

## OUR VISION

A sustainable and just world, where people are empowered to overcome poverty and hunger and fully realise their rights and potential



**REDUCED HUNGER,  
STRONGER RESILIENCE**



**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT, INCLUSIVE  
ECONOMIC GROWTH**



**BETTER GOVERNANCE,  
HUMAN RIGHTS AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY**

# Framework for Action

*for*  
**One World,  
One Future**  
**Ireland's Policy  
for International  
Development**

 **Irish Aid**  
An Roinn Gnóthai Eachtracha agus Trádála  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**Ireland's  
commitment  
to a world  
without poverty  
and hunger**

# Purpose of the Framework for Action

Ireland's Policy for International Development, *One World, One Future*, was approved by Government in May 2013. The Policy sets out in clear terms the goals and priorities which will guide decisions about the Ireland's development cooperation in the years ahead. This Framework for Action is a management instrument for the Irish Aid Programme, managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and will underpin policy and programming decisions up to 2017.

The Framework will also provide the basis for measuring performance and demonstrating accountability of the Irish Aid programme, and it will be used to ensure that the structures and systems are in place to provide for the effective delivery of planned results.

## The Framework is divided into three distinct, but interrelated, parts:


**Part A** sets out the three goals of the policy and, in addition, identifies ten high level outcomes. These high level outcomes have been identified to bring greater focus to the results which the Irish Aid programme is striving for in order to achieve the goals of *One World, One Future*, for the duration of the Framework, and beyond. Each high level outcome is strongly related to the reduction of poverty and vulnerability, which is the central vision of *One World, One Future*. Key Result Areas are set out under each outcome to guide policy, planning, monitoring and reporting processes across the Irish Aid programme.

**Part B** sets out the priority outputs and performance standards that are needed to meet the commitments in each of the Priority Areas for Action as identified in *One World, One Future*. A seventh Priority Area

for Action on Humanitarian Assistance has been identified in this part of the Framework, reflecting the distinct, though firmly interconnected nature of this work. This part of the Framework is dynamic and will inform Irish Aid's business planning in identifying the most appropriate actions to address specific policy commitments in the period ahead.

**Part C** provides an overview of plans to strengthen organisational structures and systems under three headings: People and Structures; Policy and Processes; and Governance and Systems. These focus on identifying synergies and efficiencies to make the organisation and the programme more effective in the delivery of planned results.

This Framework for Action will be used as the basis for making decisions about programme direction and the allocation of resources for the period up to 2017. The intention is that it will inform all of the programming processes across the Irish Aid programme; that Irish Aid programme reports will be structured to capture the planned results which are reflected in Parts A and B; and that the monitoring of its delivery will be overseen on a regular basis by the senior management of Irish Aid.

A low-angle photograph of a man with dark skin, wearing a white t-shirt, looking upwards. He is surrounded by lush green leaves of a tree, possibly a cashew tree, against a clear blue sky. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day. The man's expression is one of contemplation or focus.

## **The Framework for Action will be the basis for...**

- › **The development of annual business plans and budgets.**
- › **Providing guidance to staff for improvement policy engagement.**
- › **The review of appraisal criteria for the approval of expenditure programmes.**
- › **A communication tool to represent Ireland's priorities for policy inputs into international negotiations and public information.**
- › **The review and evaluation of programme performance.**

# Part A: Our Goals and High Level Outcomes

## GOAL 1: REDUCED HUNGER, STRONGER RESILIENCE

## GOAL 2: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

### High Level Outcomes

<p><b>Outcome 1:</b> When crises and conflicts occur, the loss of life is minimised and human suffering is alleviated</p>	<p><b>Outcome 2:</b> Poor citizens, communities and states are better prepared for, better able to cope with, and better placed to recover from stresses and shocks</p>	<p><b>Outcome 3:</b> Poor individuals, families, and communities have improved food and nutrition security</p>	<p><b>Outcome 4:</b> Better functioning, climate resilient food systems and markets are accessible to and benefit the rural poor</p>	<p><b>Outcome 5:</b> Developing country economies are more inclusive and sustainable (social, economic and environment)</p>
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### Key Result Areas

