This is part of the sustainability strategy and will ensure that INEC is part of peer exchanges and can draw on the expertise and resources of sister institutions. The most immediate focus will be on other ECOWAS countries, with a second circle of engagement targeting members of the African Union and a third selected partners at the global level. The content and substance of the engagement will include themes that are relevant for other components and activities of the project as well. Equally as part of Pillar 4 – Peace under Activity 4.3.2, the project intends to assist collaboration between the Court of Appeal Justices and other relevant judiciaries/judges in other jurisdictions especially in Africa continent and Asia to share experiences and best practices and technical advisory which could become an empowering and powerful learning experience for

improved electoral justice and performance. The project aims to support the sharing of knowledge and experiences amongst like-minded individuals working towards electoral justice.

Knowledge

Knowledge management and effective monitoring and evaluation is critical for program implementation and delivery and will thus form part of the project's implementation strategy. The project will place proactive knowledge management at the centre of its implementation by conducting gap analyses and assessments to inform the planned interventions; thereby ensuring they are grounded in the contextual needs and framed around existing opportunities and identified gaps.

By seeking alignment with other projects within the governance portfolio, the project will benefit from existing knowledge obtained through the implementation of previous and current UN/UNDP projects in the field of governance and conflict prevention. Moreover, the project will benefit from knowledge in the region and beyond, including through the expertise available at the level of the UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa based in Addis Ababa.

Furthermore, through the specific formulation strategy used, and with the implementation of the inclusive governance approach, the project is benefiting from a larger knowledge management exercise embarked upon by UNDP, and the EC-UNDP Joint Task Force (JTF) on Electoral Assistance based in Brussels through the Sustaining Peace during Electoral Processes project more specifically. This exercise intends to ensure that lessons learnt from electoral and governance projects provide insights and inform future programming not solely in the country itself but shared more widely. Consequently, the current project will document and archive good practices and lessons learnt, using these lessons to inform the remaining implementation of activities through corrective measures as well as future programming on democratic governance and elections. The results of the project, successes, challenges, and lessons learnt will be documented and shared with other similar projects and projects within the UN system.

The project will also draw on and feed into the electoral knowledge maintained by the Policy and Institutional Memory cluster of the Electoral Assistance Division of the United Nations Department for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and contribute to the ACE Electoral Knowledge Network of which both UNDP and the UN Secretariat are global partners.

Visibility

A comprehensive visibility plan will be formulated within the inception period of the project. The plan will include publications of the achievements of the project and organization of events with stakeholders and partners. UNDP will also ensure the visibility of the project by showcasing its activities during interviews with the local media. During these interviews, UNDP will recognize the role of its partners in the project by highlighting their respective roles. The branding of events will ensure the logos of the lead partner beneficiaries, UNDP and other implementing and contributing partners with recognition of contributions to the project.

Sustainability and Scaling Up

As highlighted in the strategy section, the project will embed the principle of sustainability by placing capacity building, national ownership and long-term thinking at its core. Furthermore, the current project intends to consolidate the gains and the track-record of INEC as a credible and capable institution by broadening the targeted actors to include all stakeholders that have a role to play in facilitating a conducive environment for peaceful and credible elections. Moreover, through the

knowledge management strategy elaborated on above, the project places sustainability at the centre by building on existing initiatives, fostering coordination and synergies.

I. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Cost efficiency and effectiveness

Cost effectiveness will be achieved through the cross-cutting pillar of Partnerships as existing coordination mechanisms will be strengthened and UNDP's convening power will be leveraged to facilitate new ones. Moreover, through the Technical Committee and the Project Board, the project intends to serve as a coordination mechanism by bringing together the development partners, direct beneficiaries and the UN.

The approach of working with a broader set of actors further serves to enhance efficiency and effectiveness, as it not only enhances harmonization but further contributes to the enabling environment for elections, with the long-term outlook of strengthening institutions and fostering ownership.

Secondly, project implementation will be grounded in the principles of "avoiding duplication" and "combining strengths and building synergies" as it will initiate assessments and analyses prior to activity implementation to familiarize with ongoing initiatives in related areas, assess capacities and mandates and identify partners.

Lastly, cost effectiveness has been ensured by aligning the project pillars and outputs with both the national priorities set by the Government, and the priorities of UNDP and the UN more broadly, as laid out in the CPD and the UNSDCF. Simultaneously, the higher order results have been embedded in the project as the pillars were derived from SDG 16. Capacity development initiatives as well as Data and Monitoring on SDGs will be coordinated with the UNDP Regional Service Centre for Africa, and the EU-UNDP Electoral Joint Task Force on Electoral Assistance. The latter will further be involved in Analysis and Advisory Support, ensuring that lessons learned and good practices from other contexts and countries around the world are reflected and integrated in the context of Nigeria. The UN Electoral Roster and the UNDP internal roster will be used to expedite recruitment and ensure performance track record.

Project Management

Effective, transparent, and accountable project management is essential to manage the complexity of electoral assistance projects and retaining the confidence of national and international partners. Project Management systems and protocols are well established in UNDP in accordance with its internal rules and regulations. The project management procedures foresee a highly consultative and consensus-building approach so that it is reinforced through the Project Board and Technical Committee. This structure further allows for effective risk management and flexibility in case of changing realities.

The Project Management team provides strategic direction for the overall project implementation. It consists of an international Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) for the full project period, who oversees and supervises the Project. In addition to the CTA, the project will engage a Project Officer, Programme Finance and Procurement Specialist, a Media and Communications Analyst and one driver.

This project will be implemented through the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM), with a focus on consolidating an enabling environment for elections through multi-actor support. The DIM will promote local ownership of results, institutional strengthening through capacity development, south-to-south collaboration, and innovation and learning with UNDP and sister UN agencies, in particular UN WOMEN and UNESCO. Through the DIM modality, UNDP will apply its technical and administrative capacity to assume the responsibility for mobilizing and providing the required inputs in order to reach the expected outputs. UNDP will assume the overall management responsibility and accountability for project implementation. Accordingly, UNDP will follow all policies and procedures established for its own operations. The DIM modality will enable UNDP to engage with Responsible Parties as appropriate based on a written agreement or contract to purchase goods or provide services using the project budget. The Responsible Party may manage the use of these goods and services to carry out project activities and produce outputs. All Responsible Parties are directly accountable to UNDP in accordance with the terms of their agreement or contract with UNDP.

