



UNITED NATIONS
MOLDOVA



UNSDCF

THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA -
UNITED NATIONS
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION FRAMEWORK
2023-2027

Brief Summary



PURPOSE

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) is the most important instrument for planning and implementation of United Nations development activities at country level. It transforms the way the United Nations works with the Republic of Moldova by building a functional platform for greater coordination, coherence, and effectiveness.

The Cooperation Framework tailors the responses to national priorities, ensuring that all United Nations entities can effectively support the national implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The Cooperation Framework presents an agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova (hereinafter referred to as Moldova) and the United Nations system to expand their cooperation and scale up the results of the previous framework. It supports the country with addressing the development challenges and barriers to more inclusive social and economic development, and achieving national priorities outlined in the National Development Strategy (NDS) “European Moldova 2030”, as identified in the Voluntary National Review (VNR) 2020.



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CONTEXT

Moldova is at a crucial stage of its national development planning, as it adopted the revised NDS “European Moldova 2030” and ushers in the Decade for Action to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The recent granting of EU candidate status to Moldova also underscores the importance of national development planning.

As Moldova seeks to achieve the vision of Moldova 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals, it faces challenges. These barriers include an economic crisis, energy insecurity, COVID-19 pandemic, and a shattered regional peace infrastructure resulting in an influx of refugees.

Timeline

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

2015

2030

National Development Strategy (NDS) “European Moldova 2030”

2022

2030

United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)

2023

2027





BACKGROUND

UN Common Country Analysis

The formulation process for the 2023-2027 UNSDCF was evidence-informed, drawing upon the United Nations' independent analysis of the development context. The data can be accessed on the [online CCA Dashboard](#).

UNPFSD Evaluation

The UNSDCF draws on the findings and recommendations from the final evaluation of the UN Partnership Framework for Sustainable Development 2018-2022, conducted in 2021. The framework placed particular emphasis on the new strategic priorities and the development of a streamlined intervention logic and results matrix.

SDG Progress

In 2020, Moldova undertook their first [Voluntary National Review](#). Concurrently, the 2021 SDG report identified negative progress for SDG 4 (quality education) and noted major challenges remaining for SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), 15 (life on land), 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions).¹ Accelerating progress under some of these goals gains more urgency in light of the increased vulnerability of economy (SDGs 8 and 9), health and food insecurity (SDGs 3 and 2), and weak social cohesion (SDG 16) aggravated by the economic crisis and geopolitical trends. Meanwhile, SDG 4 has been identified as one of the key drivers for inclusive human development, labour productivity and economic prosperity in the national strategic documents.

¹ U2021 Sustainable Development Report, <https://dashboards.sdgindex.org/profiles/moldova>





Photo: UNDP

Key challenges to be addressed in order to achieve transformational change

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CHALLENGES
IDENTIFIED BY UN COMMON
COUNTRY ANALYSIS



Access to basic quality services and social protection



Efficient and resilient health, education and nutrition systems



Transparency, participation and accountability



Human rights, and non-discrimination



Availability and use of quality disaggregated data



Gender Equality and social norms



Economic diversification and green economy



High-skilled human capital



Emergency preparedness, resilience, green recovery, energy security and climate change



Peace, security and social cohesion



Harnessing the potential of migration

APPROACH

Formulation

Under the overall leadership and coordination of the UN Resident Coordinator, 23 United Nations entities collaborated with the Government of the Republic of Moldova throughout the process, which included broad-based consultations with different stakeholders. Engagement with stakeholders was conducted through a variety of methods, including prioritisation workshops with development partners, government and the civil society; surveys with young people, diaspora and migrants, the general population (of which 50 per cent represented vulnerable groups); as well as **focus group discussions with representatives of Roma, persons living and affected by HIV, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI+) persons, persons in or released from detention, and unemployed persons.**

Structure

The United Nations and the Government of Moldova have identified four strategic priorities that incorporate transformational changes critical for the achievement of the national priorities and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Their selection is informed by considerations of the comparative advantages the United Nations system enjoys in the country and the potential catalytic effect that selected SDG targets may have on other interrelated targets to generate benefits across multiple SDGs. Further, the linkages between sustainable peace and development are reinforced by integrating the immediate needs of affected populations—such as Ukrainian refugees and migrants—in the country’s long-term development objectives and by strengthening dialogue and social cohesion, including in relation to the Transnistrian conflict and heightened geopolitical tensions.

