



**UNITED NATIONS  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK  
FOR CAMBODIA 2024 - 2028**

**SUMMARY**



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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK  
FOR CAMBODIA 2024 - 2028**

**SUMMARY**



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**United Nations Sustainable  
Development Cooperation  
Framework 2024-2028**





## PURPOSE

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework “Cooperation Framework” for Cambodia 2024-2028 serves as the strategic document that provides guidance to the UN system at the country level to effectively support the Royal Government of Cambodia in contributing to national development priorities as articulated in the Pentagonal Strategy – Phase 1 and making significant progress towards the Cambodian Sustainable Development Goals (CSDGs), LDC Graduation, and Cambodia’s vision 2050.

The priority areas, outcomes, and outputs of the Cooperation Framework align closely with the priorities and objectives of the Royal Government of Cambodia’s Pentagonal Strategy – Phase 1. The Cooperation Framework outlines key focus areas and interventions jointly identified by the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), government counterparts, and other stakeholders, working in concert with a wide range of development actors to support Cambodia’s national development priorities.



## COUNTRY CONTEXT

Cambodia experienced consistent economic growth prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, with an increase of around 7.7 per cent between 1998 and 2019. This enabled a considerable reduction in the poverty rate, from 47.8 per cent in 2007 to 17.8 per cent in 2019. Cambodia's Human Development Index (HDI) increased by 56.9 per cent between 1990 and 2021, reaching the medium human development category, and putting Cambodia at the 146th rank among 191 countries in 2021. Cambodia is also expected to meet the least developed country (LDC) graduation criteria once again at the upcoming 2024 triennial review and aims to attain upper middle-income status by 2030 and high-income status by 2050.

Cambodia is at an important stage of its national development planning. Cambodia will continue to experience challenges that hamper further progress towards the SDGs; for instance, a large informal economy, perpetuation of multidimensional poverty, dependency on agriculture, further improving education system, and vulnerability to climate change. In addition, the country will face new challenges in its endeavors to transition to a high-income country and regularly needs to adapt to changing global trends.





# BACKGROUND

## Leaving No One Behind (LNOB)

The Cooperation Framework has been guided by a comprehensive approach to the principles of human rights. The Human Rights Strategy (2021–2028) and the Gender Deep Dive report ensured that both a human rights perspective and a transformative approach to gender informed the development of the Cooperation Framework. The four outcome areas integrate a strong focus on inclusion and participation, ensuring no one is left behind.

## Common Country Analysis

CCA provided the analytical rigor for understanding the underlying, structural and root causes of Cambodia's development challenges. The formulation process for the Cooperation Framework for Cambodia 2024-2028 was evidence-based, drawing upon the comprehensive CCA.

