Table P1: Measuring Policy Coherence

Theme	#	Question	Answer	Points	Answer Criteria	Supporting Evidence
1. Political Commitment	*1.1*	Is there a clear political statement at the highest level of government demonstrating commitment to PCSD? *For example, an explicit commitment to PCSD in national strategic documents, policies or legislation, including at sectoral level.*	In place, fully implemented	4	There is a clear political statement at the highest level of government demonstrating commitment to PCSD, implemented in all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has made a clear political statement at the highest level, demonstrating commitment to PCSD. The political leadership actively promotes PCSD and supports sustainable development goals, ensuring that policies, laws and institutional arrangements align with these goals, including at sectoral level, as applicable. This commitment is translated into concrete mechanisms and actions across all relevant sectors and policies. This includes integrating PCSD into relevant policies and legislative frameworks, strategic planning, and operational activities, fostering a culture of sustainability throughout the government. Stakeholders are engaged, public support is mobilised, and robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are in place to track progress and ensure accountability.)	The Palestinian government adopted the Sustainable Development Goals, defined its national priorities, and formed the national team concerned with following up on the implementation of the SDGs in 2016, which includes representatives from various ministries, and with the participation of all relevant parties, including government institutions, civil society institutions, and the private sector. This team is responsible for coordinating national efforts to follow up on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. In this context, the State of Palestine presented its first voluntary national review at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in 2018.
	1.2	Has the government defined clear national priority areas for advancing PCSD? *For example, clear priority areas for addressing issues where trade-offs need to be managed or potential transboundary impacts need to be addressed, defined within a national policy, strategy, law or action plan for advancing sustainable development.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has defined clear national priority areas for advancing PCSD, and these are implemented covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The defined priorities are integrated into sectoral policies, strategies, and time-bound action plans, guiding efforts to achieve sustainable development goals, capitalising on synergies across sectors and considering potential transboundary impacts of policies. There is active coordination across sectors to align initiatives with these priorities, fostering an integrated approach throughout the government.)	The Palestinian government has adopted a set of cross-sectoral development initiatives that require a partnership and integration of roles between the various parties concerned, including government institutions, civil society institutions, and the private sector. The most prominent of these initiatives are: the Initiative to Strengthen Social Protection, the Sustainable Energy Initiative, the Water and Sanitation Management Initiative, and other related initiatives.
	1.3	Has the government defined clear institutional roles and responsibilities for promoting, overseeing, and implementing PCSD? *For example, a law or administrative directive has established a central unit, ministry, or inter-ministerial committee that has the mandate to promote, oversee or implement PCSD.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has defined clear institutional roles and responsibilities for promoting, overseeing, and implementing PCSD. In practice, these roles are comprehensively implemented in all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. A lead institution has been established with clear mandates to promote and oversee the implementation of PCSD across the government. The mandates and role of this institution are well known throughout the government in different sectors and at different levels.)	In addition, relevant ministries are working through a national team, with the participation of various partners and stakeholders from government and non-government institutions, to enhance coordination and integration in sectoral interventions and policies, ensuring consistency between efforts made at the level of one sector and various relevant sectors. The Ministry of Planning is responsible for managing and coordinating the process of preparing and developing national plans and policies, including ensuring harmony and integration among them, in addition to its role in reviewing these documents and providing necessary feedback to enhance their quality and achieve the desired goals. Within the framework of institutional arrangements, the State of Palestine has achieved tangible developments in building the capacity of national institutions to provide services to citizens, as part of its national development priorities. These arrangements reflect the comprehensive approach adopted by the Palestinian government in working to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and its endeavor to build strategic partnerships with various local and international partners, including governmental and non-governmental institutions, the private sector, and international institutions. In this context, the Council of Ministers made a decision to form the national team to follow up and implement the Sustainable Development Goals, headed by the Prime Minister's Office, with membership of relevant ministries and government institutions, along with representatives of civil society organizations and the private sector. The national team also decided to form twelve national groups, one for each of the sustainable development goals, whose membership includes representatives of civil society institutions, the private sector, academic institutions, and United Nations institutions. This institutional framework also contributes to clarifying roles and responsibilities at the leadership, executive, and technical levels, supporting sectoral policy coherence, and enhancing the application of the policy coherence approach for sustainable development.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 1. Political Commitment			**12**		
2. Long-term Vision	*2.1*	Has the government developed a strategic long-term vision for sustainable development to enhance policy coherence? *For example, a national vision statement, policy, strategy or action plan that sets objectives to identify, prevent, and mitigate actual and potential adverse impacts of decision-making on the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed a strategic long-term vision for sustainable development to enhance policy coherence, which is implemented in all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. A long-term vision or strategy is in place establishing long-term goals and targets for sustainable development and guiding short-term decision-making to consider the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations. This strategic vision is integrated into all relevant sectoral strategies and policies and translated into concrete actions to identify, prevent, and mitigate potential adverse impacts on future generations. This process involves engaging stakeholders, securing legislative and public support, and developing robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks.)	The Palestinian government adopted the National Spatial Development Plan (2020–2050), which reflects the long-term development vision of the State of Palestine that includes national development priorities and policies aimed at achieving sustainable development.
