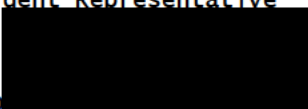
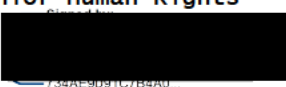


ANNEX I
Description of the Action
NDICI-GEO-NEAR/2024/ 458-826
“Human Rights for All – Phase 3”

Joint Programme Title: Human Rights for All – Phase 3”	
Outcome(s): <verbatim from CF>	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021/2025 Outcome 1: By 2025, all people in Georgia enjoy improved good governance, more open, resilient, and accountable institutions, rule of law, equal access to justice, human rights, and increased representation and participation of women in decision-making. United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021/2025 Outcome 2: By 2025, all people in Georgia have equitable and inclusive access to quality, resilient, and gender-sensitive services delivered in accordance with international human rights standards.
Duration:	40 months
Anticipated start and end dates:	Start: November 2024
Joint Programme Team <i>Lead PUNO:</i> <i>PUNOs:</i>	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Lead PUNO Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
Fund management modality: (Parallel; Consolidated; Pass-through)	Pass-through
» Administrative Agent: (Pass-through only) » Convening Agent: (Pass-through only)	The UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) – Alain Noudéhou, alain.noudehou@undp.org UNDP CO – Douglas Webb, douglas.webb@undp.org
Total estimated budget:	USD 3,187,578.95 (EUR 2,947,368.42)
Out of which:	» Funded - EUR 2,800,000 » Un-funded – N/A
Source of funds:	» EU Delegation to Georgia – USD 3,028,200 (EUR 2,800,000) » UNDP – USD 87,658.42 (EUR 81,052.63) » OHCHR – USD 71,720.53 (EUR 66,315.79) <i>Per Nov 2024 InforEuro</i>

Convening Agent/Participating UN Organization UNDP:
Name: Douglas Webb
Title: Resident Representative

Signature: 
Date: 04-Dec-2024

Participating UN Organization OHCHR:
Name: Vladimir Shkolnikov
Title: Senior Human Rights Adviser
Signature: 
Date: 03-Dec-2024

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AA	Association Agreement
AP	Action Plan
BHR	Business and Human Rights
CERD	Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CESCR	Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
GERF	Global Europe Results Framework
GoG	Government of Georgia
HRBA	Human rights-based approach
JP	Joint Programme
LNOB	Leave no one behind
LSGs	Local self-governments
MPTFO	Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
NHRI	National human rights institution
NHRS	National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights
PDO	Public Defender's Office
PUNO	Participating UN Organisations
SC	Steering Committee
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIS	Special Investigation Service
SOGI	Sexual orientation and gender identity
UNRC	UN Resident Coordinator
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
WGI	Worldwide Governance Indicators

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Over the past decade, Georgia has pursued significant reforms aimed at upholding the rule of law, human rights, and democratic principles. Despite numerous advancements, constant challenges in governance and democracy persist, including political polarization, and setbacks in human rights and democratic reforms, especially since 2022. Judicial independence, transparency, and accountability in state institutions remain areas of concern, alongside ongoing obstacles in realizing human rights for minorities and disadvantaged groups, exacerbated by a shrinking space for civil society due to increased hostility and restrictive legislative measures. These issues have contributed to a noticeable decline in fundamental rights and the rule of law. Moreover, Georgia faces significant hurdles in effective implementation of UN human rights treaties and European Union (EU) benchmarks as well as fulfilment of its obligations, with minimal progress observed in critical areas, such as human rights, media pluralism, and civil society engagement.

This Action, “Human Rights for All – Phase 3” is designed to tackle these challenges. It is a joint initiative of the EU and the United Nations (UN). It will be implemented as a joint programme (JP) by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

The JP aims to comprehensively address human rights issues and promote the realization of civic, political, economic, and social rights, with a particular focus on people living in vulnerable environments, such as ethnic and religious minorities, persons with disabilities (PwDs), and LGBTQI+. The JP adopts a three-pronged approach. Firstly, it will strengthen civil society organisations (CSOs), human rights defenders, and the national human rights institution (NHRI) in their oversight and advocacy roles. Secondly, it will empower rights-holders to assert their rights and drive positive change within the communities. Thirdly, it will advocate for improvements in human rights assessments and policy frameworks, promoting alignment with international – UN/EU/Council of Europe (CoE) - standards through engagement with relevant stakeholders.

The overall objective of the project - **to ensure a better protection of human rights for all in Georgia, including those in vulnerable situation** - complies with the international obligations of Georgia, deriving from UN human rights treaties, EU-Georgia Association Agreement (AA), as well as other documents forging Georgia’s path to EU integration including nine steps outlined by the European Commission, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) as well as with the national priorities.

The JP is structured around two Specific Objectives (SOs):

- SO1. Enhanced policy dialogue on the alignment of Georgian legislation, policies, institutional practices and the functioning of the criminal justice system with international standards on the protection of human rights (civil, political, economic, and social).
- SO2. Increased involvement of rights holders and other key institutional and relevant stakeholders in monitoring, advocacy, and protection of human rights, including the most vulnerable and minority groups.

These objectives with the outputs presented below aim to ensure that all individuals in Georgia, particularly those in vulnerable situations, benefit from enhanced human rights protections through robust national and local implementation frameworks.

I. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Over the last decade, Georgia has implemented significant reforms striving to uphold the highest principles of the rule of law, human rights, and institutional democracy. Georgia's efforts to establish closer ties with the EU, led to the signing of the EU-Georgia AA in 2014. This was an important milestone that created new opportunities to further strengthen respect for fundamental rights and freedoms, democratic principles, the rule of law, and good governance. Since its signing, the AA implementation agenda has guided Georgia's policy and institutional framework development. The process has encompassed core reforms in key areas such as democracy, human rights, equality, and social policies, including the adoption of the very first National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights (NHRS) for 2014-2020¹ and the Law on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination adopted in 2014.²

Georgia has ratified seven out of nine core UN human rights treaties (the most recent UN Convention the country ratified was the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2014). It has also improved its international accountability of submitting State reports to international human rights treaty bodies and undergoing Universal Periodic Reviews (UPR).³ The Government also nationalised the 17 SDGs of the 2030 Agenda in 2019.⁴

Following Georgia's application for EU membership in March 2022, the European Commission (EC) issued a detailed opinion highlighting 12 essential priorities integral to the country's progression in the accession process, including enhancing the independence of all state institutions, ensuring gender equality, and strengthening the protection of human rights for disadvantaged groups.⁵

Despite advancements in various areas, the country's governance and democracy landscape, alongside the legislative and policy framework governing human rights, has encountered persistent challenges. These challenges manifest continued backsliding in implementing democratic reforms and fundamental rights, especially since 2022.

Substantial obstacles also remain in the realisation of human rights by rights-holders, including minorities and disadvantaged groups, particularly the LGBTQI+ community. The recent adoption and initiation of laws that restrict freedom of association poses a grave risk to the enjoyment of human rights by all people living in Georgia. Other areas of concern, inter alia, include attacks on human rights activists, including LGBTQI+ representatives, journalists and media workers, disproportional use of force by police during the dispersal of peaceful assemblies, and the lack of effective investigation into such use of force. Furthermore, the environment for CSOs and media outlets has deteriorated due to hostile rhetoric from political leaders and radical groups engaging in smear campaigns, leading to a shrinking civic space,

¹ The National Human Rights Strategy for 2014-2020 and its Action Plans, available at: <https://myrights.gov.ge/>

² Law of Georgia on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination, available at: <https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/view/2339687?publication=0>; Following the law's adoption, the Public Defender's Office (PDO) was vested with the mandate of the Equality body to monitor and address discrimination cases.

³ Periodic review of the Human Rights Committee regarding the implementation of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) in July 2022; the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) in December 2022; the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in February 2023 and the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in March 2023. Georgia submitted a periodic report to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) in December 2023.

⁴ The Government of Georgia, Decree No. 2328 on Approving a National Document on SDGs, available at: <https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/4732470?publication=0>

⁵ European Commission Staff Working Document, Georgia 2023 Report, Communication on EU Enlargement policy, available at: https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-11/SWD_2023_697%20Georgia%20report.pdf

exclusion from policy dialogue, and increased trends of verbal attacks, defamation efforts, divisive narratives, hate speech, gender disinformation, physical confrontations, and legal threats.

These challenges have contributed to a discernible decline in fundamental rights and the rule of law, as reflected in the World Justice Project's 2023 ranking.⁶ Similarly, the Rule of Law ranking⁷ as per the Worldwide Governance Indicators from the World Bank⁸ shows a lack of significant progress in Georgia's Rule of Law indicators. In addition, the Voice and Accountability Indicator from the WGI illustrates a consistent regression, dropping from 53% in 2019 to a concerning 48.31% in 2022.⁹ Georgia's standing in key democratic indices also continues to exhibit a deteriorating trend. Freedom House's "Nations in Transit" ratings indicate a decline in the democracy score from 3.29 in 2019 to 3.07 in 2022 and further down to 3.04 in 2023. According to the "Nations in Transit 2024," Georgia is on its way to becoming a "semi-consolidated authoritarian regime."¹⁰

As a result, as assessed by the EC, the country has fulfilled three¹¹ out of 12 benchmarks set by the EU. Safeguarding human rights for vulnerable groups, media pluralism, and involving civil society in decision-making, remains to be one of those areas, where minimal or no progress has been observed.¹² In December 2023, the EU granted Georgia candidate status, laying out nine conditions for fulfilment in order to advance on its path to the EU, which was de facto halted in June 2024 due to the setbacks in democratic governance and human rights.¹³

National Human Rights Policy Documents

The term of Georgia's first NHRS expired in 2020, with anticipations for a new Strategy to be adopted that year. However, the process was protracted. Subsequently, the Government of Georgia (GoG) adopted its second NHRS for 2022-2030¹⁴ in September 2022, while the Parliament endorsed it in March 2023. The respective Action Plan (AP) 2024-2026 for the implementation of the Strategy was adopted in December 2023.¹⁵

While these policy documents mark significant milestones in shaping Georgia's human rights framework and aligning with international obligations, they fall short in addressing key human rights issues and equally encompassing all human rights domains. Crucially, LGBTQI+ rights and discrimination on grounds

⁶ For 2023, Georgia scored 0.62 overall in fundamental rights, placing 51st out of 145 countries. This marked a slight decrease compared to its score in 2022. Similarly, its ranking experienced a slight decline from 2021's score of 0.63.

⁷ Georgia's performance has not shown positive momentum since 2021, with a score of 0.61, dropping further to 0.60 in 2023 according to the same source.

⁸ Although there was a minor improvement in rankings from 2021 to 2022 (55.714 to 56.604, respectively), the overall trend has declined since 2018, when the ranking stood at 60.954.

⁹ Worldwide Governance Indicators, available at: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/worldwide-governance-indicators>

¹⁰ Nations in Transit 2024, the Freedom House: https://freedomhouse.org/report/nations-transit/2024/region-reordered-autocracy-and-democracy?fbclid=IwAR2rtp4ohN20Fo9e1pYTE4XxfID3NZ9G6laqjknBpkudq0YJLaGjCtq-IRA_aem_AWeGwQproGnC8iijVlbsdENQ6N9LfwDnhJQKwn8DshQ0ignXiZ4z26e1W1xq1zf5SsH1n8wXTJmFH0HAd2qjzRp9

¹¹ Three recommendations related to gender equality, European Court of Human Rights judgments, and Public Defender's appointment.

¹² European Commission Staff Working Document, Georgia 2023 Report, Communication on EU Enlargement policy.

¹³ Extracts on Georgia from the Conclusions of the European Council, 28.06.2024,

https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/georgia/extracts-georgia-conclusions-european-council_en?s=221

¹⁴ The comprehensive report "Implementation of the National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights in Georgia, 2014-2020: Progress, Challenges and Recommendations as to Future Approaches" served as a baseline for the development of a new NHRS.

¹⁵ The second NHRS for 2022-2030, available at: <https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/5757268?publication=0>; The AP for 2024-2026, available at: <https://www.matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/6053557?publication=0>

of sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) are not included in the Strategy and its AP. The independence, accountability, and transparency of the judiciary and the effective protection of privacy, especially regarding communication tapping and secret surveillance, remain unaddressed. These omissions have been repeatedly voiced by the Public Defender's Office (PDO) - serving as a NHRI in Georgia, civil society and relevant international organisations.¹⁶ The 2023 and 2024 EU enlargement reports, which provides insights into Georgia's progress regarding the rights and obligations outlined in Chapter 23 of the EU acquis, also echoes these concerns.¹⁷

Additionally, the development of the second NHRS and its AP raised concerns among CSOs and international stakeholders regarding the insufficient consultation and lack of inclusivity in the drafting process.¹⁸

Human Rights of minority groups and the rights of persons living in vulnerable situations

While the last decade has seen a strengthening of the legislative and policy framework aimed at promoting minority rights in Georgia, practical implementation remains at a low level. Consequently, minority groups (such as ethnic, religious, linguistic, and LGBTQI+ community) continue to face significant challenges in enjoying their human rights.¹⁹

Ethnic and religious minorities face numerous obstacles in the effective enjoyment of their rights and freedoms. As noted by the UN Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) in its 2022 Concluding Observations²⁰ and by the CoE Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for National Minorities in its 2024 Fourth Opinion,²¹ there is a significant need to foster a climate of mutual respect and dialogue between all persons in society, including efforts among the general population to view and accept persons belonging to national minorities as an equal, integral, and valued part of the Georgian society.

Ethnic and religious minorities also frequently face structural discrimination in access to places of worship and the funding of their communities. Restitution of religious property confiscated during the Soviet period and construction permit procedures in relation to places of worship lack sufficient transparency

¹⁶ Public Defender's Statement on International Human Rights Day, <https://www.ombudsman.ge/eng/akhali-ambebi/231210052450sakartvelos-sakhalkho-damtsvelis-gantskhadeba-adamianis-uflebata-datsvis-saertashoris-dghestan-dakavshirebit>; Statement of the Embassy of France in Georgia, <https://ge.ambafrance.org/%E1%83%90%E1%83%93%E1%83%90%E1%83%9B%E1%83%98%E1%83%90%E1%83%9C%E1%83%98%E1%83%A1-%E1%83%A3%E1%83%A4%E1%83%A9%E1%83%94%E1%83%91%E1%83%90%E1%83%97%E1%83%90-%E1%83%93%E1%83%90%E1%83%AA%E1%83%95%E1%83%98%E1%83%A1>

¹⁷ European Commission Staff Working Document, Georgia 2023 Report, Communication on EU Enlargement policy. European Commission Staff Working Document, Georgia 2024 Report, Communication on EU Enlargement policy, available at: https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/document/download/7b6ed47c-ecde-41a2-99ea-41683dc2d1bd_en?filename=Georgia%20Report%202024.pdf

¹⁸ GYLA, Document for Monitoring the Development and Implementation of the National Strategy for Human Rights for 2022-2030, 2023, available at: <https://gyla.ge/files/%E1%83%AC%E1%83%9A%E1%83%98%E1%83%A3%E1%83%A0%E1%83%98%20%E1%83%90%E1%83%9C%E1%83%92%E1%83%90%E1%83%A0%E1%83%98%E1%83%A8%E1%83%94%E1%83%91%E1%83%98/MONITORING%20OF%20THE%20NATIONAL%20STRATEGY.pdf>

¹⁹ Parliamentary Report of the Public Defender of Georgia on the Situation of Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms in Georgia, 2023, p. 143 <https://www.ombudsman.ge/res/docs/2024052911382931838.pdf>

²⁰ Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Concluding observations on the combined ninth and tenth periodic reports of Georgia, 13 December 2022, available at: https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolNo=CERD%2FC%2FGEO%2FCO%2F9-10&Lang=en

²¹ Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for National Minorities, Fourth Opinion on Georgia, 2024, available at: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/minorities/-/georgia-publication-of-the-4th-advisory-committee-opinion>

and are not based on clear and objective legal criteria, leading to potential arbitrariness.²² The privileged status of the Georgian Orthodox Church in Georgian society and nation-building continues to raise concerns, as it results in discrimination in terms of freedom of religion for persons belonging to religious minorities. It also has significant consequences for preventing societal integration based on accepting ethnic and religious minorities as integral and valued parts of the state.

