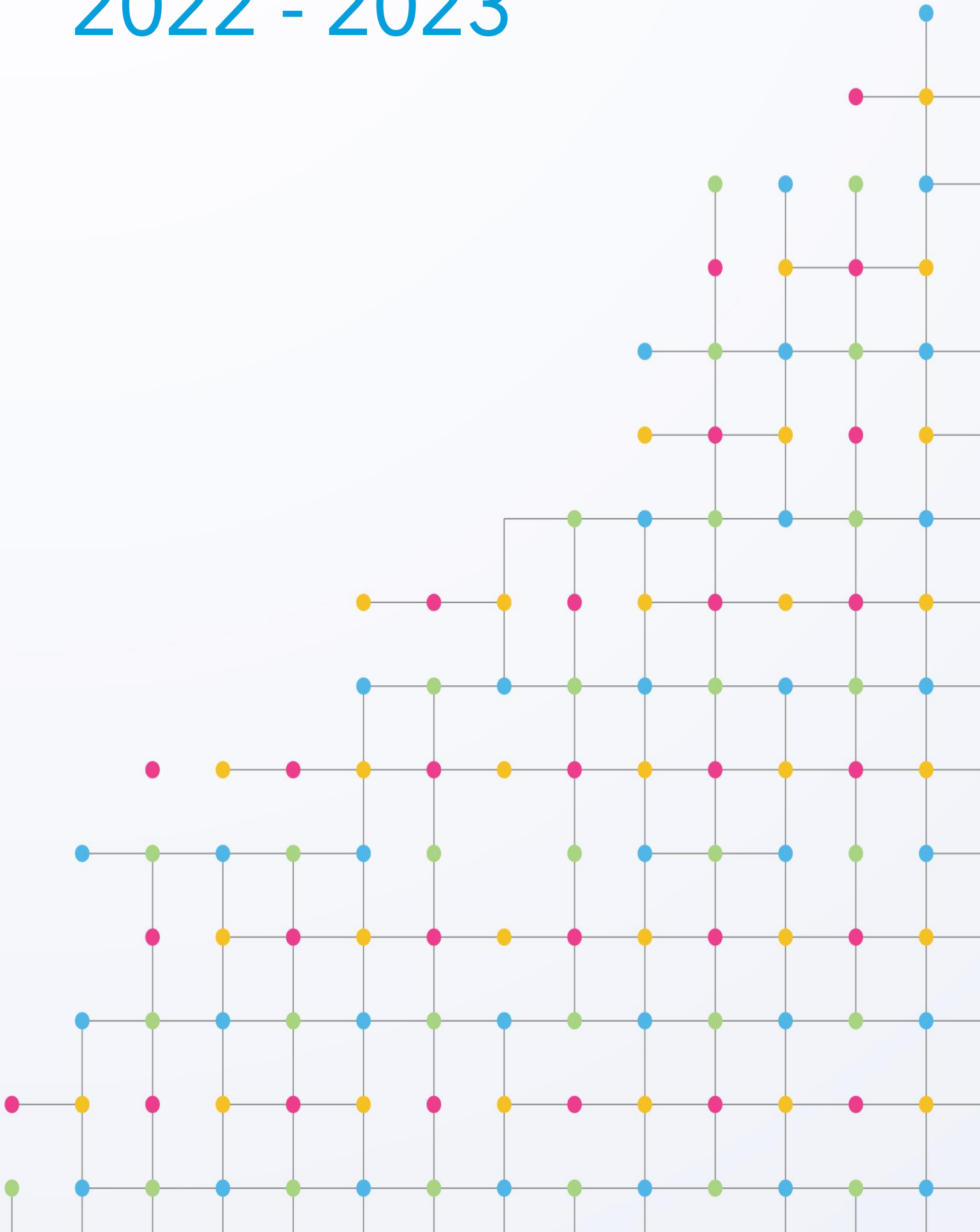


# BELIZE

## COUNTRY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

# 2022 - 2023



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# Joint National Steering Committee

