

Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan

DRAFT

Table of Contents

1. Context.....	4
2. Rationale for establishing the Special Trust Fund	4
2.1. Rationale for the establishment of the Fund to support the ABADEI Strategy and its programmatic approach	5
2.2. Complementary of the Fund with other UN operational activities	6
2.3. Windows of the Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan.....	7
2.4. Joint Programmes.....	10
3. Key Features of the Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan.....	13
3.1. Direct Implementation (DIM).....	13
3.2. Flexible Financing	14
3.3. Enabling the ABADEI Strategy for Community Resilience.....	14
4. The Fund Programmatic Framework	14
4.1. ABADEI Strategy, a Community Resilience Programming Approach - an integrated programme tailored to eight regions	14
5. Governance Structure for the Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan.....	15
5.1. High-Level Advisory Board.....	15
5.2. Steering Committee (SC).....	16
5.3. The Fund Secretariat – Trust Fund Management Unit (TFMU).....	16
5.4. Technical Coordination Working Group (TCWG).....	17
5.5. The Participating UN Organizations.....	18
5.6. The Administrative Agent (AA)	18
6. Contributions to the Fund	19
7. Partnerships and implementation arrangements.....	19
8. General Allocation Strategy	20
8.1. The selection of priority areas.....	20
8.2. Allocation of funding to the thematic components of eight ABADEI Programmes.....	20
8.3. Allocating the tranches of funding to each ABADEI Programme.....	20
8.4. Transfer of funds.....	21
9. Monitoring, Evaluation, Knowledge Management, Audit, and Reporting	21
9.1. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the Programmes	21
9.2. Reporting.....	22
9.3. Evaluation	22
9.4. Risk Management	22

9.5.	Audit	23
9.6.	Public Disclosure	23
10.	Modification and Expiration of the Fund.....	23
11.	ANNEX. AREAS OF PROGRAMMATIC INTEREST (UN Agency specific).....	24

DRAFT

Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan

ABADEI - Supporting Community Resilience in Afghanistan Programming Strategy

Terms of Reference

1. Context

The August 15 power shift in Afghanistan has resulted in severe economic instability in a climate of heightened uncertainty. The country is also experiencing fragility and faces challenges on multiple fronts including COVID-19, poverty, food insecurity, droughts and micro- and macroeconomic impacts. Around 18.5 million of Afghan people need assistance with 3.5 million people displaced¹. Over 665,000 people were reported by OCHA to have fled their homes due to conflict as of 3 October 2021².

The economy is facing multiple shocks including the sudden drop in aid combined with frozen assets abroad, cash shortages, a weakening banking sector, falling trade, accelerating inflation and a depreciating exchange rate. According to the IMF forecast of October 2021, the economy is projected to contract by 30%. UNDP's projections show that poverty may become nearly universal affecting 95-97 % of the population by mid-2022.

Core government functions and the provision of essential services have completely collapsed except for some international assistance that is being provided to maintain access to health services. As humanitarian needs mount, it is imperative to prevent a humanitarian catastrophe and the socio-economic collapse of the country, which would result in increased instability, severe security threats and migratory flows in Afghanistan, the region and beyond.

In this context, UNDP has developed an Area-based Approach for Development Emergency Initiatives Strategy, referred to ABADEI Strategy, to support basic human needs that will enable people and communities to withstand these shocks. The interventions proposed under the ABADEI Strategy, undertaken alongside the humanitarian response, aim to mitigate, and hopefully avert, the immediate impact of the crisis on lives and livelihoods.

2. Rationale for establishing the Special Trust Fund

In line with the Secretary-General's Emergency Planning Directive on the UN Plan to Support the People of Afghanistan (August 2021), DSRSG/RC/HC, supported by DCO, guides an integrated UN approach with relevant agencies, funds and programmes. This approach is being operationalized with the support of a Working Group under the leadership of UNDP with

¹ [Afghanistan: Humanitarians call for greater support as winter approaches | UN News](#)

² <https://data.humdata.org/dataset/afghanistan-conflict-induced-displacements-in-2021>

participation of the DSRSG/RC/HC, established at the Principals Meeting on 28 August 2021, and chaired by DPPA.

To support UN joint programming in the provision of basic human needs, a **Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan** (hereinafter referred as the Fund) was established on 20 October 2021. The Fund will serve as an inter-agency mechanism to enable donors to channel their resources and coordinate their support to the ABADEI Strategy and the UN joint programmes developed under it.

The Trust Fund will be led by UNDP and implemented in collaboration with other UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes with a focus on the following elements:

- In addition to the many preexisting challenges Afghanistan faces, including the impact of COVID-19, the collapse of the government on 15 August has exacerbated people's vulnerabilities, including due to loss of income, limited access to essential services, lack of basic human rights, systematic discrimination against women and girls, limited coverage of social protection, a weak private sector and high dependence on donor grants.
- Activities under the result areas of the four thematic windows of Fund cover the (i) provision of essential services, (ii) community-based livelihoods and local economies, (iii) protection of farm-based livelihoods from natural disasters, and (iv) the promotion of social cohesion and community resilience.
- Participating UN agencies recognize that: (i) different regions require different solutions which are indivisible and integrated, and (ii) in the current situation, interventions need to be implemented in partnership with local communities, civil society, and the private sector. To implement the ABADEI Strategy, UNDP and Participating UN agencies will use their capacities in country, augmented as needed through surge or other mechanisms.

The ABADEI Strategy represents one of the first large-scale attempts to operationalize a basic human needs approach within the complex and fast evolving context of Afghanistan. Conceptually, it provides an articulation of investments in essential services, livelihoods and community resilience that complement humanitarian efforts by helping households, communities, and the private sector cope with the adverse effects of the crisis.

The ABADEI Strategy aims to promote more effective and joined-up responses by strengthening the collaboration, coherence and complementarity of interventions with those covered through the Humanitarian Response Plan. It does this by providing support to the basic human needs of communities. It is anticipated that, as the conditions change, this support could evolve.

2.1. Rationale for the establishment of the Fund to support the ABADEI Strategy and its programmatic approach

Over the last 20 years, valuable lessons have been learned on what works and what doesn't in the UN's assistance in Afghanistan. Neither a one-size-fits-all approach nor a fragmented sector-based approach to development interventions has been effective. Instead, a more integrated approach is needed, one that accounts for the significant differences in needs between the provinces and

regions of Afghanistan and yet also recognizes that humanitarian and development gains in one area are linked to and dependent on humanitarian and development gains in other areas.

The ABADEI Strategy has been designed as a response to the ongoing crisis in Afghanistan upon a call of the UN Executive Committee Working Group for Afghanistan. It offers an integrated yet decentralized approach to programming for community resilience. It proposes an innovative, inclusive and highly flexible approach, that puts people first, targets the most vulnerable and meets specific local needs.

The ABADEI Strategy responds to citizens' needs in the most cost-effective and efficient manner as possible. It articulates how a basic human needs approach can complement humanitarian efforts by helping households and communities cope better with the adverse effects of the current crisis. It is centered on addressing worsening poverty and vulnerability, supporting community resilience and social cohesion, and enabling the rehabilitation of small-scale community infrastructure for essential services and the protection of farm-based livelihoods (e.g., warehouses, village roads and bridges), while creating immediate sources of income through cash-for-work, cash-for markets to safeguard livelihoods that are under threat.

The ABADEI Strategy is grounded in partnerships without which implementation at the local level would not be possible. It capitalizes on the One-UN concept based on partnership with other UN agencies with comparative advantages in the key thematic areas of the Strategy. For this reason, the Fund was established to provide support to the population of Afghanistan. The Fund will initially focus on four thematic areas:

1. Provision of Essential Services
2. Community-Based Livelihoods and Local Economic Activities
3. Protecting Farm-based Livelihoods from Natural Disasters
4. Community Resilience and Social Cohesion