Further concerns include the lack of systematic consultation with minorities, low political representation, including in central government bodies and local councils of the municipalities, limited use of minority language with respective local authorities and educational materials, and persistent socioeconomic disparities, especially in rural areas.²³

LGBTQI+ community remains one of the least protected and the most marginalised groups in Georgia.²⁴ LGBTQI+ persons routinely encounter discrimination, violence, hate crimes, and harassment amid pervasive homophobic and transphobic attitudes deeply rooted in the society.²⁵ They also experience significant barriers to political, social, and economic inclusion and encounter discrimination in accessing education, health care, social protection, housing, labour rights and employment, resulting in their profound economic vulnerabilities.²⁶ The UN Human Rights Committee and the UN Independent Expert on SOGI have both expressed concerns about homophobic and transphobic rhetoric by politicians and religious figures, which perpetuates threats of violence and exclusion from essential services.²⁷

In addition to discrimination and violence, the LGBTQI+ community struggles to enjoy their right to freedom of expression and assembly. Extremist groups have actively opposed LGBTQI+ rights, participating in counterdemonstrations against events organized by Tbilisi pride, fuelling homophobic sentiments, and inciting discrimination that often escalates into serious violations of the rights of community members.²⁸ Nevertheless, effective investigation of alleged crimes remains lacking.²⁹

Moreover, on 17 September 2024, the ruling party adopted a law on Family Values and the Protection of Minors targeting the LGBTQI+ community and any related "propaganda". The amendments in the legislation threaten the fundamental rights of LGBTQI+ people and are in violation of Georgia's international human rights obligations concerning freedom of expression, assembly, manifestation, and

²² ECRI report on Georgia, 28 March 2023, (sixth monitoring cycle), <https://rm.coe.int/sixth-report-on-georgia/1680ab9e64>

²³ Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for National Minorities, Fourth Opinion on Georgia, 2024.

²⁴ UNDP, Human rights, legal protection and public attitudes towards the LGBTQI community in Georgia, 2022, available at: <https://www.undp.org/georgia/publications/human-rights-legal-protection-and-public-attitudes-towards-lgbtqi-community-georgia>; see also, UNDP Study on the Perceptions of Civil Servants on Human Rights and Gender Equality, 2024, <https://www.undp.org/georgia/publications/civil-service-research>

²⁵ The Public Defender of Georgia, Report on the Situation of Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms in Georgia, 2023, available at: <https://ombudsman.ge/res/docs/2024052911382931838.pdf>

²⁶ Equality Movement, Employment and Labour Rights of LGBTQI Community In the context of Covid-19 pandemic, 2021, available at: <http://ewmi-prolog.org/images/files/7385EMResearchGEO.pdf>

²⁷ Human Rights Council, Report of the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, 2019, available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/country-reports/ahrc4145add1-visit-georgia-report-independent-expert-protection-against>; see also, the Public Defender of Georgia, Report on the Situation of Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms in Georgia, 2023.

²⁸ Human Rights Committee, concluding observations on the fifth periodic report of Georgia, Adopted by the Committee at its 135th session (27 June–27 July 2022).

²⁹ CoE Commissioner for Human Rights' submission to the Committee of Ministers regarding the Identoba and Others group of judgments, <https://rm.coe.int/submission-in-the-cases-identoba-and-others-v-georgia-group-of-cases-b/1680ad3450>

privacy. The law has raised significant concerns about further stigmatisation and discrimination against the LGBTQI+ community in Georgia.³⁰

PwDs also continue to face significant challenges due to institutional, societal, physical, and legal barriers that hinder their full enjoyment of rights. These barriers stem from persistent stigmas and stereotypes in society, as well as inconsistent implementation of state policies.

Georgia has made strides towards implementing the CRPD since its ratification in 2014, including by adopting the Law on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2020,³¹ ratification of the Optional Protocol to CRPD (2021), establishing the Inter-Agency Coordination Committee, and reflecting the PwDs' needs in human rights policy documents (including the NHRS for 2022-2030³² and its 2024-2026 AP devoting a specific chapter on PwDs' rights)³³ and demonstrated its commitment to aligning national policies and regulatory frameworks with the CRPD.

Despite these policy and legislative advancements, their translation in practice has not consistently been applied. As a result, PwDs continue to encounter serious challenges in numerous areas, including employment, health, education, and participation in social life.³⁴ Certain groups within the PwDs community, including women and girls with disabilities, face compounded stigma, prejudice, and barriers to reproductive healthcare services. Municipalities also inadequately address disability issues and social inclusion at the local level, further impeding the realisation of PwD rights. PwDs also face severe economic problems in Georgia and are rarely employed either in private or public sector.

While the number of coordination mechanisms on PwD rights have increased at central and local levels in recent years, PwDs still face hurdles in participating systematically and meaningfully in decision-making processes across state entities and municipalities.³⁵

Moreover, despite the adoption of the 2023-2025 AP on the Biopsychosocial Model,³⁶ the establishment of a comprehensive disability assessment system remains incomplete. This shortfall perpetuates the medical model of disability assessment, which categorises PwDs broadly without individual needs assessment, hindering their access to personalised support and equal community services.³⁷ Similarly, the adoption of the 2022-2030 National Mental Health Strategy requires further efforts to address key challenges in the area.³⁸

Older persons: Like many other countries, Georgia is experiencing a yearly increase in its elderly population. Concurrently, the rate of socially vulnerable elderly individuals and those living below the

³⁰ Georgia: Statement by the Spokesperson on the legislative package on “family values and protection of minors”, 4 September 2024, https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/georgia-statement-spokesperson-legislative-package-family-values-and-protection-minors_en; European Commission Staff Working Document, Georgia 2024 Report, Communication on EU Enlargement policy; Georgia must repeal discriminatory law targeting LGBT persons and human rights activists: UN expert, 26 September 2024, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/09/georgia-must-repeal-discriminatory-law-targeting-lgbt-persons-and-human>

³¹ Law of Georgia on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2020, available at: <https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/view/4923984?publication=0>

³² The National Human Rights Strategy of Georgia for 2022-2030.

³³ The Action Plan for 2024-2026, Priority Three.

³⁴ Situation Analysis of the Rights of People with Disabilities in Georgia, 2021, available at: <https://www.undp.org/georgia/publications/situation-analysis-rights-people-disabilities-georgia-2021>

³⁵ Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Concluding observations on the initial report of Georgia, 18 April 2023, available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/concluding-observations/crpdceoco1-concluding-observations-initial-report-georgia>

³⁶ 2023-2025 Action Plan on Implementing Bio-Psychosocial Model.

³⁷ Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Concluding observations on the initial report of Georgia, 18 April 2023.

³⁸ 2022-2030 National Strategy on Mental Health, <https://matsne.gov.ge/ka/document/view/5357283?publication=0>

poverty line remains high. As a result, the older persons in Georgia constitute a particularly vulnerable segment of the population. They encounter numerous issues, including limited active participation in public life, social exclusion, insufficient employment programs and opportunities, and challenges related to domestic violence.³⁹

Civil society environment

Civil society in Georgia is well-developed, diverse, and vibrant, defending human rights and being at the forefront of delivering essential services to the most vulnerable. CSOs in Georgia play diverse roles - from watchdog to advocacy and grassroots mobilisation on human rights. They actively monitor and report on key human rights violations and engage in strategic litigation before the national courts and international human rights bodies, like the UN Treat Bodies and the European Court of Human Rights.

On 3 April 2024, the government reintroduced the "Transparency of Foreign Influence" law, which had been previously withdrawn after its initial introduction in 2023. This law, adopted on 3 June 2024 and fully enacted on 3 August 2024, requires that CSOs and media outlets receiving 20% or more of their annual revenue from foreign sources register as "organisations carrying the interests of a foreign power."⁴⁰

The law has garnered sharp criticism for its perceived inconsistency with international human rights norms, particularly regarding the freedoms of association and expression, the right to privacy, and the prohibition of discrimination. Criticism has been voiced by multiple international bodies, including the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights,⁴¹ the UN Special Procedures,⁴² the UN Country Team in Georgia,⁴³ the Venice Commission,⁴⁴ the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe⁴⁵ and the EU.⁴⁶

This legislative move has further strained relations between the Government and CSOs, leading to the suspension of cooperation by more than 200 CSOs with state institutions.⁴⁷ Moreover, it might have a

³⁹ The Public Defender of Georgia, Report on the Situation of Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms in Georgia, 2023.

⁴⁰ The Law on Transparency of Foreign Influence, 2024, available at:

<https://matsne.gov.ge/en/document/view/6171895?publication=0>

⁴¹ UN | OHCHR, Türk deeply regrets adoption of 'foreign influence' law in Georgia, May 2024, available at:

https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/05/turk-deeply-regrets-adoption-foreign-influence-law-georgia?fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTEAAR3itwXhFkBg0_RI40vVxc67K7OZR1JtM8h95BJep065IIW-GQUeEeEswv_aem_eeVgSGZxce5ERpotpW8ayg

⁴² UN | OHCHR, Georgia: UN experts condemn adoption of Law on Transparency of Foreign Influence, May 2024, available at:

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2024/05/georgia-un-experts-condemn-adoption-law-transparency-foreign-influence>

⁴³ UN In Georgia on X, UN Georgia statement on the adoption of the Law on Transparency of Foreign Influence, May 2024,

available at: <https://x.com/ungeorgia/status/1790366153681817631>

⁴⁴ The Venice Commission, Georgia - Urgent Opinion on the Law of Georgia on Transparency of Foreign Influence, May 2024,

available at: [https://venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/?pdf=CDL-PI\(2024\)013-e](https://venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/?pdf=CDL-PI(2024)013-e)

⁴⁵ OSCE, Georgia: Urgent Opinion on the Law "On Transparency of Foreign Influence", May 2024, available at:

<https://www.osce.org/odihr/569922>; UN | OHCHR, Türk concerned by reports of disproportionate use of force against Georgia

protesters, 2024, available at: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/statements-and-speeches/2024/05/turk-concerned-reports-disproportionate-use-force-against-georgia>

⁴⁶ European Commission, Statement by High Representative Josep Borrell with the European Commission on the adoption of

the "transparency of foreign influence" law in Georgia, May 2024, available at:

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/statement_24_2628

⁴⁷ The non-governmental and media organisations suspend cooperation formats with the Government until the Russian Law is

dropped, April 2024, available at: <https://csf.ge/en/the-non-governmental-and-media-organizations-suspend-cooperation-formats-with-the-government-until-the-russian-law-is-dropped/>

negative impact on the overall human rights environment and severely hinder the activities of CSOs and media and disrupt social services provided by these organisations.⁴⁸

Realisation of social and economic rights

Georgia has come a long way in strengthening the constitutional and legal significance of the social state principle putting particular emphasis on social and economic rights. Georgia has also made notable gains in income growth and poverty reduction over the past decade, with Gross National Income per capita increasing from \$9,580 in 2010 to \$15,880 in 2022, and poverty declining from 70.6% to 47.7%. Unemployment also decreased from 20.6% in 2021 to a record low of 16.4% in 2023, positively impacting poverty levels.⁴⁹

The state's commitment to advancing economic and social rights is underscored by dedicating a standalone priority to strengthening the protection of economic and social rights improving systemic guarantees in the NHRS and adopting the Vision 2030 - Development Strategy for Georgia,⁵⁰ which also puts particular emphasis on the measures Georgia needs to implement for ensuring the effective realisation of economic and social rights at the central and local levels.

However, despite these achievements, Georgia continues to face structural challenges. Weak productivity and limited creation of high-quality jobs persist, with a significant portion of the workforce employed in low-productivity agriculture and self-employment in other sectors. Despite a decrease in absolute poverty to 11.8% in 2023, rural-urban disparities remain, with higher poverty in rural areas.⁵¹ Additionally, the Gini coefficient increased from 0.34 to 0.36 (from 2022 to 2023), indicating growing inequality.⁵²

Political challenges of the last years and the economic and social crisis brought on by the pandemic further deepened inequalities in Georgian society. Persistent, structural socio-economic inequalities, in particular in rural areas densely inhabited by ethnic minorities, including in regard to employment and health, were also highlighted by the CERD in its 2022 Concluding Observations.⁵³

Moreover, homelessness and the right to adequate housing present persistent challenges in Georgia, exacerbated by the absence of a government strategy, legislative framework, and clear definition of homelessness. The state currently lacks a comprehensive approach to address homelessness, including a legal definition and framework legislation that would facilitate the fulfilment of the right to adequate housing. The NHRS for 2022-2030 does not adequately address housing issues, although the AP for 2024-2026 aims to develop a draft housing law and provide housing for socially vulnerable families with three or more children under 18.⁵⁴ A significant barrier to addressing homelessness is the lack of clarity among government officials and civil society regarding the practical implementation of the right to housing. Furthermore, there is no unified database or clear statistics on the number of homeless individuals in Georgia, making it challenging to understand the root causes and scope of homelessness. These gaps

⁴⁸ UN | OHCHR, Türk deeply regrets adoption of 'foreign influence' law in Georgia, May 2024; UN | OHCHR, Georgia: UN experts condemn the adoption of Law on Transparency of Foreign Influence, May 2024.

⁴⁹ The World Bank Group, the World Bank in Georgia, available at: <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/georgia/overview>

⁵⁰ National Development Strategy-Vision 2030, https://www.gov.ge/files/428_85680_321942_khedva-2030-saqarthvelos-ganvitharebis-strategia-1.pdf

⁵¹ National Statistics Office of Georgia, <https://www.geostat.ge/en/modules/categories/192/living-conditions>

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Concluding observations on the combined ninth and tenth periodic reports of Georgia, 13 December 2022.

⁵⁴ The Action Plan for 2024-2026, Priority Three.

underscore the need for comprehensive research and data collection to inform effective policy solutions and interventions aimed at ensuring the right to adequate housing for all individuals in Georgia.⁵⁵

In 2023, Georgia submitted its long-overdue periodic state report to the UN Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (CESCR). The forthcoming concluding observations from this Committee, anticipated in 2024, will address a more than 20-year gap in evaluating Georgia's compliance with the Covenant, presenting a pivotal opportunity to address policy and practical challenges in social and economic rights.