<p><b>1:</b> Loss of life is minimised and human suffering is alleviated</p>	<p><b>1:</b> Increased capacity of poor citizens to respond to stresses and shocks without resorting to negative coping mechanisms</p>	<p><b>1:</b> Progress on food and nutrition security</p>	<p><b>1:</b> Increased benefit to the rural poor of food systems and markets</p>	<p><b>1:</b> The personal and household economies of poor people grow and their livelihoods become more productive, profitable and sustainable</p>
<p><b>2:</b> Global humanitarian response is effective and timely</p>	<p><b>2:</b> Increased preparedness of poor citizens and states for stresses and shocks</p>	<p><b>2:</b> Strengthened capacity of poor individuals, families and communities to improve food and nutrition security</p>	<p><b>2:</b> Increased accessibility of food systems and markets to the rural poor</p>	<p><b>2:</b> Economic growth is fastest in the regions and sectors which most benefit poor people</p>
	<p><b>3:</b> Ability of poor citizens and states to recover from stresses and shocks is strengthened</p>	<p><b>3:</b> A more enabling environment for increasing smallholder farmers' income and productivity</p>	<p><b>3:</b> Increased functionality of the food production system</p>	<p><b>3:</b> Economic growth builds and maintains the asset base on which it depends</p>
			<p><b>4:</b> Increased environmental sustainability of the food production system</p>	<p><b>4:</b> Strengthened macroeconomic resilience</p>





## GOAL 3: BETTER GOVERNANCE, HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

### High Level Outcomes

<p><b>Outcome 6:</b> Developing countries are better able to use domestic resources to reduce poverty</p>	<p><b>Outcome 7:</b> Poor and marginalised citizens are better able to attain a decent living, including improved health and education, and improved employment opportunities</p>	<p><b>Outcome 8:</b> Reduced inequalities between women and men in accessing resources and benefits of development</p>	<p><b>Outcome 9:</b> Public governance systems and structures are more responsive and accountable to citizens, in particular the poor and marginalised</p>	<p><b>Outcome 10:</b> Poor and marginalised citizens realise their rights and actively participate in the development of their societies</p>
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### Key Result Areas

<p><b>1:</b> Inclusive and sustainable public expenditure targeted towards poverty reduction</p>	<p><b>1:</b> Improved employment opportunities</p>	<p><b>1:</b> Equal access to, control over, and ownership of assets and resources</p>	<p><b>1:</b> Public governance is responsive to the needs of the poor and marginalised</p>	<p><b>1:</b> Poor and marginalised citizens are informed and empowered to realise and protect their rights</p>
<p><b>2:</b> Domestic resources generated in a progressive manner</p>	<p><b>2:</b> Improved access to and attainment of quality education outcomes by poor and marginalised citizens</p>	<p><b>2:</b> Equal access to quality essential services</p>	<p><b>2:</b> Public governance systems have the capacity to be effective</p>	<p><b>2:</b> Poor and marginalised citizens actively participate in the development of their societies</p>
	<p><b>3:</b> Improved access to and attainment of quality health outcomes by poor and marginalised citizens</p>	<p><b>3:</b> Discrimination against women and girls is reduced</p>	<p><b>3:</b> Public governance is open, transparent and accountable</p>	<p><b>3:</b> Active multi-stakeholder involvement in the political process</p>
		<p><b>4:</b> Equality of participation in politics and political decision-making</p>		

# Part B: Priority Areas for Action

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ACTION	PERFORMANCE STANDARDS	PRIORITY OUTPUTS
<p><b>Global Hunger</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A coherent and comprehensive national and international response to hunger and under-nutrition</li> <li>2. Irish Aid policy and programming addresses the root causes of hunger, including the role and needs of smallholder farmers</li> <li>3. Irish Aid support for action on under-nutrition is based on available evidence and contributes to progress towards World Health Assembly targets</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Hunger and under-nutrition priorities are coherently addressed across the seven priority areas for action and across other relevant government actions and policies</li> <li>B. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade honours and reports publically against its global commitments to alleviating hunger and under-nutrition</li> <li>C. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s priorities on hunger and under-nutrition are reflected in relevant international policies and processes</li> </ol> <hr/> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Smallholder farmers, especially women, are supported to maximise their influence and realise their rights</li> <li>B. Relevant Key Partner Countries have adopted national strategies which comprehensively address the needs of smallholder farmers</li> <li>C. Smallholder farmers are supported to sustainably increase agricultural productivity and generate more diverse, adequate and reliable sources of income</li> <li>D. Agricultural Research supported and promoted by Irish Aid is accessible, widely disseminated and used by smallholder farmers</li> </ol> <hr/> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Countries where Irish Aid is active in SUN have adopted a multi-sectoral approach to nutrition, adequately financed plans and demonstrate harmonised donor behaviour</li> <li>B. SUN principles of multi-sectoral multi-stakeholder approaches to nutrition promoted across Irish Aid engagements</li> </ol>
<p><b>Fragile States and Situations</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ireland’s development programme reflects a strong commitment to addressing situations of fragility and contributes to a coherent “all-of-government” approach to Peace, Security and Development</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has a clearly defined approach to situations of fragility</li> <li>B. Irish Aid programming and policy is re-orientated towards addressing situations of fragility</li> <li>C. Ireland’s programme in fragile environments is guided and influenced by the Fragile States Principles and New Deal Commitments</li> </ol>