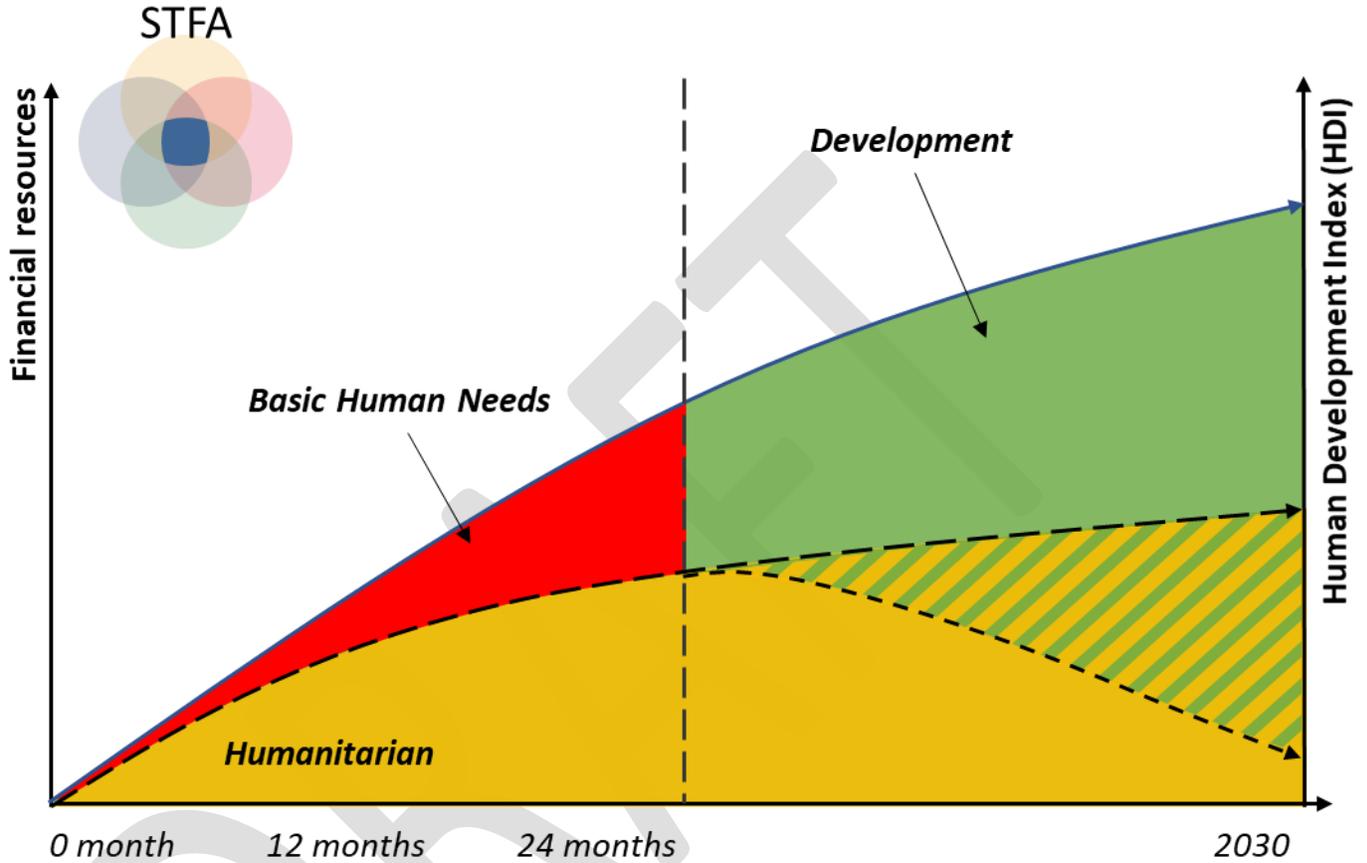
The Fund is open to all UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes (UN AFPs). By early November 2021, eight UN agencies have concluded the Memorandum of Understanding for the Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan. The areas of programmatic interest and comparative advantage of the Participating UN AFPs are described in Annex 1. This will be further expanded to bring in additional expertise, experience, and resources to joint initiatives.

2.2. Complementary of the Fund with other UN operational activities

The ABADEI Strategy's joint programmes will complement the humanitarian response to meet the needs of people across multiple areas of vulnerability and enhance short-term resilience by preserving the ability of individuals and communities to cope with the impacts of the conflict, and the economic and public health crisis. The four thematic windows for the ABADEI Strategy will therefore work in complementarity with the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

A key linkage with the HRP, in terms of priority setting and targeting, is articulated through the targeting methodology, which is based on compiled key humanitarian indicators and data, including severity of food insecurity, emergency needs, and presence of IDPs.

Figure 1: Relationship between basic human needs, development and humanitarian actions.



As noted in section 5 below, the governance of the Fund has been designed to enable coordination across other UN interventions through the Advisory Group and the Steering Committee, facilitated by the Fund’s Secretariat.

2.3.Windows of the Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan

The Fund’s strategic priorities will focus on the following thematic areas, which will serve as the Thematic Windows of the Fund, as indicated below:

Window 1: Provision of Essential Services

The objective of this Window is to ensure that people’s basic human needs are met beyond what can be addressed through the humanitarian response. Therefore, the activities under these three results areas focus on support for health services and the COVID-19 response, reducing food insecurity, and the energy required to support health and other critical services.

This Window includes activities under three results areas:

- IR 1.1 Essential services enabled and sustained.
- IR 1.2 Essential food security and regenerative agriculture infrastructure, inputs and services supported.
- IR 1.3 Basic Renewable energy services supported and sustained (to enable essential and food security service delivery).

Window 2: Community-Based Livelihoods and Local Economic Activities

The objective of this Window is to safeguard livelihoods so that communities can continue to function. The activities under four results areas focus on a range of social protection measures and the creation of income generation opportunities (especially for women) at the community level.

This Window includes activities under four results areas:

- IR 2.1 Households in high poverty, high insecurity areas provided with basic income (TBI).
- IR 2.2 Local level livelihoods and economies sustained through Cash for Work (CfW) and Cash for Market (CfM), including skills development and entrepreneurial activities.
- IR 2.3 Local Private Sector Development through technical and financial support to informal and formal businesses, including assisting SMEs to access and/or expand to new market areas, support to local traders, to women-led and community-led enterprises.
- IR 2.4 Cross border trade and access to markets supported.

Window 3: Protecting Farm-based Livelihoods from Natural Disasters

The objective of this Window is to ensure that natural resources - particularly water supply - upon which lives, livelihoods and rapid socio-economic support critically depend, are managed as sustainably as possible in a crisis context. Therefore, the activities under the four results areas focus on providing short-term emergency support that ensures continued access to critical resources whilst at the same time generating income opportunities and engaging communities in designing and implementing projects that lead to collective outcomes.

This Window includes activities under results areas as follows:

- IR 3.1 Community preparedness for disasters improved.
- IR 3.2 Disaster resilient infrastructure in place.
- IR 3.3 Water security and access enhanced through climate-smart systems.
- IR 3.4 Natural ecosystem restoration and management supported.

Window 4: Community Resilience and Social Cohesion

The objective of this Window is to support the development of community-led needs-based socio-economic recovery plans that promote reconciliation and prevent conflict, improve access to

justice, support alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, and protect the rights of women and girls. Interventions will be implemented in a participatory manner to ensure that activities are responsive to local needs and priorities and contribute to community resilience building.

This Window includes activities under four results areas as follows:

- IR 4.1 Communities for peace and social cohesion reinforced.
- IR 4.2 Improved gender equality and women's empowerment.
- IR 4.3 Rights-based access to justice, human rights and security fostered.
- IR 4.4 Community-led needs-based local recovery and resilience plans identified.

Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) and Gender Equality

The Fund's programmes will be consistent with the principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB), with a focus on marginalized populations or any group facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, including disabled people, youth, sexual and gender-based violence victims, climate refugees, the unemployed, the homeless, and nomads (Kuchi).

