



Review of the Palestinian Government Preparedness for the Sustainable Development Goals Final Report

In cooperation with SHARAKA Program

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Audit & Control for Building, Development & Good Governance Enhancement

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Executive Summary

Objective & Scope of Review

In 2017, State Audit & Administrative Control Bureau conducted a review of the Palestinian government preparedness to implement Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, using the seven-step model approved by the INTOSAI. The Bureau also evaluated a certain subject of SDGs; poverty elimination (goal 1), and impact brought to general administration improvement, accountability, effectiveness, transparency and government accountability enhancement for the resources use to achieve SDGs.

The Bureau intends to introduce valuable input to the national effort to follow up progress achieved, monitor implementation and determine improvement opportunities for the complete SDGs set.

Brief Answers to Review Questions

**Is the Palestinian government committed enough to follow up SDGs realization?
Are multiple sectors (education, health, etc) involved and committed to set and apply policies to realize SDGs?**

Preliminary findings:

- Government commitment for SDGs through the council of ministers resolution
- All sectors involved and engaged (government, NGOs, private sector, development experts)
- National team was established to lead and coordinate the national effort to implement UN sustainable development plan
- Inclusion of SDGs in National Plans was checked
- SDGs will be implemented through 7 national priorities and 25 national policies
- National plan addresses five basic themes of SDG such as people, planet, partnership, etc.

Considerations:

- There is a strong commitment from the Palestinian government for the SDGs. The SDGs are addressed on a high level with a government decision, a resolution has been adopted, multiple sectors involved and a National Team established to coordinate and follow up.
- Government commitment is also determined in the National Policy Agenda by addressing SDGs in the three main pillars for the period 2017-2022.

How far did the Palestinian government make enough effort to raise social awareness of SDGs?

Preliminary Findings:

- Awareness is in place concerning National Team members, members of Working Groups in different ministries and institutions engaged.
- Meetings and courses to raise awareness about SDGs were held, albeit not regularly, in some institutions.
- Some stakeholders like Ministry of Telecommunication and Bureau of Statistics held introduction meetings about SDGs for their staff.
- In terms of social awareness, there were no activities undertaken by the National Team or the government in general.
- There is no structural program through various types of media/tools to raise awareness to the public.

Considerations:

- The Palestinian government did not make enough efforts to raise public awareness. The undertaken actions were ad hoc and focused on internal (governmental) awareness raising. The actions focused in stage one on setting institutional arrangements in action, and building awareness and commitment among main stakeholders (government, civil society, private sector).

How far have the responsibilities for SDGs realization and progress accountability been clarified and distributed? How far their sources for SDGs, individually and collectively, have been distributed?

Preliminary findings:

- Responsibilities are clearly designated and distributed, especially for the planning stage, localization of indicators, assessment/evaluation/review procedures, progress report and voluntary report for the UN.
- Responsibility for social awareness raising is not determined.
- Responsibilities for SDGs are divided and distributed as per main tasks of each government institution.
- Working groups have been established for each SDG (17 in total), and each working group consists of a variety of representatives from different backgrounds government and non-governmental institutions.
- Tasks were set for these working groups, and the latter were checked for TOR enforcement, such as help review voluntary reports on progress made, in addition to support national effort to monitor development indicators for each SDG.
- The responsibility regarding leading and alignment of effort to localize sustainable development indicators and data monitor/provision is assigned to the Central Bureau of Statistics (by council of ministers decree).

Considerations:

- There is a clear distribution of responsibilities and tasks. This can be found for example in the different sectorial plans. Despite the NGOs plans are part of the National Team and incorporated with sectorial and non-sectorial plans, the NGOs plans are not

associated with the national plan. Moreover, there is not mode of communication and exchange of information between the Government and NGOs regarding SDGs.

How far does the Palestinian government set policy programs to realize SDGs in Palestine? How far has the Palestinian government considered correlation of these policy programs?

Preliminary findings:

- The National Team has reviewed sectorial and cross-sectorial plans to ensure they include SDGs in the national strategic plans to be approved by the PMs Office.
- The sectorial and cross-sectorial strategies (2017-2022) are integrated in the National Policy Agenda. The Palestinian government has taken into account the correlation between these programs.
- The Palestinian government set SDGs implementing as part of national priorities.
- SDGs and strategies realization is linked to specific annual programs and budgets in most of sectorial plans.
- The National Policy agenda, as the reference document for priorities and policies, did not include specific information about financial means necessary to implement the SDGs, where strategies have been linked to the budget with respective programs.
- There is a financial gap in the budget to implement sectorial and cross-sectorial plans.
- It is difficult for Palestinian government to determine and control their budget.

Considerations:

- The Palestinian government set policy programs in the National Plan to realize SDGs in Palestine. The sectorial strategic plans are derived from the National Plan and are coherent with it.
- The necessary financial resources for SDGs are not clear due to delay to set the strategic findings framework.

Has the Palestinian government set proper system to measure and control SDGs realization (e.g.: indicators-related, well-organized, with quality checks)?

Preliminary findings:

Central Bureau of Statistics (as a National Team member)

- Organizational and institutional change was introduced to Central Bureau of Statistics by forming a working team on SDGs, and instating an independent department for statistical control, central records and administrative data.
- Central Bureau of Statistics is leading the coordination and localization of the SDG indicators.
- The national strategy to develop official statistics (2018-2022) came after all sectorial and cross-sectorial plans were approved, so they fulfill the need of national institutions for statistical numbers.
- A preliminary plan about SDG indicators has been set by the Central Bureau of Statistics.
- A database has been established about available indicators and source of its data.
- A baseline with 109 sustainable development indicators is available. PCBS has a plan to increase this number over the next three years.

- A measurement and control system exists, but not all SDG indicators have been covered yet. The system must be adapted in the coming period.
- The National database is in line with the UN database.
- Indicators of sectorial plans have been reviewed by representatives of the Central bureau of Statistics in order to check their availability, accuracy, sustainability and to what extent the indicators measure the proposed interventions.

Considerations:

- The Palestinian Government has mandated the Central Bureau of Statistics to set up the national statistical control system. Systems for measurement exist and will be updated to include all SDG indicators.
- Availability of a baseline for all SDGs indicators in the national plan was reviewed and checked, where PCBS is seriously working on covering all indicators.

How far is the national plan, including indicators, organized and aligned with SDGs and indicators? If not, is this well clarified? Has the Palestinian government set basis for related indicators (priorities as per national plan)?

Preliminary findings:

- The National Team has developed a matrix with indicators from the National Plan and the relation with the SDG indicators.
- The Central Bureau of Statistics has identified 126 indicators from the SDGs included in the National Plan.
- On the sectorial level, ministries have identified the indicators of SDGs in relation to their strategic goals. The 21 sectorial and cross-sectorial plans have been approved mid 2017.
- Special activity and progress reports will be presented on quarter basis starting 2017.
- General Secretariat of the PM office is asked to develop a general framework for collecting the activity and progress reports from the sectors. The planning was to finish it in 2017. However, a delay was observed.
- 126 indicators (out of 244 associated with SDGs) have been identified as part of the National Plan.

Considerations:

- There is a clear view on the relation between National Plan, sectorial plans and their relation with SDGs.
- The Palestinian Government has set a good basis through a correlation matrix for national policies, SDGs and sustainable development indicators.
- There has been delay to approve sectorial and cross-sectorial plans until mid 2017.
- There has been delay to set and approve the strategic findings framework and act accordingly.

Is there a framework for national reports of SDGs? If yes, is it according to UN general reporting framework?

Preliminary findings:

- General Secretariat of PMs office releases an overall report on a National level, based on consolidated findings and action plans from the sectors.
- General Secretariat of PMs office will set quarter follow up reports according to the strategic findings framework.
- The Palestinian government showed commitment to present a voluntary progress reports regarding UN SDGs based on the general international framework. The voluntary report will be presented by June 2018 . The National voluntary report was prepared in cooperation with almost 500 institutions which includes the governmental sector, civil institutions and private Sector.
- Ministry of Local Government has set a reporting framework for SDG 11, which includes: an analysis of the current situation, availability of data, national priorities, challenges, obstacles and recommendations.
- Ministry of Social Affairs sets quarter, biannual and annual reports, so they link programs with objectives and expected output, and determine achievements with cost, obstacles and challenges that faced implementing.

Considerations:

- Yes, there is a framework in accordance with the UN general reporting framework.
- Approval to sectorial plans was delayed to end of 2017, which in turn delayed the strategic findings framework methodology, and affects follow up and assessment of national policy agenda in due course.

Core recommendations:

- Develop public awareness building initiatives about SDGs, which include all age groups and geographical areas.
- Set an approach for information exchange and communication with CSOs to give reports that describe all sustainable development actions done.
- Ensure that representatives from civil society and public sector help reflect SDGs to their sectors in Palestine.
- Approve strategic plans in the future before implementing starts.
- Approve, set into action and act according to the strategic findings framework, to ensure follow up and assessment to the national policy agenda in due course.
- Clear financial resources necessary to enforce SDGs in sectorial plans and the strategic findings framework.
- Set an annual report to monitor work progress and determine findings achieved against findings targeted.
- Administrative records shall be complete, which will be used as the main source of indicators measurement.



State of Palestine

**National Policy Agenda
2017 - 2022**



Citizen First...



دولة فلسطين

وزارة الثقافة

إستراتيجية قطاع الثقافة والتراث

" شراكة وتنمية "

2022 - 2017



دولة فلسطين
وزارة الصحة

الاستراتيجية الصحية الوطنية
2022 - 2017

مكتب الوكيل المساعد لشؤون التخطيط

الإدارة العامة للسياسات الصحية والتخطيط

دولة فلسطين



وزارة التنمية الاجتماعية

استراتيجية قطاع التنمية الاجتماعية

2022 - 2017



وزارة التربية والتعليم العالي

الخطة الاستراتيجية لقطاع التعليم 2022 - 2017

النسخة المطورة للاستراتيجية القطاعية الثالثة للتعليم

نيسان - 2017

رام الله

شركاء في البناء

الاستراتيجية الوطنية عبر القطاعية
للمعزز المساواة والعدالة بين الجنسين وتمكين المرأة
2022-2027

تم إعداد الاستراتيجية بقيادة وزارة الشؤون الوطنية ودعم من هيئة الأمم المتحدة للمرأة

دولة فلسطين
مجلس الوزراء
الأمثلة العامة
الرقم: 1364
مجلس الوزراء والهيئات الأعضاء
الهيئة التنفيذية المستقلة 2030
الموضوع: تشكيل فريق وطني للتوعية والتسويق للهيئة الوطنية للتغذية على الأمم
مخالفهم الله

تحية طيبة وبعد،،،
تحذيركم، الأمانة العامة لمجلس الوزراء، وشركم طرر مجلس الوزراء الصغار في
مجلسه الأسبوعي رقم (17/20) تاريخ 2016/02/16م، بشأن تشكيل فريق وطني للتوعية والتسويق للهيئة
الوطنية للتغذية على الأمم المتحدة للتنمية المستدامة 2030.
تتوجه من محالكم التكرم بتعمد الإجراءات اللازمة لتفعيل القرار، ولتوحيدها باسم الوزارة/القطاع
من طرفكم ليتمكن من القيام بواجبه المهني، وعبره الإلكتروني: على فائس رقم
(022050979) وعلى البريد الإلكتروني: (info@pmo.gov.ps) أو بالبريد الإلكتروني: (info@pmo.gov.ps) لإرسال الوثيقة، لإيضاحات
الفرق المتكبر.

مستشار المجلس
القائم بأعمال
أمين عام مجلس الوزراء



سأفادكم
شكراً
رئيسة قسم العلاقات العامة والتسويق
عليه كريمة

 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**



Introduction

Background Information on SDGs

Sustainable Development Goals came in place of the Millennium Development Goals (2000-2015), as the latter were long-term goals that required participation of all countries, including those with developed economies. Thus, The United Nations adopted SDGs (2016-2030) in September, 2015, which include 17 main goals and associated with 169 related sub-goals. UN acknowledged in many international arenas and during active participation of INTOSAI the indispensable role of SAIs to control realization of 'SDGs agenda 2030' effectively, efficiently, transparently and responsibly.

UN Resolution 69-228 indicates the need to improve public performance efficiency, effectiveness and transparency, to hold them accountable, and to encourage member states improve public accountability systems as per the national development plans, part of of post 2015 development plan. When efficient, accountable, effective and transparent, the general management has main role to play in realizing the internationally-agreed SDGs, including Millennium Development Goals.

The resolution above also acknowledged the significant role played by SAIs to improve efficiency, effectiveness and accountability of public management, and to enhance government accountability about the use of resources to bring SDGs, which leads to national and development priorities/goals and the internationally-agreed SDGs.

Despite that SDGs are not legally compulsory, it is anticipated that governments would assume ownership and set national frameworks to make them happen. Countries are, therefore, mainly responsible for follow up and review the progress made, which requires collecting qualitative data that help follow up/review regionally, and analysis that take place nation-wide, which help follow up/review world-wide.

Thus, INTOSAI decided to centrally list SDGs in strategic plan (2017-2022) as an inclusive theme, which is based on five basic hubs:

1. **People:** SDGs are committed to end all kinds of poverty and hunger, and call upon that all people get basic service and infrastructure.
2. **Planet:** protect the Earth against deterioration through sustainable production and consumption, sustainable management of natural resources and fight climate change.
3. **Prosperity:** ensure prosperity to all people, and bring the agreement between economic growth and social/technological development on one hand, with modes of sustainable and comprehensive production/consumption to all on the other hand.
4. **Peace:** SDGs are committed to strengthen peaceful, fair and comprehensive societies that are based on effective, comprehensive and accountable institutions at all levels.
5. **Partnerships:** all necessary means will be mobilized to realize the plan through a global renewable partnership, with all countries, stakeholders and people incorporated.

SAIs cannot carry out tasks objectively and effectively unless they are independent from audited entities, and protected against outside influences, with respective impact on improved general accountability systems, according to national development plan, part of post 2015 development plan.

SAACB law has been amended, 2017 to be independent from the Executive, so the independent Bureau would have substantial role in expressing professional, neutral and objective opinion about the government planning and preparedness to enforce SDGs, within national and sectoral plans. The Bureau intends to make a difference to lives of citizens, by means of audits undertaken at audited entities, and through positive impact brought by audit reports as per international standards, with high value and benefit that help promote level of general performance.

The Bureau can make valuable contributions to the national effort to follow up progress made, oversee realization and determine improvement opportunities to the whole SDGs group, through audits undertaken, and in agreement with mandate and priorities.

I. Background information about SDGs

Why are they important to SAIs? (ISSAI 12)

The government sector control, carried out by SAIs, is an important element to making difference in lives of citizens, as control at government entities and public sector agencies brings positive trust to society, directs minds of those responsible for public resources and how to use them. This kind of awareness enhances desired values and reiterates accountability methods, which in turn leads to decisions made more efficiently. Once the control findings reached by an SAI are announced, citizens will be authorized to hold accountable officials responsible for public resources. This way, SAIs will promote effective, efficient and transparent government management.

The independent, effective and trustworthy SAI is an essential element in any democratic system, where accountability, transparency and integrity are indispensable for any stable democracy.

The work for public interest means additional responsibility on SAIs, in order to establish ongoing relevance to citizens, the parliament and other stakeholders. SAIs can reiterate their importance through proper responding to challenges the citizens face, expectations of stakeholders, arising risks and changing environments where financial audit and control take place.

Resolution of The INTOSAI general secretariat on SDGs, 2030 came to offer meaningful audit contribution to 2030 plan, where INCOSAI introduced the importance of SDGs audit through four ways listed in the strategic plan. Each method will be supported by a framework that will help INTOSAI collect all audit findings in this regard. Generally speaking, INTOSAI seeks to be an independent voice regarding challenges that face the international community in planning and realizing SDGs, and reporting the progress.

Description of Report Structure

The report includes:

6. Overview of SDGs and importance of review of the Bureau.
7. Problem analysis and an introduction to stakeholders.
8. Highlight the analysis and assessment of social protection strategy (2014 - 2016).
9. Determine scope, methodology and standards of review.
10. General findings of the goal in question (poverty reduction).
11. Recommendations and proposals that would help enhance preparedness for SDGs.

II. Problem Analysis

1. Considerations & value added of selecting SDGs & certain theme

Sustainable development is closely associated with political and economic independence. It is difficult, if not impossible, to bring long-term economic sustainability in light of Israel's control and exploit of our land and natural resources, and the continuous need for permissions to develop infrastructure, improve businesses and import products, especially in 'C' classified areas. This impedes effort made to move forward, and the same goes for social sustainability that cannot be brought in view of social fragmentation due to Israeli policies/procedures. Our youth are concerned about future and have doubts about whether their expectations for free homeland will be realized. Solutions to development challenges cannot be achieved as long as Israeli occupation exists.

