United Nations Development Programme

Country/Region/Global: Ukraine
Engagement Facility

Project Title	Implementation of SDGs in Ukraine in the context of recovery from the war and towards the European integration
Expected CPD Outcome(s)	**Outcome 1.** By 2024 women and men, girls and boys participate in decision-making and enjoy human rights, gender equality, effective, transparent and non-discriminatory public services
Expected CPD Output(s)	**Output 1.2.** National institutions, systems, laws and policies advance the equitable realization of human rights, especially among vulnerable groups
	Output 2.1. National and subnational institutions are better able to develop and implement policies and measures that generate sustainable jobs and livelihoods
	Output 4.2. Crisis-affected women and men have more sustainable livelihoods opportunities, including jobs, created with UNDP support
Implementing Partner	United Nations Development Programme in Ukraine
Initiation Plan Start/End Dates	10 June – 31 December 2024

Brief Description

Since February 2022 Ukraine has been focusing on addressing the challenges caused by Russia's full-scale invasion. The ongoing full-fledged war is keeping the needs of the people of Ukraine, their safety and security on top of the agenda, and simultaneously brings new priorities, developments, and aspects of the national policies of the country.

Just before the war started, Ukraine had been making steady progress in achieving 15 of the 17 SDGs. However, projections made by UNDP suggest that up to 90 percent of the population of Ukraine could face poverty and vulnerability to poverty if the war continues. Furthermore, women have been disproportionally affected by the war, accounting for more than half of the Internally Displaced People and of those needing humanitarian assistance in 2024.

UNDP has been supporting the Government of Ukraine (GoU) in implementing several reforms that catalyse Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) attainment, including those related to democratic

(transparent and accountable) governance, sustainable environment and energy efficiency, and in the past two years also addressing the far-reaching consequences of the escalated war.

Additionally, following the [European Council's decision to open accession negotiations with Ukraine](#) on 14 December 2023, the Ukrainian Government initiated an active phase of preparations for Ukraine's accession to the European Union. This process has concurrently contributed to Ukraine's progress towards the SDGs, demonstrating how the European integration efforts can complement and enhance national development strategies aimed at achieving a sustainable future.
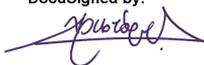
In this context, it is of tremendous importance not to lose all the progress Ukraine has achieved in sustainable development and ensuring the efforts towards achievement of the SDGs constitute the backbone of Ukraine's recovery processes as well as strong basis for the European integration.

The suggested project will provide support to the Government of Ukraine for continued implementation of the SDGs in Ukraine, focusing on recovery from the war and integration with the European Union. The main priority will be securing that the revision of the national indicators is finalized in line with the EU accession agenda, with particular focus on human rights, inclusiveness, and non-discrimination.

Programme Period:	2018-2024
Quantum Project Number:	01002661
	Gen 2
Gender Marker:	

Total resources required	150,000
Total allocated resources:	150,000
• Regular	150,000
• Other:	_____
○ Donor	_____
○ Donor	_____
○ Government	_____
Unfunded budget:	_____
In-kind Contributions	_

Agreed by UNDP:

DocuSigned by:

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Christophoros Politis

10-Jun-2024

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PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

Implementation of SDGs in Ukraine in the context of recovery from the war and towards the European integration is strongly aligned with both the country's and the region's priorities. The full-scale military invasion by the Russian Federation of Ukraine has the most challenging impact on Ukraine's entire nation. As of the May 2024, conflict-related violence in Ukraine has killed over 10,000 and injured over 20,000 civilians (more than 30,000 total civilian casualties)[1], as well as significantly impacted living standards, livelihoods, food security, social inclusion, and gender equality in Ukraine.

The Government has taken steps to address these challenges, caused by the war, including rebuilding infrastructure, supporting businesses, and providing assistance to those affected by the war. As a result, Ukraine has managed to: maintain macroeconomic stability; keep inflation under control; overcome a significant production stoppage and the consequences of labour outflow; restore logistical flows despite the blockade of Black Sea ports; launch a rapid reconstruction programme; attain candidate status for European Union (EU) membership.

Even though the war significantly shifted state priorities to urgent security and humanitarian needs, the Agenda 2030 and its SDGs continue to highlight core societal, economic and institutional aspirations at the national level. Alignment with SDGs is particularly critical for the recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine, which should be just, inclusive and efficient, allowing the principle of 'building back better', and 'leaving no one behind'. The SDGs are essential for creating stable, innovative economies and stronger, more resilient societies and institutions.