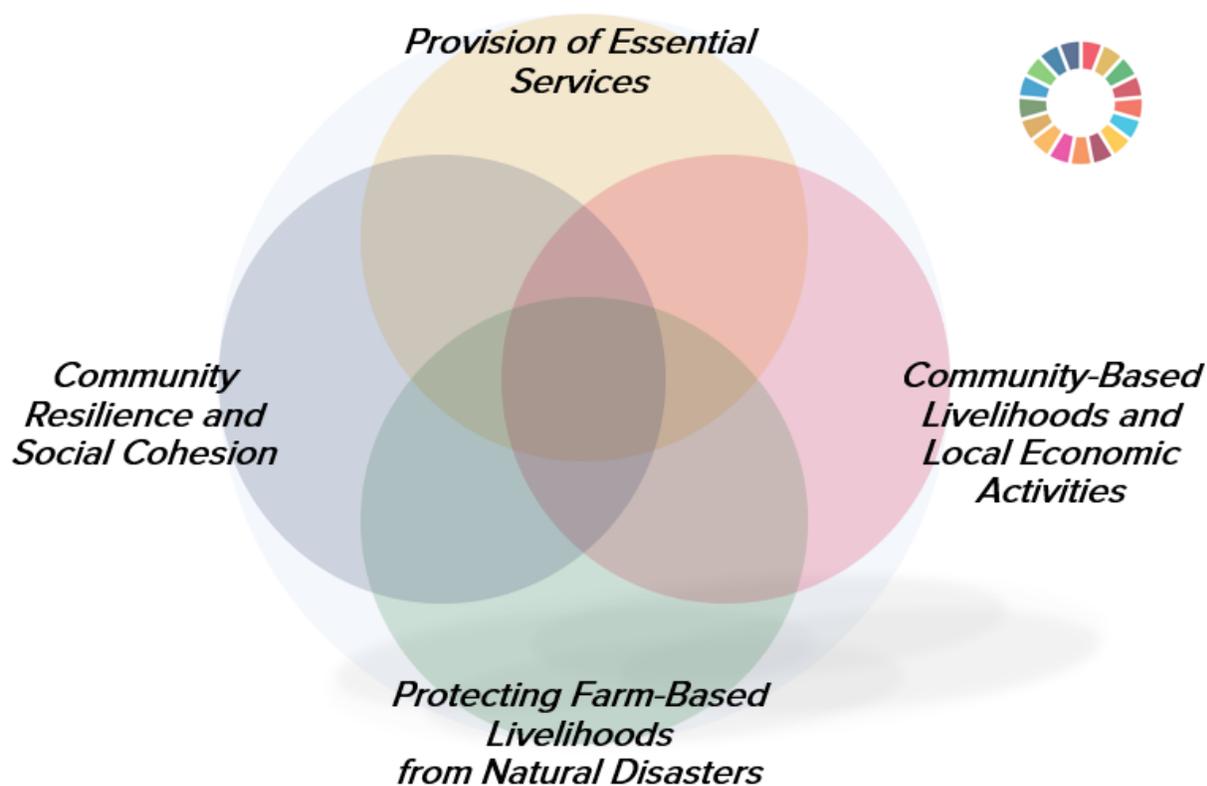
Female community members are particularly affected by the crisis, being exposed to significant restrictions and human rights abuses. The Fund's programmes will promote women empowerment and participation in a prudent, tangible and realistic way that will create no unintended negative consequences to the women involved, their families or communities.

The Fund's participating organizations will engage local stakeholders in a manner that aims to reduce inequalities, mainstream gender equality principles, and promote the dignity and rights of girls and women by facilitating greater access for women to health care, social protection, vocational training and agricultural livelihoods. The objective is also to provide psychosocial support and counselling, particularly to survivors (women and girls) of gender-based violence.

In addition, interventions will strengthen women's organizations and self-help groups that provide safe spaces to protect women and children from instability, fragility and insecurity. They will help women and survivors to participate actively in social dialogues, peace committees, local level resilience planning committees and provide alternative livelihoods to the families and women who have lost their source of income due to the current social, economic and political context.

A gender marker will be integrated into the ABADEI Strategy to set targets for allocations to programmes serving women and girls, and to monitor the share of allocations serving women and girls.

Figure 2: Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan (STFA), supporting four pillars of the ABADEI Strategy



To address other high priority needs, other Windows could be established upon the decision of the Steering Committee of the Fund.

2.4. Joint Programmes

2.4.1 Eight ABADEI Joint Programmes

All eight administrative regions of the country (see below) will benefit from interventions of the Fund to deliver support in the four thematic areas. Eight regional joint programmes will be designed in key areas of essential services, livelihoods, social cohesion and resilience with an **initial 12–24-month timeline** for implementation.

Targeting and prioritization of interventions by Participating UN Organisations³ under the ABADEI Strategy will be guided by community needs (poverty, vulnerability), level of essential services, exposure to economic and /or climatic shocks, the Humanitarian Access Group's

³ UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes that signed the Memorandum of Understanding for the Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan.

assessment of district-level access restrictions, and capacity of UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes to deliver on the ground.



The Eight Regions of Afghanistan

1. Western Region (comprises Badghis, Herat and Farah provinces)
2. Eastern Region (comprises Kunar, Laghman, Nuristan, and Nangarhar provinces)
3. Central Region (comprises the national capital Kabul, Kapisa, Logar, Maidan Wardak, Panjshir and Parwan provinces)
4. North Eastern Region (comprises Badakhshan, Baghlan, Kunduz and Takhar provinces sharing international borders with Tajikistan, China and Pakistan)
5. Central Highlands Region (comprises Daikundi, Bamyan and Ghor provinces)
6. Northern Region (comprises Jawzjan, Faryab, Balkh, Sari-Pul and Samangan provinces and shares international borders with Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan)
7. Southern Region (comprises Kandahar, Helmand, Zabul, Uruzgan and Nimroz provinces)
8. South Eastern Region (comprises of five provinces of Ghazni, Paktiya, Paktika, Khost and Logar, three of which are sharing border with Pakistan)

To address the complex challenges of displacement in Afghanistan and to support sustainable reintegration and foster social cohesion, the ABADEI Strategy will include interventions in the Priority Areas of Return and Reintegration (PARR) in each of the eight regions of Afghanistan.

The Priority Areas of Return and Reintegration in Afghanistan were endorsed by the UN Secretary-General at the UN Executive Committee Meeting of 25 March 2020, as a concrete confidence-building effort ensuring coordinated and targeted area-based humanitarian-development-peace investments, with a common vision to create momentum towards the establishment of conditions for sustainable return and reintegration, by tackling the drivers of displacement and humanitarian crises, through a whole-of-society approach.

2.4.2 Joint UN Programming

Participating UN Organizations (PUNOs) will be partnering across existing and newly identified portfolios, leveraging on their respective areas of expertise in the key results areas of the ABADEI Strategy, in each of the eight regions of Afghanistan.

The value-added of such a collaborative approach to implementation includes sharing data and knowledge, sharing and managing risks, co-location of physical presence, shared resources and pooled funding, extended reach through existing projects and networks of implementing partners, shared long-term agreements with vendors for services, and cooperation around joint monitoring and reporting arrangements.

The eight ABADEI Joint Programmes include cross-cutting activities and are specifically focused on supporting human rights, protection, gender equality issues, and transparency and accountability, which will be coordinated with existing UN initiatives to ensure complementarity of the programs based on new realities and to avoid duplication.

The Fund's Technical Secretariat will ensure coordination with the relevant humanitarian clusters.

Increasing Coherence

Pooled funds have demonstrated that they can play a very effective role in increasing the overall coherence in programming. The pooled funding mechanism will serve to complement rather than substitute agency-specific funding.

The governance structure of the Fund allows a wide range of partners (UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes, along with the donors) to collectively agree on priorities and strategies. As a result, they will create synergies and complementarities not only amongst programmes funded by the Fund, but also more widely with programmes funded from other sources and implemented by other partners. As noted in section 5, the governance structure of the Fund will be used to support synergies and complementarities between the programmes funded by STFA and other funding instruments and programmes, including the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF).

Increasing transparency

The Fund will provide increased transparency on planning, implementation, and delivery of results in the programming regions:

- By including a broad representation of stakeholders in the governance structure of the Fund, it will enable them to participate in the decision-making process and consequently

to access all the information and data, shaping the decisions and all the reports on activities undertaken, challenges faced and results achieved.

- By pooling resources contributed towards activities that support basic human needs in the jointly agreed priority areas, it will provide a consolidated overview of funds allocated and joint reporting on the implementation progress and results achieved.
- By posting all information on the [MPTF Office Gateway](#), all partners will have easy access to real-time information on the funding status (commitments and deposits by donors, transfers made to implementing partners, progress reports, etc.)

3. Key Features of the Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan

Key Features of the Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan

- **Ensure flexible financing** by resourcing support to basic human needs
- **Increase coherence** by promoting coordination and synergies across all actors
- **Enable ABADEI Strategy** implementation by ensuring locally-led, context-specific analysis and joint programme design
- **Increase transparency** through joint reporting and broad stakeholder participation in the Fund's governance
- **Share risks among all stakeholders** by assisting in establishing a common understanding of risks, and allowing for more efficient and strategic risk mitigation and adaptation measures

3.1. Direct Implementation (DIM)

The implementation of the ABADEI Strategy will be undertaken by the Participating UN Organizations, maximizing the use of the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) or similar modalities in line with participating UN organizations rules and regulations, including the direct contracting of third-party implementers. Third-party implementers include non-governmental organizations (NGOs), local community groups, private vendors, and vetted money service providers⁴.

Flexibilities of the UN procurement will be leveraged to make use of the benefits of existing contracts. Long Term Agreements (LTAs) will be used by the UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes under the agreed 'mutual recognition' principle of the UN development system.

As part of its interventions, the Fund will support low-value direct grants (LVGs) to support micro and small enterprises (priority to women-headed) and informal local networks with the primary aim to build area-specific local level capacities. In this regard, the Fund will align interventions with the **Cash and Voucher Working Group** established under the UN Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the HCT cluster coordination mechanism. At the same time, **HCT's**

⁴ For example, UNDP's network currently has over 70 partners, including NGOs/INGOs/Local Companies that are available and active, with many more being assessed for selection.