Opportunities, challenges that face SDGs in the Palestinian context

The Israeli occupation is the main challenge to face. Israel has always kept the expansion and annexation agenda, which undermines all opportunities to develop the Palestinian economy. Israeli policies are undertaken without hesitation or restraints, ignoring all international laws and norms. One major manifestation of this is the Israeli settlements, still growing and expanding throughout the West Bank. Gaza Strip also still suffering repercussions of the frequent Israeli assaults, siege and spread of human crisis. Only %18 of 18,000 displaced households could get back to their rebuilt or renovated houses, whereas %47 of households still suffers lack of food security. %70 of Gaza residents suffers severe water shortage, and %95 is exposed to diseases brought by low water quality. Israel keeps denying access of increasing numbers of Palestinians to 'C' areas (%64 of the West Bank), where Palestinians can build on only %5 there.

What's more, the annexation and expansion wall takes away more than %9 of the West Bank and isolates more than 335,000 Palestinians between it and the Armistice Line, including East Jerusalem. Israeli keeps confiscating our natural resources, chief among which is water, where Israel extracts %80 from Palestinian water resources in the West Bank, and this is why Palestinians face continuous water shortage.

For almost a whole decade, the State of Palestine launched an ambitious reform agenda in order to build national institutions that pave the way to independence. Foreign assistance supported enforcement of a significant part of this agenda, where it was supposed that dependence on foreign assistance decreased with time, and with benefits from ending occupation of Palestine brought. Instead, Israel has dramatically increased colonial occupation

of Palestine, and –at the same time- foreign assistance that help financial stability in Palestine greatly reduced to %81 (contribution to gross demotic product). Since 2008, taking into account that reform needs resources.

Additionally, Palestine faces some kind of demographic viciousness an inability to make use of the increasing Palestinian manpower, and employ it to bring economic growth and prosperity. It is expected that population of Palestine would increase, as per the existing trend of population increase, twice as much by 2050, and that population in work age would increase vis-à-vis other age groups. Number of the youth will inflate, which would increase continuous pressure on labor market, education, health and social programs at medium and long ranges. Progress achieved in girl education, who still suffer low labor market contribution, which poses more pressure against provision of more employment opportunities, in order to empower women socially, economically and politically¹.

'Palestine suffers exceptional conditions a we live under the only occupation in the world. Due to this bleak situation, more concerted effort is needed in order to undertake this pivotal mission and realize those significant goals. We are determined to succeed because we rely on skills and ability of our people to steadfast, especially the youth. Impacts of occupation are not only about direct political control and rights deprivation, which stand in way of the independent state. Reality says that occupation is the main impediment against realizing SDGs, where lack of control over resources, especially in 'C' areas, and restraints against movement often stop us from realizing our development goals'. **Dr. Rami el-Hamdallah, Palestine prime minister**

¹ National Policy Agenda (2017-2022), p.12-13

III. Description of a Certain Subject Regarding Context / Conditions in Palestine

SDG 1 – No poverty in all its forms everywhere²

Facts & Figures

- More than 1.2 billion people still live in abject poverty
- One of every five people in the developing areas lives on less than 1.25 USD per day
- Vast majority of those who live on less than 1.25 USD per day is divided into two regions; South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa
- There are mostly high poverty rates in small, vulnerable and conflict-affected countries
- One of every four children below four in the world is short in highness compared to age
- Every day in 2013, 32,000 people had to leave houses and seek protection from conflicts

Purposes of SDG 1

- Reduce rate of men, women and children of all ages who suffer poverty with all its dimensions, according to national definitions, by at least the half by 2030
- Introduce proper social protection systems and measures for all at the national level, set minimum level thereto and realize wide health coverage for the poor and vulnerable by 2030
- Ensure that all men and women, the poor and vulnerable in particular, enjoy the same rights to economic resources, basic services, land tenure/disposal, other ownership-related rights, inheritance, natural resources, proper new technology and financial services, including micro-finance, by 2030
- Build resilience capacity of the poor and vulnerable groups, and reduce their exposure to climate-related extreme phenomena, and other economic, social and environmental disasters by 2030
- Mobilize significant resources from various sources, including enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide developing countries, especially the least developed ones, with enough predictable means to undertake programs and policies intending to eliminate poverty with all its dimensions
- Set proper policy framework at national, regional and global levels, based on development strategic that take into account interests of the poor and gender perspective, in order to expedite investment in procedures that intend to eliminate poverty

² <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/ar/poverty/>

Some tangible examples of social problems associated with SDGs

Poverty in Palestine is one of the main problems the government is trying to face and reduce, due to the social problems on one hand, and direct negative influence on health care and education on the other hand. Effort of the government to eliminate poverty come in a time while the number of the poor increases, and the circle of people vulnerable to poverty and marginalization widens due to continued Israeli occupation that help maintain poverty causes, and undermines the productivity basis of the Palestinian economy, so the latter would keep depending on the Israeli economy.

Poverty is defined in the Palestinian context as the inability to maintain the minimum level of livelihood, which means the financial inability to obtain basic goods such as food, clothing and dwelling, in addition to the minimum level of other needs such as health care, transport and education.

According to latest PCBS estimation on poverty in the Palestinian territories; %25.8 of individuals in the Palestinian society suffered poverty as per household monthly consumption modes, 2011. This rate reached %17.8 in the West Bank and %38.8 in Gaza Strip. Estimations indicated that %12.9 of Palestinian individuals suffer abject (severe) poverty as per household monthly consumption modes, at %7.8 in the West Bank and %21.1 in Gaza Strip. Regarding income, it was found that monthly income of %36.4 of the Palestinian individuals is less than the severe poverty line, whereas income of %47.6 of individuals is less than the national poverty line, which indicates that poverty rates against income levels are much higher than poverty rates as per consumption modes³.

Table below shows national policies adopted to help reduce poverty:

National policy	Policy interventions
No poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop economic & social empowerment programs for the poor and marginalized groups - Economic & social policies that take into account needs of the poor and marginalized groups - Social engagement and provide employment to the marginalized groups (disabled, youth, women, released prisoners)
Social protection to poor & marginalized groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop proper and integrated social protection systems and set minimum level thereto - Enforce an fair social security law - Develop and institutionalize social responsibility, and enhance social dialogue

³ Social development sector strategy (2017 - 2022), p.25

Assessment of key achievements & challenges to realize the social protection strategy (2014 - 2016)

Assessment of items that have or have not been fulfilled of the 2014-2016 strategy is key reference framework for the review of social development sector vision, and determine sectorial objectives, policies and findings to be achieved for the next six years.

Strategic Goals 1 – develop social and empowering assistance for the poor and the marginalized

Indicators show that many achievements have been brought between 2014-2016, which helped bring the strategic goal 1 partially within the main three areas determined as policy priorities, with some gaps and challenges that were taken into account while setting the existing strategy, especially regarding poor impact of assistance programs to move households away from poverty.

1. Organize & coordinate social assistance (monetary, non-monetary)

Systems have been set for assistance and develop database for target sectors of the Ministry. Databases were found in monetary assistance areas, which include details of about 200,000 households, data of economic incubation and empowerment, child protection, handicap survey and university exemptions. Databases are linked to partner institutions such as Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Interior. Additionally, a procedure manual was done that includes 52 services and respective action forms for emergency assistance, food assistance and health insurance, and forms necessary to provide these services. On the other hand, a monetary assistance package was presented, which includes regular assistance to around 120,000 households, subsidize electricity bills of the poor households at 50 NIS, provide about 65,000 households with health insurance cards, exempt children of poor households from school fees, present monetary assistance to households suffered from critical social, health and economic crisis and sponsorships to orphans.

115,951 households received monetary assistance in 2014, 122,129 in 2015 and 115,000 in early 2016, reaching 110,000 out of 120,000 households in late 2016, which was planned to be offered assistance on annual basis. This means the indicator has been achieved but variably against what was planned, especially in light of the 2016 downsizing, mainly attributed to reduced program allocations by Ministry of Finance, so monetary assistance was not paid to about 4049 households in 2014 and 5000 in 2016. The Ministry realized these indicators with excellence in 2015, when assistance was provided to 122,129 out of 120,000 households planned. On the other hand, health service was provided to 331 households, 141 households were offered subsistence and durable house goods, scholarships and training courses to 639 students, interim employment to 1409 graduates and workers, school bags and uniforms to 6400 students, financial assistance from the Ministry and social affairs to 18,637 children in 2014, 18,979 in 2015 and 4000 in 2016.

Key gaps included limited financial resources (budgets) of the government, policies of Israeli occupation (suspend transfer of tax returns), troubled enforcement of the agreement with Ministry of Finance to add 50 NIS to electricity bills for beneficiary cases.

2. Empower the poor households to get out of poverty & realize self-dependence

Around 13,600 development projects were provided to poor households by late December 2015 (8153 through grants component and 5581 through microfinance component), as part of the economic empowerment program in cooperation with UNDP, financed by the Islamic Development Bank. However, in light of absence of estimation studies, it is difficult to cumulatively assess how far the households moved away from poverty during 2014-2016, as data for only 2016 is available, which show that 50 households (out of 500 households empowered) and 100 handicapped got out of poverty.

Regarding the empowerment program to the handicapped, loans disbursement has been suspended during 2014 for reasons related to the internal regulations of the handicapped loans fund and absence/delay of donor transfers. Suspension lasted until assistance resumed 2015 and 2016, so 28 loans were disbursed to families of the handicapped.

3. Enhance food security of the poor & marginalized households

This policy is financed by the World Food Program, where foodstuff and in-kind stuff were annually distributed on seasonal occasions to around 217,000 people. It is observed that the number of individuals receiving assistance is stable due to limited finance from WFP, and inability to add more beneficiaries to reach 600,000 people as planned. The Ministry did not conduct assessment studies to measure progress made in improving food security levels for the poor households⁴.

⁴ Social development sector strategy (2017 - 2022), p.16

IV. Scope of Review

Preparedness in Palestine will be reviewed through focus on preparedness of the Palestinian government in general, and preparedness for poverty reduction in particular. SDGs were incorporated with the government policy agenda.

SDG 1 (reduce poverty in all its forms) will be processed, and this is where interest of the Bureau in reviewing government preparedness for SDG 1 came as per data above. Goals of the national policy agenda were analyzed and linked to SDGs 2030 (annex 1).

Definitions & Terminology (what is the sector? who the stakeholders are?)

The national team to lead and coordinate national effort to enforce UN sustainable development plan: a team includes several entities such as the prime minister office (as rapporteur), Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of National Economy, Ministry of Finance & Planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women Affairs, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Public Works & Housing, Water Authority, Environment Quality Authority, Energy & Natural Resources Authority, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, civil society organizations, private sector and development experts.

National policy agenda: plan of the Palestinian government (2017 - 2022) titles 'citizen first'.

Sectorial plans: plans emerging from the national policy agenda, reviewed by the national team to ensure they are in agreement with general policies, and to ensure that SDGs are adopted.

Action groups: specialized groups for each of the SDGs, led by the government coordinating entity, provided that the UN entity in question offers necessary technical support and assistance to the group. The group is a member to these action groups, and includes representatives from different action sectors.

V. Methodology of Review

Main Question

How well the Palestinian government is ready to adequately apply and monitor work progress of SDGs?

Subsidiary Questions

- Is the Palestinian government committed enough to follow up SDGs enforcement? Are different sectors (education, health, etc) engaged and committed to set and apply policies to realize SDGs?
- How far the Palestinian government did enough effort to raise social awareness about SDGs?
- How well the responsibilities for SDGs and work progress accountability are clarified and distributed, and for SDGs resources individually and collectively?
- How far the Palestinian government set policy programs to realize SDGs in Palestine? how far the Palestinian government took into account correlation of these programs?
- Has the Palestinian government set a proper system to measure and monitor SDGs (e.g.: associated with indicators, well-organized and with quality tests)?

- How well is the national plan arranged and consistent with the national plan, indicators included, with SDGs and respective indicators? Has the Palestinian government set a basis for related indicators (priorities as per national plan)?
- Is there a general framework for SDGs national report? If yes, is it consistent with general framework of UN reports? If not, is there a convincing explanation?

Data Collection

- Interviews with stakeholders in question.
- Resort to UN websites and other official SDGs websites to comprehend 2030 agenda.
- Check government information to determine the government entity responsible for SDGs nationwide, and government agencies engaged in preparedness to apply SDGs.
- Determine primary stakeholders which have SDGs-related information to contact them. Most countries have various group of non-government stakeholders engaged such as professional institutions, CSOs, regional institutions and the private sector.
- Interviews with government managers engaged in setting and applying SDGs.
- Interviews with other stakeholders (e.g.: UN representatives, civil society, corporate managers) to collect information on audit topics.
 - Consider documents/files (national plan agenda).
 - Analyze and review social protection sector strategy (2017 - 2022).
 - Review a sample of sectorial and non-sectorial strategies.
 - Preparedness review manual to apply IDI SDGs and worksheets forms.
 - Questionnaire designed to reveal engagement and contribution of CSOs in setting SDGs priorities (annex 3).

VI. Standards

Model / Seven Steps Guide

The cooperation with Nederland Court of Accounts and other partner SAIs led to a seven-step methodology to review preparedness of governments, a methodology adopted by INTOSAI and could be followed totally or partially as per SAIs priorities and available resources. This review model has been presented and approved during XXII INCOSAI held December, 2016 in Abu Dhabi.

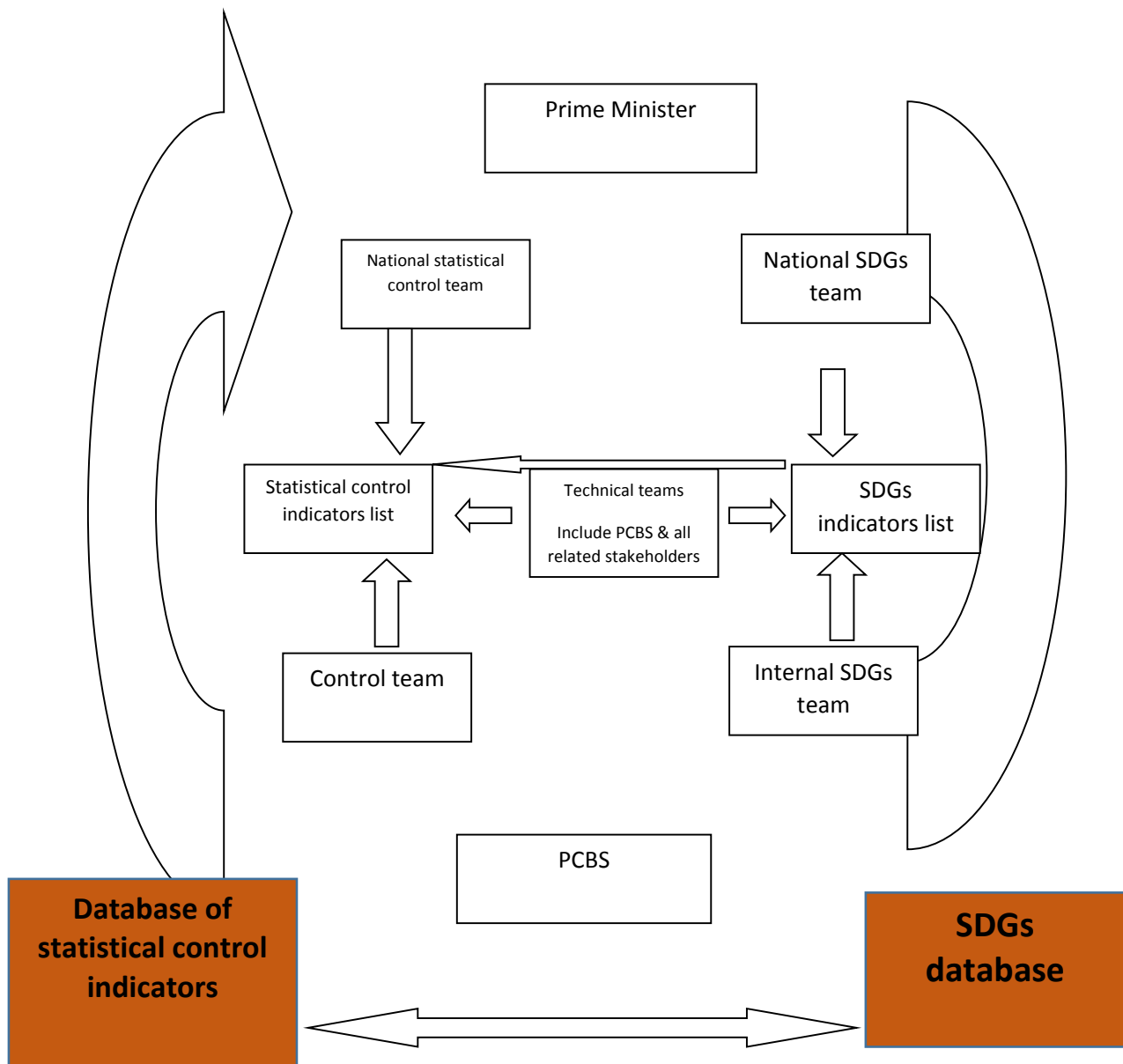
The review, in terms of general policy framework, checks whether the governments:

1. Expressed government commitment and national responsibilities to apply SDGs.
2. Built awareness on SDGs and encouraged dialogue with all related stakeholders.
3. Allocated responsibilities and resources and set accountability arrangements.
4. Set applications plans with correlation and integration in mind.

