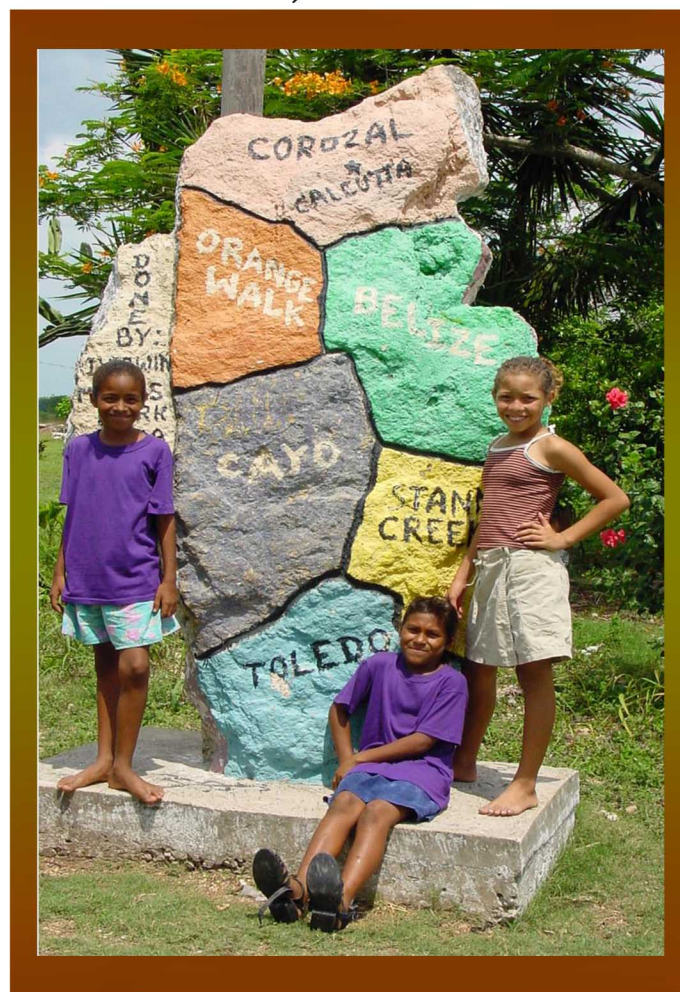


# UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FRAMEWORK

*Belize, 2007-2011*



**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT  
ASSISTANCE FRAMEWORK  
BELIZE 2007 - 2011**

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## List of Abbreviations

CCA	Common Country Assessment
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CERD	International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRD	Community Rehabilitation Department
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DHS	Department of Human Services
DSD	Disability Services Division
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MoH	Ministry of Health
MND	Ministry of National Development, Investment and Culture
MTCT	Mother to child transmission
NCFC	National Committee for Families and Children
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHDAC	National Human Development Advisory Committee
NHDR	National Human Development Report
NPA	National Plan of Action for Children and Adolescents
PAHO	Pan American Health Organisation
PHC	Primary Health Care
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
SICA	Central America Integration System
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
U5MR	Under-Five Mortality Rate
UN	United Nations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations, Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIFEM	United Nations Development Fund for Women
WFFC	World Fit For Children
WHO	World Health Organization

## **Executive Summary:**

This United Nations Development Framework (UNDAF) is the common strategic framework for the UN system in Belize for the period 2007 – 2011. It will guide UN agencies of the United Nations (UN) in formulating their operational activities in support of the people and the Government of Belize over this period, and is a roadmap for goals to be achieved in collaboration with them over this period. It attempts to address, realistically, the major development challenges identified in the Common Country Assessment of 2005, which should be read in conjunction with this UNDAF. It benefits from a consultative process with Government, Non-governmental organizations and key technical advisors.

The advantage of undergoing the UNDAF process is that, for the first time in Belize, UN agencies have a *shared* consensus about collective priorities in committing scarce resources in order to achieve outcomes that are both relevant and optimal: relevant and optimal with respect to the people of Belize, with particular attention to those who are least empowered, suffer greatest from poverty, and/or are most vulnerable to social deprivation. The persistence of such vulnerable and excluded populations constitutes a tangible expression of the continued failure – despite many areas of progress and improvement – to guarantee to many Belizeans their established rights.

The UNDAF does not benefit from the guidance of a comprehensive PRSP, although the discussions and evaluations conducted reinforced the need for a consultative process to articulate a vision for a comprehensive, national approach to development in Belize. Key to the upcoming implementation period of this UNDAF will be ongoing technical assistance and capacity building with government to ensure a long term, national development plan, which, in time, will guide the UNDAF and priority setting therein.

This UNDAF is viewed as a key moment for the UN to reinforce with Government of Belize the inter-relationship between human rights, sustainable human development and poverty reduction, and to affirm the centrality of gender equality, equity and women's empowerment to the achievement of all these goals, at national and sub-national levels. The policy linkages are explicit between human development and poverty reduction, in the context of the Millennium Declaration and the commitment to achieving the associated MDGs.

The three programme areas identified for attention in this UNDAF are:

1. Poverty elimination by investing in people
2. Reverse the spread of HIV and AIDS
3. Improve sustainable development practices

To achieve these priorities, the UNDAF Matrix identifies 12 outcomes and a series of expected outputs on which the UN stands accountable for their delivery at the end of the five-year period. Most outcomes were explicitly articulated to ensure a coordinated and collaborative approach from relevant UN agencies to their achievement. Bringing a human rights approach to programming, with specific attention to gender and culture, and using a strong results based orientation, this UNDAF marks a new direction for the UN family in Belize, opening spaces and opportunities for stronger collaboration with the government and civil society than ever before. The UNDAF takes full advantage of the comparative

advantages of the UN system in Belize, which – while not bringing major donor funds- provides strong technical support, with access to international and regional experience. It serves as a neutral monitor of progress with respect to progress towards the MDGs and fulfillment of human rights, and is an independent voice for democratic governance and institutions, bringing a particular focus to the most vulnerable and excluded.

There will be a mid term review of progress on the UNDAF conducted early in 2010, which will in turn feed into planning for the following UNDAF process. Throughout the cycle, ongoing monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken by a technical team, drawing on the expertise of partners, Government and civil society, as well as key academics and others.