Humanitarian Access Group (HAG) has been closely engaged in the design, risk mitigation, implementation modalities, and identification of partnering needs of the ABADEI Strategy. In addition, UN security personnel capacity will be enhanced to systematically facilitate coordination with HAG and support agile monitoring and risk management for the implementation of the joint programmes. Furthermore, Community Development Committees in the eight regions will be actively engaged, following the completion of a comprehensive risk assessment.

3.2. Flexible Financing

Maximizing the synergies of the work of the UN Agencies on the ground, especially in the current situation, is a priority objective to achieve better results in the current context. Unfortunately, rather than bridging the efforts of various partners, some financing instruments may contribute to further dividing the streams of external assistance. By establishing the Fund, the intent is to turn funding from a divider into an enabler by providing resources to joint programmes and activities.

3.3. Enabling the ABADEI Strategy for Community Resilience

The Fund will play an effective role towards promoting stronger local focus in the way resources are programmed. Through the ABADEI Strategy, the Fund will incentivize locally led analysis and the design of local strategies that take into account the unique characteristics of the area and local conditions. The Fund is an instrument that will place local communities at the heart of delivering locally relevant programming. Both the contextual analysis and identification of priority actions will be responsive to and build on the knowledge and experience of local actors ensuring support for existing capacities and initiatives rather than applying a set of predetermined standardized activities designed at the national level.

4. The Fund Programmatic Framework

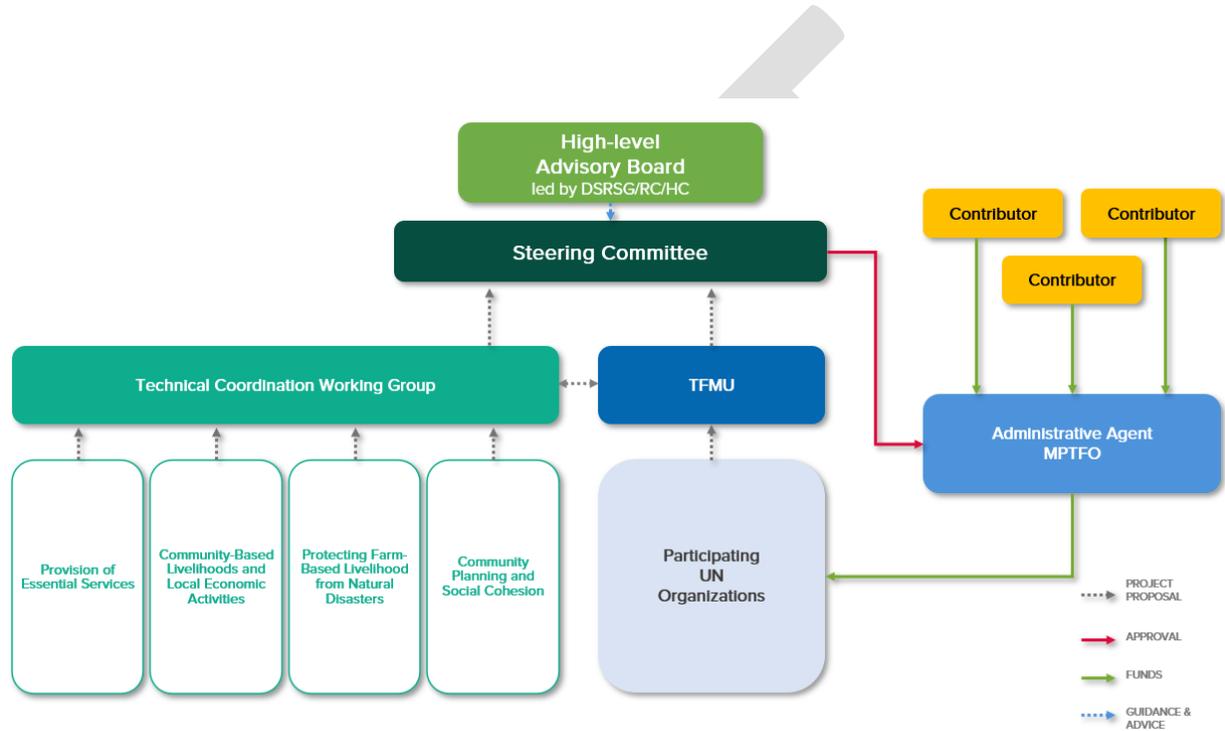
4.1. ABADEI Strategy, a Community Resilience Programming Approach - an integrated programme tailored to eight regions

In this context, the Fund will focus on a decentralized ABADEI portfolio of projects that will allow direct work with beneficiary communities through civil society, micro and small enterprises, targeting mainly vulnerable groups and communities, in line with the principle of Leaving No One Behind (LNOB). The value proposition of the ABADEI Strategy lies in its contribution to preserving human, social, and institutional capital in a context of multi-dimensional crisis, serving as a bridge between short-term humanitarian life-saving assistance and the safeguarding of livelihoods and community resilience. The Programme also represents a paradigmatic shift in the way resources are used, incorporating innovation to ensure flexibility and responsiveness to needs, while also managing elevated risks.

Under the ABADEI Strategy, eight regional joint programmes will be designed based on the available, needs-based analysis of socio-economic needs and the urgency in each of these provinces (regions), with prioritized interventions in key areas of essential services, livelihoods, social cohesion, and resilience, and with an initial 12–24-month timeline for implementation to be completed.

5. Governance Structure for the Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan

The Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan will have a two-tier decision-making and coordination structure, through the Advisory Board and Steering Committee. At the technical level, programming will be coordinated by the Technical Coordination Working Group (TCWG) accordingly, overseeing the Fund. The TCWG will be coordinated by the Fund Secretariat - the Trust Fund Management Unit (TFMU). Decision-making will rest with the Steering Committee, supported through the secretariat functions by the TFMU as reflected below (see also section 5.2).



5.1. High-Level Advisory Board

An Advisory Board, chaired by the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General/UN Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator, with participation by the UNDP Resident Representative, as well as representation by donors (one donor will represent on behalf of the donors, which will rotate periodically) and the UN agencies (one UN agency on behalf of the UN Country Team (UNCT) and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), which will be nominated by the Steering Committee and rotate periodically).

The Advisory Board will meet quarterly, and whenever deemed necessary. It will provide overall guidance and advice to the Fund Steering Committee on strategic and policy issues, in addition to the overall efficiency and responsiveness of the funds and its activities. The Board will facilitate the coherence of the Fund's operations with other funding instruments.

This Advisory Board also serves as a consultative forum to share information on funding coverage to strengthen donor coordination and to avoid duplication of funding. Due to the advisory nature

of the Board, its recommendations on the strategic direction of the Fund will be issued by the DSRSG/RC/HC, recusal procedures do not apply to its membership.

5.2. Steering Committee (SC)

The governance structure of the Fund is led by the Steering Committee (SC), which will be chaired by the UNDP Resident Representative and will include the following members:

- Representatives of contributing donors
- At least two representatives of Participating UN Organizations
- The Fund Secretariat (ex-officio member)
- The Administrative Agent (ex-officio member)

To strengthen coherence and ensure strategic cooperation, the Head of the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund Secretariat will be invited as an observer to the SC meetings. The Trust Fund Management Unit will also establish coordinating arrangements with the office of the Resident Coordinator.

The Steering Committee will be responsible for:

- ✓ Reviewing and approving the final TOR of the Fund at its first Steering Committee meeting
- ✓ Providing oversight and exercising overall accountability of the Fund
- ✓ Approving funding priorities defined by a regularly updated funds strategy
- ✓ Reviewing and approving funding for joint UN programmes after vetting by the Fund Secretariat, ensuring their conformity with the scope and requirements of the Fund
- ✓ Leading the resource mobilization efforts
- ✓ Instructing the Administrative Agent to disburse the resources to the Participating UN Organizations
- ✓ Reviewing the Fund status and its overall progress
- ✓ Reviewing and approving the periodic progress reports (programmatic and financial) consolidated by the Fund Secretariat and the Administrative Agent, based on the progress reports submitted by the Participating UN Organizations
- ✓ Commissioning reviews and "lessons learned" reports on the performance of the Fund; and
- ✓ Approving amendments to the Terms of Reference of the Fund, as required after due consultation with stakeholders
- ✓ Nominating the UN entity which will be representing all relevant UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes at the Advisory Board during the agreed period

The Steering Committee will meet every month, and if required more frequently, to review the Fund's operations and adopt the Fund's activities as required.