Physical project offices will be based in Abuja. Direct Project Costing (DPC) is charged in accordance with UNDP policy on core staff support in the areas of human resources, procurement, and finance (see budget). DPC is calculated upon a combination of cost-driver calculations including work-load surveys and Purchase Order cost calculations. Audits are conducted on an annual basis in line with UNDP financial regulations. Financial transactions and financial statements shall be subject to the internal and external auditing procedures laid down in the Regulations and Rules of UNDP.

Beyond periodic reporting through the Project Board and Technical Committee structures, the project management unit will set up additional project reporting mechanisms with external partners in line with partners' reporting requirement. Internally, and in accordance with the current DPA-UNDP Note of Guidance on Electoral Assistance, UNDP will provide EAD with status reports on project implementation at least quarterly. UNDP will also notify EAD of any additional UN electoral assistance that is requested that falls outside the scope of the NAM recommendations so that EAD can determine whether a new assessment might be necessary.

II. RESULTS FRAMEWORK^[1]

Intended Outcome as stated in the UNDAF/Country [or Global/Regional] Programme Results and Resource Framework (Outcome 4): More inclusive, participatory, transparent and gender-sensitive governance, justice and human rights systems are in place at all levels to promote acceleration in achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs for a peaceful, inclusive and cohesive society.										
Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Programme [or Global/Regional] Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets:										
Applicable Output(s) from the UNDP Strategic Plan (Outcome 2): Leaving no one behind, a rights-based approach centred on human agency and human development.										
Project title and Atlas Project Number:										
EXPECTED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT INDICATORS ⁹	DATA SOURCE	BASELINE		TARGETS (by frequency of data collection)					DATA COLLECTION METHODS & RISKS
			Value	Year	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	FINAL	
Output 1.1: INEC's institutional and professional capacity to deliver on its mandate strengthened.	1.1.1 Number of INEC Heads of Department with improved knowledge on INEC Election Monitoring and Support Centres (EMSC).	INEC, UNDP	0	2021	353 (108F; 245M)	353	353	653 (202F; 451M)	653	Attendance sheet, training reports and INEC reports, Project reports
	1.1.2 Number of RATECH that benefited from ToT delivered	INEC, UNDP	0	2021	0	3,500 (1,000F; 2,500M)	5,000 (1,500F; 3,500M)	6,500 (2,000F; 4,500M)	6,500	Attendance sheet, INEC report, Project reports.
	1.1.3 Number of exchanges organized at the regional and international level.	INEC, UNDP	0	2021	0	2	4	6	6	Mission report, INEC report, Project reports.
	1.1.4 Number of states covered by EVMAT using UNDP funds.	INEC, UNDP	0	2021	0	10	15	20	20	INEC report, Project reports.
Output 1.2: INEC's Electoral Institute supported to facilitate training of	1.2.1 Number of judges trained using UNDP funds.	Court of Appeal, INEC, UNDP	0	2021	359 (130F; 229M)	359	359	359	359	Attendance sheets, Training reports, INEC/CoA reports, Project reports.

⁹ It is recommended that projects use output indicators from the Strategic Plan IRRF, as relevant, in addition to project-specific results indicators. Indicators should be disaggregated by sex or for other targeted groups where relevant.

electoral stakeholders	1.2.2 Number of trainings on election security and VAWG	UNDP, INEC	0	2021	0	5	7	9	9	Attendance sheet, training reports, Project reports.
Output 1.3: The Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution's Academy supported to centralize capacity building in a single institution.	1.3.1 Number of modules developed on Information Integrity including modules around fact-checking, safety of journalists and media literacy.	UNDP, IPCR	0	2021	0	5	5	10	10	Training modules, Media reportage, Project reports, IPCR Peace Academy reports.
	1.3.2 Number of persons trained on information integrity.	UNDP, IPCR	0	2021	0	35 (15F; 20M)	70 (30F; 40M)	105 (45F; 60M)	105	Attendance sheet, IPCR Peace Academy reports, training reports, Project report, Media reportage.
Output 1.4: Post-electoral lessons learned exercises conducted at various levels to inform future electoral support activities.	1.4.1 Number of lessons learned sessions organized for 2023 and off-cycle elections.	UNDP, INEC	0	2021	0	2	2	4	4	Attendance sheets, INEC reports, Project reports, media reportage.
	1.4.2 Number of INEC staff and stakeholders that attended the various lessons learned workshops.	UNDP INEC	0	2021	0	250	250	450	450	Workshop attendance sign-in sheets, INEC reports
	1.4.3 Number of INEC planning documents developed for 2027 elections.	INEC	0	2021	0	0	2	2	2	INEC Election Guidelines, Operations and Logistics Plans, INEC reports, Project reports.
Output 2.1: Transparency and citizen oversight strengthened through online debates and tracking of results and promises.	2.1.1 Number of television/townhall debates organized.	UNDP, YIAGA AFRICA, Channels TV	0	2021	1	5	7	10	10	Media reportage, Channels TV reports, YIAGA Africa Reports, Project reports.
	2.1.2 Number of logins and views of YIAGA's Election Result Analysis Dashboard (ERAD).	UNDP, YIAGA AFRICA, Channels TV	0	2021	---	300,000	600,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	YIAGA AFRICA reports, social media data, Data from the ERAD

