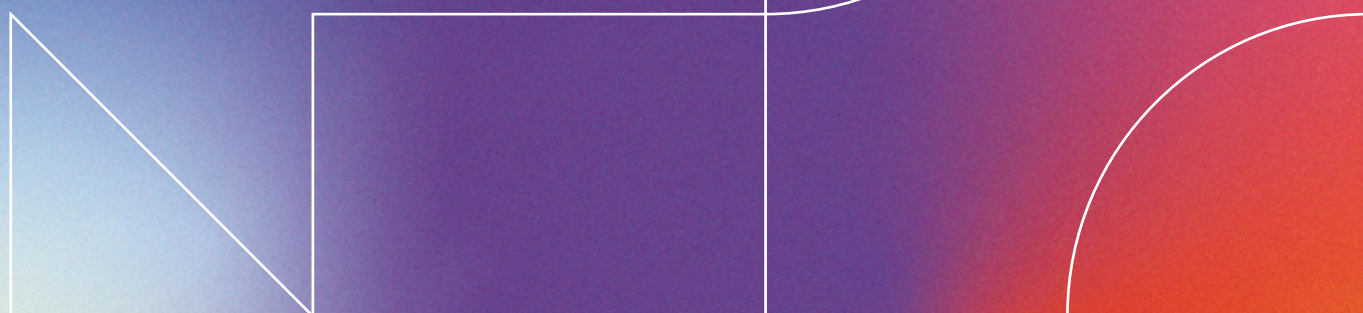


Funding Windows



**Annual
Report**

2023





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Funding Windows

Annual Report

2023



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Welcome message

Welcome to the 2023 UNDP Funding Windows Annual Report

In line with the UN Secretary-General's Funding Compact, the Funding Windows are UNDP's primary vehicle for flexible thematic non-core funding, an important complement to core contributions. These resources allow UNDP to remain agile while advancing sustainable development gains in an ever-changing global context.

As we reach the midpoint of the UNDP Strategic Plan for 2022–2025, we stand at a crucial juncture to accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2023, amidst escalating conflicts and crises, increasing climate change impacts, widening inequalities and growing social tensions, the UNDP Funding Windows provided countries around the world with critical support to address these intersectional development challenges and drive transformational change. The results and stories in this report showcase our impact on the ground and the valuable lessons we have learned.

Together with our partners, the Funding Windows delivered **over US\$112 million in 2023** to tackle multidimensional poverty, promote gender equality and women's empowerment, strengthen accountable and inclusive governance, and build resilience to crises and climate change in **119 countries and territories**. Of these resources, **35 percent was invested in fragile contexts and 30 percent in least developed countries (LDCs)**. **Digitalization and innovative solutions** were leveraged using pooled resources to amplify impact in **over 30 countries**, working hand in hand with **22 UN organizations**, as well as programme country governments, civil society, the private sector, academia, international financial institutions and other partners.

Our endeavours could not have been achieved without the timely support and collaborative action from government partners comprising **the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and the United Kingdom**. We highly value the engagement of all Advisory Group members and partners. They are strong advocates of the strategic value of the UNDP Funding Windows to achieve impact as envisioned in the Strategic Plan. We look forward to jointly raising the ambition of the Funding Windows as we continue to support developing countries to achieve their national development objectives and the SDGs.