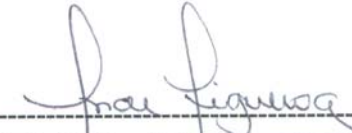
This UNDAF contains the following segments:

- Chapter 1, the present chapter, provides an introduction to the UNDAF, its purpose and value to human development efforts in Belize.
- Chapter 2 is the core of the document and describes the results to be achieved through program cooperation between the UN system, government and civil society partners for the period 2007 through 2011;
- Chapter 3 outlines the indicative resource requirements for implementation of the UNDAF;
- Chapter 4 describes the coordination, implementation and partnering arrangements necessary
- Chapter 5 explains the mechanisms required to monitor and evaluate UNDAF implementation.
- Annex A contains the results matrix that demonstrates outcomes and contributing country program outputs.
- Annex B contains the outline of the monitoring and evaluation framework and calendar. The framework provides indicators for each outcome in the UNDAF, and makes clear certain risks and assumptions in the UNDAF design.

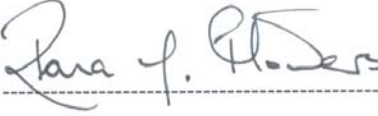
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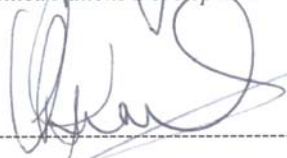
We, the United Nations Country Team and the Government of Belize, pledge to foster cooperation, coordination and partnership, in order to implement this United Nations Development Assistance Framework, as a means to support national priorities and the Millennium Declaration and Development Goals.

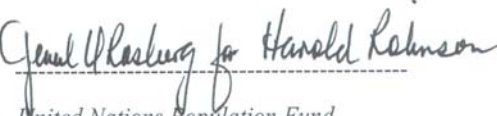
  
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*The Government of Belize*

  
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*United Nations Resident Coordinator*

  
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*United Nations Development Programme*

  
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*United Nations Children's Fund*

  
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*Pan American Health Organisation*

  
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*United Nations Population Fund*

# 1. Introduction

## *1.1 Purpose of the UNDAF*

This UNDAF constitutes the strategic framework for United Nations (UN) -sponsored development assistance to the country of Belize, its government and people, for the period January 2007 to December 2011. It is the result of the first UN Common Country Programming Process in Belize and guides the work of all UN agencies and their partners in contributing strategically to the human rights principles and standards, and to improved levels of human and sustainable development. The strategic aim of this UNDAF is to assist the Government of Belize and its partners to accelerate progress to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Declaration. In particular it aims to reduce the disparities and inequities that characterize the lives and opportunities of the vulnerable and excluded population groups, specifically addressing threats to development in Belize such as HIV and natural disasters, to enhance socio-economic development and ensure it occurs in a sustainable manner.

The objectives and expected outputs described in this framework flow directly from the findings of the Belize Common Country Assessment 2005 (CCA). Guided by the MDGs and Declaration, the objectives are in accordance with the broad development priorities identified by the Government of Belize (GOB). They build on the lessons learnt and best practices of the UN agencies and their national development partners. The expected outputs and results are compatible with the value-added delivery capacity of the small UN presence in Belize. There is a clear commitment by UN agencies in Belize to achieve harmonized programme cycles, to pool resources and technical capacities to better focus and coordinate joint planning and implementation, to achieve a far greater impact by working together than the individual agencies could achieve alone. Bringing a human rights approach to programming, with specific attention to gender and culture, and using a strong results based orientation, this UNDAF marks a new direction for the UN family in Belize, opening spaces and opportunities for stronger collaboration with the government and civil society than ever before.

The UNDAF is key to ongoing efforts to reinforce with Government of Belize the inter-relationship between human rights, sustainable human development and poverty reduction, and to affirm the centrality of gender equality, equity and women's empowerment to the achievement of all these goals, at national and sub-national levels. Ideally, the National Poverty Elimination Strategy and Action Plan (NPESAP) (currently being updated) will constitute a comprehensive development umbrella providing further direction for the UNDAF.

Although addressing challenges at country-wide level, the UNDAF's emphasis on reducing disparities and inequities demands a special focus on critical programme areas, geographical areas and target populations to achieve sustained improvements in governance practices, education and health care outputs, protective environments, reversing the HIV and AIDS epidemic, disaster risk management and natural resources management.

## ***1.2 Preparation process***

The decision to develop a CCA and UNDAF was taken by the UNCT in September of 2005. Sector consultations were conducted with government and civil society organizations (CSOs) partners, where exercises to validate and analyze data, identify causal factors and prioritise key development challenges were essential preparatory steps leading to the identification of broad UNDAF outcomes at the Strategic Prioritization Retreat conducted in November / December of 2005. The Outcomes are based on the search for the optimum combination of four sets of defining parameters: a) The national challenges in view of complying with human rights and other international treaties, the Millennium Declaration and Development Goals; b) The development priorities of the Government of Belize as expressed in the sectoral development strategies and plans, including the draft National Poverty Elimination Strategy and Action Plan; c) The lessons learned by UN agencies, government authorities and non-governmental organizations from previous UN cooperation; d) The expected resource bases and delivery capacity of the UN system in Belize.

During the retreat, the emphasis given to human rights – as universal and indivisible – was seen as particularly relevant to a country with a small population but substantial development challenges. The retreat benefited from the high level contribution of representatives of Government, Donor Agencies, Civil Society Organizations and the UN system, resident and non-resident agencies. With the MDGs at its centre, and guided by the Concluding Observations of treaty bodies, and other relevant instruments, the Results Matrix was further elaborated by the UNCT to be broad enough to address current as well as unexpected development challenges over the coming five years, but specific enough, measurable and time bound, holding the UN team accountable for their achievement by December of 2011. The process culminated in a sharing of the matrix at an UNDAF Stakeholder Review and Validation meeting on 19 May 2006, with the final UNDAF signed by the Government of Belize and the UN agencies in Belize at a Joint Strategic Meeting on 7 June 2006.

## ***1.3 The MDGs at a Glance***

Key macro indicators suggest that, while Belize has experienced continuous economic growth over the past decade, there has been no relationship established between average income per capita and a reduction in the levels of inequality in Belize. Income and wealth distribution patterns have contributed to a widening of poverty and a decline in key social well-being indicators. Disaggregated development data for Belize, which are increasingly available, indicate dramatic geographic, gender and ethnic disparities, demanding attention from the UN system to the most excluded and vulnerable populations. As pointed out in the CCA, the country's "*inequality is therefore the manifestation of the central structural problem, which development policy in Belize must address*". This challenge is multi-dimensional and its solutions will need to be based on advancing the normative framework of human rights standards and principles, enshrined in international and national instruments.