										Platform, Project report.
	2.1.3 Number of pre and post-electoral promises tracked on the online public Digital Dashboard.	UNDP, YIAGA AFRICA	0	2021	0	50	50	50	50	Media reportage, YIAGA AFRICA reports, Data from the platform, Project reports.
Output 2.2: Trust and confidence of stakeholders in the electoral process enhanced through increased engagement and dialogues between INEC and the public.	2.2.1 Number of citizens that make enquiry through the INEC's ICCC.	UNDP, INEC	0	2021	0	5,000 (2,000F; 3,000M)	15,000 (7,000F; 8,000M)	25,000 (10,000F; 15,000M)	25,000	INEC Reports
	2.2.2 Number of media/journalists that attended INEC's media roundtable and enlightenment events.	UNDP, INEC	0	2021	0	200	300	500	500	Media reportage, newspaper articles, INEC report, Project reports.
	2.2.3 Number of young people reached through the Value Your Vote NAijia Campaign	UNDP, Value Your Vote Naija	0	2021	0	5,000 (2,000F; 3,000M)	10,000 (4,000F; 6,000M)	15,000 (6,000F; 9,000M)	15,000	Value Your Vote Naija report, Project report, media reportage.
Output 2.3: Capacity of national stakeholders to prevent and mitigate the threats to the integrity of information (misinformation, disinformation and hate speech) strengthened.	2.3.1 Existence of a functional iVerify platform.	UNDP, IPC, CDD	0	2021	0	1	1	1	1	IPC reports, media reportage, Project reports.
	2.3.2 Number of media institutions that can access and make use of iVerify platform to fact-check media posts for disinformation and hate speech.	UNDP, IPC	0	2021	0	50	100	200	200	Attendance sheets, IPC reports, Project reports, media coverage.
Output 3.1: Voter apathy addressed by increasing the electorate's awareness of the electoral process.	3.1.1 Number of INEC's civic and voter education materials produced, disseminated and aired.	UNDP, INEC	18 (1 guideline; 5 fliers; 6 jingles; 1 documentary; 5 adverts).	2021	2	7	10	12	12 (1-guideline; 6 jingles; 1 documentary; 4 adverts)	INEC civic and voter education samples/materials, election guidelines, radio/TV jingles.
	3.1.2 Number of sensitization campaigns organized around electoral	UNDP, INEC, IFES	0	2021	0	2	4	6	6	INEC Reports, IFES Reports, Attendance sheet, Project reports.

	legislation and voters' registration.									
Output 3.2: Gender equality promoted throughout the electoral cycle.	3.2.1 Report of the post-mortem conference on women participation in the 2023 elections.	UNDP, UN Women	0	2021	0	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	UN Women report, Project reports, media reportage.
	3.2.2 Number of initiatives with aim to promote women political participation funded by the project.	UNDP, UN WOMEN	0	2021	0	2	4	6	6	Media reportage, UN Women report, Project reports.
Output 3.3: Youth participation in electoral processes increased.	3.3.1 Number of new registered voters with project funds.	UNDP, YIAGA AFRICA	0	2021	85,649 (44,667F; 40,982M)	85,649	85,649	85,649	85,649 (44,667F; 40,982M)	INEC reports, YIAGA AFRICA report, Project reports.
	3.3.2 Number of PVCs collected through project funds.	UNDP, YIAGA AFRICA	0	2021	--	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	YIAGA AFRICA reports, Project reports.
	3.3.3 Number of youth trained on social media in partnership with UNESCO.	UNDP, UNESCO	0	2021	0	100 (40F; 60M)	100	200 (80F; 120M)	200	UNESCO report, Project reports, Media reportage.
Output 3.4: Access to the electoral process for people with disability enhanced	3.4.1 Existence of assessment of polling stations accessibility for PWDs report.	UNDP/INEC	0	2021	0	1	1	1	1	Project reports, INEC reports, media reportage.
Output 3.5: Access to the electoral process for IDPs enhanced.	3.5.1 Availability of updated INEC voter guideline for IDPs.	IOM/UNHCR	0	2021	0	1	1	1	1	Updated guideline, IOM/UNHCR Reports, INEC Reports, Project reports.
Output 4.1: Conflict prevention and mitigation mechanisms strengthened.	4.1.1 Number of state level peace committees supported with project funds.	UNDP, NPC	0	2021	0	10	15	20	20	NPC Reports, local Peace Committees Reports, Project reports.
	4.1.2 Number of electoral related incidents recorded	UND, PLAC	0	2021	0	100	150	200	200	CSO Election Situation Room reports, Media

	by civil society and acted upon by ICCES.									reportage, Project reports.
Output 4.2: Measures to mitigate violence against women in elections and politics (VAWE/P) enhanced.	4.2.1 Number of initiatives developed and/or being implemented to monitor and mitigate Violence Against Women in Politics (VAWE).	INEC, UNDP	0	2021	0	2	4	4	4	INEC reports, Project reports
Output 4.3: The Electoral Dispute Resolution mechanisms to build credibility and trust in the electoral process strengthened.	4.3.1 Number of sessions organised to exchange best practices.	UNDP, Appeal Court	0	2021	0	2	4	5	5	Project reports, Mission reports.
	4.3.2 Number of functional Digitalized Case Management System.	UNDP, Appeal Court	0	2021	0	1	1	1	1	Court Appeal reports, Project reports.

^[1] UNDP publishes its project information (indicators, baselines, targets and results) to meet the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standards. Make sure that indicators are S.M.A.R.T. (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound), provide accurate baselines and targets underpinned by reliable evidence and data, and avoid acronyms so that external audience clearly understand the results of the project.

Monitoring and Evaluation

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring and evaluation plans:
[Note: monitoring and evaluation plans should be adapted to project context, as needed]

Monitoring Plan

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action	Partners (if joint)	Cost (if any)
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and analysed	Quarterly, or in the frequency	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management.		

	to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs.	required for each indicator.			
Monitor and Manage Risk	Identify specific risks that may threaten achievement of intended results. Identify and monitor risk management actions using a risk log. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards. Audits will be conducted in accordance with UNDP's audit policy to manage financial risk.	Quarterly	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risk. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.		
Learn	Knowledge, good practices and lessons will be captured regularly, as well as actively sourced from other projects and partners and integrated back into the project.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.		
Annual Project Quality Assurance	The quality of the project will be assessed against UNDP's quality standards to identify project strengths and weaknesses and to inform management decision making to improve the project.	Annually	Areas of strength and weakness will be reviewed by project management and used to inform decisions to improve project performance.	10,000	10,000
Review and Make Course Corrections	Internal review of data and evidence from all monitoring actions to inform decision making.	At least annually	Performance data, risks, lessons and quality will be discussed by the project board and used to make course corrections.		
Project Report	A progress report will be presented to the Project Board and key stakeholders, consisting of progress data showing the results achieved against pre-defined annual targets at the output level, the annual project quality rating summary, an updated risk log with mitigation measures, and any evaluation or review reports prepared over the period.	Annually, and at the end of the project (final report)			