Business and human rights

Georgia has made notable progress in accelerating democratic reforms and promoting sustainable economic development, dedicating significant efforts to creating an attractive environment for investments, as demonstrated by its 7th rank in the world for ease of doing business in 2023.⁵⁶ As part of the global movement against business-related human rights abuses, Georgia has implemented specific measures to improve its institutional framework and business and human rights (BHR) practices, including upgrading labour and safety standards and strengthening government oversight through reforms to the Labour Inspection Office. The first National Baseline Assessment conducted in 2017⁵⁷ also led to the incorporation of a BHR chapter in the 2018-2020 AP of the first NHRS. The BHR agenda was also integrated into the second NHRS for 2022-2030 and its AP for 2024-2026, underlining the importance of establishing international framework standards for business and human rights, including through harmonisation of legislation.

Yet, despite the progress in institutional arrangements and advances, numerous challenges remain, including addressing the gaps in legislation, enhancing the institutional framework for monitoring, and ensuring proper implementation of the BHR as well as addressing the systematic business-related human rights abuses, particularly in the energy, mining, infrastructure and gig economy sectors.⁵⁸ Furthermore, awareness among the workforce and society and a shared understanding among all stakeholders regarding responsible business conduct, human rights due diligence, including the EU's new due diligence and sustainability requirements, and the independent responsibility of businesses, irrespective of their size or sector, is lacking.⁵⁹

Personal Data Protection

On the last day of 2021, the Parliament of Georgia abolished the State Inspector's Service, a body established in 2018 with the mandate to monitor the lawfulness of personal data processing and covert investigative activities, as well as to investigate alleged crimes in law-enforcement agencies. The body was replaced by two new institutions - the Personal Data Protection Service and the Special Investigation Service (SIS) - resulting in the early termination of the State Inspector's mandate. The disbandment of the

⁵⁵ The Public Defender of Georgia, Report on the Situation of Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms in Georgia, 2023.

⁵⁶ World Bank Group, Ease of Doing Business Rankings, 2023, available at: <https://archive.doingbusiness.org/en/rankings?region=europe-and-central-asia>

⁵⁷ The Human Rights Secretariat of the Government of Georgia, the PDO, and the Civil Development Agency, the National Baseline Assessment on Business and Human Rights, 2018, available at: <https://www.ombudsman.ge/eng/gankhortsielebuli-proeqtebi/saqartveloshi-biznesisa-da-adamianis-uflebebis-sheaxeb-erovnuli-sabaziso-kvlevis-chatareba>

⁵⁸ Report of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises on a visit to Georgia, 24 April 2020, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/country-reports/ahrc4443add1-visit-georgia-report-working-group-issue-human-rights-and>

⁵⁹ UNDP, The Status of the Implementation of the UNGPs on Business and Human Rights in Europe and Central Asia, 2023, available at: <https://www.undp.org/eurasia/publications/implementation-un-guiding-principles-business-and-human-rights-ecis>

State Inspector's Office, which lacked substantial discussions and pluralistic participation, drew sharp criticism from local civil society, international actors, and Georgia's partner states.⁶⁰

On 14 June 2023, the Parliament of Georgia adopted a new law, "On Personal Data Protection",⁶¹ bringing significant changes to the personal data protection regime and introducing new nationwide regulations and obligations. The law introduced various new features, such as the establishment of the Personal Data Protection Officers' Institute, expanded rights of data subjects, stricter administrative liability, higher fines for non-compliance with the law requirements, and increased responsibilities for data processors, both public and private.

The 2023 and 2024 EU enlargement reports acknowledge improvements in personal data protection achieved through the adoption of this law. However, it also notes that several issues remain to be addressed, particularly concerning rules on international data transfers and certain exemptions and limitations to data protection rights to fully align the data protection legal framework with the EU acquis.

Regarding personal data protection, secret surveillance is another issue of concern. In 2021, thousands of alleged security service files were released, appearing to document massive and long-running state surveillance of journalists, clergy, diplomats, CSOs and others.⁶² Following that, nearly half of the public believes they are under surveillance in one form or another.⁶³ The oversight mechanism of secret surveillance measures in Georgia is inadequate, highlighting the need for a comprehensive revision of existing covert surveillance systems.⁶⁴

Independent investigation of crimes committed by law-enforcement officials, combatting torture and other forms of ill-treatment

As noted above, the dissolution of the State Inspector's Office, which occurred without substantial debate and inclusive participation, received strong criticism from local civil society, international stakeholders, and Georgia's allies. The body was replaced by a new institution - the Special Investigative Service, along with the Personal Data Protection Service.

The mandate of the SIS was broadened covering the investigation of the crimes beyond its core function (investigation of the crimes of torture and ill-treatment and crimes against the life allegedly committed by law enforcement representatives). When evaluating the overall effectiveness of the SIS, several significant reforms stand out, yet recent challenges and criticism impede its efficacy.

In 2023, the SIS initiated inquiries into 537 criminal cases, of which 257 involved alleged ill-treatment by law enforcement. A notable legislative advancement occurred in 2023 with an amendment aligning SIS practices with recommendations from the Public Defender's 2022 Annual Report. This change permits SIS staff to meet with isolated detainees, facilitating more effective investigative procedures.⁶⁵

⁶⁰ [Press release](https://bit.ly/3YOCLui) of United Nations, United Nations concerned over the decision of Georgian authorities to abolish the State Inspector's Service, 14.01.2022, available at: <https://bit.ly/3YOCLui>

⁶¹ The Law on Personal Data Protection, June 2024, available at: <https://parliament.ge/legislation/18184>

⁶² A Massive Purported State Surveillance Leak Rocks Georgia Ahead Of Key Elections, Radio Liberty, 01 October 2021, <https://www.rferl.org/a/state-surveillance-georgia-leaks/31487781.html>

⁶³ Personal and State Security: Public Attitudes and Perceptions. CRRG Georgia, 2022, <https://crrc.ge/en/project/supporting-accountable-and-human-rights-oriented-security-sector-through-research-advocacy-and-inclusive-dialogue/>

⁶⁴ Georgia: Draft surveillance law adopted hastily, needs further elaboration, finds Venice Commission opinion, 22 August, 2022, https://www.coe.int/sv/web/presidency/news-presidency-of-iceland/-/asset_publisher/55j4vk8Gjglf/content/georgia-draft-surveillance-law-adopted-hastily-needs-further-elaboration-finds-venice-commission-opinion/16695

⁶⁵ The Public Defender of Georgia, Report on the Situation of Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms in Georgia, 2023.

The SIS has notably introduced a pioneering practice allowing every claimant to review case materials related to their claims without needing official status - a level of transparency not available in other investigatory bodies without granting victim status. Additionally, the SIS has adopted internal guidelines for the coherent classification of crimes such as torture, ill-treatment, and other offences allegedly committed by public officials (including abuse of power). They have also introduced guidelines on the use of handcuffs to ensure proper conduct.

However, there are substantial accusations from claimants that in sensitive cases, particularly those related to the dispersal of protesters during the mass protests in 2023 and 2024, as well as the beating of politicians and citizens by police forces, the SIS tends to initiate but fails to conduct effective investigations.

Furthermore, the Georgian legal framework's definition of torture does not align with international standards, leading to gaps in effectively combating torture. Unfortunately, the current NHRS and its AP inadequately address issues related to torture and ill-treatment.

II. PROJECT STRATEGY

2.1 THE PROPOSED JOINT PROGRAMME

The JP strategy is based on the Participating UN Organisations (PUNO) global and national programme priorities and emerging needs and challenges as outlined in Chapter 1.

The JP seeks to address prevailing human rights challenges in the country and advance the realisation of civic, political, economic, and social rights, with a special focus on persons in vulnerable situations, such as minorities, PwDs, and LGBTQI+ by implementing a three-fold approach.

Firstly, the JP will support CSOs and human rights defenders to bolster their oversight missions and data-driven advocacy efforts. It will also support the oversight mechanisms, including the NHRI, to ensure the accountability of duty-bearers through effective monitoring systems.

Secondly, it will empower the rights-holders, including PwDs, LGBTQI+, and ethnic and religious minorities, to effectively claim their rights and advocate for positive change within their communities.

Thirdly, it will support the continued evaluation of the human rights situation and advocate with relevant duty-bearers for substantial improvements in the quality of action plans, draft legislation, and policymaking processes to align with international standards.

The underlying theme intersecting all aspects of the JP is to facilitate Georgia's adherence to its international human rights commitments, stemming from both, the UN and regional mechanisms, especially in the context of the Georgian people's declared aspiration to EU integration, compounded by alignment with the EU human rights and democracy policies.

The overall objective of the project in the long-term is that:

A better protection of human rights for all in Georgia, including those in vulnerable situation is ensured.

The PUNOs have two main long-term SOs (outcomes) to achieve the overall objective of this project:

- **SO1. Enhanced policy dialogue on the alignment of Georgian legislation, policies, institutional practices and the functioning of the criminal justice system with international standards on the protection of human rights (civil, political, economic, and social).**
- **SO2. Increased involvement of rights holders and other key institutional and relevant stakeholders in monitoring, advocacy, and protection of human rights, including the most vulnerable and minority groups.**

The PUNOs are well-positioned to design and carry out such a comprehensive project. Both UNDP and OHCHR possess extensive experience in successfully implementing the first and second phases of the project “Human Rights for All” funded by the EU.

Building on the successful methodologies and lessons learned drawn from the previous phases of the Human Rights for All project, the JP will complement the achievements of these phases and at the same time continue employing a comprehensive approach to ensure program sustainability and targeted implementation in support of protection of human rights in Georgia.

2.2. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS

The JP strategically aligns with the AA between the EU and Georgia, as well as with recommendations 7 and 9 outlined in the EC’s recommendation of 8 November 2023,⁶⁶ which urge Georgia to *“further address the effectiveness and ensure the institutional independence and impartiality of the [...], the Special Investigative Service and the Personal Data Protection Service; address Venice Commission recommendations related to these bodies, in an inclusive process; [...]”* and *“improve the protection of human rights including by implementing an ambitious human rights strategy and ensuring freedom of assembly and expression; launch impartial, effective and timely investigations in cases of threats against safety of vulnerable groups, media professionals and civil society activists, and bring organisers and perpetrators of violence to justice; consult and engage with civil society, allowing for their meaningful involvement in legislative and policymaking processes and ensure they can operate freely.”* The JP will facilitate the fulfilment of obligations under the AA, and the EC’s recommendations, including those thematic recommendations put forward in 2023 and 2024 EU’s enlargement reports for Georgia and Action Document for “Advancing Human Security”.

The JP also seeks to contribute to the achievement of overall human rights and democracy policy priorities set by the EU through this intervention. To this end, the JP strategically selected indicators from the OPSYS pre-defined indicators and Global Europe Results Framework (GERF) to measure its progress.

The JP will also support the implementation of recommendations of the UN and other bodies in the field of human rights.

The expected project impact and long-term objectives contribute to Outcome 1 (outputs 1.1, and 1.2) of the UNSDCF 2021-2025, which foresees that *“by 2025, all people in Georgia enjoy improved good governance, more open, resilient, and accountable institutions, the rule of law, equal access to justice, human rights, and increased representation and participation of women in decision-making”*. Through its work on the provision of equitable services to vulnerable groups, the JP secondarily contributes to Outcome 2 (output 2.3), which foresees that *“by 2025, all people in Georgia have equitable and inclusive*

⁶⁶ 2023 Communication on EU Enlargement Policy, https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/georgia/2023-communication-eu-enlargement-policy-extract-about-georgia_en

access to quality, resilient and gender-sensitive services delivered in accordance with international human rights standards.”

The JP also contributes to SDG 10 (Reduce Inequality within and among countries) by putting efforts to eliminate discriminatory laws, policies, and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies, and action in this regard, SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) by improving access to justice for all and contributing to building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions in Georgia, as well as to SDG 5 (Gender equality) by promoting gender equality.

Moreover, the JP is in line with the corporate priorities and mandates of UNDP. The JP complies with the UNDP County Office programme priorities and solution pathways as mapped out in the UNDP Country Programme Document for Georgia (2021-2025). Namely, the JP directly contributes to Outcome 1: *“By 2025, all people in Georgia enjoy improved good governance, more open, resilient and accountable institutions, rule of law, equal access to justice, human rights, and increased representation and participation of women in decision-making”* and its Output 1.2: *“National legislation and policies to eliminate all types of discrimination, deliver gender-equal results, enhance human rights and equal access to justice, and equitable access to/universal coverage of quality social services, especially for the most vulnerable and marginalised.”* The JP also directly contributes to UNDP Strategic Plan 2022-2025 output 2.2: *“Civic space and access to justice expanded, racism and discrimination addressed, and rule of law, human rights and equity strengthened”*.

In addition, the JP directly contributes to the OHCHR Management Plan for 2024-2027. Namely it contributes to the Non-Discrimination pillar result ND1 *“States adopt laws, policies, programmes, and practices to address inequalities and to combat discrimination on the ground of disability as their intersectional dimensions, informed by disaggregated data”*; to the Accountability pillar result A2 *“Strengthened processes ensure that all people have access to justice and protection, and to effective remedies and reparations to all victims of human rights violations and abuses.”*; and to the Participation pillar result P3. *“Human Rights Defenders are better protected and are empowered to contribute effectively to their societies and UN processes.”*

The priorities of the JP also fully align and support the goals set in the key national policy priorities, including the NHRS for 2022-2030, the State Strategy on Civic Equality and Integration for 2021-2030, and Vision 2030 - Georgia’s Development Strategy and contribute to Georgia’s long-term development.

2.3. THEORY OF CHANGE

The theory of change of the proposed project is:

<p>Input</p>	<p>If targeted support is provided to: 1) CSOs and human rights defenders to bolster their oversight missions and data-driven advocacy efforts; 2) rights-holders, including PwDs, LGBTQI+ community, ethnic and religious minorities, youth, and women, to effectively claim their rights and advocate for positive change within their communities; 3) oversight mechanisms, including the PDO, to ensure the accountability of duty-bearers through efficient monitoring systems; 4) mid-level decision-makers to integrate international commitments on civil, political, economic and social rights into national policy and legislation, streamline human rights based approach (HRBA) and other core principles into programming, and address key knowledge gaps and negative attitudes toward rights-holders.</p>
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<p>Output</p>	<p>Then the process of harmonizing human rights policy documents/legislation and their implementation will be supported, and monitoring mechanisms for the human rights situation will be strengthened. Advocacy for the improvement of the legislative framework concerning vulnerable and minority groups will also be strengthened, promoting their civic integration. Additionally, rights-holders, including vulnerable and minority groups, and duty-bearers will have improved knowledge and capacity on human rights standards, including antidiscrimination, hate speech/hate crime, and privacy, with a special focus on the regions.</p> <p>Then people from diverse vulnerable and minority groups will enjoy their social and economic rights, and alignment of government policy with the relevant recommendations provided by international Human Rights Bodies, with a special focus on CESCR Concluding Observations, will be increased. The fundamental principles of corporate responsibility and BHR will be widely recognized, understood, and implemented.</p> <p>Then the process of harmonizing legislation related to criminal justice with international standards will be supported, and the capacity to combat torture and other forms of ill-treatment will be further strengthened by enhancing legal rights, improving mechanisms for combating torture, and advocating for the effective protection of victims.</p>
<p>Outcome</p>	<p>Leading to an enhanced and aligned human rights legislative framework and policy documents with international standards and strengthened mechanisms for their enforcement and implementation, particularly focusing on civil and political rights; better protection of human rights, equality, and non-discrimination at both central and local levels for people from diverse vulnerable and minority groups, and increased realization of social and economic rights in compliance with relevant international standards; strengthened oversight and monitoring of the criminal justice system, with a special focus on combating torture, ill-treatment and impunity.</p>
<p>Impact</p>	<p>Eventually contributing to the enjoyment of human rights for all, particularly those in vulnerable situations through the human rights framework and implementation at both central and local levels is enhanced.</p>

2.4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

The JP will use the following guiding principles in the implementation and monitoring of the programme to ensure approaches across the outcomes/outputs are directed in a common manner. The principles build upon global experience and the work of PUNOs in Georgia.