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ACTION	PERFORMANCE STANDARDS	PRIORITY OUTPUTS
<p><b>Climate Change</b></p>	<p>1. Ireland’s development cooperation programme incorporates climate change priorities (which effectively contribute to international engagements and meeting Ireland’s climate change commitments)</p> <p>2. Irish Aid programmes supports partner governments and communities to become more resilient to and better prepared for the adverse effects of climate change</p>	<p>A. Irish Aid’s development cooperation objectives and experience inform a coherent all-of-government approach to climate change</p> <p>B. Ireland’s financial contributions are in line with international reporting standards and are responsive to adaptation and mitigation priorities of Least Developed Countries</p> <hr/> <p>A. Irish Aid policy and programming at country level supports better planning for and awareness of the adverse effects of climate change</p> <p>B. Increased focus in Irish Aid programming on the adoption of climate smart technologies for household food and energy systems by rural communities</p> <p>C. Irish Aid programming supports innovation in Key Partner Countries on promoting low carbon green economies</p> <p>D. Irish Aid programming leads to strengthened capacity at community level to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and secure local eco-systems</p>
<p><b>Trade and Economic Growth</b></p>	<p>1. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s engagement in partner countries is coherent across development, political and trade and economic relations</p> <p>2. Ireland supports developing countries, in particular Key Partner Countries, to have greater capacity to generate and benefit from inclusive economic growth and trade</p>	<p>A. The Irish Aid programme has a clear approach to promoting inclusive economic growth</p> <p>B. Embassy plans reflect a more coherent approach to delivering on Ireland’s development, political, trade and economic relations in partner countries</p> <p>C. Ireland’s engagement in East Africa is strengthened</p> <p>D. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s engagements with private companies in developing countries are in line with Ireland’s commitment to untied aid, anti-corruption, and human rights</p> <hr/> <p>A. Irish Aid programming and policy leads to greater focus on employment opportunities for poor and marginalised groups</p> <p>B. Support for pro-poor economic development in Key Partner Countries is more prominent in Irish Aid programming and policy engagements</p> <p>C. Irish Government policy and Irish Aid programming supports domestic resource mobilisation in ways which promote inclusive development</p> <p>D. The Department’s aid-for-trade initiatives and input to international trade policy negotiations have a strong poverty reduction focus</p>

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ACTION	PERFORMANCE STANDARDS	PRIORITY OUTPUTS
<p><b>Essential Services (incl. Health, Education, WASH, HIV and AIDS, and Social Protection)</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Joined up, coherent and efficient support to essential services in partner countries across the Irish Aid programme</li> <li>2. Irish Aid policy and programming supports strengthened policies, systems and accountability for equitable, sustainable and efficient delivery of essential services</li> <li>3. Irish Aid policy and programming focuses on ensuring that marginalised groups have improved access to quality essential services</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Irish Aid adopts a more integrated multi-sectoral approach to essential services</li> <li>A. Irish Aid support focuses on ensuring improved systems are in place, including a well-trained workforce, to oversee and deliver quality essential services, reaching those most in need</li> <li>B. Irish Aid policy and programming promotes and strengthens accountability between policymakers, service providers, and citizens</li> <li>A. Increased focus on improving the quality of essential services in policy and programming</li> <li>B. HIV and AIDS policy and programming focuses on prevention and treatment in the most affected countries</li> <li>C. Sustained focus on access to services, and sharpened focus on reaching the most marginalised</li> </ol>
<p><b>Human Rights and Accountability</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Irish Aid policy and programming is more human rights focussed, addressing the needs of the most vulnerable and the root causes of poverty and inequality</li> <li>2. Effective and targeted governance policies and programming strengthen democracy, the rule of law, and accountability in the countries where Irish Aid works</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Human Rights principles underpin the Irish Aid programme</li> <li>B. Irish Aid policy and programming is effective in advancing Ireland’s commitments to Gender Equality</li> <li>C. Inequalities, particularly as they relate to vulnerable groups, are consistently addressed in Irish Aid programming and planning</li> <li>A. Governance programming strengthens institutions for democracy, rule of law and domestic accountability</li> <li>B. Governance programming strengthens the capacity of key institutions and actors in Irish Aid Key Partner Countries to monitor use of public funds, identify and intervene in cases of misuse of funds</li> </ol>
<p><b>Humanitarian Assistance</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ireland’s humanitarian action is based on the principles of humanity (saving lives), impartiality (on basis of need), independence (not favouring sides) and neutrality (autonomous from political, economic, military or other objectives)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Ireland’s policy for humanitarian assistance guides our response to where needs are greatest and places particular emphasis on gender and protection, and on targeting forgotten and underfunded emergencies</li> <li>B. Ireland’s humanitarian funding is needs-based and is provided in ways that ensure predictability and flexibility to sudden onset, protracted and forgotten humanitarian crises</li> <li>C. Ireland’s humanitarian action helps to prevent, prepare for, support recovery from and build resilience to man-made crises and natural disasters</li> </ol>