Project Review (Project Board)	The project's governance mechanism (i.e., project board) will hold regular project reviews to assess the performance of the project and review the Multi-Year Work Plan to ensure realistic budgeting over the life of the project. In the project's final year, the Project Board shall hold an end-of project review to capture lessons learned and discuss opportunities for scaling up and to socialize project results and lessons learned with relevant audiences.	Specify frequency (i.e., at least annually)	Any quality concerns or slower than expected progress should be discussed by the project board and management actions agreed to address the issues identified.	10,000	10,000
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Evaluation Plan¹⁰

Evaluation Title	Partners (if joint)	Related Strategic Plan Output	UNDAF/CPD Outcome	Planned Completion Date	Key Evaluation Stakeholders	Cost and Source of Funding
Mid-term Project Evaluation	MBNP, INEC and UNDP	3.2.4	UNSDCF Outcome 4	April 2024	MBNP, INEC and UNDP	\$50,000 - CS
End of Project Evaluation	MBNP, INEC and UNDP	3.2.4	UNSDCF Outcome 4	April 2024	MBNP, INEC and UNDP	\$50,000 - CS

¹⁰ Optional, if needed

Multi-Year Work Plan ¹¹¹²

All anticipated programmatic and operational costs to support the project, including development effectiveness and implementation support arrangements, need to be identified, estimated and fully costed in the project budget under the relevant output(s). This includes activities that directly support the project, such as communication, human resources, procurement, finance, audit, policy advisory, quality assurance, reporting, management, etc. All services which are directly related to the project need to be disclosed transparently in the project document.

OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	PLANNED BUDGET BY YEAR				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount (US\$)
PILLAR 1: CAPACITY									
Output 1.1: INEC’s institutional and professional capacity to deliver on its mandate strengthened.	1.1.1 Conduct capacity building workshops on INEC operational guidelines, data collection, reporting tools and communication strategy for Desk Officers of INEC Election Monitoring and Support Centres (EMSC).	150,000	0	0	150,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	300,000
	1.1.2 Support to INEC Election strategic and operation plans and organize Train of Trainers for INEC staff.	0	250,000	0	150,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	400,000
	1.1.3 Deliver training for RATECH through support to the ToT.	0	250,000	100,000	50,000	UNDP, INEC			400,000
	1.1.4 Support to Organise regional and international exchanges to facilitate the sharing of best practices and technical advice.	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, INEC		Air ticket, DSA, terminal	150,000
	1.1.5 Support INEC to expand the scope and implementation of the	0	100,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop	200,000

¹¹ Cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness costs to be charged to the project are defined in the Executive Board decision DP/2010/32

¹² Changes to a project budget affecting the scope (outputs), completion date, or total estimated project costs require a formal budget revision that must be signed by the project board. In other cases, the UNDP programme manager alone may sign the revision provided the other signatories have no objection. This procedure may be applied for example when the purpose of the revision is only to re-phase activities among years.

	Election Violence and Monitoring Management Tool (EVMAT).							materials, transport, etc.	
Output 1.2: INEC's Electoral Institute supported to facilitate training of electoral stakeholders.	1.2.1 Support training of judges to strengthen electoral dispute resolution.	250,000	0	0	0	UNDP, INEC, CoA		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	250,000
	1.2.2 Support training on election security, the prevention of violence against women in elections and the promotion of human rights for the Inter Agency Consultative Committee on Election Security (ICCES) members.	0	100,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	200,000
Output 1.3: The Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution's Academy supported to centralize capacity building in a single institution.	1.3.1 Develop an impactful and multi-functional training modules on Information Integrity.	0	50,000	0	50,000	UNDP, IPCR		Consultancy fee, printing, etc.	100,000
	1.3.2 Facilitate the conduct of training courses informed by the post-electoral lessons learned exercises.	0	100,000	100,000	100,000	UNDP, IPCR		Facilitation fees, course materials, printing, meals, training allowance.	300,000
Output 1.4 Post-electoral lessons learned exercises conducted at various levels to inform future electoral support activities.	1.4.1 Support to the organization of a large lessons' learned workshop with all electoral stakeholders.	0	200,000	0	100,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	250,000
	1.4.2 Support to the organization of an INEC internal lessons' learned workshop with all departments present.	0	150,000	0	100,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	250,000
	1.4.3 Support to the organization of a dedicated lessons' learned workshop for the Civic and Voter Education Department.	0	35,000	35,000	30,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	100,000
	1.4.4 Organize a lessons' learned workshop on inclusion with all relevant stakeholders.	0	150,000	0	0	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	150,000
	1.4.5 Support the mid-term review of the strategic plan 2021-2026 as well as	0	0	150,000	0	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop	150,000

	the drafting of the planning documents for 2027.							materials, transport, etc.	
	1.4.6 Support implementation of recommendations of some of the lessons learned workshops for the off-cycle elections and future electoral support activities Where feasible and legally permissible.	0	0	250,000	50,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	300,000
									3,550,000
PILLAR 2: TRANSPARENCY									
Output 2.1. Transparency and citizen oversight strengthened through online debates and tracking of results and promises.	2.1.1 Organize television/townhall debates for political office holders, especially the presidential, vice presidential, governorship and deputy governorship aspirants in selected states, starting with Ekiti and Osun to assist voters to make an informed decision.	200,000	200,000	100,000	100,000	UNDP, YIAGA, Channels TV		Production, Airing, Venue, Decoration	600,000
	2.1.2 Support Yiaga in the preparation and roll-out of the Election Result Analysis Dashboard.	450,000	100,000	100,000	0	UNDP, YIAGA, Channels TV		Data collection, venue, DSA, Venue, etc.	650,000
	2.1.3: Support to civil society to track promises by political parties and leaders (pre- and post-electoral).	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, YIAGA		Grants	150,000
Output 2.2 Trust and confidence of stakeholders in the electoral process enhanced through increased engagement and dialogues between INEC and the public.	2.2.1: Support the upgrade of ICCG to be more citizens' friendly and responsive.	0	100,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, INEC		Consultancy fees, hosting, etc.	200,000
	2.2.2 Support INEC to engage Media owners in a roundtable.	0	100,000	0	100,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, Air ticket, DSA, Transport, etc.	200,000
	2.2.3 Support INEC to engage political parties and spokespersons around electoral legal framework.	0	200,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	300,000
	2.2.4 Training media practitioners, journalists and public media on INEC	0	150,000	100,000	50,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop	300,000