	2.2	Does the government use long-term strategic planning tools to enhance policy coherence? *For example, the use of tools such as impact assessments, strategic foresight, scenario development, integrated modelling tools or systems-thinking approaches in the formulation and implementation of strategies and policies to identify, prevent, and mitigate potential adverse impacts on the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government uses long-term strategic planning tools to enhance policy coherence, and these are implemented covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government commonly uses long-term strategic planning tools (e.g. impact assessments, strategic foresight, scenario development, integrated modeling tools, or systems-thinking approaches) in formulating and implementing strategies and policies. These tools help identify, prevent, and mitigate potential adverse impacts on the wellbeing and sustainable development of future generations. These tools are proactively used to inform policy- and decision-making.)	In addition to the National Spatial Development Plan (2020–2050), the Palestinian government is preparing medium-term strategic plans based on periodic review and evaluation processes, which contribute to enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning process, especially in terms of the integration of plans and policies at the sectoral and national levels. In this context, the National Sustainable Development Team was formed, responsible for monitoring and coordinating national efforts related to the Sustainable Development Agenda, in addition to preparing and developing sectoral strategies, with the aim of enhancing integration and coordination among various partners and stakeholders.

	2.3	Has the government established dedicated institutional arrangements or mechanisms to support a long-term vision for PCSD? *For example, independent bodies, a commissioner, council, or ombudsperson for future generations, can promote long-term vision for PCSD that outlives electoral cycles or government terms.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established dedicated institutional arrangements or mechanisms to support a long-term vision for PCSD Their tasks are comprehensively implemented covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has established a dedicated body with clear mandates and resources to ensure its commitment to PCSD extends beyond electoral cycles and government terms. This body has clear objectives, adequate resources, and supports effective communication, strong leadership, stakeholder engagement, and coordination across Ministries or departments. It also has robust monitoring and evaluation systems and the flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances.)	The Palestinian government formed the National Team for SDGs by an official decree of the Council of Ministers to follow up and implement the Sustainable Development Agenda, in addition to forming sectoral strategy teams to enhance integration among partners.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 2. Long-term Vision			**12**		
3. The Integration of Sustainable Development into Policy and Finance	*3.1*	Does the government have a budgetary process that integrates sustainable development into sectoral policies, and to address synergies and trade-offs across economic, social and environmental policy areas? *For example, through the use of SDG budgeting (i.e. tagging budget measures, etc.) or checklists.*	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has developed a budgetary process to integrate sustainable development into sectoral policies, and to address synergies and trade-offs across economic, social and environmental policy areas, but its implementation remains partial. (e.g. Several challenges could be hindering full implementation, including the complexity of integrating sustainable development priorities into existing frameworks, difficulties in data collection, balancing resource allocation across competing goals, weak institutional capacity, insufficient political will and commitment, normative gaps, and financial constraints.)	The Palestinian government is integrating sustainable development priorities into sectoral plans, the implementation of which is based on the process of preparing annual budgets, taking into account the Palestinian government's transition from item budgeting to resource budgeting, which allows for a more precise definition of priorities and targets, and provides additional space for translating national priorities for sustainable development into concrete implementation programs.