A. Evidence-based programming and measuring and capturing results: the project will monitor results and demonstrate achieved progress and will embed systematic M&E approaches into all aspects of programming.

B. Human Rights Based Approach: HRBA will be applied to align the JP implementation with the international human rights framework and the human rights mechanisms’ recommendations, particularly,

the Concluding Observations of the UN Human Rights Committee, CRPD, and the CERD, recommendations of the Human Rights Council through the UPR, Special Procedures, and Resolution of the CoE's Committee of Ministers on the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

The PUNOs will further the realization of human rights set out in the international human rights instruments and apply universal human rights principles such as equality and non-discrimination, participation and inclusion, gender mainstreaming, accountability, and the rule of law in the project cycle management. Furthermore, the PUNOs will contribute to strengthening the capacity and awareness of rights-holders, including at the grass-roots level, to effectively claim their rights and of duty-bearers to fulfil their obligations, ensure the use of HRBA in policymaking in Georgia and increase their accountability to human rights and commitments.

C. Leave no one behind (LNOB): LNOB is the central transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and underpins all aspects of the UNSDCF and UN operations. Hence, in line with the LNOB principle, the JP's initiatives and interventions aim to reach the most vulnerable population without discrimination and promote the inclusion of vulnerable groups and minorities, including, ethnic and religious minorities, LGBTQI+ persons, homeless persons, and older persons.

D. Disability Inclusion: disability inclusion is a guiding principle of the CRPD and instrumental to the SDGs. The PUNOs will apply a twin-track approach of mainstreaming and providing targeted support during the JP implementation. This aims to support the inclusion of PwDs and ensure that all activities related to them are implemented in close consultation with PwDs and Organisations of Persons with Disabilities, with their meaningful participation.

E. Gender equality and women empowerment: the PUNOs are strongly committed to mainstream gender in all programmes and project activities. Therefore, gender-related issues will be considered and addressed in every stage of an activity, from planning and budgeting to implementation and dissemination. PUNOs are accountable for ensuring that gender-related data is integrated in the activity as part of workplan approval, including data collection and analysis. In line with PUNOs' values, the proposed JP aims to enhance the rights and opportunities of people, who are left behind, including PwDs, LGBTQI+ individuals, women, youth, ethnic and religious minorities.

By integrating a gender-sensitive approach throughout the project lifecycle, the JP seeks to address systemic barriers and discriminatory practices faced by the groups, living in vulnerable situations. Through tailored interventions, the JP aims to promote inclusivity and ensure equal access to resources and opportunities. Through strategic partnerships and collaborative efforts, the JP endeavours to create an enabling environment where rights are respected, and everyone can contribute meaningfully to the sustainable development agenda.

2.5. LESSONS LEARNED

The JP builds on the lessons learned during previous phases of the project, along with the other initiatives implemented by PUNOs, reflecting on the challenges encountered, potential mitigating/adaptive strategies, and success factors that can be leveraged to ensure lasting impacts. The following are the distilled lessons that were considered during the design of the JP:

- Unpredictable developments and frequent shifts in the political agenda, along with personnel changes, could affect the JP's progress and effectiveness. Sensitivity during election periods, coupled with heightened scrutiny on human rights, especially for minority groups, may reduce

operational space due to the sensitive nature of pre-election and election phases. The project team maintains an acute awareness of changing political dynamics, integrating flexibility into its strategies to align with the evolving climate and priorities.

- Over the recent years, Georgia has shown a gradual decrease in the government’s openness towards partnership with CSOs, as exhibited by developments attempting to shrink the civic space. Consistent efforts should be made to support CSOs in monitoring the human rights situation and ensure their full participation in the decision-making processes. To achieve tangible results, consolidation of key actors around human rights and facilitation of bridging the relations between CSOs and the government is needed.
- Local governments, now with expanded mandates to uphold social and economic rights, often struggle with limited resources and capacity. This underscores the continued need for donor support to empower local authorities to effectively address local challenges and promote equitable development.
- A human rights-based approach and sensitivity towards minority and vulnerable groups among rights-holders and duty-bearers in Georgia remain low. Significant resources should be invested in tailored human rights education and awareness-raising activities. For a transformative change in human rights culture, unified and targeted efforts of the international players, government institutions, and civil society are needed.

III. RESULTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

3.1. RESULTS FRAMEWORK

To achieve the overall objective, the PUNOs will follow a multifaceted approach and methodology delineated through two SOs:

SO1. Enhanced policy dialogue on the alignment of Georgian legislation, policies, institutional practices and the functioning of the criminal justice system with international standards on the protection of human rights (civil, political, economic, and social).

SO1 primarily focuses on upholding and safeguarding civil, political, economic, and social rights among various stakeholders, including duty-bearers and non-state actors, such as CSOs, and the private sector, inter alia, by integrating international commitments into national legislation, policy documents, and institutional practices. Furthermore, the SO1 strives to align Georgian criminal justice legislation with international human rights standards and bolster the country's ability to combat torture and ill-treatment. SO1 will also focus on ensuring the accountability of duty-bearers through the efficient functioning of monitoring systems.

To this end, the PUNOs will collaborate with CSOs, and human rights defenders, as well as engage with mid-level decision-makers and relevant duty-bearers committed to promoting positive change, recognized as advocates in their respective areas. To achieve the targets set for SO1, the PUNOs will utilize capacity and knowledge building, in-house and external advisory and expert services, policy advocacy, and grant schemes. All activities will be implemented equally at central and local levels.

This SO1 will be achieved through two outputs:

Output 1.1 Improved knowledge and capacities of relevant stakeholders and duty-bearers in the design and implementation of policies in the field of human rights and criminal justice.

For the purposes of output 1.1, the PUNOs will undertake a set of activities to support policy dialogue and advocacy and facilitate the improvements of human rights policy documents, regulatory framework, systems, and institutional practices, focusing on a wide range of human rights, such as civil, political, economic and social rights and criminal justice with a special focus for the protection of minority and vulnerable groups. To this end, the PUNOs will employ multiple interventions, including expert support to bolster the legislative and policy framework and systems, as well as implementation pertaining to the rights of all. Furthermore, PUNOs will undertake substantial capacity-building initiatives to address key knowledge gaps and negative attitudes toward rights-holders especially minority groups, among duty-bearers, with a special focus on local self-governments, and non-state actors.

Activities will include:

- 1.1.1. Support in the Development and Revision of Legislative and Policy Framework:** development and revision of human rights policy documents, draft laws, and internal regulations along with analytical documents and recommendations on civil, political, economic, and social rights and criminal justice for key stakeholders, particularly for LSGs, to embed Georgia’s international commitments, recommendations, and best practices in aligning with international human rights standards and core principles, including HRBA and gender perspectives. Particular focus will be placed on policies and legislative frameworks related to the rights of minorities and vulnerable groups to promote equality and diversity. The PUNOs will be guided by the latest Concluding Observations of the UN treaty bodies, including upcoming CESCR Concluding Observations, recommendations from other oversight mechanisms and EU benchmarks.
- 1.1.2. Capacity/Knowledge Building for Mid-level Decision-makers and Relevant Duty-bearers:** knowledge-building activities, including, training courses, workshops, roundtables, and discussions for mid-level decision-makers and relevant duty-bearers to institutionalize HRBA and other core principles in human rights policymaking and service delivery and advance the implementation of relevant recommendations from human rights bodies. The PUNOs, inter alia, will work with LSGs to strengthen their capacity, facilitate the translation of national human rights policies into local policies and practices, and support the roll-out of local government mandates on social and economic rights.
- 1.1.3. Support in Inclusive Practices in the Non-state Sector:** supporting the non-state sector in adopting and implementing policies that streamline human rights in their operations and promote diversity, equality, and inclusion. This among others, envisages supporting the private sector entities to integrate human rights due diligence into their business operations and align their business practices with the EU's new due diligence and sustainability requirements. This effort also emphasizes accommodating the needs and interests of various vulnerable groups in labour relations.

Output 1.2 Increased availability of evidence-based data to relevant stakeholders and decision-makers on the human rights situation, the existing policy gaps, and the proposals for improvement.

To enhance human rights oversights and ensure data-driven advocacy efforts, the PUNOs will empower CSOs, human rights defenders, and the PDO to develop effective tools and methods for monitoring the effective implementation of human rights policy documents and regulatory framework, ensuring alignment with international human rights standards.

Activities will involve:

- 1.2.1. Support in Advocacy and Monitoring of Human Rights Situation:** elaboration of reports, studies, and analytical papers/assessments on the human rights policy implementation and human rights situation. Special attention will be drawn to civil, political, economic, and social rights, criminal justice, and surveillance with a special focus on the protection of minority and vulnerable groups (particularly, PwDs, LGBTQI+, ethnic minorities, religious minorities, and older persons), as well as to the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and CSO and media environment in Georgia; developing compilation of findings by thematic human rights mechanisms along with relevant recommendations and suggestions on the improvement of policy, legislation, and practice; assessment of the impact of the shrinking space on rights-holders, with a particular focus on vulnerable and minority groups; assisting in drafting alternative/shadow reports for international human rights mechanisms; facilitation of CSOs participation in policy dialogue with the relevant UN human rights treaty bodies, their effective use and onsite visits to the sessions.
- 1.2.2. Advancing the Capacity and Tools of the PDO to Monitor Human Rights Situation, including the Rights of Minority and Vulnerable Groups, and Uphold Human Rights:** Considering that human rights are evolving and dynamic, it is crucial not to overlook emerging new fields. Therefore, the PUNOs will collaborate closely with the PDO to develop pertinent guidelines and oversee the human rights landscape in Georgia, including the monitoring of digital rights and freedoms. Furthermore, the PUNOs will support the PDO in developing/revising proper tools and methodologies for comprehensive monitoring of the rights of vulnerable groups, especially related to the rights of PwDs, and building subsequent advocacy strategies.
- 1.2.3. Creating/Strengthening Bilateral and Multi-stakeholder Networks on Human Rights:** The PUNOs will facilitate the creation of strong networks among CSOs, human rights defenders, international development actors, and other stakeholders (when relevant) at the national level to leverage resources and expertise, aiming at fostering peer support, knowledge exchange, and collective action on human rights. Furthermore, the PUNOs will support experience exchange on human rights and democracy to strengthen ties between CSOs, human rights activists, and NHRIs at a regional level, including those from eastern partnership countries. All initiatives will be designed in light of Georgia's new legislative framework on the CSO environment, emphasizing alternative methods for participatory policy design and the creation of the human rights agenda.
- 1.2.4. Facilitating Dialogue and Participatory Policymaking:** The PUNOs will support discussions between duty-bearers and international bodies to advance the implementation of relevant recommendations from human rights bodies. The PUNOs will also conduct meetings and conferences in consultation with CSOs and human rights defenders to advocate, inter alia, for the launching/continuing deliberations on the adoption/revision of existing legislation and practice related to administrative arrest/detention and court proceedings, competence and the mandate of the SIS, steps to benefit effective functioning of the National Preventive Mechanism. Furthermore, PUNOs will support PwD Consultative Councils to facilitate the meaningful participation and direct cooperation of rights-holders and duty-bearers, especially at local levels.

SO2. Increased involvement of rights holders and other key institutional and relevant stakeholders in monitoring, advocacy, and protection of human rights, including the most vulnerable and minority groups.

SO2 mainly focuses on empowering rights holders to claim their rights by building capacities and knowledge on human rights and criminal justice and capacitating CSOs, human rights defenders, legal professionals, and other key institutions for ensuring the enjoyment of human rights by all, especially minorities and vulnerable groups. It also focuses on raising awareness among rights holders, duty-bearers,

and non-state actors to advance human rights culture and sensitivity around the rights of minority and vulnerable groups and promote Georgia-EU common values and the EU integration agenda. The PUNOs will employ advisory/expert services, awareness raising, knowledge building, and grant schemes for the realisation of the targets under SO2.

SO2 will be achieved through the following two outputs:

Output 2.1. Improved capacities of CSOs and other relevant stakeholders in protecting and monitoring human rights, including the rights of minority and vulnerable groups, political advocacy, provision of legal aid, and strategic litigation.

To advance the capacities and expertise of key stakeholders, especially non-state actors, such as CSOs, human rights defenders, legal professionals, the private sector, as well as rights-holders on human rights protection, monitoring, advocacy, and litigation, the PUNOs will employ different tailored capacity and knowledge-building interventions. These activities will be coupled with expert advice and analysis for inter alia systematizing knowledge through coherent methodologies and supporting the implementation of the acquired knowledge and expertise.

Activities will include:

2.1.1. Strengthening Monitoring Capacity/Knowledge Building for CSOs: development of effective monitoring tools and methodologies for CSOs on human rights-related issues. The PUNOs will also provide knowledge and capacity-building initiatives for CSOs, and human rights defenders, particularly, local CSOs on criminal justice and human rights standards, SDGs, and human rights protection mechanisms, such as the UN human rights treaty bodies, UN Human Rights Council, and regional human rights monitoring bodies (e.g. CoE). The PUNOs will also support bridging the gap between SDG and human rights monitoring. All initiatives will be designed in light of Georgia's new legislative framework on the CSO environment, emphasizing alternative methods for participatory policy design and the creation of the human rights agenda.

2.1.2. Knowledge-building Initiatives for the Non-state Sector: PUNOs will undertake activities, such as training courses, workshops, and roundtables among a diverse array of the private sector, including women entrepreneurs, rights-holders, legal professionals and other specialized groups, on human rights, equality, non-discrimination, hate speech, hate crimes, privacy, digital protections, understanding of corporate responsibility and BHR, access to remedy in cases of business-related human rights abuse, criminal justice as well as on effective investigation standards on torture and ill-treatment.

2.1.3. Facilitate Policy Transformation Through Legal Aid and Strategic Litigation: support legal professionals, CSOs, and human rights defenders in promoting the rights of victims of ill-treatment, minority and vulnerable groups through providing effective legal aid and strategic litigation both at national (common courts, constitutional court, and other domestic mechanisms) and international/regional levels (UN/CoE human rights monitoring bodies pertaining to minorities) and developing amicus briefs.

Output 2.2 Increased awareness of rights holders, the private sector, and other key non-state stakeholders on human rights standards and the promotion of human rights culture, tolerance, and diversity.

Under output 2.2, the PUNOs envisage a multi-pronged approach to advance human rights culture and sensitivity around the rights of minority and vulnerable groups.

Activities will include:

2.2.1. Tailored Awareness, Outreach, and Knowledge-building Activities to Empower Rights-holders and Non-state Stakeholders:

The PUNOs will organize information campaigns, workshops, roundtables, and other initiatives to enhance understanding of civil, political, economic, and social rights and promote human rights culture, equality and diversity among a diverse array of rights-holders, grassroots communities, activists, CSOs, non-professional groups, and other relevant non-state stakeholders. Furthermore, PUNOs will mark international days related to human rights, through annual conferences, workshops, and other awareness activities. PUNOs will also celebrate the Europe Day in agreement with the EU Delegation. The PUNOs will also prioritize the development of knowledge materials and employ digital tools to ensure the broad reach of awareness-raising and knowledge-building activities.