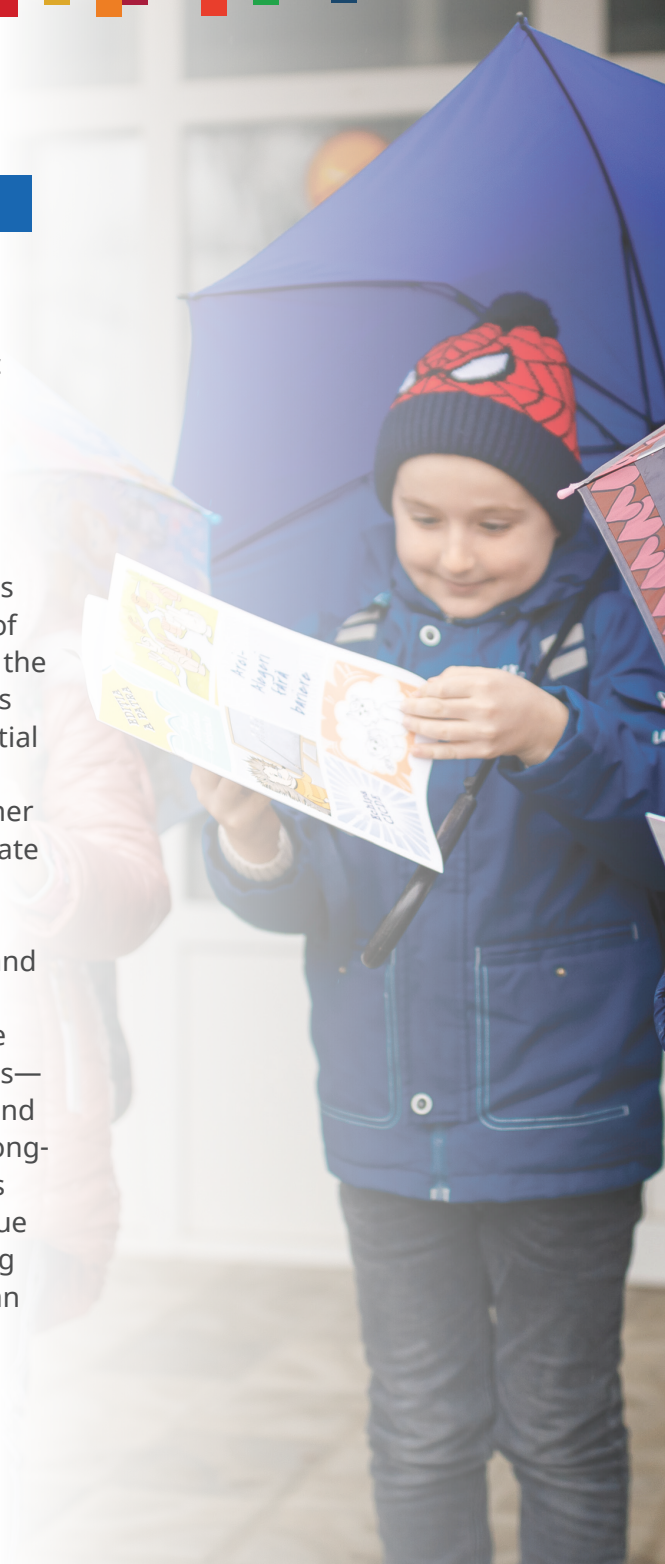




Photo: UNDP

Strategic Priorities

1 Just and Inclusive Institutions and Equal Opportunities for Human Development

2 Participatory Governance and Social Cohesion

3 Enhanced Shared Prosperity in a Sustainable Economy

4 Green Development, Sustainable Communities and Disaster and Climate Resilience



HOW THE UNSDCF WORKS

Outcomes

For each of the four Strategic Priorities, the UNSDCF defines a desired outcome that the United Nations system and the Government of the Republic of Moldova want to achieve by the end of 2027. Achieving these is dependent on efforts and contributions from all development stakeholders in Moldova.