	3.2	Does the government have dedicated mechanisms or tools to integrate sustainable development into the sectoral or financing plans of line ministries? *For example, strategies, guidelines, regulations, provisions or coordination mechanisms for ministries and government agencies to align their mandates, policies and sectoral objectives with sustainable development priorities.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed dedicated mechanisms and tools to integrate sustainable development into the sectoral and financing plans of line ministries. These mechanisms have been comprehensively implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. Established mechanisms and tools have ensured that sustainable development priorities are integrated into every sector and financial plan, contributing to effective progress towards sustainable development goals. These mechanisms and tools also foster a culture of sustainability across all levels and sectors of government, driving continuous improvement and innovation in sustainable development practices.)	The Sustainable Development Team, formed by a decree of the Council of Ministers, is responsible for identifying national priorities for SDGs and identifying the ministries and institutions responsible for each goal. In this context, the Palestinian government has developed, as part of the national planning methodology, a set of guidelines within the strategic planning guide that aim to integrate the priority objectives previously identified by the team into the strategic budget plans
	3.3	Does the government have established mechanisms or measures to promote the mobilisation of public, private, domestic, and international resources for sustainable development? *For example, specific programmes or policies informed by policy coherence to enhance the contribution of domestic resources to sustainable development; incentives or frameworks to attract private investment for sustainable development projects; partnerships between the government and private sector to finance sustainable development initiatives, etc.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established mechanisms and implemented measures to promote the mobilisation of financial resources to support PCSD. These have been comprehensively applied, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The established mechanisms and implemented measures have resulted in specific programs or policies that enhance the contribution of domestic resources to sustainable development, or have created incentives to attract private investments for sustainable development or fostered public-private partnerships that support the mobilisation of financial resources to advance sustainable development.)	The Palestinian government established the Local Foreign Aid Management Structure, which includes various partners from the international and local communities, as a mechanism to mobilize external funding to support national sustainable development priorities. The government is also developing a private sector partnership law to enhance the private sector's contribution to development efforts. In addition to the previously adopted partnership system at the local level, and given current financial conditions, public expenditure priorities focus on providing basic services to citizens, which constitute the core of the Sustainable Development Agenda.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 3. The Integration of Sustainable Development into Policy and Finance			**11**		
	4.1	Has the government established high-level coordinating mechanisms with clear mandates to ensure whole-of-government coordination for PCSD, including at sectoral level? *For example, a high-level coordinating mechanism or body whether located within the Centre of Government or a lead line ministry as appropriate, with a clear mandate, resources and capacities to anticipate and resolve policy divergences, including on potential negative impacts of policies, and tensions arising from diverging priorities and different sectoral interests.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established high-level coordinating mechanisms with clear mandates to ensure whole-of-government coordination for PCSD, including at sectoral level. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. A high-level coordinating mechanism operates regularly to support whole-of-government coordination for Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD). This mechanism has a clear mandate, adequate resources, and the capacity to anticipate and resolve policy divergences, including potential negative impacts of policies and tensions arising from diverging priorities and different sectoral interests.)	The national team represents a high-level mechanism for coordinating efforts and ensuring their integration, thus achieving comprehensive and integrated interventions for all parties to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, the team established sectoral work groups that include various partners and partner institutions, which work to enhance the integration of efforts to achieve priority goals at the level of each of the Sustainable Development Goals.

4. Whole-of-government Coordination	*4.2*	Are there formal governance structures or informal channels in place to support communication between sectoral ministries and departments for enhancing PCSD? *For example, inter-ministerial committees that stimulate open exchange of ideas and innovative thinking to address cross-cutting policy objectives and develop integrated solutions.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established formal governance structures or informal channels to support communication between sectoral ministries and departments for enhancing PCSD. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The establishment of these structures and channels has led to improved collaboration, coordination, and information sharing across all sectors of government. This has strengthened the alignment of policies with the Sustainable Development Goals and fostered a culture of continuous improvement and innovation in public administration.)	The 19th Palestinian Government established the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, which aims to achieve high efficiency in the strategic planning process and link strategic objectives with policy interventions and the SDGs indicators that intersect with them. The Ministry also built a database to record proposed projects for 2025-2027, so that they are linked with the strategic objectives included in the medium-term strategic plans for 2025-2027. This is in order to enhance the coherence between the various elements of the strategic planning process and implement the greatest possible number of development interventions.