The last three steps of the model were combined under 'general data framework' to check whether the governments:

1. Created SDGs measurement and monitor systems.
2. Set basis for different indicators where work progress could be judged against throughout SDGs lifecycle.
3. Set arrangements to monitor and report work progress in terms of SDGs.

Structure of Action Teams to Localize & Monitor SDGs (source: PCBS)



VII. Findings

General policy framework

1. Compliance

• General review

- It was found there is a future government plan (national policy agenda 'citizen first' 2017-2022), where it focuses on three hubs; road towards independence, reform with improved service quality and sustainable development.
- It was checked there are adopted SDGs, where it was found that it has been decided to enforce this hub through five national priorities and nineteen national policies.

It was found that goals below have to do with sustainable development and were included in the government plan as follows:

National priorities	National policies
Economic independence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build foundations of Palestinian economy ▪ Provide decent employment to all ▪ Provide proper investment environment ▪ Enhance the Palestinian industry
Social justice & rule of law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reduce poverty ▪ Provide social protection to the poor and the marginalized ▪ Enhance access of the public to justice ▪ Enhance gender equality & women empowerment ▪ Our youth, our future
Quality & comprehensive education to all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Early education to our children ▪ Improve school enrolment & retain ▪ Improve education quality ▪ From school to labor
Quality & comprehensive health care available to all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide comprehensive health care to all ▪ Promote health & well-being of citizens
Resilient & developed society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide security to homeland and citizens, and enhance rule of law ▪ Provide basic needs to residential communities ▪ Ensure sustainable environment ▪ Promote agriculture & rural communities ▪ Protect Palestinian identity, heritage & culture

The government poverty and health-related goals were analyzed and associated with global sustainable development indicators.

The national team to lead and coordinate the national effort to implement UN sustainable development plan was set by virtue of a prime minister decision. The team includes:

- Prime minister office (as rapporteur), Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of National Economy, Ministry of Finance & Planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Local Government, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Women Affairs, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Public Works & Housing, Water Authority, Environment Quality Authority, Energy & Natural Resources Authority, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Expatriates and Ministry of Justice.
- Three representatives from civil society organizations, recommended by the coordinating council of CSOs.
- Two representatives from the private sector, recommended by the coordinating council of the private sector.
- Two development experts recommended by the rapporteur.

Tasks vested are as below

- Help circulate the UN sustainable development plan 2030.
- Discuss and set the national sustainable development priorities, and ensure that SDGs are incorporated with the national strategic plans.
- Coordinate and communicate with all stakeholders to mobilize resources necessary to realize SDGs, and enhance cooperation among partners (national and international institutions).
- Coordinate the national presentation of work progress on SDGs.
- Supervise and follow up work progress on sustainable development plan, reporting and instructions in this regard.
- Form specialized action groups as a liaison with decision makers nationwide.

Tasks & actions undertaken by the team, compared against tasks vested

- The team has 24 members, which includes all groups related to sustainable development (government, NGOs, private sector, development experts). The team held 6 meetings, at an average of one meeting every 3 months up until May 2018.
- Cooperate and coordinate among partner national and international institutions, where the civil society and the private sector have been engaged.
- A steering committee was formed, led by the prime minister office, with PCBS, Ministry of National Economy, Ministry of Social Development and Environment Quality Authority as members.
- The twelve national action teams on SDGs were formed, led by government entities in question in coordination with related partner UN organization. These teams include representatives from NGOs, private sector, experienced academic institutions and UN organizations on the SDG vested to each team. All team, except for two, were given an SDG, where one has both the SDG 1 (no poverty) and SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), while the other team has environment-related SDGs 15, 14, 13 and 12. SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals) is closely related to all national action groups, so incorporated in work and fields of all action teams.
- Ministries were asked to consult SDGs and ensure they are consistent with strategies, with due consideration with individuality of the Palestinian context.

- The national team reviews draft strategic plans and expresses comments in order to approve them.
- Comments, opinion and views of different ministries and non-government stakeholders before setting the plan.

Review the 'no poverty' goal

- The 'no poverty' goal was included as part of the strategic goal 1 of Ministry of Social Affairs (2017 - 2022).
- Ministry of Social Affairs is asked to lead and coordinate SDG 1 (no poverty), which takes into account the correlation with other social development-oriented SDGs, especially SDGs 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10. Thus, the social development strategy (2017-2022) addresses poverty, social vulnerability and alienation in order to enhance social fabric of the Palestinian society.
- The plan includes several groups, particularly the marginalized, women, children and the elderly, in addition to geographical distribution of plan enforcement.
- The plan deals in details with all facts and figures about poverty and marginalized groups in Palestine, as well as all issues these groups face, geographical distribution and within specific groups.
- All three strategic goals are directly associated with SDGs.
- Goals of strategic plan are linked to SDGs, as table below shows:

SDGs	Meeting points with goals & findings of the national social development strategy
SDG 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere	Meets the strategic goal 1 of the national social development strategy (reduce poverty) and all of its findings
SDG 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	Meets the strategic goal 1 (reduce poverty)
SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	Meets SDGs 1 & 2
SDG 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	Meets the strategic goal 1 (reduce poverty) and 2 (eliminate marginalization & alienation with its forms in the Palestinian society)
SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	Greatly meets the strategic goal 2 (eliminate marginalization & alienation will its form in the Palestinian society), especially in all its findings and policies that target woman, where women and girls were determined as target group with priority in the national strategy
SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	Meets finding associated with strategic goal 1, which means the poor and vulnerable households that can secure basic needs in adequate quality and quantity

SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	Meets the strategic goal 1, especially in terms of the economic empowerment component of poor households, women, youth and disabled people
SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries	Meets SDGs 1 & 2
SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	Meets the strategic goal 1, especially proper infrastructure and dwelling, strategic goal 2 and social, education and health services provision/development for all marginalized groups, and set measures for access to water, energy and proper sport/culture centers for all, with national measures policy that ensures involvement of all marginalized groups in society
SDG 16: Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions	Meets the strategic goal 2 related to access of the marginalized groups to justice, and strategic goal 3

Conclusion:

- ❖ The government clearly reiterated that it intends to realize SDGs and help circulate UN sustainable development. It was found that SDGs have been incorporated in the national strategic plans, in addition to coordination and communication with all stakeholders to mobilize resources necessary for SDGs, and enhance cooperation among related partners (national and international organizations).
- ❖ Obligation of the Palestinian government was shared through the prime minister decision (legally binding).
- ❖ The priorities and policy interventions matrix were set and linked SDGs.
- ❖ There is systematic review of the sectorial plans by the national team.
- ❖ All sectors (government institutions, NGOs, private sector, development expert) are involved in consultations and stages of national plan preparation.
- ❖ The national plan addresses five sustainable development components; people (social, equality), planet (climate change, environment issues), prosperity (sustainable economic growth), peace (safe cities and neighborhoods, rule of law) and partnerships (work together with other stakeholders).

2. Awareness Building & Stakeholders Involvement

General Review

Actions undertaken & effort made to build public awareness & encourage dialogue with stakeholders on SDGs

Capacity of the national team members was built through participation in two external workshops (Beirut, Amman) to consolidate the knowledge background, discuss/review the sustainable development agenda and enforcement follow up mechanism at the national and international level, besides review and evaluate whether the sectorial strategies suit the sustainable development agenda 2030. A national meeting was held to launch the sustainable development indicators localization, in addition to meetings with planning teams at ministries to explain development goals to be processed. Awareness initiatives will be launched, the national sustainable development forum will be established and minimum 3 voluntary work progress reviews will be done.

Civil society involvement in SDGs

The national team includes three representatives from CSOs, recommended by the coordinating council of CSOs, in order to present viewpoints and standpoints of CSOs regarding SDGs follow up and enforcement. Some CSOs are involved in SDGs follow up and enforcement through the twelve action groups, where technical and professional support is provided to draft

goals, and set strategic sectorial and cross-sectorial plans, without being reflected on civil society sector plans.

The Bureau designed a special SDGs questionnaire in order to reveal whether CSOs are engaged and contribute to determine SDGs priorities, put them into action and follow up progress. The questionnaire has been distributed to 64 NGOs throughout the West Bank districts that work in various fields (woman, children, special cases rights, health, education, agriculture, environment protection, arts, heritage, housing, equality), where only 10 of them responded. After reviewing these responses, findings were as follows:

- Nineteen NGOs are aware of SDGs, and this was in the first year of announcing SDGs.
- A high percentage of NGOs think that the national priorities within the government plan are consistent with action plans and priorities set and undertaken by these NGOs.
- There is a great overlapping between action fields, institution programs and SDGs on one hand, and national priorities within the national plan on the other hand.
- Most of CSOs that are aware of SDGs came to this knowledge through the media, social media, the internet and conferences, whereas only one institution is aware through involvement in a sectorial team within sectorial teams set by the government for the sectorial plans.
- Four out of ten NGOs were not aware of the existence of a special national team to follow up SDGs in Palestine.
- Nine NGOs indicate they have a role and they can be involved in realizing SDGs in partnership with the government.
- All NGOs indicate that coordination and cooperation between the government and CSOs shall be increased regarding the exchange of data and information, in order to reach a real partnership to bring SDGs.

Local government entities involvement in SDGs

- The national team has a representative from the Ministry of Local Government.
- Ministry of Local Government supports and leads the local sustainable development trends as one of the long-term strategic goals.
- The Ministry of Local Government vision (2017 - 2022): **‘good local government that can realize sustainable development with active community engagement’**.
- Ministry of Local Government leads, in cooperation with Ministry of Public Works & Housing, the follow up to enforcement of SDG 11 ‘Sustainable Cities’. Actual conditions and priorities of sustainable cities in Palestine over the next six years were analyzed, along with challenges that impede capacity of the Palestinian cities to realize SDG 11 as part of the sustainable development agenda.
- SDG 11 addresses seven purposes that have to do with housing with respective basic services, public transport, enhance the comprehensive urban expansion, maintain the natural and international cultural heritage, reduce the negative environmental influence of the cities, provide green spaces and reduce number of people affected by disasters. There are also three subsidiary purposes that deal with the relationship between cities and the countryside, and cities heading towards immunity, protection against disasters, sustainable buildings and resilience.

- The government provides, through Ministry of Local Government, necessary technical support to cities and municipalities, so they can plan and execute. They also provide additional budgets to support service provision in the Palestinian cities and villages, such as roads, water, electricity, etc through different programs supported by the municipal fund.
- Actual conditions of SDG 11 (sustainable cities & communities) are analyzed to ensure trends of the Palestinian cities. Existing challenges that impede progress of desired objectives.
- Ministry of Local Government has a project to align municipal development plans with the national policy agenda.
- The second Palestinian urban forum was held 2017 titled 'Localizing urban agenda, drawing future of Palestinian cities'. The second objective of which sets a vision for the future trends of Palestine's cities in light of the Palestinian urban agenda, and SDG 11 'sustainable cities' that strikes a balance between growth requirements on one hand, and economic, social and environmental welfare in Palestine on the other hand.
- It was found there are experience and success stories of local entities in sustainable local development (Ramallah, Qalqilyah, Dura/Hebron).
- There is no decentralization that enables municipalities to lead local sustainable development. Meanwhile, an initiative is being undertaken to support a number of municipalities in collecting and resource management.

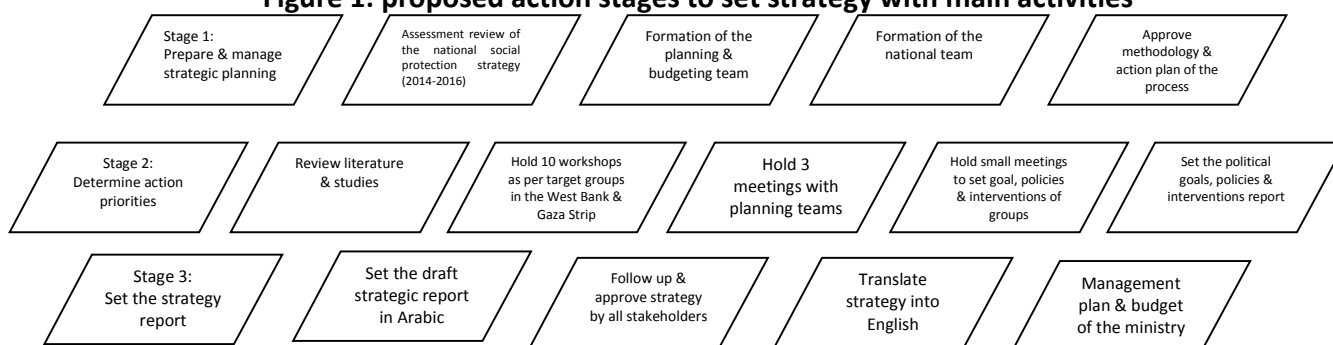
Private sector involvement in SDGs

The private sector is taking part in the national team through two private sector representatives, with recommendation from the private sector consulting council. It was not clear how the private sector representatives helped reflect SDGs on the private sector in Palestine, where their involvement was only within tasks of the national team.

Review the 'no poverty' goal

Since early April to December 2016, there have been extensive consultations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in order to set the social development sector strategy. This process was based on involvement of all partners from government and official entities in question, and from representatives of civil society and the private sector. the methodology included three main stages, under which a groups of actions is listed.

Figure 1: proposed action stages to set strategy with main activities



Stage 1 (Prepare & manage strategic planning): an assessment review was undertaken early April 2016 for the national social protection strategy (2014-2016), followed by the formation of planning and budgeting team, which included representatives from decision makers and senior management in the Ministry, to supervise planning and decision making regarding program policy statement.

A national team has also been formed to supervise and direct the Ministry team, which includes 37 representatives from government and official entities, CSOs, the private sectors, the universities and social development experts. Table below shows consultation meetings held with partners to set and discuss the strategy:

Consultation meetings with partners to set and discuss the strategy

Meeting	Date	No. of participants
First meeting of the national team	2016/10/13	31
Workshop on children issues & priorities (West Bank)	2016/10/23	33
Workshop on issues & priorities of the poor (West Bank)	2016/10/24	27
Workshop on women & girls issues & priorities (West Bank)	2016/10/25	35
Workshop on issues & priorities of the youth (West Bank)	2016/10/26	19
Workshop on issues & priorities of the disabled	2016/10/30	38
Workshop on issues & priorities of the elderly (West Bank)	2016/10/31	29
Workshop on issues & priorities of charitable societies (West Bank)	2016/11/1	30
Workshop on social development issues & priorities of marginalized areas residents (West Bank)	2016/11/2	24
Joint planning groups for social services (Jerusalem)	2016/11/2	38
Joint planning groups for social services (Hebron)	2016/11/2	34
Joint planning groups for social services (Nablus)	2016/11/2	11
Meeting with the social protection action group to discuss the strategic framework proposal	2016/11/7	22
Workshop on issues & priorities of the poor, children, elderly, girls and women (Gaza)	2016/11/16	16
Presentation of the draft strategy for responsibility centers, Ministry of Social Development	2016/11/16	16
Workshop on issues & priorities of the youth, charitable societies, the elderly and residents of marginalized areas (Gaza)	2016/11/17	35
Presentation of the draft strategy for partner institutions to economic empowerment program	2016/10/20	50
Presentation of the draft strategy, the SDGs national team (Amman)	2016/11/28	30

Stage 2 (Determine action priorities) intended to set policy interventions through review literature, studies and strategic sectorial/cross-sectorial plans available, and ten workshops held in the West Bank and Gaza Strip as per target groups, attended by official institutions, civil society and international entities, in addition to meetings with joint planning teams and social protection action groups, and internal meetings for responsibility centers at the Ministry. 518 persons in total were involved based on findings of these workshops and meetings. Small meetings were held to draft the goals, policies and interventions. Finally, stage 3 saw the strategy report made and approved by all stakeholders.

