### **Dominican Republic**

### **COUNTRY PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE SUMMARY[[1]](#footnote-2)**

### Reporting period: 2018-2022

### **I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

During the cycle 2018-2022, UNDP has served as a major partner to the Government towards Sustainable Development Goals and the reach of the main priorities, ensuring the rights of all people, especially those at risk of being left behind. Together with the Government, the private sector, the donor community, and civil society, UNDP supports the country’s systemic transformation into a more productive, inclusive, sustainable and resilient society capable of withstanding external shocks and ensuring environmental sustainability while increasing the quality of life for all. Also, its innovation agenda, UNDP spearheaded by the Acceleration Lab, has yielded emblematic participatory solutions to key problems such as access to health for remote communities during the COVID-19 pandemic and solid waste management.

Related to the COVID-19 pandemic, UNDP supported the Government with a systemic approach and integrated solutions for the Government’s response to the crisis, helping preserve thousands of lives, and preventing thousands of families from falling into poverty.

As a Golden Seal-certified Office, UNDP has been at the forefront of national efforts to reduce gender inequality in the public and private sectors, impacting 77,000 people in public and private institutions through the Gender Equality Seal (GES) certification process. UNDP strengthened the care system for female victims of violence and the Ministry of Women’s data collection capacity and fostered the political participation of 8,590 women candidates through the “Know your candidate” platform during the 2020 municipal and congressional elections.

UNDP has continued its collaboration with other UN agencies (FAO, UNICEF, OIM, UN Women ILO, UNODC, WFP, UNHCR, World Bank, among others) and has strengthened partnerships with other development agencies (USAID, Andalucian Cooperation Agency) other State members (UK, Canada), private sector, academia and civil society organization on mobilizing resources and implementing solutions on education, social security and protection, gender and youth, migration, citizen security and transparency, climate, risk, tourism, inclusive labour markets and sustainable production and consumption.

### **II: Country Programme Performance Summary**

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| **Country information** |  |
| **Country name: Dominican Republic** |
| **Current country programme period: 2018-2022** |
| **Outcomes** | **Total Expenditure** | **Key Indicators of outcome (1-4 per outcome)** | **Progress made against key indicators** |
| **1. By 2022, the Dominican Republic will have achieved greater equality by reducing economic and social gaps with a gender focus, promoting social mobility, resilience, and food and nutritional security without undermining environmental sustainability.** | $220,118,745.60 | ***Indicator 1.1 % population in poverty**** + 1. *% population in poverty*

***Indicator 1.2 Pay gap by formalization of economic activity and sex**** + 1. *Pay gap by formalization of economic activity and sex*

***Indicator 1.3 % households with vulnerability to climate events Climate Shocks Vulnerability Index (Indice de Vulnerabilidad a Choques Climáticos (IVACC)) <national average - <0.524 (SDG 1.5)**** + 1. *Urban*
		2. *Rural*
		3. *Male-headed households*
		4. *Female-headed households*

***Indicator 1.4 % Population in multidimensional poverty**** + 1. *population multidimensionally poor*
 | * + 1. *The available data for 2021 shows that 23.85% of the population lives in poverty and 3.06% in extreme poverty.*
		2. *20.9% (2020)*
		3. *66.3*
		4. *51*
		5. *47.9*
		6. *46.9l*
		7. *25.2% (WPI LAC, calculated by MEPYD with ECLAC methodology, which represents data with regional comparability. There is no country information related to a specific reduction target for this indicator for 2022.*
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| **UNDP Contribution:**CP Outputs:* 1. Public policies for eradicating poverty reduction of inequalities and socioeconomic vulnerabilities throughout the life cycle are sustainably implemented.
	2. The technical and operational capacity of institutions providing services in favor of sustainable human development increased.
	3. Knowledge evidence and South-South cooperation initiatives to design, implement and promote public policies, academic research and knowledge transfer for SDG achievement fostered.
	4. Strategic policy frameworks for competitiveness innovation and decent livelihoods set up.
	5. Women’s economic empowerment, with a focus on sustainability, improved.