In the light of this, this project intends to support the efforts of the Government of Ukraine in finalising revision of the national SDG framework, enhancing the effectiveness of the Government and ensuring better value for money invested in the country's recovery and development. An inclusive process to adapt the SDGs to the context in Ukraine was launched following the adoption of the Agenda 2030, which led to the establishment of a national strategic framework for Ukraine and a national baseline in 2017. In 2020 Ukraine participated in its first Voluntary National Review and submitted the respective report to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. Moreover, a series of decrees and legislative measures articulated the determination of the government to integrate the SDGs in all areas of national policy alongside commitments enshrined in the EU Association Agreement.

On 23 June 2022, the European Council granted the EU candidate status to Ukraine, which became the basis for the start of the negotiation process beginning in June this year. Ukraine is already working on issues linked to EU membership, in particular, bringing the country's legislation in line with EU standards. The Government of Ukraine analysed 28,000 acts of EU law to consider if national legislation is in compliance. It is estimated that more than 2,500 acts of EU law should be incorporated into domestic legislation, covering different spheres of life, including fundamental rights. Harmonization of Ukrainian legislation with the EU acquis communautaire also contributes to Ukraine's progress in implementing the SDGs, as the reference to sustainable development is directly envisaged by the Article 3 of the Treaty on European Union.

Since 2019, UNDP has been supporting the Government of Ukraine to enhance its crisis management coordination mechanisms and ensure alignment of all national development policies and strategies with Agenda 2030 and the SDGs. In 2020-2022, to reinforce Ukraine's SDGs financing architecture, UNDP as the lead agency, together with WHO and UNICEF, and the non-resident agency UNECE, implemented a comprehensive Joint Programme to promote strategic planning and financing for sustainable development in Ukraine. Also, during 2021-2023, the SDG BRIDGE project was implemented under the support of the Governments of Sweden and Switzerland in response to the request of the President and the Government of Ukraine to develop a nation-wide SDG agenda, incorporate it into existing policy and strategic planning tools, and consider SDG KPIs throughout monitoring of local and state reforms implementation.

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[1]

https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/country-reports/two-year-update-protection-civilians-impact-hostilities-civilians-24

To adapt Ukraine`s localised SDG framework in line with the recent global and national developments, UNDP supported the Government in holding the process of consultations to revise the localised SDGs for Ukraine. This resulted in the internal consultations with the Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (SCMU), core line ministries, and UN agencies in Ukraine, which was followed by two series of strategic sessions with state entities responsible for every of 17 SDGs, civil society and the international advisory community.

The first iteration of the final SDG Revision Report 2023 was handed to the Government of Ukraine for formal revision and comments exchange. This, in part, contributed to the discussion on the introduction of a new formal cross-institutional mechanism on the SDG process at the national level. Hence, on [August 29, 2023, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine launched the high-level Inter-Agency Working Group (IWG) on the SDGs implementation](#).

In the April 2024, the Government of Ukraine requested the further support in revision of the national targets and indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals in the context of recovery from the war and towards European integration, emphasizing the importance of preserving Ukraine's advancements in SDG implementation, in particular in ensuring human rights.

The implementation of the UNDP project "Implementation of SDGs in Ukraine in the Context of Recovery from the War and Towards the European Integration" is strategically poised to address regional priorities effectively. This initiative is crucial, particularly in the wake of the full-scale invasion and as Ukraine steers towards the European integration, offering a tailored approach to meet the unique needs and challenges faced by different regions within the country.

The implementation of the project may play a catalytic role in enhancing future resource mobilization for larger development projects and lay the groundwork for upcoming initiatives by UNDP. Finalizing the revised national SDG indicators will establish a foundation for Ukraine's analysis of progress towards these goals. Consequently, the proposed project may not only facilitate the attraction of funds specifically for the fulfilment of the SDGs in Ukraine but also position UNDP as a capable partner. This capability comes from using clearly measured progress as a basis for launching new projects, attracting donor funding, and collaborating with Ukraine's government to draw private sector support for sustainable reconstruction and further development. Additionally, this project will act as a catalyst for continued investment in Ukraine's future, ensuring that each step in its recovery contributes to long-term resilience and prosperity.

The project is designed to significantly advance the achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) while laying a solid foundation for Ukraine's continued path toward European integration. This initiative is critical as it not only aims to rebuild and strengthen the nation's resilience in the aftermath of the full-scale invasion but also aligns its development strategies with European standards and practices.