2.2.2. Engaging Youth and Education Institutions:

to ensure enduring and scalable impact, PUNOs will strategically cooperate with educational institutions with a special focus on regions to uphold and streamline the rights of minority and vulnerable groups in educational activities, and promote the engagement of youth, especially with minority and vulnerable backgrounds in framing the human rights culture.

Specific activities and work plan

Specific activities to be implemented under the JP will be encompassed in the subsequent work plans. Given the rapidly shifting environment in Georgia at the time of designing the JP, the PUNOs have elaborated the work plan focused on the first four months of the implementation period. Successive work plans will be approved by the Steering Committee every six months or at least annually, considering the external factors, anticipated risks, and mitigating factors.

Grant Schemes for CSOs

As outlined above, to achieve the targets set for SO1 and SO2, the PUNOs will utilize grant schemes for CSOs to build a more robust and sustainable civil society ecosystem capable of tackling emerging human rights challenges effectively. This targeted intervention will strengthen CSOs' organizational and technical capacities, enabling their increasing involvement in the protection of human rights, particularly for the most vulnerable and minority groups, and in monitoring and advocating for the alignment of Georgian legislation, policies, and institutional practices with international standards on the protection of human rights (civil, political, economic, and social). The agencies will implement distinct grant schemes aligned with their respective mandates and priority areas. To ensure efficient resource allocation and diversify the reach of the grants, especially to CSOs working with local communities, agencies will maintain close communication on selecting grant recipients and planning interventions to prevent overlap.

UNDP

The grant schemes will be employed through two distinct methods: a) competitive open call; and b) ad hoc direct grants to CSOs. Within the JP, UNDP will administer a minimum of twelve grant schemes to CSOs with a total budget of up to 334,000 USD.

a) CSO Grants Through Open Call

The project will issue at least eight grants, each amounting to a maximum of 30,000 USD to support CSOs working on human rights in Georgia, through a transparent and competitive mechanism. The process will

begin with a public call for proposals, accompanied by detailed guidelines, eligibility criteria, and thematic priorities aligned with project objectives. The call for proposals will be agreed with the EU Delegation before its announcement.

Organisations eligible to apply for funding within this granting scheme are CSOs operating in Georgia on local and central scales and working on advancing human rights. The grants will be issued, inter alia, on the following topics:

- Strengthening the capacity of rights holders, grassroots movements, local CSOs, and human rights defenders in human rights oversight and advocacy.
- Elevating rights-based community initiatives and rights education at the local level.
- Strengthening legal and policy frameworks for vulnerable groups through evidence-based advocacy and strategic litigation, with particular focus on LGBTQI+ community, PwDs, ethnic and religious minorities, and individuals experiencing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.

Following the receipt of applications through the open call, proposals will undergo evaluation by a committee composed of UNDP representatives from different projects and portfolios, who will assess applications based on predetermined criteria, including:

- Strategic Alignment: Demonstrated alignment with the objectives and overall goals of the Calls.
- Project Viability: Clear, realistic, and achievable project goals and outputs.
- Sustainability: Vision for the long-term impact and continuation of activities beyond the project period.
- Financial Feasibility: Well-structured, cost-effective, and justified budget allocation
- Additional criteria may be introduced at the stage of initiating the Calls, if necessary, in coordination with EU.

Following the assessment of shortlisted proposals, including verification of financial management capacity, selected grantees will receive awards and participate in orientation sessions on implementation requirements.

To ensure effective implementation, the project will establish a comprehensive monitoring and support system, including regular site visits, technical assistance, and/or systematic progress review mechanisms throughout the grant period.

b) Ad hoc Direct Grants

Considering the evolving needs in Georgia's volatile human rights context, especially pertaining to the needs and rights of persons in vulnerable situations, UNDP will consider issuing at least four direct grants to CSOs, each amounting to a maximum of 20,000 USD, in close consultation with the EU Delegation and following the approval of the project's Steering Committee (for further details see also Appendix II below).

In Human Rights for All – Phase 2, with support from the JP, the Georgian Young Lawyers Association⁶⁷ led regular meetings with various CSOs, including regional NGOs, to support the NHRS AP development process. GYLA maintained this CSO network throughout the grant period and continued its coordination

⁶⁷ As underlined in the project document of the HR4All – Phase 2, PUNOs will issue at least 4 grants annually to NGOs that are members of the Inter-Agency Council for Human Rights (IACHR) under the auspices of the Government of Georgia, the body responsible for coordination and monitoring of the AP implementation. Since the GYLA was a member organisation with voting rights in the IACHR, UNDP issued a direct grant to this NGO.

beyond the grant's timeline. As a result of this collaborative effort, 24 CSOs⁶⁸ consolidated their recommendations and positions on NHRS AP activities specific to their fields and submitted them to the AoG in 2023. Since monitoring the effective implementation of human rights policy documents and regulatory framework and improvement of regulatory framework remain a priority for this project phase, UNDP will provide ad hoc direct grants to CSOs within this established network.

These grants will support specialized CSOs with a proven track record in strategic litigation, monitoring, and advocacy in specific human rights areas to swiftly address emerging needs. This ad hoc direct grant mechanism will be employed only when immediate responses to urgent human rights issues are necessary. If no such needs arise during the implementation of the JP, grant schemes will instead be employed through an open call procedure. This approach not only ensures efficient resource allocation to capable organizations but also facilitates a quicker response to the dynamic human rights context in Georgia, preventing potential delays associated with standard open call procedures.

The grants will be issued, inter alia, on the following topics:

- Preparing shadow reports on monitoring of the implementation of human rights policy documents and human rights situation, especially concerning the rights of minority groups and persons in vulnerable situation.
- Strengthening legal and policy frameworks for vulnerable groups through evidence-based advocacy and strategic litigation, with particular focus on LGBTQI+ community, PwDs, ethnic and religious minorities, and individuals experiencing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.

A concept note for each grant will be developed, outlining the strategic alignment, project viability, and sustainability of the proposed grant activities, along with a budget plan, to be presented to the Steering Committee for review and approval prior to issuing the direct grant to the designated recipient organisation.

OHCHR

The grant schemes will be employed through two distinct methods: a) a competitive, public call; and b) ad hoc direct grants to CSOs. Within the JP, OHCHR will administer a minimum of nine grant schemes to CSOs with a total budget of 273,000 USD.

a. CSO Grants Through Open Call

OHCHR will issue at least six grants, each up to 30,000 USD to support CSOs working on human rights in Georgia, through a transparent and competitive mechanism.

This support will be disbursed to third parties over a 40-month period, ensuring sustained and impactful engagement in human rights advocacy and activities. During this timeframe, the OHCHR will release open calls for proposals, inviting CSOs to submit their applications for grants. The call for proposals will be agreed with the EU Delegation before its announcement.

⁶⁸ Georgian Young Lawyers Association, Rule of Law Center, Rights Georgia, Partnership for Human Rights, Human Rights Center, Women Engage for a Common Future, Open Space Caucasus, Center of Development and Democracy, Equality Movement, Women's Initiatives Support Group, Equality 17, Tbilisi Pride, Queer Association – Temida, Association Anika, Association "Dea", Georgian Down Syndrome Association, Partnership for Equal Rights, Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatric Service, Georgian Mental Health Association, Coalition for Independent Living, Solidarity Community, Families Against Discrimination.

These Calls for Proposals will be widely circulated through official UN Georgia platforms and other relevant online channels to reach a diverse and inclusive pool of potential applicants. Adhering strictly to UN rules and regulations, the selection process will prioritize fairness, transparency, and equal opportunity for all interested parties.

The selection process will prioritize applicants who demonstrate a strong understanding of human rights mechanisms, possess the necessary capacity, and show a firm commitment to advancing human rights causes. The criteria for selecting applicants and awarding grants will be based on various factors, including the organization's profile and past performance in the field of human rights and rule of law. Additionally, applicants will be evaluated based on their adherence to human rights principles and practices, the alignment of their activities with project goals, and the accuracy and appropriateness of their budget proposals.

The grants will be issued, inter alia, on the following topics:

- Strengthening the capacity of rights holders, grassroots movements, local CSOs, and human rights defenders in human rights oversight and advocacy.
- Promoting equality and non-discrimination and human rights education.
- Strengthening participatory mechanisms for CSOs to engage in governance processes and decision-making on different levels.
- Promoting and advancing the rights of vulnerable and minority groups, particularly PwDs, LGBTQI+, ethnic minorities, religious minorities, and older persons, including their economic and social rights.

Grants will also advance public understanding of fundamental rights and legal procedures, allowing societies to empower individuals and assert their rights effectively, and participate actively in shaping just and equitable societies.

To evaluate grant applications and determine which projects will receive funding, OHCHR will establish an Evaluation Committee consisting of JP team members and OHCHR National Human Rights Officer. The primary responsibility of the Evaluation Committee will be to assess each application thoroughly based on predetermined criteria, including:

- Strategic Alignment: Demonstrated alignment with the call's objectives and overall goals.
- Capacity: Relevant experience in human rights field.
- Project Viability: Clear, realistic, and achievable project goals and outputs.
- Sustainability: Vision for the long-term impact and continuation of activities beyond the project period.
- Financial Feasibility: Well-structured, cost-effective, and justified budget allocation
- Additional criteria may be introduced at the stage of the call for proposals if necessary.

Following the assessment of shortlisted proposals, including verification of financial management capacity, selected grantees will receive awards and participate in orientation sessions on implementation requirements.

To ensure effective implementation, the project will establish a comprehensive monitoring and support system, including regular site visits, technical assistance, and/or systematic progress review mechanisms throughout the grant period.

b. *Ad hoc Direct Grants*

In cases where urgent needs or ad hoc human rights actions arise, OHCHR may issue direct award grants to CSOs, up to a maximum of 20,000 USD per recipient. OHCHR will consider issuing at least three direct grants. All grants will be strictly governed by grant agreements between OHCHR and the recipients, in line with UN rules and regulations, and will be awarded in close consultation with the EU Delegation, subject to approval by the project's Steering Committee (see Appendix II for further details).

These grants will be available to specialized CSOs with a proven track record in strategic litigation, monitoring, and advocacy, particularly those with a track record of successful cooperation in previous phases of the JP. This ad hoc grant mechanism will be employed only when immediate responses to urgent human rights issues are required.

If no such needs arise during the implementation of the JP, grant schemes will instead be employed through a public call procedure. This approach not only ensures efficient resource allocation to capable organizations but also facilitates a quicker response to the vibrant human rights context in Georgia, circumventing potential delays associated with standard open call processes.

The grants will be issued on topics falling under the directions of the JP and based on emerging human rights concerns and needs including, but not limited to:

- Developing shadow/alternative reports on the monitoring of the implementation of human rights policy documents and human rights situation.
- Strengthening legal and policy frameworks for vulnerable groups through evidence-based advocacy and strategic litigation.

A concept note for each grant will be developed, outlining the strategic alignment, project viability, and sustainability of the proposed grant activities, along with a budget plan and be presented to the Steering Committee for review and approval prior to issuing the direct grant to the designated recipient organisation.

3.2. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

	Results Chain	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Source of verification	Assumptions
Overall Objective (impact)	To ensure a better protection of human rights for all in Georgia, including those in vulnerable situation	1. Rule of law index for Georgia for the last year	0.60 points (2023)	Increase to > 0.61 points (2028)	World Justice Project Rule of Law Index (Fundamental Rights rating).	N/A
		2. World Bank Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) Rule of Law Score for Georgia (GERF 1.20)	56.6 points (2022)	Increase to > 60 points (2028)	World Bank Worldwide Governance Indicators (WGI) Rule of Law Score for Georgia. European Commission's Annual Reports on Georgia under the Enlargement Policy – Cluster One on Fundamentals of the Accession Process	
Specific Objectives (outcomes)	SO1. Enhanced policy dialogue on the alignment of Georgian legislation, policies, institutional practices and the functioning of the criminal justice system with international standards on the protection of human rights (civil, political, economic, and social)	1.1. Number of government policies developed or revised with civil society organisation participation through EU support. (GERF 2.29)	0 (2024)	At least 3 (2028)	Official statements, signed minutes or policy documents.	Authorities remain committed to implementing obligations undertaken under international human rights instruments and policy documents. The political and social situation remains sufficiently stable to sustain a human rights dialogue without a radical deterioration of democratic standards and governance mechanisms. The
		1.2. Number of recommendations from regional and international oversight mechanisms (regional human rights courts, UN Special Rapporteurs) acted upon. (OPSYS pre-defined indicator)	0 (2024)	At least 10 recommendations	Reports by UN and CoE bodies, PDO and/or CSOs.	

	Results Chain	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Source of verification	Assumptions
		1.3. Number of reports that have been formally presented to regional and international Human Rights Mechanisms by the PDO, CSOs and/or human rights defenders.	0 (2024)	At least 7 reports (2028)	Documents formally submitted by the PDO and/or CSOs.	legal and political environment remains respectful of international human rights standards, enabling media, CSOs, and human rights defenders to operate and effectively fulfil their respective mandates.
	SO2. Increased involvement of rights holders and other key institutional and relevant stakeholders in monitoring, advocacy, and protection of human rights, including the most vulnerable and minority groups	2.1. Number of cases lodged with national courts (common courts and Constitutional Court) and UN/CoE Human Rights Supervisory Bodies pertaining to human rights and minorities.	0 (2024)	At least 10 cases (2028)	Official registries of administrative/judicial bodies, statements of lawyer teams and/or CSOs and/or publications from web pages of courts/bodies.	
		2.2. % of implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy Action Plan.	0 % (2024)	At least 60 % of NHRS AP (2028)	Annual and special reports of PDO, CSOs and/or UN and CoE bodies.	
		2.3. Number of private sector entities that have incorporated new practices and/or policies aligned with principles of Business and Human Rights and Equality and Diversity.	0 (2024)	At least 12 private sector entities supported (2028).	Pre- and post-organisational analysis and/or follow-up surveys.	