Outputs

The 17 UN Joint Outputs of the UNSDCF are the specific contributions to the achievement of the four Outcomes that the United Nations in Moldova is accountable for. They represent the combined work of all 23 United Nations agencies, funds and programmes operating in Moldova, delivered both jointly as well as through single-entity initiatives.

Guiding Principles

A harmonized approach to mainstreaming the six principles of Leave No One Behind (LNOB), Human Rights-Based Approach, Gender Equality & Empowerment of Women, Resilience, Sustainability and Accountability will be integrated across United Nations interventions and in cooperation with partners.



Photo: UNFPA

Vulnerability

The UNSDCF is based on the premise that **better quality of life for all people of Moldova can only be achieved if the country's prosperity is shared among all people and the most vulnerable and marginalized are empowered to exercise their human rights and participate meaningfully in all spheres of life.**

Most vulnerable & discriminated populations

- ! Women survivors of violence
- ! Small agricultural producers
- ! Roma and ethno-linguistic minorities
- ! Victims of human trafficking
- ! Persons with disabilities
- ! Asylum seekers
- ! LGBTQI+ persons
- ! People in detention
- ! NEET youth
- ! Refugees and stateless persons
- ! Older people
- ! Persons living with and affected by HIV
- ! Vulnerable women and children, particularly in rural areas