It is important to note that this project will focus on promoting SDG Goal 5: Gender Equality. Ending all forms of discrimination against women and girls is not just a fundamental human right but a pivotal element of a sustainable future. In the context of ongoing conflict, empowering women and girls which are disproportionately affected by the war becomes even more crucial; it is well-documented that gender equality significantly contributes to economic growth and development. Amidst the destabilizing effects of the invasion, strengthening gender equality will help in stabilizing society by ensuring that half of the population can contribute effectively to recovery efforts and long-term national resilience.

When revising national indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals, attention will be paid to ensuring that gender-disaggregated data is included, where possible. This approach is intended to make women and girls visible to the Government in the further development of public policy.

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the invasion, strengthening gender equality will help in stabilizing society by ensuring that half of the population can contribute effectively to recovery efforts and long-term national resilience.

When revising the national indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals, attention will be paid to ensuring that sex-disaggregated data is included, where possible. This approach is intended to make women and girls visible to the Government in the further development of public policy.

The Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (SCMU) will play a key role in revision of the national targets and indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals in the context of recovery from the war and European integration. As a result, they are expected to prepare a legislative act that will formally institutionalize the updated indicators at the national level, ensuring that these enhancements are legally recognized and enforceable.

Additionally, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Economy will actively participate in integrating the SDGs into their operations, particularly through the lenses of the EU accession agenda which emphasizes human rights, inclusiveness, and non-discrimination.

To this end, the project aims to achieve the following Output 1: Advancing SDGs in Ukraine Amidst Post-War Recovery and European Integration Efforts.

Activities under Output 1:

1.1. Support the Government in preparation of policy papers, recommendations, and guidelines to revision of national indicators of the SDGs in Ukraine.

1.2. Strengthening capacity of the Government in interagency cooperation in elaborating national indicators of the SDGs in Ukraine.

1.3. SDG mainstreaming through support to the implementation of the EU accession agenda in the sphere of human rights, inclusiveness, and non-discrimination.

UNDP's Competitive Advantage

Since 2019, UNDP has been supporting the Government of Ukraine to enhance its mechanisms for managing crises and to guarantee that its national policies and strategic plans are consistent with the objectives of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. By continuing operations within the crisis setting, UNDP focuses on assessing the most urgent needs and developing specific solutions to address them, ensuring progress towards these global goals even in challenging times.

UNDP developed and proposed a Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA) tool to assess the extent to which SDG targets and indicators have been integrated into Ukraine's strategic planning processes. To assess funding sources for specific Goals and priorities, UNDP created the Development Finance Assessment (DFA) tool.

UNDP has developed a number of other tools to support the implementation of the Integrated National Financing Frameworks in Ukraine. One of them is the assessment of the SDGs budgeting system, which includes tagging the Ukrainian budget with sustainable development goals. Based on these data, the Government can effectively adjust government spending plans to meet SDGs commitments and assess the budget gaps in financing SDGs.

To assess the budget financing of SDGs, UNDP also developed the "Methodology on SDG budget tagging" describing how SDG budget targeting should be included in the three-tier accounting of Ukraine's budget. UNDP has developed an "Open SDGs Platform", providing access to national indicators for the implementation of SDGs for the Government and the world community.

With the onset of the full-scale war in Ukraine, UNDP immediately reacted to the new challenges, having provided rapid support to the Government of Ukraine, civil society and local communities by addressing the most pressing issues. The Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine received support from UNDP on mainstreaming SDGs into policy-documents through the project SDG BRIDGE Ukraine, namely on designing a mechanism for SDG mainstreaming into national policies, strategies and programming process and supporting political will and dialogue around SDGs.

Under the SDG BRIDGE project, the Government of Ukraine received timely and needed support on filling information to the Questionnaire for EU integration. SDG BRIDGE project team supported the SCMU on development of decree on International Technical Assistance (ITA) and supported launch of the SDG

coordination mechanism in Ukraine. 50+ draft laws were reviewed on SDG alignment and adopted by the Parliament since the beginning of cooperation with the SDG BRIDGE; i.e. system-forming ones such as Draft Law On Consumer Rights Protection, Draft Law On the Use of Nuclear Energy and Radiation Safety, Draft Law On Chemical Safety and Management of Chemical Production, Draft Law on Settlements Water Drainage, and the Draft Law On Education of Adults.

The SCMU will further reinforce these efforts, and the ongoing project will provide additional robust support in this direction.