	Results Chain	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Source of verification	Assumptions
Outputs (SO1)	1.1 Improved knowledge and capacities of relevant stakeholders and duty-bearers in the design and implementation of policies in the field of human rights and criminal justice.	1.1.1. Number of policy and legislative proposals that have been presented to decision-makers and/or key institutional representatives with the support of the intervention. <i>Disaggregated by type of proposal and sector.</i>	0 (2024)	At least 9 proposals developed (2028).	Draft laws and/or human rights policy documents.	The political context remains conducive to implementing JP activities before and after the 2024 parliamentary and 2025 LSG elections and authorities maintain cooperation with the UN system, the European Union, and other international bodies. Decision-makers and institutional representatives maintain sufficient political will to implement human rights commitments and maintain the allocation of enough technical and financial resources to implement agreed policy documents and action plans.
		1.1.2. Number of duty-bearers who have received the guidelines and/or manuals produced with the support of the intervention in the fields of human rights and criminal justice. <i>Disaggregated by sector and/or type of institution.</i>	0 (2024)	At least 6 duty-bearers (2028).	Approved guidelines and/or manuals.	Rights holders and key relevant stakeholders maintain the commitment to engage and promote human rights.
		1.1.3. Number of state institutions and non-state actors supported by the EU on security, border management, countering violent extremism, conflict prevention, protection of civilian population, and human rights. (GERF 2.23)	0 (2024)	At least 25 state institutions and non-state actors (2028).	Final capacity-building, technical assistance and/or policy dialogue reports.	Relevant actors possess the capacity and maintain their commitment to monitor the human rights situation. The political and legislative environment remains supportive of initiatives aimed at increasing public awareness

	Results Chain	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Source of verification	Assumptions
	1.2 Increased availability of evidence-based data to relevant stakeholders and decision-makers on the human rights situation, the existing policy gaps, and the proposals for improvement.	1.2.1. Number of studies, research and/or analyses that have been produced with the support of the EU on the protection of human rights, the representation of minority groups, Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, criminal justice and/or surveillance. <i>Disaggregated by sector and/or type of product.</i>	0 (2024)	At least 20 studies, research and/or analyses developed (2028).	Final publications.	of human rights standards and the roles of rights holders, the private sector, and other key stakeholders in promoting a human rights culture, tolerance, and diversity.
		1.2.2. Number of bilateral and/or multi-stakeholder meetings convened between relevant stakeholders, including duty-bearers to advance the compliance of human rights violations or the implementation of policy reforms.	0 (2024)	At least 10 meetings (2028)	Minutes of the meetings and/or events.	
Outputs (SO2)	2.1. Improved capacities of CSOs and other relevant stakeholders in protecting and monitoring human rights, including the rights of minority and vulnerable groups, political advocacy,	2.1.1. Number of new monitoring and/or analytical tools that have been produced by the CSOs and/or other key stakeholders with the support of the intervention. <i>Disaggregated</i>	0 (2024)	At least 2 monitoring tools and methodologies (2028).	Approved monitoring tools and methodologies.	

	Results Chain	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Source of verification	Assumptions
	<p>provision of legal aid, and strategic litigation.</p>	<p><i>by sector and type of stakeholder.</i></p>				
<p>2.1.2. Number of grassroots civil society organisations benefitting from (or reached by) EU support. (GERF 2.28)</p>		<p>0 (2024)</p>	<p>At least 20 civil society organisations (2028)</p>	<p>Final capacity-building, technical assistance and/or policy dialogue reports.</p>		
<p>2.1.3. Number of people, staff of the partner organisations and/or the private sector, who have increased their knowledge on human rights protection, Business and Human Rights and/or investigation standards with the support of the intervention. <i>Disaggregated by sex, topic and type of stakeholder</i></p>		<p>0 (2024)</p>	<p>At least 1500 (2028)</p>	<p>Pre and post training tests.</p>		
<p>2.1.4. Number of professional and non-professional human rights defenders trained and strengthened in their action capacity. (OPSYS pre-defined indicator).</p>			<p>At least 100 (2028)</p>	<p>Pre and post training tests</p>		
<p>2.1.5. Number of victims of human rights violations directly benefiting from assistance funded by the EU. (GERF 2.30)</p>		<p>0 (2024)</p>	<p>At least 40 victims (2028)</p>	<p>Statistics of LAS and its annual reports, SIS reports, and/or CSOs reports.</p>		

	Results Chain	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Source of verification	Assumptions
		<i>Disaggregated by sex and type of support.</i>				
	2.2 Increased awareness of rights holders, the private sector, and other key non-state stakeholders on human rights standards and the promotion of human rights culture, tolerance, and diversity.	2.2.1. Number of people who have received information on the human rights situation, Business and Human Rights, and social and economic rights through the awareness-raising campaigns implemented with the support of the EU. <i>Disaggregated by sex and topic.</i>	0 (2024)	At least 100,000 (2028)	Digital analytics and/or list of attendees to in-person events.	
		2.2.2. Number of educational institutions that have improved their curricula and/or materials on human rights and equality with the support of the intervention.	0 (2024)	At least 8 educational institutions	Approved curricula and/or materials.	

Several key assumptions underpin the JP's ability to achieve its SOs, including:

- **Engagement and Advocacy by CSOs:** The CSOs, human rights defenders, and grassroots organisations can continue to implement their oversight missions and ensure data-driven advocacy efforts; monitoring of the human rights situation freely and independently, despite challenges posed by the recently adopted law on foreign influence and the potential consequences such as labelling and restriction of their activities.
- **Commitment of the PDO:** The PDO continues to fulfil its constitutional mandate by supervising and upholding human rights protections across Georgia and within its jurisdiction.
- **Participation of Disadvantaged Groups:** The most disadvantaged groups, including PwDs, LGBTQI+ individuals, rural populations, and ethnic and religious minorities, and older people continue to be able to actively engage in project activities and enhance their rights.
- **Commitment of the State:** The Georgian government maintains readiness and adherence to improve the enjoyment of human rights in alignment with international human rights standards, recent Concluding Observations by Treaty Bodies, and with EU accession process requirements, thereby ensuring robust protection and promotion of human rights for all.

3.3. PARTNERSHIPS

The JP will be implemented under the Direct Implementation Modality in accordance with UNDP and OHCHR rules and regulations. Hence, given the scope of the project, the implementation of the activities will be carried out directly by PUNOs; however, for coordination purposes, the project activities will be fully communicated with all relevant partners.

The JP will also be implemented in accordance with the One UN approach. The involvement of two distinct UN agencies in this initiative presents an opportunity to address human rights issues from multiple angles. Leveraging their respective expertise and comparative advantages, UNDP and OHCHR will collaborate effectively to advance the overarching objectives of this initiative. This collaborative approach will enable a more comprehensive and multifaceted response to proposed objectives, thereby maximising the impact of this joint effort.

To successfully follow up on past efforts and accomplish new objectives, the JP will further be implemented in partnership with CSOs, grassroots organisations, individual human rights advocates and champions, legal professionals, the private sector, academia, media, the PDO, LSGs, central government apparatus, as well as international organisations. PUNOs have already established a robust partnership with all these stakeholders for safeguarding and advancing human rights in Georgia. These existing working relationships will be leveraged to implement project activities and achieve results. The PUNOs, in close partnership with the EU, will periodically consider risks to the national development pathway and the human rights infringements and reconsider their relations and engagement on human rights reforms and development gains with the targeted duty-bearers responsible for the protection, implementation, and realisation of human rights accordingly. The run-up to and outcome of the parliamentary elections on 26 October 2024 will further determine the overall development trajectory, particularly impacting the situation for human rights and civil society. These contextual ramifications will be accordingly echoed by the adaptive management to adjust the JP's course of action.

3.4. COORDINATION WITH EU AND OTHER DONOR-FUNDED PROJECTS

Human rights reforms and strengthening the protection of rights-holders are supported by various EU and other donor-funded programmes. The PUNOs recognize the pivotal role of coordination with other development actors to ensure a holistic and inter-sectoral approach to tackling human rights and the rule of law-related challenges. To this end, during implementation, the JP will coordinate with key development stakeholders, especially EU-supported initiatives, to ensure complementarity and mutual reinforcement with relevant donor-funded interventions.

The PUNOs have undertaken a comprehensive mapping of development initiatives in Georgia related to human rights, the rule of law, and the resilience of civil society. Subsequently, key regional and Georgia-specific initiatives, especially EU-funded projects were identified, to jointly create critical building blocks for Georgia's EU integration and ensure human rights for all.

More specifically, close cooperation will be maintained with the EU-funded project "Support to the Office of the Public Defender of Georgia"⁶⁹ to ensure alignment and complementarity with PDO-related activities. For equality and discrimination, synergies will be established with the EU-funded "PGG III: Promoting equality and non-discrimination: towards more resilient and inclusive societies",⁷⁰ as well as PGG III: "Combating hate speech in Georgia".⁷¹ PUNOs will also engage with another EU-supported project

⁶⁹ <https://www.dai.com/our-work/projects/georgia-support-to-the-public-defenders-office>

⁷⁰ <https://eu4georgia.eu/projects/eu-project-page/?id=1975>

⁷¹ <https://eu4georgia.eu/projects/eu-project-page/?id=1965>

“Promoting greater civic awareness and engagement in judicial reforms and facilitating increased access to justice through holistic multi-agency action”,⁷² especially on the access to justice for vulnerable groups.

The PUNOs will also seek synergies and coordinate closely with other donor-funded projects, including USAID programs, such as “Civil Society Engagement”,⁷³ “Independent Living”, and “Unity through Diversity”.⁷⁴ Existing cooperations will also be strengthened and optimized including with UNDP and OHCHR sister projects, “Supporting Leadership, Equality, Advocacy, and Democracy”,⁷⁵ the UN Joint Programme for “Gender Equality in Georgia - Phase 3”⁷⁶ and the UN Joint Programme to “Support Georgia’s 2024 Parliamentary Elections” to ensure the complementarity of the various initiatives aimed at improving human rights protection in Georgia, particularly for vulnerable groups.

The PUNOs will leverage the experiences from other initiatives, such as the joint project „Leave no one behind - from policy and principles to practice in disability-inclusive development in Georgia” to derive lessons learned and replicate successful initiatives within the current JP. PUNOs will also harness the Georgia UN Disability Inclusion Group (GUNDIG) - a disability inclusion coordination mechanism within the UN System to coordinate among UN sister agencies and OPDs on disability-related initiatives.

To streamline coordination among diverse stakeholders, PUNOs will convene thematic coordination meetings with relevant actors prior to developing project work plans. This approach will help prevent duplication of efforts, facilitate collaborative activities, advocacy, and engagement, thereby maximizing impact while optimizing resource utilization. Additionally, ad-hoc thematic coordination meetings will be organized as needed to ensure synergies around specific initiatives. The PUNOs will also engage with forthcoming initiatives to seek synergies and ensure coordination.

3.5. TARGET POPULATION AND GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Building on the principle of LNOB, the JP will attach significant importance to addressing the needs of the most disadvantaged communities in Georgia. As a result, the project's target population besides population-at-large include PwDs, LGBTQI+, those living in rural and remote regions, ethnic and religious minorities, women, youth, older persons, victims of torture and other forms of ill-treatment.

The project will have a countrywide implementation in Georgia, including both the capital and regions.

3.6. RISKS

As a truly multidimensional intervention, the JP is facing several political and organisational risks. The JP will seek to mitigate these risks. Please refer to the full risk log attached in Appendix I.

3.7. SUSTAINABILITY OF RESULTS

Ensuring the sustainability of results is the crux of the JP. The JP’s sustainability approach centres on ensuring enduring results on institutional, policy, and grassroots levels, as well as integrating environmental considerations – all underpinned by a rights-based and gender-responsive perspective.

⁷² <https://eu4georgia.eu/projects/eu-project-page/?id=2183>

⁷³ <https://ewmi-activism.org/about-us/>

⁷⁴ <https://www.una.ge/archive?id=845>

⁷⁵ <https://www.undp.org/georgia/projects/lead>

⁷⁶ <https://www.undp.org/georgia/projects/gender-equality#:~:text=The%20Joint%20UN%20Programme%20for,and%20will%20continue%20through%202026.>

Institutional sustainability: the project focuses on building lasting institutional knowledge and human rights expertise. This includes cultivating sustainable institutional and knowledge base on human rights, through tailored capacity-building interventions for rights-holders and duty-bearers, developing knowledge products (e.g., standard operational procedures, practical guidelines, curricula) for long-term knowledge retention and transfer, and providing expert assistance. The project also leverages partnerships and experience-sharing to foster stakeholder ownership over project outputs and incentivize their implementation and scale-up beyond the project. Furthermore, JP will closely coordinate with other development initiatives to harness synergies and maximize efficiency.

Policy-level sustainability: one of the hallmarks of the JP is to encourage transformative policy and legislative-level changes to establish a robust human rights framework and ensure that everyone, particularly those in vulnerable situations, enjoys better protection of human rights. The JP supports human rights policymaking to reinforce the nationalization of international human rights standards and best practices and encourage their fortification through advocacy, drawing on Georgia’s international commitments. Embedding these principles at the policy level will in return promote consistent and accountable human rights practices.

CSO and human rights defenders’ resilience: the JP incorporates interventions that build the resilience of CSOs and human rights defenders, ensuring they remain agile and have the capacity to advocate and monitor human rights even in fluctuating environments. The JP provides capacity building and resources for human rights defenders and CSOs to equip them with the necessary tools and expertise, sustain their mission, and continue human rights oversight and advocacy over the long term. Furthermore, JP strategically targets rightsholders and grassroots movements outside Tbilisi to empower local actors to effectively claim their rights and advocate for positive change within their communities.

Environmental sustainability: the JP will prioritize environmentally sustainable practices throughout the project cycle through green office practices (e.g., recycling, reduced paper use), resource-efficient project management (e.g., prioritizing digital tools, online meetings, hiring local experts and contractors to minimize travel) and integrating environmental aspects (when relevant) in capacity building and outreach activities.

IV. STEERING AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The JP will be jointly managed, coordinated, and implemented by UNDP and OHCHR. The Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) of the UNDP will serve as the Administrative Agent of the JP. The Administrative Agent functions are fully described in the Fund Management Arrangement Section below. UNDP Georgia will act as a Convening Agency.

The JP will be implemented through a strategic One UN approach, embedding initiatives undertaken by both agencies under two overarching outcomes. At the same time, UNDP and OHCHR will maintain distinct accountability for deliverables aligned with their respective mandates, institutional priorities, and specialized expertise. This accountability framework ensures focused leadership on mandate-specific initiatives while fostering inter-agency collaboration on strategic interventions to achieve the JP's overarching objectives.

Under this JP UNDP will spearhead the following priority areas:

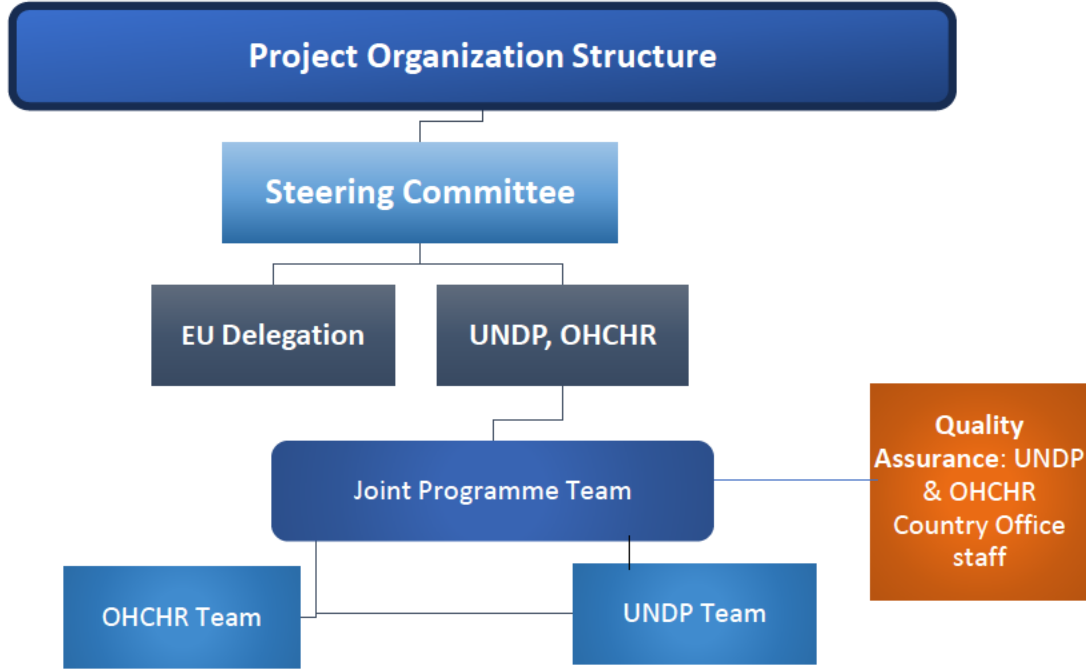
- Decentralization of human rights, through supporting policy-making at the local level, empowering local CSOs and rural communities, particularly those with vulnerable backgrounds.
- Localise international principles of business and human rights through active engagement with the private sector and other stakeholders.
- Advancing social and economic rights of people from diverse vulnerable and minority groups.
- Strengthen personal data protection, especially for vulnerable and minority groups.
- Advancing disability rights in line with the CRPD standards.
- Elevate PDO's oversight mandate on the rights of vulnerable and minority groups, such as older persons and PwDs.