Conclusion:

- Members of the national team had their capacity built and qualification enhanced in the knowledge background consolidation, review and discuss sustainable development agenda with modes of follow up. Meetings were held with planning teams at ministries to clarify SDGs to be processed.
- There is wide involvement of the official entities, civil society, the private sector, universities, international entities in drafting social protection goals and determining policy interventions.
- Local entities were involved in SDGs through determining development planning basis at local level, referred to as 'strategic development planning of the Palestinian cities & towns', and approved by the respective policy paper. Local plans were associated with the national plans through four main fields with different branches; environment and infrastructure, local economic development, social development and management and good governance.

Improvement Opportunities:

- So far, the government or national team did not launch public awareness raising initiatives in society about SDGs.
- Some institutions launched individual awareness raising initiatives about SDGs for their staff, but not organized.
- No structural inclusion of SDGs in preliminary and school curriculum.
- NGOs were not entirely involved in SDGs introduction.
- It was not clear how the private sector representatives helped reflect SDGs to the private sector in Palestine, where their involvement was limited to work as part of the national team tasks.
- It was not clear how the CSOs representatives helped reflect SDGs to the CSOs sector in Palestine.
- There is not a mode of information exchange and communication with all CSOs to give reports that express all actions undertaken in sustainable development area.

3. Responsibility, Resources & Accountability

General Review

- The Palestinian government started sectorial strategic planning as early as 2016, alongside the medium-term budget (2017-2019), according to a mode of action approved by council of ministers to incorporate sectorial planning with medium-term budgeting. The approved mode is based on a number of policies and basis that regulate sectorial and cross-sectorial strategies drafting, budget programs and medium-term budgets.
- Trend of the Palestinian government in this context is driven by assessment of the previous experience, which responds limitations of the Palestinian development that calls for all effort come together to bring the best action investment for all sectors. Reality of challenges the Palestinians face as a result of Israeli occupation practices against real sustainable development. On the other hand, for the government to respond to citizens' needs, there has to be good planning and use of modes that facilitate access of the national goal in the upcoming stage.
- Term of the sectorial strategic planning was raised from 3 to 6 years, which will include 2017-2022, whereas medium-term budgets will be made every three years, so the first will be for 2017-2019 and the second for 2020-2022.
- The strategic sectorial and cross-sectorial planning framework includes 18 sectorial plan and 3 cross-sectorial plans.
- Sectorial plans included education, agriculture, health, international, relations, justice, culture, heritage, employment, energy, local government, housing, sanitation, social protection, telecommunications, information technology, security, public funds management, national economy, tourism and antiquities and transport, whereas cross-sectorial plans will include gender, youth and environment issues.
- strategic sectorial and cross-sectorial plans are based on the national policy agenda, a basic component in the national development plan and the main limitation of sectorial strategic goals. There is also a mutual relation in developing the agenda between vision of the government and sectorial priorities.
- The strategic planning is based on the action guide released by Ministry of Finance & Planning in order to regulate action framework of all sectors, as per a consolidated national methodology.
- Authorities and responsibilities were divided as per specific tasks for each government entity set forth in the regulating law.
- It was found through review of the sectorial plans that entities responsible for realizing goals and stakeholders involved have been identified.
- Policy interventions were identified of official entities, CSOs and international organizations that will be worked on as part of action plans (2017-2022).
- There is a clear description about reporting the progress of national plan or sectorial plans.
- The national plan determines the reporting policy, responsibility and cycle.
- A monitor and follow up system will be developed, which provides information regularly through credible national information tools and sources (the plan will be set in cooperation with PCBS). However, the plan was not done until late 2017.

- General secretariat of the prime minister office will consolidate findings and action plans, and include them as part of the consolidated action plan of the government, which enables follow up the progress made regularly. However, they have not been done until late 2017.

Review the 'no poverty' goal

Fighting poverty is a collective national responsibility that needs all effort come together, such as official, civil, international and private sector institutions, in order to reduce poverty in the Palestinian society. This will be done through influencing a number interventions and policies that, directly or indirectly, help enhance resilience and economic empowerment. Within this strategic goal, Ministry of Social Development is trying to reduce multidimensional poverty , hunger, deprivation, improve food security of the poor and marginalized households, and enhance capacity of poor households will all members, regardless of gender, age and disability, to secure basic life requirements (proper healthy food, clothing, dwelling, medical care, education, personal care to maintain health, welfare, transport, services, necessary social relations). All male and female Palestinians have the right to adequate level of livelihood to their dependants, and the right to secure livelihood in cases of unemployment, illness, disability, widowhood and old age, to ensure social relations and other means of livelihood that could be lost as a result of external circumstances, which expose them to poverty. This goal also intends to reduce poverty associated with lack of necessary income to bring all household requirements (food, health, education, etc), for sustainable development and decent life to all. This goal overlaps with all sectors included in sectorial strategies, especially the public funds management strategy, national economy, employment, education, health, agriculture, local government, energy and environment, driven by the fact that poverty reduction should ensure access of poor households to proper infrastructure, education, health and social services.

Target groups by this goal: the poor.

Partners: official, civil, private sector and international institutions.

Meeting points with sectors in sectorial strategies: all sectors included in sectorial strategies, especially the public funds management strategy, national economy, employment, education, health, agriculture, local government, energy and environment.

Principles of rights approach included in this goal: legal obligation, non-discrimination, empowerment of right owners⁵.

⁵ Social development sector strategy (2017 - 2022), p.47

Table below shows findings of the 'poverty reduction' goal & role of different partners

Findings	Associated role of partners		
	Role of Ministry of Social Development	Role of main government entities	Expected role of civil society
Strategic goal 1: poverty reduction			
Poor and vulnerable households that could secure basic needs in adequate quality and quantity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide financial assistance - Provide regular food assistance for non-secured households - Provide contingent financial assistance - House improvements - Exemptions - Set MIS and consolidated databases on the poor households with their needs and services provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Health: provide free health services - Ministry of Education: provide free education services - Ministry of National Economy: set national investment encouraging policies and economic policies to address, not just fight, poverty reasons, and build national reserves of basic goods, especially flour - Ministry of Finance: set financial policies to ensure that poverty is addressed, not just fought - PCBS: develop the Palestinian poverty concept in line with national trends, and provide poverty-related statistics in Palestine - Prime minister office: develop the Palestinian concept of poverty as per national trends - Ministry of Public Works & Housing: adapt/provide proper dwelling for the poor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide cash, food and contingent financial assistance - Provide proper water and energy, especially in marginalized areas - Modifications to housing - International advocacy campaigns to expose Israeli occupation practices that directly help exacerbate poverty in Palestine - Information and studies - Psychological and social guidance service
Men, women & young men/women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic empowerment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Labor: empowerment programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic empowerment

in the poor households and engaged in economic empowerment projects (individual/collective)

programs for the poor households, which include new projects and develop existing businesses of the poor households.

- collective empowerment programs for the poor households and farmers
- Project loans for economic projects of the poor households
- Professional training programs and employ young men/women and people with disabilities in poor households
- Set companies and projects to market products of the poor and small producers, and make use of global solidarity markets in this respect.
- Train staff to enable them assume tasks better in directing interventions for the benefit of the poor at local level, and design/implement interventions too.

for the unemployed

- Ministry of Agriculture: collective empowerment programs for farmers
- Ministry of Economy: revise legislations and policies to set policies and legislations to encourage small producers and small projects, set companies and projects to market products of the poor and small producers, and make use of global solidarity markets in this respect.

programs for the poor households, which include new projects and develop existing businesses of the poor households.

- Loans for economic projects of poor households
- Professional training programs and employ young men/women and people with disabilities in poor households
- Private sector: set productive projects that employ the poor workforce
- Lending institutions: develop incentive policies for the poor, through decrease the profit/benefit values, facilitate lending and develop lending goods that suit needs of the poor, especially women

Conclusion:

- Responsibilities are clearly designated and distributed, especially for the planning stage, localization of indicators, evaluation/review procedures, progress report and goals enforcement responsibilities within sectorial plans.
- Responsibilities and powers for SDGs are divided and distributed as per main tasks of each government institution in respective governing laws.
- There are 18 sectorial plans and 3 cross-sectorial plans.
- Working groups have been established for each SDG, led by a coordination entity that includes the government, civil society, private sector and UN organizations. Tasks and TORs were determined for these groups.
- The national team, led by the prime minister office, is responsible for coordinating different SDGs initiatives.
- The government gave priority to within the goals list in line with its national action agenda.
- Entities responsible for SDGs and parties involved were identified in sectorial plans.
- Ministry of Social Development set a number of internal measures to ensure that the planning and budgeting team will monitor, follow up and assess the Ministry's three programs, and increase its contribution to the four strategic goals in specific manner.

Improvement Opportunities:

- The government is responsible for implementing the SDGs approved within the national plan, without clear responsibilities for implementing the SDGs at the level of institutions and ministries in the national policy agenda, which needs a joint, and commentary efforts to be implemented. They are set in the sectorial and cross-sectorial plans and the strategic findings framework.
- Regarding correlation of SDGs and role of partners to realize joint goals, it was found that responsibilities of the 'poverty reduction' goal were clearly vested to government entities, whereas **the expected role of civil society** was included without determining entities involved in SDGs.
- As a result of delay to approve strategies, findings and actions plans were not consolidated and included in one action plan of the government by the general secretariat of the prime minister office, so to enable them follow up progress made regularly, and develop a monitor and assessment system that provides information on regular basis through credible national tools and information sources.
- The parliament is inactive, so action progress reports on SDGs are not presented to legislators.

4. Preparedness for SDGs Implementing

General Review

- This new orientation of planning and budgeting is based on two principles, each enhances the other; finding-based planning and focus on implementing. The first one means determining outputs and findings in an accurate, realistic and achievable way that support national policies, undertaken within limits of available financial resources. Focus on implementing means developing a performance-based follow up system in order to ensure that plans approved are undertaken in due course, and that regular finding reports are released as per plans approved.
- Sectorial and cross-sectorial strategies and general medium-term budget come as components integrated with the national policy agenda, which in total form the fourth national development plan of Palestine.
- Sectorial plans were linked to sustainable development purposes and goals through determining SDGs and their meeting points with goals and findings of sectors strategy.
- The global references specify a group of widely-used global indicators, which the State of Palestine tries to achieve progress in light of them. Examples of these global references might include the World Bank's governance indicators, UN human development indicators and SDGs indicators.
- All sectorial and cross-sectorial plans are approved and enforced.
- The national policy agenda includes 30 national policies, each one of them will be designated a limited number of national strategic goals, based on strategic goals mentioned in sectorial and cross-sectorial strategies in question. SDGs, with their targets, could be chosen from as national strategic goals, whenever appropriate.
- Each national strategic goal will be given a reference baseline for 2016, and targets of 2019 and 2022 will be determined. The general secretariat of the prime minister office will determine, together with ministries and government entities in question, proper national strategic goals during 2017 first half as per standards below:
 - Direct association of strategic goal with one of the 30 national policies listed in the national policy agenda.
 - Determine the strategic goal at the sector level, not at the ministry or entity level, whenever appropriate.
- It is planned in the national policy agenda to design, test and enforce the strategic findings framework during 2017, where the general secretariat of the prime minister office will develop capacity of ministries and government entities staff, in line with instructions regarding findings and initial action plans of 2017. However, no strategic findings framework has been done until 2017 end.
- The government will review available options, in consultation with the global development partners, to ensure volume of support they will provide to Palestine over the next three years to face difficult financial and economic challenges and bring financial sustainability.
- The government will set a number of measures and options to consider and select the appropriate ones, with emphasizing difficulties that might face approval of these options,

which requires addressing the possible negative impacts upon enforcement, whether in terms of reforms or some social groups.

At the 'no poverty' SDG level:

- The government plans to realize the 'no poverty' SDG through the social development sector strategy (2017-2022), which will address the poverty reduction within strategic goals therein.
- Stakeholders that will cooperate to bring the SDG include the main government institutions (health, education, economy, finance, PCBS, public works, labor, agriculture), civil society and the private sector.
- Stakeholders were consulted on planning and enforcing this SDG. 518 people from different official entities, CSOs and international organizations were involved, in addition to meetings with joint planning teams and social protection action team, and internal meetings of responsibility centers at the ministry to determine policy interventions, strategic reporting and approval from all stakeholders.
- It was found there were financial gaps in enforcement of the poverty-related SDG over the next three years of strategy implementing, as table below shows:

Annual cost expected & financing gaps (thousand NIS) of the public treasury funding

Program	2017 Budget amount	Expected cost 2017	Fiannce gap 2017	2018 Budget amount	Expected cost 2018	Fiannce gap 2018	2019 Budget amount	Expected cost 2019	Fiannce gap 2019
Empowerment & poverty fighting	758,860	827,324	-68,464	781,477	828,286	46,809	804,951	829,665	24,714

Conclusion:

- The government has a vision on how plans will implement SDGs through national strategies guidance with these SDGs. The sectorial and cross-sectorial plans were reviewed by the national plans to ensure correlation with national plans and SDGs, and include them standard indicators, and then approved by the prime minister to become effective.
- During 2017 first half, general secretariat of the prime minister office worked with the ministries and government entities in question to ensure that proper national strategic goals are set according to the following standards:
 - Strategic goal is directly associated with one of the 30 national policies listed in the national policy agenda.
 - Strategic goal is determined at sector level, not the ministry or entity level, wherever appropriate.
 - Strategic goal should be specific, realistic, measurable, achievable and time limited.

Improvement Opportunities:

- Delayed approval to some strategic plans during 2017, which should have been done December 2016.
- As a result of delay to approve the strategic findings framework, an annual action progress report that states achieved against target findings was not set.
- Necessary financial resources were not clear to realize SDGs in the sectorial plans, and the government plan does not include budget necessary to that end.
- It was not clear how available financial potentials were adapted, as there is a finance gap in realizing the poverty-related goal.

General Data Framework

Data are necessary to convey policies and decisions made, monitor action progress of 2030 agenda and ensure meaningful accountability and involvement. The 2030 agenda openly admits that high quality, easily accessible in due course, categorized and reliable data are important for action progress control and ensure no data is neglected.