	processes and procedures, public enlightenment and civic responsibility.							materials, transport, etc.	
	2.2.5 Support effective dissemination of information on credible elections and adverse impact of vote buying (Value your Vote Naija).	0	100,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, VYVN		Grant	200,000
Output 2.3: Capacity of national stakeholders to prevent and mitigate the threats to the integrity of information (misinformation, disinformation and hate speech) strengthened.	2.3.1 Conduct assessment of iVerify.	0	20,000	0	0	UNDP, IPC, CDD		Consultancy fee, printing	20,000
	2.3.2 Customize IT of iVerify.	0	100,000	0	0	UNDP, IPC		Equipment, Consultancy fee, etc.	100,000
	2.3.3 Deploy iVerify.	0	50,000	0	0	UNDP, IPC		Consultancy fee, etc.	50,000
	2.3.4 Operationalize iVerify.	0	100,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, IPC		Salary & allowance, stationeries, maintenance & operations, etc.	200,000
									2,970,000
PILLAR 3: INCLUSION									
Output 3.1: Voter apathy addressed by increasing the electorate's awareness of the electoral process.	3.1.1 Support INEC's civic education and voter education including TV/Radio jingles, documentary, capacity strengthening for the CVE officers and institutions for 2023 elections and beyond.	600,000	200,000	100,000	100,000	UNDP, INEC		Airtime, Adverts, venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	1,000,000
	3.1.2 Conduct post-electoral sensitization around the legislation process and voters' registration.	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, INEC, IFES		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	150,000
Output 3.2: Gender equality promoted throughout the electoral cycle.	3.2.1 Organize post-mortem conference on women participation in the 2023 general elections.	0	100,000	0	0	UNDP, UN Women, PLAC		Consultancy fee, DSA, venue, etc.	100,000
	3.2.2 Support initiatives that will promote gender equality and women increased participation in politics.	0	100,000	90,000	80,000	UNDP, UN Women		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, etc.	270,000

Output 3.3: Youth participation in electoral processes increased.	3.3.1 Support to the youth and women participation in elections through registration, PVC collection and voting including the #60percentofus campaign.	750,000	0	0	0	UNDP, YIAGA		Logistics, Vehicle hire, etc.	750,000
	3.3.2 Foster partnerships between the youth and women's groups/CSOs.	0	50,000	0	0	UNDP, YIAGA		Venue, Meals, DSA, transport, etc.	50,000
	3.3.3 Facilitate the roll-out of competitions to actively engage the public.	0	50,000	0	0	UNDP, YIAGA		Venue, Meals, DSA, transport, etc.	50,000
	3.3.4 Youth leadership training on social media (with UNESCO).	0	100,000	0	100,000	UNDP, UNESCO		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	200,000
Output 3.4: Access to the electoral process for people with disability enhanced.	3.4.1 Promote and enhance participation of PWDs in elections through training, sensitization and advocacy.	100,000	0	0	0	UNDP, CSF		Consultancy fee, DSA, printing, etc.	100,000
	3.4.2 Support an assessment of the accessibility of polling stations and implement adaptations where needed.	0	50,000	0	0	UNDP, INEC		Consultancy fee, DSA, printing, etc.	50,000
	3.4.3 Organize stakeholder meetings to discuss and disseminate the data gathered to identify key steps to improve the accessibility and inclusivity of the voting process.	0	50,000	0	0	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	50,000
Output 3.5: Access to the electoral process for IDPs enhanced.	3.5.1 Support INEC's IDPs data aggregation and update INEC's IDPs voter guidelines.	0	100,000	0	0	UNDP, INEC		Consultancy fee, Printing, DSA, Venue, etc.	100,000
	3.5.2 Support INEC's Voters Education for IDPs.	0	70,000	0	30,000	UNDP, INEC		Airtime, Adverts, etc.	100,000
									2,970,000
PILLAR 4: PEACE									
Output 4.1: Conflict prevention and mitigation	4.1.1 Support the existing National Peace Architecture through support to	0	70,000	40,000	40,000	UNDP, NPC		Consultancy fee, DSA, Air ticket,	150,000

mechanisms strengthened.	the currently unfunded state level peace committees.							transport, venue, etc.	
	4.1.2 Strengthen information exchange between the Inter-agency Consultative Committee on Elections Security and civil society led situation rooms including the I-report.	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, PLAC		Venue, DSA, Printing, Air ticket, Transport, etc., etc.	150,000
Output 4.2: Measures to mitigate violence against women in elections and politics (VAWE/P) enhanced.	4.2.1: Customize IT platform (software) to strengthen analysis, communication and response.	0	100,000	50,000	0	UNDP, INEC		Equipment, Consultancy fee, etc.	150,000
	4.2.2: Update the Standard Operating Procedures spelling out the roles and responsibilities to enhance coordination.	0	80,000	40,000	30,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	150,000
	4.2.3: Strengthening community engagement and the network of monitors throughout the country including through training.	0	100,000	60,000	60,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	220,000
	4.2.4: Develop/revisit the list of indicators.	0	20,000	0	0	UNDP, INEC		Consultancy fee, Printing, etc.	20,000
	4.2.5: Roll out of trainings in a number of areas including the System's architecture, monitoring as well as conflict prevention and mediation.	0	150,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, INEC		Venue, DSA, Workshop materials, transport, etc.	250,000
Output 4.3: The Electoral Dispute Resolution mechanisms to build credibility and trust in the electoral process strengthened.	4.3.1: Conduct an assessment looking at ways in which Alternative Dispute Resolution could be used in the context of Nigeria's elections.	0	50,000	0	0	UNDP, INEC, CoA		Consultancy fee, DSA, Venue, transport, etc.	50,000
	4.3.2: Increase access to regional and international exchanges, best practices and technical advice, including through South-South cooperation.	0	50,000	30,000	20,000	UNDP, INEC, CoA		Air ticket, DSA, terminal, etc.	100,000
	4.3.3: Support the digitalization of the election dispute resolution case management system.	0	150,000	50,000	50,000	UNDP, INEC, CoA		Equipment, Consultancy fee, DSA, etc.	250,000
									1,490,000
Project Management & Personnel									2,000,000
Project Monitoring & Evaluation @ 2%									258,600

Project Visibility @ 1%							129,300
Direct Project Costing @ 5%							646,500
General Management Service Fee @ 8%							1,034,400
							4,068,800
GRAND TOTAL							15,048,800