## Government

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration ; Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment; Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Enterprise; Ministry of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management; Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology; Ministry of Natural Resources, , Petroleum & Mining; Ministry of Human Development, Families and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs; Ministry of Public Utilities, Logistics and E-Governance; Ministry of Home Affairs and New Growth Industries; Attorney General's Ministry; Ministry of Health and Wellness; Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government; Ministry of Public Service, Constitutional and Political Reform; Ministry of Youth, Sports and Transport; Minister of The Blue Economy & Civil Aviation; Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing; Ministry of National Defence and Border Security; National Commission for Families and Children; National Women's Commission; National Council for Ageing; and National AIDS Commission

## UN System

UNRCO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA, PAHO/WHO, IOM, WFP, ILO, FAO, IFAD, UNESCO, UN Women, UNEP, OHCHR.

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## Executive Summary

The Country Implementation Plan (CIP) was developed for the four (4) UNMSDCF Strategic Pillars with support from UN inter-agency, technical working groups and validated with the Government of Belize to ensure responsiveness to the national development direction as outlined in the draft Medium-term Development Strategy. In June 2022, the UN and GOB jointly convened to review the current programmatic offer by the UN and validated the outputs and sub-outputs for the CIP 2022-2023. This session followed from prioritization consultations with government and also led to the identification of key strategic proposals to inform future CIPs.

The first CIP for the MSDCF 2022-2026 will cover a two-year period and will be monitored and reported in the UN INFO platform (<https://uninfo.org>). The UN INFO platform provides users with a space to update progress and challenges with CIP implementation and will be used to formulate the Annual Country Results Report (CRR). The CIP 2022 - 2023 reflects the planned programmatic activities (sub-outputs) for all UN agencies working in Belize and the resources that are required and available, as well as funding gaps for both years. It will be reviewed, re-assessed and adjusted, if necessary, in line with new and emerging priorities in the country and from the decision of the Joint National Steering Committee.

# Introduction

The **UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNMSDCF)** for the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean, covering the period 2022-2026, is the core instrument for planning and implementation of the UN development activities towards the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda. This framework has been developed as globally, regionally and at country level we continue to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic and confront the evolving and challenging effects of the Russian war against Ukraine. In the Caribbean, as elsewhere, the impact of the pandemic aggravated and revealed existing structural vulnerabilities and provides the opportunity to 'build back better'. To address such vulnerabilities and accelerate efforts to achieve the SDGs the UN and the governments in the region are committing to contribute to significant structural changes in the economies and governance systems of the countries.



Under each of the four priority areas, specific desired changes (outcome areas) were collaboratively defined by the UN agencies, funds and programmes, government ministries and regional institutions. The '*UN Vision*' is for the region to become more resilient, possess greater capacity to achieve all the SDGs, and become a place where people choose to live and can reach their full potential. UN contributions will be operationalized at the country level, while adopting regional solutions where relevant, fostering regional cooperation and integration, and being guided by the principle of 'leaving no one behind'.

A country-specific joint workplan, which takes into full account the individual country development priorities, circumstances and legislation, will be developed for each of the participating countries. In consultation with the Government of Belize (GOB), joint workplans will be developed by the UN Country Team (UNCT) and will seek to capture UN programmatic contributions towards the UNMSDCF outcomes. These country-specific joint work plans, otherwise called the '**Country Implementation Plan (CIP)**', will comprise of outputs and sub-outputs (agency-specific programmatic actions) aligned with the national development goals and country programme documents of UN agencies, funds and programmes.

It will be implemented under the guidance of the UNMSDCF Joint Steering Committee and operationalized at the country level, under the oversight and strategic direction of national Joint Steering Committees. In Belize, the Joint National Steering Committee<sup>1</sup> is responsible for, inter alia, provision of strategic direction of the cooperation framework implementation and ensuring alignment with the national circumstances (humanitarian, economic, political, health emergencies etc.) that require modified or immediate response by the United Nations development system.

<sup>1</sup> Established since 7 December 2016 the JNSC is co-chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the UN Resident Coordinator

The UNMSDCF 2022-2026 and its attendant Country Implementation Plan represents the second generation of a sub-regional framework, building upon the first framework (2017-2021) which focused on efficiency, leveraging regional synergies and adopting collective approaches. It was collegially developed by the six UN Country Teams covering the 22 countries and territories in the region and their host governments, in consultation with regional organizations, the private sector, development partners, civil society organizations and other stakeholders.

