



*"Today's complex development challenges call for integrated solutions with a clear people-centred and planet sensitive vision in mind. The United Nations in Malaysia brings together global expertise and experiences from across its agencies and helps Government and other partners to identify such solutions towards the achievement of the SDGs."*

- Mr. Stefan Priesner, UN Resident Coordinator for Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei Darussalam



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**DELIVERING  
TOGETHER**

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



# THE UNITED NATIONS IN MALAYSIA



## Resident Agencies



UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY



## Non-resident Agencies



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization



FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



## Global and Regional Centres



UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY



*The main objective of this vision is to provide a decent standard of living to all Malaysians by 2030. This is also in line with the United Nations Agenda 2030 to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, where inclusive development approach does not marginalize anyone under the principle of leaving no one behind.*

*"For peaceful and inclusive societies, we need justice, effectiveness, transparency, accountability, and participation – principles that institutions should follow to deliver the 2030 Agenda, to realize all human rights and to strengthen the trust on which social cohesion is built."*

- Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations

Launch of Shared Prosperity Vision  
2030



# UNITED NATIONS IN MALAYSIA DELIVERING TOGETHER: 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND SDGs



UNITED NATIONS  
MALAYSIA



The mandate of the United Nations in Malaysia is to help the country in its vision of achieving developed nation status via the 2030 Agenda, which charts a development path that balances economic growth with social inclusion and environmental sustainability, based on solid institutional foundations, conditions for peaceful societies and the realization of human rights. To this end, 169 targets further specify the ambitious 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by 2030 and a comprehensive indicator framework has been developed to measure progress.

Globally, United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) are present in 131 countries, helping them implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The UNCT in Malaysia brings a wide range of expertise, international standards and best practices to address complex developmental challenges. We work closely with government, civil society, private sector, academia and people from all walks of life - prioritising last mile development issues and driving catalytic action through strategic efforts and partnerships.

This brochure focuses on the coordination framework and activities of the UNCT, while different agencies carry out additional work in their respective mandate areas.



# FOCUS AREAS WITHIN THE SDG FRAMEWORK

In Malaysia, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) comprises 19 agencies, led by the UN Resident Coordinator (RC), to deliver greater impact together on the 2030 Agenda and SDGs in line with national priorities, plans and needs. This is a good representation of the largest multilateral organisation in the world.

The UNCT prioritizes and develops solutions to:

- Leave no one behind through inclusive development and wellbeing for all.
- Promote peaceful societies through social cohesion and national unity.
- Promote the protection of rights, good governance, and democratic freedoms.
- Enhance sustainable economic growth balanced with environmental protection.
- Promote gender equality and equity.
- Maximise impact on SDGs by fostering catalytic partnerships.

Malaysia did well in achieving the Millennium Development Goals (2000-2015). However, the SDG framework draws our attention to a new set of development challenges such as addressing pockets of poverty, malnutrition, lack of access to education and basic services amongst vulnerable and marginalised groups in the country. In addition, environmental sustainability challenges such as biodiversity conservation and climate change are pressing issues of the day.



# UNCT MALAYSIA COORDINATION STRUCTURE

## SDGs : COORDINATION & PARTNERSHIPS



Inter-agency coordination mechanisms have been put in place to facilitate synergies between agencies on joint priorities. Under the overall guidance of the UNCT, Result Groups focus on :

- SDGs Mainstreaming
- Leaving No One Behind (Inclusivity and Wellbeing)
- Environmental Sustainability
- Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth
- Human Rights & Governance
- Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women

The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) provides coordination support among humanitarian actors to enhance preparedness and response capacities in the event of humanitarian emergencies.



# MAINSTREAMING SDGs INTO DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND BUDGETING

## A) 12<sup>th</sup> MALAYSIA PLAN POLICY ADVISORY PAPERS



Policy Advisory Papers, across economic, social and environmental sectors, were jointly developed by 11 UN agencies and submitted to the Economic Planning Unit as inputs for the development of the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan.

## B) JOINT GOVERNMENT-UN SDG FUND



A Malaysia Joint Government-UN SDG Fund of RM 10 million was established under Budget 2020 and is aimed at driving initiatives that will have a multiplier effect on achieving national SDG priorities and incentivizing private sector investments into the SDGs through a co-financing mechanism.

## C) NATIONAL SDG ROADMAP



The UNCT collaborated with the Government of Malaysia to formulate the National SDG Roadmap 2016-2020. The Roadmap focusses on implementation of national strategies and approaches to advance SDG progress in the country in line with national development priorities, gaps and challenges. The Roadmap is aimed to inspire and push forward multisectoral efforts towards attainment of the 2030 Agenda.

A Phase 2 National SDG Roadmap is being planned for the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan period (2021-2025).



# WHOLE OF NATION APPROACH TO ACCELERATE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGs



## A) ANALYTICAL SUPPORT TO ALIGN THE 12<sup>th</sup> MALAYSIA PLAN WITH THE SDGs

Via strategic policy recommendations in key SDG gap areas and close cooperation in the planning processes.



## B) DEVELOPING A COHERENT UN SYSTEM SUPPORT PACKAGE FOR MALAYSIA

Planning together with government and other stakeholders to formulate a tailored United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for the next development planning cycle coinciding with the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan.