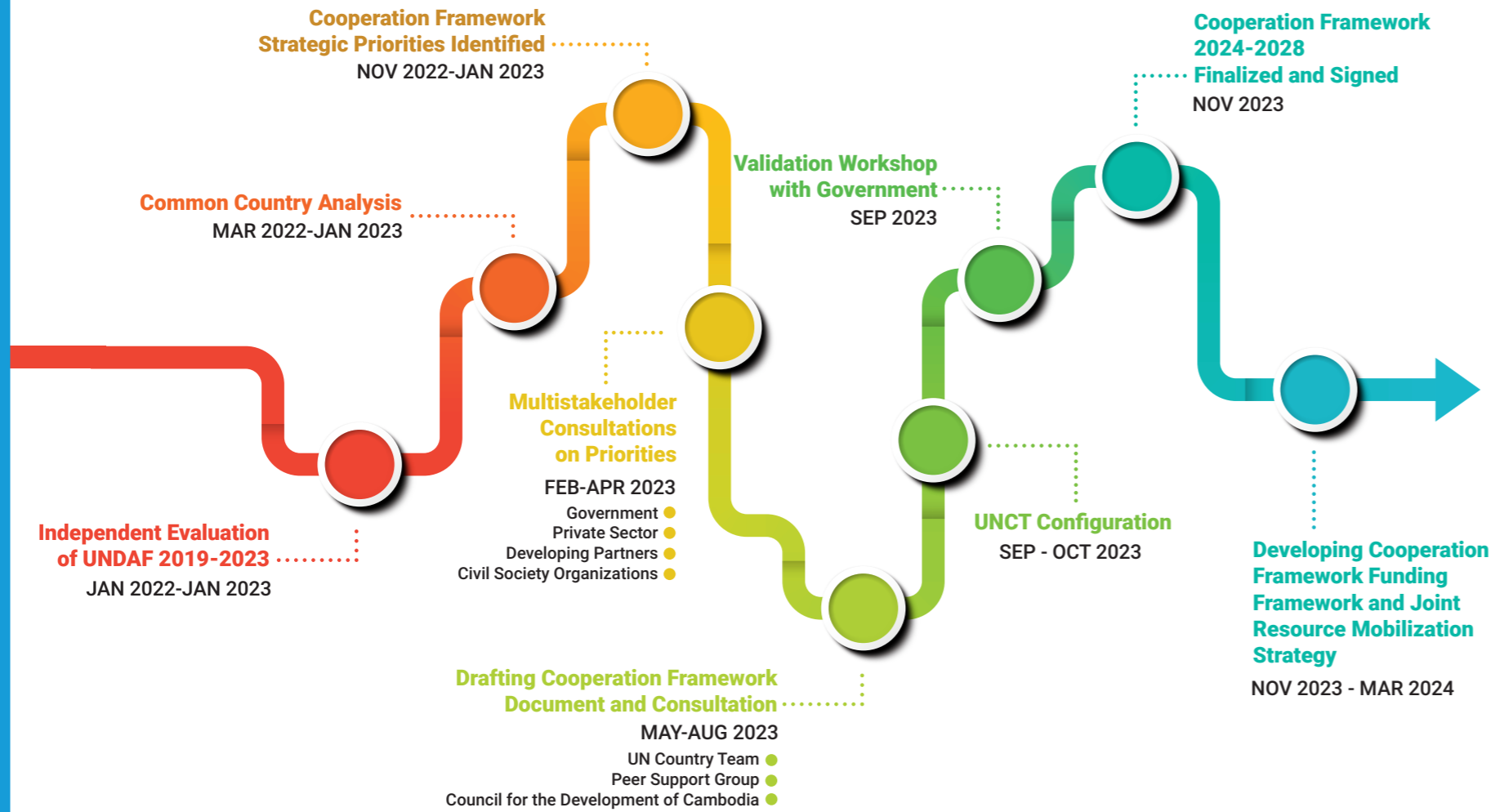
## UNDAF 2019-2023 Evaluation

UN Development Assistance Framework 2019-2023 Evaluation provided an important source of learning about what is working well and what adjustments were needed when formulating the Cooperation Framework.