The Belize MDG Report 2004 assessed progress toward achievement on most of the MDGs. Several challenges are pending with increased and better targeted investment required and a renewed focus on the role of gender, if poverty and nutrition are to be addressed effectively and the spread of HIV stemmed. Problems of sustainability are evident, and threaten a regression in particular in relation to Goals 4 and 5. Within the context of the Millennium Declaration and the MDGs, and the focus on the most excluded, the UNDAF – and by extension the UN system - adds value to the plight of human progress in Belize. Its thrust is



to provide a focus on strengthening the capacity of duty bearers in the area of national development and sectoral planning, policy development and implementation, effective social investment and governance in their obligation to deliver services and products that are compatible with economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights; while at the same time empowering the claim holders to know, monitor and claim their rights.

### 1.4 Basic national data

		year
Population (persons)	291,800	2005
Rural population (%)	51	2005
Life Expectancy at birth (years)	71.5	2004
GDP per capita (US\$)	3,664	2005
Public and Publicly guaranteed Debt to GDP (%)	91.3	2004
Territory protected for bio-diversity (%)	44	2005
Unemployment rate (%)	11.0	2005
Poverty, total population (%)	33.5	2002
Adult Literacy Rate (%)	77.1	2003
U5MR (per 10,000 live births)	23.5	2005
Maternal Mortality (per 100,000 live births)	137.0	2005
HIV Prevalence Rate. (%)	2.4	2005

### 1.5 Map of Belize



## 2. Results

This UNDAF reinforces that the mutual pursuit of the Millennium Declaration, the MDGs and the national compliance obligations under UN instruments, constitute the single most powerful strategy for focusing national action to maximize human rights, sustainable human development and poverty reduction for the citizens of Belize, with attention to equity concerns.

From the national priorities, the UNDAF identifies three key UNDAF programme areas. The programme areas are broad in scope, to be achieved through a partnership between the Government of Belize, UN agencies and civil society organizations. The three programme areas are:

1. Poverty elimination by investing in people
2. Reverse the spread of HIV and AIDS
3. Improve sustainable development practices

Within each of these umbrella programme areas, a total of twelve outcomes are identified, and where possible baseline information, indicators and targets are then described for each of these. Specific outputs are then articulated for each of these twelve outcomes. Joint planning and programming missions and meetings have been conducted within the UNCT to then establish how the UN family, will come together to ensure the achievement of each of the outcomes.

The under-lying assumption of this UNDAF is that with the allocation of UN resources to the three broad Outcome areas, the UN system and its partners will make a substantial and strategic contribution to the development and implementation of a national development plan, which is human rights-based and closely aligned with the MDGs and the Declaration.

The operational assumption of this UNDAF is that the delivery of a series of defined country program outputs, for which the UN can be held accountable, will – in conjunction with outputs provided by parallel flows of development investments - logically contribute to the achievement of a number of Country Programme Outcomes. The attainment of each of the Country Programme Outcomes is expected to establish an up-scaling effect for the ultimate realization of national targets in the three priority strategic areas. The collaboration inherent in this work will provide opportunities to enhance stronger partnerships with government, civil society groups, international financial institutions, and bi-lateral donors. A further layer for focus in this UNDAF is the support to Government in meeting their reporting obligations to treaty bodies, and ensuring coordination of follow-up actions to the relevant Concluding Observations.

### 2.1 UNDAF Outcome 1

By 2011, the most vulnerable and excluded populations fulfill their rights to more equitable and quality basic education, health and protection, guided by processes based on democratic governance principles

The CCA of Belize graphically illustrates that poverty is not only about economic deprivation but a deprivation of opportunity. The structural inequities in Belize, weak governance and a culture of poor development planning, the lack of distribution systems, skewed land ownership and wealth distribution are all contributing factors to a development picture in Belize that is noteworthy for marked geographic, gender and ethnic disparities. These development challenges are further complicated by the size of Belize - from its low density population resulting in high cost per capita service provision to its shallow pool of human resources on which the government may draw.

Poverty reduction in Belize depends on establishing a relationship between the rate of average income growth and changes in the levels of inequality. The current public and government-acknowledged demand for improved governance at all levels of state institutions, provides opportunities to accompany and reinforce decentralization efforts in order to enhance meaningful democratic governance practices, sustainable community development and poverty alleviation strategies at central and decentralized levels. The CCA stresses the need to strengthen national mechanisms for the respect, achievement and fulfillment of human rights. This UNDAF proposes a series of collaborative efforts to cover the full spectrum of national actors and players in the development debate while strengthening the institutional and technical capacity of the national entities involved in human rights education and monitoring. It will also invest in the human capital of the poor, recognizing as insufficient a focus on MDG1 alone, bringing elements such as access to quality education, health, nutrition, social and political participation as having a positive impact on growth and development.

The UN will support efforts to create enhanced levels of awareness and application of human rights standards and principles, support service delivery and strengthen the foundations for democratic governance. Establishing and improving democratic governance principles and practices are vital requisites for the design and implementation of sound strategies for national development and effective poverty reduction. The UNDAF proposes to support the Government to strengthen strategic planning and budgeting capacity of targeted Ministries and Departments, and greatly improve quality and use of statistical data, with an emphasis on demographic, gender, vulnerable groups and geographic disaggregation. In addition to promoting decentralized cooperation among and between authorities at decentralized levels, immediate targets are the strengthening of the local social fabric, local economies and natural resources management and the equitable coverage and quality, of social services for vulnerable local populations. Special attention will be given to improving the space for women, both at policy- and decision making level and at the recipient end of provided services.

The main results expected include: (a) public policy and investment reflecting the rights and priorities of the most vulnerable in society, (b) comprehensive data management and dissemination system produces timely data on MDGs that inform policy, advocacy and programming planning and (c) mechanisms established to build capacity and improve transparency and participation in the budgeting process. In addition, the UN will help children to enjoy early childhood development programmes and basic quality education, promote safe behaviours and healthy lifestyles, improve access to the health care, including “safe motherhood” services, particularly among vulnerable groups (under-served rural areas, and strengthen protection and protection services to address violence, abuse, exploitation and discrimination).

