

PRESS RELEASE
Government of the Republic of Seychelles and United Nations Country Team
Strategic Partnership Framework (SPF) 2019-2023

Victoria, 30 August 2018

This is an important milestone in the long-trusted partnership between the United Nations (UN) and the Government of the Republic of Seychelles. The signing today of their first strategic partnership is a sign of growing cooperation at a time when all nations are ensuring greater efforts and robust efforts to achieve the SDGs. The SPF 2019-2023 is a collective, coherent and integrated response by the United Nations System aligned with the Seychelles' national development priorities.

Up to now, individual UN agencies have been implementing their country programmes, without a common framework, although the country has encouraged the UN Delivering as One (since 2013).

"This Partnership Framework comes at an opportune moment, when the UN is renewing its commitments to member states through the reform process in order to strengthen UN system wide coordination and to better work with countries in implementing the global and regional agreed goals" says Mrs Christine N. Umutoni, the UN Resident Coordinator for Seychelles.

The SPF has been formulated through a participatory consultative process involving the Government of Seychelles and 18 UN agencies with the objectives to sustain and build on the gains made to achieve a prosperous, peaceful, dynamic, healthy and resilient nation which lay firm ground for the attainment of the SDGs, the Africa Agenda 2063, the SAMOA Pathway and other international and regional commitments.

The SPF summarises Government of the Republic of Seychelles and the UN Country Team collective ambition and joint collaboration in four strategic areas guided by national priorities: (1) Enhancing opportunities for sustainable utilisation of the blue economy, (2) Environmental sustainability and resilience building, (3) strengthening human capital development through health care delivery and education that safeguard and promote quality of life and (4) promoting science, technology and innovation to facilitate socio-economic development. Under each of these strategic areas of work crosscutting areas address specificities in Governance, Gender Equality and Human Rights.

The SPF agreement calls on UN and Government contributions as well as on resource mobilization from other partners and cost sharing plus to achieve the desired results. The overall estimated funds for the SPF in the coming five years total 60 USD million. Private sector, foundations and academia would also play a critical role in the SPF and supporting UN and Government efforts in this endeavour.

For additional information, please contact: United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office for Mauritius and Seychelles:

doorgawatee.ram.gopal@one.un.org or sofie.bonnelame@one.un.org