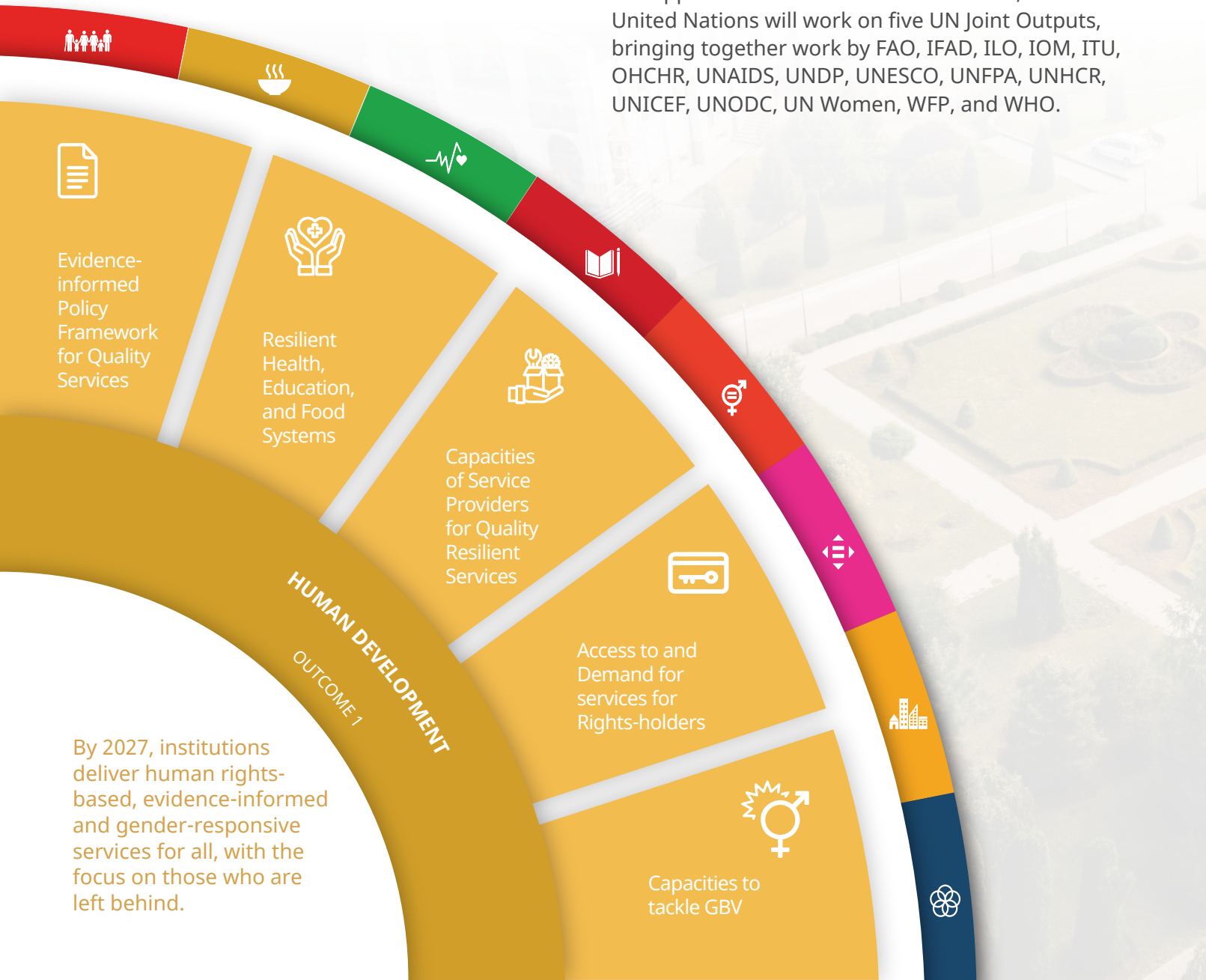


Photo: ILO



Outcome 1 HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

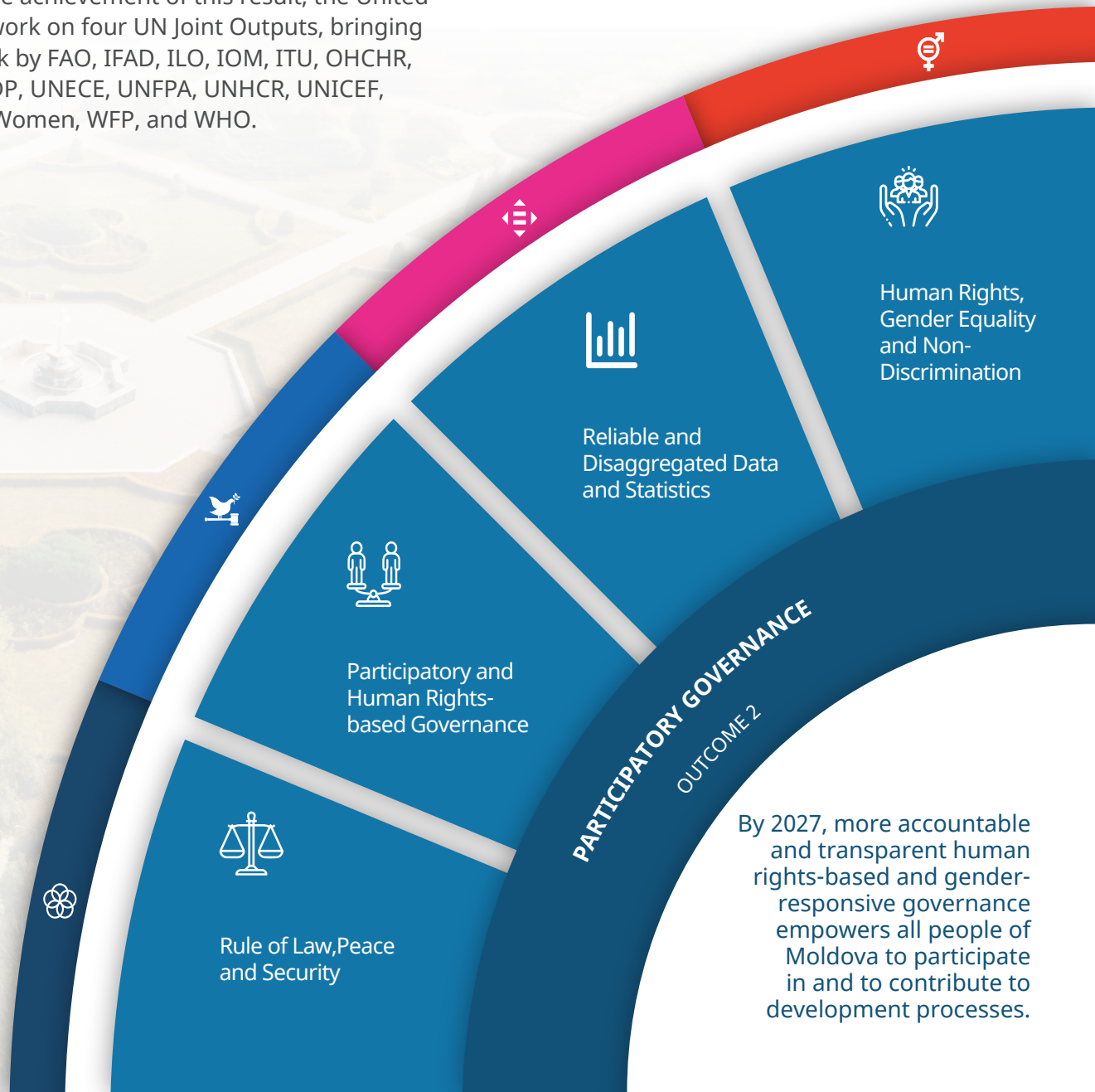
To support the achievement of this result, the United Nations will work on five UN Joint Outputs, bringing together work by FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, ITU, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women, WFP, and WHO.



