



FUNDING WINDOWS

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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United Nations Development Programme
One United Nations Plaza. New York, NY 10017 USA

FUNDING WINDOWS

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

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Foreword

In 2021, COVID-19, resurging conflicts and deepening climate change placed the world's pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in jeopardy. Countries and vulnerable groups across the globe struggle to face this triple crisis, whose deleterious effects have been magnified by deep-rooted structural challenges and inequalities.

At this unprecedented time for people and planet, UNDP, under the leadership of Administrator Achim Steiner, has embarked on a new Strategic Plan (2022—2025), which aspires to greater shared goals: collaborating across the UN system and beyond for stronger collective results, aiming for transformative change, and supporting governments and communities build forward better.

As UNDP's primary vehicle for thematic non-core funding, a critical complement to UNDP's regular resources, the Funding Windows have demonstrated the potential to deliver impact at scale. The Funding Windows are well positioned to deploy much-needed finance to provide policy advice, build capacities, deploy digital solutions and more. Despite a difficult year, the fund reached new milestones in 2021, almost doubling delivery from 2020 to \$90 million.

In 2021, the Funding Windows leveraged UNDP's technical leadership to develop multifaceted initiatives that build the long-term resilience of communities in crisis. This was the case in Sudan, where the Funding Windows allowed UNDP to target communities where radicalization was rising and helped address its root causes. While other donors did not consider Syria as 'ripe' for peacebuilding or nexus work, Funding Windows resources helped the UN system and partners pilot context sensitive programming, identifying opportunities for local-level peacebuilding and conflict prevention, advancing collective reflections on the opportunities for peace outcomes of the UN's early recovery work and delivering on the UN Secretary-General's prevention agenda.

In particular, the Funding Windows made possible UNDP's support to women's and youth empowerment through inclusive political and workforce participation; expanding renewable energy; restoring essential infrastructure and public services; promoting democratic processes; and facilitating the conditions for peace and stability. This included, for example, enabling a digitized vaccination rollout in Bhutan, supporting pivotal transition processes in Chad and Somalia, and creating 14,000 short-term jobs and bringing solar power to more than 50,000 people in crisis-hit communities, particularly in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

The Funding Windows reinforced UNDP's work with those most marginalized and ensured no one is left behind. Beneficiaries reflected those most marginalized across the world, from 12,519 internally displaced people having returned home in Niger, almost one third of the total Diffa region returnees, to young detainees in Trinidad and Tobago, conflict-affected older people in Georgia, women experiencing violence in Timor-Leste, farmers from the persecuted Rohingya minority in Myanmar, and deaf citizens in Sri Lanka. Key steps have been taken to stabilize the complex situation in the Sahel by supporting the governance capacities of the Liptako-Gourma region Authority, which oversees the turbulent triangle region across Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

The Funding Windows also channel funds to global flagship projects, including among others, UNDP's Climate Promise, strengthening conflict prevention capacities of national stakeholders with the Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme, and protecting human rights and enabling access to justice for some of the world's most vulnerable people through the Global Programme on Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights.

The Funding Windows enabled UNDP to demonstrate our multilateral character and connect global, regional and country agendas to deliver on global public goods. By encouraging partnerships with other UN agencies, a key element of the UN Development System reform, we are delivering joint interventions and integrated solutions on the SDGs.

On behalf of UNDP, I wish to express our sincere gratitude to the seven contributing partners who have provided consistent, critical support to the Funding Windows' transformative work in 2021: **Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Switzerland.** **We invite others to come on board the Funding Windows to allow us to expand our impact and progress towards the SDGs,** as we continue to demonstrate the value of our multilateral character through less earmarking and more flexible funding as called for by Member States in the Funding Compact.

In this Decade for Action (2021–2030) to achieve the SDGs for people and the planet, the Funding Windows will continue contributing to UNDP's core objectives, by enabling the conditions for lasting, sustainable development, in contexts where it is most at risk. With continued financing and cooperation, I am confident that the Funding Windows can play a pivotal part in ensuring a planet to sustain generations to come, and a society that includes us all.



A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink.

**Usha Rao-Monari, UN Under Secretary-General
and UNDP Associate Administrator**



Acronyms and abbreviations

CPD	Country Programme Document
CPSP	Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EDRCR	Emergency Development Response to Crisis and Recovery
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GEWE	Gender Equality and Women Empowerment
GPCR	Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience
HCT	Humanitarian Country Team
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
IPLCs	Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MHPSS	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support
NAPs	National Adaptation Plans
NCE	Nature, Climate and Energy
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PDA	Peace and Development Advisor
P&I	Poverty and Inequality
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SDPE	Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
WHO	World Health Organization

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1.

The Funding Windows:

delivering for
the world's most
marginalized
people in a time
of global crisis

The Funding Windows are UNDP's primary vehicle for thematic non-core funding, a critical complement to UNDP's regular resources, framed around four key thematic areas: 'Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience'; 'Poverty and Inequality'; 'Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment' and 'Nature, Climate and Energy'. The pooled resources provide catalytic funds to countries to respond to emerging development priorities and to pilot, scale up and accelerate initiatives in support of those most in need.

In 2021, our partners contributed US\$84 million¹ and expenditures reached \$90 million, nearly double that of 2020, when fund delivery was affected by the pandemic.

Two-thirds of these 2021 expenditures were linked to earmarked resources, delivering some of UNDP's most recognized flagship projects, from the 'Global Programme on Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights for Sustaining Peace' and the 'UNDP-DPPA Joint Programme for Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention', to the Climate Promise's 'Nationally Determined Contributions Support', the 'Biodiversity Finance Initiative', and the 'Ending Gender-Based Violence and Achieving the SDGs' project.

Meanwhile, the other third was associated with the unearmarked or pooled resources, contributed by partners for UNDP to allocate according to specific themes to deliver the UNDP Strategic Plan. These critical funds brought immediate support to some of the world's most vulnerable and strengthened their resilience to future crises. This year, 24 least developed countries (LDCs) benefitted from these interventions, worth \$23 million.

These Funding Windows pooled resources supported global efforts to meet the SDGs for people and planet, by lessening the impact of conflicts on the most vulnerable. It equipped them with the ability to face future challenges, with enhanced skills, income, decision-making opportunities, infrastructure, energy, health care, education and other vital resources, to strengthen their resilience going forward. Through interconnected interventions, we assisted more than 37,000 people globally in improving employability and building small and medium-sized businesses. Our interventions also helped create almost 13,000 short-term jobs in 13 countries experiencing or recovering from crises. Our focus consistently was on those most at risk of being left behind, particularly women, youth and internally displaced persons (IDPs). Additionally, the Funding Windows brought solar energy to more than 50,000 marginalized people—including refugees, IDPs, host communities and returnees—in seven crisis-hit countries. Across the world,

¹ Unless otherwise indicated, all figures in the Funding Windows Annual Report are in US dollars (USD).



UNDP Madagascar.

800 structures were built or rebuilt, including homes, water storage solutions, roads, bridges, health centres, courts and police stations.

We supported efforts to strengthen effective, inclusive and accountable governance.

Among these projects, the Funding Windows supported elections in 5 countries across three regions by reinforcing electoral management, strengthening citizen engagement and training women leaders.

The Funding Windows emphasized building foundations for peace—and peaceful transitions.

Over 175,000 people returned home in Azerbaijan, Iraq and Mozambique. For example, in Niger we helped facilitate the return of more than 12,500 internally displaced people, representing almost one third of all returnees to the Diffa region. Positive actions included providing durable solutions to support their return to making the political climate favourable for inclusive national dialogues, unlocking political gridlock towards transparent elections and working towards peaceful transfer of power.

Funding Windows resources also allowed UNDP to go—and stay—where other actors are limited, complementing humanitarian and peacebuilding efforts with longer-term development initiatives. This helped to lay the foundations of future stability and

resilience for communities in crisis, including reinstating basic public services, enabling livelihoods, removing debris and restoring essential infrastructure.

The Funding Windows paid special attention to supporting young people who lost employment in 2020. Investments were made to encourage decent jobs for youth through employment and entrepreneurship and youth political participation, enabling them to play a bigger part in the global recovery.

The Funding Windows' pooled resources enable UNDP country offices to deliver important development interventions that lead to transformational change. Of the projects that received pooled funding, 82 percent increased capacities, 45 percent supported more responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making, and 44 percent collaborated with other UN agencies. Of note, 49 percent of projects reported having mobilized additional resources, bringing on average an additional \$2.67 dollars for every dollar of pooled funds received.

These results were achieved by prioritizing digital investments for the delivery of vital public services beyond the pandemic in 24 countries. This ranged from establishing a digital vaccine management system, supporting the establishment of online courts to serve remote communities, introducing e-voting, enhanced disaster risk data management, and encouraging citizens' engagement in political discourse and public spending. Further, by continuing to push our activities online as much as possible, we ensured programmes continued through the pandemic, despite lockdown and quarantine restrictions worldwide. This proved to be not only a tool but a result in itself, with Funding Windows resources providing IT equipment for government and local partners to continue operating online during COVID-19.

Finally, through the pooled funds we widened and strengthened our partnerships with other UN agencies—including the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) with other organizations such as the World Bank, governments, parliamentary groups, civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), improving our ability to reach beneficiaries and local resources. By mobilizing and delivering more, embracing changing technologies and forging new partnerships, the Funding Windows is setting a new level of ambition in supporting the SDGs for 2030, by enabling those most vulnerable to gain skills, incomes and resilience—building new futures for those furthest behind.

2.

2021 in Review

The Funding Windows are aligned with and contribute to the implementation of the [UNDP Strategic Plan 2022–2025](#) and its Integrated Results and Resources Framework, particularly its six signature solutions.

Alignment with UNDP’s six Signature Solutions

POVERTY AND INEQUALITY



Poverty

GOVERNANCE, PEACEBUILDING, CRISIS AND RESILIENCE

- Democratic Governance
- Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace
- Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction
- Crisis Response



Resilience



Governance

NATURE, CLIMATE AND ENERGY



Energy



Environment

GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT



Gender

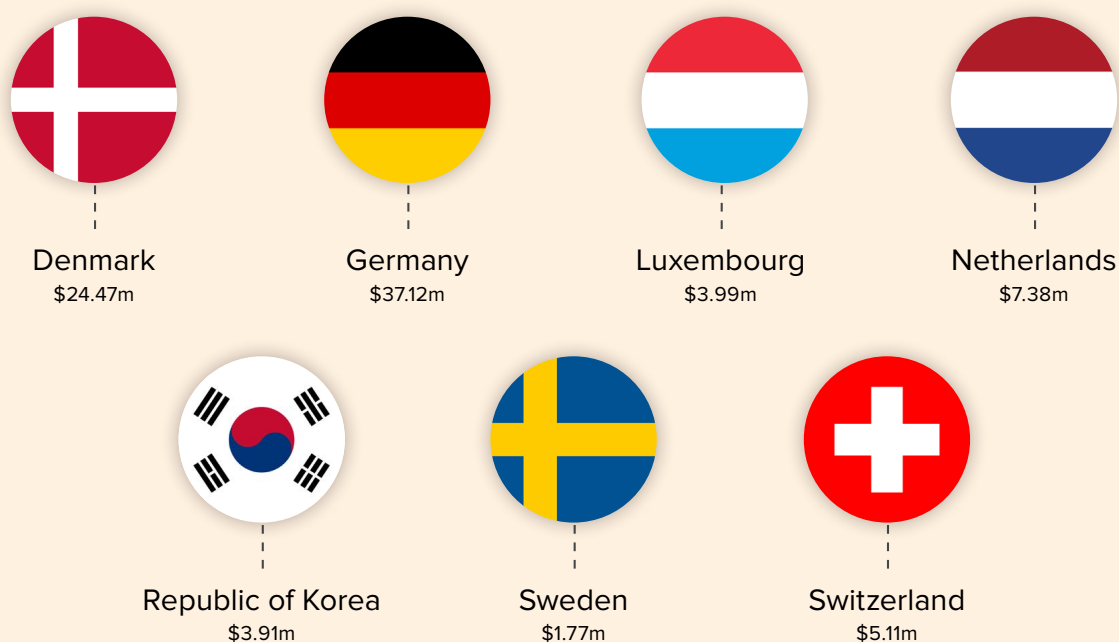
Summary of finances and reach



ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

- \$83,806,372** Total revenue for delivery until 2028
- \$89,937,724** Total expenditures
- \$31,598,862** Expenditures from pooled funds (35% of total)
- 121** Country offices delivered Funding Windows resources, including 55 delivering them from pooled funds

UNDP appreciates and recognizes the seven contributing partners who have provided critical support to the Funding Windows in 2021 and have done so since 2017: Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Switzerland.



Global expenditures nearly doubled from 2020, reaching \$90 million in 2021. A third of this amount (\$32 million) was spent from pooled resources, while the rest was linked to contributions earmarked to global, regional and country projects.

The Funding Windows supported interventions in 121 UNDP country offices through both its pooled funding mechanism and earmarked projects. A total of \$34 million, double the amount of 2020, was disbursed in 41 least developed countries, representing 38 percent of resources.

Over half of the expenditures (53 percent, or \$48 million) was linked to Signature Solution 2 on strengthening effective inclusive and accountable governance, equivalent to more than double the amount from 2020 (\$21 million) (Figure 1). In terms of Strategic Plan Outcomes, expenditures continue to be split between the three outcomes with a concentration of activity around a single Strategic Plan Output in each of them (Figure 2).

Detailed overall Funding Windows expenditures by UNDP Strategic Plan outcomes and outputs are provided in section 8.

FIGURE 1

2021 expenditures by UNDP's signature solutions

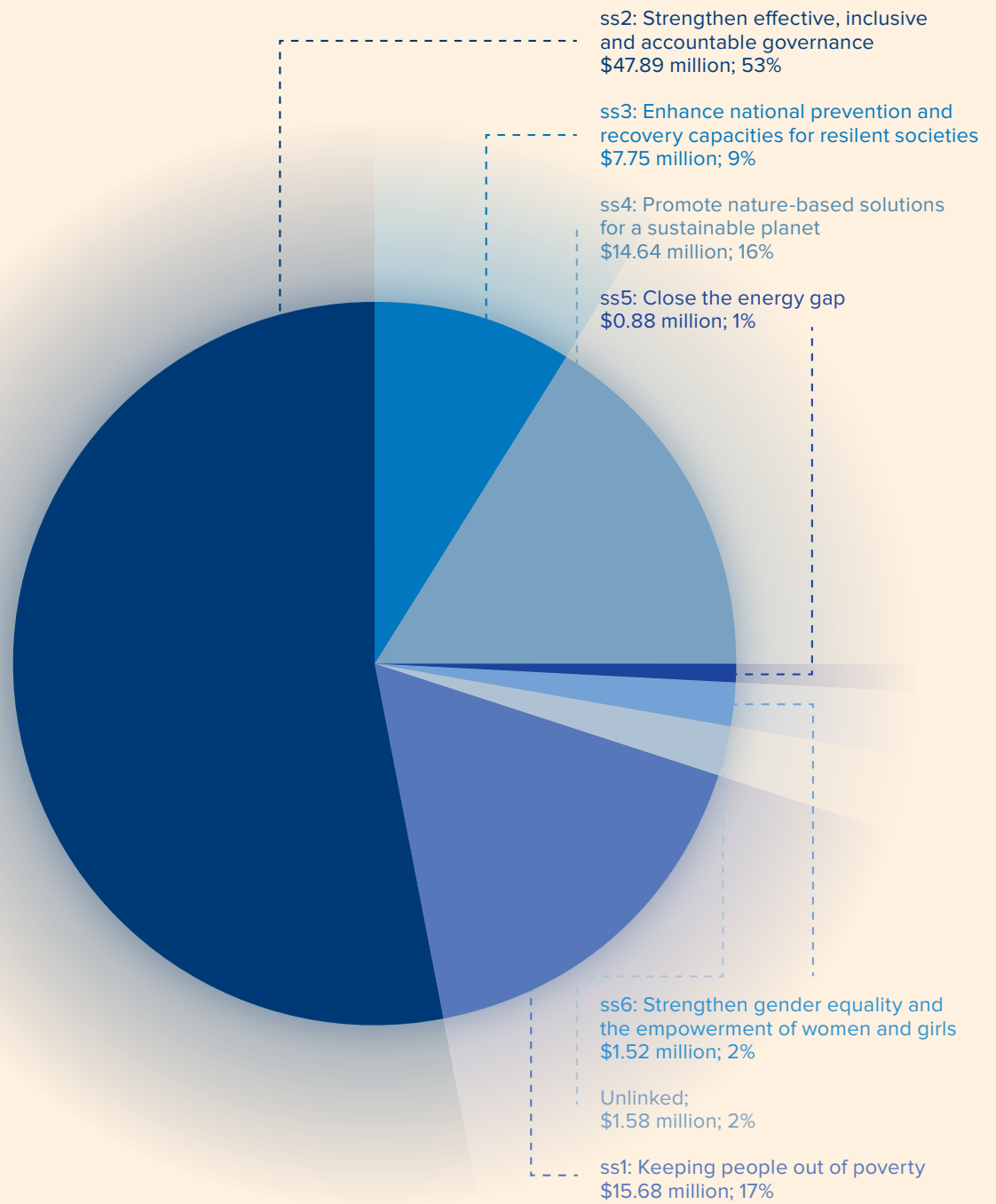
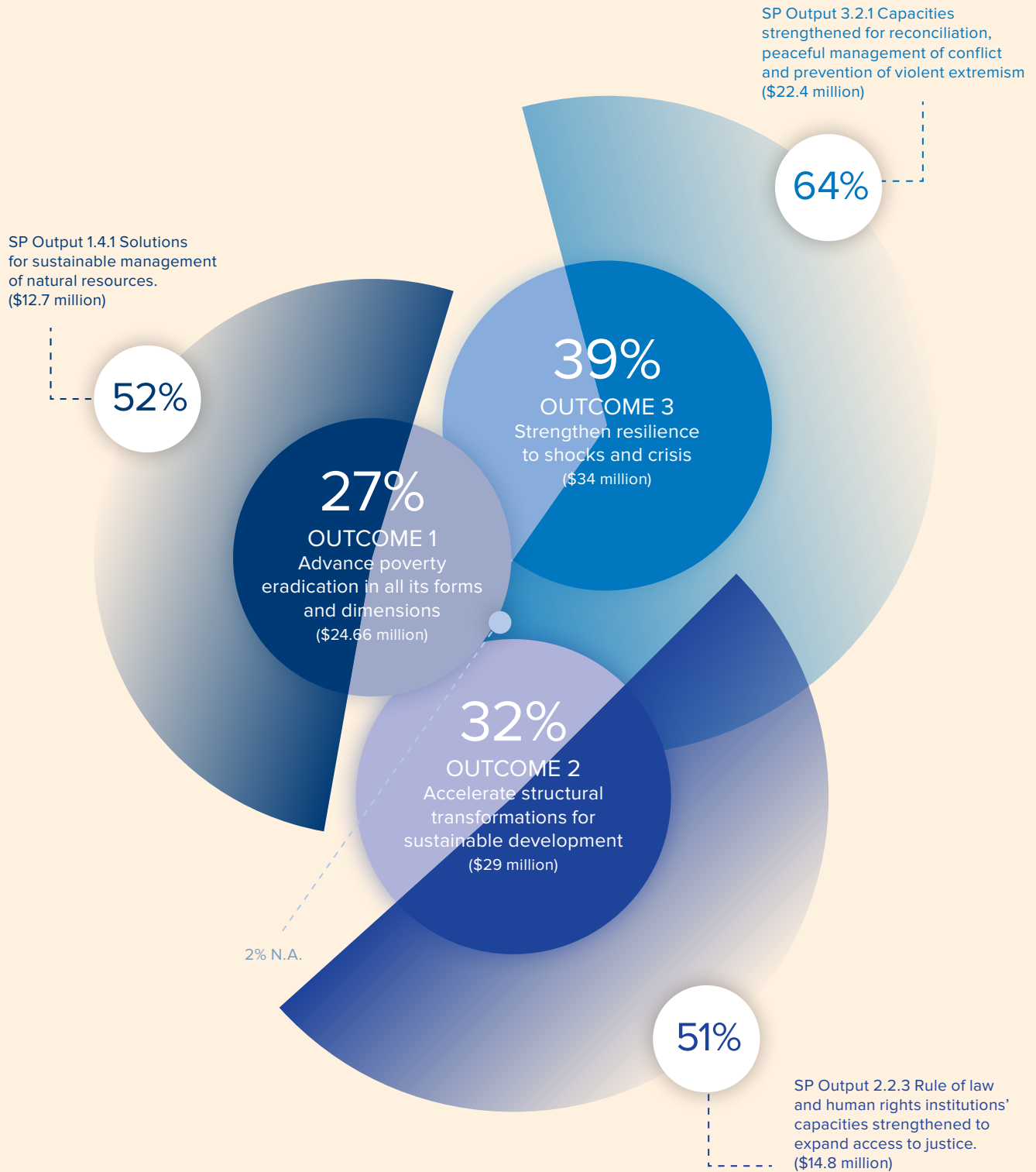


FIGURE 2

2021 expenditures by UNDP's Strategic Plan outcomes and outputs



Complementing core resources in support of the UNDP Strategic Plan

The Funding Windows are UNDP's primary vehicle for thematic non-core funding and provide a critical complement to regular resources. Through the Funding Windows, partners contribute directly to development solutions in countries, while benefiting from rapid and effective oversight, reporting and accountability.