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 - Economic Resilience and Shared Prosperity

**Outcome 1:** More productive and competitive business ecosystem designed to improve people's standards of living and well-being

**Output 1.1:** By 2023, more accessible & alternative financing provided for MSMEs and the informal sector for economic resilience

**Output 1.2:** By 2023, capacities in digital transformation enhanced among SMEs, the public sector and the labour force

**Output 1.3:** By 2023, core (competition and consumer protection) laws and policies strengthened for supporting sustainable private sector Investment

**Output 1.4:** By 2023, the fiscal policies are more supportive of greater equality, less poverty and reduces economic leakage

**Output 1.5:** By 2023, access to climate financing increased for MSMEs, private and public sector investment in the 2030 agenda

**Output 1.6:** By 2026, policy environment improved for fostering environmentally sustainable practices and decent work.

**Output 1.7:** By 2026, strengthen inter and intra-regional value chain in agriculture and tourism

**Outcome 2:** The Caribbean has fully transitioned to a more diversified and sustainable economy that supports inclusive and resilient economic growth

**Output 2.1:** By 2023, productive and export capacity increased in the agricultural and service industry

**Output 2.2:** By 2023, policies strengthened for greater economic integration and diversification for supporting the orange, green, and blue economies

**Output 2.3:** By 2023, economic resilience improved for the vulnerable MSMEs, and the informal sector engaged in orange, green and blue economies

**Output 2.4:** By 2023, more resilient food systems for coping with climate change challenges, food security and pests/diseases

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 - Equality, well-being, and leaving no-one behind

**Outcome 3:** National governments and regional institutions use relevant data to design and adopt laws and policies to eliminate discrimination, address structural inequalities and ensure the advancement of those left furthest behind

**Output 3.1:** By 2024, national systems improved to effectively collect, analyze and utilize SDG data related to structural inequalities through evidence-based and rights-based laws, policies, and programmes including financing.

**Output 3.2:** By 2024, capacities of government and civil society networks are enhanced to utilize innovative approaches to track, monitor and provide real-time reporting on the SDGs and human rights treaties, to address structural and intersecting inequalities.

**Output 3.3:** By 2024, accountability frameworks are strengthened at national and sub-national levels for social services, including care, to reduce structural inequalities

**Output 3.4:** By 2024, governance frameworks and institutional mechanisms strengthened for improved access to and sustainability of social services at national and sub-national level to reduce structural inequalities.

**Outcome 4:** People in the Caribbean equitably access and utilize universal, quality and shock-responsive, social protection, education, health, and care services

**Output 4.1:** By 2024, national institutional capacity enhanced to assess, analyze, predict, prevent, and respond to social vulnerability and shocks in both non-emergency and emergency settings

**Output 4.2:** By 2024, national institutional capacity enhanced to increase access to social protection instruments for poor and socially marginalized (LNOB) populations and strengthen the resilience of vulnerable and poor groups by establishing a responsive social protection strategy

**Output 4.3:** By 2024, access to comprehensive education and quality learning opportunities increased for poor and socially marginalized (LNOB) populations [including for out-of-school children, and in emergency settings]

**Output 4.4:** By 2024, access to comprehensive health services increased for poor and socially marginalized (LNOB) populations

**Output 4.5:** By 2024, education and health sector capacity improved to prevent, mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from infectious, environmental and socioeconomic shocks

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 - Resilience to Climate Change and Sustainable Natural Resource Management**

**Outcome 5:** Caribbean people, communities, and institutions enhance their adaptive capacity for inclusive, gender responsive DRM and climate change adaptation and mitigation

**Output 5.1:** By 2026, national data capacity strengthened for supporting evidenced-based policies and programmes on disaster risk management and climate change adaptation

**Output 5.2:** By 2026, national capacities of institutions, individuals, and communities are strengthened to improve resilience and reduce drivers of vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change

