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UN Sri Lanka Multi-Partner Trust Fund

Programme Title	RCO One SDG Fund Coordinator
Country/Region	Sri Lanka
Priority area/ strategic results	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support effective and efficient coordination and management of the SDG Fund and its respective windows, which entails. • Support Monitoring and Reporting • Development of knowledge and support products
Organization that have received direct funding from the MPTF Office under this programme	UNDP
Implementing Partners	Office of the Resident Coordinator (RCO)
Overall Duration	Jul 2021 – December 2022
Amount	USD 89, 125
Proposed project submitted/report(s) to be submitted by	<p><i>Signed by the HoA</i></p> <p><i>Faiza Effendi</i></p>

1. BACKGROUND

The **UN Sri Lanka SDG multi-partner pooled (UNSLSDG)** fund instrument will support an ambitious agenda for working together to unlock progress towards the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. The SDGs were endorsed by the government as a framework for national planning and the UNSDF 2018 to 2022, but progress has been constrained by several challenges, most recently by institutional and political uncertainties in the run-up to Presidential elections in November 2019. The new government that took office in November 2019 has endorsed the SDGs in its Vision and National Policy Framework for national development set out in December 2019. The full implementation of new policies and programmes is underway following the Parliamentary Elections in August 2020.

The UNSLSDG Fund includes three SDG based interventions that are fully aligned with the SDGs and UNSDF, to reduce inequalities and leave no one behind, by:

1. Sustaining peace interventions, including but not limited to those under the Joint Programme on Peace.
2. Enhancing resilience including through emergency preparedness and response capacity in a climate risk and disaster-prone country, and through more resilient social protection, economic, trade, business, and SME development,; and
3. Enhancing evidence-based policy making and national planning, data analysis and monitoring, financial strategies and innovation to support the new governments' policy ambitions.

Experience to date shows that pooled funding mechanisms can improve coordination, coherence, and alignment; better manage risks; and promote transformative change. They help bridge the silos between humanitarian, peace and development agendas in a flexible design that can accommodate several windows and governance mechanisms while improving overall accountability for results and financial reporting. The UNCT wishes to take more advantage of this mechanism as part of its implementation of the reforms to the UN Development System.

The UNSLSDG Fund will complement UNCT core and non-core funding resources that are committed to the achievement of results under the UNSDF by providing for the last three years of the UNSDF a more concerted and focused approach to generating resources to support the key cross-cutting interventions of the UNCT. The Fund will target mobilization of but not be limited to un-earmarked resources from a wide range of partners including government, development partners and the private sector, in order to maximize the potential to deliver joint results in the context of a lower middle-income country.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE FUND

The objective of the Fund is to support the achievement of results consistent with the current and any future UNSDCF. It supports coherent resource mobilization, allocation and disbursement to under-funded cross-sectoral areas where the UN has a comparative advantage in implementing together. The main focus of the Fund is the mobilization, financing coordination and co-financing of catalytic interventions in support of the SDGs. The Fund is overseen by a Steering Committee, chaired by the United Nations Resident Coordinator. The Steering Committee defines the priorities of the Fund, depending on needs related to the SDGs agenda.

A Secretariat will be established, to facilitate the management of the Fund, entailing the following main tasks: 1) Advise the Steering Committee and the Thematic Window Committees whenever on determining strategic priorities and programme/financial allocations; 2) Follow up the formulation and development of programmes/projects, providing feedback to proponent organizations in order to ensure consistency, quality and risk management, and supervising the application of Fund's cross-cutting approaches; 3) Organize or facilitate calls for proposals and appraisal processes; 4) Monitor the balance of funding between Windows and report to the Steering Committee; 5) Consolidate monitoring and evaluating information from approved programmes/projects, and periodically inform Fund stakeholders of progress in the implementation; 6) Carry out the Fund's knowledge analysis and management, including knowledge systematization, collection of good practices, lessons learned and proposed recommendations; 7) Support resource mobilization activities; and 8) fulfilling the secretariat function to the Steering Committee.

The Secretariat falls under the overall guidance of the United Nations Resident Coordinator and it sits in the RCO. **The funding for the programme will be facilitated via UNDP on behalf of the Office of the Resident Coordinator (RCO)**

3. EXPECTED RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES

The SDG Fund Coordinator reports to the RCO Team Leader for substantive and strategic guidance on the overall fund, to the Peace and Development Advisor for substantive and strategic guidance on the Peace Window, and to the RCO Partnerships and Financing Specialist administratively. The coordinator will be responsible for the overall management of the Fund, supervise the coordinator of the Joint Programme on Peace and Programme Assistant for the Secretariat.

OUTCOME: Support effective and efficient coordination and management of the SDG Fund and its respective windows.