	4.3	Are there specific capacity-building programs or other resources in place for public servants, government officials, or staff to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development? *For example, to improve skills that take civil servants beyond their traditional operating environment and challenge them to think and act in new, cross-disciplinary ways to foster coherence in policymaking.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed capacity-building programs or other resources for public servants, government officials, or staff to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development. These programmes have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. Competency frameworks have been designed to target cross-disciplinary knowledge and skills to foster coherence in policymaking. Training has been developed to strengthen these skills, and rolled out to all relevant civil servants.	It is worth mentioning that in 2016, a decree on Law No. (5) of 2016 was issued regarding the establishment of the Palestinian National School of Administration, which is responsible for building the capacity of civil service personnel as well as developing and implementing capacity building programs in various development areas in which policies are integrated. The Ministry of Planning, in coordination with its international partners, also implements a set of interventions to build the capacity of civil service personnel in the areas of sustainable development, focusing on integrating different economic, social, and cultural dimensions. The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation is responsible for managing and coordinating the policy-making process and ensuring its integration. To achieve this goal, a cross-governmental strategic planning team has been established, responsible for preparing strategic plans and ensuring their integration.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 4. Whole-of-government Coordination			**12**		
5. Sub-national Engagement	*5.1*	Are there provisions or mechanisms in place to align national and sub-national plans, policies, budgets, or regulatory frameworks for sustainable development? *For example, National Sustainable Development Strategies outline relevant action and mandate sub-national engagement; or data exchanges and other engagements between government levels are institutionalised in other ways.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The provisions or mechanisms are in place to align national and sub-national plans, policies, budgets, and regulatory frameworks for sustainable development. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. National Sustainable Development Strategies are territorialised at the sub-national level and complemented by local indicators and monitoring systems on sustainable development objectives. Best practices and common challenges are documented, shared and incorporated across government levels, promoting continuous improvement. These mechanisms are effectively used to engage sub-national levels of government in PCSD and to promote coordinated action on relevant economic, social and environmental goals.)	The Ministry of Planning is responsible for setting sectoral and cross-sectoral development priorities, while various ministries are responsible for aligning their work priorities with national sectoral priorities. It is worth noting that the Council of Ministers has sectoral ministerial committees tasked with studying plans and policies to ensure their integration before submitting them to the Council of Ministers.
	5.2	Are there formal governance structures or informal channels in place to support communication between national and sub-national levels of government for enhancing PCSD? *For example, interterritorial commissions, the participation of local governments in National Councils for the 2030 Agenda, and focal points for the implementation of SDGs at the regional and local level.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established formal governance structures or informal channels to support communication between national and sub-national levels of government. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. Platforms such as interterritorial commissions are in place to collect inputs from subnational entities and initiate formal exchanges between government levels. These mechanisms are active and stimulate open exchange of ideas and innovative thinking to address cross-cutting policy objectives and facilitate multi-level dialogue around success stories and persistent challenges.)	The Palestinian government, through the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation and various national institutions, and in cooperation with its partners, has made significant efforts to achieve SDGs goals and objectives in line with its national priorities. For example, the Ministry of Social Affairs is working to strengthen the social protection system and expand economic and social integration programs targeting the poor and marginalized groups. The Palestinian government also developed the National Food Safety Strategy and began harmonizing national food safety observation systems, as well as implementing a set of interventions to enhance investment in the agricultural sector. In this context, the Council of Ministers, in its session No. (75), approved the comprehensive national spatial development plan 2050, which was prepared with a Palestinian vision, national efforts and expertise, and full local funding, under the supervision of the government steering committee headed by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, and in coordination with the relevant ministries and institutions. Ministry of Planning explained that the plan is a long-term strategic document that aims to achieve balanced urban, economic, and social development through the optimal use of land and linking spatial planning with development planning, taking into account environmental sustainability and protecting cultural heritage and agricultural lands. The plan covers the entire Palestinian territory in the West Bank, including Jerusalem, Gaza Strip, and the corridor linking them. It includes transportation and communications networks, water and energy sources, economic development zones, new urban centers, and vital facilities at the national level, taking into account relevant SDGs goals and objectives.