The UN will work closely with other international partners including Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Department for International Development (DFID) to ensure a coordinated approach and efficient and effective use of resources geared to achieving the MDGs. In addition, links will be forged between the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and Central American Integration System (SICA) to maintain cross-sectoral cultural, technical and programme support.

## **2.2 UNDAF Outcome 2**

By 2011, the HIV incidence is reduced by 25% and all infected persons have universal access to prevention, care, treatment and support services.

Belize's current HIV prevalence rate is 2.4%: the highest in Central America and the fifth highest in the Caribbean, with notable features including that: the male to female ratio of HIV cases has now reached 1:1; the increasing infection patterns are strongest for 15-29 year old females, and for 30-49 year old males; in 2002, AIDS was the leading cause of death among women of childbearing age (15-45 years); Belize District has a disproportionately high share of HIV and AIDS cases (in large part due to insufficient care and treatment options combined with a desire to avoid stigmatization and discrimination in their home towns). The Government has guaranteed universal access to testing, counseling and treatment, but high levels of stigma and discrimination prevent the population taking advantage of this response. Mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of the virus is the most significant source of infection in children below the age of 10 years, who account for 6% of all HIV cases and 4% of AIDS cases. Rapid testing, ensuring access of women to peri-natal care in the first trimester, and providing support to HIV positive women planning repeated pregnancies are ongoing challenges.

People living with HIV, young people and children in particular remain largely neglected and uncared for in Belize, with weak institutional capacity to respond to the multiplicity of challenges that they face. The challenges are even greater for the child or adolescent who is orphaned or made vulnerable by HIV or AIDS who suffers a complex combination of psychological distress, stigma and discrimination, economic hardship, malnutrition and illness, fear and isolation. The circumstances, whereabouts and support networks for this extremely vulnerable group need to be ascertained, and response strategies collaboratively developed, sensitively and expeditiously implemented.

While a focus on gender differentials is key to achievement of all the MDGs, it must be emphasized that HIV/AIDS thrives on and intensifies inequalities in Belize. Gender inequality and a neglect of the human rights of women and girls are evidenced by unequal power relations, women unable to negotiate sexual reproductive health, girls abused by much older men, high rates of intra-familial sexual abuse, and a lowering of the age of the first sexual encounter. These are indicative of a vulnerable situation for HIV as well as sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

The UN System initiatives to achieve this UNDAF outcome are broadly designed to ensure that all women, girls, boys and men have the knowledge and resources necessary to protect themselves, to reduce the spread of HIV and to live dignified and fulfilling lives, and have

their human rights protected with the power, resources, infrastructure and support required to cope with the consequences of HIV and AIDS.

UN initiatives will draw on strong collaboration with national partners to a) reduce the vulnerability of women, girls, boys and men to HIV infection, b) ensure access to right-based, age, gender and culture sensitive prevention information; b) increase school and community based life-skills interventions; c) promote user-friendly sexual reproductive health information, skills and commodities; and d) address stigma and discrimination through legislative reform and increased gender-sensitive public awareness. A challenge for the UN system and partners will be to ensure that behaviour-change communication, information and skills that challenge concepts of masculinity and femininity and gender roles, are heard and utilized by children, young people and adults.

Capacity for the integrated clinical management of HIV and AIDS infections and increased access to treatments (ARVs and drugs for opportunistic infections) will also be strengthened and decentralized to achieve a 50% reduction in the vertical transmission of HIV, and the scaling-up of education and prevention services. Ensuring a comprehensive network of support for the prevention, care, treatment and protection of children and adolescents orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV will be key to the programming that flows from this UNDAF Outcome over the coming five years. Efforts in this regard will ensure creation of a protective environment in communities free of stigma and discrimination, where community members feel accountable for the care and protection of their most vulnerable members, and where young people, especially girls, have increased access to sexual and reproductive health services and commodities.

Success of UN efforts relies on ongoing technical support to strengthen, coordinate and decentralize national response. Technical support to duty bearers to better promote, protect and realize human rights will be provided, including to non-state actors and to the National AIDS Commission (NAC) to ensure that their role in coordinating national efforts is realized, and that there is a functioning and efficient monitoring and evaluation system for HIV and AIDS within Belize.

The UN efforts will build on the many lessons learnt, which include that women and girls must be partners in designing and implementing programmes targeted to their protection; the fact that universal provision of treatment must be accompanied by strategies to reduce stigma and discrimination, including those that build trust and confidence in the confidentiality of health and other services. Strategies will also be directed to ensure better performing and more accountable public institutions. In particular, the national coordinating mechanism will be encouraged to focus more effectively on coordination, monitoring, and evaluation functions, delivering powerful behaviour-change communication and providing support to the CSOs working with all PLWHA, with strategic support for orphans and vulnerable children. The UN will promote stronger national coordination, including to ensure that the Global Funds are efficiently and effectively utilized. The limited pool of human resources in Belize creates challenges as does the fact that the resources dedicated within government departments to addressing HIV and AIDS are limited often to only one person carrying an enormous workload. A further strategy will promote cross-departmental, cross sector consultation and problem- solving on HIV and AIDS related issues.

The UN Theme Group on HIV and AIDS will continue to oversee UN efforts on HIV and AIDS. Coordination and implementation will be sought from the NAC. Relevant Ministries will be engaged in regular consultation and problem solving. Key CSO partners will network more cohesively to ensure that PLWHA, especially women, children and adolescents are not denied their rights to protection, prevention, care, treatment and support.

### **2.3 UNDAF Outcome 3**

By 2011, national frameworks and capacities are in place enhancing the ability to adequately address adaptation to and mitigation of the impact of disasters as well as the comprehensive, equitable, sustainable and effective management of the nation's natural resources.

The CCA emphasizes that the growth-driven expansion of human activity and impact, the existing physical characteristics and the possible impact of climatic changes create serious demands for a further rationalization of natural resource management practices and sustainable development strategies. This situation has brought home the need to further improve and strengthen the national technical and management capacities for proper natural resources utilization as well as to mainstream sustainable development concerns and strategies into the overall national development debate. In addition to the forecasted negative impacts of climate change, key sustainable development challenges remain in the areas of over-exploitation of marine resources, solid waste management and sustainable land management practices. There is also an urgent need to formulate a comprehensive energy policy, since current and future energy supply and demand features at industrial, commercial and domestic level require the integration of energy matters within the scope of international commitments and national development strategies.