Progress and Achievements:During the 2018-2022 cycle, UNDP supported the strengthening of the operational structure of the Social Protection System. In particular, it collaborated in strengthening the categorization instruments of non-contributory social protection, supporting the *Sistema Único de Beneficiarios* (SIUBEN) in updating the Socioeconomic Household Survey (ESH), in the development of the Multidimensional Poverty Index (IPM-RD), in the implementation of the Índice de Vulnerabilidad Ante Choques Climáticos (IVACC) and the interoperability with the Social Policy Cabinet and the National Housing Institute (now the Ministry of Housing, INVI). In addition, UNDP strengthened the operational capacity of the Progresando con Solidaridad Program (PROSOLI, today Supérate Program) by updating its processes and procedures. During this period, SIUBEN has been recognized in the Gold category of the Seal of Good Inclusive Practices “RD Incluye 2021”, in Knowledge Production, for collecting information from people with disabilities for the development of public policies aimed at improving their quality of life.UNDP supported the strengthening and expansion of the physical infrastructure of the Administradora de Subsidios Sociales (ADESS) with the renovation program of the Social Supply Network (RAS) stores, with the refurbishment of walls, ceiling, floors, doors, windows, bathroom, counter, counter, interior and exterior painting, as well as the installation of surveillance cameras, which allows the provision of higher quality services to the beneficiaries. This results in benefits for the beneficiaries of the Progresando con Solidaridad Program (today, the *Supérate* Program), who use this network for the use of their conditional cash transfers. Similarly, ADESS continued to be supported in its process of strengthening its capacities in its role as manager of the RAS and unifier of the payments of targeted social subsidies granted by the Government; and internal processes continued to be automated, reflected in the speed of the services offered to merchants and beneficiaries. Likewise, the processes of supervision and verification of RAS merchants were improved and made more efficient, as well as the processes for delivering cards to beneficiaries.UNDP contributed to the strengthening of the operational arm of social protection, accompanying the Progresando con Solidaridad Program (PROSOLI, now the Supérate Program) in updating its procedures, as well as in strengthening the program to support and promote family agriculture as a way to ensure food security and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Academy for the territorialization of the 2030 Agenda. Similarly, UNDP supported the generation of rigorous evidence on the program’s impact on the beneficiary population and more recently supported the establishment and implementation of the Supérate Accelerator, seeking to strengthen it and improve its innovation-based management. During the COVID-19 pandemic, UNDP played a fundamental role in strengthening social protection structures and mechanisms and generating instruments that enabled the Government to provide a timely response. UNDP supported the development and implementation of six rounds of the Survey for the Measurement of Socioeconomic Impact (SEIA-Red Actúa), which included the transfer of knowledge to SIUBEN to implement the last rounds. This instrument provided an understanding of the impact of the pandemic on the population living in poverty and vulnerability and provided inputs for decision-making regarding the maintenance of subsidies and support programs for the poorest and most vulnerable population.Leveraging its unique positioning as the integral analytical and operational arm of the United Nations, UNDP mobilized technical expertise, global know-how and operational prowess to accelerate the achievement of development results and support the mitigation and recovery efforts during the pandemic. UNDP’s capacity to generate data and research for evidence-based decision-making led to the formulation and implementation of the United Nations System’s Strategic Response Plan to COVID-19 and a series of knowledge products on the pandemic’s impact on the economy and vulnerable groups: (1) Recovery Needs Analysis conducted with United Nations agencies, European Union, International Development Bank and World Bank; (2) UNDP-led Socioeconomic Impact Assessment praised in the evaluation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), among others.UNDP also played a key role in increasing national capacities to ensure access to education during the pandemic. In particular, UNDP accompanied the Ministry of Education (MINERD) in improving access to information and communication technologies (ICT) (UNDAF Evaluation, 2022), in analyzing the needs of people in the territories and increasing capacities to close the technological and digital divide and enable virtual learning. In this regard, UNDP managed to purchase and deliver 1,6209,332 devices to students and teachers. As support, the Youth Network of Technical Entrepreneurs Unit was created, with more than 1,500 young people in the process of training in software, maintenance and repair, entrepreneurship, and technical assistance to provide services to the users of the equipment delivered. In addition, support was provided to the MINERD in the motivation, support, data collection and identification of incidents and channelling of solutions to guarantee distance education and achieve the insertion or educational reinsertion of students through in-person home visits, impacting at least 1,265,000 students. Support was also provided to strengthen the digital capacities of 2,949 teachers through a master’s degree in educational technology, thus contributing to forming a national network of tutors that supports more than 100,000 teachers nationwide. Similarly, UNDP strengthened the management capacities and resilience skills of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure inclusive socioeconomic recovery, with a focus on MSMEs of women and vulnerable groups (people with disabilities, LGBTIQ+ and migrants from Haiti and Venezuela). As a result, 213 entrepreneurs and owners of MSMEs benefited, 30 companies were made aware of the importance of developing and implementing inclusive business policies, and 30 civil society organizations strengthened their capacity to manage private sector funds. In addition, technical assistance was provided to MSMEs that were in the process of growth and slowed down due to the crisis by diagnosing their operational needs and providing support to meet these demands. UNDP also collaborated with academia, launching the Inclusive Socioeconomic Recovery Program and the National University Pedro Henríquez Ureña, UNPHU.Another important UNDP contribution during the 2018-2022 cycle was the promotion of the right to decent and inclusive work for people with disabilities (PwDs) through partnerships with the Ministry of Labor, Organizations of People with Disabilities, and the Private Sector. The National Disability Council was supported in promoting inclusive public policies for people with disabilities, recognizing 46 public and private sector entities this year, through the Inclusion Seal “Sello RD Incluye” for good inclusive practices for people with disabilities. |
| **2. *By 2022, the Dominican Republic will have increased its social and environmental sustainability and its resilience to climate change impacts and other natural hazards by promoting sustainable production and consumption patterns, encouraging adequate land use, and effectively managing its natural resources, watersheds and disaster risks.*** | $2.419.259,56 | ***Indicator 2.1 Annual deforestation rate**** + 1. *Annual deforestation rate*