Simultaneously, under this JP OHCHR will take the lead on the following domains:

- Strengthen oversight and monitoring of the criminal justice system to combat impunity, with a dedicated focus on preventing and addressing ill-treatment, ensuring accountability for human rights violations within law enforcement and detention settings.
- Enhance the PDO oversight mandate to include monitoring and regulation in the sphere of artificial intelligence (AI), with a focus on protecting vulnerable groups from potential risks related to AI technologies.
- Increase awareness and engagement of youth in human rights issues, ensuring their active participation in decision-making and community development.
- Advance protection of vulnerable and minority groups through effective legal aid and strategic litigation.
- Advance the adherence to human rights obligations in line with Georgia's international commitments, with a particular emphasis on the protection and promotion of civil and political rights, as well as social and economic rights.

While each agency will maintain leadership in the mandated areas, they will also contribute to delivering the set outputs in common priority areas, optimizing resource utilization and impact through coordinated implementation mechanisms. This approach ensures both specialized expertise and unified delivery, maximizing the JP's effectiveness while maintaining the One UN principle.

The JP Steering Committee (SC) of the project is accountable for effectively managing the JP and achieving JP results while the JP Team is responsible for the management of results throughout programme cycle in accordance with the JP results framework, work plan, and budget. The team will be coordinated by the lead PUNO - UNDP designated manager. Detailed duties and responsibilities of the SC and the JP Team are provided in Appendix II.



Detailed functions of the UNDP and OHCHR staff:

a) UNDP

The UNDP project office (with programme support from Country Office and the coordination support from MPTF Office) will include staff carrying out various tasks, such as technical assistance, administration and management that are directly attributable to the implementation of the JP. It will comprise of full-time dedicated and part time specialized project staff. The latter will be charged for the time spent directly attributable to the implementation of the JP.

The project office will consist of the following project staff all based in Tbilisi, Georgia:

The Project Manager (NPSA9 - 100%) will be responsible for the overall management and technical leadership of the JP, including the management and delivery of the project, monitoring its implementation, reporting against work plans and budgets for all activities, providing policy and technical advice to UNDP and counterparts, and coordinating and building partnerships with external stakeholders.

The Project Human Rights Expert (NPSA8 - 100%) will oversee daily project activities and support the Project Manager in planning, implementing, and monitoring programme activities; provide policy and advisory input on the human rights situation; ensure the production of timely and high-quality reporting against work plans, budget and agreed objectives and support partnership building.

Administrative and Finance Assistant (NPSA6 - 100%) will ensure the effective provision and execution of administrative, procurement, financial services, logistical support for the project and transparent utilization of its financial and physical resources in compliance with UNDP rules and regulations on financial processes, including assisting the project with planning, formulating, and tracking the project budget, preparing financial reports and projections, processing payments, managing assets and premises, handling salaries and supporting recruitment.

Driver (NPSA2 - 50%) will work part-time and provide transportation services to project staff in Georgia.

Note: The salaries are calculated in accordance with the UNDP Service Contract Salary Scale.

Additionally, the quality assurance, project oversight, monitoring, and operational functions will be provided by the following staff based in Tbilisi, Georgia:

The UNDP Democratic Governance Team Leader (10%) will provide overall quality assurance, oversight, and monitoring of the project to ensure that the project produces the results (outputs) specified in the project document and is compliant with the required standard of quality and within the specified constraints of time and cost. DG TL will provide support to the project Steering Committee, lead elaboration of planning and management instruments, facilitating coordination within UNDP, other UN agencies and concerned stakeholders.

The UNDP Programme Associate (5%) will provide assistance, advice, and quality assurance to project administrative staff on HR, financial, procurement related matters, including financial reporting to CO and Donor, liaison support of project staff and CO operations, quality check of financial reporting to Donor, as well as ensure consolidation of financial reporting to Donor.

The Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (5%) will support the setting up of a rigorous monitoring system, which will ensure that evidence-based data is collected and analysed to assess the progress of the project in achieving the agreed results.

Note: The salary rates include Salary and UNDP-regulated entitlements for this position for Fixed-Term National Staff.

b) OHCHR

The project office will consist of the following project staff all based in Tbilisi, Georgia:

Project Manager (NoA - 100%) will provide daily guidance and management of the project activities, strategic, content, and administrative oversight reporting on project activities and results, financial expenditures. S/he will be responsible for coordination and supervision of institutional relations with relevant government institutions and will work on the implementation of project activities in the regions.

Project Coordinator (NoA – 100%) will provide support and coordination for project activities, especially related to the criminal justice reform, effective functioning of investigative agencies and supervisory bodies in the field of criminal justice, ensuring smooth communication and task management. S/he will be responsible for maintaining project documentation, tracking project progress, and preparing regular updates and reports. Additionally, the Project Coordinator will assist the Project Manager in planning and scheduling, resource management, and addressing project risks and issues.

Finance Associate (GS-7 – 100%) will ensure effective execution of financial services and processes and transparent utilization of financial resources, administration and implementation of programme, adapt processes and procedures focusing on achievement of the project results. S/he will provide accounting

and administrative support to the management, including preparing financial reports, projections, payments, asset management, premises management, salaries, recruitment, etc.

Note: The cost includes OHCHR salary scale and other entitlements for Fixed-Term National Staff.

Vehicle costs (Fuel, Maintenance, Depreciation costs, Insurance): OHCHR will use a Highlander owned by OHCHR. Hybrid Vehicle will save the cost of fuel and maintenance during the project cycle.

c) Project office costs:

Under the JP, there are several categories of the project office costs that are envisaged for the functioning of the JP, including costs of the Administrative Agent and PUNOs staff and personnel along with other costs necessary for the implementation of the JP. During the first and second phases of the project, UNDP and OHCHR shared the office space. However, in Spring 2022, the lease agreement was terminated by the property owner, and both teams transitioned to remote operations for several months. Since renting common spaces for UNDP portfolios has been recently made a standard and cost-effective practice ensuring coordination and synergies across relevant projects, from September 2022, the project joined the UNDP Democratic Governance Portfolio facility. It houses several ongoing projects staff, including the one for Human Rights for All project, which uses one office room and shares access to the conference room and support facilities within the space. Consequently, rent expenses are covered proportionally, based on the office space utilized by each project team.

At present, OHCHR does not have dedicated office space, and project staff are working remotely. Consequently, OHCHR will rent office premise, with all procurement and leasing procedures fully aligned with OHCHR standards and UN procurement guidelines. A cost-effective solution will be applied for office rent, selecting the least expensive option. Based on initial market research, current estimates and past experience during the second phase of the project the monthly rent was projected, resulting in an annual cost for the office space. Since OHCHR does not share the office space with other projects, 100% portion will be charged.

Though operating from separate physical offices, UNDP and OHCHR have established unified digital workspace through online project management tools and communication platforms. Drawing from successful practices in previous joint projects, this integrated digital environment, complemented by regular in-person coordination meetings will ensure seamless and cost-efficient project implementation.

The JP's budget for office IT equipment and furniture includes the purchase of laptops and essential software programs for project staff. In addition, there is an ongoing need for monthly maintenance and operation of this equipment, with costs that may fluctuate each month. These allocated costs encompass both the purchase and monthly maintenance and operation expenses, as well as the acquisition of working desks, chairs, and other essential items. The UNDP and OHCHR project staff will mostly utilize IT equipment and furniture purchased within the previous phases. However, recognizing the natural depreciation of certain office furniture and devices, the project budget will accommodate replacements and upgrades essential for the JP's effective implementation, in case of necessity.

The JP office supplies encompass the essential items required to support the project's daily administrative and operational functions in an office setting, including stationery and other necessary items. Additionally, project-specific office supplies are included. Furthermore, office supplies encompass expenses related to maintenance and repair contracts for the proper operations of the project office. These resources ensure the smooth functioning of office activities and support the project's ongoing needs. Since the UNDP project staff shares office space with other UNDP projects, the office supplies costs are proportionally

divided with other projects, subsequently 1/6 portion of the office supplies costs will be charged to the project. As for the OHCHR, since OHCHR does not share the office space with others, 100% portion of office supplies costs will be charged. The calculation was based on initial market research, current estimates and past experience during the second phase of the project.

Office utilities consist of essential services that support the smooth operation of the office environment and provide a comfortable workspace, such as costs for electricity, water, and gas. Since the UNDP project staff shares office space with other UNDP projects, the utility costs are proportionally divided with other projects. The JP's office communication costs primarily cover internet services as well as other communication-related expenses, including mobile service tariffs and the necessary Microsoft program licenses used by the project staff, ensuring reliable connectivity and operational efficiency for project activities. Since the UNDP project staff shares office space with other UNDP projects, the communication costs are proportionally divided with other projects. The average monthly needs of OHCHR are calculated based on past experience from the previous phases of the JP.

V. FUND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

This Joint Programme will be using a pass-through fund management modality where UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office will act as the Administrative Agent (AA) under which the funds will be channelled for the programme through the AA. Each participating UN organization receiving funds through the pass-through would have to sign a standardized Memorandum of Understanding with the AA.

The Administrative Agent will charge direct costs, which are included under the personnel/staff budget line for MPTF Office staff based in New York to carry out the following activities:

- a) Sign the MOU with Participating UN Organizations to establish the Joint Programme;
- b) Sign Contribution Agreement and SAAs with donors and receive contributions from donors that wish to provide financial support to the Fund/Programme through the AA.
- c) Administer such funds received in accordance with its regulations, policies, and procedures, as well as the relevant MOU and Fund Terms of Reference (TOR) and Contribution Agreement/SAA, including the provisions relating to winding up the Fund account and related matters;
- d) Subject to availability of funds, disburse such funds to each of the PUNOs in accordance with decisions from the SC, taking into account the budget set out in the approved TOR/JP documents;
- e) Ensure consolidation of financial statements and reports, based on submissions provided by each PUNO, as set forth in the JP document, and submit the consolidated financial statements and reports and the consolidated narrative progress reports provided by the Convening Agent to each donor that has contributed to the Joint Programme account and to the SC;
- f) Provide final reporting, including notification that the Joint Programme has been operationally completed;
- g) Disburse funds to any PUNO for any additional costs of the task that the SC may decide in accordance with the programmatic document/JP document.

The PUNOs will:

- Assume full programmatic and financial responsibility and accountability for the funds disbursed by the AA.
- Establish a separate ledger account for the receipt and administration of the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent.

- Each UN organization is entitled to deduct their indirect costs on contributions received according to their own regulation and rules, taking into account the size and complexity of the programme. Each UN organization will deduct 7% as overhead costs of the total allocation received for the agency.⁷⁷
- Provide the update on progress of utilization of budget upon submission of the official narrative and financial reports. This update will not be part of or annexed to the official Narrative or Financial Reports and will be provided for information purposes only.

The Convening Agent will:

- coordinate the programmatic aspects among the PUNOs;
- be responsible for consolidating the annual and final narrative progress reports based on submissions provided by each PUNO and provide these to the Administrative Agent for further submission to each donor that has contributed to the Programme.
- prepare an aggregated/consolidated budget, showing the budget components of each participating UN organization.

The JP Account will be administered by the Administrative Agent in accordance with the regulations, rules, directives and procedures applicable to it, including those relating to interest.

Prior to the launch of the JP, a Memorandum of Understanding will be signed between the PUNOs and the Administrative Agent. A common annual work plan will be elaborated. Due to the turbulent situation in Georgia, the JP will submit the detailed WP for the first four months and subsequently renew it based on the existing situation and the prospect of authorities as well as their political will to protect and promote human rights and rule of law.

Transfer of cash to local Implementing Partners: Cash transfer modalities, the size and frequency of disbursements, and the scope and frequency of monitoring, reporting, assurance and audit will be agreed with partners prior to programme implementation, taking into consideration the capacity of implementing partners, and can be adjusted in its course in accordance with applicable policies, processes and procedures of the PUNOs.

⁷⁷ EU contribution is subject to 7% (as per the FAFA). The rate of remuneration of the Organisation/partner(s) for the implementation of the activities under the Agreement will not exceed 7%. Other sources of funds used in this operation will be subject to the rates applicable pursuant to Decisions promulgated by UNCDF/UNDP Executive Board.

VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The JP encompasses a robust monitoring, evaluation, and reporting system, to track the progress and measure the impact of ongoing interventions, as well as to inform continuous improvements by institutionalizing learning and data-driven management. The following monitoring and evaluation framework ensures that the JP operates with the knowledge and a focus on maximizing positive impact, along with systemizing accountability and transparency practices and fostering replication of good practices.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan

Activity	Purpose/description	Frequency	Expected Action
Track and measure results	The JP implementation will be assessed continuously at the results level, against clearly defined indicators to monitor the progress of the project in achieving the agreed outputs and SOs. The JP may be subject to Result-Oriented Monitoring (ROM) missions by the EU, providing an additional layer of rigorous monitoring.	Throughout the project implementation	Project management will promptly address any delays to ensure timely progress. Additionally, PUNOs will present these monitoring results to the Steering Committee for informed decision-making.
Monitor and manage risks	PUNOs will continuously identify specific risks that may threaten the achievement of intended results. PUNOs will also continuously monitor risk management actions using a risk log (Appendix I) to mitigate their impact on project implementation. This includes monitoring measures and plans that may have been required as per PUNOs' standards.	Throughout the project implementation	Project management proactively identifies and addresses risks, diligently maintaining a risk log to monitor all identified risks and taking corresponding mitigating actions.
Learn	The project will systematically capture knowledge, best practices, and lessons learned throughout its lifecycle. This process involves not only documenting and analysing experiences internally but also actively sourcing insights from other projects and partners.	At least annually	Relevant lessons are captured by the project team and used to inform management decisions.
Project Quality Assurance	The project's quality will be assessed according to PUNOs' standards, including cross-cutting issues, to identify its strengths and weaknesses. These assessments will guide management decisions aimed at enhancing the project's overall performance.	Biannually	The Steering Committee reviews the programme's implementation progress to assess strengths and weaknesses and improve project performance.
Review and commitment to improvement	The project components, including the results framework, may be revised for further streamlining and maximizing results based on the lessons learned, monitoring data, and contextual changes.	At least annually	Review and monitoring data are used to make course corrections through adaptive management.