5.3. The Fund Secretariat – Trust Fund Management Unit (TFMU)

The Trust Fund Management Unit (TFMU) is the Fund Secretariat and is the entity responsible for the operational functioning of the Fund and provides technical and management support to the SC.

The Secretariat, hosted within UNDP, performs the following functions:

- ✓ Execute and coordinate all management functions of the Fund, including the implementation of decisions made by the Steering Committee
- ✓ Plan and prepare meetings of the Steering Committee and hold records of decisions through minutes of the meetings; and support organizing the Advisory Board meetings.
- ✓ Facilitate the work of the technical coordination working group
- ✓ Review and analyze programme proposals together with the Technical Coordination Working Group
- ✓ Submit Fund Transfer Requests, signed by the Chair of the Steering Committee, to the Administrative Agent
- ✓ Facilitate collaboration and communication between Participating Organizations to ensure programmes are implemented effectively
- ✓ Facilitate systematic cooperation with the Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund
- ✓ With the support of the Administrative Agent, elaborate an Operations Manual, in accordance with signed legal agreements, and ensure compliance with it
- ✓ Ensure monitoring and control of operational risks (update the risk monitoring matrix regularly).
- ✓ Support monitoring and evaluation of programme implementation
- ✓ Consolidate the narrative of annual and final reports submitted by recipient organizations. and present reports to the Steering Committee for review and the Administrative Agent for consolidation of narrative and financial reports
- ✓ Draft the resource mobilization strategy and support the Steering Committee with its implementation
- ✓ Recommend revisions of the TOR of the Fund, to the Steering Committee, if and when necessary
- ✓ Manage and support communication, public information, and visibility
- ✓ Liaise with the Administrative Agent on Fund administration issues, including issues related to programme/Fund extension and programme/Fund closure
- ✓ Bring together technical expertise from the participating UN organisations to review the coherence of the eight ABADEI Programmes

The Secretariat can also use informal mechanisms to interact with donors at the technical level to prepare for the Steering Committee meetings.

The costs of the Secretariat are charged to the Fund as direct costs. The budget for the Secretariat is submitted to the Steering Committee on an annual basis and the Secretariat staffing structure is adjusted by the Steering Committee as per needs and budget availability.

5.4. Technical Coordination Working Group (TCWG)

The Technical Coordination Working Group will be composed of representatives of UN agencies and donors. It will be tasked to prepare and regularly review / update recommendations for the Fund's 'Allocation Strategy' (See Section 8), including geographic and thematic prioritization criteria, for the consideration of, and final decision by, the Steering Committee. The TCWG will, in this process, ensure that prioritization criteria are well informed by actual needs reported from the field, as well as with relevant Humanitarian coordination mechanisms (under the Humanitarian

Response Plan), with a view to leverage their needs assessments and ensure complementarities in the prioritization exercise.

Following the approval of the ‘Allocation Note’⁵, the TCWG will coordinate the technical review of ABADEI thematic components for each region. Such a review will be preceded by a pre-screening exercise led by TFMU, which will ensure minimum quality standards are met prior to submission to the TCWG. Upon completion of the technical review, the TCWG will, through the Fund Secretariat, make recommendations to the Steering Committee based on the pre-established ‘Allocation Strategy’ to finance the highest priority components of each of the joint programmes – this entails that different components of each joint programme will be funded in the first round, based on the technical consideration. It will also provide technical guidance and high-level oversight to ongoing projects and make recommendations to ensure synergies and efficiencies are capitalized across thematic windows and/or regions as much as possible – with a view to minimizing potential duplications and facilitating/promoting collaboration, complementarities, and economies of scale.

5.5. The Participating UN Organizations

Resources will be allocated to Participating UN Organizations (PUNO), i.e. the UN - AFPs that have signed the Memorandum of Understanding with the Administrative Agent, based on eight regional joint UN programmes and allocation-specific work plans submitted by a designated lead/convening agency on behalf of PUNOs. While each PUNO will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent, the designated lead agency will be responsible for coordination of interventions at regional level between PUNOs. Allocated funds will be administered by each PUNO in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives and procedures. Indirect costs of the PUNO recovered through programme support costs will be harmonized at 7%. Implementing Partners can receive funding from the Fund through the PUNOs.

5.6. The Administrative Agent (AA)

The Fund is administered by the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), acting as the Administrative Agent.

The below description of the responsibilities of the Administrative Agent is based on the UNDG "Protocol on the Administrative Agent for Multi-Donor Trust Funds, Joint Programmes, and One UN Funds". The Administrative Agent is entitled to allocate an administrative fee of one percent (1%) of the amount contributed by each donor, to meet the costs of performing the Administrative Agent function.

The Administrative Agent is responsible for the following functions:

- ✓ Support the design of the Fund, including the development of the Fund TOR

⁵ This includes the thematic components of eight regional programmes as well as new programmes under the new windows of the fund.

- ✓ Conclude the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Participating UN Organizations and the Standard Administrative Arrangements (SAAs) with contributing partners
- ✓ Receive contributions from donors that wish to provide financial support to the Fund; Administer such funds received including winding up the Fund and related matters
- ✓ Subject to availability of funds, transfer such funds to Participating UN Organizations upon instructions from the Steering Committee
- ✓ Provide to donors an annual consolidated report and a final consolidated report based on narrative and financial reports provided by Participating UN Organizations
- ✓ Disburse funds for any additional costs of the tasks that the Steering Committee may decide to allocate
- ✓ Ensure that the Steering Committee and Secretariat are duly informed of the applicable UN(DG) policies and procedures relevant to fund operations, and, upon request, benefit from knowledge management support and advisory services on aspects of fund operations

In addition, the MPTF Office through its GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/>) offers a web-based service portal, which provides real-time financial data generated directly from its accounting system. It provides all partners and the general public with the ability to track information on contributions, transfers and expenditures.

6. Contributions to the Fund

Contributions to the Fund may be accepted from the Member States, regional bodies, inter-governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, businesses, foundations, and individuals. Contributors are encouraged to provide un-earmarked contributions, which will be programmed by the Steering Committee, supported by the Secretariat. If due to specific donor preferences the un-earmarked contributions are not feasible, contributors may earmark their contribution towards specific thematic Windows or geographic region.

Contributions may be accepted in fully convertible currency. Such contributions will be deposited into the bank account designated by MPTF Office. The value of contribution payment, if made in other than US dollars, will be determined by applying the United Nations operational rate of exchange in effect on the date of payment.

In addition to the new contributions from donors, the unutilized unearmarked and earmarked balances from the Fund account may be accepted upon agreement with each donor through concluding the relevant contribution agreement.

7. Partnerships and implementation arrangements

Resources will be allocated to Participating UN Organizations, i.e. the UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes that have signed the Memorandum of Understanding with the Administrative Agent, based on the submission of joint programmes / workplans. Each Participating UN Organization will assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds disbursed to it by the Administrative Agent. Such funds will be administered by each Participating UN Organization in accordance with its own regulations, rules, directives, and procedures. Indirect costs of the Participating UN Organizations recovered through programme support costs will be harmonized

at 7%. Implementing Partners can receive funding from the Fund through Participating UN Organizations. The list of Participating UN Organizations can be found in Annex I.

Furthermore, the PUNOs will have a vast network of vetted NGOs/CSOs that will be engaged in implementing the activities at the local level.

8. General Allocation Strategy

8.1. The selection of priority areas

While drawing on all available existing analysis, the Fund is intended to ensure adaptive, flexible and responsive programming relevant to the shifting situation in Afghanistan. As such the Steering Committee will be guided by immediate strategic local socio-economic and community resilience priorities, drawing on the analysis and recommendations of the Technical Coordination Working Group and Secretariat. Where required, the Steering Committee may request additional analysis and needs assessments to ensure the most effective and appropriate use of funds and guarantee selection of areas where a positive and sustainable impact can be achieved.

8.2. Allocation of funding to the thematic components of eight ABADEI Programmes

At the time of initial resource approvals, the Fund will not hold or have secured the commitment of all required funds. The Fund should start its operations as soon as the first contribution is received.

To ensure that the funds can be strategically, appropriately, and effectively allocated to competing demands of eight ABADEI programmes, the periodic Allocation Notes will be used to help match mobilized resources to the ABADEI projected requirements. The Allocation Note will on a real-time basis:

- Summarize the current availability of secured funds, and any earmarks applied by Partners.
- Identify immediate funding priorities (including clear costed components) for each of the eight ABADEI programmes.
- Identify / update geographic target areas for each of the eight region.

The Steering Committee determines which of those priorities will receive funds from each allocation round, and lead/convening agencies on behalf of PUNOs participating in the specific regional joint UN programme will be invited to prepare allocation-specific work plans and budgets to request funding.