*Indicator* ***2.2 Carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions (Metric Tons per capita)**** + 1. *Carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions (Metric Tons per capita)*
 | * + 1. *No data available.*
		2. *3.56 metric tons per capita (2020).*
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| **UNDP Contribution:**CP Outputs:2.1 Conservation and sustainable use of natural capital increased and strengthened.2.2 Sustainable production and consumption patterns strengthened.2.3 Climate-resilient and carbon neutral development improved.2.4 Cities and territories increase resilience to natural hazards.Progress and Achievements:The actions developed for this output contributed to UNDAF Outcome 1.2, output 1.2.1, CPD targets (indicators 1.1 and 1.2) and the UNDP Strategic Plan (IRRF indicator No. 2.4.1.1), as well as SDG, targets No. 5, 6, 14, 15, 16 and 17, as part of the strategies to contribute to the strengthening of the governing institutions responsible for ensuring environmental sustainability and promoting greater participation of key stakeholders in Dominican society.With UNDP technical assistance, 11 municipalities in the country have formulated Municipal Development Plans, which incorporate actions for environmental protection, sustainable production and responsible consumption. These municipalities are Polo, La Descubierta, Los Rios, Villa Jaragua, Neiba, Galván, Poster Rio, Rancho Arriba, Sabana Larga, San José de Ocoa and Yamasá.Within the framework of the Municipal Economic and Social Development Councils, local platforms were established in two municipalities (Vicente Noble and Polo) as a basis for promoting compliance with the 2030 agenda, through the implementation of municipal development plans. In these municipalities, based on the evaluation of the impact of the pandemic on households and MSMEs, socioeconomic recovery plans were prepared, and actions were prioritized for the recovery of livelihoods and the social fabric, focusing on women and young people in vulnerable situations.Four instruments for the conservation and sustainable use of natural capital have been developed with the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources:1. An ELSA map that identifies priority areas for biodiversity. This tool combines geospatial data for biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and sustainable natural resource management. It will support the implementation of key projects based on national priorities such as forest cover enhancement, biodiversity protection, ecosystem restoration, sustainable agriculture, soil conservation, mitigation of climate change impacts, and land-use planning.
2. A Strategic Social and Environmental Assessment (SESA) to develop criteria and policy guidelines for the sustainable management of Threatened Mountain landscapes.
3. An Integrated Monitoring System for biodiversity, sustainable forest management and land degradation to generate scientific and technical information to support the decision-making process to ensure the conservation of biodiversity and associated ecosystem services in productive mountain landscapes. It includes biodiversity characteristics, sustainable forest management and sustainable soil management in productive mountain landscapes.
4. A remodeled nursery in Rancho Arriba (San José de Ocoa), with 400,000 coffee plants/year. It is expected to cover 44% of the coffee plants needed to establish agrosystems in this area.
5. A geospatial map was prepared to evaluate the impact of the expansion of the areas under cocoa production during the last five years. The analysis of this information confirmed that this crop is not only not a driver of deforestation in the country, but also contributes to the recovery of vegetation cover in previously deforested areas.

As a result of the strategy to promote sustainable livelihoods compatible with the conservation of natural capital, with the involvement of the Ministry of Environment, academia, cocoa companies, institutions linked to coffee and cocoa production, and local civil society organizations, and in the framework of the contribution to the recovery of the impacts of COVID-19, in 2021:1. 12 community initiatives were established to improve living conditions at the local level (community aqueducts, community services, ecotourism and beekeeping ventures, agroforestry, and fish production), benefiting some 7,500 people.
2. 401 coffee and cacao farms rehabilitated and/or improved to increase productivity.
3. 239 women and 482 men with improved livelihoods.
4. 60 young people trained in e-commerce (including topics such as MSME and entrepreneurship ecosystem, design thinking and learn startup methodology, startup guides, digital marketing and sales strategies) as part of a strategy to support young entrepreneurs in cocoa-growing communities and ensure generational change by offering young women opportunities to participate in agricultural activities in the cocoa sector, promoting their empowerment and creating conditions for them to maintain their residence in the communities.
5. 40 technicians from organizations responsible for providing technical assistance to small farmers sensitized and trained to strengthen their capacities in environmental management in the agricultural sector and climate change, as well as to collect and make visible information on compliance with environmental regulations.
6. 2,500 people trained in biodiversity conservation, organic fertilizer, honey production, and fish farming.