**Output 5.3:** By 2026, access to green technologies improved for supporting energy efficiency and diversification of energy sources in vulnerable communities and institutions

**Output 5.4:** By 2026, national capacities and systems are enhanced to develop, integrate and implement multi-sector adaptation, mitigation and DRR solutions, action plans and strategies

**Output 5.5:** By 2026, national capacities are strengthened to develop and implement multi-level, multi-sector resilience mechanisms for Disaster Risk and Climate Risk financing

**Outcome 6:** Caribbean countries manage natural resources and ecosystems to strengthen their resilience and enhance the resilience and prosperity of the people and communities that depend on them.

**Output 6.1:** By 2026, national capacities strengthened to improve waste management and transition to a greener circular economy with decent jobs

**Output 6.2:** By 2026, national mechanisms and strategy strengthened for sustainable management of natural resources and eco-systems

**Output 6.3:** By 2026, mechanisms and approaches for sustainable livelihoods, agriculture and tourism strategies are aligned with sustainable consumption and production

## STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 - Peace, Security, Justice, and the Rule of Law

**Outcome 7:** Regional and national laws, policies, systems, and institutions improve access to justice and promote peace, social cohesion, and security.

**Output 7.1:** By 2024, institutional capacity developed for human rights-based governance, coordination and programming aligned with international standards to combat violence and increase safety, including within families.

**Output 7.2:** By 2024, social protection systems are technology-aided, gender and shock responsive, and adaptable to the needs of vulnerable groups

**Output 7.3:** By 2024, the judiciary has increased its fundamental capacities to effectively apply the rule of law to address human rights violations including corruption in public spaces.

**Outcome 8:** People in the Caribbean and communities actively contribute to and benefit from building and maintaining safer, fairer, more inclusive, and equitable societies

**Output 8.1:** By 2024, government and rights holders have increased capacities to use national and international human rights mechanisms and SDG processes to enhance equality and eliminate discrimination

**Output 8.2:** By 2024, government, communities and civil society organizations have increased capacity to implement comprehensive, quality and accessible prevention and response mechanisms and programs to end violence, in all its forms and settings.



# CIP Funding Framework

**COUNTRY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN DURATION:** 2 years

**ANTICIPATED START/END DATES:** 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2023

**TOTAL BUDGET (IN USD) <sup>2</sup>:**

|                               | 2022         | 2023         |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Total Estimated Budget</b> | \$26,245,887 | \$24,786,568 |
| <b>Total Funded Budget</b>    | \$18,217,290 | \$15,055,640 |
| <b>Total Funding Gap</b>      | \$8,028,597  | \$9,730,928  |

**Breakdown of contributions by UN entities (USD)**

|                  | National Funding |                   |                  |                   | Multi-Country Funding <sup>3</sup> |                   |                  |                   |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|                  | 2022 (\$USD)     |                   | 2023 (\$USD)     |                   | 2022 (\$USD)                       |                   | 2023 (\$USD)     |                   |
|                  | Required Funding | Available Funding | Required Funding | Available Funding | Required Funding                   | Available Funding | Required Funding | Available Funding |
| <b>FAO</b>       | \$6,000,000      | \$3,474,439       | \$6,000,000      | \$1,353,078       | N/A <sup>4</sup>                   | N/A               | N/A              | N/A               |
| <b>IFAD</b>      | \$5,068,000      | \$5,068,000       | \$5,673,000      | \$5,673,000       | N/A                                | N/A               | N/A              | N/A               |
| <b>ILO</b>       | \$353,120        | \$353,120         | \$235,414        | \$235,414         | N/A                                | N/A               | N/A              | N/A               |
| <b>IOM</b>       | \$1,471,429      | \$972,539         | \$935,440        | \$910,440         | N/A                                | N/A               | N/A              | N/A               |
| <b>OHCHR</b>     | \$18,000         | \$18,000          | N/A              | N/A               | N/A                                | N/A               | N/A              | N/A               |
| <b>PAHO/WHO*</b> | \$1,174,229      | \$1,174,229       | N/A              | N/A               | N/A                                | N/A               | N/A              | N/A               |
| <b>UN WOMEN</b>  | \$70,000         | \$30,000          | \$170,000        | \$0               | \$395,000                          | \$30,000          | \$385,000        | \$0               |
| <b>UNDP</b>      | \$5,306,000      | \$4,622,000       | \$6,827,982      | \$4,992,982       | N/A                                | N/A               | N/A              | N/A               |
| <b>UNEP</b>      | \$90,000         | \$90,000          | N/A              | N/A               | \$520,000                          | \$520,000         | N/A              | N/A               |