5. Designing and establishment of the systems to measure and monitor

General Review

- ❖ PCBS leads and coordinates localization effort of sustainable development indicators, and data provision and monitor.
- ❖ An organizational and institutional change has been introduced to PCBS through the formation of an SDGs action team, and instate a general department for statistical records and monitor.
- ❖ The main general goal of the national strategy to develop official statistics (2018-2022), which unifies the statistical infrastructure necessary to monitor SDGs as part of the national policy agenda (2017-2022). Strategic goals were set in a way helps provide data necessary to monitor progress made to realize SDGs, all in order to fulfill needs of different society groups (public sector, private sector, the public) in the economic, demographic, social and environmental fields basically related to SDGs indicators. Strategy was set in all its stages in cooperation, coordination and partnership with foundations of the national statistics system and partners (PCBS, ministries, government entities, universities, research institutes) through holding several workshops and meetings with data user groups, in order to ensure that strategy is consistent with national needs and priorities, as well as regional and international obligations of the State of Palestine.
- ❖ An initial SDGs indicators assessment was done by PCBS, where findings are as below:

Availability of SDGs indicators		
No. of indicators	Available	N/A
241	103	138

		Indicators available by link		
Available	No. of indicators	1	2	2+1
103	241	65	34	4

Availability: 1=available, 2=n/a, 3= does not apply

		Indicators available by data source			
Available	No. of indicators	Global	Administrative records, survey & census	Survey & census	Administrative records
103	241	36	38	16	13

- ❖ PCBS did an analysis for the number of SDGs and their relation with the national policy agenda (2017-2022), as table below shows:

No. of SDGs indicators by relation to the national policy agenda (2017-2022) & source of information, 12/11/2017

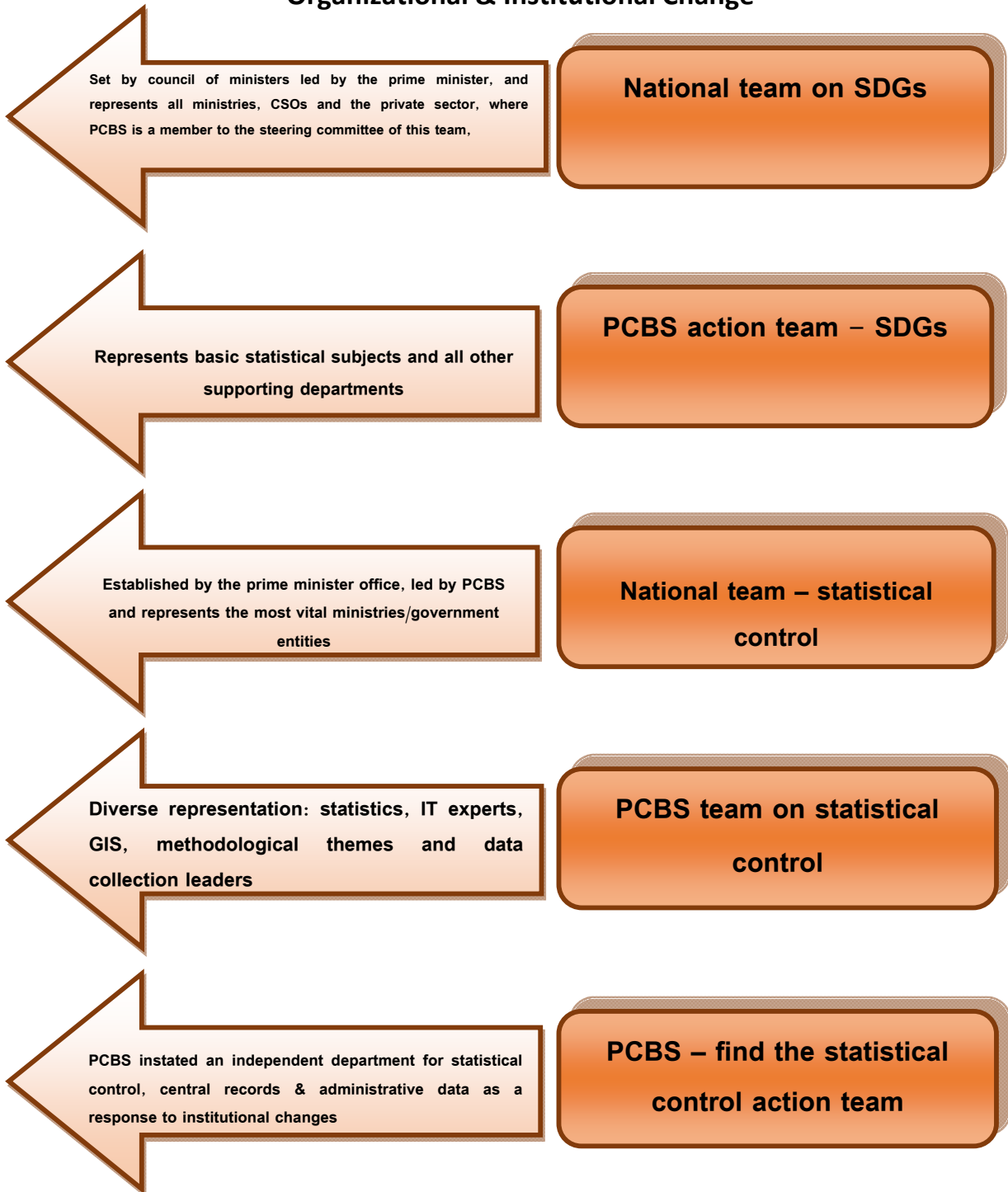
Relation to the national policy agenda (2017-2022)	Administrative records	Surveys	Records & surveys	Global	Surveys & global	Records, surveys & global	Records & global	Total
Yes	34	33	22	16	3	4	14	126
No	36	15	17	41	3	1	5	118
Total	70	48	39	57	6	5	19	244

- ❖ A database for indicators was set, which includes availability, data sources, responsible statistical management, specific stakeholders, initial basis of related indicator, measurement unit, methodology, necessary data, category, regularity, identification, latest data, last year and observations.
- ❖ Indicators included in sectorial plans are being reviewed by PCBS representatives to ensure data availability, accurateness, regularity and whether the indicators measure proposed interventions.
- ❖ Palestine keeps up with the international and regional effort in data availability and SDGS monitor, represented by PCBS in its capacity as the Arab region member to the UN high level team for partnership, coordination and building statistical capacity to monitor the sustainable development plan 2030.
- ❖ PCBS has the legal personality and is associated with the prime minister office.
- ❖ Independence of PCBS enhances reliability of statistical number at national and international levels, and increases trust of individuals and institutions in PCBS, and leads to accurate numbers/data during data collection from individuals and institutions. Besides, PCBS is a state entity provides service to the government, public sector, civil sector, private sector, research institutes and universities, and data published is associated in some aspects with the general government performance.
- ❖ 'All society members shall be entitled to access official statistics collected, processed and published as per effective regulations and instructions, with due consideration to confidentiality of data and privacy of individuals', official statistics law 4/2000, article 4.

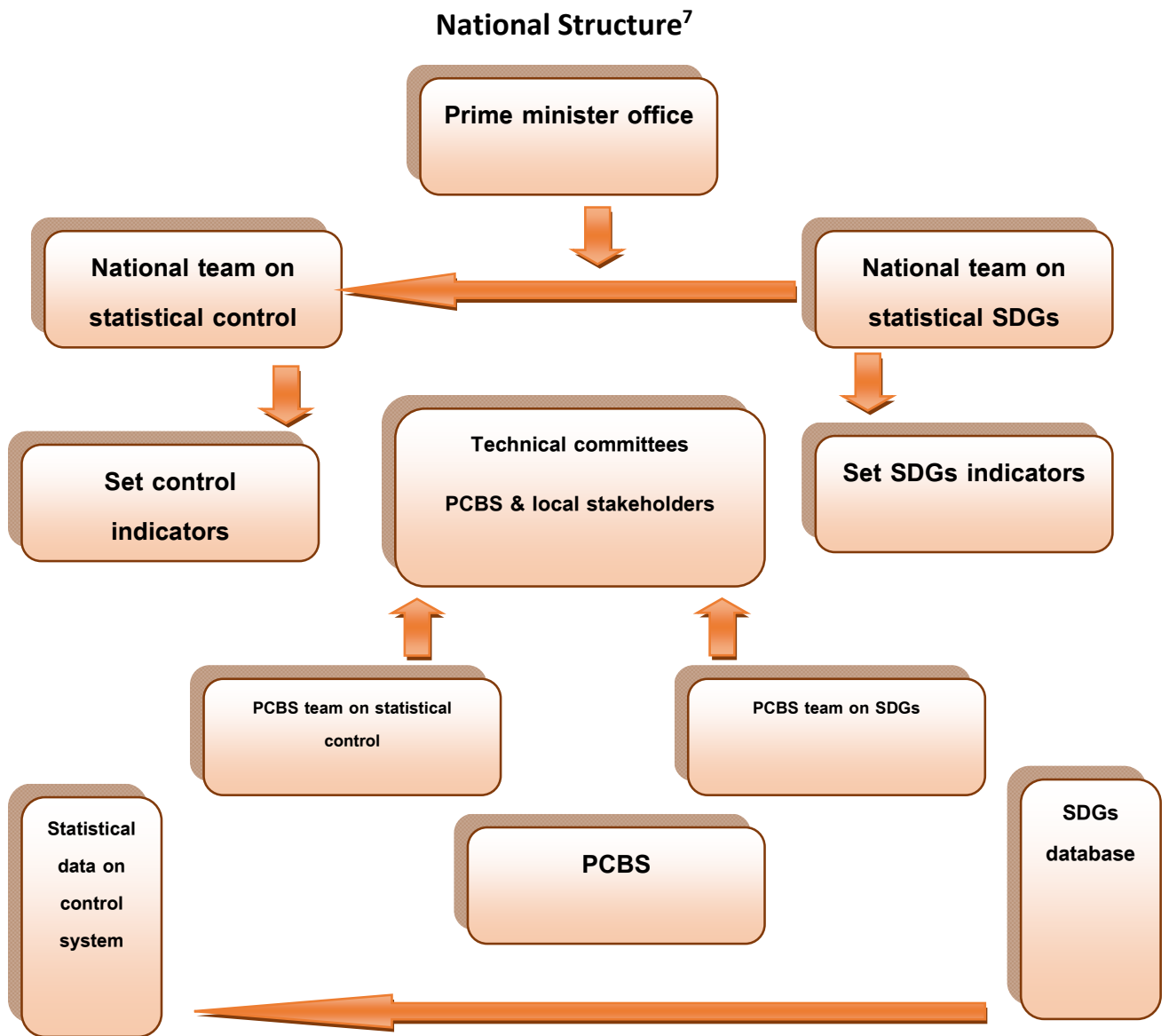
Conclusion:

- PCBS did initial planning on SDGs indicators, where it included 109 out of 244 sustainable development indicators (%45).
- It was found that SDGs indicators related to national policy agenda reached 126 out of 244 (%52).
- Database on sustainable development indicators is being set based on assessment of sustainable development indicators matrix.
- Measurement and monitor systems are in place and will be used over the next years. PCBS is seriously moving towards including all indicators.
- Responsibility for indicators data collection is vested to PCBS in case the data source is surveys. Ministries and institutions are responsible for that task if data source is administrative records or studies.
- Progress made will be measured according to regularity of indicator measurement stated in sectorial and cross-sectorial plans.
- Problems and expected challenges are observed upon related data collection/measurement:
 - ✓ Indicators are observed and provided at wide detailed levels, and data is produced as per SDGs requirements (geographical distribution, race, gender, ethnic origins, age, disability, rural/urban areas,...)
 - ✓ Many of them depended on administrative records as main source, which are incomplete or inadequate.
 - ✓ Some indicators do not apply to the Palestinian case (i.e.: Israeli occupation).
 - ✓ Coordination should be enhanced at modes of action level.
 - ✓ Some indicators are not clear and need more knowledge, especially technical cases.
- Third census 2017 is in progress, where needs of different sectors are set and consolidated to form census content. Data of census will establish comprehensive baseline and updated statistical framework to monitor SDGs 2030.
- SDGs monitor reports will be available to the public.

Organizational & Institutional Change⁶



⁶ Source: PCBS



⁷ Source: PCBS

Review the 'no poverty'

Ministry of Social Development determined SDG 1 indicators and sectorial findings, as table below shows:

Findings sequence	Indicators	Entity responsible for Information collection	Level of details	Regularity of indicator	Data collection source
SDG 1 'no poverty'	1. Rate of abject poverty based on consumption modes	PCBS	Gender, age, region	2018 , 2023	Survey
	2. Rate of abject poverty based on income	PCBS	Gender, age, region	2018 , 2023	Survey
	3. Rate of abject poverty based on consumption modes	PCBS	Gender, age, region	2018 , 2023	Survey
	4. Rate of abject poverty based on income	PCBS	Gender, age, region	2018 , 2023	Survey
	5. Rate of inhabitants who live below global poverty line *	PCBS	Age groups, gender	-----	-----
	6. Rate of men, women & children of all ages who suffer poverty with all its dimensions as per the national definitions	PCBS	Region, gender, dimension (kind of deprivation)	2018 , 2023	Survey
	7. Rate of individuals with food insecurity	PCBS	Gender, age, region	2017 , 2022	Survey
	8. Direct economic losses associated with World GDP *	PCBS	Details level was deleted	2017 , 2022	Survey
Poor & vulnerable households that are capable of securing basic needs in adequate quality & quantity	9. No. of poor households who benefit from social assistance provided by MOSD	Ministry of Social Development	Gender of family head, region, kind of service, poverty line, disability	Annual	Administrative records
	10. Rate of inhabitants who live in households that have access to basic needs *	PCBS, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education	Region, service	2018 , 2023	Survey
	11. Level of poor households satisfaction who benefit from assistance provided (as per quantity &	Ministry of Social Development	Gender of family head, age groups, region	2017, 2019 , 2022	Ad hoc study

	quality)				
	12. Rate of households spending on health of total spending	PCBS	Gender of family head, region	2018 , 2023	Survey
	13. Rate of households spending on food	PCBS	Gender of family head, region	2018 , 2023	Survey
	14. Rate of households that resort to adapting strategies with level of livelihood	PCBS	Gender of family head	2022 ,2017	Survey
Men, women & young men/women in the poor households and engaged in economic empowerment projects (individual/collective)	15. No. of beneficiaries from economic empowerment	Ministry of Social Development	Type of project, geographical area, gender of beneficiaries, nature of intervention (grant, loan, employment, other), nature of project (individual/collective)	Annual	Administrative records
	16. Rate of poor households targeted by economic empowerment programs, still running their own economic projects after three years	Ministry of Social Development	Type of project, geographical area, gender of beneficiaries, nature of intervention (grant, loan, employment, other), nature of project (individual/collective)	,2019 ,2017 2022	Regular studies
3.1 Effective national & local social protection measures to protect the poor groups (men, women) exposed to crises, shocks & disasters	No. of national social protection measures set during the past 12 months to protect the poor & marginalized groups	Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Woman Affairs	Description of measurement type	Annual	Administrative records
	No. of national & local strategies to reduce disaster risks *	PCBS	Description of content	Annual	Records
	No. of died, missing & injured people due to disasters for every 100,000 people	PCBS	Region	Annual	Records
	No. of beneficiaries from the agricultural risk prevention & insurance fund	Ministry of Agriculture	Region, value of assistance	Annual	Administrative records
	No. of people registered in the Social Security Fund, Pension & Insurance Authority	Social Security Fund, Pension & Insurance Authority	Gender, age groups, region	Annual	Administrative records

* Sustainable development indicator

Table above shows that 21 measurement indicators were included for SDG 1 'no poverty', taking into account that 5 of them are international sustainable development indicators. Information collection responsibility, level of details, indicator regularity and source of data, whether from surveys, administrative records, special records or regular studies.

Planning findings came by PCBS for the 'no poverty' SDG, as in annex (2).

6. Basis & Indicators

General Review

- A report has been made, 2014 by Ministry of Planning & Administrative Development on assessment of millennium development goals. However, we could not get hold of that report as this ministry has been dissolved.
- PCBS published December 2015 a report on indicators measurement of the millennium development goals in Palestine (1994-2014), which addresses the latest readings done for these indicators.
- PCBS assessed actual conditions of SDGs indicators in Palestine, in terms of availability and methodologies of measurement tools, with baseline data available whenever possible.
- PCBS, in cooperation with ministries/entities in question, reviews sectorial and cross-sectorial plans (2017-2022), examines possibility of covering monitor and assessment indicators therein, and selects some of them as part of the national statistical monitor system.
- Each national strategic goal has a reference baseline for 2016, as well as targets determined for 2019 and 2022.
- Indicators included in the sectorial plans are being reviewed by PCBS representatives to ensure data availability, accuracy and regularity, and whether indicators of proposed interventions are measured.
- The State of Palestine intends to make constant progress in light of international references.

