



**Country/Region/Global: Global
Initiation Plan**

Project Title: UNDP-Italy Bilateral Cooperation to support Agenda 2030

Signature Solution(s): 1. Keeping people out of poverty; 5. Close the energy gap

Expected Outcome(s): Advance Italy's cooperation and contributions to the SDGs through multilateral engagement with UNDP

Expected Output(s): Establish essential bilateral cooperation processes
Explore options for the formal establishment of the new mechanism

Initiation Plan Dates: February 2018-August 2019

Implementing Partner: UNDP

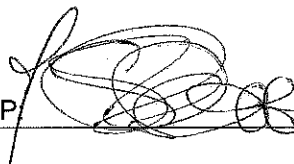
Brief Description

Italy's government sought multilateral partners to advance the scale and quality of its development cooperation, more specifically the Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea (IMELS). UNDP, amongst others including the World Bank, was selected as a key partner for Italy to support the implementation of its bilateral cooperation ambitions. UNDP was selected on the basis of its environmental expertise, its country presence, and project management capacities.

The eventual full project will ensure that in those cases where Italian bilateral cooperation and beneficiary country governments would benefit from UNDP's expertise, that Italian funding is effectively channelled to the relevant UNDP offices which will then implement the project according to UNDP rules and regulations following standard project management principles and government ownership. This PIP in the meantime will focus on establishing the basic foundations required for the eventual project to become effectively anchored in UNDP-Italy bilateral cooperation in the Rome Center.

Programme Period:	February 2018- August 2019	Total resources required	\$2.8m
Atlas Project Number:	00112521	Total allocated resources:	\$165,000
Atlas Output ID:	00111039	• Regular	None
Gender Marker:	GEN0	• Other:	
		o Donor	Italy
		Unfunded budget:	\$2.6m
		In-kind Contributions	None

Agreed by UNDP

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I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

UNDP and Italy joined forces to support the implementation of Agenda 2030 with a specific focus on Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and Asia and the Pacific. The resources provided by Italy originate from carbon taxes, collected as a means for Italy to assist in meeting its obligations as a signatory to all relevant international Sustainable Development agreements.

The Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea with the view of improving capacities of beneficiary countries and in a spirit of real partnership, has signed with a number of countries bilateral agreements for the support of project ideas to be developed and implemented by the beneficiary countries themselves.

Over the past few years, in light of challenges encountered in terms of programme countries having in some cases insufficient institutional capacity to efficiently and effectively develop and implement priority projects, the Italian Ministry of Environment has joined forces with UNDP to ensure that these projects of Italian and beneficiary governments are developed and implemented.

Italy in coordination with the beneficiary countries will propose to UNDP, projects to be implemented in select countries, in close collaboration with UNDP regional and country offices. The projects to be funded will be fully locally managed and owned. The mechanism through which funds will be channelled to country initiatives will be explored as part of the activities under this PIP. The eventual mechanism will solidify a partnership that is strategic in nature, providing an improved means of partnering with Italy and beneficiary governments in the selection and implementation of Italian-funded projects, while ensuring effective coordination, lowering of transactions costs and streamlining in reporting. Actual development results will be achieved through the implementation of the country-based development projects to be channelled through the central global mechanism

The two outputs of this initiation project relate to the establishment of the basic processes to be put in place while starting to channel funding to country offices where such cooperation is merited, and the identification and development of the mechanism that will enable medium to longer term interface between Italy and UNDP for purposes of supporting countries with identification, design and implementation of high priority projects.

II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Given the strategic partnership nature of this project with a key OECD DAC donor, it is housed in the Partnerships Group of the Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy (BERA) in New York.

Given that this PIP is exclusively funded by Italy, the designated project manager is the Coordinator of Africa Center for Climate and Sustainable Development (ACSD), based in the UNDP offices in Rome. The Coordinator has the delegated authority from BERA management in New York to manage this project according to FRR, POPP and the PPM guidelines. While named the "Africa Center", this project under the Coordinator of the ACSD will also be working with other regional bureaux given that opportunities with Italy will lie in a number of regions.

The project will be anchored in the Partnerships Group, with the support of the Management Support Unit, both in BERA. BERA staff in the Rome office also support the implementation of this project.

No project board is required for this PIP.

III. MONITORING

The Coordinator of the Africa Center in Rome manages this project on a day-to-day basis and interfaces regularly with Italian counterparts and the UNDP bureaux, and ensures that the Italian counterparts receive the expected project reports from the country offices as they are implemented,

according to local arrangements between Italy and UNDP. This will continue to be the case into the full project to follow.

The Management Support Unit (MSU) in BERA will approve and monitor all expenditures and procurement actions, ensuring compliance with UNDP FRRs and processes.

The PIP is temporarily anchored in the Partnerships Group (PG) of BERA which will work closely with BPPS, which may be the future host of this project. BERA will coordinate closely with the Executive Office and the broader UNDP bureaux while working closely with the Italian counterparts in the rapid evolution of this initiative and ensure that funding is effectively allocated to UNDP projects.

IV. WORK PLAN

Period¹: February 2018- August 2019

EXPECTED OUTPUTS <i>And baseline, indicators including annual targets</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List activity results and associated actions</i>	TIMEFRAME 2018-2019						RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Output 1 Essential bilateral cooperation processes established.	1. Prepare delegation of authority to the office in Rome to initiate the project.	X	X					ExO, BERA			0
	2. Develop a mechanism to receive and hold Italian resources for the eventual allocations of grants to multiple country office projects.		X					BERA, BMS			20.000
	3. Establish a cost recovery mechanism whereby personnel costs are funded from 1% of the total amount of resources granted to country offices		X					BERA, BMS			15.000

¹ Maximum 18 months

<p>Output 2:</p> <p>Country Offices of priority bilateral cooperation countries engaged on early funding opportunities</p>	<p>1. Provide country offices with the initial funding to support them on the development of the project concepts and proposals.</p>			X	X	X	X	BERA, Regional Bureaux		30.000
	<p>2. Undertake project identification missions with target country offices.</p>	X	X	X	X	X		BERA		50.000
<p>Output 3:</p> <p>Mechanism for enabling medium to long term Italy-UNDP partnership in support of UNDP projects established.</p>	<p>1. Explore options for channelling funds to country initiatives with minimum bureaucracy.</p> <p>2. Finalize mechanism for enabling medium to long term Italy-UNDP partnership in support of UNDP projects.</p>				X	X	BERA, BPPS		50.000	
<p>TOTAL</p>										<p>165.000</p>

