

## Annex IX

### Reporting on sustainable implementation approaches for 2022-2023

The strategic plan, 2022-2025 articulates the UNOPS sustainable implementation approaches, which aim to frame safeguards and drive tangible results for people through implementation of projects. For the 2022-2023 biennium, UNOPS presented a framework for monitoring and reporting on these approaches across the three mutually reinforcing dimensions of economic, social, and environmental sustainability, drawing on standards of the Global Reporting Initiative (DP/OPS/2021/6-Annexes).

The framework provides a structured approach to monitor, assess and demonstrate the effect of the sustainable implementation approaches, particularly in implementation projects where UNOPS acts as principal. The aim is to further enhance accountability and transparency of UNOPS performance and results in furtherance of its strategic goals through sustainable implementation. The approaches include measures for local and national capacity development, and comprise three mutually reinforcing dimensions of sustainability: (a) equitable economic growth; (b) social justice and inclusion; (c) environmental respect.

UNOPS commitment to having a positive impact on local economies and national capacities is demonstrated through its approach to implementation of project services. In 2022, UNOPS created 8.7 million days of paid work for local people, exceeding ambitions. With 90 per cent of infrastructure projects generating labour days, paid work created for local women workers and for young local workers significantly surpassed expectations of 1 million labour days for each respective category.

Directly supporting local economies through expanded market access and use of local suppliers wherever possible, 45 per cent of procurement budgets were awarded to local suppliers in locations of operations where UNOPS maintains a physical presence (excluding a large-sized pharmaceutical procurement engagement with the Government of Mexico for comparability of data). In addition, 64 per cent of procurement was awarded to suppliers from developing countries, countries with economies in transition and least developed countries. Whereas UNOPS exceeded its ambitions for women-owned businesses in terms of both participating in tender processes and the value of tenders awarded to these businesses, UNOPS performance in relation to developing capacity for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and women-owned businesses has not yet met the 2022-23 ambition.

As part of efforts to share UNOPS knowledge and expertise, approximately 79 per cent of infrastructure projects implemented by UNOPS reported contributing to developing national capacity, with 75 per cent for women, and 25 per cent for people with disabilities. Similarly, 60 per cent of infrastructure projects reported local community engagement activities, 60 per cent reported such activities for women, and 30 per cent for people with disabilities. Regarding access to a range of basic facilities and services, 63 per cent of UNOPS infrastructure projects reported enabling access, 62 per cent enabled access for women, and 34 per cent for people with disabilities.

UNOPS improved its performance on environmental sustainability measures compared to 2021 results, with an increase in the share of energy consumption from self-generated renewable energy sources, a lower share of infrastructure projects that had significant direct or indirect impact on biodiversity, and an increase in share of infrastructure projects directly protecting and/or restoring habitat areas. UNOPS will continue to work toward meeting its overall ambitions in 2023 on environmental sustainability.

**Table 1. UNOPS framework for sustainable implementation approaches and reporting for 2022-2023**

The table below provides an overview of 2022 results against performance measures as formulated in Annex I of the budget estimates for the biennium 2022-2023 (DP/OPS/2021/6-Annexes).

Dimension	Sustainable implementation approach	Indicator	2021 result	2022-23 ambition	2022 result
a) Equitable economic growth	(i) Ensuring optimum value for money by pursuing effective management practices and investment strategies, upholding the principles of transparency and accountability, and considering appropriate exit strategies <sup>1</sup>	Share of infrastructure projects generating labour days	87%	90%	90%
		Number of labour days created for local workers	6.1 million	5.0 million	8.7 million
	(ii) Contributing to improved livelihoods through equitable employment opportunities for local workforces <sup>1</sup>	Number of labour days created for local women workers	2.4 million	1.0 million	4.1 million
		Number of labour days created for young local workers	1.7 million	1.0 million	1.2 million
	(iii) Supporting local communities through expanded market access and use of local suppliers wherever possible, including opportunities for women- and youth-owned businesses <sup>2</sup>	Share of procurement with local suppliers <sup>3</sup>	47%	55%	45%
		Share of procurement with suppliers from developing countries, countries with economies in transition and least developed countries	61%	60%	64%
		Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and women-owned businesses whose capacity has been developed	325	1,500	792
		Women-owned businesses participating in tender processes	1,444	1,500	1,777
		Value of tenders awarded to women owned businesses	\$12.1 million	\$10.0 million	\$40.5 million
	b) Social justice and inclusion	(i) Exercising due diligence, respect for human rights and rights-based approaches, including for people with disabilities and other special-interest groups, and for advancing gender equality and empowerment of women and girls throughout implementation projects <sup>1</sup>	Share of infrastructure projects with capacity-building activities as part of project delivery	72%	80%
... for women			70%	80%	75%
... for people with disabilities			19%	12%	25%
(ii) Engaging local communities and beneficiaries and ensuring equitable access to project benefits, with a particular emphasis on protecting the most vulnerable <sup>4</sup>		Share of infrastructure projects with local community engagement activities as part of project delivery	53%	65%	60%
		... for women	49%	65%	60%
		... for people with disabilities	25%	12%	30%
(iii) Facilitating access to food, water, sanitation, energy, health, education, justice and security-related service <sup>5</sup>		Share of infrastructure projects enabling access and use of facilities and/or services	64%	60%	63%
		... for women	60%	60%	62%
		... for people with disabilities	37%	30%	34%

c) Environmental respect	<i>(i) Mitigating adverse impacts on the environment and improving biodiversity and ecological resilience</i>	Share of infrastructure projects with significant direct or indirect impact on biodiversity <sup>6</sup>	12%	0%	5%
		Share of infrastructure projects directly protecting and/or restoring habitat areas <sup>7</sup>	3%	10%	8%
	<i>(ii) Using renewable resources, taking into account the interactions between human development and environmental sustainability</i>	Share of UNOPS energy consumption from self-generated renewable energy source <sup>8</sup>	1%	2%	2%
	<i>(iii) Encouraging environmentally responsible supply chains for project implementation</i>	Share of new suppliers screened using environmental criteria <sup>9</sup>	47%	80%	55%
		Share of suppliers completing corrective action and preventive action plans <sup>10</sup>	50%	50%	66%

<sup>1</sup> GRI 203-2: Significant indirect economic impacts

<sup>2</sup> GRI 204: Procurement practices

<sup>3</sup> GRI 204-1: Proportion of spending on local suppliers

<sup>4</sup> GRI 413-1: Operations with local community engagement, impact assessments, and development programmes

<sup>5</sup> GRI NGO4: Measures to integrate gender and diversity into program design and implementation, and the monitoring, evaluation, and learning cycle

<sup>6</sup> GRI 304-2: Significant impacts of activities, products, and services on biodiversity

<sup>7</sup> GRI 304-3: Habitats protected or restored

<sup>8</sup> GRI 302-1: Energy consumption within the organization. The original measure of 'share of UNOPS energy consumption from renewable energy source' updated to 'share of UNOPS energy consumption from self-generated renewable energy source'. As a result, 2022-23 ambition changed from 8 to 2 per cent; the 2021 result changed from 9 to 1 per cent.

<sup>9</sup> GRI 308-1: New suppliers that were screened using environmental criteria. The original measure of 'share of new suppliers for major contracts screened using environmental criteria' updated to 'share of new suppliers screened using environmental criteria'.

<sup>10</sup> GRI 308-2: Negative environmental impacts in the supply chain and actions taken