The pooled resources are allocated to support strategic organizational priorities as catalytic investments to respond to emerging development priorities and to bolster integrated action within the UN system. Decisions are driven by global strategic direction, regional priorities and country demand, and accompanied by experts from across the organization through the Global Policy Network. These funds enable UNDP to pilot, scale up and accelerate initiatives and respond with agility to the greatest needs. A fast-track crisis-response channel exists to quickly allocate resources and deliver support in complex and highly volatile contexts, amplifying and multiplying the effect of UNDP core investments.

As a leading provider of electoral support, UNDP assisted electoral authorities in 30 countries to hold inclusive, transparent elections in 2021. This helped 38 million people to register to vote, 80 percent of whom were women. The Funding Windows contributed by supporting elections in 5 countries across three regions, strengthening electoral management bodies, improving citizen engagement and supporting women's leadership.

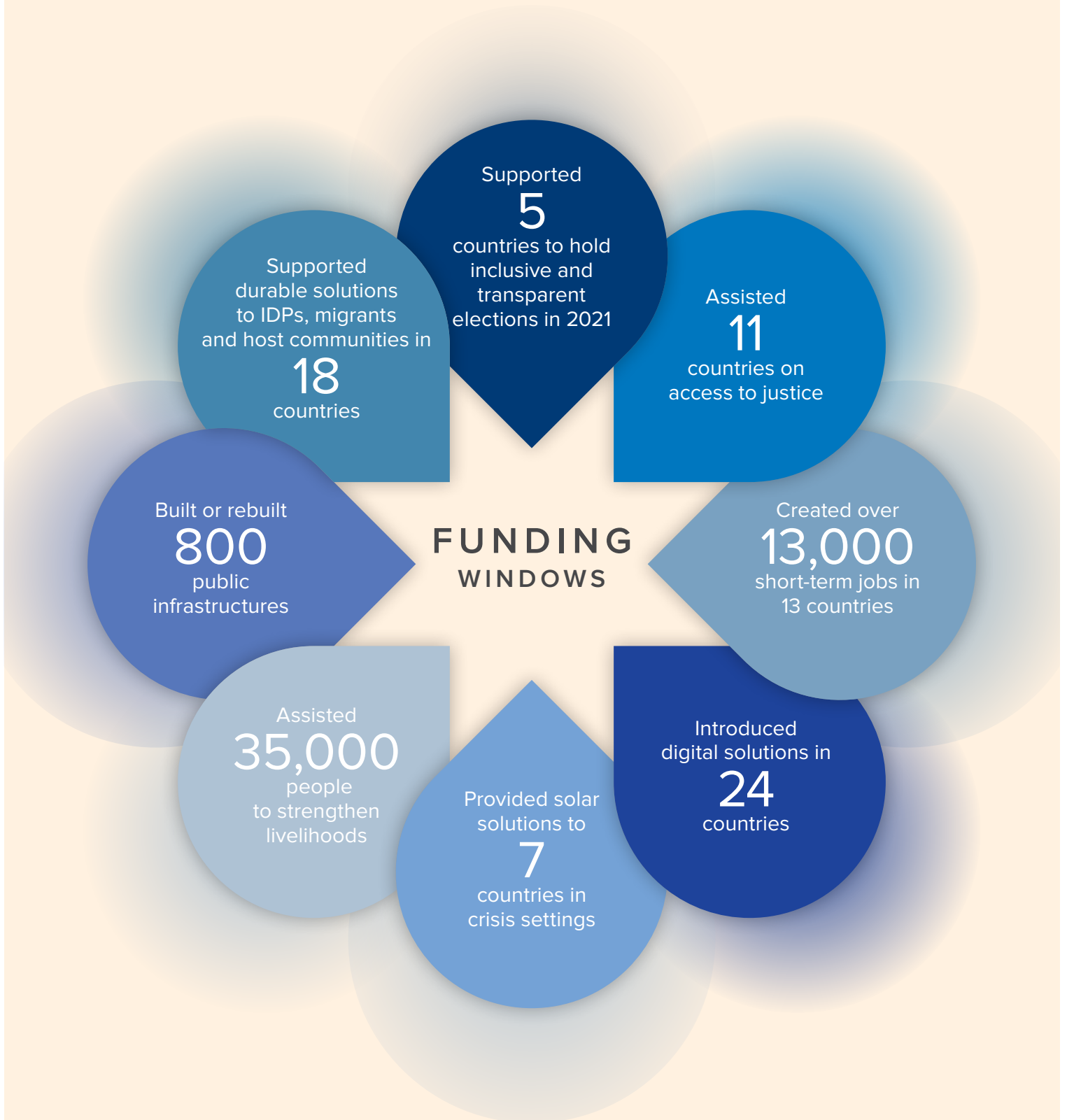
Globally, UNDP supported 34 countries in ensuring that people gained rights and protections through access to justice. Out of these, the Funding Windows supported 11 countries on access to justice, case management systems and mediation services.

To strengthen resilience to shocks and crisis, 3 million people, half of whom were women, obtained jobs and better livelihoods in 29 countries facing or recovering from crisis. The Funding Windows interventions played a catalytic role and directly led to the creation of over 13,000 short-term jobs in 13 countries, which were facing or recovering from crisis. Efforts were made to consistently include youth and women in these opportunities.

With the pandemic accelerating the shift towards digital services, UNDP supported a host of new applications to improve service access and quality. Between September 2020 and September 2021, 580 digital solutions were introduced in 82 countries, ranging from data collection to e-governance platforms. The Funding Windows contributed to these achievements by introducing digital solutions in 24 countries. These included setting up online courts in **Chad**, a case management system in **Jordan**, digital vaccine and health management systems in **Bhutan** and **Jamaica**, a web-based monitoring and evaluation system in **Lebanon**, data management for disaster risk management in the **Lao People's Democratic Republic** and the **Philippines**, training to increase employability in **Haiti** and **Iraq**, and e-voting in **Paraguay**.

FIGURE 3

Funding Windows key 2021 results



UNDP helped 82 countries adopt vaccine registration and beneficiary tracking systems and supported the recruitment of 32,000 new health care workers. With support from the Funding Windows, **Bhutan** managed vaccine supply and eligibility, supporting 2,100 trained health workers to vaccinate 93 percent of eligible adults by the end of 2021.

UNDP reached 2.4 million rural households in 33 countries to ensure access to clean, affordable and sustainable energy. Through the Funding Windows, solar solutions were provided to seven crisis-affected countries including the deployment of solar lanterns, lights, water and heating systems, benefiting over 50,000 people. Renewable energy solutions were provided to refugees and internally displaced people, host communities and people returning home. Efforts were made to provide solar solutions to women entrepreneurs.

A significant share of UNDP's 2021 results entailed greater productive capacities and more decent jobs and sustainable livelihoods, including for people to recover from crisis. Labour-market measures protected nearly 1 million jobs and assisted some 56,000 small and medium businesses during the pandemic. Over 35,000 people received Funding Windows support in establishing small and medium businesses, as well as gaining employment, with a focus on women, youth and internally displaced people. At scale, such businesses have the strong potential to stimulate more productive, inclusive and resilient economies, since small enterprises make up 90 percent of all businesses globally and provide over 50 percent of all employment.

Over 750,000 women in 15 countries benefited from UNDP recovery programmes to rebuild assets and regain livelihoods, strengthening capacities to manage future crises in the process. The Funding Windows demonstrated that durable housing, electricity, essential services and cash-for-work programmes provide means for crisis-affected people to recover, stabilize their lives and regain future hope. Cash for work

and infrastructure rehabilitation are essential to restore community relationships and cohesion, for example by providing lighting for safety and enabling basic social services to restart. Overall, 800 infrastructures were built or rebuilt, including homes, water storage solutions, roads, bridges, health centres, courts and police stations.

In 2021, 3 million displaced people benefited from UNDP's durable solutions aimed at lasting security, freedom of movement and well-being. The Funding Windows delivered durable solutions to internally displaced people, refugees and host communities in 18 countries in Africa, the Arab States, Europe and Latin America.

Investing in the most marginalized to leave no one behind

When looking at the results achieved with the pooled resources in the Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience, and Poverty and Inequality Windows, the main targeted beneficiary groups were women, youth, people with disabilities, and people affected by armed conflict and violence. Internally displaced people and people living in vulnerable areas were key recipients in the Crisis Response sub-window, while the Poverty and Inequality Window focused on the unemployed and people living below the national poverty line. Meanwhile, the pooled resources supported interventions around sexual and gender orientation in the Democratic Governance sub-window. The beneficiaries are discussed in more details in the results section.

In the allocation of pooled resources to countries, the Funding Windows promotes gender equality by requiring all funding proposals to meet UNDP's

GEN2 and GEN3 gender marker standards.² In 2021, GEN3 expenditures made up 15 percent of pooled spending, again meeting the corporate target. The remaining pooled resources were mostly spent on GEN2 projects (74 percent), bringing the total GEN3 and GEN2 expenditures to a record 89 percent. The remaining balance linked to GEN1 projects came almost entirely from allocations to countries responding to crisis situations in the Crisis Response sub-window.



In 2021, UNDP established the ambitious target of allocating 25 percent of the Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience pooled funds to GEN3 projects to enhance gender equality and women's empowerment in its portfolio of interventions. As a result of the close engagement of gender experts in the development of these proposals, the target was reached and 28 percent or \$8 million out of \$29 million was directed to GEN3 projects.

Demonstrated value of pooled funds

The Funding Windows' pooled resources enable country offices to deliver critical development interventions that lead to transformational change. Of the projects that received pooled funding, 82 percent increased capacities; 45 percent supported more responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making; and 44 percent partnered with other UN agencies. Of note, 49 percent reported having mobilized additional resources. Further, in line with corporate priorities, 38 percent rolled out innovative ways of working and 31 percent enhanced digitization.

In the Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience Window, the Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace sub-window reported more emphasis on innovation, engagement in political processes and collaboration with other agencies. The Democratic Governance sub-window had the highest number of projects dedicated to inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making, while the projects in the Disaster Risk Reduction sub-window focused on enhanced digitization and improving or initiating policy frameworks.

The pooled funds served as seed investment to mobilize additional resources. For example, 50 percent of projects in the Poverty and Inequality Window, and the Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience Window brought in additional resources. Across these two windows that delivered

² UNDP measures gender mainstreaming through the Gender Marker, which tracks and monitors the gender-responsiveness of each financial allocation. Project outputs are rated against a four-point scale: GEN3 indicates that realizing gender equality and/or the empowerment of women are explicit objectives and the main reason a given output was planned; GEN2 projects promote gender equality in a significant and consistent way, building on a gender analysis with set indicators to measure and track change; GEN1 projects make a limited impact on gender equality; and GEN0 projects have no activities or components contributing to gender equality.

pooled funds in 2021, every dollar brought in on average \$2.67 dollars of additional resources.

One success story is the **Philippines'** Recovery and Resilience project, which enabled the country office to invest in foundational activities on integrated digital tools, data governance for disaster risk reduction and the index on formulation of resilience. The office was then able to leverage the results for the Strengthening Institutions and Empowering Localities Against Disasters and Climate Change (SHIELD) project, funded by Australia with a budget of \$13 million over six years.

Funding Windows resources also bring in government co-financing, demonstrating commitment and ownership in UNDP's interventions and commitment. In **Colombia**, the project Comisarias de Familia mobilized \$1.8 million by using Funding Windows resources as matching funds for a larger project with funding from the Ministry of Justice and the Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Sustaining Peace in Colombia.

The Funding Windows' significant value is in highlighting issues and the strong evidence base for change, especially in response to emerging complex situations, in locations where others have not yet reached and in areas often underprioritized by traditional donors. Of these projects, 55 percent resulted in additional resources. In **Sudan**, UNDP was able to target communities where radicalization was rising, address root causes and respond to the emergency refugee crisis, bridging the humanitarian–development nexus approach where many needs remain unmet. In **Burkina Faso**, where there are more than 1.5 million internally displaced people, the government and most partners are focusing on financing humanitarian interventions, leaving recovery and development interventions underfinanced. With Funding Windows resources, UNDP focused on strengthening the livelihoods of beneficiaries. While many do not see conditions in **Syria** as being 'ripe' for peacebuilding or nexus work, Funding Windows resources created space to work on



Training youth as peace ambassadors in stabilization, peace and security efforts. UNDP Cameroon.

a holistic understanding of context sensitivity, not just about doing no harm but also about actively identifying opportunities for local-level peacebuilding and conflict prevention. This has allowed the UN system and partners to reflect together on the opportunities for peace from the UN's early recovery work. In **Cameroon**, Funding Windows resources served as seed funding for recovery efforts in the South and Northwest regions within the framework of the Presidential Plan for Reconstruction and Development.

Collaborating with other UN agencies

Partnering with the United Nations system is critical to deliver the most effective development support to recipient countries, not least by ensuring coordination and providing key expertise. Collaboration with UN agencies is a priority for the Funding Windows: almost 50 percent of projects partnered with UN agencies.

In Zimbabwe, UNDP collaborated with the **International Labour Organization** to support the development and strengthening of the draft Sexual Harassment Policy for the Public Service

Beneficiaries in focus

People with disabilities in Sri Lanka

Disability inclusion was exemplified in the historic sign language interpretation for the 2022 Budget Reading by Parliament.



This provided an opportunity for over 4 percent of the total population who are hearing impaired to follow live proceedings for the first time. This was a result of recommendations provided by citizens and the Women Parliamentarian's Caucus.

LGBTQ people in Colombia

To improve the way gender-based violence (GBV) victims are attended to, and their cases logged and monitored, massive communication campaigns were delivered in 12 municipalities, reaching 12,500 people. The messages addressed stereotypes, how GBV affects women and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and queer (LGBTQ) people differently. Knowledge of the communities and their social leaders was expanded using participatory assessments in eight municipalities, which informed protocols and institutional road maps for accessing justice in GBV cases.



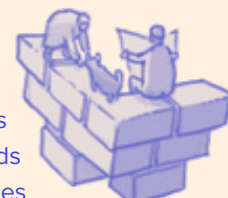
The elderly in Georgia

Working with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), UNDP targeted a group of conflict-affected elderly IDPs living in Administrative Border Line villages, including some who had been living without basic care or had experienced domestic violence, providing them with long-term homes and facilities, compassionate care and enabling them to live in dignity.



Internally Displaced Persons in Iraq

Following liberation from ISIL, 87 houses were rehabilitated to provide vulnerable host and returning families with shelter and security, encouraging displaced families to return to their communities and lead normal lives again. In all, 33 of the households in Habbaniya and 19 in Tuz Khurmato have people with disabilities, while 38 families in Habbaniya and 23 families in Tuz Khurmato are headed by women. The rehabilitation efforts also provided short-term livelihood opportunities for skilled and unskilled workers, and to ensure gender inclusivity, at least 20 percent of all workers per housing project were women.



Youth in Jamaica

Ten youth-led organizations have successfully implemented microprojects to address crime and insecurity in crime hotspots, with technical support from the Government of Jamaica, UNESCO and the Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica. The interventions illustrated youth leadership in action and benefited 25 at-risk youth who gained employment as a result of the project's training and certification interventions. Access to mental health services were provided through a telemedicine website, while vulnerable youth were empowered to act as peace ambassadors using art therapy and mentorship. Of the 10 youth groups, 7 boasted female leadership, while all others had women and girls actively participating as volunteers, or members of the executive.



Youth and IDPs in Burkina Faso

UNDP provided entrepreneurship skills to 300 young people, of which 53 percent were girls, holding professional qualification certifications. Some have since been recruited by local micro-enterprises as employees or apprentices, further reducing unemployment in their areas. With the skills and resources to create positive change, these young people have become less idle and less likely to enlist in extremist groups.

Groups vulnerable to disasters in Lao PDR

The National Disaster Recovery Guidelines were enhanced and approved in Lao PDR, which will integrate disability as a cross-cutting theme. A simulation exercise for the Annual Emergency Response training with government officials resulted in key decision makers being more aware of the importance of systematic disaster response coordination and ensuring that vulnerable groups, such as women and people with disabilities, receive an equal share of relief and recovery assistance including access to shelter and relief supplies.



Host communities and the refugee response in Sudan

As an early catalyst for UNDP's emergency response to the Tigray refugee crisis in East Sudan, UNDP invested in strengthening host communities' public services to absorb refugees. Four health facilities and two schools were rehabilitated with permanent materials, while some 155 solar street lights and floodlights were installed in refugee camps and host communities, improving physical safety and security for over 20,000 people, especially women, youth and children in the refugee camps. To further enhance the security of refugees and host communities, one police post was rehabilitated and seven motorbikes were provided to the Sudan Police Forte, enabling them to effectively perform their protection duties.



3.

Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience



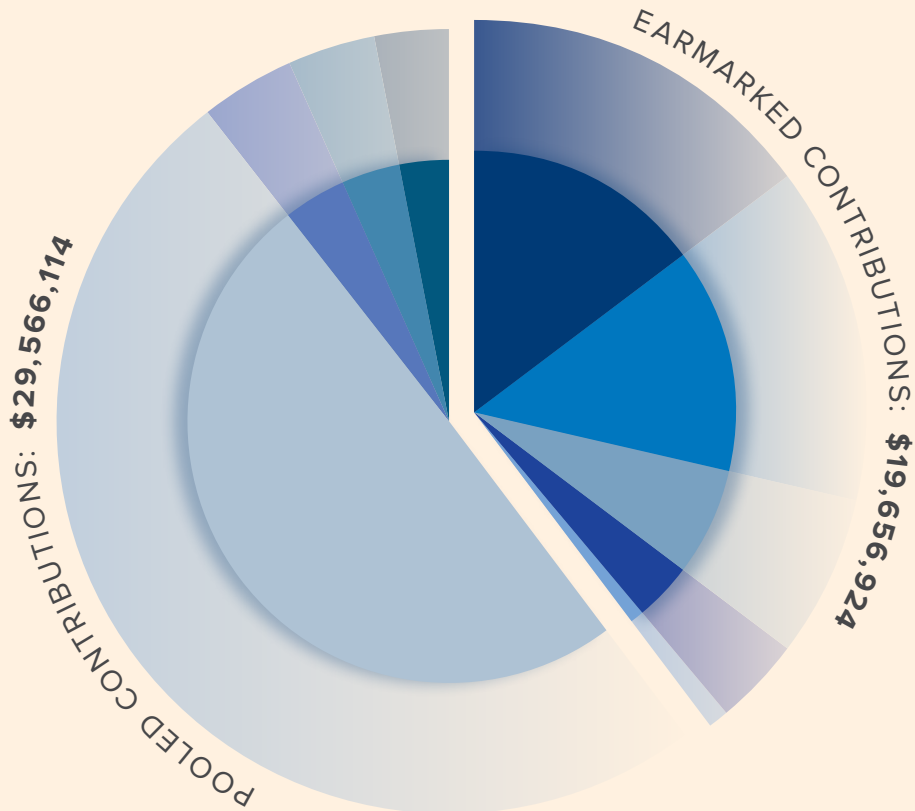
Facts and trends

- \$49,223,038 Total revenue
- \$64,898,001 Total expenditures
- \$30,049,064 Expenditures from pooled funds (46% of total)
- 97 Country offices delivered Funding Windows resources, including 51 delivering them from the pooled funds

2021 contributions

TOTAL: \$49,223,038

- Netherlands: \$7,380,326; 15%
- Germany: \$6,756,757; 14%
- Switzerland: \$3,252,625; 7%
- Sweden: \$1,771,165; 4%
- Republic of Korea: \$495,000; 1%



- Denmark: \$24,473,813; 50%
- Switzerland: \$1,861,297; 4%
- Luxembourg: \$1,771,004; 4%
- Republic of Korea: \$1,460,000; 3%

Strategic plan emphasis

Similar to 2020, over 50 percent of all Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience (GPCR) expenditures respond to Outcome 3 of the Strategic Plan on building resilience to crisis and shocks, equivalent to \$33.5 million. At the level of Strategic Plan outputs, country offices linked \$22 million (double that of 2020) to national capacities for reintegration, reconciliation, peaceful management of conflict and prevention of violent extremism (Output 3.2.1). Over half of this amount (\$13.5 million) is associated with the Joint Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention. The second most important output with \$15 million is for the work on the rule of law, human rights and access to justice (Output 2.2.3, thrice 2020's expenditures), where \$12.5 million relates to the Global Programme on Strengthening the Rule of Law and Human Rights, and \$2.5 million went to Burkina Faso's Programme for Social Cohesion, Security and Rule of Law.³

Gender mainstreaming

Of pooled expenditures, GEN3 projects accounted for 15 percent (\$4.5 million), while GEN2 and GEN3 projects together were 88 percent. The remaining balance of 12 percent to GEN1 projects came almost entirely from allocations to countries responding to crisis situations in the Crisis Response sub-window. With earmarked contributions, GEN3 projects represent 8 percent of the GPCR Window's expenditures (\$5 million) and both GEN2 and GEN3 covered 87 percent.