The historical, comparative advantage and the track record of the UN agencies in the environment sector allow for a continuation of the previous assistance strategies, which enjoy full ownership of the government. Interventions in this area will continue to have, therefore, a highly recognizable profile. Previous efforts to strengthen national capacities in developing and managing regulatory frameworks under the Multilateral Environment Agreements will continue. This UNDAF will place additional emphasis on the mainstreaming of these achievements into the national strategies for human and sustainable development, as a prerequisite for highlighting and utilizing the poverty-reducing potential of sound natural resource management. In this way, opportunities for a more equitable distribution of socioeconomic benefits derived from the responsible exploitation of natural resources will be enhanced. The program will take advantage of the widespread acknowledgement of the need for evidence-based policy dialogue and formulation, and will develop initiatives for an improved and broad-based mechanism for knowledge management and information sharing at central and decentralized levels.

Under this UNDAF outcome, specific attention will be given to three features that have been identified as developing threats to current and future environmental parameters. Looming high levels of land degradation and possible negative pressures on the availability and quality of water resources forcefully demand new and innovative approaches and strategies to address their negative impact on human development and feed constructively into strategies for human socioeconomic activity. Existing long-term climatic prognoses and Belize's high

level of vulnerability to the impact of changing climate patterns require interventions that will increase the national capacity in the short and medium term to effectively plan for adaptation measures as well as to decrease the level of vulnerability.

Involvement and empowerment of civil society organizations and communities is a crosscutting policy and implementation strategy throughout the various portfolios of this UNDAF. This UNDAF outcome will put special emphasis on assisting in the delivery of innovative strategies to involve non-state and community based actors in the dialogue for, and practices of, sustainable development. It will empower these actors to become direct stakeholders in policy development and the distribution process for benefits derived from natural resources exploitation.

The CCA highlights the vulnerability of around 75% of the population of Belize to natural disasters, which impact particularly the poor, with devastation exacerbated by land degradation. GOB has established a surveillance and rapid response system that aims to address serious destruction and disruption caused to household and community primarily, but not only, by hurricanes and flooding. More effective environmental management and people-centred response measures must be targeted to those populations (especially women and children and the aged) and excluded populations (disadvantaged ethnic groups and rural and remote communities) with poorer access to services and assistance, or where poor land management increases vulnerability. There exists a need to address adaptation measures on a national scale as part of the efforts to minimize the impact of natural and man-made disasters. The potential of adolescents to play a significant role in preparedness for and response to natural disasters will also be enhanced.

This UNDAF will focus on assisting the central and decentralized emergency management authorities as well as communities to increase their respective capacities to develop, mainstream and implement adequate risk reduction and disaster response measures. An important function of the UNDAF will be to link existing national disaster and risk management entities to external support sources.

### **3. Resources**

An estimate of the financial resources targets that the UN system aims to mobilize to contribute in a meaningful manner to the achievement of the three UNDAF outcomes is shown in the table below. Additional details for some UN agencies are provided in the Results Matrix in Annex A. The contributions include regular and other resources of contributing UN funds, programs, and specialized agencies for the period 2007-2011. The specific interventions and resource commitments of each agency will subsequently be spelled out in greater detail in their respective Country Program Documents (CPD) and Country Program Action Plans (CPAP) according to the procedures and approval mechanisms of each agency. Acting together with government, the UN Country Team will, to the extent possible, mobilize the other resources from multi-lateral and bilateral donors.

Table 2: Resource Mobilization Targets 2007-2011 (USD)

Agency	UNDAF Outcome 1	UNDAF Outcome 2	UNDAF Outcome 3*	Total
PAHO/WHO**				
UNDP	775,000	50,000	5,180,000	6,005,000
UNFPA	700,000	750,000	100,000	1,550,000
UNICEF	2,585,000	750,000	300,000	3,635,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,360,000</b>	<b>1,550,000</b>	<b>5,280,000</b>	<b>11,190,000</b>

\* UNDAF Outcome 3 includes Disaster Response interventions; however the capacity of UN agencies to immediately re-programme current funds and/or to access Emergency Programme Funds (from Headquarters and/or external donors) is not reflected with a dollar figure in this column.

\*\* The PAHO/WHO programme cycle is not harmonized with the one of the Ex Com agencies. PAHO/WHO operates on a two year planning cycle, which does not facilitate a resource projection over the full UNDAF program cycle.

#### 4. Implementation of the UNDAF

This UNDAF will be implemented through a series of programs and related projects that are formulated and approved by the respective UN agencies and the Government of Belize. The Results Matrix and its set of specific outputs and outcomes will provide reference and guidance for all partners in view of the direction and intended effects.

The CCA mentions that the presence and volume of multi-lateral and bi-lateral development assistance in Belize has declined. The UN agencies in Belize realize the need to advocate for improved efficiency levels of coordination and harmonization of all development assistance, to be better aligned with the national development agenda and the achievement of the MDGs. The UNCT will utilize the UNDAF to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of donor coordination and harmonization initiatives.

From the operational start of the UNDAF in January 2007, the program cycles of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF are fully synchronized. Building on existing programming practices, and driven by the limited resource base, the UNDAF will require and provide increased opportunities for joint programs and projects to deliver products in the most efficient and effective manner, while also simplifying collaboration mechanisms between the development actors. The structure and content of the UNDAF will enhance joint programming practices with PAHO/WHO and provides a programming platform for existing and new non-resident UN agencies to make strategic investments in the achievement of the UNDAF and the related MDGs.



## **5. Monitoring and Evaluation**

### ***5.1 Monitoring***

The UN Country Team in Belize will be responsible for the monitoring of the implementation of the UNDAF and will receive technical support from UN Technical Working Group (UNTWG), comprised of technical staff of all UN agencies. The UNTWG will establish various sub-groups according to thematic areas addressed in the UNDAF Outcomes. Representatives from relevant government and non-governmental partners will partake in these sub-groups.

The UNCT will review progress and constraints in implementation on a semi-annual basis. Reports to the UNCT, which will be based on the results of ongoing project monitoring activities, and studies and surveys will serve as input into documented UNDAF annual reviews, which will be submitted under the auspices of the UNCT. The Monitoring and Evaluation framework provides an overview of the specific indicators that have been selected for measuring progress and impact.

Under the overall guidance of the UNCT, the UNTWG sub-groups will perform the following tasks:

- Implementation of the proposed schedule of monitoring activities as laid out in the monitoring & evaluation framework of this UNDAF;
- Assessing and reporting on new challenges that might require adjustments to the UNDAF or any of its segments; and
- Provide input to the preparation of the Resident Coordinator's Annual Report and to the MDG Report.