Funding decisions are based on the degree to which these work plans respond to the strategic priorities of the relevant allocation round as well as the amounts of funds that are available at a given time also considering thematic and/or geographic earmarks that may apply.

The Allocation Notes will be approved by the Steering Committee.

8.3. Allocating the tranches of funding to each ABADEI Programme

Each of the eight ABADEI joint programmes is submitted by the designated lead/convening agency on behalf of the Participating UN Organizations through the TFMU, which will coordinate the review with the TCWG. The composition of the TCWG will ensure adequate technical expertise in the thematic areas covered by the programme proposals.

The fund allocation for the first allocation round will be determined according to how effectively the workplan and sequence of activities in each of the eight programmes address the needs and priorities on the ground as well as relevance to the overall ABADEI Strategy priorities and key criteria. All ABADEI component submissions will have to demonstrate

- ✓ Leveraging comparative advantage and adopting a collaborative approach between UN Agencies, in case of joint programmes, and implementing partners to reach a collective outcome,
- ✓ Resulting from consultations at the local level and ensure active participation of both local civil societies, as applicable

For all future allocation rounds, the lead agencies will only be required to prepare additional work plans responding to the allocation strategy of the relevant round. The work plans will be accompanied by a short narrative in cases where provisions of the existing programme document need to be adapted. All other provisions of the initial joint programme document remain in place.

8.4. Transfer of funds

The Secretariat will prepare a fund transfer request for each programme/project and fund allocation approved by the Steering Committee, which will be signed by the Chair of the Steering Committee. The Administrative Agent will process the approved fund allocations and transfer the corresponding amounts to the Participating UN Organizations within five business days following the receipt of the transfer request. As soon as the fund transfer has been processed, the Administrative Agent will notify by email both the Representative of the Participating UN Organization receiving the funds and the Fund Secretariat.

9. Monitoring, Evaluation, Knowledge Management, Audit, and Reporting

9.1. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the Programmes

Monitoring and Evaluation of the agency-specific projects and joint programmes funded under the Fund will be undertaken in accordance with the provision contained in the agency-specific projects and joint programmes submitted by concerned Participating UN Organizations, which are consistent with the respective rules, regulations, and procedures of the Participating UN Organizations. The TFMU M&E Unit will oversee the delivery of M&E by participating UN organizations, ensuring that all monitoring, analysis and reporting are carried out to the required standards and timeframes. This is a compliance function, in which the TFMU M&E unit exercises quality assurance oversight. The M&E system will include a robust network of third-party monitors as well as an integrated (remote, ICT and community-based) monitoring mechanism.

To monitor the changing situation in the country and the related risks of implementing the activities resourced through the Fund, UNDP's Integrated Risk Management Unit will continuously assess

and manage risks which can also support activities of other PUNOs. This action-oriented capacity is meant to ensure a consistent “DO NO HARM” approach to interventions, and to support the agile adaptation of programmes given the rapidly changing context.

The main purpose of the Unit is to take stock of and analyze the risks and mitigation measures identified and report them to the Steering Committee to support timely evidence-based decision-making for programme planning and implementation. Donor partners will be regularly informed and consulted through the Steering Committee about the risks faced by the Fund, and the proposed mitigation measures. UNDP’s Integrated Risk Management Unit could support the activities of the UN participating organisations of the STFA, closely working with the UN RC office. The Fund will continuously monitor and adjust its activities as conditions on the ground evolve.

9.2. Reporting

For each joint UN programme/project approved for funding, each Participating UN Organization will provide regular narrative and financial reporting to the designated lead/convening agency in accordance with their accounting and reporting procedures and as per the provisions on the programme document and the Memorandum of Understanding signed. The lead/convening agency will compile the annual and final programme narrative report for each joint programme and submit it to the Fund Secretariat and the Administrative Agent, as agreed upon in the legal agreements signed with the Administrative Agent. The annual and final reports will be results-oriented and evidence-based. The reports will give a summary of results and achievements compared to the expected result in the project document. The Administrative Agent will receive from each Participating UN Organization and consolidate the annual and final financial reports. Programmatic performance indicators will be monitored at the outcome and output levels.

Reports will be used by the Steering Committee to review the overall progress against expected results and assess the achievement of performance targets.

9.3. Evaluation

The Steering Committee will commission an independent review/evaluation/lessons learned exercise on the overall performance of the Fund. The aim of this evaluation will be to study the various performance measurements of the Fund and provide specific recommendations to the Steering Committee for possible adjustments in the functioning of the Fund.

9.4. Risk Management

The Fund is a risk-sharing mechanism among all stakeholders. This mechanism can also assist in establishing a common understanding of risks and can provide risk mitigation and adaptation measures more efficiently and strategically. Risk sharing is a key element of the due diligence and operationalization of the Fund, and it is understood that the residual risk is shared among all stakeholders. Three types of risks - contextual, programmatic, and institutional - will be considered and provisions for the identification, monitoring, tolerances, and risk responses will be elaborated as part of the risk management strategy.

A risk management strategy, including a risk rating matrix, is to be developed by the Fund Secretariat in the first three months after the establishment of the Fund for approval by the Steering

Committee. It will capture the hierarchy of risk at different levels, allowing an assessment of the most appropriate responses to the identified risks, particularly to those risks most likely to impede success (critical and high risks). The Fund's systems will ensure compliance with the applicable sanctions.

9.5. Audit

In line with the audit provisions in the standard MOU and SAA, the Administrative Agent, Participating UN Organizations will be audited according to their own rules and financial regulations and in line with the framework for joint audit.

9.6. Public Disclosure

The Fund Secretariat and the Administrative Agent ensure that the Fund operations are well disseminated. Information posted on the website shall include contributions received, funds transferred, annual certified expenditures, summaries of proposed and approved programmes and Fund progress reports.

In line with the standard MOU and SAA, all stakeholders should take appropriate measures to promote the ABADEI Strategy. Information shared with the press regarding fund beneficiaries, official notices, reports, and publications shall acknowledge the Fund's role. More specifically, the Fund Secretariat and the Administrative Agent shall ensure that the role of the contributors and relevant stakeholders is fully acknowledged in all external communications related to the Fund.

Due account will be given to protecting the beneficiaries of the funds.

10. Modification and Expiration of the Fund

The Fund has been established for a **duration of five years**. It may be extended based on approval by the Steering Committee, after consultation with relevant actors.

Participating UN Organizations will provide certified final financial reports and financially closed projects no later than five (5) months (31 May) after the end of the calendar year in which the financial closure of the activities in the approved programmatic document occurs, or according to the period specified in the financial regulations and rules of the Participating UN Organizations, whichever is earlier. The dissemination of the certified final financial statement ("Source and Use of Funds") is to be provided five months after the end of the calendar year in which the financial closing of the Fund occurs.

Notwithstanding the completion of the initiatives financed from the Fund, any unutilized balances will continue to be held in the Fund Account until all commitments and liabilities incurred in implementation of the programmes have been satisfied and programme activities have been brought to an orderly conclusion.

As per the standard MOU and SAA, any balance remaining in the Fund Account upon completion of the Fund will be used for a purpose mutually agreed upon or returned to the Donor in proportion to its contribution to the Fund as decided upon by the Donor and the Steering Committee.

11. ANNEX.AREAS OF PROGRAMMATIC INTEREST⁶ (UN Agency specific) (1-2 pages by each of the UN Agencies who have signed the MOU; agencies listed in order of signature)

1. UNDP

UNDP has comparative advantages to deliver on the following:

- Provision of Essential Services,
- Community-Based Livelihoods and Local Economic Activities,
- Protecting Farm-based Livelihoods from Natural Disasters, and
- Community Resilience and Social Cohesion,

UNDP has been contributing to poverty reduction, income and revenue generation and sustainable livelihoods building in Afghanistan for the last five years and more, through support to agriculture, the private sector, and sustainable energy development in an integrated approach which included interventions on cash-based livelihoods generation, agriculture value chains support, small and medium enterprise (SMEs) support, regional cooperation for trade enhancement, energy efficiency and access to finance. In the process it has supported conversion illicit agriculture economies to licit ones. To reduce climate-induced disaster risks, it has constructed several small-scale infrastructures for water management, such as canal lining, water reservoirs and flood walls and introduced climate-smart agriculture techniques to vulnerable farmers, such as distribution of drought resilient seeds, greenhouse construction, micro irrigation support and integrated pest control, for improving livelihoods.