In addition, a gender strategy for conservation and production in productive mountain landscapes was developed to guide territorial planning, the implementation of instruments for the conservation of natural capital and the development of livelihood initiatives to encourage greater participation of women in the different activities to be developed.The cocoa organizations CONACADO and FUPAROCA (responsible for providing technical assistance to producers who supply cocoa exporters) advanced in the operationalization of a strategy for the empowerment of women linked to the Cocoa Life program, identifying measurable goals and indicators to promote equal opportunities between men and women through institutional actions, for the partners to promote - through training and communication actions (internal and external), equal opportunities and favor the incorporation of women in the processes of the cocoa value chain. The project also worked with the cocoa communities, developing a user-friendly version of the gender equality plan. The training and awareness-raising process for technical personnel and community members has been a key factor in the involvement and active participation of all key stakeholders. |

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| **3. *By 2022, progress is made in achieving gender equality and in eradicating all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls.*** | $96.750,60 | ***3.1 Proportion of elective seats and representative public positions held by women.**** + 1. *% women in elective seats: Senate seats*
		2. *% women in elective seats: Chamber of Deputies seats*
		3. *% women in elective seats: Town Halls*

***3.2 % Women aged 15-49 married or in consensual union who have suffered psychological, physical or sexual partner violence.**** + 1. *% Women aged 15-49 married or in consensual union who have suffered psychological, physical or sexual partner violence.*
 | * + 1. *12.5% (2020).*
		2. *25% (2020).*
		3. *12% (2020).*
		4. *34.6% (2020).*
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| UNDP Contribution:CP Outputs3.1 Gender gaps and discrimination reduced.3.2 Public and private capacities that mainstream gender help eliminate inequalities and discrimination developed.Progress and AchievementsIn compliance with the commitments set out in the UNDAF/CPD related to the elimination of inequalities, discrimination, and gender-based violence, and which contributes directly to IRRF indicator No. 1.6.2.2. 2 on frameworks to prevent and address sexual and gender-based violence, a campaign for the prevention of violence against women and girls was articulated to strengthen the communication strategies of the Ministry of Women, Ministry of Interior and Police and National Statistics Office (ONE) to inform and raise awareness about the situation of violence against women and girls and to promote its reporting, focusing on two thematic lines: one oriented to victims and witnesses and the other from a responsible masculinity approach. Based on this effort, as part of the communication strengthening of the Ministry of Women, we worked with municipal and provincial offices of the Ministry to disseminate informative material, which served to reinforce awareness and knowledge of reporting mechanisms among people who do not have access to the Internet or do not use social networks and strengthened the communication materials used by the provincial and municipal offices of the Ministry of Women in their service to women victims of gender-based violence.Similarly, tools have been contributed to the service of the Ministry of Women to offer alternative systems for reporting gender-based violence, such as a ChatBot prototype for automated attention to people interested in receiving information or support on gender-based violence. This tool is integrated into a Web page, offers a space for questions, and receives answers automatically generated by artificial intelligence. As part of the Spotlight regional initiative, the Dominican Republic joined a pilot program with the participation of three companies to work on the prevention of and attention to violence against women in the private sector. Also, as part of this initiative, the Dominican Republic participated in the development of 5 studies at the regional level, including the Dominican Republic, focused on femicide in contexts of high social vulnerability.Within the framework of different initiatives such as the IgualandoRD Seal, as part of the “Project to support the socioeconomic recovery of affected households and MSMEs led by women” or as part of the gender mainstreaming work in public and private organizations, gender awareness workshops were facilitated for public and private organizations and the university sector, promoting the denaturalization of gender stereotypes and the prevention of violence against women and girls. As a contribution to the strategy for the dissemination of data and statistics by public organizations, UNDP contributed to the preparation and dissemination of two studies on gender violence in the workplace and the community, with the participation of ministries and public agencies involved in the issue, in addition to the counterparts (Ministry of the Interior and Police, National Statistics Office and Ministry of Women’s Affairs).UNDP has contributed to mainstreaming the gender approach in the plans and actions of three Citizen Security and Gender Roundtables. UNDP has worked with the Citizen Security Observatory to ensure a gender approach in the periodic reports on citizen security data and analysis. Since 2014, UNDP, ILO and UN Women have been promoting the Social Protection and Gender Floor to advance in the incorporation of the gender approach in social protection systems and thus ensure better access to services and income security for the population in general, addressing the specific needs of different population groups in situations of greater vulnerability, particularly women. In the Dominican Republic, a Mapping of Social Protection and Social Security and the study “Towards a Social Protection and Gender Floor in the Dominican Republic: Scenarios and Costs” were developed, focusing on the care issue, the latter to be launched in 2019. It has coordinated with the country’s social protection system and the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPyD) to provide technical assistance for constructing a comprehensive care policy and making its operationalization in the territory feasible. Based on the results of this joint work and in response to the