Beneficiaries

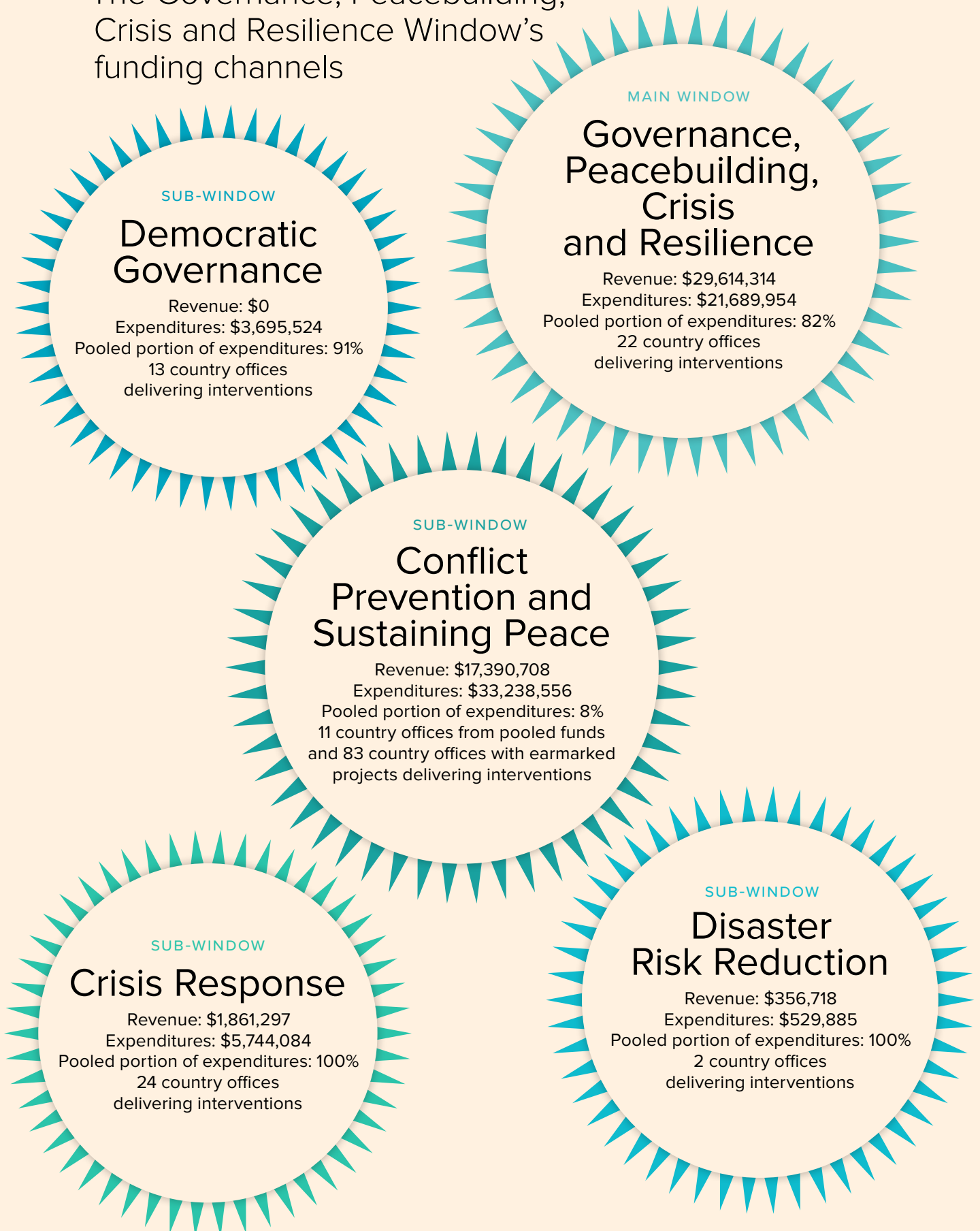
Women (95 percent of projects), youth (85 percent) and people living in vulnerable areas (67 percent) remained the top beneficiary groups in the GPCR Window. In addition, persons affected by conflict and violence and internally displaced people (44 percent), people living in poverty (41 percent) and people with disabilities (40 percent) were the key beneficiary groups.

The detailed achievements under this Window are in Annex 1, pp. 3–28.

³ Annex 2 presents the list of projects that received earmarked funds through the Funding Windows in 2021.

FIGURE 4

The Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience Window's funding channels



Democratic Governance

Accountable, inclusive and effective governance underpins sustainable development. Nevertheless, governance systems across the globe are under increasing pressure in multiple ways, from a wide range of issues including economic contractions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the structure of the global economy, a growing debt crisis, the climate emergency and pressure on the environment, the rapid pace of technological change, increasingly visible inequalities of all types, a fragmented, contested and less effective multilateralism, and people's growing dissatisfaction with the status quo including the performance and outcomes of governance systems. Meanwhile, more than 1.1 billion people live without proof of identity and struggle to access basic services, such as health. And digitization presents challenges for human rights, democratic processes and a cohesive public sphere.

Through the Funding Windows, UNDP helped press initiatives forward related to these issues, supporting those most likely to be left behind—such as youth, women, persons with disabilities and internally displaced people—to make their voices heard by decision makers. Amidst global fiscal tightening in the aftermath of the pandemic, UNDP also worked to ensure that increasingly limited public funds are invested effectively to benefit everyone, especially those most marginalized, applying the latest technology to ensure the efficiency of public services, while boosting transparency to combat corruption.

To ensure credible, inclusive and peaceful elections, UNDP worked to improve the capacities of electoral management bodies and infrastructure in 2021, enabling greater access, safety and transparency for voters. **Ecuador's** 2021 presidential election

results were accepted the same night by the two presidential candidates without opposition, after UNDP helped improve broad, real-time access to electoral results and public outreach. UNDP also helped to increase transparency and voter engagement, by promoting the first mandatory presidential election debates and campaigns against disinformation. In **Paraguay**, UNDP provided new electronic voting machines and established an open list system of candidates, leading to elections that were praised by international observers. UNDP reinforced capacities of electoral management bodies and civic educators in **El Salvador**, while providing biosecurity measures, training and far-reaching social media campaigns. Consequently, voter turnout in **El Salvador's** 2021 legislative elections reached 50 percent, up from 46 percent in 2018. Young, registered voters climbed to 14 percent of eligible voters, up from 5 percent in 2019, after UNDP led youth-targeted electoral and civic education social media campaigns reaching half a million people.

Working with the Central Election Commission, UNDP supported **Uzbekistan's** ongoing reforms in the elections sphere, in particular regarding laws on political party financing, banning state funds in campaigns and improving electoral dispute resolution. In **Burkina Faso**, UNDP encouraged electoral fairness and engagement, and built the capacities of 5,360 people, including commissioners, electoral commission staff and electoral kit operators.

UNDP helped to empower women to take part in the democratic process. Through advocacy, awareness-raising and leadership training for women and girls, **Niger's** law on a women's quota was signed and three action plans, one for

each region, was supported. At the national level, Women's Political Committees have been formed and strengthened. At the subnational level, the representation of women and youth in decision-making bodies has improved significantly, rising from 16 percent to 25 percent. In **Sierra Leone**, UNDP worked with the women's parliamentary caucus to mentor 80 promising young women to improve their leadership and advocacy skills, and their confidence to participate in key forums.

The safety of women candidates in elections was also in focus in 2021. In **Ecuador**, UNDP supported the Electoral Disputes Tribunal to organize local-level training events to disseminate the regulations that were passed to protect women candidates against gender-based violence, enabling the Tribunal to receive and process its first complaints. A partnership with UN Women helped combat gender-based political violence via training, including coaching female National Assembly candidates and offering an online course which reached 25 out of 58 elected assemblywomen. In **El Salvador**, UNDP supported the Supreme Electoral Court to develop a social media campaign to combat political violence against women, reaching over 424,000 viewers.

In **Sierra Leone**, a national framework to raise youth representation on decision-making bodies was developed after consultations with 650 young people, policymakers, community leaders and stakeholders. In **Mali**, six regional action plans were developed with the participation of and input from 1,125 young people, to enable them to engage on key results jointly with their peers and members of youth councils. In **Burkina Faso**, following a training of over 1,000 young people, youth leaders are contributing to democracy by raising awareness about elections in their areas and encourage young voters to register. As a result of UNDP's support, **Moroccan** youth are now actively engaged in realizing the SDGs through an inclusive youth project, YA3NI, and 20 youth organizations are working together to empower youth in civic and political participation. In the recent

Paraguay elections, youth participation exceeded 60 percent, after UNDP, the Supreme Tribunal for Electoral Justice, the European Union and International IDEA involved them in the electoral cycle, through a mass campaign, workshops, conferences and debates on democracy and transparency.



Supporting young women in technology-focused vocations. UNDP Georgia.

UNDP made progress towards ensuring that the most vulnerable people, including people with disabilities and internally displaced persons, were included in democratic processes in 2021. In **Georgia**, UNDP partnered with a local organization to empower women in IDP collective centres, focusing on leadership skills for 100 conflict-affected women who have now become agents of change and represent their community needs at the state level. In **Burkina Faso**, after UNDP worked with UNHCR and the Regional Directorate of Human Rights and Civic Promotion to further engage women and youth in peaceful democratic governance processes, recommendations were submitted to local authorities, including on the inclusion of people with disabilities and internally displaced people in local affairs. To better advocate for **Syria's** most disadvantaged people, UNDP helped to strengthen institutional capacities and the coordination of Syrian civil society, through a common online platform allowing CSOs to register themselves, governance structures and gender-sensitive policies. The Syrian CSO Strategic Forum, with 181 CSOs as members, holds consultations among members on governance,

gender, capacity-building, people with disabilities and early recovery.

The Funding Windows provided seed investments to digitize public services and widen access to health and other services, spurred on by the pandemic. UNDP **Bhutan** supported the monitoring and reporting on the SDGs through the digitization of the country's vaccination and other health services, and civil registration systems. The digitized system enabled health professionals to register, monitor progress and make real-time decisions for timely interventions. It led not only to 93 percent of Bhutan's population getting vaccinated against COVID-19 over seven months, but also helped over 20 percent of the total of pregnant (mostly rural) women in Bhutan access specialized care without having to travel to tertiary health facilities. In **Uzbekistan**, UNDP's MyConstituency application connects citizens and their senators to improve digital oversight of progress towards achieving the SDGs. The app also provides data on national SDG indicators and government spending, boosting public monitoring of efforts to end poverty and protect the planet. In **Sri Lanka**, to strengthen policymaking and the oversight structure, and enable the government to perform core functions for improved accountability and inclusivity, UNDP digitized the information disclosure system. This helped ensure it retained its ranking at 4th place in the Global Right to Information Rating in 2021 by enabling key ministries, such as the State Ministry of Women and Child Development, the Department of Labour and Inland Revenue Department, to proactively share information. UNDP-led trainings resulted in 95 percent of the 2,000 government officials, of which 66 percent are women, reporting greater knowledge and skills for information disclosure. Government accountability in **Zimbabwe** was strengthened with UNDP providing empirical evidence and increased digital presence to support decision-making and accountability, including on citizen satisfaction within the public sector.

UNDP advanced transparency and supported anti-corruption policymaking in difficult contexts in 2021. In **Somalia's** Ministry of Justice, a National Integrity Coordination Unit was set up and operationalized to drive the government's anti-corruption agenda. This resulted in the government's ratification of the UN Convention against Corruption. In **Djibouti**, UNDP supported a joint anti-corruption strategy agreed on by all four anti-corruption bodies and the General Inspectorate of Finance produced a detailed, costed work plan for 2021 to 2023, enabling strengthened accountability over public finances. Further, three new digital national media platforms were created with the Ministry of Communication, expanding information access to improve transparency. Responding to rising public demands for reform in **Iraq**, UNDP supported Iraq's government in drafting and launching the National Integrity and Anti-Corruption Strategy, and evaluated the access to information law in Iraq's Kurdistan region, strengthening the integrity of public procurement. **Armenia's** ranking on the Corruption Perceptions Index Report improved significantly, jumping to 58th place in 2021 from 77th in 2019, after the anti-corruption ecosystem was strengthened by training civil servants and integrity officers, producing awareness-raising materials and platforms, and institutionalizing the Corruption Prevention Commission.

UNDP worked to lay the political and social foundations for peaceful democratic governance in 2021 in several conflict-affected countries. In **Chad**, UNDP assisted in providing citizens the chance of shaping and influencing the outcome of a truly nationally driven dialogue by drawing from the voices and opinions of more than 7,500 citizens of Chad—youth, women, media, political parties, trade unions and CSOs—putting in motion the agreed transition process. In **Djibouti**, UNDP supported the first public reporting of local and regional elected officials' achievements and challenges over their five-year mandate, where 1,000 citizens participated and expressed their opinions, ideas and frustrations to their officials.

Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace

According to UNDP's 2022 Special Report on Human Security, nearly 1.2 billion people live in conflict-affected areas. Nearly half the global poor live in conflict-affected countries. There were 82 million forcibly displaced people by the end of 2020, 86 percent of them hosted by developing countries. Conflicts have become more complex and protracted, increasingly driven by non-traditional security threats like economic stagnation, irregular migration and displacement, environmental degradation, competition for natural resources, rapid growth in cities and climate change. In 2021, the rule of law deteriorated across every region in 74 percent of 139 countries surveyed by the World Justice Project, affecting 84 percent of the global population, or 6.5 billion people. This includes negative trends for civil and criminal justice, along with rising discrimination, while the pandemic also saw governments tighten the freedoms and protections of citizens.

Peaceful, just and inclusive societies envisioned in SDG 16 are essential for achieving the 2030 Agenda. UNDP promotes an integrated approach grounded in sustainable development pathways to conflict-affected countries, linking conflict prevention, climate security, social cohesion, peacebuilding and prevention of violent extremism with a vision to analyse, predict, prevent, de-escalate, recover from and build resilience to violent conflict, by promoting resilient communities, infrastructures, institutions and governance structures. UNDP's prevention and peacebuilding offer aims to (i) stabilize and protect hard-won development gains; (ii) mitigate risks of relapse or recurrence; and (iii) build institutional and community resilience to sustain peaceful development pathways.

In 2021, Funding Windows resources supported countries in preventing violent conflict and protecting peace, by protecting human rights, promoting the rule of law, ensuring access to justice, sustaining people-centred security, preventing violent extremism, stabilizing communities and enhancing social cohesion.

A particular focus was the Sahel and the Horn of Africa, which are among the most fragile regions in the world. Both include some of the LDCs that also rank lowest in the Human Development Index, and have poor basic infrastructure combined with a limited government presence across much of their large territories. Together, this is creating a breeding ground for conflict, political instability and violent extremism, not to mention the successive political and humanitarian crises that have been eroding communities' ability to withstand increasingly frequent shocks and protracted poverty. COVID-19 has also been a stark reminder of the urgent need to jointly address the multiple risks that arise in these fragile contexts.

UNDP helped to improve the rule of law and dispute resolution in **Chad**, including enhancing the effectiveness of criminal justice institutions, improving authorities' conflict management practices and expanding legal aid. As a result of UNDP support, pre-trial detention rates dropped from 36.6 percent in 2020 to 27 percent in 2021. UNDP also enhanced the reach and efficiency of security and justice authorities in Central **Mali**, with the construction of a police station and a district court in Djenné. The deployment of security and justice actors was accompanied by capacity-building and the establishment of

12 additional regional and communal security advisory committees for a total of 26 functional committees that contribute to rebuilding the confidence of the population with security actors. In **Mauritania**, new specialized courts dealing with slavery and corruption were launched, with 160 magistrates and clerks trained to handle criminal proceedings, while 1 million citizens were informed about their human rights and duties.

In 2021, the Funding Windows continued to invest in building foundations for peace and stability in conflict-affected communities. UNDP **Somalia** was instrumental in unlocking the two-year political gridlock on the electoral framework and timeline, by supporting the highest-level political dialogues that culminated in an Agreement on Election, critical to a smooth future transfer of power. In **Niger**, UNDP facilitated the return of 12,519 internally displaced people, representing almost one third of all returnees to the Diffa region, to villages close to Lake Chad, popular among some Boko Haram factions. Restoration of essential infrastructure was crucial to enabling these returns. More than 23,000 people across six communities gained equitable access to water, reducing the risk of community tensions over water, while 43,213 people gained access to renewable energy from 371 new solar street lights. To support livelihoods, 1,907 people benefited from temporary and cash-for-work jobs, while 3,185 people were supported in resuming longer-term economic activities.



Niger youth gaining skills on installing and maintaining newly installed solar panels. UNDP Niger.

In **Burkina Faso**, UNDP helped the National Observatory for Prevention and Management of Community Conflicts to establish preventive and response mechanisms to resolve land, cultural, religious and chiefdom conflicts; 45 branches of the Observatory were established in the Hauts-Bassins, Sud-Ouest and Cascades regions and staff were trained at regional, provincial, departmental and village levels, enabling the future conditions for peace and stability. In **Ethiopia**, UNDP's project in and near Guji-Gedeo supported women's participation in peacebuilding, where they are normally excluded. As a result, multi-ethnic communities and families have been reconciled; properties have been returned to their rightful owners; various community-based organizations have resumed normal operations; and peaceful social interaction has returned.

To prevent conflict and violent extremism, the Funding Windows invested in conflict-sensitivity analysis and engaged with youth groups. UNDP **Syria's** support for context-specific, conflict-sensitive analysis, interventions and dialogues are changing how recovery actors engage with communities and authorities, resulting in greater communication and cooperation across divides. Continuing dialogue has identified key drivers of tensions, including unequal access to jobs and services, with recommendations made to address them. There is also evidence of greater support from authorities for community participation in local planning.

In **Iraq**, lack of opportunities creates grievances that can easily be exploited by extremist groups, especially in areas recently liberated from ISIL control, such as the Ayyadiya region, province and city, targeted by the Funding Windows. The Funding Windows targeted support to the Ayyadiya region, province and city, as it was recently liberated from ISIL control. The primary focus of preventing the emergence of grievances was achieved by a package of support including building entrepreneurship skills, rehabilitating houses and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Services (MHPSS). Social workers in

Ayyadiya were trained to provide services to 209 community members suffering from trauma. UNDP supported youth livelihoods in **Sudan** to 3,113 beneficiaries. Of 542 youth that received vocational skills, 125 were employed within six months and 430 seasonal jobs were created for at-risk youth, helping to prevent them from engaging in violent extremist activities by strengthening their socio-economic resilience. As well, over 1,000 refugees and host community members benefited from labour-intensive and seasonal employment opportunities which contributed to their self-reliance as well as to mutual cooperation and healthy co-existence between refugees and host community members. In **Somalia**, UNDP tackled violence by cooperating with religious leaders to debunk extremist narratives, establishing 13 networks of influential religious leaders in Banadir and Federal Member States and promoting peace via training on Islamic conflict resolution and misinformation. UNDP successfully negotiated the inclusion of women in seven of these faith networks, to better engage women in their communities and represent their security needs, reducing female exclusion and marginalization, key drivers of violent extremism.