<sup>2</sup> Total estimated budget includes both direct Programme costs and indirect support costs. Does not include multi-country/sub-regional programme costs.

<sup>3</sup> For some multi-country or sub-regional offices, aggregated budgets are provided in cases where disaggregated funding by country is not available

<sup>4</sup> N/A - not applicable/available. N/A is placed where multi-country funding does not apply to an agency or if an agency has not indicated required/available funding for specific sub-outputs.

|               |                     |                     |                     |                     |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>UNESCO</b> | \$50,000            | \$30,000            | \$50,000            | \$30,000            | \$120,000          | \$63,000           | \$130,000          | \$38,000           |
| <b>UNFPA</b>  | \$226,000           | \$226,000           | \$379,268           | \$379,268           | \$6,650,000        | \$4,369,000        | \$6,650,000        | \$4,369,000        |
| <b>UNHCR</b>  | \$1,515,000         | \$755,885           | \$1,485,000         | \$668,175           | N/A                | N/A                | N/A                | N/A                |
| <b>UNICEF</b> | \$4,358,186         | \$1,066,136         | \$2,484,541         | \$476,341           | N/A                | N/A                | N/A                | N/A                |
| <b>WFP</b>    | \$545,923           | \$336,942           | \$545,923           | \$336,942           | N/A                | N/A                | N/A                | N/A                |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>\$26,245,887</b> | <b>\$18,217,290</b> | <b>\$24,786,568</b> | <b>\$15,055,640</b> | <b>\$7,685,000</b> | <b>\$4,982,000</b> | <b>\$7,165,000</b> | <b>\$4,407,000</b> |

*\*This contribution only includes contribution from the World Health Organization (UN Agency)*

## Governance Structure for Implementation of CIP/MSDCF

### Joint National Steering Committee (JNSC)

- **Key functions:** Provide strategic guidance to, and annual review of, the UN Cooperation Framework
- **Co-chairs:** The United Nations Resident Coordinator (RC) and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration
- **Secretariat:** Office of the United Nations Resident Coordinator (UNRCO) and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Immigration
- **Members:** UN Heads of Agencies and Government representatives

### Internal UNCT Coordination

#### Programme Management Team (PMT)

- **Key Functions:** Strategic priorities and operational coordination of activities, joint programming and joint initiatives, knowledge sharing, advocacy and strategic partnerships, reporting
- **Co-chairs:** UNICEF and UNDP representatives
- **Secretariat:** Office of the United Nations resident Coordinator (RCO)
- **Members:** UN Agencies' Senior Programme Officers or Deputy Representatives

## Internal UNCT Coordination

### Monitoring Evaluation Learning (MEL) Group

- **Key Functions:** Jointly monitor, measure and evaluate progress against relevant MSDCF programmatic actions and indicators through UN INFO.
- **Co-chairs:** UNICEF M&E Specialist and RCO Data Management Officer
- **Secretariat:** Office of the United Nations resident Coordinator (RCO)
- **Members:** UN Agencies' Monitoring and Evaluation and UNINFO Focal Points

### Other Interagency Groups

- **Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Network**
- **UN Communication Group (UNCG)**
- **Operation Management Team (OMT)**

## Context and Situation Analysis, including Lessons Learned

On 9 December 2021, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade, and Immigration on behalf of the Government of Belize, and the Resident Coordinator (RC) on behalf of the UN development system in Belize, signed on to the 2022-2026 United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (MSDCF) at launch in Belmopan City. The Government of Belize recognized and highlighted the synergies between the cooperation framework and Belize's national development strategies and called for a focus on participatory governance mechanisms to improve development efforts.