Review the 'no poverty' goal

Ministry of Social Development linked sustainable development purposes with national priorities for 2017-2022 with proposed indicators, in addition to the baseline (last reading), proposed targets and interventions and entity responsible, as shown in table below:

SDG 1: end poverty in all its forms everywhere
SDG 10: reduced inequalities

Sectorial strategic goal/findings (from the sectorial strategy)	Purposes (of SDGs)	Proposed (from the sectorial strategies)	Existing conditions	General targeting 2017-2019	Proposed interventions	Entity responsible (ministry/government entity)
SDG 1: end poverty	1.1. End abject poverty by 2030 for all people everywhere, which is now measured on basis of people who live on less than 1.25 USD a day	1. Rate of abject poverty based on consumption modes	%12.9 2011	118,000 households	Provide regular cash assistance through the approved service cards	Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Finance & Planning
		2. Rate of abject poverty based on income	%36.4 2011	216,000 individual	Provide regular food assistance	Ministry of Social Development
	2.1 .Reduce rate of men, women and children of all ages who suffer poverty with all its dimensions,	3. Rate of abject poverty based on consumption modes	%25.8 2011	5,000 households	Provide contingent financial assistance	Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Finance & Planning
		4. Rate of abject poverty based on income	%47.6 2011	120.000 cards	Provide free health services including medical insurance	Ministry of Health

	according to national definitions, by at least the half by 2030 1.10 : gradual income growth and support sustainable growth for at least %40 of people	5. Rate of inhabitants who live below global poverty line		80,000 students	Provide free education services including exemption from school fees and book prices	Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Development
	3.1 .Introduce proper social protection systems and measures for all at the national level, set minimum levels thereto and realize wide health coverage for the poor and vulnerable by 2030	6. Rate of men, women & children of all ages who suffer poverty with all its dimensions as per the national definitions			Approve support policies to basic material such as flour, salt and school nutrition (e.g.: milk to students), and build national reserves of basic goods, especially flour. Set social protection basis (disabled, elderly)	Ministry of National Economy, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health Ministry of Social Development
		7. No. of poor households who benefit from social assistance provided by MOSD			Instate a high level coordinating entity to set national policies (economic, social) to ensure that reasons of poverty are addressed, not just fought	Prime minister office, Ministry of Social Development, partners to SDG 1

		8. Rate of households spending on health of total spending	%5.3 2011		Revise the Palestinian legislations system and determine necessary amendments thereto to ensure institutional environment necessary to enforce policies and interventions approved or could be approved to fight poverty according to the new concept and development trend	Ministry of Social Development in coordination with Ministry of Justice as per the government's legislative plan
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	<p>4.10 : Approve policies, especially financial, wages and social protection policies, and bring the maximum degree of equality</p>	<p>.9 Rate of inhabitants who live in households that have access to basic needs</p>		<p>Set national policies to ensure that reasons of poverty are addressed, not just fought, including policies to encourage investment and economic/financial policies of the state Improve institutional performance of local entities and make their human/financial resources active to provide quality service to the public, through continue support to local entities to undertake projects with development priorities, and improve/develop basic infrastructure (water, electrify, sanitation, roads) and public/communal buildings, with priority to local entities in 'C' classified area, in East Jerusalem, in marginalized areas and areas alongside the apartheid separation and annexation wall.</p>	<p>Ministry of Local Government</p>
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	3.10 :Ensure equal opportunities and reduced inequalities in findings	.10 Level of poor households satisfaction who benefit from assistance provided (as per quantity & quality)			Pressure towards policies and legislations to provide basic needs (according to existing and future poverty concept) and empowering needs of the poor households, which also include reduced electricity and water bills for the poor	Ministry of Social Development, service providers
		12. Rate of households that resort to adapting strategies with level of livelihood			Set consolidated information system on needs of households	Ministry of Social Development
		13. Rate of individuals with food insecurity	%27		Establish national forums sponsored and led by Ministry of Social Development to coordinate effort of stakeholders in this sector	Ministry of Social Development
		14. Rate of households spending on food	%35		Develop a national poverty concept in line with national trends, and unify modes of targeting and poverty calculation	Prime minister office, PCBS, Ministry of Social Development
		15. No. of national social protection measures set during the past 12 months to protect the poor & marginalized groups	0	300 households	Adapt/provide proper dwelling for the poor	Ministry of Social Development

	<p>1. Ensure that all men and women, the poor and vulnerable in particular, enjoy the same rights to economic resources...</p> <p>2.10: Empower and enhance social, political and economic incorporation for all</p>	<p>15 .No. of beneficiaries from economic empowerment</p>	<p>655 projects</p>	<p>3,000 projects</p>	<p>Economic empowerment programs for the poor households, which include new projects and develop existing businesses of the poor households</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Woman Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, High Council for Youth & Sport</p>
		<p>16. Rate of poor households targeted by economic empowerment programs, still running their own economic projects after three years</p>		<p>2 projects</p>	<p>Collective empowerment programs for the poor households and farmers</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Agriculture</p>
					<p>Professional training programs and employ young men/women and people with disabilities in poor households</p>	<p>Ministry of Social Development, economic empowerment partners</p>

		17. National & local strategies to reduce disaster risks			Set companies and projects to market products of the poor and small producers, and make use of global solidarity markets in this respect	Ministry of Social Development, economic empowerment partners
					Train staff to enable them assume tasks better in directing interventions for the benefit of the poor at local level, and design/implement interventions too	Ministry of Social Development
					Revise legislations and policies to set policies and legislations to encourage small producers and small projects	Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of National Economy
					Provide project loans for economic projects of the poor households that suit their needs in general, and needs of women, disabled people and the elderly in particular	Ministry of Social Development + Ministry of Labor + Ministry of Woman Affairs + Ministry of Agriculture + High Council for Youth & Sport
	1.5 .Build resilience capacity of the poor and vulnerable groups, and reduce their exposure to climate-related extreme phenomena, and other	18. No. of died, missing & injured people due to disasters for every 100,000 people			Instate a national emergency fund to improve national response to natural disasters	The national risk/disaster management team, the higher civil defense council

economic, social and environmental disasters by 2030	.19 No. of beneficiaries from the agricultural risk prevention & insurance fund			Enhance preparedness of the risk prevention and agricultural insurance fund from regulatory and financial perspectives, specialized staff and regulating legislations	Ministry of Agriculture
	20. No. of people registered in the Social Security Fund, Pension & Insurance Authority			Set and approve secondary legislations of social security law	Board of directors of the Social Security Fund
	21. Direct economic losses associated with World GDP			Studies and reports on social protection measurement and necessary needs	Ministry of Social Development

Table above shows that (sustainable development) purposes, proposed indicators, actual conditions (last reading available), 2017-2019 targeting, proposed interventions and entity responsible (ministry/government entity) have been determined.

The poverty conditions in Palestine, 2017 released by PCBS April 2018 shows reading of sustainable development associated with poverty included in the national strategy, and comparison of these findings with the 2011 reference baseline. The report addresses in more details the indicators and specifics of category level.

Poverty is worse than before:

Findings showed that poverty rate in 2017 (%29.2) is higher than average against estimated rate in 2011 (%25.7). Poverty rate increased at %13.6 during that period, whereas the abject poverty rate increased from %12.7 to %16.8 (increase of %32.3). This means that gap and severity of poverty increased among the poor, which is attributed to the remarkably elevated poverty indicators in Gaza Strip despite the decrease in the West Bank. It should be mentioned that conditions in Gaza Strip became worse than in 2011, where poverty rate saw a %36 increase from around %38.9 in 2011 to %53.0, 2017. A similar, albeit at wider scale, increase occurred to the poorest rate as per measures made using the abject poverty indicator and the poverty gap/severity indicator. However, the story was reversed in the West Bank, where the poverty rate decreased throughout the past six years at around %22 (from %18.0, 2011 to %14.0, 2017).

Table 3: rate of poverty among people (2011-2017)

Year	Poverty rate	Poverty gap	Poverty severity	Abject poverty
2011	25.7	5.9	2.1	12.7
West Bank	17.6	3.9	1.4	7.6
Gaza Strip	38.9	9.3	3.2	21.0
2017	29.2	7.9	3.1	16.8
West Bank	13.9	2.8	0.9	5.8
Gaza Strip	53.0	15.7	6.5	33.7

Conclusion:

- Basic assessment was done before start of SDGs agenda. There is a final report on the millennium development goals, which could be used to judge action progress made through lifecycle of SDGs, which constitute the starting point of action assessment.
- Information presented is coherent with other data or information, such as UN, World Bank or NGOs data.

Improvement Opportunities:

- There are 82 indicators in SDGs, which are considered a third category that does not have calculation or action mode.
- It was found that the social protection strategy (2017-2022) does not determine desired values in regularity of indicators assessment. Targeting was addressed with outputs on total numbers to be targeted, whereas targets and desired values were listed in the social protection strategic findings framework.
- The environment cross-sectorial strategy (2017-2022) did not determine reference values (baseline), desired values, information source and regularity of indicator assessment, where it was indicated that developing proper indicators is an ongoing process that needs to be finished.
- It was found that the local government sector strategy (2017-2022) has achievement measurement indicators, but does not have reference baseline for data, and without expected rates and figures of what is it going to be like in 2022.
- It was found that culture and heritage sector strategy (2017-2022) determined the reference data baseline and year of basis, whereas targets of 2017, 2018 and 2019 have not been determined.

7. Monitor & Reporting Arrangements

General secretariat of the prime minister office will work alongside ministries and government entities in question in order to determine desired findings and set executive action plans for each policy intervention in the national policy agenda. Action plans should set the main action procedures to be undertaken over the next three years, where the general secretariat of the prime minister office will combine findings and action plans as part of the government's consolidated action plan, which enables follow up the progress made regularly.

Below is the timeline of follow up and reporting stages of the national policy agenda:

- International references with indicators (annual basis)
- National strategic goals (annual basis)
- Findings and specific action plans (quarter basis for procedures, at least once a year for findings)

Through enhancing follow up and reporting procedures to the national policy agenda, the government will be able to determine performance problems in an early stage, and take measures necessary to overcome possible problems. Moreover, providing more comprehensive information on performance in due course would support the dialogue we are having with our national and international partners about the way we adopt to provide better service to the public.

It is planned to design, test and implement the strategic findings framework during 2017, where the general secretariat of the prime minister office develops capacity of ministries and government entities staff, in line with instructions given regarding findings and preliminary action plans of 2017. It is also planned to set an annual report that includes action progress, so it determines findings reached against findings targeted, and sets the strategic findings framework through constant focus on findings and implementing, which is a high standard to judge the national policy agenda (2017-2022), so it could not be claimed that success is achieved unless promises made are fulfilled.

What has been done by the general secretariat of the prime minister office (follow up and assessment):

- Review preliminary draft strategic sectorial plans (21 sectorial and cross-sectorial strategies), where the general secretariat of the prime minister office redrafted, modified and developed them in partnership and coordination with all ministries and government entities. These strategies were aligned and associated with the national policy agenda, prepared and presented for approval from the prime minister. They were approved between May and August 2017.
- Once the sectorial strategies were approved, preparation of the strategic findings framework started, which is the practical tool to follow up the national policy agenda. The framework is associated with finishing the sectorial strategies that were supposed to be approved by the prime minister by December 2016.
- Preparing the strategic findings framework of national policy agenda is in progress, where the following actions have been undertaken:

- A steering committee was formed August 15, 2017 by the prime minister, headed by general secretary of the prime minister office, with the prime minister office, general follow up and assessment department at the general secretariat, Ministry of Finance & Planning and PCBS as members to supervise the action progress of the strategic findings framework.
- A national team was formed of all ministries and government entities listed in the sectorial strategies (21 sectorial and cross-sectorial strategies). The team is set by virtue of the prime minister decision on August 15, 2017, so the team will take on a pool of tasks and responsibilities that help prepare the strategic findings framework.
- Set the regulating steering principles of the strategic findings framework, which act as the steering system the government uses to do the policy interventions with priorities.
- Approve regulating principles of the framework by the steering committee on its first meeting, where also the five sectors in the applied model were approved.
- Second meeting of the steering committee was jointly held with the national team, where action mechanisms and findings stages were agreed.
- Five sectors (health, education, energy, agriculture, justice) were chosen as an applied model, and the strategic findings framework was initiated for these sectors.
- Five sectors approved were taken as an applied sample with an extensive course until its strategic findings framework is finished during 2018. Several meetings were held, and communication is constant in order to finish this task on time. Work is in progress with the remaining sectors to finish their findings framework during the first quarter, 2018.
- The general follow up and assessment department will set quarter follow up reports as per the strategic findings framework of the five sectors in the applied sample during 2018.

The strategic findings framework is mainly based on the national policy agenda and strategic sectorial plans, which includes integration between them. Delay of sectorial strategies with desired standards caused delay of findings framework, on which the follow up reporting in all its levels is based. Target date to finish sectorial strategies, approved by the prime minister, was December 2016, whereas these strategies were finished August 2017.

Review the 'no poverty' goal

Ministry of Social Development will undertake the following:

1. Set in action the planning and budgeting role at the Ministry to manage three programs. The Ministry will set a pool of internal procedures to ensure that the planning and budgeting team will monitor, follow up and assess the Ministry's three programs and enhance contribution to the four strategic goals in specific manner.

The minister will activate the team through measures below:

- Biannual assessment of progress made to out-of-projects and inside projects output for the three programs, and biannual assessment at level of outputs, goals and purposes, through reviewing standards of goals and purposes.
- Review the Ministry's programs at each year end, which includes studying the relation of goals and purposes in the strategic goals and sectorial findings, and consider/modify the causality (change theory) whenever necessary. The review could be right after

approving the social development strategy by the prime minister, and could include the modified design of performance measurement indicators instead of performance standards.

- Develop monitor and assessment system: the general planning department will develop an integrated monitor and assessment system, which includes a pool of tools and models to measure performance indicators and standards of the three programs, and also includes a detailed description of reports, meetings and communication channels in question.
 - Annual program plan: the general planning department will, alongside program managers, set a framework and methodology of the annual program plan, which is reviewed to ensure integration of program management. Department manager at Ministry of Social Development, center directors and some related government entities could also be involved.
2. Set into action the role of national team to monitor and assess goals, findings and sectorial interventions: the Ministry will set a pool of measure to enhance relation of the national team in the strategy, especially in the area of guidance, knowledge circulation and accountability towards components of the strategy. The minister will enforce the following measures in particular:
- The national team will offer advice through developing a monitor and assessment system at the level of goals, findings and sectorial interventions.
 - The national team will encourage entities to provide information necessary for the monitor and assessment system, especially biannual reports on interventions made in the social development.
 - Hold an annual meeting to discuss progress of goals and sectorial findings, and take decisions regarding any modification to strategic courses based on field reports.

Conclusion:

- Follow up and assessment will be a two-way process; the first will be through observing the indicators set for each of the strategic goals, which will be measures or calculated by end of each year, and observing progress made based on available information and data. The second way will be assessment of budget programs and determine purposes, goals and outputs for each one of these SDGs in each program.
- Three voluntary reviews will be done on progress made according to UN voluntary reports.
- Matrix of goals, findings, outputs, activities and budgets of each program will be discussed, analyzed and reviewed, led by the program coordinator from Ministry of Social Development, with review of SMART goal features.
- Matrix of goals, findings, outputs, activities and budgets of each program is reviewed through matching action team at Ministry of Social Development.
- Ministry of Social Development sets quarter, biannual and annual reports, so programs are linked to goals and expected outputs, and achievements made are determined with cost, impediments and challenges that faced implementing.

Improvement Opportunities:

- Sectorial plans were delayed to 2017 end, which in turn delays the strategic findings framework, and affects follow up and assessment of national policy agenda in due course.

Recommendations

- Develop public awareness building initiatives about SDGs, which include all age groups and geographical areas.
- Approve an awareness building plan about SDGs for government entities staff.
- Include SDGs structure in preliminary and school curriculum.
- Engage all NGOs in the introduction to SDGs.
- Approve a method to exchange information and communicate with all CSOs for reports that express all sustainable development actions undertaken.
- Ensure that representatives of civil society and the private sector are present in the national team in order to reflect SDGs to their sectors in Palestine.
- Set a list of CSOs involved in the 'no poverty' goal as part of the social protection responsibility.
- Approve strategic plans before enforcement starts.
- Approve and set in action the strategic findings framework to ensure follow up and assessment of the national policy agenda in due course.
- Obtain clear financial resources necessary to realize SDGs in sectorial plans, so the government plan includes value of budget necessary to realize SDGs.
- Ensure compatibility with available financial potentials in the planning stage, due to finance gaps in strategy enforcement.
- Develop administrative records that will be used as main source of indicators measurement.
- Ensure that strategic plans of local government entities are harmonious with the national policy agenda in order to bring the national higher interest.
- Ensure that all sectorial and cross-sectorial plans include reference values (baseline), desired values, information sources, regularity of indicator measurement and development of proper complete indicators.

Response of the sustainable development team to initial review report on government preparedness to enforce SDGs

Executive Summary

1. Page 2, main findings (item 5): SDGs meet 7 national priorities and 25 national policies, not five priorities and 19 policies as stated in the report. It should be mentioned that number of national priorities and national policies in the national policy agenda is 10 and 30 respectively.
2. Page 2, considerations: the government commitment to SDGs set in the policy agenda is not only about sustainable development hub, but the reform and public service improvement hub (with policies and policy interventions) represent fundamental issues in the sustainable development plan. The first hub includes policies regarding enhancing democratic involvement and Palestine's involvement in the international system, which occupy a significant space in the sustainable development plan too. The agenda title 'Citizen First' represents the government commitment to enhance response to citizens, and meets principle of the sustainable development plan to keep up with development. Thus, the sustainable development plan is not limited to hub 3.
3. Page 2, considerations: procedures of stage one focus on developing and setting into action the institutional arrangements, awareness building and commitment among key stakeholders (government, civil society, private sector), which is a must to set off to stage two with local society and the Palestinian public, where recommendations of review include clear steps to move forward in this respect.
4. Page 3: set 12 action team, where goals 1 and 2 were combined in one group, environmental goals in one group as well as the goal on partnership enhancement (in all goals and groups). The team include government entities, NGOs, private sector and related UN organizations, which are not 17 as mentioned in the report.
5. Page 4: limited communication and information exchange need an audit. Preparations for national review involved 500 representatives (male, female) from all stakeholders, and included geographical distribution and marginalized groups (women, people with disabilities, youth).
6. Page 4, main findings: regarding failure to include a budget in the national policy agenda, a budget was not planned in the agenda as it is a reference document for policies and references, but the budget (with programs) is associated with strategies.
7. Page 4, consideration 2: needs review based on the previous comment.
8. Page 5, consideration 2: a baseline with 109 sustainable development indicators exist. PCBS intends to increase this number over the next three years.
9. Page 6: the voluntary report will be out June 2018, not December 2018 as mentioned in the report.

