

PAGE COUNTRY SUSTAINABILITY PLANS – A short guide

PAGE Secretariat

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Key Messages

- PAGE support is financed from the PAGE Trust Fund for a period of approximately (1 to 5 years) as follows:
 - 1 *Inception phase* year (currently, Argentina, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Guatemala),
 - 3-4 *full implementation* years (currently, Barbados, Brazil-Mato Grosso, China- Jiangsu Province, Kyrgyz Republic, Guyana, Uruguay, South Africa),
 - 1 *phase-out* year (currently, Peru, Senegal, Mauritius, Ghana, Burkina Faso),
 - 1 *after-phase-out* year (currently, Mongolia).
- Recent discussions - under PAGE beyond 2020 draft wireframe - indicate that PAGE engagement might remain also with graduated countries beyond the *after-phase-out* year. Discussion is still in progress.
- The main objective of the PAGE sustainability plan is to guarantee that all necessary national capacity, partnerships and enabling environment are put in place (after 4-5 year intervention) for continuation of the transition to an Inclusive Green Economy in the country in alignment with the 2030 Agenda on sustainable development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.
- To deepen and expand results achieved through PAGE funding, the programme supports countries in developing a **sustainability plan** for the period beyond the PAGE direct financial support.
- The sustainability plan involves consultation with national stakeholders and **requires the leadership of the government counterparts** in the design and implementation of the sustainability plan. Other key partners include the private sector and financial institutions representatives (e.g., banking, insurance and investment), development cooperation agencies, regional financing institutions, among others.
- To ensure coherence and impact, the sustainability plan is developed in close consultation with national programmes of the United Nations, PAGE funding partners as well as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) process and UN Country Teams.
- Start thinking about the Sustainability Plan early on in the planning process.
- Be sure that PAGE is assisting the country to achieve key **SDGs** (notably 8, 12, 13 and 17) and contributing to the country's NDCs to the Paris Agreement on climate change.

The Five PAGE Sustainability Criteria:

1. The national development strategy has been reframed in line with overall Inclusive Green Economy (IGE) and SDG priorities;
2. An effective national coordination mechanism for IGE is in place;
3. Capacities to implement IGE policies across sectors have been developed and analytical capacities have been strengthened;
4. Additional funding opportunities have been identified and supported by national and international actors, and in particular by domestic financial markets, finance institutions, and international capital markets; and
5. Core IGE elements are integrated into training programmes delivered by national institutions.

Important note: Please consider these five criteria flexible enough to be adapted to each country political and governance context. National development strategies and coordination mechanisms varies from one country to another.

Recommended steps (order is flexible)

Step 1. Self-preparation. Read carefully the following PAGE documentation:

- PAGE Operational Strategy 2016-2020, section 2.14 “Country Sustainability Plans”, pages 22-24, available at http://www.un-page.org/files/public/page_operational_strategy_2016-2020_web_0.pdf
- Planning and Implementing a National Partnership, section 5.3 “Towards a PAGE exit strategy”, pages 29-30, available at http://un-page.org/files/public/page_country_guidance_note_update_2017_final_0.pdf

Step 2. Logical framework. Review the country logical framework and identify all outcomes and outputs achieved so far as well as potential gaps *vis à vis* the 5 sustainability criteria mentioned above and the expected PAGE’s outcomes and outputs. *What is missing for fulfilling the 5 sustainability criteria and/or achieving expected PAGE outcome sand outputs?* Upcoming country work plans should include activities aimed at addressing the identified gaps.

Tips:

- The impact mapping technique might help you to draw a big picture (in one page) of the full PAGE intervention, key policy impacts and results achieved so far or to be achieved before the end of the project, the expected behaviour change in the relevant target groups of stakeholders. See Annex I for a preliminary use of the impact mapping technique used for Burkina Faso. Please be aware that the impact map is optional, and it is not a required document.
- The process of revising the country logical framework is a unique opportunity to double check that it feeds the PAGE Global Results Framework (Annex II) and the PAGE Indicators Reference Sheet (Annex III).

Step 3. Government Ownership. Start consulting with **government focal point agency** on the sustainability plan – focus on the existing gaps identified and how the government sees itself taking over green economy transformation beyond project implementation.

Step 4. First draft. Prepare a first draft of the sustainability plan considering results from all previous steps and inputs received during the consultations with the Government.

Step 5. Inter-agency coordination. Share a revised first draft with the country inter-agency group for receiving feedback and inputs. Organize an inter-agency call (and/or bilateral calls) for discussing it, if needed. *How PAGE agencies can contribute to the sustainability plan in the areas they have been working in the country or for fulfilling the identified gaps?*

Step 6. Consulting key partners. Organise consultations with key partners including other programmes of the United Nations (e.g., Poverty Environment Action Initiative, Switch Green programmes), PAGE funding partners (e.g. country delegations) as well as the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) process and UN Country Teams. Other relevant partners of PAGE are Green Economy Coalition, Global Green Growth Institute, and GIZ. *How can they contribute to the sustainability plan?*

Step 7. Final draft. Prepare final draft considering inputs from the Government, inter-agency country team and key partners. Get the validation/green lights from Government lead agency and finally share it with PAGE Secretariat along with the updated logical framework.

Step 8. Country work plans. Submit upcoming country work plans aligned with the Sustainability Plan and the updated logical framework.

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