I. Governance and Management Arrangements

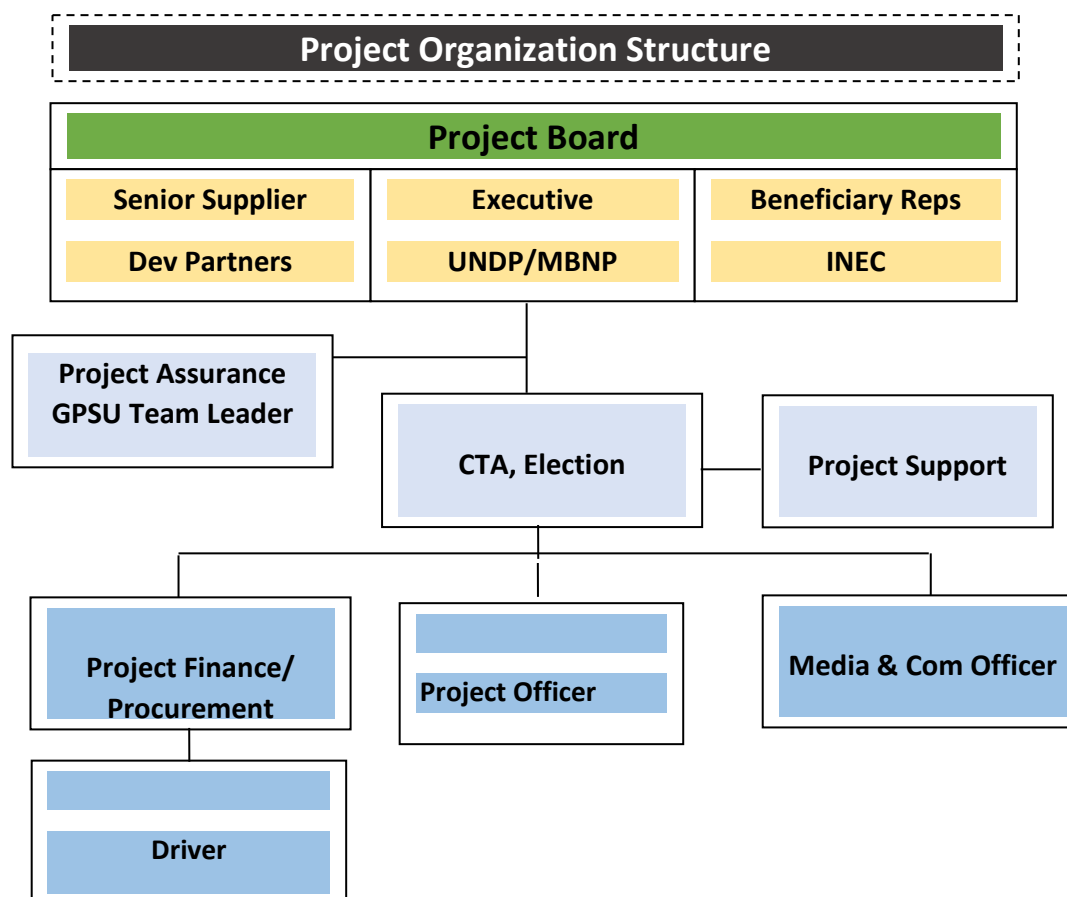
Effective, transparent, and accountable project management is essential to manage the complexity of electoral assistance projects and retaining the confidence of national and international partners. Project Management systems and protocols are well established in UNDP in accordance with its internal rules and regulations. The project management procedures foresee a highly consultative and consensus-building approach so that it is reinforced through the Project Board and Technical Committee. This structure further allows for effective risk management and flexibility in case of changing realities.

The Project Management team provides strategic direction for the overall project implementation. It consists of an international Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) for the full project period, who oversees and supervises the Project. In addition to the CTA, the project will engage a Project Officer, Programme Finance and Procurement Specialist, a Media and Communications Analyst and one driver.

This project will be implemented through the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM), with a focus on consolidating an enabling environment for elections through multi-actor support. The DIM will promote local ownership of results, institutional strengthening through capacity development, south-to-south collaboration, and innovation and learning with UNDP and sister UN agencies, in particular UN WOMEN and UNESCO. Through the DIM modality, UNDP will apply its technical and administrative capacity to assume the responsibility for mobilizing and providing the required inputs in order to reach the expected outputs. UNDP will assume the overall management responsibility and accountability for project implementation. Accordingly, UNDP will follow all policies and procedures established for its own operations. The DIM modality will enable UNDP to engage with Responsible Parties as appropriate based on a written agreement or contract to purchase goods or provide services using the project budget. The Responsible Party may manage the use of these goods and services to carry out project activities and produce outputs. All Responsible Parties are directly accountable to UNDP in accordance with the terms of their agreement or contract with UNDP.

Physical project offices will be based in Abuja. Direct Project Costing (DPC) is charged in accordance with UNDP policy on core staff support in the areas of human resources, procurement, and finance (see budget). DPC is calculated upon a combination of cost-driver calculations including work-load surveys and Purchase Order cost calculations. Audits are conducted on an annual basis in line with UNDP financial regulations. Financial transactions and financial statements shall be subject to the internal and external auditing procedures laid down in the Regulations and Rules of UNDP.

Beyond periodic reporting through the Project Board and Technical Committee structures, the project management unit will set up additional project reporting mechanisms with external partners in line with partners' reporting requirement. Internally, and in accordance with the current DPA-UNDP Note of Guidance on Electoral Assistance, UNDP will provide EAD with status reports on project implementation at least quarterly. UNDP will also notify EAD of any additional UN electoral assistance that is requested that falls outside the scope of the NAM recommendations so that EAD can determine whether a new assessment might be necessary.



II. Legal Context

This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Nigeria and UNDP, signed on 12th April 1988. All references in the SBAA to “Executing Agency” shall be deemed to refer to “Implementing Partner.”

This project will be implemented by UNDP (“Implementing Partner”) in accordance with its financial regulations, rules, practices and procedures only to the extent that they do not contravene the principles of the Financial Regulations and Rules of UNDP. Where the financial governance of an Implementing Partner does not provide the required guidance to ensure best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency, and effective international competition, the financial governance of UNDP shall apply.