- Support the UNRC, UNCT and the UNSLSDG fund steering committee in formulating the strategic direction of the fund;
- Strengthening coordination, planning, monitoring and evaluation, and communication among UN agencies and government entities;
- Strengthening coordination, planning, monitoring and evaluation, and communication among development partners contributing to the fund;
- Engage in resource and fund management by engaging key UN administrative agents i.e. MPTFO et cetera in facilitating timely transfers of funding to UN recipient agencies;
- Engage in resource and fund management by engaging key UN administrative agents i.e. MPTFO et cetera in facilitating timely transfers of funding from UN development partners of the UNSLSDG fund;
- Ensure and provide for synergies on cross-cutting themes across the windows of the UNSLSDG fund;
- Work with UN agencies towards catalyzing strategic programming and investments via the UNSLSDG fund;
- Ensure the Fund Steering Committee and Thematic Window Committees are regularly convened;
- Ensure Workplans and budgets for relevant programmes/projects of the UNSLSDG fund are tabled in a timely manner;

OUTPUT 1.1 Support Monitoring and Reporting

- Ensure reduction and/or addressing political and fiduciary risks via result-based management and risk assessments;
- Ensure quarterly updates are submitted to the development partners contributing to the UNSLSDG fund;
- Support in implementing audits and assessments of the UNSLSDG fund;
- Ensure MPTFO is provided with timely updates pertaining to documentation;
- Ensure timely Annual Narrative and Financials reports are duly submitted;
- Ensure quarterly updates are provided on the UNSLSDG fund;
- Ensure documentation pertaining to the UNSLSDG fund is kept up-to-date and archived where necessary.

OUTPUT 1.2 Development of knowledge and support products

- Ensure knowledge products are developed in relation to the UNSLSDG fund;
 - Create/review relevant UNSLSDG fund ToRs and Operational manuals;
 - Ensure communications products are available for dissemination.
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1. BUDGET

Description	Amount (USD)
Staff cost for the RCO SDG Fund Coordinator	83,294.39
Indirect Support Cost	5,830.61
TOTAL Pass-Through Amount Approved	89,125

5. PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Expected Accomplishments	Indicators	Baseline	Targets	Monitoring Mechanism Info/Data Sources
<p>Outcome: Support effective and efficient coordination and management of the SDG Fund and its respective windows.</p>	<p>Agreed written strategy for the fund.</p> <p>Effective engagement with Government agencies,</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the UNRC, UNCT and the UNSLSDG fund steering committee in formulating the strategic direction of the fund; • Strengthening coordination, planning, monitoring and evaluation, and communication among UN agencies and government entities; • Engage in resource and fund management by engaging key UN administrative agents i.e. MPTFO et cetera in facilitating timely transfers of funding to UN recipient agencies; 	<p>Stakeholder perception as determined through a survey.</p>
<p>OUTPUT 1.1 Support Monitoring and Reporting</p>	<p>No. of quarterly updates disseminated amongst the development partners contributing to the UNSLSDG.</p> <p>Successful submission of the annual narrative report of the UNSLSDG.</p> <p>Successful submission of final</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that political and fiduciary risks are reduced and/or addressed through result-based management and risk assessments, and that quarterly updates are provided to development partners contributing to the UNSLSDG fund. • Assist in the implementation of UNSLSDG fund audits and assessments. 	<p>Quarterly updates</p> <p>Annual Narrative Progress report</p> <p>Annual Narrative Final report</p>

	narrative reports, to ensure operational closure of programmes.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure MPTFO is provided with timely updates pertaining to documentation; • Ensure timely Annual Narrative and Financials reports are duly submitted; • Ensure documentation pertaining to the UNSLSDG fund is kept up-to-date and archived where necessary. 	
OUTPUT 1.2 Development of knowledge and support products	<p>No. of knowledge products produced and disseminated.</p> <p>Finalize the UNSLSDG fund operational manual and TOR.</p> <p>No. of communication products developed.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure knowledge products are developed in relation to the UNSLSDG fund; • Create/review relevant UNSLSDG fund ToRs and Operational manuals; • Ensure communications products are available for dissemination. 	<p>UNSLSDG Fund TOR and Operational Manual.</p> <p>Knowledge Products</p> <p>Communication products</p>

6. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The SDG Fund Coordinator reports to the RCO Team Leader for substantive and strategic guidance on the overall fund, to the Peace and Development Advisor for substantive and strategic guidance on the Peace Window, and to the RCO Partnerships and Financing Specialist administratively.

The Fund Coordinator will monitor and support the implementation of the funded projects assess projects' progress reported by the Participating UN Organizations, as well as identify issues, challenges and risks arising during implementation, and propose recommended actions and options for mitigation. When necessary, provide planning and M&E support; review budget status and oversee the overall progress through a results-orientated approach. The Fund Coordinator will also provide oversight of the monitoring and evaluation of programmes, providing guidance to implementing entities on performance indicators and methods of data collection and analysis, as necessary.

Annual progress reports will be provided within a maximum of three months of the end of the calendar year (by 31 March) and a final narrative report, to be provided within a maximum of four months of the end of the year (by 30 April) to the MPTF accordingly.

The Fund Coordinator will convene weekly Fund update meetings with the RCO Team Leader, Peace and Development Advisor and the Partnerships and Financing Specialist. The RCO Partnerships and Financing Specialist will monitor the progress of the development of all knowledge and communication products.