Key national priority areas and emerging challenges for UN interventions were identified through consultation and completion of the Common Country Analysis (CCA 2021), the Caribbean Common Multi-Country Analysis (CMCA 2021) and the final evaluation of the UN Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework (UNMSDF 2017 – 2021). These priority areas and challenges informed the formulation and prioritization of the UNMSDCF outcomes for the 2022-2026 cycle, to which the strategic goals for UN agencies' new country programmes are aligned.

Some emerging challenges highlighted from these processes and to be addressed in the upcoming programming cycle include but is not limited to:

**Political** – The prime minister and the People's United Party (PUP), continue to have a large legislative majority, with 26 seats in the 31-seat House of Representatives (the lower house). Such a majority, points to a given level of political stability until next parliamentary elections are constitutionally due in 2025.

However, despite this stability, weak governance structures, capacity gaps and access to resources continue to hamper Belize's ability to fully address its current economic, social and environmental challenges, as well as the continued threats to law and order, including corruption, human-trafficking, drug trafficking, money laundering and other organized gang activity.

**Economic** – The Belize economy is experiencing strong recovery with growth of 9.8% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2021 and a projected growth of 5.7% in 2022 and 3.4% in 2023.<sup>5</sup> Growth recovery is being led by tourism foreign exchange earning increasing by 53% reaching US\$140.3 million in foreign exchange earning with support from agriculture exports increasing by 9.4% reaching US\$197 million, the Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) sectors and the re-opening of the Corozal Free Zone. In 2021 growth in GDP led to unemployment declining from 13.7% to 10.2% and the labour force creating 28,700 more jobs.<sup>6</sup>

Some economic challenges for Belize include global uncertainties such as the inflation pressures resulting from the effects of the Russian-Ukraine war; the consumer price index in June and July of 2022 exceeded 10.5% and 11.5% respectively while inflation reflected 7.3% and 7.4%.<sup>7</sup> Other challenges include rising global interest rates with the Federal Reserve Rate now exceeding 3% and projected to approach 4% by year's end and exceeding this rate in 2023; this makes it difficult to access low cost financing from International Financial Institutions. Another challenge for Belize is the forecasted global recession in 2023 with ramification on the tourism industry and the continuous threat from natural disasters particularly hurricanes and flash flooding.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/CR/Issues/2022/05/10/Belize-2022-Article-IV-Consultation-Press-Release-and-Staff-Report-517761>

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.centralbank.org.bz/home/statistics/general-statistics/major-economic-indicators-\(2001-2021\)](https://www.centralbank.org.bz/home/statistics/general-statistics/major-economic-indicators-(2001-2021))

<sup>7</sup> <https://sib.org.bz/statistics/consumer-price-index/>

Belize completed its fourth external debt re-organization operation in November 2021 through a debt-for-nature conservation swap amounting to US\$364 million resulting in a reduction in public sector debt/GDP of 12%. This initiative resulted in the protection of 30% of Belize's ocean and the creation of US\$180 million fund over a period of 20 years for conservation initiatives.<sup>8</sup>

**Social** – During the third quarter of 2020 in response to covid-19 pandemic, the United Nations prepared a Socio-Economic Response and Recovery Plan for Belize (SERP) in response to the health and socio-economic crisis generated. The plan included contributions from 11 UN agencies with an estimated budget of US\$10.9 million and implemented over 18 months.

Challenges facing Belize includes a poverty rate of 52% with the population vulnerable to poverty being 11%, a Gini coefficient of 49%<sup>9</sup> reflecting high income inequality and a continuous high crime rate which is threatening peace and security and represents an inherent threat for the tourist sector. Negative impact on the social SDGs such as education, health, poverty, hunger, decent job on account of covid-19 and now the Russian-Ukraine war also remains a challenge. Other challenges include persistent supply-chain disruptions globally, the emergent of new variants of Covid-19 virus together with other emerging health threats such as the Monkeypox.