III. Risk Management

1. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations Security Management System (UNSMS.)

2. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the [project funds]¹³ [UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document]¹⁴ are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism , that the recipients of any amounts provided by UNDP hereunder do not appear on the United Nations Security Council Consolidated

¹³ To be used where UNDP is the Implementing Partner

¹⁴ To be used where the UN, a UN fund/programme or a specialized agency is the Implementing Partner

Sanctions List, and that no UNDP funds received pursuant to the Project Document are used for money laundering activities. The United Nations Security Council Consolidated Sanctions List can be accessed via <https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-sc-consolidated-list>. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this Project Document.

3. Social and environmental sustainability will be enhanced through application of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (<http://www.undp.org/ses>) and related Accountability Mechanism (<http://www.undp.org/secu-srm>).

4. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will: (a) conduct project and programme-related activities in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, (b) implement any management or mitigation plan prepared for the project or programme to comply with such standards, and (c) engage in a constructive and timely manner to address any concerns and complaints raised through the Accountability Mechanism. UNDP will seek to ensure that communities and other project stakeholders are informed of and have access to the Accountability Mechanism.

5. In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, UNDP as the Implementing Partner will handle any sexual exploitation and abuse (“SEA”) and sexual harassment (“SH”) allegations in accordance with its regulations, rules, policies and procedures.

6. All signatories to the Project Document shall cooperate in good faith with any exercise to evaluate any programme or project-related commitments or compliance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards. This includes providing access to project sites, relevant personnel, information, and documentation.

7. UNDP as the Implementing Partner will ensure that the following obligations are binding on each responsible party, subcontractor, and sub-recipient:

- a. Consistent with the Article III of the SBAA [*or the Supplemental Provisions to the Project Document*], the responsibility for the safety and security of each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient and its personnel and property, and of UNDP’s property in such responsible party’s, subcontractor’s and sub-recipient’s custody, rests with such responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient. To this end, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall:
 - i. put in place an appropriate security plan and maintain the security plan, taking into account the security situation in the country where the project is being carried;
 - ii. assume all risks and liabilities related to such responsible party’s, subcontractor’s and sub-recipient’s security, and the full implementation of the security plan.
- b. UNDP reserves the right to verify whether such a plan is in place, and to suggest modifications to the plan when necessary. Failure to maintain and implement an appropriate security plan as required hereunder shall be deemed a breach of the responsible party’s, subcontractor’s and sub-recipient’s obligations under this Project Document.
- c. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient (each a “sub-party” and together “sub-parties”) acknowledges and agrees that UNDP will not tolerate sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse of anyone by the sub-parties, and other entities involved in Project implementation, either as contractors or subcontractors and their personnel, and any individuals performing services for them under the Project Document.
 - (a) In the implementation of the activities under this Project Document, each sub-party shall comply with the standards of conduct set forth in the Secretary General’s Bulletin

ST/SGB/2003/13 of 9 October 2003, concerning “Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse” (“SEA”).

(b) Moreover, and without limitation to the application of other regulations, rules, policies and procedures bearing upon the performance of the activities under this Project Document, in the implementation of activities, each sub-party, shall not engage in any form of sexual harassment (“SH”). SH is defined as any unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature that might reasonably be expected or be perceived to cause offense or humiliation, when such conduct interferes with work, is made a condition of employment or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment. SH may occur in the workplace or in connection with work. While typically involving a pattern of conduct, SH may take the form of a single incident. In assessing the reasonableness of expectations or perceptions, the perspective of the person who is the target of the conduct shall be considered.

- d. In the performance of the activities under this Project Document, each sub-party shall (with respect to its own activities), and shall require from its sub-parties (with respect to their activities) that they, have minimum standards and procedures in place, or a plan to develop and/or improve such standards and procedures in order to be able to take effective preventive and investigative action. These should include: policies on sexual harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse; policies on whistleblowing/protection against retaliation; and complaints, disciplinary and investigative mechanisms. In line with this, sub-parties will and will require that their respective sub-parties will take all appropriate measures to:
 - (i) Prevent its employees, agents or any other persons engaged to perform any services under this Project Document, from engaging in SH or SEA;
 - (ii) Offer employees and associated personnel training on prevention and response to SH and SEA, where sub-parties have not put in place its own training regarding the prevention of SH and SEA, sub-parties may use the training material available at UNDP;
 - (iii) Report and monitor allegations of SH and SEA of which any of the sub-parties have been informed or have otherwise become aware, and status thereof;
 - (iv) Refer victims/survivors of SH and SEA to safe and confidential victim assistance; and
 - (v) Promptly and confidentially record and investigate any allegations credible enough to warrant an investigation of SH or SEA. Each sub-party shall advise UNDP of any such allegations received and investigations being conducted by itself or any of its sub-parties with respect to their activities under the Project Document, and shall keep UNDP informed during the investigation by it or any of such sub-parties, to the extent that such notification (i) does not jeopardize the conduct of the investigation, including but not limited to the safety or security of persons, and/or (ii) is not in contravention of any laws applicable to it. Following the investigation, the relevant sub-party shall advise UNDP of any actions taken by it or any of the other entities further to the investigation.
- e. Each sub-party shall establish that it has complied with the foregoing, to the satisfaction of UNDP, when requested by UNDP or any party acting on its behalf to provide such confirmation. Failure of the relevant sub-party to comply of the foregoing, as determined by UNDP, shall be considered grounds for suspension or termination of the Project.
- f. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will ensure that any project activities undertaken by them will be implemented in a manner consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards and shall ensure that any incidents or issues of non-compliance shall be reported to UNDP in accordance with UNDP Social and Environmental Standards.