In **Jamaica**, 10 youth citizen security microprojects were successfully carried out in crime hotspots, tackling direct and indirect causes of instability and strengthening the ability of youth organizations to deploy community interventions to combat crime. One microproject, for example, improved access for people with disabilities to the justice system by targeting two police stations' ability to serve the surrounding deaf community, training for the first time 35 law enforcement officers in sign language and making information and communication technology (ICT) equipment available to support virtual translations.

In **Haiti**, UNDP worked with the Ministry of Commerce to organize the Youth Entrepreneurship Forum, where 80 youth start-ups were featured, aiming to increase access to decent and productive self-employment, and especially in precarious

neighbourhoods. Women were the heads of 7 of the 10 businesses that won \$3,000 each to incubate their ideas. In **Trinidad and Tobago**, UNDP helped rehabilitate child offenders, by supporting the Child Probation Department and Prison Services through training 31 officers to conduct risk assessments, thereby enabling targeted interventions to prevent minors from becoming repeat offenders, by assessing and addressing their risks on a case-by-case basis. A Peace Innovation Challenge was also launched and strengthened the capacity of over 70 youth and women's organizations to jointly conduct peacebuilding interventions at the community level.

To broaden access to justice, especially during COVID-19 restrictions for remote communities, UNDP helped accelerate the digitization process. In **Bhutan**, where more than half the population live in isolated areas, UNDP strengthened the capacity of the parliamentary and justice sector and used various approaches to increase inclusion, transparency and accountability. With a new e-litigation system, 308 individuals were able to access justice, through 830 online hearings in 12 different courts, corresponding to 14 percent of the country's total court hearings. Seeing its remarkable success, Bhutan's judiciary co-invested to further expand the initiative. In **Mauritania**, UNDP strengthened the judiciary by digitizing the criminal justice chain and empowering human rights defenders with key organizational and technical capacities. In the **Maldives**, more than 28,325 court hearings were held online in 2021 with UNDP's digitization assistance, increasing judicial access for roughly 60 percent of the population living outside the capital on atoll islands.

UNDP played a pivotal part in protecting the rights of vulnerable women before the law, by preventing gender-based violence as well as supporting their equal participation in the economy, decision-making and security. As gender inequality is a predictor of social instability and violent conflict in a country, empowering women also strengthens the conditions for social cohesion and peace.

UNDP's Stabilization work in the Liptako-Gourma Region

For a decade now, the security crisis in the Sahel, particularly the Liptako-Gourma triangle border area of **Burkina Faso**, **Mali** and **Niger**, is eroding states' authority, along with the security of people, properties and livelihoods, driving up poverty and vulnerability across this region. Equally, the climate crisis and resulting food crisis threaten communities' livelihoods, creating ecological disasters and crop failures. While this multidimensional crisis affects many G5 Sahel countries, it is acutely felt in border regions, where greater movements of people, illegal migration, armed groups and foreign terrorist fighters, are observed. In view of the multiple challenges facing the Liptako-Gourma region, cross-border cooperation has been recognized as an important component which should be reinforced through the regional Liptako-Gourma Authority (LGA) for the implementation of the Stabilization Facility.

Following the G5 Sahel Head of States conference in February 2021, which acknowledged the UNDP Stabilization Mechanisms in the Lake Chad Basin, UNDP consulted with national and local authorities on the work to be delivered

over 2021 to 2023 and developed plans to support regional cooperation, on-the-ground synergies and communication. After engaging with relevant partners, the Funding Windows invested \$9 million towards long-term efforts to stabilize the Liptako-Gourma region, for lasting security and sustainable development.

To build the capacities of the regional LGA, as well as key national ministries, UNDP supported a meeting of mayors, local authorities and border management agency heads in the region to discuss cross-border cooperation, including trade, and integrate this within stabilization efforts. A Defence and Security Committee was established to inform the LGA of the region's evolving security situation, as well as to improve regional security coordination. Through an expert embedded in the LGA secretariat, UNDP contributed to an analysis of the institutional framework's inclusion of climate-related security risks. Finally, UNDP strengthened exchanges with a range of national and international humanitarian and development actors to clarify the relationship between humanitarian, stabilization and peace efforts.

Along with enhancing the regional crisis response, critical steps were taken to stabilize communities across each of the three countries, enabling activities beyond humanitarian relief. In **Burkina Faso**, a National Steering Committee was set up and held its first meeting in October 2021. A governor's level committee was put in place in Dori to validate data collected and joint action plans. Five villages in the Falagountou and Seytenga communes were identified for stabilization work, following needs assessments that identified women and girls, and youth as the most vulnerable groups. Between July and December 2021, 650 young people, of which 55 percent were women, participated in cash-for-work activities, and security forces gained stronger human rights capacities through professional training. A further \$1 million was mobilized from the Japanese Embassy to carry out a similar project to prevent violent extremism in Burkina Faso's North, Centre and East.

In **Mali's** Badiangara region, five joint actions plans were developed in consultation with the regional development authority, local authorities, civil society, youth and women. Government efforts were bolstered when high-level political support was provided to sustain peace in newly accessible areas and support the return of internally displaced people, as well as enhancing the security and rights of communities.

In **Niger**, UNDP built security conditions and critical infrastructure needed for displaced people to return to Tillaberi and Tahoua, particularly women, youth and the most vulnerable people. To motivate returns, 750

solar street lights were installed, benefiting over 125,000 people, which also improved clean energy in rural areas in line with national priorities. Maternal care units and water infrastructure were built. Livelihood opportunities were provided to some 2,000 households. Security equipment is being purchased to further assist IDP returns. Given the vital role of women in stabilization, their representation was ensured in local stabilization committees of each village: 4 of the 18 local stabilization committee members are women, or 22.5 percent.

The region is experiencing a worsening security situation, which remains the biggest implementation challenge, as growing attacks triggered massive displacements of people, making certain intervention zones inaccessible to UN staff and other service providers. In response, in **Mali**, UNDP is working closely with relevant ministries to ascertain conditions and establish emergency measures, while significant equipment and logistics support continues to be required in **Niger**. UNDP also signed a Letter of Agreement with the Ministry of Youth, Professional Training and Youth Employment in **Burkina Faso**, to increase youth opportunities and thereby further reduce the risk of future conflict.

“Together with communities, authorities and all partners we must ensure people are safe, have access to justice and basic social services, even in the most remote locations”

Noura Hamladji, UNDP Deputy Regional Director for Africa



Multinational Joint Task Force against Boko Haram undertaking a search near Lake Chad. UNDP Chad.

To enhance women's role in social cohesion, UNDP **Niger** trained women members of security forces, authorities and civil society in the Diffa region to detect and regulate illicit arms circulation. UNDP also strengthened the participation of women in post-conflict stabilization around the Lake Chad Basin, which was impacted by Boko Haram, by ensuring women's representation in six local stabilization committees, making up 4 out of 18 members. In **Mali**, in an effort to end conflicts related to land ownership and improve land management, UNDP facilitated the inclusion of 340 women and 427 young people in the land commissions in charge of preventing and managing land disputes between herders and farmers and intercommunity conflicts, as chances of peaceful dispute resolutions increase when women are engaged.

UNDP supported a gender-responsive judicial process in **Jordan**, where women are likely to be detained for being indebted. After the Arab Renaissance for Democracy and Development reported that 65 percent of Jordanian women are in debt, UNDP collected data about the women and identified preventive strategies to avoid their imprisonment for defaulting, as well as ways to boost their economic resilience, while raising women's legal and financial awareness. UNDP helped to enable sustainable livelihoods for more than 1,700 women and 300 youth in **Mauritania**, through agricultural women's cooperatives and youth associations. From these new economic

activities, women have set up a pool of savings giving each woman an average of \$100 each year to meet their families' needs, including for education and health care, supporting a more educated, healthy and thus more stable society.



UNDP boosted women's representation in Timor-Leste's justice sector. UNDP Timor-Leste.

In **Timor-Leste**, where a third of women report being affected by violence, UNDP improved the capacities of state and grass-roots legal aid providers to serve rural women and girls, enabling 200 gender-based violence survivors and family members to receive shelter, counselling and reintegration, and 119 women to receive legal counselling. Women's participation in the justice sector increased after UNDP facilitated an intensive three-month legal training to 148 law graduates, including 77 women, to prepare them for the national exam, which contributed to 35 percent of women passing the legal and judicial entry exam: well above the current 22 percent of women in the country's judiciary; 46% of those who passed the national exam were UNDP's training participants. UNDP supported a campaign to fight gender-based violence in **Colombia**, building the capacities of 278 civil servants involved in prevention and attention to GBV cases at the national and subnational levels, coming from 35 offices and institutions, including 22 municipalities, from the police to municipal ombudsman's offices, mayor's offices, family services offices, the Ministry of Education and Health and judges. To enhance services to GBV victims, 86 percent of municipalities developed GBV response plans.

Disaster Risk Reduction

The number of people affected by disasters per year has grown from an average of 1,981 per 100,000 during 2005–2014 to 3,145 during 2011–2020. Disaster-related economic losses reported by an average of 62 countries totalled \$293 billion during 2016–2020. The increasing exposure of people, assets and livelihoods to natural hazards is outpacing risk reduction efforts. Infrastructure, economic activities and urbanization are expanding into areas exposed to natural hazards at a faster pace than ever. Climate change, weak governance of risk, human migration, environmental degradation, inequality, violence and conflict are drivers that exacerbate disaster risk. These factors are increasingly interconnected and mutually reinforce each other with cascading effects through entire systems. In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic, with its widespread health and socio-economic impacts reverberating long into the future, will set back development gains and affect our ability to achieve the SDGs.

In 2021, UNDP advised national and local authorities on disaster preparedness requirements; the design and strengthening of institutional structures, policies and legislation; the development of standard operating procedures; and operational aspects, such as emergency centres, designing emergency early warning and risk information management systems. Applying the latest digital innovations, UNDP enhanced early warning and disaster preparedness, including widening available data on locations, risks and needs of those most vulnerable to disasters, so that communities and governments can better prepare and respond.

In earthquake-prone **Albania**, UNDP assisted the government in establishing a national disaster risk

reduction strategy as well as completing a local risk assessment, strategy and civil emergency plan for the Lezha municipality, one of the worst hit by the 2019 earthquake. This emphasizes the need to consider gender differences in roles, responsibilities, access to resources, power and vulnerabilities during disasters, allowing for a more targeted and effective emergency response, as per the Sendai principles. In **Somalia**, the government has operationalized the first national standing operating procedures for managing disasters at federal and state levels, especially mitigating the country's vulnerability to droughts, floods, cyclones and other climate risks. Officials from 17 institutions gained a stronger understanding of their respective roles and responsibilities at various stages of disaster risk management, enabling a more rapid, coordinated government response to save more lives. UNDP also contributed to the multi-hazard early warning centre in Mogadishu, which will provide critical and timely information to 5.2 million vulnerable people to save lives, livelihoods and assets.

In the **Philippines**, the government updated and approved its national disaster risk reduction and management plan, after UNDP produced a wide-ranging situational analysis and gaps assessment. One of its key policy recommendations is being implemented: the creation of a national framework to enhance results-based monitoring and evaluation to link local and national outputs and outcomes results and feedback to policymaking. In the disaster-prone Cagayan province, UNDP applied its signature DevLIVE+ system to enable risk-informed planning. Using geospatial mapping software, 75 risk maps were produced, including of the flood-prone Bangsamoro Autonomous

Region Muslim Mindanao, which was used to guide the Government's land use plans in the region. In **Sudan**, UNDP restored flood monitoring stations at the Gash River to enable the collection of data for flood early warnings and response decision-making, providing critical time-sensitive information and opportunities to save lives and property in the event of flooding.

UNDP strengthened the capacities of countries, institutions and people to prevent, mitigate and respond to diverse risks, whether they stem from conflict, natural hazards or pandemics. In the **Lao People's Democratic Republic**, UNDP helped the national disaster management unit to restart its emergency response trainings, after their discontinuation in 2017. In 2021, 37 officials from national and provincial disaster management committees were trained to better understand emergency procedures, with a focus on the relief and recovery needs of vulnerable groups, such as women and people with disabilities. The training covered all officials from 3 out of 17 provinces and 50 percent of the officials of the central ministries. UNDP also upgraded and redeployed the national disaster information platform (LaoDi) and modernized disaster response tools, enabling faster and more equitable support for the people of Laos during and after disasters.



Providing training to volunteers in first aid, rescue and rubble clearance. UNDP Haiti.

In **Guatemala**, 5 local governments and 14 national institutions can use the National Recovery Framework to evaluate the impact of tropical storms Eta and Lota. This new knowledge enabled them to better assess damages and needs in evaluating human impact, formulating and implementing recovery plans, and allocating resources. To help the **Bahamas** recover from Hurricane Dorian and support resilient reconstruction across the affected islands, UNDP enhanced the government's capacity to conduct sector-specific needs assessments, as well as produce and implement risk-informed recovery planning, ensuring participatory, gender-sensitive and accountable processes.

Crisis Response and Recovery

Violent conflicts have become more complex and protracted, sparked by a breakdown in the social contract between governments and citizens. Complex challenges in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Myanmar and Sudan have triggered serious political and economic instability which hindered

the fight against COVID-19. Risks associated with natural hazards are often overlaid by epidemics, conflict or economic shocks which can interact and manifest as crises with cascading effects across sectors. At the same time, conflict increases people's core vulnerability, removing existing

coping mechanisms and leaving them less able to handle disasters. UNDP's recovery interventions help people restart their livelihoods, restore their well-being and reset their pathway to resilient development in a manner that is just, green and inclusive.



Movement of civilians across borders around Lake Chad. UNDP Chad.

In 2021, UNDP made good on its promise to “stay and deliver”, including in places where no other development actors were present. The Funding Windows brought development solutions to complement humanitarian and peacebuilding efforts in crisis contexts, applying a humanitarian-peace-development nexus approach to meet the immediate, medium and long-term needs of fragile communities. This included restoring basic public services, supporting livelihoods, safely removing debris and repairing critical infrastructure. UNDP also assisted governments in planning for recovery, as well as preparing for future disasters through strengthened risk management: building resilience before, during and after crises.

UNDP's support has empowered vulnerable people by creating emergency jobs to support their families, providing them with incomes and a sense of dignity. In **Myanmar**, UNDP sought to cushion the socio-economic impact of the February 2021 military coup, prolonged conflict and COVID-19 by providing urgent livelihood support. Applying the “by communities, for communities” approach where communities identify those who are most in need, Rohingya people, an ethnic minority that has been

gravely persecuted over the years, accounted for 17 percent of 5,261 farmer beneficiaries (the Rohingya population is approximately 30 percent in Central Rakhine), while 23 percent were women. This immediate support enabled them to lift their agricultural productivity, providing livelihood and food security to more than 20,000 people. In **Timor-Leste**, to safeguard development gains, UNDP reached 5,441 people with food and cash-for-work opportunities to remove debris and repair infrastructure in 42 flood-hit villages and 21 beaches and hillsides. The income received enabled 97 percent of participants to meet the basic needs of their families including water, food and health care. Similarly, in **Mozambique**, UNDP assisted in areas where no other humanitarian and development actors were present at the time and provided five essential vehicles to conduct field assessments in conflict sites, enable the government to provide critical assistance to communities, and deploy more actors on the ground and more frequently, thereby increasing the speed and scale of the response. UNDP engaged 1,600 community members, 45 percent of whom were from women-headed households, in a cash-for-work programme to repair boreholes and rehabilitate roads, airstrips and schools, benefiting over 8,000 people. Each household received \$94 in cash per month, which revived local spending.

After volcanic eruptions on the Caribbean islands of **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** in April 2021, UNDP supported cash for work that employed people facing financial hardships to remove ash and debris. The \$93 they each received every week allowed them to buy essential items, including food. Moreover, 15,000 cubic yards were cleared, reopening access routes to two churches, one nursery, houses occupied by elderly people, and nine educational institutions, which ensured the return to school for over 1,600 students (half girls and half boys) within two months of the eruption. After being hit by an earthquake, tropical storms and flooding in 2021, UNDP Haiti helped 100 young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods gain in-demand skills and enhanced employability,

The Funding Windows' unique value in crisis situations

The Funding Windows' pooled resources enable UNDP to respond quickly and flexibly to the needs of countries as they emerge, in an increasingly fragile and volatile world, complementing core resources.

Drawing from UNDP's corporate crisis-level determination, the Crisis Response channel allows UNDP to allocate resources to critical recovery, humanitarian-development-peace nexus interventions in countries within weeks of an event, kick-starting developmental actions in often deeply humanitarian situations. While these resources are combined with UNDP core funding as well as the deployment of SURGE capacity, the Funding Windows' programmatic funds ensure donor buy-in and support at the very early stages of any response.

For the highest crises (Level 3), up to \$1 million can be allocated; for Level 2 crises, allocations can be up to \$500,000; for Level 1 crises, allocations are up to \$200,000. Annex 3 lists countries by crisis level with resources allocated from the Funding Windows.

"In a crisis, humanitarian, development and peace interventions should not be thought of as sequential. What is needed is a much more responsive and adaptable approach where the three are applied simultaneously and are mutually reinforcing. We must also place greater emphasis on people-centred approaches, engaging local capacities and moving beyond the principle of 'do no harm'.

UNDP has a vital role to play in efforts to integrate and scale up actions that tackle the structural drivers of conflict and help to build lasting peace, as well as ensuring that these efforts are maintained, before, during and after crises hit. This means having the right people in the right place at the right time."

Zena Ali Ahmad, Resident Representative, UNDP Iraq, **Mohamed Yahya**, Resident Representative, UNDP Nigeria, and **Titon Mitra**, Resident Representative, UNDP Myanmar

while an additional 80 start-ups benefited from business plan coaching and the 10 best ideas received financial aid, 7 which came from women-led organizations. Under UNDP's mentorship, five women were hired or selected for internships. In **Guatemala**, which dealt with floods, landslides and mudflows after tropical storms Eta and Lota in 2020, UNDP helped rehabilitate housing for 39 families after conducting 2,932 site habitability assessments of housing damages and needs. UNDP also provided an airlift to supply 10,000 gallons of aircraft fuel to send critical aid to thousands of people in remote communities.

UNDP's cash-for-work clean-up initiatives also helped to restore key public infrastructure and facilities, along with access to them, so vital services could continue. UNDP supported basic services in IDP communities, including in **Sudan**, where 80,000 Ethiopian refugees and host communities gained access to quality health services in Um Rakuba after two mobile clinics were installed and four health facilities were built or rehabilitated, while over 200,000 people were served by a renovated police station. In **Somalia**, 10,280 internally displaced people and host communities, of which 85 percent were women, gained access to safe water sources, after UNDP helped to rehabilitate 210 safe water tanks in water-stressed regions. In **Burkina Faso**, UNDP provided opportunities for 909 young people aged 18 to 35 years old delivering labour-intensive work that rehabilitated socio-economic infrastructures in eight municipalities, enhancing rural road accessibility and public sanitation and hygiene, through newly cleaned gutters. UNDP boosted the entrepreneurship skills of 300 young people holding professional certifications, and provided installation kits and working capital to create 300 micro-enterprises in 20 trades. Some later recruited employees or apprentices, helping to further reduce youth unemployment.

UNDP also helped to rebuild lives and livelihoods over the medium and long-term in **Lebanon**, after the catastrophic blast in Beirut; 64 shops and

small and medium enterprises were rehabilitated, creating temporary jobs and benefiting 231 owners and employees. Building livelihoods to last was UNDP's strategy in **Mauritius**, where it introduced sustainable aquaponic farming to communities affected by the devastating Wakashio oil spill, offering them greater food security and an alternative income source to sea fishing.

Renewable energy, particularly solar, also played a central and catalytic role in UNDP's recovery efforts. In **Sudan**'s Um Rakuba and Tenadba camps, 155 solar street lights and floodlights were installed in refugee camps and host communities, benefiting over 20,000 people, which led women to feel safer collecting firewood and using camp facilities at night and decreasing gender-based violence. Such a trend was also reported in **Somalia**, after 400 households, 92 percent of them women-led, gained safe, sustainable energy via solar lanterns, enhancing security for women and girls, as well as allowing children to study after dark, while reducing fire and air pollution from kerosene lamps. In **Lebanon**, UNDP safeguarded energy supply following the explosion by installing 214 solar water heaters and 80 electrical water heaters in Karantina households, along with 14 solar street lighting poles, 6 large solar water heater systems and a solar-powered system for Beirut's fire brigade. Likewise, in **Mozambique**, 6,720 people are benefiting from added security through solar public lighting installed in Quissanga and Macomia, along with solar-powered water systems.