	5.3	Are there mechanisms or processes in place to ensure coordinated action between national and subnational agencies on international initiatives or development co-operation for sustainable development? *For example, national agencies provide advisory services, networks, or matchmaking for sub-national entities engaging in international initiatives or development cooperation.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established mechanisms or processes to coordinate national and sub-national action on international initiatives or development cooperation for sustainable development. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. For example, national agencies provide advisory services, networks, or matchmaking for sub-national entities engaging in international initiatives or development cooperation. Multi-level and multi-stakeholder partnerships connect actors and help exchange best practices, and support is well matched to demand and local context.)	The Palestinian government, in cooperation with civil society institutions, the private sector, and local authorities, seeks to strengthen communication and coordination channels across multiple fields and to activate more comprehensive and coordinated governance mechanisms, thereby contributing to achieving the SDGs. In addition, the Palestinian government is working to strengthen cooperation with international organizations to support its national priorities, particularly in areas inaccessible to the government, such as those under full Israeli control, to ensure continuity of service provision and partial implementation of development interventions.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 5. Sub-national Engagement			**12**		

6. Stakeholder-engagement	*6.1*	Are there participatory mechanisms in place to ensure stakeholders are informed and engaged proactively in different phases of the policy cycle for sustainable development, or in the development of PCSD initiatives through a whole-of-society approach? *For example, dedicated laws, public consultations, advisory committees, focus groups, online platforms, regular meetings or other means enable engagement and participation in decision-making making, to gather feedback, address coherence issues, and collaborate on solutions involving different levels of society.*	In place, partially implemented	3	The participatory mechanisms are in place for stakeholder engagement in sustainable development policy-making through a whole-of-society approach, but these are partially implemented. (e.g. Several factors can limit implementation. These could such as insufficient political will, inadequate stakeholder engagement, normative gaps or a lack of resources or capacity.)	There are intensive efforts to implement effective mechanisms for community participation in achieving sustainable development. Ministries and government institutions play a pivotal role in engaging and coordinating with various sectors to implement the SDGs agenda through government and non-government initiatives and participatory platforms that enable the exchange of views and guide public policies. The Palestinian government also seeks to enhance its cooperation with partners to monitor progress towards achieving the SDGs and their national priority targets. Hence, the next phase will focus particularly on expanding community participation, strengthening mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the SDGs, and developing a national strategy to strengthen strategic partnerships with various stakeholders and groups. This includes raising institutional and community awareness of the SDGs at the national and local levels through awareness and education programs, while emphasizing the importance of involving the media in following up on their implementation and in sharing knowledge regarding the SDGs. Existing Challenges: A number of challenges, most notably geographical and political fragmentation that affects coordination and unification of efforts between regions, as well as the restrictions imposed by the Israeli occupation on movement, resources, and construction, which hinder the implementation of sustainable development projects, affects community participation efforts and the effective implementation of the SDGs agenda. The challenge of the lack of comprehensive coordination also emerges, despite the efforts made, due to overlaps or problems in linking the various concerned parties (government, civil society, and the private sector) within an integrated and systematic framework.