### ***5.2 Evaluation***

An UNDAF evaluation will take place in the first half of 2010. It will be a joint review, conducted with partners to assess the overall results of the UNDAF. The review process will draw on the major data collection exercises conducted from 2007 through 2009. The review will also ascertain the effectiveness of the UNDAF as a mechanism to achieve national development goals and strengthen coordination between agencies, and reduce programmatic transaction costs for partners.

## Annex A

# United Nations Development Assistance Framework Belize 2007 – 2011

## Results Matrix

National Priority Area Poverty Elimination by investing in people		
UNDAF Outcome 1 By 2011, the most vulnerable and excluded populations fulfill their rights to more equitable and quality basic education, health and protection, guided by processes based on democratic governance principles. <b>Intended Resource Mobilization Targets (US\$)</b> UNICEF           2,585,000 UNFPA            700,000 UNDP             775,000 PAHO/WHO <i>To be determined</i>		
Country Program Outcomes	Country Program Outputs	UN Agency
<b>1.1</b> By 2011, democratic governance practices are improved at all levels with government and non-state actors.	<b>1.1.1</b> Strengthened capacity at all levels in government and non-state actors to formulate, implement and monitor policies and legislation that contribute to improved governance practices.	PAHO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF
	<b>1.1.2</b> Improved research, data collection & compilation, disaggregation, analysis and reporting systems.	PAHO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF
	<b>1.1.3</b> Effective targeting, transparency and monitoring of national programs, budget allocations and investments that reflect human rights-based approached.	UNDP UNICEF
	<b>1.1.4</b> Strengthened culture of human, civil and political rights and responsibilities.	UNDP UNICEF
<b>1.2</b> Universal access to quality, free basic education delivered in child-friendly environments.	<b>1.2.1</b> Strengthened technical capacity of the education system to formulate, implement and monitor education policies and regulations.	UNICEF
	<b>1.2.2</b> Strengthened ability to rationalize costs of education for families.	UNICEF
	<b>1.2.3</b> Vulnerable families and communities mobilized and empowered to support children's full basic and continuing education.	UNICEF

	<b>1.2.4</b> Teachers trained in life skills education content and delivery methodologies.	UNFPA, UNICEF
	<b>1.2.5</b> Children are learning in a safe and healthy environment.	UNICEF
<b>1.3</b> Safe, protective and healthy environments at national and community levels established.	<b>1.3.1</b> Institutional capacity of government and civil society, including the media, strengthened to protect and monitor the rights of women and children and to respond to rights violations.	UNDP, UNICEF
	<b>1.3.2</b> Women, children and communities empowered to exercise and monitor their rights to safe environments, safe from abuse, exploitation and violence.	UNICEF
	<b>1.3.3</b> Enhanced national capacity for the planning, implementation and evaluation of food safety and food & nutrition security programs.	PAHO
	<b>1.3.4</b> Improved monitoring of drinking water quality of and maintenance of potable water supply systems, particularly in rural areas.	PAHO
	<b>1.3.5</b> National solid waste management plan revised and implemented.	PAHO
	<b>1.3.6</b> Sanitation and community hygiene practices improved.	PAHO, UNICEF
	<b>1.3.7</b> Reduction of employment-related injuries and diseases.	PAHO
<b>1.4</b> Universal access to quality and affordable health care.	<b>1.4.1</b> Revised health agenda implemented with emphasis on family and community-oriented primary health care.	PAHO
	<b>1.4.2</b> Strengthened capacity of MOH to implement and monitor Health Sector Reform Initiative.	PAHO
	<b>1.4.3</b> Universal access to “safe motherhood” and sexual and reproductive health education, information and services.	PAHO, UNFPA, UNICEF
	<b>1.4.4</b> Immunization coverage among excluded populations increased while maintaining current national coverage levels.	PAHO UNICEF
	<b>1.4.5</b> Family and community practices on child health and nutrition strengthened.	PAHO UNICEF
	<b>1.4.6</b> Regional capacity with emphasis on strengthening strategic planning and project management improved and weak essential public health functions strengthened.	PAHO
<b>1.5</b> Improved prevention and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases.	<b>1.5.1</b> Reduced incidence of vector-borne diseases.	PAHO
	<b>1.5.2</b> Strengthened national epidemiological surveillance system.	PAHO
	<b>1.5.3</b> A national program for the prevention and control of priority non-communicable diseases developed and functioning effectively.	PAHO

National Priority Area Reverse the Spread of HIV and AIDS		
UNDAF Outcome 2 By 2011, the HIV incidence is reduced by 25% and all infected persons have universal access to prevention, care, treatment and support services.		
<b>Intended Resource Mobilization Targets (US\$)</b>		
UNFPA	750,000	
UNICEF	750,000	
PAHO/WHO	<i>To be determined</i>	
UNIFEM	15,000	
UNDP	50,000	
Country Program Outcomes	Country Program Outputs	UN Agency
<b>2.1</b> An enabling environment created to reduce the vulnerability of key populations.	<b>2.1.1</b> Vulnerable groups access rights-based, age, gender and culturally sensitive HIV and AIDS prevention information and sexual and reproductive health information skills and commodities	UNICEF, UNFPA, PAHO, UNIFEM
	<b>2.1.2</b> Vulnerable groups have access to, and utilize user-friendly and non-discriminatory, health, counseling and testing services	UNICEF, UNFPA, PAHO
	<b>2.1.3</b> Stigma and discrimination addressed through legislative reform and increased public awareness.	UNICEF, UNFPA
	<b>2.1.4</b> Strengthened and increased provision of school and community-based life skills interventions.	UNICEF, UNFPA
	<b>2.1.5</b> Increased evidenced-based planning to support interventions for young persons with special emphasis on the vulnerabilities of young women, girls, and indigenous populations.	UNICEF, UNFPA
<b>2.2</b> Strengthened and decentralized capacity for clinical management of HIV and AIDS infections and increased access to treatment options.	<b>2.2.1</b> 50% reduction in vertical transmission of HIV (MTCT).	UNICEF, PAHO
	<b>2.2.2</b> Scaled-up services including prevention, care and treatment for HIV and AIDS, other Sexually Transmitted Infections and tuberculosis integrated in the national health system.	UNICEF, UNFPA PAHO
	<b>2.2.3</b> Improved volume and universal access to ARV drugs and treatment of PLWHA for opportunistic infections.	PAHO