- g. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will take appropriate steps to prevent misuse of funds, fraud, corruption or other financial irregularities, by its officials, consultants, subcontractors and sub-recipients in implementing the project or programme or using the UNDP funds. It will ensure that its financial management, anti-corruption, anti-fraud and anti money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism policies are in place and enforced for all funding received from or through UNDP.
- h. The requirements of the following documents, then in force at the time of signature of the Project Document, apply to each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient: (a) UNDP Policy on Fraud and other Corrupt Practices (b) UNDP Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Policy; and (c) UNDP Office of Audit and Investigations Investigation Guidelines. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient agrees to the requirements of the above documents, which are an integral part of this Project Document and are available online at www.undp.org.
- i. In the event that an investigation is required, UNDP will conduct investigations relating to any aspect of UNDP programmes and projects. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will provide its full cooperation, including making available personnel, relevant documentation, and granting access to its (and its consultants', subcontractors' and sub-recipients') premises, for such purposes at reasonable times and on reasonable conditions as may be required for the purpose of an investigation. Should there be a limitation in meeting this obligation, UNDP shall consult with it to find a solution.
- j. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will promptly inform UNDP as the Implementing Partner in case of any incidence of inappropriate use of funds, or credible allegation of fraud, corruption other financial irregularities with due confidentiality. Where it becomes aware that a UNDP project or activity, in whole or in part, is the focus of investigation for alleged fraud/corruption, each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient will inform the UNDP Resident Representative/Head of Office, who will promptly inform UNDP's Office of Audit and Investigations (OAI). It will provide regular updates to the head of UNDP in the country and OAI of the status of, and actions relating to, such investigation.
- k. UNDP will be entitled to a refund from the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient of any funds provided that have been used inappropriately, including through fraud, corruption, other financial irregularities or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Project Document. Such amount may be deducted by UNDP from any payment due to the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient under this or any other agreement. Recovery of such amount by UNDP shall not diminish or curtail any responsible party's, subcontractor's or sub-recipient's obligations under this Project Document.

Where such funds have not been refunded to UNDP, the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient agrees that donors to UNDP (including the Government) whose funding is the source, in whole or in part, of the funds for the activities under this Project Document, may seek recourse to such responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient for the recovery of any funds determined by UNDP to have been used inappropriately, including through fraud, corruption or other financial irregularities, or otherwise paid other than in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Project Document.

Note: The term “Project Document” as used in this clause shall be deemed to include any relevant subsidiary agreement further to the Project Document, including those with responsible parties, subcontractors and sub-recipients.

- l. Each contract issued by the responsible party, subcontractor or sub-recipient in connection with this Project Document shall include a provision representing that no fees, gratuities, rebates, gifts, commissions or other payments, other than those shown in the proposal, have been given, received, or promised in connection with the selection process or in contract execution, and that the recipient of funds from it shall cooperate with any and all investigations and post-payment audits.
- m. Should UNDP refer to the relevant national authorities for appropriate legal action any alleged wrongdoing relating to the project or programme, the Government will ensure that the relevant national authorities shall actively investigate the same and take appropriate legal action against all individuals found to have participated in the wrongdoing, recover and return any recovered funds to UNDP.
- n. Each responsible party, subcontractor and sub-recipient shall ensure that all of its obligations set forth under this section entitled “Risk Management” are passed on to its subcontractors and sub-recipients and that all the clauses under this section entitled “Risk Management Standard Clauses” are adequately reflected, *mutatis mutandis*, in all its sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into further to this Project Document.

Special Clauses. In case of government cost-sharing through the project, the following clauses will apply:

1. The schedule of payments and UNDP bank account details.
2. The value of the payment, if made in a currency other than United States dollars, shall be determined by applying the United Nations operational rate of exchange in effect on the date of payment. Should there be a change in the United Nations operational rate of exchange prior to the full utilization by the UNDP of the payment, the value of the balance of funds still held at that time will be adjusted accordingly. If, in such a case, a loss in the value of the balance of funds is recorded, UNDP shall inform the Government with a view to determining whether any further financing could be provided by the Government. Should such further financing not be available, the assistance to be provided to the project may be reduced, suspended or terminated by UNDP.
3. The above schedule of payments takes into account the requirement that the payments shall be made in advance of the implementation of planned activities. It may be amended to be consistent with the progress of project delivery.
4. UNDP shall receive and administer the payment in accordance with the regulations, rules and directives of UNDP.
5. All financial accounts and statements shall be expressed in United States dollars.
6. If unforeseen increases in expenditures or commitments are expected or realized (whether owing to inflationary factors, fluctuation in exchange rates or unforeseen contingencies), UNDP shall submit to the government on a timely basis a supplementary estimate showing the further financing that will be necessary. The Government shall use its best endeavours to obtain the additional funds required.

7. If the payments referred above are not received in accordance with the payment schedule, or if the additional financing required in accordance with paragraph 6 above is not forthcoming from the Government or other sources, the assistance to be provided to the project under this Agreement may be reduced, suspended or terminated by UNDP.

8. Any interest income attributable to the contribution shall be credited to UNDP Account and shall be utilized in accordance with established UNDP procedures.

In accordance with the decisions and directives of UNDP's Executive Board:

The contribution shall be charged:

- (a) 8% cost recovery for the provision of general management support (GMS) by UNDP headquarters and country offices
- (b) Direct cost for implementation support services (ISS) provided by UNDP and/or an executing entity/implementing partner.

9. Ownership of equipment, supplies and other properties financed from the contribution shall vest in UNDP. Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by UNDP shall be determined in accordance with the relevant policies and procedures of UNDP.

10. The contribution shall be subject exclusively to the internal and external auditing procedures provided for in the financial regulations, rules and directives of UNDP.”

IV. ANNEXES

1. Project Quality Assurance Report

2. **Social and Environmental Screening Template** [\[English\]](#) [\[French\]](#) [\[Spanish\]](#), including additional Social and Environmental Assessments or Management Plans as relevant. *(NOTE: The SES Screening is not required for projects in which UNDP is Administrative Agent only and/or projects comprised solely of reports, coordination of events, trainings, workshops, meetings, conferences, preparation of communication materials, strengthening capacities of partners to participate in international negotiations and conferences, partnership coordination and management of networks, or global/regional projects with no country level activities).*

3. **Risk Analysis.** Use the standard [Risk Register template](#). Please refer to the [Deliverable Description of the Risk Register](#) for instructions

4. **Capacity Assessment:** Results of capacity assessments of Implementing Partner (including Partner Capacity Assessment Tool (PCAT) and HACT Micro Assessment)

5. **Project Board Terms of Reference and TORs of key management positions.** The standard Project Board TOR can be found [here](#).

6. **On-Granting Provisions Applicable to the Implementing Partner**¹⁵. On-granting clauses for non-UNDP Implementing Partners can be found [here](#).

¹⁵ Applicable for non-UNDP Implementing Partner as Grant Making Institution facilitating on-granting.