By 2027, institutions deliver human rights-based, evidence-informed and gender-responsive services for all, with the focus on those who are left behind.

Outcome 2 PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE

To support the achievement of this result, the United Nations will work on four UN Joint Outputs, bringing together work by FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, ITU, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNECE, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women, WFP, and WHO.

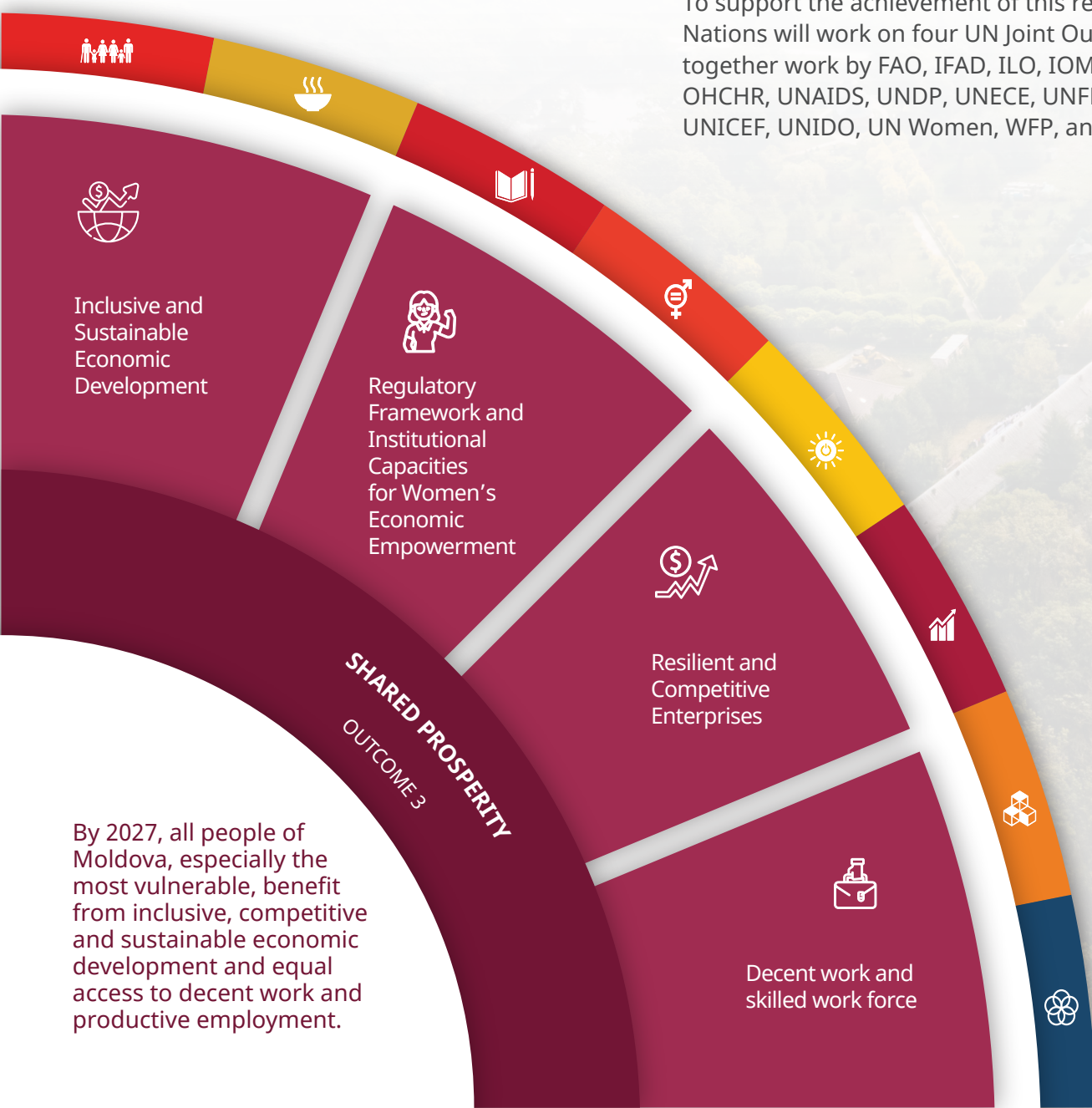


PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE
OUTCOME 2

By 2027, more accountable and transparent human rights-based and gender-responsive governance empowers all people of Moldova to participate in and to contribute to development processes.

Outcome 3 SHARED PROSPERITY

To support the achievement of this result, the United Nations will work on four UN Joint Outputs, bringing together work by FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, ITC, ITU, OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNECE, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNIDO, UN Women, WFP, and WHO.