	6.2	Are there mechanisms in place to reach out to marginalised and vulnerable groups in society and advocate for their needs and participation in decision-making to advance inclusive sustainable development? *For example, to consult or engage different groups as co-designers on action plans that mainstream, in an integrated manner, the principle of leaving no one behind in public policies and reform measures, placing emphasis on targeted measures which support those who are furthest behind and promote human rights, gender equality and social inclusion.*	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has established mechanisms to reach out to marginalised and vulnerable groups in society and advocate for their participation in decision-making, to advance inclusive sustainable development, but these are only partially implemented. (e.g. Several factors can limit implementation. These could include insufficient political will, inadequate stakeholder engagement, normative gaps or a lack of resources or capacity.)	Through sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, the Palestinian government has been keen to focus on marginalized groups, both within sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies, particularly those related to women and youth. This is achieved by building genuine and effective partnerships that provide high-quality services to citizens to improve their standard of living. However, reaching all marginalized groups remains a major challenge in light of the unjust siege imposed on Gaza Strip, the isolation of Jerusalem from other Palestinian cities, and Israel's complete control over what is known as Area (C), which constitutes approximately two-thirds of the West Bank and is inhabited by approximately one million Palestinians distributed across approximately 612 localities. The Israeli occupation prevents the Palestinian government from accessing and investing in these areas, as well as providing basic services to citizens, including building schools, medical clinics, and developing infrastructure, except within strict restrictions and permits. In this context, and based on the State of Palestine's commitments to international agreements and treaties, and the SDG 2030, the Palestinian government is leading intensive efforts through the National Team for Poverty Alleviation, with the aim of developing a multidimensional national strategy to combat poverty that takes into account the realities of the most vulnerable groups. The Ministry of Labor also launched qualitative initiatives in this field, including the announcement of launching a smart national platform to open local and international horizons for job seekers and enhance vocational training, within the framework of a national vision to reduce unemployment rates and empower Palestinian competencies. These efforts include operating 14 vocational training centers offering 74 training programs, of which approximately 60% have been digitized. The Palestinian government pays special attention to cross-sectoral strategies to reach marginalized and vulnerable groups through complementary roles led by bodies such as the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Higher Council for Youth and Sports, and the Environment Quality Authority, in a way that enhances the comprehensiveness of policies and their social justice.

	6.3	Has the government put mechanisms in place to promote stakeholder engagement in policy coherence for sustainable development at various levels of governance, to advance best practice and encourage peer learning? *For example, engagement through global or national campaigns, policy dialogues, intergovernmental processes, capacity building initiatives, and societal mobilisation.*	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has in place mechanisms for collaboration with various stakeholders on initiatives to raise public awareness, mobilise support, and advocate for policy coherence for sustainable development at various levels of governance, but these have only been partially implemented. (e.g. Several factors can limit implementation. These could such as insufficient political will, normative gaps and inadequate stakeholder engagement.)	The formation of the National SDGs Team in 2016, with the participation of ministries and the membership of all concerned parties from government institutions, civil society institutions, and the private sector, is a pivotal milestone in coordinating national efforts to follow up on the implementation of the SDGs. In this context, the State of Palestine presented its first voluntary national review before the High-Level Political Group on Sustainable Development at the United Nations in 2018. The strategy preparation guide for ministries and government institutions within the planning cycle (2024–2029) included adopting a clear methodology for preparing strategic plans, linking them to national strategic goals and SDGs, while emphasizing the importance of consultations and consultative meetings between government institutions and relevant authorities from various sectors. Out of the important role of civil society institutions and the private sector in achieving development, and believing in the principle of true and effective partnership, the Palestinian government has adopted a partnership approach with various concerned parties, particularly civil society institutions and the private sector, as an essential cornerstone in preparing national development plans and developing medium-term strategic plans for the years (2025–2027). The government was also keen to strengthen these partnerships by building sustainable strategic partnerships with civil society institutions and the private sector.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 6. Stakeholder-engagement			**9**		
	7.1	Does the government have any mechanisms or tools in place to conduct regular policy impact assessments to identify any positive and negative impacts on sustainable development? *For example, established tools such as cost-benefit analysis, indicator frameworks for tracking policy effectiveness, or other tools such as Regulatory, Environmental, Gender and Social Impact, and Strategic Assessments are regularly used across government sectors to evaluate and align policies with sustainable development objectives.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has developed mechanisms or tools to conduct regular policy impact assessments to identify any positive and negative impacts on sustainable development. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has integrated principles of sustainable development into Regulatory Impact Assessments, and made these mandatory for legislative proposal by ministries. Available data is used to measure impact and make informed decisions on resource allocation, performance improvement, incentive changes and cost reductions. This leads to an important feedback loop for the policy design and delivery phases. Sufficient technical capacity and methodological skills have been built to facilitate the use of these impact assessment tools.	