Maintenance of solar panels by local communities. UNDP Mali.

Delivering socio-economic support following COVID-19

Building on both the successful deployment of \$30 million through the Rapid Response Facility operationalized by the Funding Windows and the mobilization of around \$2 billion to date of reprogrammed and new funding for the COVID-19 response, the UNDP Administrator launched the UNDP Rapid Financing Facility (RFF) in July 2020, worth \$100 million.

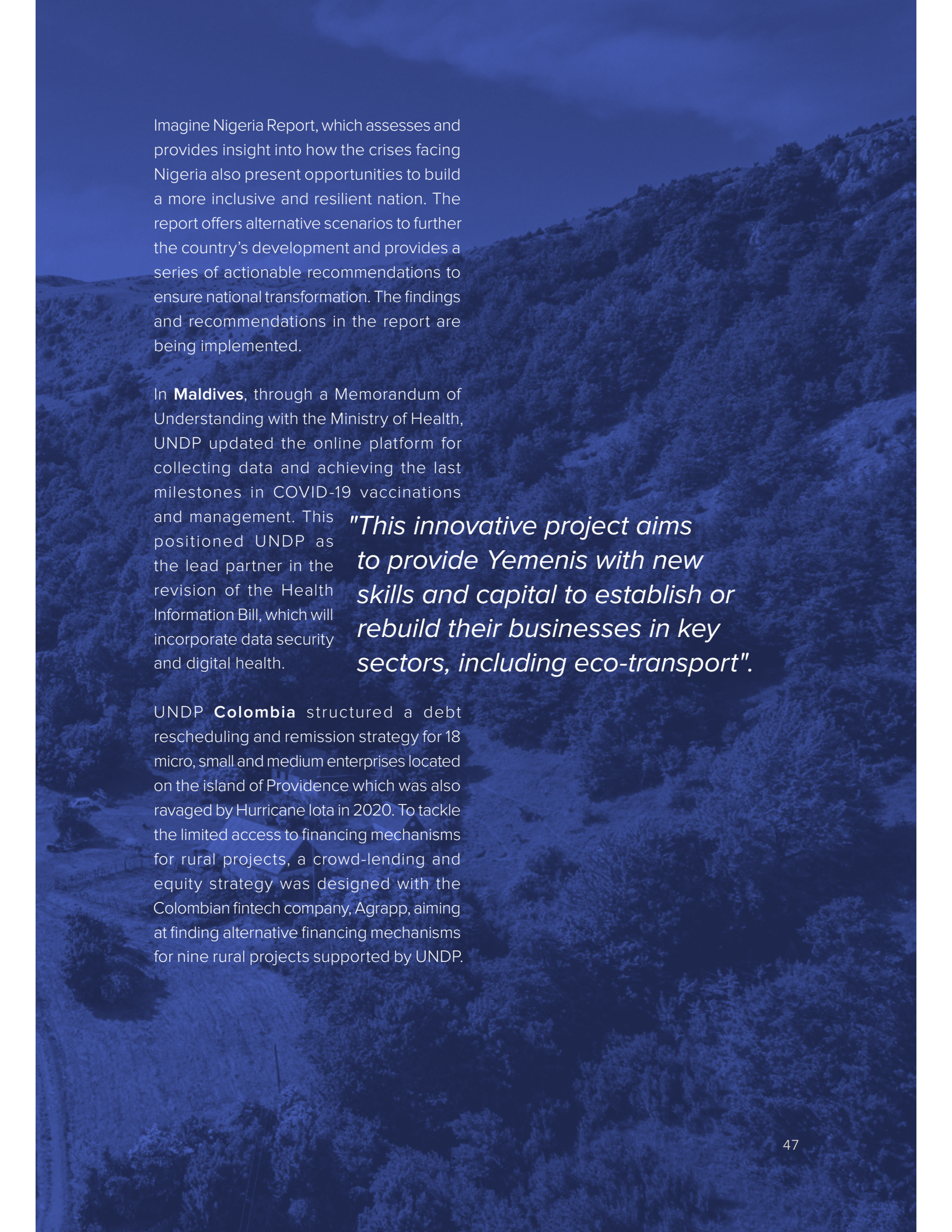
The Funding Windows invested \$2.2 million in the RFF to help country offices leverage strategic partnerships and support national recovery efforts as part of UN socio-economic recovery support. All RFF proposals demonstrated specific interventions focused on gender equality and women's empowerment.

In **Yemen**, UNDP is restoring lost livelihoods and strengthening access to basic services in the recovery from COVID-19. "Small businesses have been adversely impacted by the ongoing pandemic in Yemen. Compounded by six years of continued conflict and the declining value of the Yemeni Riyal, many businesses have been forced to reduce staffing or close all together," said Auke Lootsma, UNDP

Resident Representative in Yemen. "This innovative project aims to provide Yemenis with new skills and capital to establish or rebuild their businesses in key sectors, including eco-transport."

In **Georgia**, UNDP provided entrepreneurship support to 22 conflict-affected women located close to Administrative Border Lines to enhance their socio-economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, around 70 percent of supported businesses have started generating incomes and are currently operational. Business equipment was provided, for example, for a grocery store, beekeeping, mechanized agriculture and a textile enterprise. A phone survey conducted with beneficiaries reported that entrepreneurs who are already operational have increased their monthly income by 65 percent on average after UNDP's intervention.

Nigeria, struggling to overcome the challenges presented by the pandemic, is also dealing with rising levels of inequality, ethnic tensions and political violence. In response, UNDP partnered with the Government of Nigeria to produce the



Imagine Nigeria Report, which assesses and provides insight into how the crises facing Nigeria also present opportunities to build a more inclusive and resilient nation. The report offers alternative scenarios to further the country's development and provides a series of actionable recommendations to ensure national transformation. The findings and recommendations in the report are being implemented.

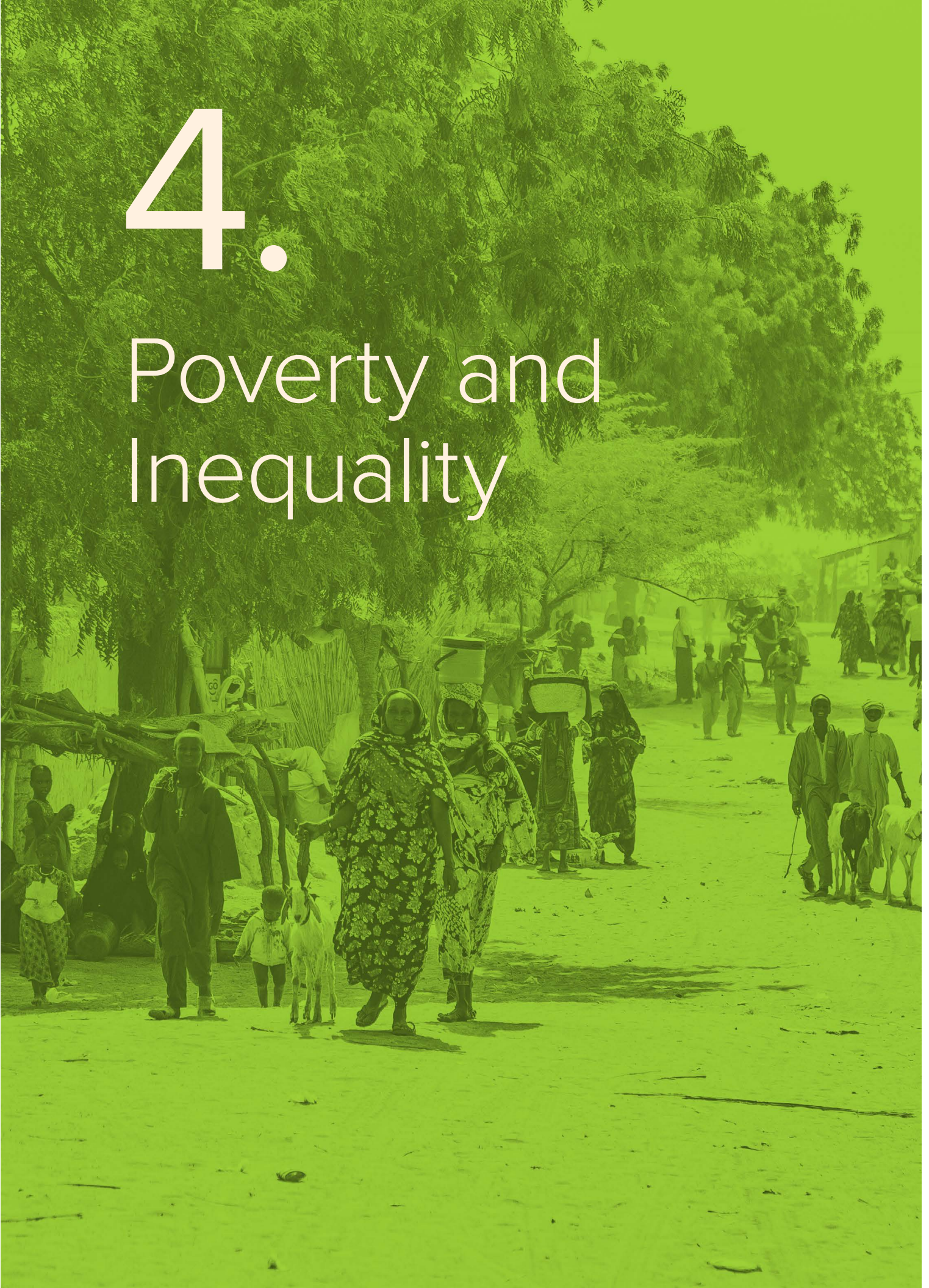
In **Maldives**, through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Health, UNDP updated the online platform for collecting data and achieving the last milestones in COVID-19 vaccinations and management. This positioned UNDP as the lead partner in the revision of the Health Information Bill, which will incorporate data security and digital health.

"This innovative project aims to provide Yemenis with new skills and capital to establish or rebuild their businesses in key sectors, including eco-transport".

UNDP **Colombia** structured a debt rescheduling and remission strategy for 18 micro, small and medium enterprises located on the island of Providence which was also ravaged by Hurricane Iota in 2020. To tackle the limited access to financing mechanisms for rural projects, a crowd-lending and equity strategy was designed with the Colombian fintech company, Agrapp, aiming at finding alternative financing mechanisms for nine rural projects supported by UNDP.

4.

Poverty and Inequality

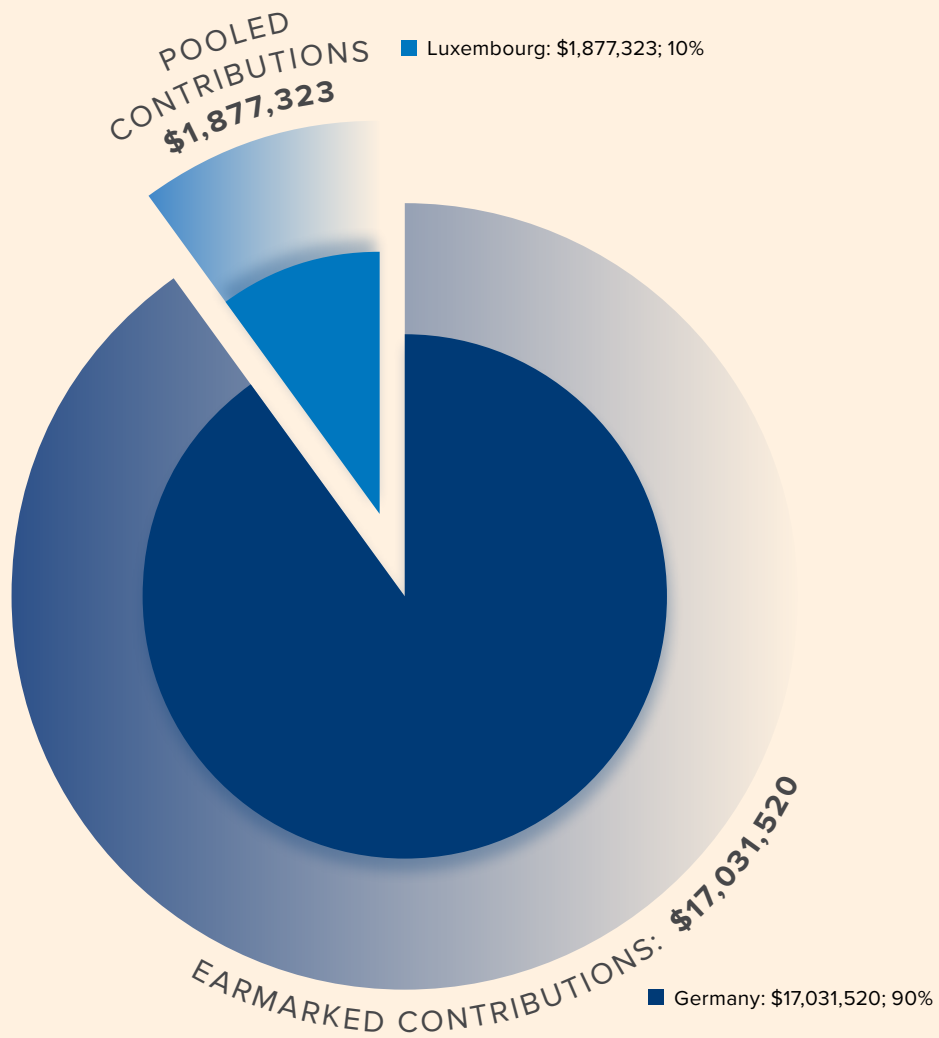


Facts and trends

- \$18,908,843 Total revenue
- \$1,549,799 Total expenditures
- 100% Portion of pooled expenditures
- 8 Country offices delivered pooled Funding Windows resources

2021 contributions

TOTAL: \$18,908,843



Strategic plan emphasis

This year, 61 percent of expenditures contributed to Outcome 3 on strengthening resilience to shocks and crisis.

Gender mainstreaming

2 percent of expenditures were marked as GEN3 with the remaining 98 percent marked as GEN2.

Beneficiaries

People with disabilities, youth, women and people living in poverty remained the top beneficiary groups in the Poverty and Inequality Window (100 percent of projects targeted these four groups). In addition, internally displaced people (83 percent), people living in vulnerable areas (83 percent) unemployed persons (83 percent) and farmers (67 percent) benefited from the majority of the projects.



UNDP Zambia/Sumaya Agha.



Strengthening livelihoods with technical advice and agricultural kits. UNDP Benin.

COVID-19 dealt a catastrophic blow to the global fight to end poverty, which rose for the first time in 20 years in the ensuing economic crisis. By the end of 2021, around 100 million people fell into extreme poverty. Lost incomes and weak social protection, along with rising food and health costs, also left many previously secure at risk, while those living just above the poverty line also remain highly susceptible to economic setbacks, extreme weather events and armed conflicts.

Ending poverty worldwide remains the core of UNDP's work. We offer strategic interventions to address inequality of opportunity by protecting incomes and jobs, empowering people and transforming livelihoods for a just transition: enabling the multidimensionally poor, vulnerable and marginalized to play a pivotal part in an inclusive, resilient and green recovery. Through a pragmatic and flexible approach, UNDP adapts its work to different country contexts and population groups under its Poverty and Inequality portfolio.

Three key themes overlap across interventions under the Poverty and Inequality window, to combat the economic fallout of COVID-19:

Social assistance opportunities for those most vulnerable featured prominently across UNDP's poverty and inequality work in 2021. These include conditional cash transfers that have created short-term jobs to provide immediate economic relief

in vulnerable communities while supporting the rehabilitation of critical infrastructure. UNDP also invested in strengthening longer-term livelihood opportunities by providing business development services, including entrepreneurship, innovation and financing skills, particularly for vulnerable workers in the informal economy—1.6 billion people who make up half the global workforce—to boost their productivity and resilience against COVID-19 and future crises. Initiatives targeted small farmers, who are highly vulnerable to sudden shocks and earnings losses. In **Burkina Faso's** ongoing security crisis, UNDP's cash-for-work programme enabled 100 people to earn income that will be spent within their communities, supporting the local economy, and 20 community infrastructures including schools and health centres were rehabilitated in 3 communities. Following the unprecedented armed conflict in Cabo Delgado, **Mozambique**, 9,900 households received agricultural kits with tools such as hoes, racks and axes, which led to increased farming activity and their greater presence in the markets in the relocation sites and nearby communities, as beneficiaries used the cash to purchase household items.

In many cases, cash-for-work programmes also generated longer-term, transformative livelihood investments. In **Liberia**, 85 percent of the 40 cash-for-work beneficiaries invested at least half of their earnings into small businesses, including fish drying, cassava processing, petty trade and bread baking. In **Sierra Leone**, UNDP provided 100 farmers in Kailahun district with financing, seeds and farming tools made locally by persons with disabilities which increased the yields of groundnuts and vegetables and boosted incomes. Strengthening financial literacy was a key tenet of supporting long-term livelihood investments. Those same farmers who were trained in innovation, entrepreneurship and microfinance reported greater confidence in opening bank accounts and accessing loans to sustain their businesses. Now, 6 village savings and loan associations have been established which count 60 women

and 35 men as beneficiaries, offering trainings and cooperatively mobilizing resources to invest in the economic activities.

Another priority in 2021 was endowing women with the skills, resources and opportunities they need for an inclusive recovery, particularly by expanding their production and business capacities, access to finance and technology, and space for doing trade. In the **Central African Republic**, more than 200 women and girls participated in entrepreneurship training and saw economic gains from the rehabilitation of a space to sell local products. In **Liberia**, through the purchase of 12 solar freezers and 3 industrial dryers, 60 women in 3 fish-processing communities will extend the life of their produce. The switch from processing fish by burning biomass will also result in cleaner and safer air. In **Burkina Faso**, 200 women, including 93 from the host population and 107 internally displaced people, received micro-enterprise kits to transform peanut oil, prepare food and juice, fatten sheep, create soap or do hairdressing, and learned how to sustainably manage a small business and their value chain, helping them rebuild their livelihoods. As part of the response to the conflict in **Mozambique**, UNDP improved women's and girls' financial literacy and control over household resources, following the distribution of smart phones and the use of mobile transfers for project payments, via password-protected mobile accounts. **North Macedonia** strengthened youth livelihoods by building the skills of 270 people in building information modelling, 3D design and renewable energy in the UNDP-enabled Future Skills Centre. Together, these innovations made women and youth more able to withstand crises such as COVID-19, as well as to thrive in the recovery.



UNDP helped North Macedonia launch its Future Skills Centre, enabling youth to leverage emerging technologies in the digital and green transition. UNDP North Macedonia.

In 2022, the available pooled resources under the Poverty and Inequality window will be allocated to support integrated proposals that address social protection, informality and the future of work in countries that already have a strong foundation to build on. Lessons from the 2021 allocations point to a need to invest in countries that already show results and a keen interest to engage in the identified area of work.

The detailed achievements under this Window are in Annex 1, pp.29–31.



5.