priorities identified by the Government, UNDP, ILO and UN Women, together with UNFPA, will jointly implement US$725,400 of SDG SIDS Funds for a Social Protection initiative of the Dominican Republic with a focus on the National Care System. Support for the territorialization of this public policy through piloting in three prioritized territories, strengthening the collection, processing and organization of data, records and statistics on the use of time, geo-referencing of care services, systematization of the experience and developing of a communication strategy. UNDP is the lead agency for the initiative and will directly implement US$347,980 (48% of the total).Contributing to UNDAF outcome 2.4, CPD outcome 3.2, and IRRF outcome 2.6.1.1, which responds to gender mainstreaming and the eradication of discrimination against women in the labor market, initiatives have been promoted that contribute to gender mainstreaming and the advancement of the SDGs in both the public and private spheres, which the new Government has taken, and particularly by the Ministry of Women as national public policies to advance in the reduction of gender gaps and promote the women’s empowerment.UNDP accompanied the Ministry of Women in increasing its technological capacities for the implementation of actions to close gender gaps, in the design and implementation of tools for mainstreaming the gender approach and its institutionalization and progress towards the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda, such as PLANEG III and its monitoring and evaluation strategy; the SDG 5 Roadmap; and the Gender Equality Seals for Public Sector institutions and for private companies and organizations.In 2021, UNDP accompanied the certification process for private sector companies. A new audit was conducted under the NORDOM 775 Gender Equality Standard, with Banco Caribe being the eighth company to be certified and receive the Gold Seal (W19). The other seven companies received their follow-up audits, and by 2022 two of them are expected to receive the recertification audit and possible Platinum Seal. It should be noted that in the audit of early 2021, Banco BHD León and Bepensa Dominicana received certification and the Platinum Seal, for maintaining the Gold Seal for two consecutive periods and successfully passing the recertification audit (W20). The eight certified companies have a direct impact on 18,534 employees, 39% of whom are women and 61% men. The changes made during the Seal implementation process indirectly impact the families of the employees, the company’s clientele and other companies.Despite the complications experienced by the initiative during 2020 due to the change in the Dominican private sector’s team and priorities as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, in 2021 interest resurfaced strongly, signing 13 new Letters of Commitment (W21,22,23,24,25,26), with companies of different industries and sizes, reaching a total of 17 companies in the process, which is equivalent to impacting 32,721 collaborators, 48.5% women and 51.5% men. This was made possible by adopting a virtual follow-up methodology, which has allowed us to make significant progress in the project implementation. By December 2021, with the continuous support of the seal’s advisor and the program’s coordinating team, 12 companies had completed their self-diagnosis, and it is expected that by 2022 they will be audited and achieve the Equal DR seal for the private sector.To strengthen the companies’ capacities and provide them with tools, four open cycles of gender ABCs were held for personnel, reaching 280 people. In addition, to continue linking the companies that are part of the seal’s community, the Forum on Companies Committed to Gender Equality: Recognition of the Equalizing DR Seal (W20) was held.The country was selected to be part of 2 regional initiatives. Three companies of the Equalizing DR Seal were selected to be part of a pilot program to implement a Model for the Management of Violence in the Business Sector. And IICA contributed to the document Companies free of violence: A practical guide for the prevention, detection, attention and punishment of gender-based violence, sexual harassment and workplace harassment (W27). In addition, together with three other countries, a study is being carried out with EUROsociAL+ to build a business case for the Gender Equality Seals.As part of the actions to mainstream the gender approach in the Public Sector, the Equalizing DR Seal for the Public Sector was launched, a regional initiative led by the Ministry of Women at the national level, with the participation of 10 institutions: Santo Domingo East City Hall, General Directorate of Customs, the General Directorate of Public-Private Alliances, the General Directorate of Public Contracting, the Dominican Telecommunications Institute, the Central Electoral Board, the Progresando con Solidaridad Program, the Single Beneficiary System and the Superintendency of Banks. These institutions have already completed the first 2 phases of implementation. They are building their action plan that will take them to the end of 2022 to evaluate results that will identify whether they are candidates for gold, silver or bronze seal. To ensure the sustainability of the initiatives, NORDOM 775 is being reviewed with the Dominican Quality Institute (INDOCAL) to adjust the certification requirements and narrative to the improvements identified.During the 2018-2022 cycle, UNDP also accompanied public institutions and civil society organizations of LGBTI people, promoting advocacy and visibility of the social demands of LGBTI people, raising awareness among public administration staff, promoting partnerships with the private sector and supporting the formulation of inclusive public policies, to ensure the full exercise of their rights. For this, UNDP provided technical assistance based on supporting four human rights organizations in advocacy activities that focus on visibility, international protection of human rights and access to justice for LGBTI people, training 611 human rights activists belonging to 14 LGBTI organizations, government institutions, and universities, train 76 people belonging to 46 national and international companies, support two public institutions in processes of formulation of public policies on access to justice and health, participation of 3 public institutions in a high-level dialogue in the Caribbean on the human rights of LGBTI people and the dissemination of the results of the National LGBTI Survey 2020. |