UNDP has been implementing over \$60 million (2020-2021 alone) in Global Fund-financed HIV, tuberculosis, malaria and COVID programmes with operational experience embedded within robust risk management framework and fiduciary controls, across all 34 provinces in Afghanistan, managing twenty (20) sub-recipients that are non-government organizations – including 14 Basic and Essential Public Health System implementing partners, strong working relationships with the Alliance of Health Organizations in Afghanistan, and technical partners (including WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA and others).

UNDP has been supporting community-based disaster early warning systems, enhancing communities' capacity to monitor weather, communicate warning messages and respond to disasters. Particularly UNDP has proven experience in Afghanistan and other LDC countries in solar / hybrid energy-based support to meet the needs in basic services delivery of health, water, sanitation, lighting and livelihoods including the building of solar value chain creating local ecosystems and enterprises for alternative livelihood opportunities. Particularly, UNDP brings comparative advantage on building social cohesion and inclusive participatory processes at the local level creating peace dividends, community-based planning / monitoring capacities,

⁶ Inputs to include (1) Thematic windows where your agency has comparative advantages to deliver; (2) Programmatic interventions in relevant thematic windows based on relevant experiences delivering similar interventions in 2020-2021; (3) Volume of delivery in US dollars (in 2020); (4) Agency structure in Afghanistan (e.g. Presence in the capital; regional or district offices) and personnel footprint; (5) Human resource capacity with relevance to ABADEI (indicate areas of expertise – e.g. gender expertise); (6) Agency's modality of implementation in the current circumstances.

promoting alternative justice mechanisms and human rights-based approach across its portfolio of work. UNDP along with other sister agencies has been in the forefront of mainstreaming gender equality and their economic empowerment in Afghanistan with gender targeted programmes on reducing inequalities, providing access to national mechanisms and livelihoods building by supporting innovative financing of women led women run enterprises for example. Therefore, UNDP has relevant experience in programming and delivering all the 14 outputs in Afghanistan under the four ABADEI outcomes except Output 2.1. UNDP will apply its experience gained and lessons learnt on providing unconditional cash support interventions, in similar contexts such as Yemen and Syria with establishment of tailored risk managed mechanisms. UNDP's annual delivery for 2020 and 2019 was \$428 million and \$451 million respectively.

UNDP Afghanistan is currently comprised of more than 320 personnel (whereof some 270 are nationally recruited and 50 internationally recruited) working in programmatic and operational areas. In addition to its office in the capital, UNDP will have eight regional offices, fully staffed with two international and six national colleagues by the end of November. Specifically, for ABADEI, UNDP is establishing the Programme Management Unit for its ABADEI programme. Headed by the Programme Manager, the Unit will have expertise in livelihoods, gender mainstreaming, cash-based intervention, engineer, database/ GIS, and community-based planning officers. The Regional Teams headed by the Regional Project Managers will involve expertise in infrastructure, livelihoods and M&E.

UNDP will use the Direct Implementation Modality and draw on its nationwide network of capable personnel, its already established four regional offices (including in Mazar, Herat, Jalalabad and Kandahar) at the provincial level, and a full roster of implementing partners throughout Afghanistan. The modality will combine direct implementation through UNDP as well as through NGOs and sister UN agencies.

2. UN HABITAT

UN-Habitat has delivered Humanitarian Development & Peace programmes worth \$ 520 million in Afghanistan since 1992, including during the previous Taliban regime between 1996 to 2001. These programmes have benefitted 7.3 million people (including 35% of women & children) delivering 28,500 houses; 1,247 Km of roads & pavements; 10 clinics; 44 schools; 35 parks/play-grounds; 117,457 jobs and scores of related community projects. During last 5-6 years, UN-Habitat Afghanistan has also delivered urban safety & security; community development; urban/municipal governance as well as Housing, Land and Property (HLP) programmes worth \$ 109 million. UN-Habitat also has well-calibrated financial, technological and human resource capacities, in place to scale-up operations to deliver a programming portfolio over \$ 100 million per annum.

Using its signature People's Process, UN Habitat delivers benefits directly at the grassroots level through democratically constituted, representative, inclusive, socially responsible & locally owned Community Development Councils (CDCs) independent of local government's influence – these CDCs can ensure effective engagement without benefiting the de facto authority. UN-Habitat has proven track record of recovery, stabilization and rebuilding of social and physical infrastructure in Afghanistan for sustainable resettlements utilizing its robust Country Team of 10 international advisors, 180 active national staff members, 1,100 project staff members on retainer basis and 1,137 Community Based Organizations (CBOs) across major urban centers in 13 key provinces. UN Habitat is also uniquely positioned to activate and scale-up local Citizens Charter institutions across Afghanistan.

UN-Habitat has had regional offices, staff and project teams in 13 provinces across all 8 regions of Afghanistan. These include Herat & Farah Provinces (Western Region); Nangarhar (Eastern Region); Kabul, Kapisa and Parwan (Central Region); Kunduz (North Eastern Region); Daikundi and Bamyan (Central Highlands Region); Balk (Northern Region); Kandahar and Helmand (Southern Region); and Paktiya (South Eastern Region). UN Habitat is also strategically and operationally well placed for direct delivery and substantive contributions towards the Integrated Results of STFA.

3. UNCTAD

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is the UN body responsible for integrating trade and development issues. It produces analyses that inform recommendations to policymakers to help them make decisions and design macroeconomic policies suited to ending global economic inequalities and supporting sustainable development. UNCTAD also offers direct technical assistance to help countries build their capacities to become equitably integrated into the global economy.

In Afghanistan, UNCTAD has been providing direct technical assistance to the Afghanistan Customs Department (ACD) within the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Commerce by implementing its ASYCUDA customs modernization program and providing trade facilitation assistance since early 2005. In 2003 the Government of Afghanistan sought to modernize its customs sector. UNCTAD's support was requested, and shortly after that, the agency was directly involved in drafting the new trade facilitation provisions, inland and international transit procedures, and other regulations. At this time, the Afghan Government selected the ASYCUDA++ (Automated SYstem for CUstoms DAta) Integrated Customs Management System, developed by UNCTAD, to computerize customs operations, revenue collection, and statistics gathering processes. As part of the ECMTFP, the ASYCUDA++ system was prototyped, piloted, and rolled out on the main transit axes and in the main Customs houses and offices in Afghanistan's secure West & Northern regions. The ASYCUDA component of the ECMTFP exceeded its objectives and expected outputs, and its remarkable results were highly appreciated by the Afghan Government and the international community.

Following this success, the Afghan Government and the ACD decided to implement ASYCUDA World, the latest version of the UNCTAD ASYCUDA system, throughout the whole of the country. Particular focus on combating corruption and the illicit traffic of goods by automating and recording all customs transactions, calculating customs duties and taxes, providing a transparent environment for both Customs and the trade community, and reducing the number of steps in the clearance process from 18 to 3.

By UNCTAD's direct technical assistance, The ASYCUDA system now covers more than 98 percent of international trade in Afghanistan, producing huge benefits for the country and boosting Customs' annual revenue from US\$50 million in 2005 to almost US\$1 billion in 2020. It has led to the re-organization and modernization of Customs in Afghanistan. The structure of all customs offices now reflects the much more straightforward and safer three-step process. Moreover, the computerization of customs operations has played an important role in the consistent and transparent enforcement of customs legislation, regulations, and procedures at the national level, in the implementation of risk management in customs operations, in the provision of accurate and timely information to decision-makers, and in the provision of timely and accurate revenue and customs statistics.

Considering the new political development and reductions of international financial assistance, the customs revenue has become the main source for funding public services such as health and education. Therefore, the UNCTAD engagement and technical support are vital for securing the

major public services funding source. Also, UNCTAD assistance will directly support smooth trading, reducing the nation's imported food/health item prices. In addition, it will facilitate the exportation of agriculture and traditional export items, which affects the economy of Afghan families, especially in rural areas.

UNCTAD also, supporting the Afghanistan Exemption System. The system is replaced with the manual/paperwork procedure; with this system, all the exempted organizations can submit their request online, MFA can approve it on the system, and when ACQ HQ issues the exemption letter, it will be sent automatically to the customs system in customs offices for declaration and control. The system is a fully electronic process, from start to end, in a Paperless environment. It gives Multiple partners/different accesses and uses Data and documents normalization and Processes Standardization. Therefore, the humanitarian community can have easy and secure access to the system for Faster processing and increased transparency. With UNCTAD's assistance to the Chamber of Commerce, the Afghanistan TIR membership is reactivated. UNCTAD provided technical assistance and support to the country for WTO accession. The AFG ASYCUDA Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) has been operational in the UNSBV center in Valencia, Spain, since December 2019. All trade data backup in DRC without delay. The DRC is maintained 24/7 by UNCTAD technical team. From the beginning of UNCTAD activities until now, 10797 customs officers, customs brokers, and trader community men and women have received various trade & ASYCUDA training from the UNCTAD team.