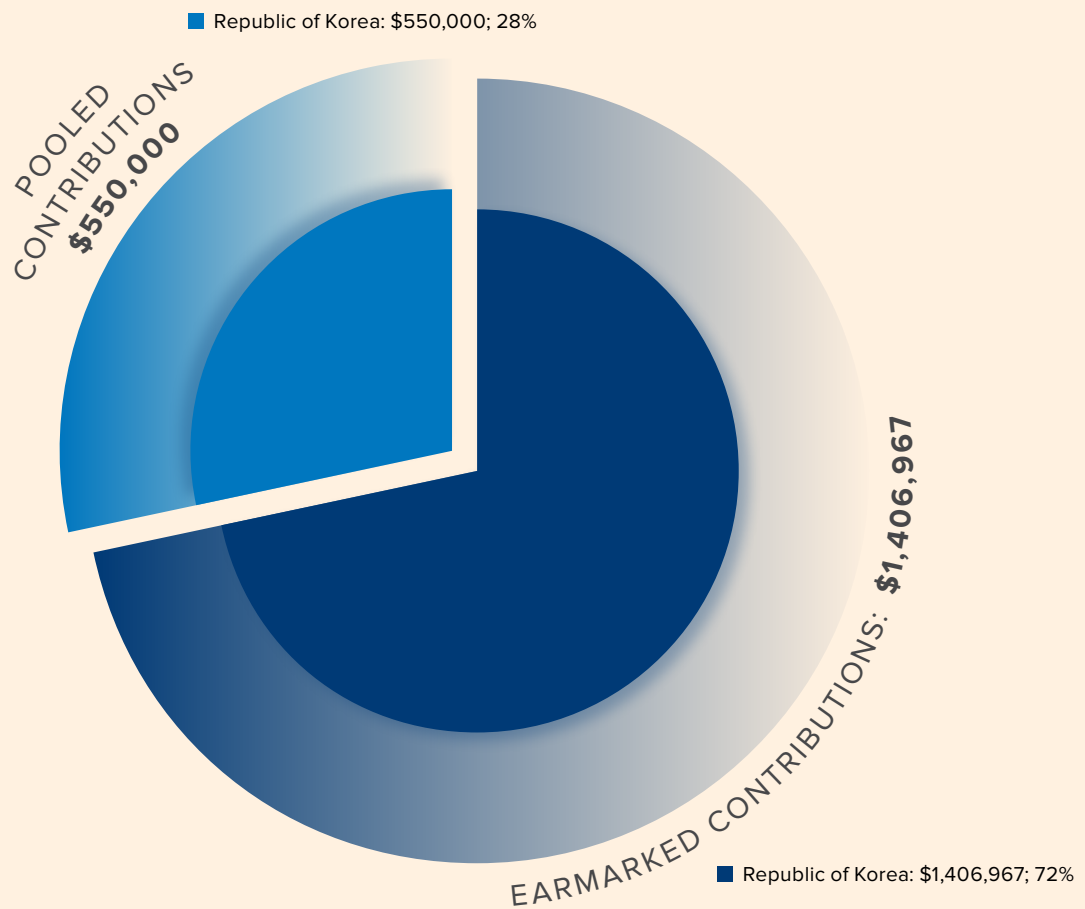
Gender Equality
and Women's
Empowerment

Facts and trends

\$1,956,938 Total revenue
\$641,693 Total expenditures
0% Portion of pooled expenditures

2021 contributions

TOTAL: \$1,956,938



Strategic plan emphasis

Expenditures in 2021 were related to preventing and responding to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) (Output 1.6.2), and gender-responsive mechanisms to improve social dialogue and promote peaceful, just and inclusive societies (Output 3.3.2).

Gender mainstreaming

All expenditures in this window are GEN3.

Beneficiaries

These projects support women in various capacities: as survivors of gender-based violence, internally displaced people, women operating in conflict-affected areas and women leaders, showcasing how women—of all walks of life—are showing resilience in increasingly challenging contexts.



Empowering women to break barriers. UNDP Iraq.

Gender equality lies at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achieving the SDGs. It is a precondition to advance human development, create inclusive and sustainable economies, and reach a fair and just green transition. Against the backdrop of a rapidly evolving global development landscape with climate and humanitarian crises in addition to the global

COVID-19 pandemic, already existing inequalities are being exacerbated and progress made in gender equality and women's empowerment in the past decades is at risk of being rolled back. The pandemic brought a surge of reports of gender-based violence as structural causes of discrimination and violence were exacerbated by the pandemic. The increased care responsibilities during the pandemic made women 24 percent more likely than men to leave the workforce, increasing the risk of skills obsolescence and structural unemployment.

UNDP is increasing its ambitions to target and dismantle the structural barriers that perpetuate gender inequalities, thereby helping to end multidimensional poverty and violence. It does this by addressing the gender dimensions of human development in areas such as poverty, governance, climate and crisis, guided by the new Gender Equality Strategy 2022–2025.

In 2021, three global projects funded in the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Window delivered support to countries:

- To deliver policy support and advice to end gender-based violence and accelerate progress towards other development goals, the project '**Ending Gender-Based Violence and Achieving the SDGs**' supports governments and civil society organizations by developing context-specific solutions to advance gender equality and prevent and address gender-based violence in seven pilot countries. For example, 11 million people were reached through a national campaign in **Peru** to help prevent and respond to violence during COVID-19; an intervention with couples in **Iraq** resulted in more gender-equitable attitudes and behaviours among both male and female participants; and approaches used by six of the seven pilot countries will be replicated or broadened, with additional support secured from government partners and donors.
- To be more gender-responsive in crises-affected countries, the '**Gender and Crisis Facility**' was launched as part of UNDP's corporate Gender Architecture. The Facility enables gender-transformational results to achieve sustainable development, progress the Women Peace and Security agenda and advance gender equality in crisis contexts. The Facility is supporting UNDP to deliver transformative programming that directly challenges the harmful gender norms that drive inequality. In **Myanmar** and **Sudan**, in close collaboration with UN Women, initial funding is resulting in better data collection and stronger gender-responsive analytical frameworks to predict, prevent or mitigate new crises and develop gender-sensitive interventions.

- To enable strong public policies that aim to tackle gender inequality, in 2021 the '**Global Policy Observatory for Gender Equality**' mapped existing global monitoring platforms on gender equality to help define its own function and services. The Observatory is based on the UNDP and UN Women COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker.

This window is by far the least funded of the four windows, accounting for only 2 percent of the total resources. Importantly, the work described in this window complements the efforts made across all Funding Windows to advance UNDP's effort to embed gender equality and women's empowerment in its interventions. The Funding Window's pooled non-crisis allocations must meet the requirements of the GEN2 Marker at a minimum and are encouraged to reach the GEN3 Marker. In 2021, GEN3 expenditures made up 15 percent of pooled spending, once again meeting the corporate target. A record 89 percent, or \$28 million, was spent by projects marked as GEN2 and GEN3.



Gaining leadership skills for peacebuilding.
UNDP Pakistan.

The detailed achievements under this Window are in Annex 1, pp.32–33.

An aerial photograph of a tropical coastline, showing a dense forested area with a small village of buildings in the foreground. A bay or lagoon is visible in the middle ground, surrounded by sandy beaches and more forest. The sky is filled with clouds. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent teal gradient.

6.

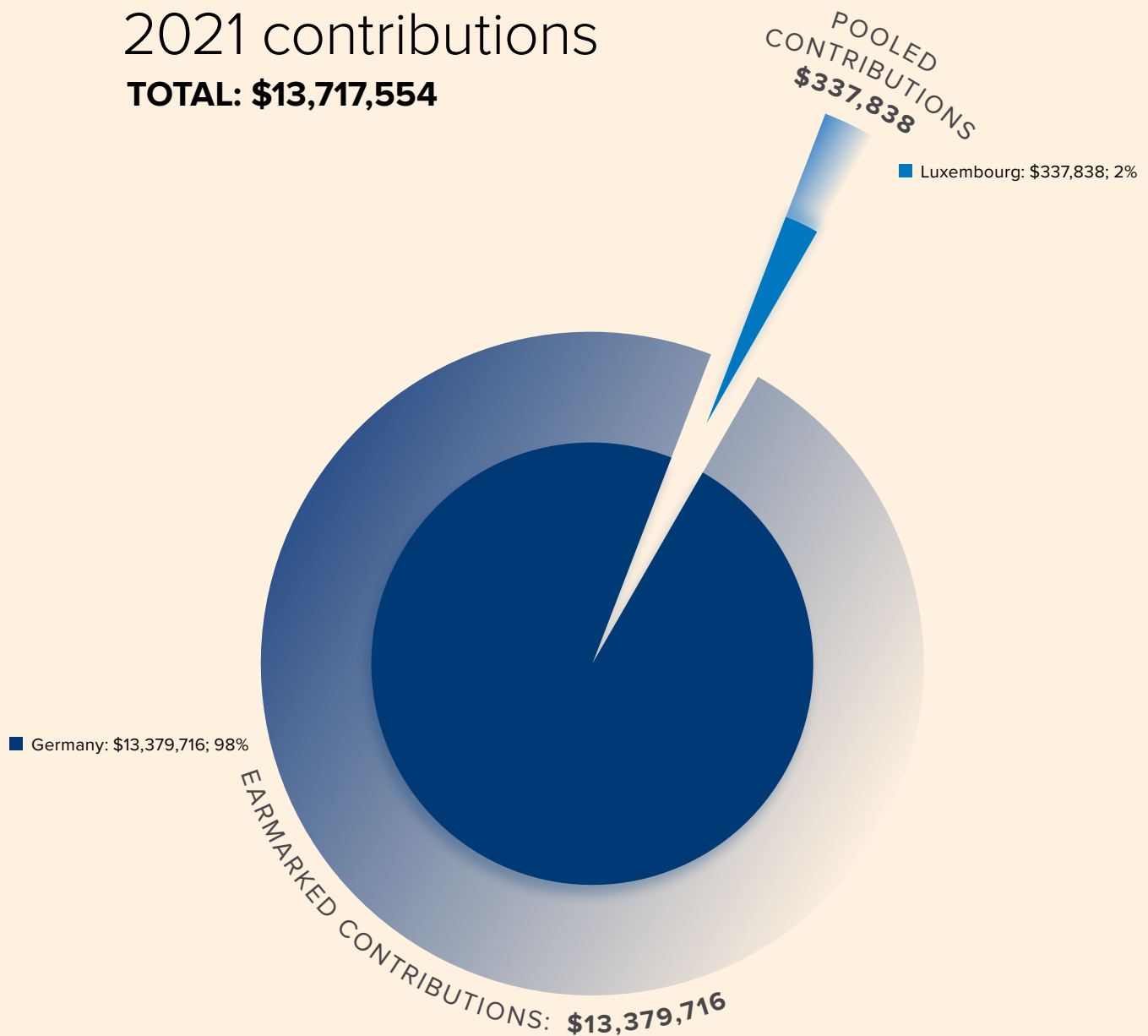
Nature, Climate and Energy

Facts and trends

\$13,717,554 Total revenue
\$22,848,231 Total expenditures
0% Portion of pooled expenditures
53 Country offices delivered Funding Windows resources

2021 contributions

TOTAL: \$13,717,554



Strategic plan emphasis

Of the \$23 million spent on nature and climate projects, 54 percent (\$12.4 million) was linked to the sustainable management of natural resources (Output 1.4.1), corresponding largely to the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) and Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCA) projects. The second-highest expenditure, with \$3.6 million (16 percent) was around the promotion of low emission and climate-resilient development plans, policies, economic diversification and green growth (Output 2.1.1), associated entirely with the Nationally Determined Contributions portfolio.

Gender mainstreaming

66 percent of expenditures was marked for GEN2 projects, with the remaining marked for GEN1 projects.

Beneficiaries

Activities in this window targeted indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and people living in vulnerable areas.



UNDP Peru/Monica Suarez Galindo.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has reaffirmed that “the stakes for our planet have never been higher”. Human activities have—unequivocally—warmed the climate at a rate not seen in at least the past 2,000 years.

Climate change is increasing health risks, disease outbreaks, droughts, floods and other climatic impacts. The world’s natural resources are fast being depleted, threatening 1 million species with extinction and eroding critical ecosystems upon which all societies and economies depend. The World Economic Forum recently ranked ‘climate action failure’, ‘extreme weather’ and ‘biodiversity loss’ as the top three critical threats to the world—and to global business. A healthy environment is our greatest ally for building shared prosperity, security and resilience at all levels, with half the global economy and 1.2 billion jobs dependent on nature.

UNDP has a bold vision to tackle the planetary emergency to secure the health, prosperity and security of people and planet. With support from

partners through the UNDP Funding Windows, we aim to bring about structural transformations across climate, nature and energy. UNDP is addressing these multifaceted, interconnected challenges through solution-based programming to transform society, the economy and financial systems so that they protect rather than undermine nature and combat climate change, biodiversity loss and inequality.

In 2021, six global projects funded in the Nature, Climate and Energy window delivered critical support to countries through the Climate Promise, and advanced biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management and nature-based solutions.

Climate Promise

UNDP is helping countries to strengthen and implement ambitious national climate pledges towards the Paris Agreement goals (or Nationally Determined Contributions, NDCs), including putting climate action at the heart of national economies and development and fiscal planning. In 2019, UNDP launched its 'Climate Promise' with the objective of supporting at least 100 countries to be more ambitious with their NDCs. UNDP's Climate Promise initiative is now the world's largest offer of support to countries embarking on the NDC revision process. It supports 120 countries, representing 80% of all developing countries' NDCs and around 30% of global greenhouse gas emissions.

- As of 31 December 2021, 92 **Climate Promise** countries had submitted their NDCs, representing 84 percent of all developing country submissions. Of these enhanced NDCs, over 90 percent have increased mitigation ambition, 100 percent include energy and 95 percent increased adaptation ambition, with many strengthening the link between NDCs and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs).

- As a critical component of UNDP's support to countries under the umbrella of the Climate Promise, UNDP is partnering with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to implement the **Scaling up Climate Ambition on Land Use and Agriculture through NDCs and NAPs (SCALA)**, supporting countries to enable climate action in agriculture and land use in 12 countries. A strong focus is on aligning the NAPs processes with NDCs and helping to define strategies to deliver on countries' adaptation targets.



Supporting women adapt to climate change. UNDP Mali.

Biodiversity conservation, ecosystem management and nature-based solutions

UNDP brings the development agenda to biodiversity discourse, increasing public, business and government support for biodiversity conservation, broadening the support base and encouraging behavioural change among the stakeholders that are key to the systemic change

necessary for achieving global biodiversity goals. UNDP, with its extensive nature portfolio of over 430 country projects in 138 countries, combined with a set of global projects linked to country-level work, connects people on the ground to the national, regional and global decision makers and influencers, as well as fostering exchange and learning between communities and governments in different countries and continents.

- The **Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN)** is active in 40 countries to strengthen policies and institutions in developing and implementing finance solutions. BIOFIN enables countries to measure their current biodiversity expenditures, assess their financial needs in the medium term, and identify and implement the most suitable finance solutions to bridge their national biodiversity finance gaps. In 2021, the number of BIOFIN countries grew from 35 to 40.
- The **Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCA)** Global Support Initiative strengthens indigenous people's ability to protect the ecosystems that their livelihoods depend on, while diversifying their source of earnings. In 2021, working closely with partners, ICCA-GSI reached 235,000 indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in 45 countries, by supporting community-based actions, as well as demonstrating ICCA ecosystem protection and sustainable livelihoods.

- UNDP hosts the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net), a capacity-sharing “network of networks” that promotes dialogue, knowledge co-production and collaborative action among science, policy and practice for effective management of biodiversity and ecosystems, contributing to sustainable development.
- UNDP is also a partner in the **PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet** initiative, co-leading the ‘protected areas’ thematic community with IUCN and systematically reviewing and contributing solutions from country projects to the PANORAMA site. To date, 1,030 solutions have been published from 120 countries.



Reforestation efforts in the Balkans. UNDP Bosnia.

The detailed achievements under this Window are in Annex 1, pp. 33–37.

7.

Challenges and Reflections from 2021

New areas of concern, unprecedented development contexts and evolving country priorities require accelerated and ambitious solutions to deliver the SDGs. The Funding Windows' pooled resources offer countries greater agility to respond to emerging needs and provide partners with greater coordination of their contributions, as well as enhanced transparency and visibility.

In 2022, we are working to further ensure complementarity between Funding Windows interventions and strategic corporate priorities and core resources, including directing the Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience resources towards the Crisis Offer. The 2021 process for allocating the available \$47 million in pooled resources has already incorporated lessons learned, as well as insights from our partners. First, more strategic funding decisions were made based on annual prioritization discussions with each region, where needs and areas of interventions were identified. Second, we sought greater coordination across technical areas in the design stage of each proposal, with greater delegation to regional hubs to ensure proper grounding in the local context. Third, we set out to allocate 25 percent of the pooled funds (or \$8 million) to GEN3 projects to enhance gender equality and women's empowerment across the Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience portfolio. Finally, we streamlined and accelerated the proposal development and decision-making process, with a view to initiate interventions and produce results faster. The list of 2021 allocations can be found in Annex 4.

Going forward, we will further sharpen the allocation process. We will narrow the prioritization of our investments according to the corporate direction. Regional hub teams will be at the forefront of proposal development to enhance the quality of programming. And we will again set ambitious targets to support gender equality and women's empowerment. We will also give additional attention to strategic partnerships

with other UN agencies. This will be done primarily by building on the new generation of UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks (UNSDCF), which is the primary framework for driving major UN -contributions at the country level as envisioned by the reform of the United Nations Development System. We will also be more mindful of opportunities to harness the complementarity of investments from other sources of funding, such as the Peacebuilding Fund, the UNDP Spotlight Initiative and the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund.

The Funding Windows are highly effective at reaching communities on the ground. Indeed, all contributions (100 percent) received as pooled resources are directly invested in countries. The mechanism's overhead costs, such as the staff and tools needed to manage the Funding Windows, are entirely covered from the general management support (GMS) fee charged to contributions, 7 percent for pooled and 8 percent for earmarked contributions.

Pooled thematic resources received through the Funding Windows are a critical complement to UNDP core contributions. UNDP's desire to enhance pooled fund contributions is in line with the Secretary-General's Funding Compact, which urges partners to "double the share of non-core contributions provided through development-related pooled and thematic funds" to reach the target of 6 percent by 2023. In 2021, the share of resources channelled through the Funding Windows remained at 2 percent of the total contributions. The majority of 2021 contributions were earmarked, despite an increase of 14 percentage point in the proportion of pooled contributions compared to the previous year. To make the case for pooled resources, UNDP will emphasize their value as complementary to core funding in upcoming materials, allocate funds according to more strategic corporate thematic and geographic objectives, and refine our planning and reporting to demonstrate change, results and evidence.

UNDP has increased efforts to provide visibility to pooled funding partners, including at country level. Building on the 2021 internal guidance that was shared with country offices on how to refer to Funding Windows partners and feature them in offline and online communication channels, in 2022, country offices will be offered support from regional and global experts to raise the profile of our pooled partners and publicize the importance of flexible funding and the results achieved through it.

UNDP is deepening its partnerships with committed Funding Window partners, while stepping up institutional efforts to expand and diversify the pool of contributing partners. The Technical Engagement Groups (TEGs) meetings, launched in 2020, are an opportunity for substantive and interactive policy dialogues on emerging development priorities in each of the four windows beyond bilateral engagement. As these TEGs have been welcomed by partners, UNDP will open them to interested non-contributing partners. UNDP is also exploring engagement with non-traditional partners, including donors beyond the OECD Development Assistance Committee, key philanthropies and the private sector, to work on mutual areas of interest.

Resource mobilization across the Funding Windows continues to be highly uneven. As in previous years, the Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience Window received the most resources with \$49 million (59 percent) while the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Window received the least resources at \$2 million (2 percent). Partners have established preferences vis-a-vis thematic funding and it is proving difficult to alter these patterns, especially following the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine. However, there have been some positive developments: the Republic of Korea has moved beyond a focus on the Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience Window to become the champion of the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Window. Similarly, Luxembourg provided the first pooled funds to

the Nature, Climate and Energy Window in 2021. Another positive trend specific to the Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience Window is that partners have moved from placing their pooled contributions at the sub-window level and entrusted UNDP to allocate funds in a strategic manner across themes.

With the UNDP Strategic Plan 2022–2025, UNDP's resource mobilization approach is shifting from a focus on individual projects to thematic and geographic portfolios aligned to the six signature solutions. This will improve strategic and coherent engagement with partners, aligning with partner's needs while meeting UNDP's corporate objectives and showcasing UNDP's integration expertise.

While the Funding Windows help deliver results across all areas of the UNDP Strategic Plan and has been reporting on results accordingly, there would be benefits in strengthening the results-based management (RBM) approach, including at the formulation, monitoring and reporting stages. This would include a closer look at the result frameworks, budgets and theories of change, as well as the measurement of change, recognizing the diversity of country interventions, the complexity of contexts and the range of capacities available in offices. In 2022, UNDP brought temporary capacity to kick-start these efforts and guide the development of a longer-term RBM strategy. Webinars are taking place with recipient country offices with the objective of elevating good practices around project RBM, monitoring and reporting. Dedicated capacity is needed to meet our ambitions and resources will need to be set aside for this purpose. Our ability to improve our reports will only be possible once country offices are better able to effectively plan, monitor, assess and report on their results.