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| **4. *By 2022, public institutions are strengthened to ensure sustainable development, participation, protection and effective enjoyment of human rights, without discrimination and with an emphasis on children, adolescents, youth, people with disabilities and migrants.*** | $17.945.808,23 | ***Indicator 4.1 Homicide rate / 100,000 inhabitants.**** + 1. *Homicide rate / 100,000 inhabitants.*

***Indicator 4.2 Number of audit reports issued by the National Accountability Office**** + 1. *Number of audit reports issued by the National Accountability Office*
 | * + 1. *10.6 .*
		2. *261 (dato 2020)*
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| **UNDP Contribution:**CP Outputs4.1 Technical and analytical capacity for citizen security decision-making and policies strengthened.4.2 Strengthened accountability and transparency in the public sector.4.3 Increased participation of women youth and vulnerable populations in political and decision-making spaces.4.4 Inclusive economic and labour practices encourage local economic development.Progress and AchievementsDuring the 2018-2022 cycle, UNDP accompanied the Ministry of Interior and Police and its Citizen Security Observatory in developing a Territorial Prioritization Index, as a policy instrument that serves as a basis for the design and implementation of programs and initiatives at the territorial level. This index makes it possible to show and define the territories where threats to citizen security are concentrated at the municipal level, as a prioritization input for the National Citizen Security Plan “My Safe Country”. Together with the Vice-Ministry of Preventive Security in Local Governments, 12 characterizations of areas prioritized in “My Safe Country” were generated, together with an automated tool of the forum methodology that allows the collection of data at the local level to enable the Local Committees to make decisions at the local level.Likewise, support was provided in designing and implementing a management model for the Local Security, Citizenship and Gender Roundtables, with the digital platform “Citizen Forum”, which places citizen participation in the formulation of citizen security policies at the local level at the center of the discussion. In addition, the Observatory’s analysis of the territorial situation of violence was accompanied by vulnerability variables and socioeconomic aspects that influence these citizen security indicators, which serve as an instrument for decision-making at the local level.UNDP has supported the National Housing Institute’s institutional and operational strengthening to improve its citizen service, innovation, planning, management, procurement, and contracting processes for effective transparency and accountability. This INVI accompaniment includes the implementation of a structured procurement and contracting plan so that all procurement processes are part of it and the institution has a good procurement and contracting management, currently having more than 10% of the acquisitions planned and managed according to the planning. Similarly, INVI was supported in the planning and establishment of a Housing Reconstruction and Construction Plan, which is 100% executed for this year. This process involves the replacement of the materials of a house with recoverable structural deficiencies, whether in the roof, walls, floor, doors, windows, or the enlargement of a room, and also includes the total construction of the house in the same place where it was originally located in case it has collapsed or the structure is not recoverable. This plan aims to rebuild 27,000 homes, of which more than 16,000 have already been improved and delivered.In support of transparency efforts, UNDP has supported the Government Office of Information and Communication Technologies (OGTIC) in i) the development of the system and design language of the Dominican State, ii) the design and implementation of the National Portal of Digital Services, iii) the promotion and technical support in the formation of Smart Cities with the support of the UNDP acceleration laboratory, iv) the increase of the Digital Public Infrastructure, which includes the strengthening of the Dominican State Datacenter, the creation of a Government Data Warehouse and the establishment of the Government Software Factory, and v) the design and implementation of policies and procedures for the massification of the Digital Signature at the country level.Also, in 2021, the UNS, through UNDP, established a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Public Administration (MAP) of the Dominican Republic and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), whose purpose is to “promote the institutional and operational strengthening of the public administration of the Dominican Republic, fostering a culture of efficiency, effectiveness and transparency” and also seeks to “reinforce the institutional capacities of the Dominican Republic, including that of public officials, in the provision of services, the use of technologies and programs, the simplification of institutional procedures, strengthening the quality of public administration (UNDAF Evaluation, 2022).UNDP has accompanied the procurement and contracting processes of the National District Municipality (ADN) so that they are carried out within the framework of transparency, continuity of services and good management of the various internal departments of the institution. In this sense, support has been given to the urban sanitation department and equipment for providing continuous and quality service, guaranteeing the garbage collection service without lacking supplies or equipment. More than 6 million garbage collection bags have been acquired and made available to the citizens for organized collection. The personnel of the different areas were uniformed, with clothing that allowed the identification of the personnel of the City Hall and the department in which they work, for a better knowledge of their work by the citizens and to improve the identity of the institution. Twenty-three vans were added to the service of the different departments, and 18 new contractors were hired to provide support in different areas. UNDP also supports improving solid waste management by hiring dump trucks to provide services from the transfer station to the Duquesa landfill. Currently, a consultancy on the transparency of the institution’s financial management is being finalized, which will serve as input for improving management processes and strengthening internal control measures. An audit of the civil works carried out by the Municipality was conducted, and a consultancy has been completed to improve the institution’s planning department to consolidate the strategic planning processes as the neuralgic point of the design and management of services to the citizens.Concerning strengthening the justice system, UNDP has supported the Judicial Branch in the process of strategic development and comprehensive reform, incorporating Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). In this sense, it has accompanied the project’s implementation process for the digitalization of active judicial documentation. It also supports the increase of the institution’s capacity for the continuity of the exercise of its role of imparting justice even in an environment of crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic and has equipped 800 administrative and jurisdictional personnel with computer equipment and audiovisual capacity for the holding of virtual hearings and the continuity of documentary and administrative processes digitally. Likewise, an audit of the financial processes of the Supreme Court of Justice has been carried out to strengthen its financial management capacity and improve internal control measures in this