



UN Namibia 'Delivered as One' in 2018 for sustainable development ***End of year message by the UN Resident Coordinator a.i., Rachel Odede***

2018 was a busy and successful year. Through agencies, funds and programmes, the United Nations (UN) Namibia 'Delivered as One' and dedicated its efforts towards supporting policy implementation, capacity-building as well as advocacy work, solidifying its position as the 'Partner of Choice' for the Government of the Republic of Namibia (GRN).

Through hard work and dedication, we achieved milestones in the priority areas set out in our partnership framework with GRN, the United Nations Partnership Framework (UNPAF) 2014-2018. As this was the last year of implementation of this framework, we jointly finalised and launched the UNPAF 2019-2023 and are preparing for roll out starting January 2019.

This framework aims to eradicate poverty and inequality and is fully aligned with national and international development agendas. This includes the Fifth National Development Plan (NDP5), the Harambee Prosperity Plan (HPP), Namibia's Vision 2030, the Blue Print on Wealth Redistribution and Poverty Eradication, the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Through seven outcomes within four Pillars – Economic Progression, Social Transformation, Economic Sustainability and Good Governance – the UN will execute strategic interventions to support the GRN in addressing Namibia's development challenges.

Namibia has fully committed to achieving sustainable development and has integrated the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its national development plans. UN Namibia continued to play an important role this year in supporting local mainstreaming and achievement of the SDGs. This included supporting a baseline report to monitor implementation locally as well as providing technical and financial support to the GRN to ensure timely preparation of its Voluntary National Review (VNR), which is part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development's follow-up and review mechanism.

Namibia was one of the first African countries to present its VNR in July at Headquarters. The partnership between the GRN and the UN is crucial to ensure that Namibia conducts regular and inclusive reviews of progress towards the Agenda 2030 at the national and sub-national levels.

UN Namibia also continued to focus on strengthening coordination of development partners. Alongside the Government, we provided platforms for partners to discuss and take action towards streamlining development efforts.

Heading into 2019, UN Namibia will focus on improving efficiency, coordination and data collection and analysis to address Namibia's 'last mile challenges'. We are ready to begin implementation of UNPAF 2019-2023 and further support the GRN in ensuring that no one is left behind.

Some key activities and innovations to look forward to include the Joint Area-based Programme, an integrated approach to rural development, and the implementation of a resource mobilization strategy. The Upper Middle-Income Country Strategy for Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland (BLNSS) will be a priority for 2019.

As we close off 2018, the UN System in Namibia wishes you a happy holiday season and good health for the new year. We encourage everyone to continue focusing on eradicating poverty, protecting the environment and standing up for human rights. Together, we can bring about the world we want to see and ensure that future generations are able to prosper.