The role of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in national development Based on the Council of Ministers decree No. (1/08/19/M.W/M.M) for 2024, the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation is the central body responsible for leading the development planning process in Palestine, including preparing strategic and annual plans, coordinating national policies, monitoring their implementation, and evaluating their impact on various sectors. The Ministry plays a pivotal role in directing available resources and capabilities towards achieving national priorities and enhancing integration between government efforts and regional and international commitments. The ministry also aims to enhance evidence-based planning, develop an effective monitoring and evaluation system to measure progress and achievements, and highlight lessons learned to improve institutional and sectoral performance. The Ministry is an essential cornerstone in supporting comprehensive and sustainable development by developing institutional capacities and strengthening partnerships with national and international parties, which contribute to achieving economic and social development and strengthening the resilience of the Palestinian people. Challenges in Policy Evaluation The Palestinian government faces significant challenges in systematically implementing policy impact assessment mechanisms, particularly in accessing areas under Israeli control. However, the government is working to enact laws and legislation that activate policy-making and monitor and evaluate the implementation of strategic goals and SDGs. The Role of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) PCBS is responsible for localizing and monitoring SDGs indicators in cooperation with the ministries and national institutions, and in coordination with the international organizations. The Registers and Statistical Monitoring Directorate was established to collect, classify, publish, and document statistics derived from the administrative records of the government and private institutions. PCBS is also forming technical work groups to examine methodologies for estimating sustainable development data and indicators, and to address the lack of available data to measure progress in implementing many of the goals of the SDGs, as only 180 indicators are available out of 251 indicators, which hinders the localization of all goals and indicators. Focus on the Dimensions of Sustainable Development There is a recognition of the dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social, environmental), with attempts to integrate them into national policies. However, there is a need to develop standardized tools to assess the impact of policies at the national level, and this process requires coordination of efforts and capacity building across different sectors and entities. Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms

7. Impact Assessment	*7.2*	Has the government established ex-ante and ex-post policy impact assessments that consider transboundary impacts? *For example, established tools such as cost-benefit analysis, transboundary impact assessments, multistakeholder consultations, indicator frameworks or other tools are regularly used across government sectors to evaluate the transboundary impacts of policies on sustainable development.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The government has established ex-ante and ex-post policy impact assessments that consider transboundary impacts. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. Established tools such as transboundary impact assessments, spillover analysis frameworks, or multi-stakeholder consultations are used to regularly assess international implications of government policies. There is effective use of these mechanisms to facilitate informed decision-making in the policy and planning process.)	Based on the Council of Ministers Decree No. (12/233/17/M.W/R.h) for 2018, a specialized government team was reformed, comprising representatives from relevant ministries and government institutions, with the aim of enhancing national coordination in the field of monitoring and evaluation between government institutions, ensuring consistency, and producing comprehensive national reports. Team Structure and Responsibilities: •The team consists of representatives of government institutions that submit their strategic plans to be approved by the Council of Ministers, in addition to government institutions directly related to monitoring and evaluation work. •The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation chairs the team, as it is the reference body responsible for coordinating the planning, monitoring, and evaluation system at the national level. •The Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate at the Ministry acts as the executive secretariat of the team, including organizing its work, following up on the implementation of its decisions, and ensuring effective coordination among its members. The Most Important Tasks of the Team: •Supervising the periodic updating of monitoring and evaluation tools and methodologies, in line with international best practices. •Reviewing and approving monitoring and evaluation reports, and then submitting them through the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation for approval by the Council of Ministers. •Submitting recommendations to the Council of Ministers through the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation regarding common challenges and proposed solutions. •Approving annual capacity building plans for employees in the monitoring and evaluation field
	7.3	Does the government have any mechanisms in place to build capacity in the public service to collect and analyse evidence on how different policies, laws or regulations impact sustainable development? *For example, training designed to allow civil servants to strategically address positive and negative impacts of policies, laws or regulations on sustainable development.*	In place, partially implemented	3	The government has mechanisms in place to provide capacity building for the public service to collect and analyse evidence on how different policies, laws or regulations impact sustainable development, but these mechanisms have only been partially implemented and rolled out to civil servants. (e.g. Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include resource constraints or insufficient political will.)	As part of the modernization of the monitoring and evaluation system at the government institution level, the Ministry of Planning is working to identify capacity-building needs related to monitoring and evaluation, with the aim of providing specialized training programs and capacity building tailored to these needs. A special curriculum for training on monitoring and evaluation concepts and tools has also been prepared and taught at the National School of Administration to ensure the sustainability of knowledge and experience in this field. The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics collects and provides basic statistical data and indicators necessary to support the monitoring and evaluation process.