area.UNDP has also accompanied the Ombudsman, supporting the development of its Institutional Strategic Plan with the support of the UNDP SIGOB team. The general approach of the plan aims at the harmonious and realistic insertion of the Ombudsman in the universe of the Administration of Justice, the efficient, effective and, above all, effective provision of the public defense service and the ability to provide a humane approach to the comprehensive needs of groups in vulnerable situations beyond assistance and support in criminal proceedings. Additionally, to better serve its beneficiaries and citizens in general and to provide digital access to services in times of pandemic, the Ombudsman’s computer platform has been enhanced, which allows for improved management by the institution’s staff and a better response to the requirements of its users.In contribution to CPD indicator 4.3 and IRRF indicators 2.2.2.2.2 and 2.6.1.1.1, and taking the experience of the online platform *Conoce Tu Candidata* to make women’s candidacies visible (W16), work began on an umbrella platform Más Mujeres, Más Democracia, which could contain the other actions of women’s political participation and gender legislative agenda that are being carried out in conjunction with public institutions, such as the JCE and the TSE, as well as support to civil society and feminist groups.Spaces for discussion and debate were promoted to deal with some national issues that were framed within the work of a gender agenda. Within this framework, the webinar “Rights, Constitution and Three Causes” was promoted to analyze the protection of women’s dignity and human rights, within the framework of the proposal to decriminalize abortion in its three causes. The Webinar was attended by national and international specialists in public and constitutional law and civil society, reaching more than 100 participants (W17). Similarly, in an organized manner with the different UNS agencies, support was provided to civil society groups that demonstrated in favor of women’s sexual and reproductive rights throughout the period.To continue contributing tools and knowledge to the country, UNDP managed the country’s entry into the regional ATENEA initiative, which enhances the actions that have been carried out at the country level in pursuit of women’s participation, and knowledge products will be created to contribute to the upcoming 2024 elections. Additionally, together with the Superior Electoral Tribunal, the institution’s institutional strengthening and administrative management has continued. With the entry of the new Plenary, the commitment to support and provide technical assistance and promote gender mainstreaming was maintained.Following the 2020 strategy for strengthening HIV care services, UNDP strengthened the capacities of peer counselors who provide services in HIV care centers, enhancing the role of peer counselors through a needs assessment, definition of the profile and development of a guide for peer counselors and monitoring of their actions. These products were developed jointly with the institutions responsible for validating them (National Health Service, Ministry of Public Health, FRENACI and the National HIV-AIDS Council). The products will optimize the mechanisms for the identification of new patients, retention in services and improvement of adherence, the three pillars of the global targets set by UNAIDS and will improve the results of the National Response to HIV at the macro level. |
| **Please add rows above for additional outcomes as appropriate** |
| Summary of evaluation findings (e.g. from outcome and project evaluations, UNDAF reviews, and other assessments)Key Achievements:1. Leveraging its unique positioning as the analytical and operational arm of the United Nations system, UNDP mobilized technical expertise, global know-how and operational prowess to achieve development objectives and support the mitigation and recovery efforts during the pandemic. UNDP’s capacity to generate data and research for evidence-based decision-making led to the formulation and implementation of the United Nations System’s Strategic Response Plan to COVID-19 and a series of knowledge products on the pandemic’s impact on the economy and vulnerable groups, including the Recovery Needs Analysis conducted with United Nations agencies, European Union (EU), International Development Bank (IDB) and World Bank (WB) and the evaluation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) praised UNDP-led Socioeconomic Impact Assessment (SEIA).[[2]](#footnote-3)
2. UNDP supported the strengthening of the Social Subsidy Payment System and the Social Supply Network and strengthened the procedures of the Supérate Program for monetary transfers and delivery of social assistance, guaranteeing the continuity, increase and expansion of existing social programs, preventing thousands of families from falling into poverty. UNDP helped incorporate 2,000 new businesses into the Social Subsidies Administration network in response to the pandemic and enabled digital solutions for their connection and interoperability, follow-up and monitoring. Through the “Get Going” and Inclusive Recovery Programme, UNDP helped the recovery of 7,000 MSME and trained more than 3,000 small entrepreneurs on innovation, digitization, and economic reactivation.
3. UNDP was instrumental in developing the Sustainable Production and Consumption Roadmap, which identified the private sector’s best sustainable practices; developing the socioeconomic recovery strategy for 23 cocoa-growing communities; supporting more than 4,000 households’ agroforestry initiatives; and providing isolated rural households with sustainable energy solutions. UNDP’s continuous efforts led to the conservation of 1,650 hectares of forest cover and contributed to a 43 per cent reduction in national consumption of ozone-depleting substances.
4. As part of its commitment to Leaving No One Behind, UNDP supported the development of the national agenda to close gaps in services for vulnerable groups, including a directory of mental health services and rapid emergency attention for LGBTIQ+ people; provision of biosafety and food kits to 437 PLHIV, LGBTIQ+ and sex workers; development of surveys on the needs of PLHIV, People with Disabilities (PwD) and LGBTIQ+; establishment of support lines for LGBTIQ+, and elaboration of human development indexes on this population group.
5. As a Golden Seal-certified Office, UNDP has been at the vanguard of national efforts to reduce gender inequality in the public and private sectors, certifying 18 private sector companies and ten public institutions (50,000 people) with the Gender Equality and Inclusion Seal (GEIS); strengthening the care system for women victims of violence and data collection capacity of the Ministry of Women; and fostering political participation of 8,590 women candidates through the “Know your candidate” platform during the 2020 municipal and congressional elections.
6. UNDP continued strengthening governance structures and supporting Government reform processes in 16 priority areas. UNDP’s “Efficient Government” Program helped strengthen the management capacities of more than 90 public institutions and significantly reduce government bureaucracy. UNDP supported the development of the strategic plan for the judiciary, the design of the alternative proposals for jurisdictional processes of the Supreme Court of Justice (SCJ), the digitalization of 600,000 judicial files, the formulation and monitoring of citizen security policies and the preparation of the Cybersecurity Policy.
7. In line with the government priorities, UNDP has been strengthening municipal management through territorialising the 2030 Agenda, supporting the elaboration of municipal development plans aligned with the Goals and fostering local production and resilience.