Resources Required to Achieve the Expected Results

The project will rely on several types of resources required to achieve the desired results. Human resources will be provided both as project implementation team and external experts, as well as through dedicated time of specialists from government counterparts who will contribute to the project implementation process.

The project will also operate on extensive use of knowledge resources, and good practices/lessons learned that could be adapted to the Ukrainian environment. Financial resources required for successful project implementation will come from the project budget.

The project will also mobilize in-kind resources contributed by UNDP. Thus, for instance, UNDP will provide its premises for the project's coordination and management team, allocate required furniture, use computer workstations, cover utilities, cleaning, ICT support, reception, and connectivity charges (internet, phone calls), and minor office supplies. The meeting rooms at the UN House will also be provided on a pro bono basis. SCMU and relevant ministries will grant its premises and furniture to any hired expert, and UNDP will negotiate the allocation of relevant office equipment for the expert team.

MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

UNDP Ukraine shall be responsible for the overall management of the project, primarily regarding the responsibility for the achievement of the outputs (results), impact and objectives.

The project will be implemented under the UNDP Democratic Governance Portfolio with overall supervision of the Democratic Governance Team Leader, and in close coordination with the Team Leader on Strategic Planning, Partnerships and RBM. Quality assurance of the project will be provided by the Programme Analyst, Governance. Project monitoring and evaluation as well as communications will be provided within the Democratic Governance Team.

The following project team will be running the project (UNDP Ukraine in-kind contribution):

- Project Manager will be responsible for achieving the objectives of the project and ensuring the co-operation and support from the project partners, as well as for managing the implementation of the project. This includes personnel, subcontracts, training, administrative support and narrative and financial reporting, and keeping UNDP aware of all relevant factors that could have an impact on the project implementation;
- Analyst on Strategic Planning and Aid Coordination will be responsible for assisting the team with quality assessment of the products delivered with project's support;
- Business and Human Rights Advocacy Analyst will be responsible for providing support in implementation project activities under Activity 1.3;
- Capacity Development Officer (supporting the M&E function);
- Project and Procurement Associate;
- Communication Analyst.

The team will also supervise and work closely with the consultants to be engaged to organize and implement the project activities.

MONITORING

In accordance with UNDP's programming policies and procedures, the project will be monitored through the following monitoring plan:

Monitoring Activity	Purpose	Frequency	Expected Action
Track results progress	Progress data against the results indicators in the RRF will be collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs. The progress on the performance indicators will be regularly reported into UNDP Ukraine Integrated Monitoring and Reporting Platform	Regularly	Slower than expected progress will be addressed by project management
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.	Regularly	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.	Regularly, At the project's operational closure	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions. The concise lessons learned report will be prepared at the operational project of the project
Project Report	A project report will show progress data and results achieved against pre-defined targets at the output level.	Within a month of the project's operational closure	The final report capturing achieved results, and lessons learned, is to be provided to the HQ.

[1] Two-Year Update - Protection of civilians: impact of hostilities on civilians since 24 February 2022 | OHCHR

I. WORK PLAN

Period: 10 June – 31 December 2024

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	TIME FRAME			RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
And baseline, indicators including annual targets	*List activity results and associated actions*	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Output 1. Advancing SDGs in Ukraine Amidst Post-War Recovery and European Integration Efforts. *Indicator 1: Number of policy papers, recommendations and guidelines to implement sustainable development goals in Ukraine in the context of recovery from the war and European integration.* Baseline: 0 Target: 3 *Indicator 2: Number of public servants (women, men) who have increased knowledge of mainstreaming sustainable development goals in policymaking and monitoring of renewed sustainable development indicators in Ukraine.* Baseline: 0 Target: 100 (50 women, 50 men)	1.1. Support the Government in preparation of policy papers, recommendations and guidelines to revision of national indicators of the sustainable development goals in Ukraine.				UNDP	UNDP	71300 Local Consultants 75700 Trainings and Conferences 74200 Audio Visual & Printing	35,000 USD
	1.2. Strengthening capacity of the Government in interagency cooperation in elaborating national indicators of the sustainable development goals in Ukraine.							52,755 USD
	1.3. SDG mainstreaming through support to the implementation of the EU accession agenda in the sphere of human rights, inclusiveness and non-discrimination							55,000 USD
Security							74300 Contributions	2,855 USD
DPC (3%)							64300 Staff Mgmt Costs 74500 Miscellaneous Expenses	4,390 USD
TOTAL								**150,000**