## C) MALAYSIA SDG SUMMIT 2019

- Over 2,600 participants in the two-day Summit in November 2019.
- Launched by Prime Minister of Malaysia  
A platform for multi-stakeholder engagement and pledges to contribute to the SDGs with five plenary and six parallel sessions.
- Convening government ministries, agencies, district officers, civil society, business leaders, working youth and children for the SDGs.
- Launch of the TogetherforSDGs Hub and SDG Academic Network.



# WHOLE OF NATION APPROACH TO ACCELERATE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGs



## D) THE MALAYSIAN SDG ACADEMIC NETWORK

The Malaysian SDG Academic Network, also known as the SDG-AN Malaysia was officially launched on November 7, 2019 at the National SDG Summit co-hosted by UNCT and the Ministry of Economic Affairs. The Network will provide the space for public and private universities and other relevant stakeholders to share knowledge, capacity and evidence related to the SDGs.

Through the SDG-AN, Government and UNCT are able to engage with knowledge experts in the country.



## E) TOGETHERforSDGs HUB

- **TogetherForSDGs** hub to bring together alternative solutions & resource providers from private sector, philanthropic foundations, civil society, academia and others to align to national priorities and needs for collective impact for targeted beneficiaries in line with the 2030 Agenda and SDGs.
- Developing national database of available innovative financing, ideation, solutions, technologies, services and impact measurement tools that can be provided by various entities to advance the SDGs and address priority areas of need.
- Synergizing impact partnerships for the SDGs by matching the right partners, with the right solutions, at the right locations and at the right time.
- Enabling various incentives (reputational, network & fiscal) to platform partners to recognize their efforts.





# WHOLE OF NATION APPROACH TO ACCELERATE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGs



**F) A Private Sector Engagement Strategy for the UNCT was developed through a series of consultations with business and government entities.**



**G) A National SDG Portal was developed to showcase private sector contributions and alignment to the SDGs.**

<http://mysdg.dosm.gov.my>

<https://mySDG.my>



# WHOLE OF NATION APPROACH TO ACCELERATE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SDGs



**H) Under a regional initiative, UNDP developed the Integrated National Financing Framework – Malaysia Report in 2018.**



**I) The UNCT actively engages with civil society, including via the Malaysia CSO-SDG Alliance that represents over 300 CSOs/NGOs and other thematic NGO coalitions, the private sector, academia and young people.**



**J) An Innovation Task Force comprising UN agencies with strong innovation capacities, namely UNCDF, UNDP, UNICEF, UNIDO and UNTIL will look at calibrating the UNCT's role and developing solutions to help address complex SDG related challenges in the context of the 4th Industrial Revolution in partnership with other stakeholders.**



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 UNTIL  
United Nations  
Technology Innovation Lab



# HARNESSING THE POWER OF DATA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



## A) **SDG PROGRESS MONITORING SYSTEM**

Coordinated by the RC system, the UNCT supported the Department of Statistics Malaysia and the Economic Planning Unit, in developing Phase 1 of Malaysia's first SDG Progress Monitoring System and is now working on Phase 2 to address data gaps.

<http://mysdg.dosm.gov.my/>



## B) **ASSESSMENT OF MONITORING & EVALUATION CAPACITIES**

A study on National Evaluation Systems and Capacities for SDGs – Malaysia Report was led by UNDP and UNICEF in 2018. Support to addressing the findings and building national evaluation capacity is on-going.



## C) **REPORTING ON THE 2030 AGENDA & SDGs**

UNCT supported the development of Malaysia's Voluntary National Review that was presented at the 2017 High-level Political Forum in New York and will support the next Voluntary National Review.



# LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND



## A) BOTTLENECK ASSESSMENTS

The UN in Malaysia is involved in mapping and developing solutions for some of the most vulnerable groups in the country. These include policy, programmatic and advocacy initiatives.

We are tackling challenges to address the plight of indigenous peoples, migrants, undocumented and stateless people, refugees, children with disabilities and people living with HIV/AIDS. In addition, we are involved at the strategic level with government in developing policy interventions in addressing the challenges faced by the B40 population.

We are also providing technical and policy advice on challenges related to gender equality.



## B) MULTI-SECTORAL SUPPORT TO COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

The UN development system in Malaysia provided coordinated responses, including regarding public health response, humanitarian needs of vulnerable groups and socio-economic response.

Leaving No One Behind: Vulnerable groups of concern include Women, Victims of Gender-based Violence, Elderly, Children, B40, Refugees & Asylum Seekers, Migrant Workers, Undocumented & Stateless Persons.

Our socio-economic support is structured around 5 pillars:

- Health First: Protecting health services and systems during the crisis.
- Protecting People: Social protection and basic services.
- Economic Response and Recovery: Protecting jobs, small and medium-sized enterprises, and the informal sector workers.
- Macroeconomic Response and Multilateral Collaboration.
- Social Cohesion and Community Resilience.

These five streams are connected by an environmental sustainability and gender imperative to build back better. The framework dovetails with UNSDCF priorities for 2021-2020.