Major Lessons Learnt: The programme builds on the lessons from evaluations: (i) Reduction of the digital gap to reduce inequalities requires additional conditions for quality, infrastructure, knowledge, accessibility and use[[3]](#footnote-4); (ii) Multi-stakeholder and multi-sector alliances, especially with the private sector, help achieve collective goals, increase effectiveness and efficiency[[4]](#footnote-5); (iii) success and sustainability of projects increase if the communities’ needs and participation in decision-making and implementation are considered early on[[5]](#footnote-6). |

III. Country Programme Resources

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Focus Area[[6]](#footnote-7)** | **Programme Expenditure ($)** | **% of Total** |
|  | Regular (TRAC) | Other | Total | % |
| Equality: Economic and Social Gaps |  $1,026,360.19  |  $220,118,745.60  |  $221,145,105.79  | 285% |
| Sustainability and resilience |  $366,726.41  |  $2,419,259.56  |  $2,785,985.97  | 11% |
| Gender equality and empowerment |  $210,471.84  |  $96,750.60  |  $307,222.44  | 16% |
| Good Governance and Human Rights |  $713,660.52  |  $17,945,808.23  |  $18,659,468.75  | 60% |
| Total |  $2,317,218.96  |  $240,580,563.99  |  $242,897,782.95  | 371% |

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| --- |
| **Data sources:**  |
| * Results-Oriented Annual Reporting (ROAR) UNDP 2018-2021.
* United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Final Evaluation, 2022.
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1. This assessment of results is to be prepared only in the absence of a completed Independent Country Programme Evaluation (ICPE) for the cycle. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) Final Evaluation, 2022. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Conserving Biodiversity in Coastal Areas Threatened by Rapid Tourism and Physical Infrastructure Development, Final Report, 2021 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Evaluation of the contribution of UNDP to the implementation of the strategy of distance education and digitization of education of the Ministry of Education of the Dominican Republic, Final Report, 2021 and Evaluation of the UNDAF, 2022. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Ibidem [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. Replace with the focus areas of your programme. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)