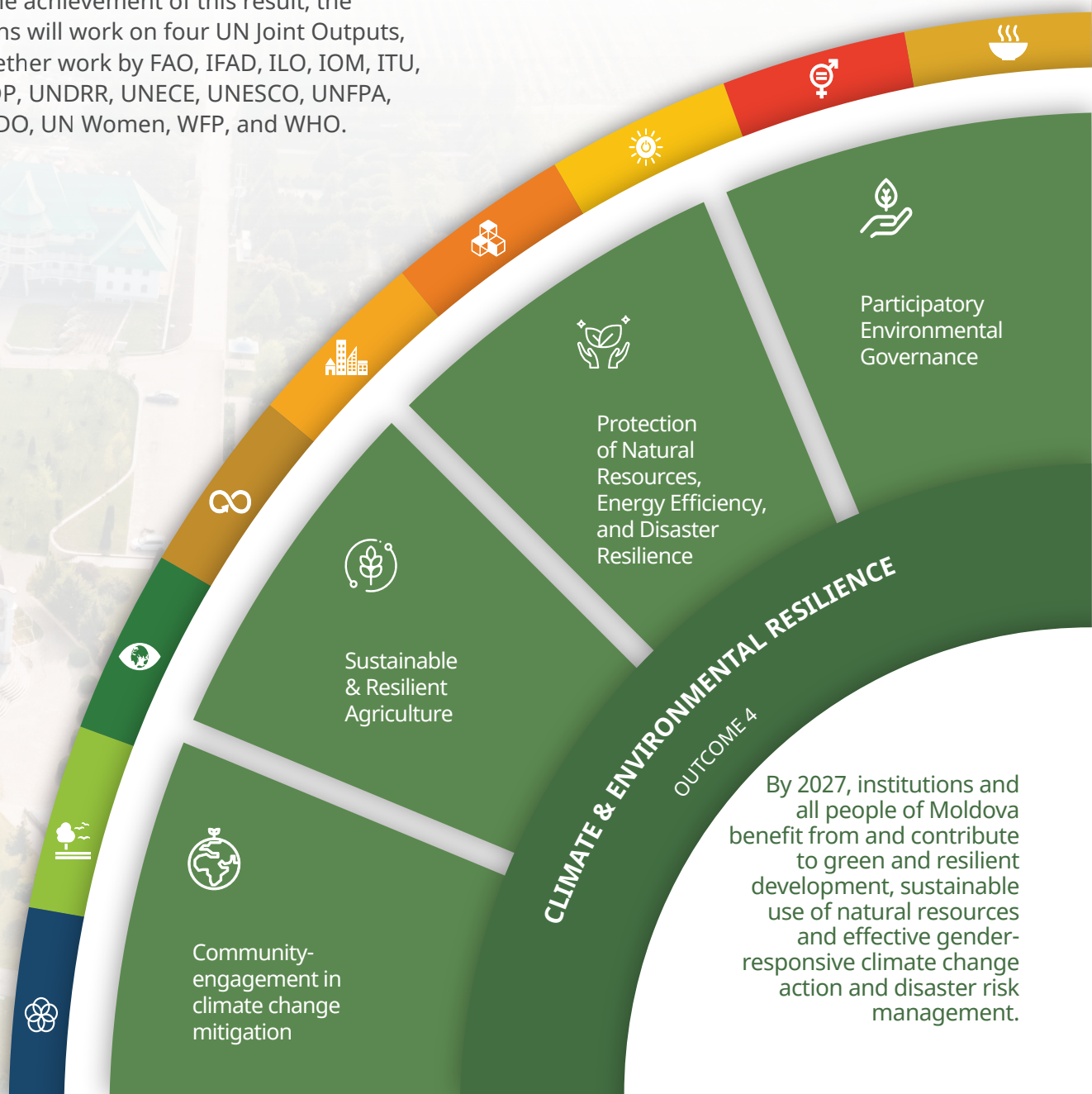


SHARED PROSPERITY OUTCOME 3

By 2027, all people of Moldova, especially the most vulnerable, benefit from inclusive, competitive and sustainable economic development and equal access to decent work and productive employment.

Outcome 4 CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENTAL RESILIENCE

To support the achievement of this result, the United Nations will work on four UN Joint Outputs, bringing together work by FAO, IFAD, ILO, IOM, ITU, OHCHR, UNDP, UNDRR, UNECE, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNIDO, UN Women, WFP, and WHO.



By 2027, institutions and all people of Moldova benefit from and contribute to green and resilient development, sustainable use of natural resources and effective gender-responsive climate change action and disaster risk management.

Accountability

Steering Committee

The **Steering Committee**, co-chaired co-chaired by the Prime Minister (on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Moldova) and the United Nations Resident Coordinator (on behalf of the UNCT), will provide high-level oversight and support to the implementation of the UNSDCF.

Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation


The UNSDCF will be made operational through annual joint workplans. Progress will be monitored and reported annually, based on a joint multi-year monitoring, evaluation and learning plan. All information will be made accessible online on [UN INFO](#).

An independent UNSDCF evaluation will be commissioned in the penultimate year of the UNSDCF cycle. The evaluation will assess the relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability of the United Nations support to the country.





Photo: UNDP



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The new UNSDCF will guide the work of all United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in the Republic of Moldova from 2023 until 2027. The United Nations in Moldova will implement the Cooperation Framework in the spirit of United Nations reform, by improving the coherence, transparency, accountability and efficiency of the United Nations development system in the country and to amplify the efforts to strengthen inter-agency cooperation, including more coordinated partnerships building and the mobilization of resources, joint programming and communication.

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Photo: UN/Mark Garten

The Cooperation Framework will be governed by the joint UN-Moldova Steering Committee, co-chaired by the Prime Minister and UN Resident Coordinator, and with participation of members of the Cabinet and the participating UN agencies.



**United Nations funds and programmes, specialized agencies
and other United Nations entities working in Moldova**



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Photo: UNDP