Core Recommendations

1. Recommendation 2: actions of CSOs cannot by any means be counted (more than 20,000). Findings are interpretation of all partners actions. Revise is advised.

2. Recommendation 4: no accurate as responsibilities of ministries and government entities to coordinate/enforce SDGs are clear and specified.
3. Recommendation 8: not accurate. There are consultations with donor states regarding their commitment to support over the next few years, through strategic and bilateral consultations with each donor state. The local assistance coordination structure also represents a platform to discuss priorities and needs.

The Report

1. Page 23, structure of SDGs action teams: the proposed structure is for SDGs localization and monitor.
2. Page 25, formation of national team: a decision was made to add Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Expatriates and Ministry of Justice as members to the team.
3. Page 25, team meetings: the team held 6 meetings until May 2018.
4. Page 25, steering committee membership: needs modification. It is headed by the prime minister office and has Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of National Economy, Environment Quality Authority and PCBS as members.
5. Page 26: formation of action teams is not consistent with what the executive summary mentions.
6. Page 28: minimum of three voluntary reviews will be undertaken.

Involvement of civil society, local entities and private sector

1. There is confusion of responsibility of CSOs representatives in the national sustainable development team on one hand, and responsibility of CSOs to set strategic plans on the other hand. Thus, the following shall be clarified:
 - Responsibility of CSOs representatives in the national team for presenting viewpoints and standpoints of CSOs towards SDGs follow up and enforcement at all levels.
 - CSOs are involved in SDGs follow up and enforcement through the twelve action teams formed to follow up enforcement, so the civil society involvement is not limited to three representatives, but extends to 50 organizations.
 - Regarding strategic planning; there is a national team for each national strategy, and CSOs are also represented.
2. Page 30, 'There is not total centralizing ...': the correct is there is not centralizing to enable..., while an initiative is undertaken on the same time to enhance role of a number of municipalities to collect and manage resources.
3. Page 33, improvement opportunities: items below shall be reviewed:
 - There is not structural inclusion of SDGs in education, which needs an audit by Ministry of Education with its partners, and through the education coalition 'education to all' to follow up and enforce SDG 4.
 - Failure to involve all NGOs in the introduction to SDGs: there is great effort made by different parties in this regard. More than 220 CSOs were targeted in review preparations, and many seminars were held for the same reason. Full coverage

- cannot by all means be achieved, and we recommend redraft with more focus on CSOs at base level and in remote areas.
- No mode of information exchange and communication with all entities to set a report on all actions. This mode is not realistic and could not be performed. Meanwhile, findings express effort of all partners, and there are means of consensus on vision, goals and policies, which leaves room for all partners at the executive level.

Responsibility, resources and accountability: general review

- Item 6: there is not such a document as the 'national development plan', but there is the national policy agenda, with sectorial and cross-sectorial strategies. The mutual relation between the government vision and sectorial priorities should be mentioned.
- Item 10: policy interventions approved in the policy agenda represent intervention titles to achieve national policy, and an action title for all, where there are not interventions for each party.
- Page 38, conclusion and improvement opportunities: this title came after the 'no poverty' title, so some conclusion and improvement opportunities are not associated with what was mentioned under the 'no poverty' theme, such as items 4 and 5.
- Form action teams that include, besides what has been mentioned, private sector representatives.
- Page 38, improvement opportunities, item 1: national policy agenda shows national goals and policies that require integrated collective action to achieve, not goals with sectorial nature, as in sectorial strategies, so responsibilities are not set at this level.

Preparedness for SDGs

1. Page 39: the report mentions the number of national policies at 29 and 30, where the correct number is 30.
2. Improvement opportunities came as description of weaknesses, which might suit what has been proposed.
3. Item 3: there are clear approved modes to discuss with the international community, which we can provide you with.
4. Item 5: alignment is done during general budgeting.
5. Item 6: national policy agenda is a national action program sets a number goals and policies to steer action of everyone. The agenda was not planned and resources could not be allocated thereto, where this is agreed at level of strategies and associated program budgets.

Data framework

1. Available sustainable development indicators are 109.
2. Page 45, regulatory and institutional change: national SDGs team is not part of institutional change at PCBS, but a national institutional arrangement that includes and cooperates with PCBS in indicators monitor effort.

3. Page 46, national structure: this is not accurate, as the national team on SDGs is associated with the prime minister office, not PCBS.

Recommendations

- Comments were expressed on a number of recommendations listed in the executive summary comments.
- Recommendation 9 regarding an independent entity to follow up action progress report: this recommendations negates a basic principle in the sustainable development plan (article 47). Review is a government responsibility at the national, regional and global levels, where the high-level government forum reviews at government ministerial level. However, if the entity in question is a legislative body that supervises action progress of sustainable development plan, there is no one to substitute the parliament.

PCBS comments

Full name of entity is preferable wherever mentioned, unless in certain context where acronyms are adequate.

Page	Title	Comment
5	Preliminary findings	All items need redraft to be consistent with actual conditions in terms of names or chronological sequence in key findings listed
5	Considerations (1)	'... by setting a measurement & control system...': text needs modification to 'national statistical control system'
5	Considerations (2)	'It was not ensured that all SDGs indicators in the national plan have baseline'. Text is not clear. 'all indicators have been checked and assessed, but there are not baseline data for all indicators' is more accurate
6	Preliminary findings	126 indicators were mentioned, but for 2017-2022, so this would not be misunderstood as 2030
7	Core recommendations	1: 'Develop initiatives...': initiatives are in place but might not be sufficient, do not target certain areas, age groups or topics, so text shall focus on initiatives develop or intensify. 2: 'Set an approach for information exchange': system and mode of action are in place 3: 'Ensure that civil society and private sector are represented': both sectors are represented 5: unclear or has errors Last: 'Administrative records shall be complete': the word 'complete' is not appropriate, could be replaced with 'administrative records development'
42	5 measurement & control systems	Preferably changed to 'monitor & control'
42	General review	Item 2, institutional change: department is normally renamed 'general records & statistical control department'
		Item 2 'initial planning was done...': 'indicators assessment' is more accurate
		'PCBS has the legal personality and is associated with the prime minister office': meaning and reason are not clear



التاريخ: 2017/05/2

قرار إداري رقم (2017/17)
بشأن تشكيل فريق بخصوص
استعداد الحكومات لتطبيق أهداف الأمم المتحدة للتنمية المستدامة

استناداً إلى الصلاحيات المخولة لي بنص المادة "48" من قانون ديوان الرقابة المالية والإدارية رقم (15) لسنة 2004م، فقد تقرر تشكيل فريق مكون من التالية أسماؤهم:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| 1. السيد/ صالح مصالح | مقرر الفريق |
| 2. السيد/ علاء اعرب | عضواً |
| 3. السيدة/ لانا العاصي | عضواً |

- يقوم الفريق بتقديم مقترحات استراتيجية عن جاهزية الحكومة الفلسطينية في تطبيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة، وقياس مدى التقدم في تنفيذ تلك الأهداف من خلال: (تطوير مجموعة من الأسئلة والاستفسارات لتطبيق إطار قياس مدى التقدم في تحقيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة (إطار السبع خطوات)).
 - يقوم الفريق بإعداد تقريراً أولياً حول إجراءات الحكومة في تطبيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة خلال الفترة المقبلة.
 - يقوم الفريق بإعداد جدول زمني خاص بالمطلوب إنجازه.
 - يرفع الفريق تقريراً بنتائج أعماله وتوصياته إلى معالي رئيس الديوان أصولاً.
- على الجميع كل فيما يخصه تنفيذ هذا القرار اعتباراً من تاريخه، ويلقى كل قرار بتعارض مع ذلك.

وتفضلوا بقبول فائق الاحترام ...

المستشار/إباد تيم

رئيس ديوان الرقابة المالية والإدارية



نسخة إلى:

- الشؤون المالية والإدارية.
- أعضاء الفريق.
- وحدة الرقابة الداخلية.
- ملف القرارات.

Annexes

Annex (1): Analysis & link between goals of national policy agenda with SDGs 2030

Table 1: National Policies and Policy Interventions under National Priority 6			
National Policy	Policy Interventions	SDG Targets	SDG Indicators
Building Palestine's Future Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rebuild Palestine's productive sectors, focusing on manufacturing, agriculture, tourism and restoring Gaza's industrial base. Attract domestic and foreign direct investment, focusing on construction, tourism, agriculture ,energy and ICT sectors. Expand international trade and exports. Plan and invest in strategic infrastructure (water, electricity, transportation and telecom networks ,airports, seaport and industrial parks). Strengthen the financial sector's role in supporting private sector growth. <p>Bridge the West Bank-Gaza development gap.</p>	<p>8.2</p> <p>8.2 8.9</p> <p>17.11 17.12</p> <p>9.1 9.4</p> <p>8.10</p>	
Creating Job Opportunities SDG 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expedite job creation through public-private partnerships. Develop job creation programs for graduates, ensuring equal opportunities for women. Expand the Palestinian Employment Fund. Ensure a safe work environment through application of health and occupational safety standards. 	<p>8.3</p> <p>8.5 8.b</p> <p>8.7 8.8</p>	
Improving Palestine's Business Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support business start-ups and MSMEs. Support and expand co-operatives. Cut red tape for business through smart regulation. Support and promote the digital economy. Enhance ICT's role as a business enabler. Strengthen Palestine's cyber security and ensure the ICT sector's freedom from external threats and domination. 	<p>8.3 9.3</p> <p>8.2</p> <p>9.3</p> <p>9.a</p>	

Promoting Palestinian Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support and protect national products, increase competitiveness and expand import substitution. • Increase Palestinian products' share of the local market. 	2.3 8.9 17.10	
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Table 2: National Policies and Policy Interventions under National Priority 7

National Policy	Policy Interventions	SDG Targets	SDG Indicators
Escaping Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen economic and social empowerment programs benefiting vulnerable groups and the poor. • Ensure that economic and social policies address the needs of vulnerable groups and the poor. • Promote social integration by establishing job creation programs for excluded groups (disabled, youth, women, ex-prisoners). 	1.3 1.4 1.1 1.2 5.1	1.3.1 Proportion of population covered by social protection floors/systems, by sex, distinguishing children, unemployed persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, newborns, work injury victims, and the poor and the vulnerable 1.4.1 Proportion of population living in households with access to basic services 1.1.1 Proportion of the population below the international poverty line, by sex, age, employment status, and geographical location (urban/rural) 1.2.1 Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age 1.2.2 Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions 5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex
Strengthening Social Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the effectiveness and coherence of our social protection system. • Ensure effective implementation of the social security law and regulations. • Promote corporate social responsibility and tripartite social dialogue. 	5.2 5.3 5.c 10.4 5.c	5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age 5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence 5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18 5.3.2 Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age 10.4.1 Labour share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers 5.c.1 Proportion of countries with systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment
Improving Access to Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen and implement human rights legislation. • Ensure a fair, transparent, efficient and 	16.3 16.10 16.b	16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms 16.3.2 Unserved detainees as a proportion of overall prison population

	<p>independent judicial system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure effective implementation of court decisions. • Ensure integrated delivery of and fair access to judicial services, particularly for women and children. • Strengthen the institutional capacity and organization of the justice sector. 	<p>16.3</p> <p>16.6</p>	<p>16.10.1 Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months</p> <p>16.10.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information</p> <p>16.b.1 Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law</p> <p>16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar)</p> <p>16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience of public services</p>
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls. • Remove barriers that prevent the full participation of women in community and economic development and public life. 	<p>5.1 5.2 5.3</p> <p>5.5</p>	<p>5.1.1 Whether or not legal frameworks are in place to promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex</p> <p>5.2.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age</p> <p>5.2.2 Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence</p> <p>5.3.1 Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18</p> <p>5.3.2 Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age</p>
Our Youth; Our Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empower and equip Palestine's youth to participate meaningfully in public life and state building Ensure that our youth are provided with opportunities for a successful future. • Place a particular focus on assisting disadvantaged youth. 		

Table 3: National Policies and Policy Interventions under National Priority 8

National Policy	Policy Interventions	SDG Targets	SDG Indicators
Improving Early Childhood and Pre-School Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop early childhood education programs. Expand and improve pre-school education. 	<p>4.2</p> <p>4.2</p>	<p>4.2.1 Proportion of children under 5 years of age who are developmentally on track in health, learning and psychosocial well-being by sex</p> <p>4.2.2 Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age), by sex</p>
Improving Student Enrolment and Retention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain high enrolment and improve retention of boys and girls in basic education. Improve enrolment and balance of boys and girls in all streams of secondary education. Improve enrolment in continuing education and literacy programs. Support and protect Palestinian education in East Jerusalem, Area C and Gaza. 	<p>4.1</p> <p>4.3</p> <p>4.6</p>	<p>4.1.1 Proportion of children and young people: (a) in grades 2/3; (b) at the end of primary; and (c) at the end of lower secondary achieving at least a minimum proficiency level in (i) reading and (ii) mathematics, by sex</p> <p>4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex</p> <p>4.6.1 Percentage of population in a given age group achieving at least a fixed level of proficiency in functional (a) literacy and (b) numeracy skills, by sex</p>
Improving Primary and Secondary Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform and modernize primary and secondary school curricula. Develop e-learning programs. Ensure equitable access to education, particularly in marginalized areas and for vulnerable groups. Provide continuing training programs for teachers and support staff. Upgrade educational facilities to ensure a safe, healthy learning environment. Expand extracurricular activities. 	<p>4.5</p> <p>4.c</p> <p>4.a</p>	<p>4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict affected, as data become available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated</p> <p>4.c.1 Proportion of teachers in: (a) pre-primary; (b) primary; (c) lower secondary; and (d) upper secondary education who have received at least the minimum organized teacher training (e.g. pedagogical training) pre-service or in-service required for teaching at the relevant level in a given country</p> <p>4.a.1 Proportion of schools with access to (a) electricity; (b) the Internet for pedagogical purposes; (c) computers for pedagogical purposes; (d) adapted infrastructure and materials for students with disabilities; (e) basic drinking water (f) single-sex basic sanitation facilities; and (g) basic hand washing facilities (as per the WASH indicator definitions)</p>

From Education to Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Align TVET and higher education with development and labor market needs, with equitable access to these opportunities. Upgrade and expand TVET infrastructure and facilities. Strengthen Palestine’s scientific research capacity. 	4.3 4.5	4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex 4.5.1 Parity indices (female/male, rural/urban, bottom/top wealth quintile and others such as disability status, indigenous peoples and conflict affected, as data become available) for all education indicators on this list that can be disaggregated
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Table 4: National Policies and Policy Interventions under National Priority 9			
National Policy	Policy Interventions	SDG Targets	SDG Indicators
Better Health Care Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reform the public health insurance system. Ensure the fiscally sustainability of the health care system. Improve the quality of health care services (infrastructure, equipment, drugs, IT, training of health care workers, standards). Increase equitable access to health care services. 	3.1 3.2 3.3 3.c 5.6	3.1.1 Maternal mortality ratio 3.1.2 Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel 3.2.1 Under-five mortality rate 3.2.2 Neonatal mortality rate 3.3.3 Malaria incidence per 1,000 population 3.3.4 Hepatitis B incidence per 100,000 population 3.3.5 Number of people requiring interventions against neglected tropical diseases 3.3.1 Number of new HIV infections per 1,000 uninfected population by sex, age and key populations 3.3.2 Tuberculosis incidence per 1,000 population 3.c.1 Health worker density and distribution 5.6.1 Proportion of women aged 15-49 years who make their own informed decisions regarding sexual relations, contraceptive use and reproductive health care 5.6.2 Number of countries with laws and regulations that guarantee women aged 15-49 years access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education
Improving Citizens’ Health and Well-Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen preventive health care, raise awareness and promote healthy lifestyles. Introduce a family health care approach. Improve and implement national policies on chronic disease management. 	3.9 3.a 3.b	3.9.1 Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution 3.9.2 Mortality rate attributed to unsafe water, unsafe sanitation and lack of hygiene (exposure to unsafe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene for All (WASH) services) 3.a.1 Age-standardized prevalence of current tobacco use among persons aged 15 years and older 3.b.1 Proportion of the population with access to affordable medicines and vaccines on a sustainable basis