<b>2.3</b> Children orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS and their families receive support and care.	<b>2.3.1</b> Increased access to improved and integrated, equitable basic services including education, health care, birth registration and psychosocial support for OVCs.	UNICEF, PAHO
	<b>2.3.2</b> Increased advocacy, awareness and social mobilization to promote supportive environment for children and their families living with HIV and AIDS.	UNICEF, UNFPA, PAHO
<b>2.4</b> The national response is strengthened, coordinated and decentralized.	<b>2.4.1</b> An effective monitoring and evaluation system for HIV and AIDS established and functioning.	UNICEF, UNFPA, PAHO
	<b>2.4.2</b> Increased capacity of non-state actors to contribute to the national response.	UNICEF, UNFPA
	<b>2.4.3</b> An effective national-level HIV and AIDS response network, characterized by improved joint planning, comprehensive programming and collaborative implementation	UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP, PAHO

National Priority Area Improving Sustainable Development Practices		
UNDAF Outcome 3 By 2011, national frameworks and capacities in place enhancing the ability to adequately address adaptation to and mitigation of the impact of disasters as well as the comprehensive, equitable, sustainable and effective management of the nation's natural resources.		
<b>Intended Resource Mobilization Targets (US\$)</b> PAHO/WHO <i>To be determined</i> UNDP 5,180,000 UNICEF 300,000 UNFPA 100,000		
Country Program Outcomes	Country Program Outputs	UN Agency
<b>3.1</b> Reduced vulnerability of poor and excluded populations to the impact of disasters.	<b>3.1.1</b> Increased capacity of state actors and communities to implement effective risk reduction and response measures.	PAHO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF
	<b>3.1.2</b> National disaster management authority strengthened to fully integrate and implement hazard mitigation policies and strategies.	PAHO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF
	<b>3.1.3</b> National and international partnerships in the area of disaster & risk management networks are fully functional.	PAHO, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF
<b>3.2</b> An operationalized framework for the national integrated sustainable development strategy developed.	<b>3.2.1</b> Strengthened national capacity in dealing with legal and regulatory frameworks under Multilateral Environment Agreements, allowing for adequate mainstreaming of these conventions into national policies and strategies.	UNDP
	<b>3.2.2</b> Increased national capacity to effectively address vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.	UNDP
	<b>3.2.3</b> Environmental policies and strategies are integrated into the national development agenda to enhance a comprehensive response to the needs of the vulnerable and excluded groups.	UNDP
	<b>3.2.4</b> Innovative approaches and strategies established for improved sustainable land use and comprehensive water resources management and utilization knowledge and practices.	UNDP
	<b>3.2.5</b> Improved data and information management among natural resources managers and stakeholders.	UNDP
<b>3.3</b> Increased capacity of vulnerable groups to benefit more equitably from sustainably managed natural resources.	<b>3.3.1</b> Enhanced capacity of non-state actors and communities to participate in sustainable development dialogue and practices.	UNDP- GEF/SGP

**Annex B**

**UNDAF 2007 – 2011  
Belize  
Outline of the  
Monitoring and Evaluation Framework**

The following tables provide an outline of the UNDAF Monitoring and Evaluation framework. The elaboration of the respective Country Program Documents will result in the fine-tuning of this outline, providing base line data and targets for each of the provided indicators, as well as the formulation of the Monitoring and Evaluation Calendar.

National Priority Area Poverty Elimination by Investing in People			
OUTCOMES	INDICATORS* *: Minimally disaggregated by sex, age, ethnicity, religion, region	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS
<b>UNDAF Outcome 1</b> By 2011, the most vulnerable and excluded populations fulfill their rights to more equitable and quality based education, health and protection.	a) Primary Education Net Enrolment Rate b) Primary Education Completion Rate c) Adult Literacy d) IMR / U5MR / MMR e) Life Expectancy	-MOE Annual Education Statistical Digest - School Management Records and Reports - MOE DevInfo database - Annual MOH reports, - Hospital/Health Center records, - Vital Statistics Unit, - Belize Abstract of Statistics	<u>Assumptions</u> - Duty bearers at state and civil society level are willing to meet their obligations and empowered rights holders are willing to claim and able to monitor the fulfillment of their rights. - Political consensus is maintained to improve democratic governance practices and to decentralize
<b>Country Program Outcomes 1.1</b> By 2011, good governance, transparency and accountability are improved at all levels with government and non-state actors.	a) % of National budget allocated to social investment b) % of Key indicators disaggregated (gender, ethnicity, region ,urban/rural, age) c ) % of Population with knowledge of human & civil rights d) Involvement of non-state actors in design, monitoring and evaluation of public policy	- Annual National Budgets (Min. of Finance) - Belize Abstract of Statistics - National DevInfo systems - Surveys on knowledge of Human Rights - Annual Reports CSOs	

<p><b>1.2</b> Universal access to quality, free basic education delivered in child-friendly environments.</p>	<p>a) Pre-school enrolment rate b) Primary education completion rate c) % of Schools certified as child-friendly d) Portion of HH budget, allocated to primary education e) Transition rate primary to secondary education</p>	<p>- MOE Annual Education Statistical Digest - School Management Records and Reports - MOE DevInfo database</p>	<p><b>decision-making authority.</b> - A comprehensive and effective poverty reduction strategy is in place. - Education system able to provide adequate physical space and professional training of educators translates into ability to deliver. - Adequate availability of trained medical personnel</p> <p><u>Risks</u></p> <p>- Stagnation of economic growth and sustained fiscal austerity - Further political polarization impeding a rational debate on development strategies - An unmanageable increase of violence and crime rates. - Negative impact of disasters - Possible demographic changes (migration, dependency ratio)</p>
<p><b>1.3</b> Protective and healthy environments at national and community levels established</p>	<p>a) Death due to violence b) Incidence of gender-based violence c) Teenage pregnancy rate d) Birth registration rate d) % of Population without access to improved water source e) % of Population without access to improved sanitation f) # of Fatal industrial accidents</p>	<p>- MOH health surveillance database - MOH DevInfo - Poverty Assessment Reports - Belize Abstract of Statistics - Health surveys</p>	
<p><b>1.4</b> Universal access to quality and affordable health care.</p>	<p>a) % of Trained medical and public health personnel per 1,000 population b) % of National budget allocated to health sector c) U5MR d) MMR e) Prevalence of malnutrition and obesity f) Contraceptive prevalence rate g) Average health care costs per household</p>	<p>- MOH health surveillance database - MOH DevInfo - Poverty Assessment Reports - Belize Abstract of Statistics - Demographic and health surveys - Records of medical facilities</p>	
<p><b>1.5</b> Improved preventative and clinical management of communicable and non-communicable diseases</p>	<p>a) Incidence of malaria b) Incidence of diarrhoeal diseases c) Incidence of diabetes d) Incidence of hypertension</p>	<p>- MOH health surveillance database - MOH DevInfo - Poverty Assessment Reports - Belize Abstract of Statistics - Demographic and health surveys - Records of medical facilities</p>	