# TIMELINE AND PROCESS



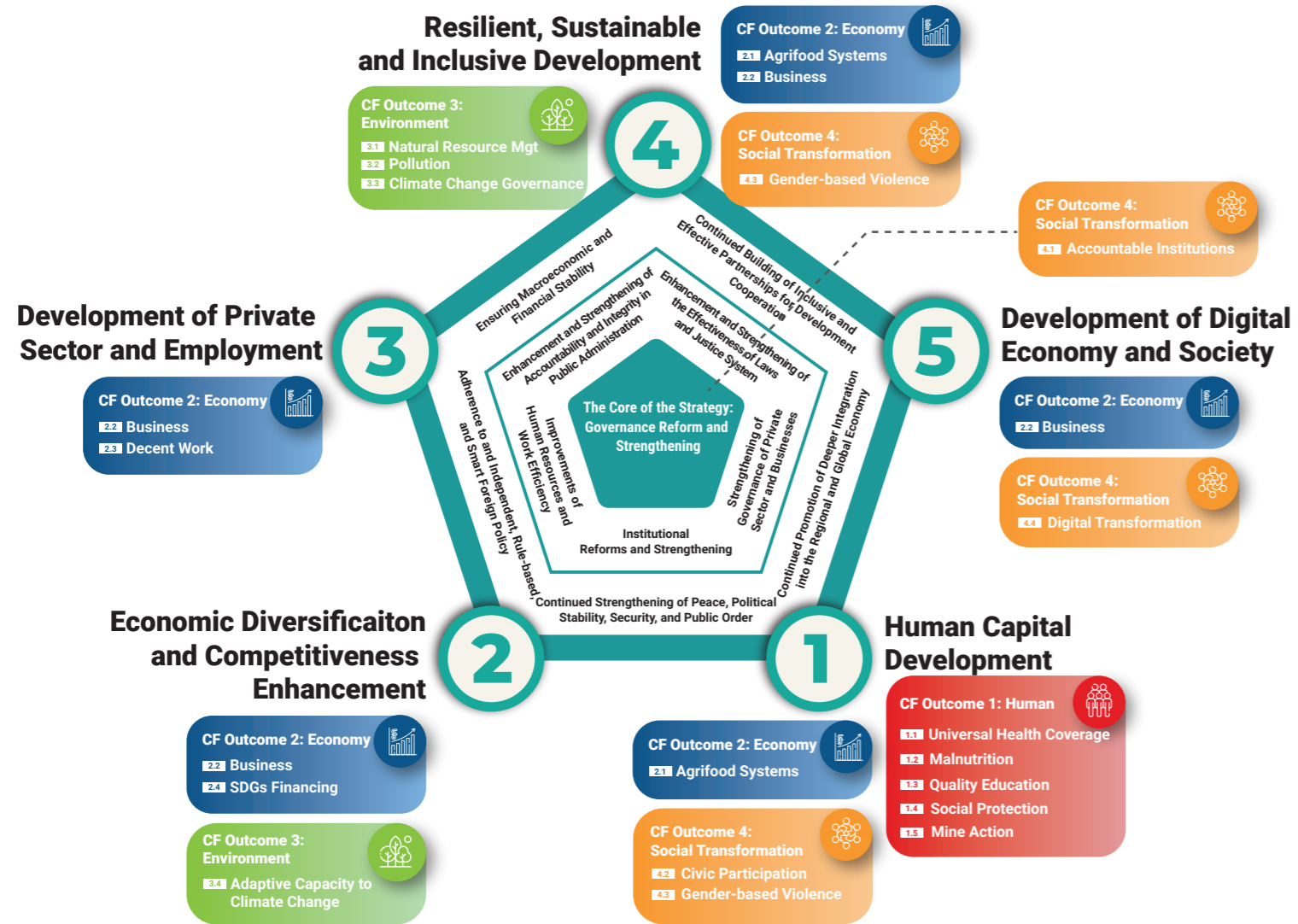
The strategies and results set out in the Cooperation Framework have been designed through a consultative process to address principal development issues. Strategic priorities, including outcomes and outputs, were identified through a close engagement and consultation with various stakeholders including the Royal Government of Cambodia, civil society organizations, academia, development partners and the private sector.

## United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for Cambodia 2024-2028





# ALIGNMENT WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES AND SDGs



## CF Outcomes

## Supporting SDGs/CSDGs

### 1. HUMAN

By 2028, people in Cambodia, especially those at risk of being left behind, are healthier and benefit from improved gender-responsive education and social protection.



### 2. ECONOMY

By 2028, people in Cambodia, especially those at risk of being left behind, benefit from and contribute to a productive, diversified, gender equal, formalized and low carbon and climate adapted economy.



### 3. ENVIRONMENT

By 2028, people in Cambodia, especially those at risk of being left behind, benefit from a healthier, gender inclusive natural environment.



### 4. SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

By 2028, people in Cambodia, especially those at risk of being left behind, live in an increasingly gender equal and inclusive society with active civic space and enjoy more effective and accountable institutions.





# UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2024-2028

## HOW THE COOPERATION FRAMEWORK WORKS

### Outcomes

Underneath each of the four Priority Areas, the Cooperation Framework defines a desired outcome that the UN wants to achieve by the end of 2028. Achieving these is dependent on efforts and contributions from all stakeholders.

### Joint Outputs

17 Joint Outputs of the Cooperation Framework were identified and are the specific contributions to the achievement of the four Outcomes that the UN Cambodia is accountable for. They represent the combined work of all UN agencies, funds, and programmes delivered both jointly and through single-entity initiatives.