In early 2022, UNDP reviewed the application of the 1% UN coordination levy to contributions received through the Funding Windows to ensure its systematic application. According to the guidance from the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, pooled thematic funds such as

those received at the level of the Funding Window, sub-theme, region or country are exempt from the levy. Meanwhile, Member State contributions to the Funding Windows are subject to the levy if they are tightly earmarked to a single project, if it is greater than \$100,000, and if the partner requires UNDP to trace the contribution and provide a narrative or financial report.



COVID-19 emergency response activities in Bangladesh. UNDP Bangladesh/Fahad Kaizer.

Insights from UNDP country offices

Adapting to a new virtual normal and acting with greater flexibility during COVID-19

COVID-19 continued to be at the centre of the challenges faced by UNDP teams around the world, with wide-ranging effects and various impacts on country offices. Ensuring flexibility through lockdowns and travel restrictions by expanding online implementation was a solution deployed by many offices, including in **Uzbekistan**, where activities were revised and they opened up new channels to work with beneficiaries and partners online. Similarly, UNDP **Mali** held meetings online and involved local communities in implementing activities to avoid travel, while UNDP **Iraq** relied more on technology and distant monitoring to implement activities for preventing violent extremism.

Despite working from home becoming a new normal in many countries over the past two years, COVID-19 restrictions still hampered the work of many UNDP partners with limited technological resources to move online. UNDP supported local counterparts to accelerate their move online, enabling greater resilience and efficiency in the pandemic and beyond. This became a high

priority in **Zimbabwe**'s governance project, which supplied new ICT equipment to support virtual meetings enabling business continuity for key public institutions at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. UNDP provided ICT tools to government partners in the **Lao People's Democratic Republic**, which had the two benefits of being able to move project activities online and enhancing communication in advance of future disasters. Despite limited internet and laptop access among partner staff, two disaster risk reduction workshops in Laos were successfully held online.

A second benefit to moving online was the ability to simultaneously limit security threats. For example, eruptions of armed conflict in Mogadishu and other parts of **Somalia** meant that experts conducted trainings, meetings and consultations remotely with government officials and international partners to ensure business continuity. While this improved security, the project team learned that counterparts must be on site with at least one UNDP facilitator, to effectively address issues.

Aside from hampering the ability to meet and monitor in person, COVID-19 also tightened fiscal resources across the world, impacting planned activities, including in **Sri Lanka**, where UNDP had difficulties setting up the planned women's shelters, as allocated places were taken over by the Ministry of Health for COVID-19 isolation. The project overcame this by reprioritizing funds to ensure the expansion of a shelter for pregnant girls who were victims of sexual and gender-based violence. UNDP also faced difficulties in making mobile payments for its cash-for-work initiative in **Timor-Leste**, as COVID-19 lockdown

restrictions reduced the effectiveness of service providers, shrunk their workforce, created a long procurement process and led to higher fees. Distributing cash was the only viable solution.

Adjusting to capacity gaps among beneficiary communities

Some applicants for UNDP's livelihood programme in **Liberia** lacked the literacy required to develop and pitch their business ideas in the standard template developed by the partner. To avoid excluding them, the project developed a separate module to accommodate illiterate applicants, who could make pitches in a separate category. The office learned that support to vulnerable people must consider "the specific capacity gaps, limitations and needs" of every population.

In **Timor-Leste's** rule of law project, UNDP struggled to contract competent, reliable law firms and CSOs in gender and social justice, to implement the planned activities. Rather than overwhelming and competing over a few national CSOs, the project adapted by reaching out to, identifying and building the capacities of grass-roots organizations at the district level. These smaller organizations were in urgent need of funding with the pandemic and were eager to be involved, proving an effective approach to reach the desired beneficiaries.

Navigating security and safety concerns

In crisis contexts, UNDP navigated volatile security situations by deepening its cooperation with local communities, including in **Afghanistan**. In the town of Spin Boldak, UNDP worked with its partner to communicate and consult on the project goal and objectives with local stakeholders. When the security situation worsened, the community, along with the local partner, convinced armed groups to let the project continue, based on their knowledge of the situation and risks. They also had the latest local information to analyse and act on risks. As the security situation deteriorated in **Myanmar** following the military coup, all operations, from money transfers to connectivity and staff movements, became significantly more challenging. The project communicated more intensively with local CSOs and identified solutions with them. Low-value grants provided the flexibility to roll out an approach supported by their experience and local knowledge and to adjust to constant change. Working with local youth in particular helped UNDP to improve risk management across communities in **Burkina Faso**. UNDP found its partnership with the Ministry of Youth enabled its decentralized services to access areas that are difficult for UN staff to reach, and that local actors involved in monitoring its crisis response and recovery project supported the results obtained.

In **Ethiopia**, security threats and the conflict between government forces and unknown armed groups in the West Guji Zone prevented access to five project locations for almost a year, limiting direct monitoring. The project mitigated this by establishing focal persons at the local and regional levels to follow up project activities, as well as a district-level task force to evaluate progress, identify challenges and propose solutions. While

increasing their involvement, protecting local actors against potential backlash was also vital. UNDP safeguarded local staff and community members involved in context-analysis discussions in **Syria** by holding small, closed-door meetings, selecting participants carefully and respecting boundaries from interlocutors on sensitive issues. In locations with higher security risks, UNDP also followed up with community participants to ensure their safety.

Political sensitivities in protecting rights and democracy

A strong monitoring framework was adopted in **El Salvador**'s elections to track progress and adopt changes in direction where necessary, as the disputes between the political parties, and in some cases certain accusations against the Supreme Electoral Tribunal put the project's implementation at risk. In **Ecuador**, UNDP kept its assistance strictly to the technical level to respect the national election body's responsibility to manage the election, while supporting sensitive issues such as results transmission, which had been criticized in the past, and combating disinformation and political gender-based violence.

UNDP worked with **Niger**'s Ministry of Justice to improve the judicial system for those accused of terrorism. However, major unanticipated management changes due to the political context meant UNDP could not implement some activities. Funding was repositioned to support local community development offices in Diffa, to help consolidate local governance mechanisms. The lesson learned was to focus on direct, local execution for short-term, catalytic actions, as

political implications cannot always be fully evaluated. Similarly, in **Haiti**, the gender equality project team struggled to meet with authorities involved due to changes in government and political instability, delaying implementation. UNDP strengthened its partnerships with civil society and the private sector, rather than relying too much on government counterparts, so that political unrest did not have significant impact on projects.

Reluctance of women to position themselves as leaders

In its elections project, UNDP **Niger** faced challenges in gaining the commitment of women to position themselves as leaders, due to concerns over community perceptions of different socially assigned roles for women and men. Overcoming this required awareness sessions for women and men, as well as sharing success stories of local female leadership. Similarly, cultural and social norms in **Georgia** had reinforced negative attitudes towards women's empowerment, posing a risk to UNDP's gender equality project, which faced low levels of participation from women and other stakeholders. To mitigate this, the team engaged women and local leaders in preparatory community mobilization. It also ensured cultural norms were treated sensitively while pursuing project goals, working with experienced gender programming partners, such as CARE Caucasus and an IDP women's association to avoid any issues that might discourage women from participating in a meaningful way.

Contributing to Country Programme Documents

By design, 91 percent of projects funded by the Funding Windows are linked to Country Programme Documents (CPDs). Where this is not the case, it is due to a change in the development context which was not anticipated at the time of the design of the CPD.

The Funding Windows' flexibility allows for quick and responsive delivery of development solutions and enables countries to invest in underprioritized areas, as reported by 38 percent of the projects. The Funding Windows also support multisectoral and cross-thematic programming, benefiting CPD outputs beyond the target area, enabling a larger portfolio-driven approach.

In a few countries, the Funding Windows investment constitutes a significant portion of the CPD output budget.

In **Mauritania**, although the 2019 youth unemployment rate was estimated to be almost 21 percent, there were few in-country programmes that focused on youth livelihood generation. The Funding Windows' investment constitutes 98 percent of the budget for the country office's CPD output 3.2 "Vulnerable communities have adequate capacities, resources and an enabling environment to enhance the resilience of socio-economic development assets and community livelihoods through effective disaster and climate risk management". The investment enabled UNDP to demonstrate its value and contribution with a presence in the field and the delivery of concrete results in livelihood generation.

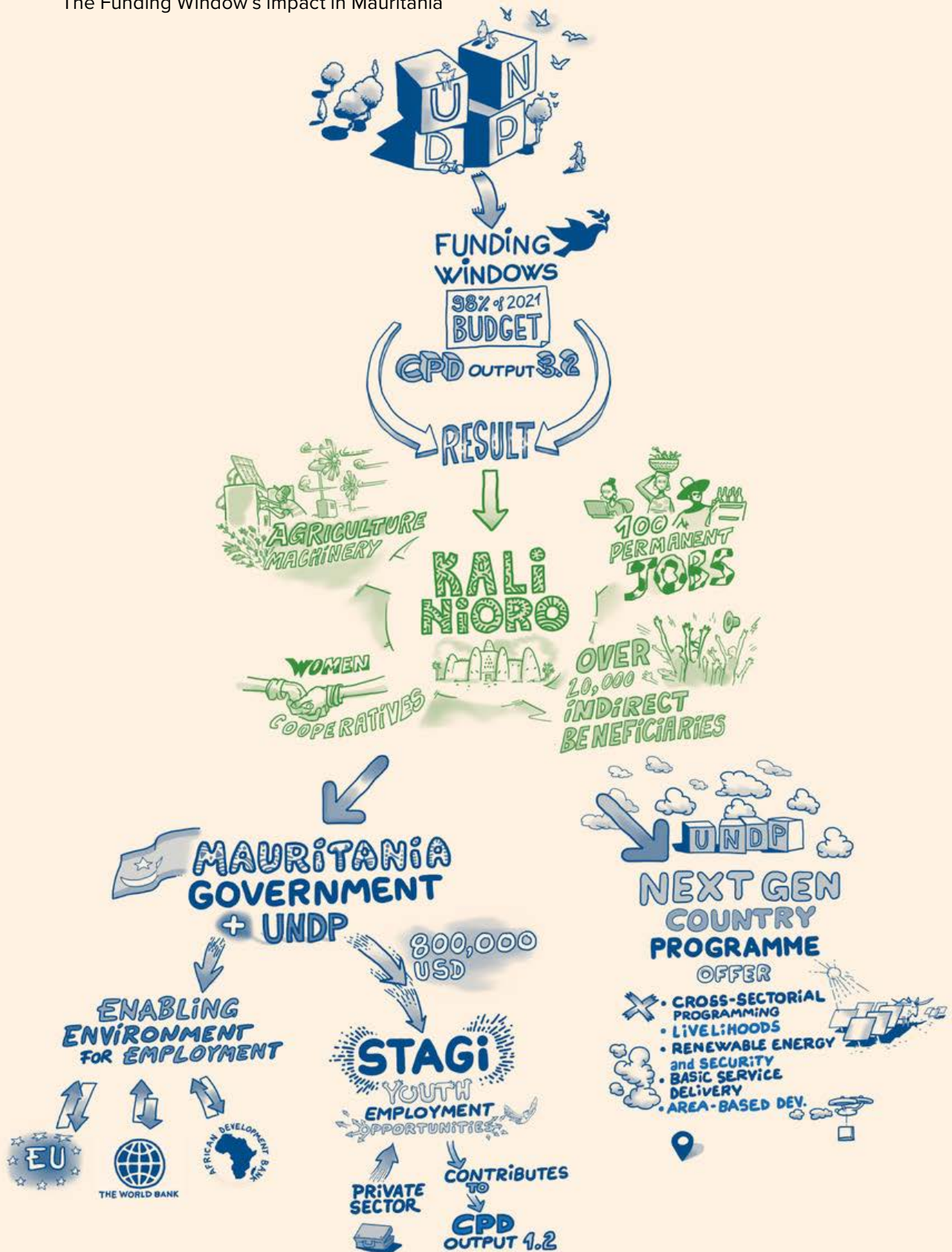


Employment centre in Nouakchott. UNDP Mauritania.

As a nod to the success of the engagement, the Government of Mauritania approached UNDP to launch the 'STAGI' project, which provides internship opportunities to graduate youth and women to improve their employability. With the private sector joining the partnership to provide internships and in-kind contributions, the government invested \$800,000, bringing in six times more resources in the related CPD output (1.2) than was previously available.

While there has since been increasing interest in youth programming in Mauritania by other partners, such as the European Union, the World Bank and the African Development Bank, UNDP has already demonstrated expertise, field knowledge and gained the trust of the government. Consequently, UNDP and the government have a closer partnership in guiding the enabling policy environment and coordination across development partners for employment generation in the country. Looking ahead in its programming, the country office is now building on the success and lessons

FIGURE 5:
The Funding Window's impact in Mauritania



gained from the Funding Windows' investment, applying a cross-thematic approach for Kali Nioro and pivoting into an integrated area-based lens that links beneficiaries with local services, gender justice, access to energy, livelihoods and more. This integrated local economic development strategy is already proposed to feature prominently in the next generation of the country programming cycle and country office offer to partners.

In **Somalia**, the Somalia CPD was formulated building on a 'root cause' analysis that pointed to the compounding effects of recurring droughts on long-term development prospects, as well giving little time for relief and recovery. As a result, the Somalia CPD included a dedicated output on "Institutions at federal and state levels adapting and implementing disaster risk management systems in line with the Sendai Framework". Despite this prioritization, the output mobilized limited resources and the Funding Windows constituted 97 percent of the output's 2021 budget, with funding for a drought response and resilience project.

Through this project, UNDP Somalia rolled out critical support, balancing its engagement between supporting the Federal and Member state institutions and maintaining a focus on citizens, providing services and relief to communities. This demonstrated, multifaceted approach helped the office mobilize resources from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) worth \$8 million to build Somali resilience through a nexus of water, environment and disaster risk reduction, to be delivered in close collaboration with 19 national and subnational institutions, including Ministries related to water and Disaster Management Authorities, maintaining a focus on engaging communities.

"When drought hit Somalia, The Funding Windows were the only lifeline of resources for relief and response".

Salah Dahir, Programme Specialist,
Resilience and Climate Change portfolio,
UNDP Somalia



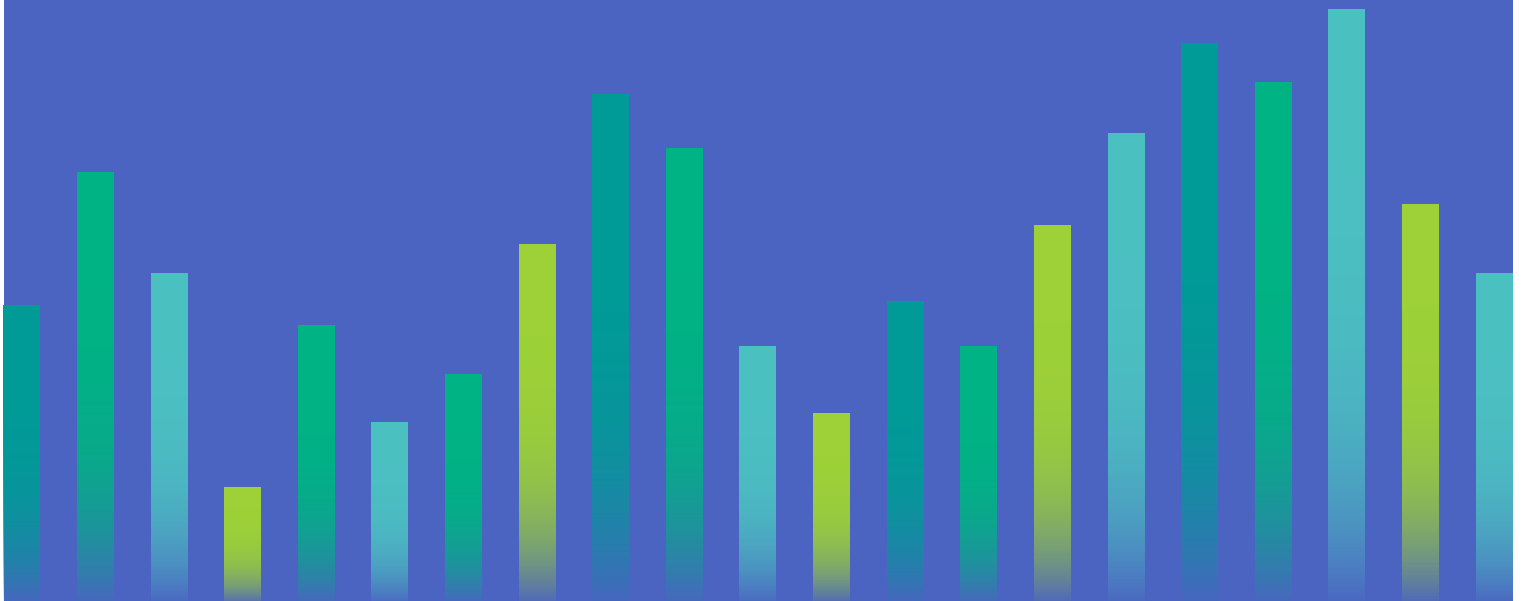
The Director of Puntland's Disaster Management Agency looks at a map with his team. UNDP Somalia.

8.

Financial reporting

*UNDP would like to thank its partners—particularly the **Governments of Germany, Denmark, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea and Sweden**—for their continued support and generous financial contributions.*

The work highlighted in this report would not have been possible without the dedication and innovation of the recipient country offices.



In 2021, seven government partners contributed \$84 million to the Funding Windows: **Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Switzerland.**

Pooled funds totalled \$32 million in 2021, representing 39 percent of all contributions—a 14 percentage point increase from 2020. These were made up of Denmark’s \$24 million for specific regions and countries, and entirely flexible contributions from **Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, and Switzerland** together worth \$8 million (Table 1). Meanwhile, earmarked contributions again represented the majority of 2021 contributions: \$51 million (61 percent) was earmarked to specific projects by **Germany, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and Switzerland.**

As in previous years, the Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience Window received the majority of resources with \$49 million (59 percent). For the first time, the Poverty and Inequality Window came second with \$19 million (23 percent), thanks to a sizeable, earmarked contribution. The Nature, Climate and Energy Window received \$14 million (16 percent) and the Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Window received \$2 million (2 percent) (Figure 6).

Overall, the \$84 million contributed in 2021 was lower than previous years (\$125 million in 2020 and \$103 million in 2019), mainly due to the reduction in earmarked contributions from the largest Funding Windows partner.

In 2021, \$47 million of pooled resources was allocated to country offices, where the average allocation amount was \$820,000 under Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience and \$371,000 under Poverty and Inequality. Annex 4 lists those allocations, which are valid for between 12 and 24 months depending on the size of the allocation. Where justified, extensions are sometimes granted due to political, environmental or crisis developments.

Expenditures were \$90 million in 2021 (Figure 7), a dramatic increase from the \$48 million spent in 2020. This jump in spending can be explained by the restarting of the programmatic interventions that had been put on hold while countries around the globe were prioritizing the response to COVID-19. This is especially true for the global projects that mobilized large amounts of resources (greater than \$20 million) in previous years, which also reached maturity in 2021, generating 64 percent of 2021 expenditures (\$57 million).

Table 2 details the 2021 expenditures by Funding Window, sub-window and country. Global projects appear at the end of each window and include expenditures incurred in countries. Small expenditures appear for some country offices due to the duration of allocations across calendar years—projects may have just started at the end of the calendar year, or may have ended at the beginning of the calendar year. Expenditures under \$2,000 have been lumped together as ‘Adjustments’ in the final line of the tables so as not to distract the reader.

Figure 8 presents the 10 countries with the highest expenditures across all four Funding Windows. Figure 9 illustrates expenditures by region. Finally, Table 3 details expenditures according to UNDP’s Strategic Plan outcomes and outputs.

TABLE 1: 2021 contribution amount by donor and Funding Window (all figures in USD)

2021 CONTRIBUTIONS	POVERTY AND INEQUALITY	GOVERNANCE, PEACEBUILDING, CRISIS AND RESILIENCE	NATURE, CLIMATE AND ENERGY	GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT	TOTAL PER DONOR	POOLED VS EARMARKED FUNDS*
Germany	17,031,520	6,756,757	13,379,716		37,167,992	0% vs 100%
Denmark		24,473,813			24,473,813	100% vs 0%
Netherlands		7,380,326			7,380,326	0% vs 100%
Switzerland		5,114,923			5,114,923	36% vs 64%
Luxembourg	1,877,323	1,771,004	337,838		3,986,165	100% vs 0%
Republic of Korea		1,955,049		1,956,938	3,911,987	51% vs 49%
Sweden		1,771,165			1,771,165	0% vs 100%
Total per Funding Window	18,908,843	49,223,038	13,717,554	1,956,938	83,806,372	32,331,275 vs 51,475,127
Percentage share of 2021 total	23%	59%	16%	2%	100%	
Pooled vs earmarked funds*	10% vs 90%	60% vs 40%	2% vs 98%	28% vs 72%	39% vs 61%	

*Flexible funds include funds allocated to a window, sub-window or region.