Activity	Purpose/description	Frequency	Expected Action
Project Report	Reporting will be conducted in a timely manner, adhering to deadlines established by the agreement. Partners will report on results (impact, outcome, and output) linked to verification sources in the Logframe. Reporting will be conducted through Interim, and Final Reports as outlined in the Description of Action and the EU-UN agreement's Annex II. The Administrative Agent will conduct financial reporting in accordance with Annex III of the EU-UN agreement – Budget of the Action, aligning with EU reporting requirements.	Interim reports annually. Final report-at the end of the project.	PUNOs provide results and impact-oriented reports through regular narrative progress reports and financial reporting. Once UN agencies can access the EU projects monitoring platform OPSYS, the partners report through this platform as well.
Project Review (Steering Committee)	The project governing body - Steering Committee - will convene every four months during the first year of the project and twice a year or at least annually in subsequent period to assess project progress, review and adapt the work plan and budget to reflect the contextual and programme necessities.	Every four months during the first year of the project and biannually or at least annually in subsequent years	Steering committee to address any quality issues or delays and provide corrective interventions.

VII. BASIS OF RELATIONSHIP

Participating UN organization	Agreement
UNDP	This JP Document shall be the instrument referred to as the Project Document in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the Government of Georgia and the UNDP, signed by the parties on 01 July 1994.
OHCHR	OHCHR is headed by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, a position established by the General Assembly in 1993 to spearhead the UN human rights efforts. OHCHR Regional Human Rights Adviser for the South Caucasus has been deployed in Georgia since 2007 on the basis of exchange of letters with the Georgian Government as a part of the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) Office to support and assist the Resident Coordinators, Heads of UN agencies, and members of UNCTs in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia to integrate human rights in their programming strategies and on its implementation as well as to build and strengthen national human rights capacities.

The Partners agree to undertake all reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the funds received pursuant to this Joint Programme are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism and that the recipients of any amounts provided by Participating UN organisations do not appear on the list maintained by the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999). The list can be accessed via https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1267/aq_sanctions_list. This provision must be included in all sub-contracts or sub-agreements entered into under this project document.

VIII. WORK PLAN

a) Indicative work Plan for the first four months of the project

Given the rapidly shifting environment in Georgia at the time of designing the JP, in agreement with the EU, the PUNOs have elaborated the detailed work plan focused on the first four months of the implementation period. Successive detailed work plans will be approved by the Steering Committee every six months or at least annually, considering the external factors, anticipated risks, and mitigating factors. Respective detailed work plans will be shared with the EU Delegation before submitting it to the Steering Committee for approval. Each agency will maintain leadership over the planned activities in their mandated areas (as detailed under Chapter IV. Steering and Management Arrangements), while the other PUNO will also contribute to delivering the activities under set outputs in common priority areas.

#	Planned Activities	Detailed actions	Means	Risks	Timeframe	Implementing bodies
Output 1.1 Improved knowledge and capacities of relevant stakeholders and duty-bearers in the design and implementation of policies in the field of human rights and criminal justice.						
1.1.1.	Support in the development and revision of legislative and policy framework.	Development and revision of human rights policy documents, regulatory framework, and/or internal regulations along with analytical documents and recommendations on civil, political, economic, and social rights and criminal justice.	Expert/consultancy services; Policy advocacy; PUNO(s) project staff.	Risk #1, Risk #3, Risk 4	November 2024 – March 2025	UNDP OHCHR
1.1.2.	Capacity/knowledge building for mid-level decision-makers and relevant duty-bearers	Training courses, workshops, roundtables, and/or discussions for mid-level decision-makers at central and local levels and duty bearers (e.g. notaries) on HRBA, and other human rights issues.	Capacity building; Knowledge building; Expert/Consultancy Services; Workshops/meetings; PUNO(s) Project Staff.	Risk #1, Risk #3, Risk 4	November 2024 – March 2025	UNDP OHCHR
1.1.3.	Support Inclusive Practices in the non-state sector	Development of relevant guidelines, tools and/or internal regulations for the private sector to integrate human rights due diligence into their business operations, including to align their business practices with the EU's new due diligence and sustainability requirements.	Expert/consultancy services; Advocacy; PUNO(s) project staff.	Risk #1, Risk #3	November 2024 – March 2025	UNDP

Output 1.2 Increased availability of evidence-based data to relevant stakeholders and decision-makers on the human rights situation, the existing policy gaps, and the proposals for improvement.						
1.2.1	Support in advocacy and monitoring of human rights situation	Elaboration of reports, studies, and analytical papers/assessments by CSOs on the human rights policy implementation and human rights situation. Develop the study on the implementation of the Law on Transparency of Foreign Influence and its consequences for CSOs and human rights in Georgia.	Expert/Consultancy Services; Advocacy; Workshops/meetings; PUNO(s) Project Staff; Grant schemes.	Risk #1, Risk #3	November 2024 – March 2025	UNDP OHCHR
1.2.2	Advancing the capacity and tools of the PDO to monitor human rights situation, including the rights of minority and vulnerable groups, and uphold human rights	Develop the monitoring reports on the rights of vulnerable groups, including monitoring outpatient psychiatric services for children and adults and the accessibility of the physical environment.	Expert/consultancy services; Advocacy; capacity building, Knowledge building, PUNO(s) project staff.	Risk #1	November 2024 – March 2025	UNDP
1.2.3	Creating/strengthening bilateral and multi-stakeholder networks on human rights	Facilitate network-building and collaboration between regional, central, and local CSOs, human rights defenders, development actors and other stakeholders to foster peer support, knowledge exchange, and collective action on human rights protection and promotion.	Workshops/meetings; Capacity building, Knowledge building, PUNO(s) Project Staff External Experts	Risk #1, Risk #3	November 2024 – March 2025	UNDP OHCHR
1.2.4	Facilitating Dialogue and Participatory Policymaking	Support the roundtable between the LSGs and PwDs/OPDs regarding disability rights, including personal assistant service.	Expert/Consultancy Services; Advocacy; Workshops/meetings; PUNO(s) Project Staff.	Risk #1, Risk #3, Risk 4	November 2024 – March 2025	UNDP OHCHR
Output 2.1. Improved capacities of CSOs and other relevant stakeholders in protecting and monitoring human rights, including the rights of minority and vulnerable groups, political advocacy, provision of legal aid, and strategic litigation.						

2.1.1.	Strengthening Monitoring Capacity/Knowledge Building for CSOs	Knowledge-building activities for legal professionals, CSOs, and human rights defenders on the provision of effective legal aid and strategic litigation both at national and international/regional levels; Issue grant schemes.	Expert/Consultancy Services; Capacity building, Knowledge building, Workshops/meetings, grant schemes; PUNO(s) Project Staff	Risk #1, Risk #3	November 2024 – March 2025	UNDP OHCHR
2.1.2.	Knowledge-building Initiatives for the Non-state Sector	Training courses, workshops, and/or roundtables among a diverse array of the private sector, rights-holders, legal professionals and other specialized groups, on human rights.	Expert/Consultancy Services; knowledge building, Workshops/meetings; PUNO(s) Project Staff	Risk #1	November 2024 – March 2025	UNDP
2.1.3.	Facilitate Policy Transformation Through Legal Aid and Strategic Litigation	Support legal professionals, CSOs, and human rights defenders in advancing the rights of vulnerable groups through strategic litigation and legal aid.	Expert/Consultancy Services; Workshops/meetings PUNO(s) Project Staff	Risk #1, Risk #3	November 2024 – March 2025	OHCHR
Output 2.2 Increased awareness of rights holders, the private sector, and other key non-state stakeholders on human rights standards and the promotion of human rights culture, tolerance, and diversity.						
2.2.1.	Empowering Rights-holders and Non-state Stakeholders, Tailored Awareness, Outreach, and Knowledge-building Activities	Information campaigns, workshops, roundtables, and/or other initiatives to enhance understanding of civil, political, economic, and social rights and promote human rights culture. Organizing Human Rights Talks in regions for rights-holders to promote human rights and Georgia-EU common values and the EU integration agenda	Expert/Consultancy Services, Capacity-building, Knowledge-building, Awareness raising, PUNO(s) Project Staff, External Experts	Risk #1, Risk #3	November 2024 – March 2025	UNDP OHCHR
2.2.2.	Engaging Youth and Education Institutions	Workshops and information meetings with educational institutions with a special focus on regions to uphold and streamline the rights of minority and vulnerable groups in educational activities.	Expert/Consultancy Services, Capacity-building, Knowledge-building, Awareness raising, PUNO(s) Project Staff, External Experts	Risk #1	November 2024 – March 2025	UNDP OHCHR

		Strengthen youth engagement by promoting their role as champions of inclusion, diversity, and human rights.				
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APPENDIX I. RISK LOG

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Probability and impact ⁷⁸	Countermeasures / Management response	Owner
1.	Results of parliamentary elections in October 2024 and potential shifts among duty-bearers might substantially limit advocacy space on human rights, especially to enhance the rights of LGBTQI+, ethnic, and religious minorities.	July 2024	Political	P = 4 I = 3	PUNOs will employ adaptive management to assess contextual developments, diversify advocacy tools, and strategically identify areas of work/interventions that will mitigate the impact of the external climate.	PUNOs
2.	Municipal elections that will take place in 2025, pre-election campaign, and possible turnover of decision-makers, might hinder human rights policymaking and implementation at the local level, subsequently impacting	July 2024	Political	P = 4 I = 3	PUNOs will employ adaptive management to assess contextual developments, diversify advocacy tools, and strategically identify areas of work/interventions that will mitigate the impact of the external climate.	PUNOs

⁷⁸ P = probability; I = Impact; Scores are based on a scale from 1 (low) to 5 (high).

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Probability and impact ⁷⁸	Countermeasures / Management response	Owner
	the project progress pertaining to activities at local level.					
3.	Emerging tendencies and changes in the legislative environment might restrict operational space for CSOs, especially those working on LGBTQI+ issues, and human rights defenders, and further strain relationships between the government institutions and CSOs.	July 2024	Political	P = 4 I = 4	PUNOs will support CSOs to elaborate relevant advocacy tools to effectively adjust to turbulent environment.	PUNOs
4.	High turnover among duty-bearers and partner organisations might have a negative impact on capacity and knowledge retention, implementation level, and scale-up.	July 2024	Political	P = 3 I = 2	PUNOs will employ adaptive management to assess contextual developments, strategically identify areas of work/interventions, and develop sustainable knowledge products that will mitigate the risk impact.	PUNOs

APPENDIX II. TERMS OF REFERENCE

A) Joint Programme Steering Committee

I. Purpose

The JP Steering Committee (SC) of the project “Human Rights for All - Phase 3” is accountable for effectively managing the JP and achieving its results. It provides strategic oversight and guidance for the JP team from launch to closure, including adjustments to JP results and strategy, progress reports, and learning.

II. Members

Members of the SC include senior representatives from the EU, UNDP, and OHCHR.

Representatives from UN RC, other UN agencies, international non-governmental organisations active in the human rights field, CSOs, and all relevant parties can be invited to attend the SC meetings as observers and the participation of target groups will be ensured, when relevant. Each member of the SC can invite such observers.

UNDP will act as the Secretary of the Steering committee: take care of the logistics of the meeting, preparing the documents and reports to be reviewed and prepare the minutes.

The documents to be reviewed by the Steering committee shall be shared with the members of the Steering committee at least 10 working in days in advance.

III. Frequency of meetings

The SC will convene every four months during the project's first year and biannually or at least annually in subsequent years. Additional meetings may be scheduled on an ad hoc basis at the request of any member when decision-making is required. The members of the SC shall seek to reach a consensus on all decisions.

IV. Duties and Responsibilities

The tasks of the Steering Committee are as follows:

- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, including promoting gender equality and social inclusion/LNOB in the project implementation.
- Provide high-level direction and recommendations to the project management unit to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans.
- During the biannual progress review: (1) Review progress information, lessons, and good practices, including any adjustments made by the JP team, (2) Compare actual progress against expected JP results, (3) Consider the *contribution* of JP results to CF outcome(s), country priorities, and related SDG targets; (4) review and approve the JP’s short and long-term detailed work plan and budget forecast based on monitoring, learning and reporting.
- Review and endorse the annual results-based narrative report to identify achievements, constraints, and opportunities, and to recommend measures to adapt and strengthen JP's strategy and results for greater relevance and effectiveness.
- Review and approve the final project report package during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lessons learned and opportunities for scaling up.
- Review and approve any *substantive changes* that affect expected JP results and the theory of change, involve a no-cost extension, or that **exceed 25 percent** of the annual budget.
- Provide guidance on emerging and/or pressing project risks and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks.
- Review and approve grant recipients and responsible partners based on the evolving needs of the country context and established criteria.

- Agree or decide on a project suspension or cancellation, if required.
- Ensure coordination between the various donors and government-funded projects and programmes.
- Share updates and reports with relevant stakeholders.
- Facilitate the resolution of any external challenges that the JP team may face during the JP cycle.

B) Joint Programme Team

I. Purpose

The JP team **manages for results** for the duration of the programme in accordance with the JP results framework, work plan, and budget. The team will be coordinated by the lead PUNO - UNDP designated manager responsible for, among others, coordination of joint planning and implementation.

The JP team will be responsible for all aspects of programme execution, including coordination with local partners, oversight of implementing partners, achievement of set results under the respective results, lessons learning, overall monitoring and reporting, and making adjustments for greater effectiveness of the JP. The EU representative, responsible for this programme will be invited and may partake in the coordination meetings.

The PUNOs will act as collectively responsible for the attainment of the project objectives and will be jointly accountable for the successful implementation of the activities as specified in the results/outputs. UNDP and OHCHR are jointly responsible for all results/outputs.

II. Coordination and Programmatic leadership

UNDP as a **lead PUNO** will provide overall coordination and programmatic leadership during implementation.

- **Coordination:** (1) Organize and support meetings of the JP SC; (2) Coordinate advocacy with donors and external stakeholders, and (3) Facilitate audit (*when required*).
- **Programmatic leadership:** UNDP will ensure programmatic coherence and quality in accordance with the JP results framework, work plan and budget and in adherence to quality standards: (1) Organize and chair the JP team meetings; (2) Update the JP results framework, work plan, and budget; (3) Lead joint monitoring and learning efforts, including joint field missions, where relevant; (4) Facilitate programmatic learning and adjustments; (5) Consolidate the annual results-based report, based upon inputs from other PUNOs; (6) Report to JP SC meetings, and (7) As a Convening Agent lead communication with MPTFO.

III. Members

The team will consist of personnel from all PUNOs, designated for this programme and responsible for the day-to-day implementation of this programme, including managerial, technical, and administrative responsibilities.

IV. Frequency of meetings

JP teams are expected to meet regularly (preferably every month or at least once a quarter) to review the progress, work plans and ensure the coordinated implementation.

V. Duties and responsibilities of the JP team

The tasks of the JP team are as follows:

- Sequence and monitor the implementation of planned development activities for assuring the quality of the implementation, maximum synergy, and coherence.
- Track the JP budget and expenditures to ensure the delivery of planned activities.
- Monitor the achievement of JP results and track indicators to ensure a contribution to UNSDCF outcome(s), country priorities, and related SDG targets.

- Scan the programme environment for changes and monitor assumptions and risks.
- Adjust JP activities, budgets, results, and strategies to maintain relevance and effectiveness.
- Update the JP results framework, work plan, and budget to reflect changes.
- Identify lessons and undertake policy dialogue and advocacy with partners to identify opportunities to scale up JP results and strategies.
- Prepare and support the biannual progress review.
- Prepare the annual and final results-based report.
- Support the work of the JP SC and respond to information requests in a timely manner.
- Support resource mobilization efforts of the JP Team and PUNOs.
- Ensure the joint approach to the cross-cutting themes, such as visibility.
- Share information about the JP amongst the team and with all partners in a timely manner.

Qualified electronic signature by:
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