In addition to 6 international staff and consultants, a number of 30 National staff are working on the UNCTAD program in Kabul. Also, the 48 trained focal points are assisting UNCTAD at the provincial level. Furthermore, the UNCTAD, The ASYCUDA World system, supports the 30 customs houses countrywide; all the computerized sites are connected to the central server in the online format.

The UNCTAD Activities cover fifteen provinces in Afghanistan, including Kabul, Nangarhar, Balkh, Badakhshan, Herat, Farah, Nimruz, Kandahar, Paktia, Paktika, Takhar, Kunduz, Faryab, Kunar, and Khost.

4. UNFPA

UNFPA, the UN Population Fund, has been in Afghanistan for 45 years and our commitment to women and girls remains unwavering: All women and girls have a non-negotiable right to live free from gender-based violence, harmful practices and discrimination, including child, early and forced marriage, anytime, anywhere. UNFPA is delivering integration reproductive health and GBV services at the community, village, and district levels, as well as in camps, and we are expanding and scaling up our existing service delivery points. UNFPA encourages everyone to respect a girl's right to go to school and receive an education, and for the rights, dignity and well-being of all women and girls to be upheld and protected, so that the gains made for the people of Afghanistan over the last 20 years are not eroded. UNFPA has comparative advantage to deliver on:

- Provision of essential services:

Based on the AHS2018, roughly 10% of the population do not have access to essential health services -they live at a distance of more than 10 km from the existing Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) facilities. In addition, around 28% of the population live beyond the 5Km from the nearest health facility which is considered with limited access to essential health services. However, the coverage differs from province to province e.g. Ghor (around 50%), Zabul (Around 60%), Badghis and Farah (Around 65%), Daikundi, Urozgan, Samangan (Around 75%). To address the essential RMNCH need of people living beyond the 10Km from the nearest health facility, the health system need a minimum of around 500 basic health facility. While, if the health system is addressing the essential RMNCH need of people with limited access living beyond 5Km from the nearest health facility, there is a need for an additional 1,313 basic health facilities.

In order to bridge the RMNCH gap in the so-called "White Areas", the Family Health Houses (FHH) model is the best option; it is a community-owned and governed facility. It is fully participatory throughout the process involves the community in the assessment, selection of location, selection of candidates for Community Midwifery Education, construction of building for FHH, and smooth running of FHHs. The Community Health Shura of FHH is the governance body of the FHH and takes responsibility for more than 50% contribution to the construction of FHH as well. It is a sustainable approach; it is for the community and for the community. The FHH model is also a best practice of women empowerment and leadership in a very remote and male dominant society. It is cost-effective and cost-efficient as well. The current practice of 172 FHHs in 9 provinces shows a more than 95% deployment rate and more than 98% retention rate. The establishment of 1313 new FHH will require around the US \$70 million for 3 years.

UNFPA, through its Family Health Houses, is expanding service delivery to remote areas of Afghanistan, including the 10% of the population who live a 2+ hour walk from the nearest government-run health facility. These services are currently continuing with minimal disruption. UNFPA is planning to expand the number of Family Health Houses to meet increased needs. In August and September alone, skilled birth attendants helped deliver 2,230 babies safely at UNFPA-supported Family Health Houses which are community-based health structures in hard-to-reach areas of Afghanistan serving 1,500-4,000 people each. Family Health Houses are staffed

by a trained Community Midwife recruited from the local population who provides reproductive, maternal, new-born, and child health services. Young community health workers take the lead in Afghanistan's most remote villages. In the same period, UNFPA also reached 8,483 women through 172 Family Health Houses; 18,871 women through 37 Family Protection Centres and 18 Women Friendly Health Spaces; and Served 40,085 people through 20 Mobile Health Teams (MHTs), 11 Mobile Outreach Teams and 4 Emergency Static Clinics.

UNFPA has delivered the following programmatic interventions:

- Family Health House (FHH): All 172 FHHs are functional and provide essential RMNCH services to people in need in the catchment areas.
- Mobile Health Team (MHT): UNFPA supports three functional MHTs in two provinces. UNFPA supports seven integrated MHTs.
- Static Emergency Clinics: The service delivery of four emergency clinics supported by UNFPA are continuing their services.
- Midwifery Help Line (MHL) continues providing technical guidance and support to midwives on duty from across the country.
- Youth Health Line (YHL): The YHL is functional. The female staff of YHL was able to return to work.
- Youth Health Corner (YHC): All 26 YHC are functional and facilitate youth-friendly health services to youth.
- Community Midwifery Education (CME) Program: All five CME schools are reopened in Kandahar, Badghis, Paktika, Samangan, and Kabul (for Nooristan) provinces. 120 out of 124 are enrolled.
- 37 Family Protection Centres (FPCs), 18 Women Friendly Health Spaces (WFHSs), and 9 out of 10 GBV Psychosocial Support Counselors (PSSC) Mobile Outreach Teams are functional.

The UNFPA Country Office volume of delivery in 2020 was US \$ 12,578,443.

UNFPA has an operational presence throughout Afghanistan, including specifically, the UNFPA main office in Kabul, and two project office in Bamyan and Herat Office. Moreover, UNFPA is planning to expand its presence by scale up the area office in Herat to cover the provinces in the Eastern Region. Also, UNFPA is in the process to establish two other area offices in Kandahar and Jalalabad to cover the provinces in the Southern Region and Eastern Region, respectively. However, UNFPA supported interventions through 11 Implementing Partners in 26 provinces of Afghanistan.

UNFPA is the leading UN agency in the area of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. Specifically to the ABADEI area of intervention, UNFPA is pioneer of FHH model in Afghanistan has designed, piloted, and scaled up the Family Health House (FHH) model. UNFPA has developed the SOP and implementation manual for implementation, monitoring, and quality assurance of FHH model in the country. Moreover, UNFPA has provided technical support to

other agencies has been implementing FHH in a few provinces, including the FHH funded through the Global Fund. UNFPA also provided technical support to BPHS implementing NGOs initiated implementation of FHH as innovative approach under the SEHAT Project.

UNFPA is no longer working with government implementing partners and continues to abide by the UN Sanctions List. UNFPA has shifted all implementation to NGOs, INGOs, UN Agencies or DEX.

DRAFT

5. ITC

Please include:

- (i) List the thematic windows where your agency has comparative advantages to deliver.
- (ii) Describe the programmatic interventions in relevant thematic windows based on relevant experiences delivering similar interventions in 2020-2021
- (iii) Volume of delivery in US dollars (in 2020)
- (iv) Outline your agency structure in Afghanistan (e.g. Presence in the capital; regional or district offices) and personnel footprint
- (v) Human resource capacity with relevance to ABADEI (indicate areas of expertise – e.g. gender expertise)
- (vi) Describe your agency's modality of implementation in the current circumstances

6. ILO

Please include:

- (i) List the thematic windows where your agency has comparative advantages to deliver.
- (ii) Describe the programmatic interventions in relevant thematic windows based on relevant experiences delivering similar interventions in 2020-2021
- (iii) Volume of delivery in US dollars (in 2020)
- (iv) Outline your agency structure in Afghanistan (e.g. Presence in the capital; regional or district offices) and personnel footprint
- (v) Human resource capacity with relevance to ABADEI (indicate areas of expertise – e.g. gender expertise)
- (vi) Describe your agency's modality of implementation in the current circumstances

DRAFT

7. UNODC

Please include:

- (i) List the thematic windows where your agency has comparative advantages to deliver.
- (ii) Describe the programmatic interventions in relevant thematic windows based on relevant experiences delivering similar interventions in 2020-2021
- (iii) Volume of delivery in US dollars (in 2020)
- (iv) Outline your agency structure in Afghanistan (e.g. Presence in the capital; regional or district offices) and personnel footprint
- (v) Human resource capacity with relevance to ABADEI (indicate areas of expertise – e.g. gender expertise)
- (vi) Describe your agency’s modality of implementation in the current circumstances

DRAFT

8. UNIDO

Please include:

- (i) List the thematic windows where your agency has comparative advantages to deliver.
- (ii) Describe the programmatic interventions in relevant thematic windows based on relevant experiences delivering similar interventions in 2020-2021
- (iii) Volume of delivery in US dollars (in 2020)
- (iv) Outline your agency structure in Afghanistan (e.g. Presence in the capital; regional or district offices) and personnel footprint
- (v) Human resource capacity with relevance to ABADEI (indicate areas of expertise – e.g. gender expertise)
- (vi) Describe your agency's modality of implementation in the current circumstances

DRAFT