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## PRIORITY AREAS FOR ACTION

- 1 GLOBAL HUNGER
- 2 FRAGILE STATES AND SITUATIONS
- 3 CLIMATE CHANGE
- 4 TRADE AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
- 5 ESSENTIAL SERVICES
- 6 HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY
- 7 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE



# Part C: Strengthened structures and systems to support the effective delivery of planned results

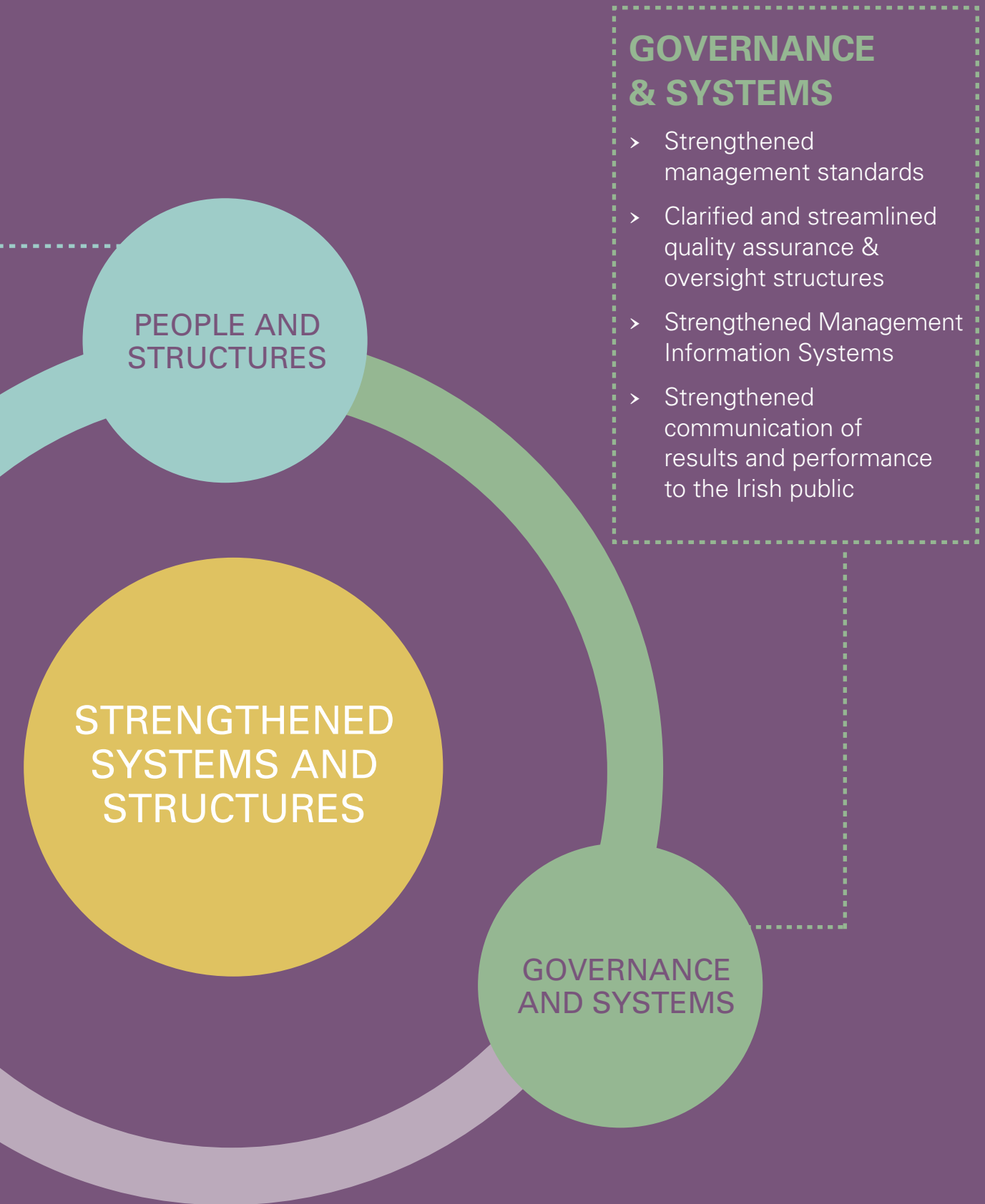
## PEOPLE AND STRUCTURES

- › Reformed organisational structures to better manage policies and partnerships
- › Upskilling for improved policy implementation

## POLICY AND PROCESSES

- › Improved policy definition
- › A broader vision for engagement with Partner Countries
- › Recalibrated analytical frameworks
- › Reviewed partnerships
- › Research and learning

POLICY AND PROCESSES



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