**Environmental** – Reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, strengthening resilience to natural disasters and climate change are key priorities for the Government of Belize, but still lacks local mitigation, recovery, and resilience plans for the most vulnerable areas while a large financing gap 2022-2030 remains for supporting mitigation and adaptation plans. The UN in Belize plans to continue its support for increased and improved climate resilience in the country through strengthened inter-agency cooperation and implementation of initiatives related to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

**Partnerships** – Partnerships remain central to the success of the MSDCF 2022-2026 and the CIP 2022-2023. The UN Secretary General's Our Common Agenda Report 2021 reinforces the boosting of partnerships as one of the 12 key commitments proposed to accelerate SDG achievements. This is also echoed under SDG 17 on partnerships for the goals. In supporting strategic coordination and implementation with partners, the UNCT through the support of the UNRCO will develop a Resource Mobilization and Partnerships Strategy for the MSDCF 2022-2026. The strategy aims to convene strategic partnerships at the global, regional, national and sub-national levels with diverse entities around the UN system's collective support to accelerating the 2030 Agenda. These include partnerships with government at all levels, international actors, civil society organizations, private sector, academia, media, and the broader development community engaged in Belize. The UNCT will therefore leverage its unique convening role under the United Nations Development System to broker key actors with the appropriate mix of resources inclusive of knowledge, science, technology and finance, to support the success of this CIP.

The outputs and sub-outputs contained in this two-year CIP are expected to contribute and align with Belize's new medium term development plan for 2021 – 2025, currently in the formulation phase. All estimated budgets in the CIP are submitted directly by the respective UN agencies, funds, and programme. Therefore, this joint work plan represents the United Nations package of support to the government and people of Belize for 2022 and 2023.

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.nature.org/content/dam/tnc/nature/en/documents/TNC-Belize-Debt-Conversion-Case-Study.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> <http://sib.org.bz/wp-content/uploads/PovertyStudy2018.pdf>

**Lessons Learned** – Current and emerging economic challenges underpinned the rationale for focusing on economic transformation by the UN in the Caribbean and inclusion of a new strategic pillar in the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the MSDCF 2022-2026 dedicated to Economic Resilience and Shared Prosperity.

Economic policies must be complimented with targeted social protection through health, education, food and cash support, accompanied by government policies such as an adequate minimum wage, targeting the most vulnerable in order to avoid leaving people behind.

There is need to address structural problems such as the regressive tax structure that promotes income inequality, an education system not producing adequate labour force, the need to tackle lost revenue through tax leakages, significant uncollected taxes revenues that could be used to support social challenges facing the country.

Good governance is showing improvement but much more needs to be done to address corruption and the damage that it represents to the Belize society be it in transparency, accountability, foreign investment, image to the country and on lost revenues not being collected.

Accomplishing goals of the SDGs and meeting Agenda 2030 will require whole of society approach: Government commitment being the most important, followed by the private sector understanding the process, civil society involvement and, of course, donor support. The UN will support the establishment of institutional arrangements that enable effective coordination and collaboration across sectors and the active involvement of both state and non-state actors.

Investment in climate resilience infrastructure and a disaster resilience strategy would be good for the environment while contributing to economic transformation since it would provide greater stability for economic growth.

There is a need to continue to highlight and support Belize's role as the bridge between the Caribbean and Central America. If this position can be strengthened, Belize would have the opportunity to draw upon more resources and expertise to fill some of the resource and capacity gaps that exist in the national context. There are a few opportunities in the next few years to push this agenda, including in the upcoming Fourth Annual Conference of SIDS in 2024.

# Signature Page

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Signatures <sup>10</sup><br><b>Birgit Gerstenberg</b><br>Resident Coordinator Belize<br>United Nations | <b>Date:</b> |
|--|--------------|

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b>H.E. Amalia Mai</b><br>Chief Executive Officer<br><b>Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign<br/>Trade and Immigration</b><br>Government of Belize | <b>Date:</b> |
|--|--------------|

## Country Implementation Plan 2022 – 2023 (*annexed*)

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<sup>10</sup> When CSOs and non-governmental organizations are designated as implementing partners, they are not required to sign CIP. Each participating UN entity will follow its own procedures in signing work plans with these partners.