		Subtotal Score for Theme 7. Impact Assessment		**11**		
8. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting	*8.1*	Does the government have any information management systems or similar mechanisms in place to coherently identify and centralise data, indicators and (or) other information for monitoring progress on sustainable development? *For example, centralising existing reliable data, indicators, and information to monitor economic, social, and environmental externalities imposed beyond national borders (transboundary impacts).*	In place, fully implemented	4	The information management systems or similar mechanisms exist, and the government has identified data, indicators and (or) other information to monitor transboundary impacts. These mechanisms have been fully implemented, covering all relevant aspects of governance. (e.g. The government has identified reliable and timely data and indicators to effectively monitor progress on sustainable development. Information management systems or their mechanisms are in place and they facilitate the public availability, accessibility and comparability of centralised and harmonised data on sustainable development. This may include indicators used to monitor trends in based on income and resources flows that impact the well-being of people in other countries. For example, on trade and aid (Official Development Assistance, remittances, imports of goods) and environment and resources (fossil fuel imports, imports of metals, greenhouse gas footprints).)	Developing Information Management and Development Monitoring Systems The Palestinian government is developing integrated systems for information management and development monitoring through national strategies such as the Palestine Digital Agenda 2030 and the Digital Government Strategy 2024–2029, which focus on digital transformation, integrating data across government agencies, and providing indicators and frameworks for monitoring progress, particularly with regard to the SDGs, in cooperation with international partners. Current efforts include standardizing data and creating digital platforms to track performance. Existing Mechanisms and Efforts •Developing a roadmap to modernize digital infrastructure and services, facilitating data collection and analysis. •Connecting government institutions through unified networks and information systems to facilitate data exchange. •Aligning national data with the SDGs would enable monitoring of development indicators related to poverty, education, health, and water.
	8.2	Does the government have mechanisms in place to provide regular and transparent reporting to relevant national bodies (e.g. Parliament, ministerial or other bodies) on progress on PCSD? *For example, regular reports to the parliament, ministerial or other bodies about progress on PCSD. Information on progress can also be included in VNRs and in reporting on development co-operation activities.*	In place, partially implemented	3	The mechanisms for regular and transparent reporting to relevant national bodies are in place, but are only partially implemented. (Several challenges could be hindering the full implementation. These could include the administrative burden or a lack of regular data collection, normative gaps.)	The Palestinian government has sought to establish mechanisms for submitting reports on following up on the implementation of the SDGs through several bodies, most notably of which is the Council of Ministers and PCBS, where PCBS issues periodic reports based on all data related to SDGs indicators. Ministries, such as the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, are also developing guidelines for preparing strategic plans, including integrating the SDGs into sectoral plans and policies. Non-government organizations and civil society institutions contribute to supporting the reporting process and providing the necessary data. In addition, the State of Palestine submits international reports to the United Nations on its progress toward achieving the SDGs, reflecting the extent of its commitment to implementing the SDGs Agenda at the national level.

	8.3	Does the government have mechanisms in place to ensure that findings on PCSD are regularly evaluated and used to take adaptive action, including with regards to synergies and potential trade-offs between sectoral policies? *For example, evaluation systems systematically assess the coherence of policies with different sectoral priorities and policies, providing actionable insights for policymakers.*	In place, fully implemented	4	The mechanisms are in place for the evaluation of PCSD, including synergies and potential trade-offs between sectoral policies and they are fully implemented to ensure that findings are used to inform decision making and adaptive action is taken. (e.g. These evaluation systems are used systematically to inform decision makers, as a fixed part of the policy cycle supported by sufficient data and capacity and normative provisions.)	The Palestinian government, through its ministries and bodies, seeks to achieve community development by adopting strategic objectives, promoting social inclusion, and improving the quality of services provided to citizens. However, the Palestinian government faces significant challenges as a result of the Israeli occupation, restrictions imposed, and the financial and geographical siege. There are also initiatives and mechanisms to evaluate community development, but actual implementation faces major political and economic obstacles that hinder the achievement of government directions in implementing the SDGs.
	Subtotal Score for Theme 8. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting			**11**		
Total Score				**90**		