**National Priority Area**  
Reverse the spread of HIV and AIDS

RESULTS	INDICATORS* *: Minimally disaggregated by sex, age, ethnicity, religion, region	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS
<b>UNDAF Outcome 2</b> By 2011, the HIV incidence is reduced by 25% and all infected persons have universal access to prevention, care, treatment and support services	a) HIV Prevalence (15-24 yrs old) b) Proportion of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS c) Deaths due to AIDS	- MOH health surveillance database - MOH DevInfo - Poverty Assessment Reports - Belize Abstract of Statistics - Demographic and health surveys - Records of medical facilities - Periodic HIV/AIDS reports	<u>Assumptions</u> - Institutional willingness to increase collaboration will result in efficient and effective response. - Increased attention from government and civil society - National patterns of stigma and discrimination can be changed by sustained interventions - Sustained donor support for implementation of national response.  <u>Risks</u> - Stagnation of economic growth and sustained fiscal austerity. - Possible demographic changes (migration, dependency ratio). - Increasing levels of gender-based violence. - Progression of youth sub-cultures, introducing new values systems
<b>Country Program Outcomes 2.1</b> An enabling environment created to reduce the vulnerability of key populations	a) HIV infection rate (15-24 yrs old) b) % of Population with correct knowledge and information on HIV prevention c) Level of stigma and discrimination in selected areas	- OVC-network reports - Research & studies - Reports Min. Human Development - MOH health surveillance database - MOH DevInfo - Periodic HIV/AIDS reports	
<b>2.2</b> Strengthened and decentralized capacity for clinical management of HIV and AIDS infections and increased access to treatment options	a) MTCT rate b) % of Clients accessing HIV counseling and testing services c) % of PLWHAs accessing ARV treatment d) % of AIDS related deaths	- MOH health surveillance database - Demographic and health surveys - Research & studies - Records of medical facilities - Periodic HIV/AIDS reports	
<b>2.3</b> Children orphaned and made vulnerable by HIV and AIDS and their families receive support and care	a) % of OVCs receiving free basic education and health care services b) % of Infected children with access to ARV treatment	- OVC-network reports - Research & studies - Reports Min. Human Development	
<b>2.4</b> The national response is strengthened, coordinated and decentralized	a) % of Population accessing VCT services b) % of Trained personnel providing services as per protocols c) # of CSOs participating in national response structure	- MOH health surveillance database - Demographic and health surveys - Research & studies - Records of VCT facilities - Periodic HIV/AIDS reports	

**National Priority Area**  
Improving Sustainable Development Practices

RESULTS	INDICATORS	SOURCES OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS
<p><b>UNDAF Outcome 3</b> By 2011, national frameworks and capacities in place enhancing the ability to adequately address adaptation to and mitigation of the impact of disasters as well as the comprehensive, equitable, sustainable and effective management of the nation's natural resources</p>	<p>a) % of GDP loss, due to disasters b) Proportion of land areas covered by forests c) Proportion of national territory protected by legislation d) Level of cooperation between government and non-state actors</p>	<p>- Belize Abstract of Statistics - NEMO Reports - Belize Abstract of Environmental Statistics - National Communications &amp; Reports on Multilateral Environment Agreements - Studies &amp; reports from projects in the operational areas (Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land degradation, etc)</p>	<p><u>Assumptions</u> - Technical capacity at central level to coordinate, and ability of communities to participate in design, planning and implementation of risk management strategies. - National consensus to integrate adequate natural resources management and land use strategies into national development agenda. - Commitment of the state to community co-management of natural resources, enhanced by a decentralization strategy.</p>
<p><b>3.1</b> Reduced vulnerability of poor and excluded populations to the impact of disasters</p>	<p>a) % of GDP loss due to disasters b) Human loss due to disasters c) % of Dwellings and development in disaster-prone areas</p>	<p>- Belize Abstract of Statistics - NEMO Reports - Belize Abstract of Environmental Statistics - Studies &amp; reports.</p>	<p>- Negative impacts from natural disasters in specific, and climate change-related effects in general on socio-economic indicators - Negative effects from possible demographic changes (migration, population growth) and uncontrolled increase of human activity.</p>
<p><b>3.2</b> An operationalized framework for the national integrated sustainable development strategy</p>	<p>a) % of Lands covered by environmental protection schemes (protected areas as % of total area; forest area as % of land area) b) % of National budget allocated to sustainable development c) Ratio withdrawal of ground and surface water to total available resources d) % of Land area affected by degradation e) % of Dwellings and development in disaster-prone areas f) Ratio renewable energy to total generation capacity</p>	<p>- Belize Abstract of Statistics - Belize Abstract of Environmental Statistics - National Communications &amp; Reports on Multilateral Environment Agreements - Studies &amp; reports from projects in the operational areas (Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land degradation, etc)</p>	<p><u>Risks</u> - Negative impacts from natural disasters in specific, and climate change-related effects in general on socio-economic indicators - Negative effects from possible demographic changes (migration, population growth) and uncontrolled increase of human activity.</p>
<p><b>3.3</b> Increased capacity of vulnerable groups to benefit more equitably from sustainable managed natural resources</p>	<p>a) % of GNI derived from catch of major species b) Level of community participation in Protected Areas / SDA management c) Representation of non-state actors in SD councils d) Level of community (co-)management of forest and marine resources</p>	<p>- Belize Abstract of Statistics - Belize Abstract of Environmental Statistics - Studies &amp; reports from Small Grants Projects. - Reports from SD Councils and NGOs / CBOs</p>	<p>(migration, population growth) and uncontrolled increase of human activity.</p>

