

Vision

The Joint SDG Fund supports countries to accelerate their progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to deliver on the commitment of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind. The transformative nature of the 2030 Agenda hinges on all segments of society urgently coming together to launch sustainable and inclusive growth trajectories within a short period of time.

To transform our world we need integrated economic, social and environmental policies, informed by a rights-based agenda, along with significant volumes of new financing. The Joint SDG Fund will incentivize countries to draw on cutting edge expertise and innovation from across the United Nations development system and a broad range of partners to strategically invest in SDG acceleration that is tailored to different country contexts.

Linked directly to the ambitious reform of the United Nations development system (UNDS), the Joint SDG Fund leverages the comparative advantages of the United Nations. It supports countries with accelerated SDG implementation—often in the context of challenging and/or volatile development settings. The Joint SDG Fund provides a new generation of Resident Coordinators (RCs) and United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) with a critical instrument to incentivize the adoption of new solutions for longer-term sustainability, intrinsically linked to gender equality, and the principle of Leaving No One Behind. Central to the Fund is the commitment to forge paths and partnerships that unlock SDG resources at scale; financing that is far greater in order of magnitude and that comes from multiple sources.

The application process and rigorous technical and independent assessments of proposed joint programmes will ensure that the most transformative ideas and initiatives are realized, thereby helping deliver on the 2030 Agenda. The Joint SDG Fund provides flexible, reliable, and regular support to joint programmes built on integrated approaches, scalability, innovation and partnerships.

Call on SDG Financing

- **Component 1** will support initiatives that aim to reinforce the SDG financing architecture and ecosystem. In addition to the drafting of SDG-aligned financing strategies, such as Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs), this component will feature the strengthening of capacities at the national and sub-national level and the nurturing of dialogues and solutions that feature roles for both the private and financial sector, along with key public sector institutions.
- **Component 2** will support initiatives that aim to catalyze strategic programming and investments. These initiatives will provide a demonstration of concept, as they support Governments' leadership in creating sustainable financing markets and products to attract new and untapped funding sources. Component 2 is not about finance in isolation, it aims to show that financing solutions can deliver on the SDGs, complementing and reinforcing results from Component 1.

As of November 2019, the Joint SDG Fund receives support from:

 European Union	 Netherlands
 Denmark	 Norway
 Germany	 Portugal
 Ireland	 Spain
 Luxembourg	 Sweden
 Monaco	 Switzerland

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The Joint SDG Fund aims to stimulate integrated and transformative policy shifts, support Governments in creating SDG financing strategies and strategic investments to accelerate their progress toward the SDGs.

The Joint SDG Fund focuses on three broad areas:

Identify and activate SDG policy tools: The Joint SDG Fund will support UNCTs in the identification of policy levers, through an integrated and cross-sectoral approach, that will unleash rapid progress across different goals and targets, based on data, assessments and analysis carried out by national and international partners.

Reinforce the SDG financing architecture and ecosystem: The Joint SDG Fund will support the development of financing strategies required for scaled up SDG investment. This work will include: (i) strengthening the capacities of the national and sub-national SDG financing architecture; and (ii) the production of multi-stakeholder financing strategies with the aim of dramatically increasing the scale and improving the focus of SDG investments.

Catalyze strategic programming and investments: The Joint SDG Fund will support UNCTs in investing in key initiatives that leverage public and private financing in order to advance the SDGs. These initiatives will provide a demonstration of concept and will be scalable both in country and elsewhere.

In line with the implementation of the UNDS reform agenda, UN joint programmes supported by the Fund demonstrate a new generation of collaboration for results, embedded in the United Nations Cooperation Framework and committed to enhanced national ownership, leadership and capacities.

Albania
Argentina
Bangladesh
Brazil
Burkina Faso

Cambodia
Chile
Congo-Brazzaville
Costa Rica
Ecuador

Gabon
Georgia
Indonesia
Kenya
Laos

Integrated Social Protection: Leave No One Behind

Lebanon
Madagascar
Malawi
Mauritania
MCO Barbados
MCO Samoa
Mexico
Mongolia

Montenegro
Nigeria
Palestine
Philippines
Rwanda
Sao Tome and Principe
Somalia

South Africa
Tanzania
Thailand
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan
Vietnam

The Joint SDG Fund's Calls for Concept Notes

The Joint SDG Fund operates through a series of Calls for Concept Notes, that lead to preparation and implementation of transformative joint programmes, under the leadership of UN Resident Coordinators.

The Fund launched its first call for concept notes in March 2019 and will channel US\$72 million to 36 countries (as above) for joint programmes focused on social protection, particularly the most vulnerable and marginalized – children, adolescents, people living with disabilities and the elderly. A total of 114 Resident Coordinators applied to the Fund's first call, signaling great interest from across the UN development system and governments. A rigorous technical review process conducted by both UN and external independent social protection experts led to the selection of 36 country proposals. All joint

programmes will need to deliver results at scale by 31 Jan 2022, while improving coherence of UN Country Teams and facilitating acceleration of SDG progress at the country level.

At the same time, the Joint SDG Fund is now finalizing its first call for concept notes on SDG financing that aims to: (i) support the creation of a new SDG financing architecture, through developing investment strategies and plans and piloting innovative financing instruments; and (ii) catalyze strategic programming and investments that leverage public and private financing for the SDGs. The call will be launched by the end of 2019, for a cumulative value of US\$100 million. The call is guided by the Secretary-General's Strategy and Roadmap for Financing the 2030 Agenda and is framed around two intertwined components. The first component aims to create the conditions, everywhere possible, for increased and better-quality financing for the SDGs. The second component aims to catalyze strategic programming and investments.