Table 5: National Policies and Policy Interventions under National Priority 10

National Policy	Policy Interventions	SDG Targets	SDG Indicators
Ensuring Community and National Security, Public Safety and Rule of Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement measures to enhance community security and public safety. Strengthen capacity for disaster response and crisis management. Improve the governance of Palestine’s security sector, strengthen institutional capacity and ensure efficient use of resources. 	16.3 16.6	16.3.1 Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms 16.3.2 Non-sentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population 16.6.1 Primary government expenditures as a proportion of original approved budget, by sector (or by budget codes or similar) 16.6.2 Proportion of the population satisfied with their last experience of public services
Meeting the Basic Needs of Our Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand community access to clean water and sanitation. Expand community access to reliable energy. Improve public transportation and road safety. Support affordable, safe housing. Ensure food security. 	1.1 6 7.1 11.2 11.1 2.1	6.1.1 Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services 6.2.1 Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a hand-washing facility with soap and water 6.3.1 Proportion of wastewater safely treated 6.3.2 Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality 7.1.1 Proportion of population with access to electricity 7.1.2 Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology 11.2.1 Proportion of the population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities 11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing 2.1.1 Prevalence of undernourishment 2.1.2 Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the population, based on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES)
Ensuring a Sustainable Environment and Adapting to Climate Change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce and effectively control pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Expand solid waste management and recycling. Expand wastewater management, treatment and reuse. Manage, protect and promote sustainable use and conservation of natural resources (land, water and energy). Keep Palestine green (conserve 	6.2 1.2 1 6.b 6.5 6.b	6.2.1 Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services, including a hand-washing facility with soap and water 12.5.1 National recycling rate, tons of material recycled 6.b.1 Proportion of local administrative units with established and operational policies and procedures for participation of local communities in water and sanitation management 6.5.1 Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0-100) 6.5.2 Proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation 15.1.1 Forest area as a proportion of total land area 15.1.2 Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type

	<p>biodiversity, establish nature preserves and expand green spaces).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase energy efficiency and reliance on renewable energy. 	<p>15.1 15.2</p> <p>7.2</p>	<p>15.2.1 Progress towards sustainable forest management 7.2.1 Renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption</p>
<p>Revitalizing Agriculture and Strengthening Our Rural Communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase agricultural plant and livestock production and develop value chains. • Protect and support farmers, particularly in areas under threat. 	<p>7.3 2.3 2.4</p>	<p>7.3.1 Energy intensity measured in terms of primary energy and GDP 2.3.1 Volume of production per labor unit by classes of farming/pastoral/ forestry enterprise size 2.3.2 Average income of small-scale food producers, by sex and indigenous status 2.4.1 Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agricultural practices</p>
<p>Preserving Our National Identity and Cultural Heritage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support cultural innovation and production. • Implement initiatives to preserve and develop Palestine’s cultural heritage. • Develop traditional handicrafts. • Promote Palestine as a tourist destination. 	<p>11.4</p>	<p>11.4.1 Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage (cultural, natural, mixed and World Heritage Centre designation), level of government (national, regional and local/municipal), type of expenditure (operating expenditure/investment) and type of private funding (donations in kind, private non-profit sector and sponsorship)</p>

Annex (2): Baseline data of SDG 1 - PCBS

Date of update, 2018	Additional comments	Full name of source	Female	Male	Gaza Strip	West Bank	Palestine	Year of baseline	Year of availability	Availability 1. Available 2. N/A	Update level	Indicators	SDGs	Goal	Codes of UN division of statistics	Serial number
Source: UN division of statistics		Global data basis at the UN division of statistics: global development indicators database and the World Bank. It is estimated there are 101 individual consumption data	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.11	2009	2016	1	Level 1	1.1.1 Rate of inhabitants below the global poverty line by gender, age, employment status & geographical location (urban/rural)	1.1 End abject poverty by 2030 for all people everywhere, which is now measured on basis of people who live on less than 1.25 USD a day	1	C010101	1
Date of update: 15/04/2018		PCBS: levels of livelihood in the Palestinian Territories, and levels of spending, consumption and poverty (2009-2011)	26.2	25.5	38.8	17.8	25.8	2011	2011	1	Level 1	1.2.1 Rate of inhabitants below the national poverty line by gender & age	1.2 Reduce rate of men, women and children of all ages who suffer poverty with all its dimensions, according to national definitions, by at least the half by 2030	1	C010201	2
Indicator not available										2	Level 2	1.2.1 rate of men, women and children of all ages who suffer poverty with all its dimensions, as per national definitions	1.3 Reduce rate of men, women and children of all ages who suffer poverty with all its dimensions, as per national definitions, by at least the half by 2030	1	C010202	3
Source: UN division of statistics		Global data basis at the UN division of statistics: global development indicators database and the World Bank	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	12.96	2009	2009	1	Level 2	1.3.1 Rate of inhabitants included with social protection systems by gender, which takes into account children, the unemployed, people with disability, pregnant women, newborns, work injuries, the poor and the marginalized	1.4 Apply proper social protection systems and measures for all at the national level, for comprehensive coverage of the poor and vulnerable groups by 2030	1	C010301	4

Indicator not available										2	Level 3	1.4.1 Rate of inhabitants who live in households with accessibility to basic services	1.5 Ensure that all men and women, the poor and vulnerable in particular, enjoy the same rights to economic resources, basic services, land tenure/disposal, other ownership-related rights, inheritance, natural resources, proper new technology and financial services, including micro-finance	1	C010401	5
Indicator not available										2	Level 3	2.4.1 Rate of total inhabitants who enjoy land tenure rights with legally acknowledged documents, and those who know rights to their land as secured by gender and type of tenure		1	C010402	6
Source: UN division of statistics		Global data basis at the UN division of statistics: UN global disaster reduction policy (2015). Global assessment report on disaster risk reduction (2015), Geneva, Switzerland: UN office on disaster risk reduction					4	2013	2013	1	Level 2	1.5.1 No. of died, missing & injured people due to disasters for every 100,000 people	1.6 Build resilience capacity of the poor and vulnerable groups, and reduce their exposure to climate-related extreme phenomena, and other economic, social and environmental disasters by 2030	1	C200303	7
Source: UN division of statistics	Unit: US Dollar	Global data basis at the UN division of statistics: UN global disaster reduction policy (2015). Global assessment report on disaster risk reduction (2015), Geneva, Switzerland: UN office on disaster risk reduction					2270970.5	2013	2013	1	Level 2	2.5.1 Direct economic losses associated with disasters regarding World GDP	1.7 Build resilience capacity of the poor and vulnerable groups, and reduce their exposure to climate-related extreme phenomena, and other economic, social and environmental disasters by 2030	1	C010502	8

Source: UN division of statistics		Global data basis at the UN division of statistics: UN disaster reduction strategy (2015), national audit reports (2014-2015)	Inapplicable	Inapplicable	Inapplicable	Inapplicable	Yes	2015	2016	1	Level 1	3.5.1 No. of countries that adopted and enforced national disaster risk reduction strategies consistent with Sendai disaster risk reduction framework (2015-2030)	1.8 Build resilience capacity of the poor and vulnerable groups, and reduce their exposure to climate-related extreme phenomena, and other economic, social and environmental disasters by 2030	1	C200304	9
Indicator not available		Ministry of Local Government	Inapplicable	Inapplicable	N/A	N/A	33.3	2017	2017	1	Level 2	1.5.4 Rate of local entities that adopt/enforce local disaster reduction strategies consistent with national disaster reduction strategies	1.9 Build resilience capacity of the poor and vulnerable groups, and reduce their exposure to climate-related extreme phenomena, and other economic, social and environmental disasters by 2030	1	C200305	10
Indicator not available										2	Level 3	1.a.1 Rate of locally-generated resources the government directly allocates for poverty reduction programs	1.a Ensure great source mobilizing from different sources, such as enhance development cooperation to provide proper and predictable means for the developing countries, the least developed ones in particular, to enforce programs and policies to end poverty from all its dimensions	1	C010a01	11
Indicator not available										2	Level 2	1.a.2 Rate of total government spending on basic services (education, health, social protection)	1.a Mobilize significant resources from various sources, including enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide developing countries, especially the least developed ones, with enough predictable means to undertake programs and policies intending to eliminate poverty with all its dimensions	1	C010a02	12
Indicator not available										2	Level 3	1.a.3 Total grants and debt non-generating flows directly allocated for the poverty reduction programs as a	1.a Mobilize significant resources from various sources, including enhanced development cooperation, in order to provide developing countries, especially the	1	C010a03	13

												percentage of GDP	least developed ones, with enough predictable means to undertake programs and policies intending to eliminate poverty with all its dimensions			
Indicator not available									2	Level 3	1.b.1 Rate of government spending (current/capital) for sectors disproportionately benefiting women and the poor/marginalized groups	1.b Set proper policy framework at national, regional and global levels, based on development strategic that take into account interests of the poor and gender perspective, in order to expedite investment in procedures that intend to eliminate poverty	1	C010b01	14	

Annex (3) SDGs Questionnaire



As part of tasks vested by law 15/2004 with amendments, SAACB intends to assess preparedness of the Palestinian government for UN SDGs (UN General Assembly Resolution 1/170, issued October 21, 2015).

In this context, a sample of CSOs has been selected, one of them is your institution, in order to comprehend degree of involvement and contribution to determine, enforce and follow up SDGs priorities.

Accordingly, please fill in the questionnaire below and send it back within 15 days from date of receipt to email: pr@facb.gov.ps

For further explanations or inquiries please call Mrs. Lana Assi at 02-2972290 (extension 501).

General Information

Name of institution:

Category:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Society	<input type="checkbox"/>	Societies federation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Society network	<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional organization
<input type="checkbox"/>	Professional unions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Others (specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Basic information

Address	
Phone no.	
Email	
Website	
Establishment date	
Main purpose	
Main services	

Specific information

1. What are the sectors and development areas your institution addresses?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Environment protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Woman
<input type="checkbox"/>	Poverty fighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Heritage protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	Children
<input type="checkbox"/>	Unemployment fighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rights & freedoms	<input type="checkbox"/>	Old people
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rural development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Health
<input type="checkbox"/>	Urban development	<input type="checkbox"/>	Water resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Corruption fighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Youth	<input type="checkbox"/>	Others (specify):
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Relief & charitable action	<input type="checkbox"/>	

2. Are you aware of Palestine's approval to SDGs agenda 2030? If yes, when was the first time you knew?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
If yes, please specify date:			

3. If answer to (2) above is yes, how did you know?

Media
Social media or email
Conferences, meetings or seminars organized by official entities
Conferences, meetings or seminars organized by CSOs
Others:

4. Is your institution interested in SDGs set at global level?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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5. Is your institution aware of the national team to follow up SDGs? Does your institution have a representative in the national team?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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If yes, is there any contact and coordination with NGOs representatives in the national team?

.....

1. What are the goals that your institution can achieve at national or local levels within the following SDGs (several SDGs can be chosen)?

<input type="checkbox"/>	1- No poverty	<input type="checkbox"/>	7- Affordable & clean energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	13- Climate action
<input type="checkbox"/>	2- Zero hunger	<input type="checkbox"/>	8- Decent work & economic growth	<input type="checkbox"/>	14- Life below water
<input type="checkbox"/>	3- Good health & well-being	<input type="checkbox"/>	9- Industry, innovation & infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>	15- Life on land
<input type="checkbox"/>	4- Quality education	<input type="checkbox"/>	10- Reduced inequalities inside & around cities	<input type="checkbox"/>	16- Peace, justice & strong institutions
<input type="checkbox"/>	5- Gender equality	<input type="checkbox"/>	11- Sustainable cities & communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	17- Partnerships for SDGs
<input type="checkbox"/>	6- Clear water & sanitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	12- Responsible consumption & production	<input type="checkbox"/>	-

2. What are the SDGs forums, seminars and workshops that you have been invited to?

	Subject of seminar/forum/workshop	Date	Organizer	Venue
Regarding SDGs				
1				
2				
3				
4				

3. What are the national policy agenda (2017-2022) forums, seminars and workshops that you have been invited to?

	Subject of seminar/forum/workshop	Date	Organizer
Regarding preparedness for national policy agenda 2017 - 2022			
1			
2			
3			
4			

4. Has your institution been engaged in determining SDGs priorities?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No

5. If yes, please specify priority geographical framework of SDG (local, regional, national, global,...)

Framework	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	National
<input type="checkbox"/>	Regional
<input type="checkbox"/>	Global

6. How do you evaluate the course followed by official entities (local, regional, national) regarding how SDGs priorities are determined:

	Assessment (%)
Your course is participatory and adequately takes into account all visions and proposals	
Number of CSOs participants is adequate	
Duration of your involvement was proper and adequate to present visions	
Priorities set reflect your vision and aspirations	
Sustainable development priorities approved by official entities respond to existing development needs	
Explanatory comments or additions:	
(0 - 50 = poor) (more than 50 - 60 = average) (more than 60 - 75 = good) (more than 75 - less than 90 = very good) (90 - 100 = excellent)	

7. What are the SDGs-related priorities that you deem necessary to be addresses or focused on during the next stage, but did not receive necessary attention from your viewpoint?

Subject

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

8. Do you think that your institution has a role in implementing and circulation of SDGs previously set?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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9. If yes:

- How will this be done:
- How this was done:

10. Have agreements been made between you and the government, districts or local entities regarding SDGs enforcement or follow up?

SDGs enforcement:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
SDGs follow up	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
* SDG related to the agreement (enclose a copy)				
No.	Agreement title	Goal	Party	
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				

11. Are you aware that the Palestinian government will present a voluntary report to UN on SDGs progress, 2018?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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12. If yes, has the government been provided with some inputs regarding your progress in this regard?

.....

13. Has the institution been involved in any national consultations regarding modes of SDGs follow up?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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14. If yes, what is the framework of involvement?

15. Has the institution provided any proposals as to modes of SDGs follow up?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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If yes, please list your proposals on SDGs:

-
-
-
-

16. Have your proposals been presented to competent entities in the state?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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17. If yes, in what framework?

.....

18. Do you think that these proposals will be taken into account when setting these modes?
 Has this already happened?

.....

19. Are you aware whether the government made any progress in setting modes of SDGs follow up and reporting?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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20. If yes, have your proposals been taken into account when setting these modes?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----

21. What do you think of SDGs measurement indicators regarding your line of activity?

No.	Indicator	Assessment rate*
1	Clarity	
2	Measurability	
(0 - 50 = poor) (more than 50 - 60 = average) (more than 60 - 75 = good) (more than 75 - less than 90 = very good) (90 - 100 = excellent)		

22. Are you prepared to collect all data necessary to calculate indicators referred to above?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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23. Have you previously been involved in setting researches or studies supervised by public entities?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----

If yes, please list studies or researches in table below:

No.	Study title	Publish date	Name of supervising entity
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

24. Do have any proposals regarding SDGs follow up?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----

25. If yes, please list these proposals below:

-
-
-

26. Are you aware of the Palestinian government's responsibility to release SDGs follow up reports since approval to agreement on 2030 agenda?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----

27. If yes, has the institution been engaged when the reports were releases?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----

28. If no, do you think you will be engaged?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----

29. If no, explain:

-
-
-
-

30. Other comments or proposals (if any)

.....
.....
.....

31. Have any SDGs-related publications been prepared?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No
--------------------------	-----	--------------------------	----

If yes, please enclose a copy.

32. What are the proposals you deem suitable to enhance coordination and consultation to reach the national priorities within SDGs?

.....
.....
.....

References

- SAIs guide to SDGs preparedness review
- The World Bank report on poverty rates:
<http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.DDAY?end=2013&locations=1W-PS&start=1981&view=chart>
- UN report on SDGs progress:
http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/2016/75&Lang=E
- UN SDGs indicators:
<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/>
<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2017/>
- National policy agenda (2017-2022)
- Sample of sectorial and cross-sectorial plans (local government, national cross-sectorial strategy to enhance equality & justice between genders and empower women)
- PCBS, 2017, The National Strategy to Develop Official Statistics, 2018-2022, Ramallah, Palestine.
- PCBS, Poverty conditions report in Palestine (2017), April 2018

Persons interviewed

- Mr. Daowd ed-Deek, undersecretary, Ministry of Social Development.
- Mr. Stephan Salameh, rapporteur, the national team to lead and coordinate national effort to enforce UN sustainable development plan
- Mr. Mahmoud Ataya, coordinator, the national team to lead and coordinate national effort to enforce UN sustainable development plan
- Mr. Mutasem Zayyed, NGOs representative in the national team
- Mr. Mohuiddin el-Ardah, Ministry of Local Government representative in the national team
- Mrs. Aohood Enaya, Ministry of Local Government
- Mr. Ahmad Abu Laban, director general, Ramallah Municipality
- Mrs. Jihan Abdullah, Ministry of Social Development