### Guiding Principles

The development of the Cooperation Framework has been guided by the following principles:

- A comprehensive **human rights**-based approach to development, with a strong focus on inclusion, leaving no one behind, and reaching those farthest behind first;
- **Gender equality** and women's empowerment;
- **Sustainability** and **resilience**; and
- **Accountability** and **transparency**.

### High Impact Initiatives (HIIs)/ Transitions

High Impact Initiatives were identified as priorities for transformation where Cambodia can contribute to both national and global targets. The High Impact Initiatives (HIIs), which include transforming education, food systems, biodiversity & nature, social protections & jobs, energy compacts, digital public infrastructure, data dividend, and efforts to combat violence against women, have been integrated into the CF Results Framework.





**Participating UN agencies in Outcome 1:**

**FAO, ILO, IOM, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIDO, UNITAR, UNODC, UNOPS, WFP, and WHO.**

**Output 1.1:** Universal Health Coverage is advanced through resilient people-centred health system.

**Output 1.2:** Better protection against all forms of malnutrition.

**Output 1.3:** Better quality and accessible education, skills development and life-long learning.

**Output 1.4:** Enhanced and expanded Social Protection systems that increase the resilience of people against life-cycle socio-economic risks and shocks.

**Output 1.5:** Increased human security underpinned by mine action which expands access to safe land, livelihood opportunities, and victim assistance.



**OUTCOME 1: HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

**By 2028, people in Cambodia, especially those at risk of being left behind, are healthier and benefit from improved gender-responsive education and social protection.**

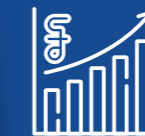


**Output 2.1:** Agrifood systems are more efficient, climate-adapted, inclusive, formalized and safer.

**Output 2.2:** Businesses are more formalized, inclusive and carbon and pollution mitigating.

**OUTCOME 2: ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION**

**By 2028, people in Cambodia, especially those at risk of being left behind, benefit from and contribute to a productive, diversified, gender equal, formalized and low carbon and climate adapted economy.**



**Output 2.3:** Decent work conditions are promoted for more people.

**Output 2.4:** Finance to support the attainment of the SDGs is more diversified and sustainable.

**Participating UN agencies in Outcome 2:**

**FAO, ILO, IOM, IFAD, ITC, OHCHR, UNCDF, UNCTAD, UNDP, UNESCAP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIDO, UN WOMEN, WFP, and WHO.**





**Participating UN agencies in Outcome 3:**

**FAO, IFAD, IOM, OHCHR, UNCDF, UNDP, UNDRR, UNEP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT, UNIDO, UNICEF, UNOPS, UN WOMEN, WFP, and WHO.**

**Output 3.1:** Natural resource management, conservation, preservation and restoration activities are enhanced.

**Output 3.2:** Air, water and land pollution are reduced, and hazardous substances and materials are controlled.

**Output 3.3:** Governance and policies for climate change including carbon are strengthened and engagement of all stakeholders is enhanced.

**Output 3.4:** The adaptive capacity of systems & communities to climate change & disasters is strengthened.



**OUTCOME 3: ENVIRONMENT**

By 2028, people in Cambodia, especially those at risk of being left behind, benefit from a healthier, gender inclusive natural environment.

**OUTCOME 4: SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION**

By 2028, people in Cambodia, especially those at risk of being left behind, live in an increasingly gender equal and inclusive society with active civic space and enjoy more effective and accountable institutions.



**Output 4.1:** Institutions are more accountable and effective in upholding human rights to deliver justice and protection services to vulnerable groups including women, children and migrants.

**Output 4.2:** Civic participation is increased in development and decision-making at all levels, including for women and youth.

**Output 4.3:** Systems, services and community solutions are improved and effectively respond to and prevent discrimination, gender-based violence, abuse, exploitation and other harmful practices.

**Output 4.4:** Digital transformation is advanced to accelerate positive social change.

**Participating UN agencies in Outcome 4:**

**ILO, IOM, ITU, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCAP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UN-HABITAT, UNICEF, UNODC, UNV, UN WOMEN, WFP, and WHO.**



# Members of the United Nations Country Team in Cambodia