FIGURE 6: 2021 contributions by Funding Window and degree of earmarking

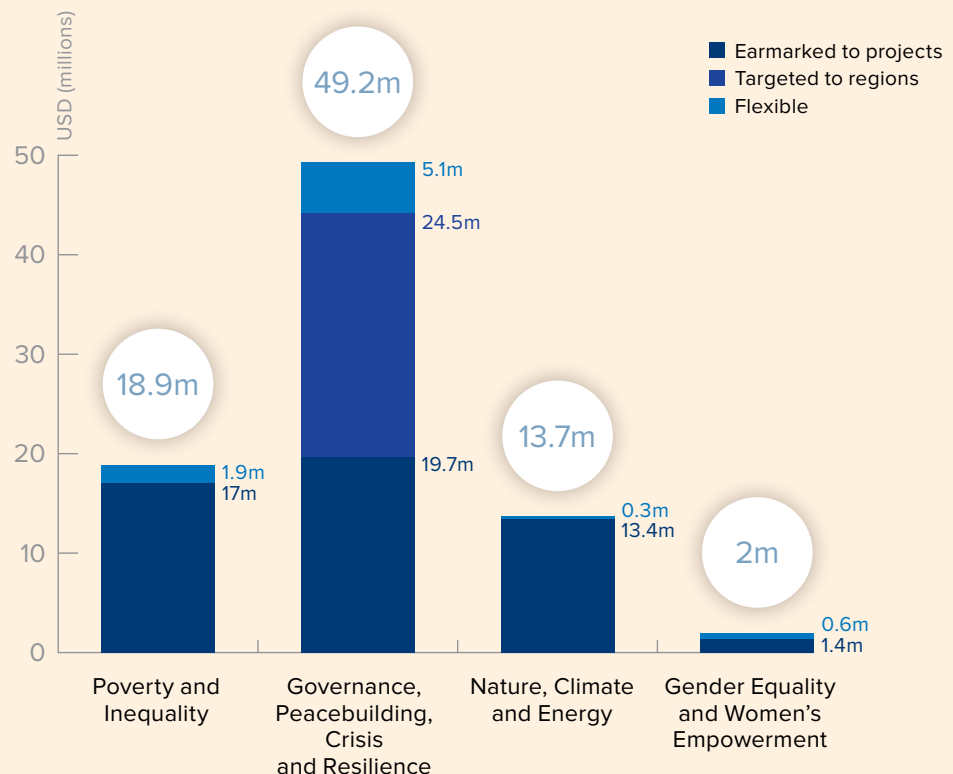


FIGURE 7: 2021 expenditures by Funding Window

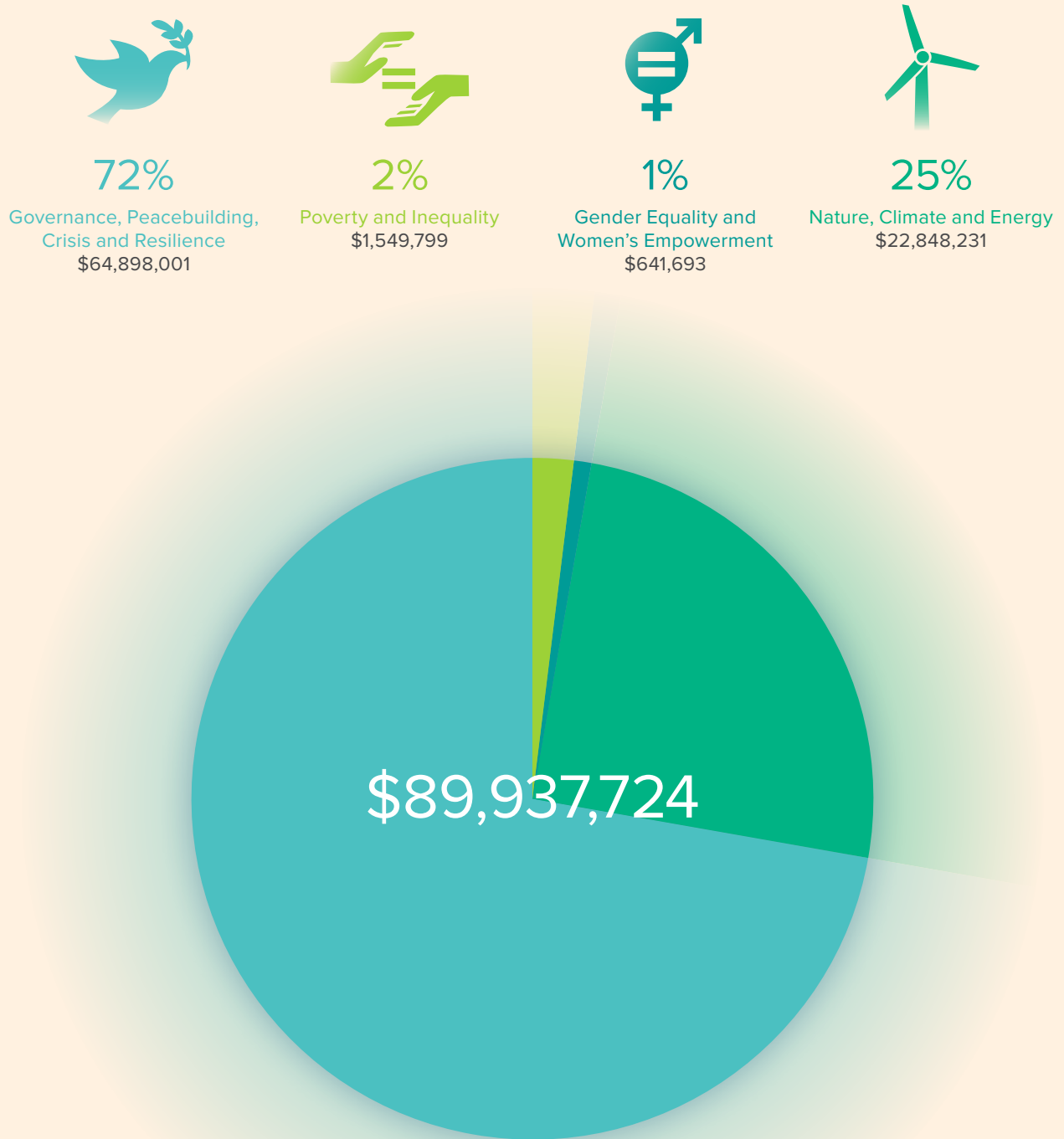


TABLE 2: 2021 expenditures by Funding Window, sub-window and country



GOVERNANCE, PEACEBUILDING, CRISIS AND RESILIENCE

COUNTRY NAME	MAIN WINDOW	DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE SUB-WINDOW	CONFLICT PREVENTION AND SUSTAINING PEACE SUB-WINDOW	RESILIENCE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION SUB-WINDOW	CRISIS RESPONSE SUB-WINDOW
Afghanistan	373,552				
Albania					84,872
Armenia	25,995		114,637		18,665
Azerbaijan					
Bhutan	342,372				
Burkina Faso	2,454,195	350,168			888,622
Cameroon			377,901		
Central African Republic	216,299				
Chad	1,907,188				
Chile		9,263			
Colombia		94,057			
Costa Rica		229,726			
Djibouti	491,431				
Ecuador		220,077			
El Salvador	194,204				
Eritrea					199,020
Ethiopia	1,195,762				12,631
Fiji					49,835
Georgia	235,563				
Guatemala					149,824
Haiti		356,468			51,681
Iran (Islamic Republic of)					10,908
Iraq	1,101,570				366,584
Jamaica			180,967		153,678
Jordan	198,447				
Lao People's Democratic Republic				244,917	
Lebanon	14,094				882,942
Maldives	358,924				
Mali	1,651,065	671,003			179,168

Mauritania	1,609,289	9,882			76,547
Mauritius					198,294
Morocco		77,830			
Mozambique					500,000
Myanmar	19,841				272,818
Niger	3,174,122	657,414			
Paraguay	92,761				
Philippines			38,406	284,951	40,615
Sierra Leone	297,907				
Somalia	1,315,161				171,144
Sri Lanka		343,562			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines					167,451
Sudan			630,019		694,056
South Sudan			500,503		9,504
Syrian Arab Republic	432,443				294,816
Timor-Leste			296,175		107,120
Trinidad and Tobago			80,465		
Turkey		108,906	41,056		
Uzbekistan		225,176			
Zimbabwe			433,588		
Country Project: Burkina Faso COSED	2,493,055				
Global Project: CB Core Capacities	1,357,359				
Global Project: CPPRI			2,308,806		
Global Project: CPPRI – Climate Security			5,828		
Global Project: Crisis Response	25,015				28,080
Global Project: Ending GBV & Achieving the SDGs		342,195			
Global Project: GPROL			12,515,281		
Global Project: HDP Nexus	112,677				
Global Project: Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme CP			13,465,498		
Regional project: Solution to SALW in the Western Balkans			2,248,239		
ADJUSTMENTS	(335)	(204)	1,186	18	(1,637)

TOTAL: 64,898,001 21,689,953 3,695,524 33,238,555 529,885 5,744,084



POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

COUNTRY/LOCATION	2021 EXPENDITURES
Burkina Faso	162,911
Central African Republic	268,640
Dominican Republic	2,736
Liberia	273,410
Mozambique	683,145
North Macedonia	33,226
Sierra Leone	90,238
ADJUSTMENTS	(100)
TOTAL	1,549,799



NATURE, CLIMATE AND ENERGY

PROJECT	2021 EXPENDITURES
Global project: BES-Net	1,348,572
Global project: BIOFIN	5,988,170
Global project: Climate Promise	8,347,531
Global project: ICCA-SGI	5,271,771
Global project: PANORAMA	714,903
Global project: SCALA	1,177,284
TOTAL	22,848,231



GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

PROJECT	2021 EXPENDITURES
Global Project: Ending GBV & Achieving the SDGs	612,445
Global project: Gender Equality Global Policy Observatory of Public Policies	29,248
TOTAL	641.693

FIGURE 8: Countries with more than \$1 million in pooled expenditures across all four Funding Windows, 2021

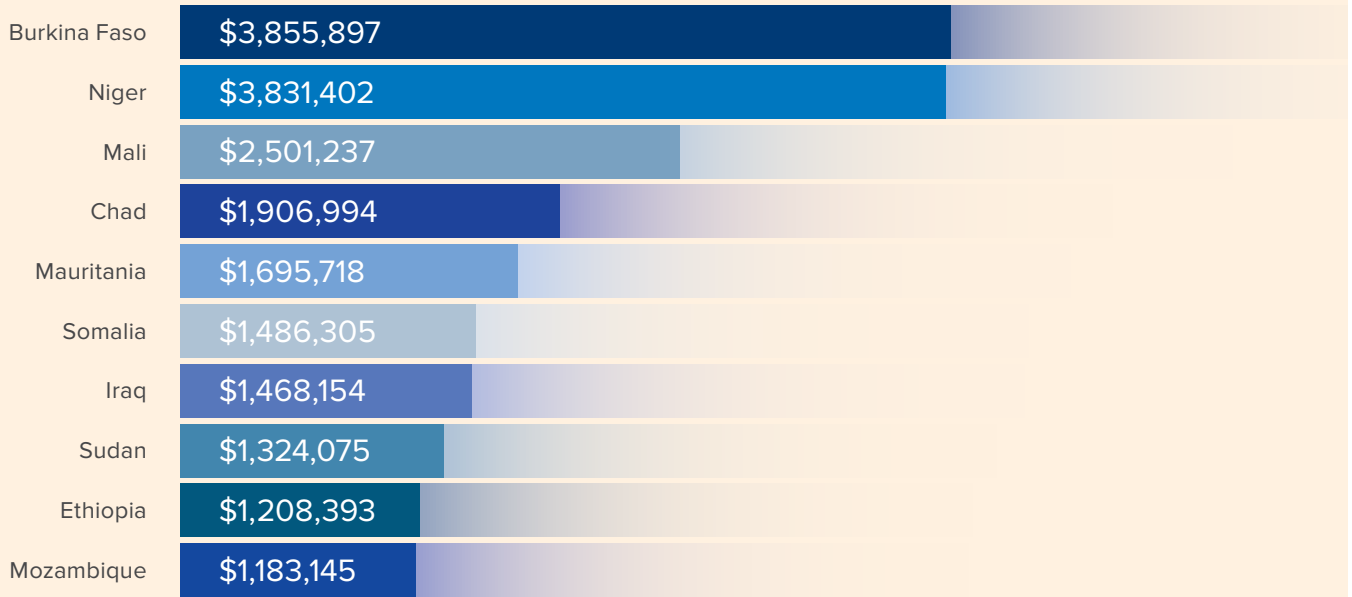
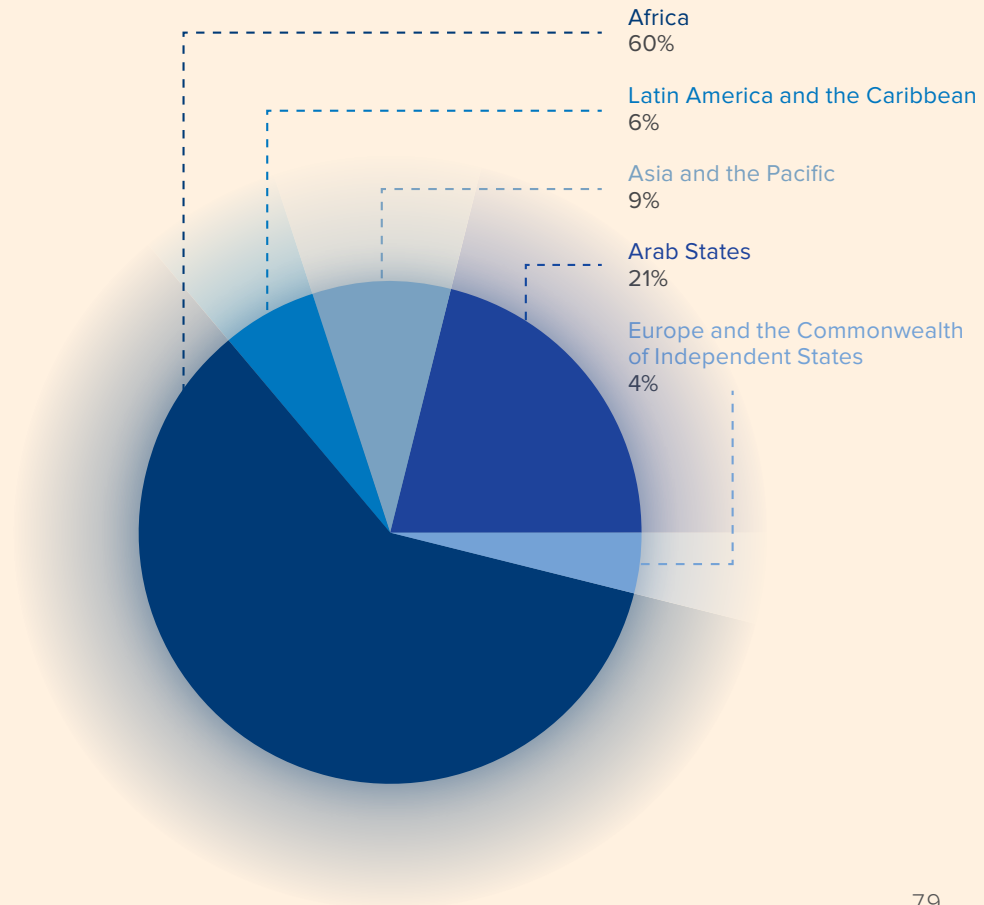


FIGURE 9: Expenditures of flexible funds by region from all Funding Windows, 2021



STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOMES	STRATEGIC PLAN OUTPUTS	2021
OUTCOME 1 Advance poverty eradication in all its forms and dimensions	1.1.1 Capacities developed across the whole of government to integrate the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement and other international agreements in development plans and budgets, and to analyse progress towards the SDGs, using innovative and data-driven solutions.	2,350,907
	1.1.2 Marginalised groups, particularly the poor, women, people with disabilities and displaced are empowered to gain universal access to basic services and financial and non-financial assets to build productive capacities and benefit from sustainable livelihoods and jobs	3,724,415
	1.2.1 Capacities at national and sub-national levels strengthened to promote inclusive local economic development and deliver basic services including HIV and related services	1,876,089
	1.2.2 Enabling environment strengthened to expand public and private financing for the achievement of the SDGs	616,720
	1.2.3 Institutions and systems enabled to address awareness, prevention and enforcement of anti-corruption measures to maximize availability of resources for poverty eradication	1,006,157
	1.3.1 National capacities and evidence-based assessment and planning tools enable gender-responsive and risk-informed development investments, including for response to and recovery from crisis	153,678
	1.4.1 Solutions scaled up for sustainable management of natural resources, including sustainable commodities and green and inclusive value chains	12,729,118
	1.5.1 Solutions adopted to achieve universal access to clean, affordable and sustainable energy	783,077
	1.6.1 Country-led measures accelerated to advance gender equality and women's empowerment	368,367
	1.6.2 Measures in place and implemented across sectors to prevent and respond to Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV)	1,046,482
	Outcome 1 sub-total	(27%)

TABLE 3: Expenditures by UNDP Strategic Plan 2018-2021 outcomes and outputs, 2021

STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOMES	STRATEGIC PLAN OUTPUTS	2021	
OUTCOME 2 Accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development	2.1.1 Low emission and climate resilient objectives addressed in national, sub-national and sectoral development plans and policies to promote economic diversification and green growth	3,632,169	
	2.1.2 Capacities developed for progressive expansion of inclusive social protection systems	1,160,005	
	2.2.1 Use of digital technologies and big data enabled for improved public services and other government functions	12,724	
	2.2.2 Constitution-making, electoral and parliamentary processes and institutions strengthened to promote inclusion, transparency and accountability	3,884,875	
	2.2.3 Capacities, functions and financing of rule of law and national human rights institutions and systems strengthened to expand access to justice and combat discrimination, with a focus on women and other marginalized groups	14,821,409	
	2.3.1 Data and risk-informed development policies, plans, systems and financing incorporate integrated and gender-responsive solutions to reduce disaster risks, enable climate change adaptation and mitigation, and prevent risk of conflict	3,389,656	
	2.4.1 Gender-responsive legal and regulatory frameworks, policies and institutions strengthened, and solutions adopted, to address conservation, sustainable use and equitable benefit sharing of natural resources, in line with international conventions and national legislation	1,909,621	
	2.5.1 Solutions developed, financed and applied at scale for energy efficiency and transformation to clean energy and zero-carbon development, for poverty eradication and structural transformation	97,333	
	2.6.1 Capacities strengthened to raise awareness on and undertake legal, policy and institutional reforms to fight structural barriers to women's empowerment	109,277	
	Outcome 2 sub-total (32%)	29,017,070	
OUTCOME 3 Strengthen resilience to shocks and crisis	3.1.1 Core government functions and inclusive basic services restored post-crisis for stabilization, durable solutions to displacement and return to sustainable development pathways within the framework of national policies and priorities	4,814,549	
	3.2.1 National capacities strengthened for reintegration, reconciliation, peaceful management of conflict and prevention of violent extremism in response to national policies and priorities	22,360,300	
	3.2.2 National and local systems enabled and communities empowered to ensure the restoration of justice institutions, redress mechanisms and community security	3,307,003	
	3.3.1 Evidence-based assessment and planning tools and mechanisms applied to enable implementation of gender-sensitive and risk-informed prevention and preparedness to limit the impact of natural hazards and pandemics and promote peaceful, just and inclusive societies	2,829,164	
	3.3.2 Gender-responsive and risk-informed mechanisms supported to build consensus, improve social dialogue and promote peaceful, just and inclusive societies	1,374,603	
	Outcome 3 sub-total (39%)	34,685,618	
	Not applicable	1,580,026	
GRAND TOTAL		89,937,724	



United Nations Development Programme

One United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

www.undp.org

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