Haoliang Xu
Associate Administrator
United Nations Development Programme

Acronyms and abbreviations

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|--|
| BES-Net | Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network | SCALA | Scaling Up Ambition on Land Use and Agriculture |
| BIOFIN | Biodiversity Finance Initiative | SCORE | Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Index |
| CO | Country Office | SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals |
| COSED | Cohésion sociale, Sécurité et Etat de Droit | SIDS | Small Island Developing States |
| CPPRI | Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Responsive Institutions | SINIRUBE | National Information System and Unique Registry of State Beneficiaries |
| CSO | Civil society organization | TNFD | Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures |
| DPPA | UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs | UN | United Nations |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization | UNAIDS | Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS |
| FCLP | Forest and Climate Leaders Partnership | UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| FDP | Forest Declaration Platform | UNCT | United Nations Country Team |
| FWs | Funding Windows | UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| GBV | Gender-based violence | UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| GEF | Global Environment Facility | UNFCCC | United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change |
| GPN | Global Policy Network | UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| ICCA | Indigenous and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas | UN-HABITAT | United Nations Human Settlements Programme |
| ICCA-GSI | Global Support Initiative to territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities | UNHCR | United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees |
| IDPs | Internally displaced people | UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| IFAD | International Fund for Agricultural Development | UNITAMS | United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan |
| ILO | International Labour Organization | UNITAR | United Nations Institute for Training and Research |
| IOM | International Organization for Migration | UN MINUSMA | United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali |
| IPBES | Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services | UN OCHA | United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs |
| IRFF | Insurance and Risk Finance Facility | UN OCT | United Nations Office for Counterterrorism |
| LDC | Least developed countries | UNODC | United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime |
| M&E | Monitoring and evaluation | UN OHCHR | Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights |
| MHPSS | Mental Health and Psychosocial Support | UNOPS | United Nations Office for Project Services |
| MPI | Multidimensional Poverty Index | UNPOL | United Nations Police |
| MSMEs | Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises | UNSDCF | United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework |
| MRV | Measurement, Reporting and Verification | UN SSC | United Nations System Staff College |
| MVI | Multidimensional Vulnerability Index | UNV | United Nations Volunteers |
| NDC | Nationally Determined Contribution | UN Women | United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women |
| NEA | National Ecosystem Assessments | WHO | World Health Organization |
| NGO | Non-governmental organization | WFP | World Food Programme |
| NMAA | National Mine Action Authority | WPS | Women, Peace and Security |
| NSIs | National Statistics Institutes | YPS | Youth, Peace and Security |
| OPHI | Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative | | |
| OPA | Older People's Association | | |
| PDA | Peace and Development Advisors | | |
| PDAP | Parliamentary Development Action Plan | | |
| PVE | Preventing violent extremism | | |
| ROLSHR | Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development | | |

2023 in review

UNDP multi-donor thematic funds support dynamic and integrated development solutions to meet emerging needs worldwide

US\$112 million delivered¹

 16% increase in delivery from 2022

12 contributing partners

 6% increase in contributions from 2022

119 countries and territories used resources



While Funding Windows (FWs) resources were allocated to 119 countries and territories in 2023, this report focuses primarily on the 45 countries and territories and 2 regional offices that were required to report in 2023 on the use of pooled funds.³

93% of pooled resources were spent on GEN2 and GEN3⁴ projects

- ¹ Overall, through both pooled and earmarked resources. Funding Windows pooled contributions consist of fully flexible, unearmarked resources.
- ² Defined as 'fragile' by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- ³ The scope of reporting was determined by expenditure. Any country or territory which spent over US\$50,000 in pooled funding was required to submit a detailed annual report including both qualitative and quantitative data. Global projects and country projects receiving earmarked funds were also required to report through a separate process. As they provide detailed project reports to the funding partners, their key results are incorporated into the narrative of this report, but the data and quantitative figures on the following pages only cover countries and territories which received pooled funds in 2023.
- ⁴ The UNDP Gender Marker is a corporate monitoring tool used for tracking financial investments to advance or contribute to achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women. Projects and outputs are coded against a four-point scale: GEN0 indicates that project outputs are not contributing to gender equality; GEN1 indicates that project outputs contribute in a limited way to gender equality but not significantly; GEN2 indicates that gender equality is not the main objective of the expected output, but the output promotes gender equality in a significant and consistent way, building on a gender analysis with set indicators to measure and track change; and GEN3 indicates that the achievement of gender equality and/or the empowerment of women are explicit objectives of the output and the main reason the output was planned. In 2023, 31 percent of Funding Windows pooled expenditures were delivered by projects and initiatives categorized as GEN3 and 62 percent by GEN2 projects.

Leaving No One Behind

Focusing on the people most at risk

Funding Windows flexible and unearmarked resources enabled UNDP to strategically intervene in diverse contexts worldwide, addressing local needs and advancing the UNDP mission to empower people's lives. This commitment is further demonstrated through a heightened focus on gender equality, the well-being of people and the planet across all initiatives, and agile programming in volatile settings.

In 2023, Funding Windows pooled contributions benefited⁵

| | | |
|---|---|---------------------------|
| 313,500+ women | → | 74% of projects |
| 183,700+ youth | → | 57% of projects |
| 329,900+ people affected by armed conflict and violence | → | 24% of projects |
| 229,400+ people affected by disasters | → | 11% of projects |
| 204,700+ people living in multidimensional poverty | → | 26% of projects |
| 135,500+ internally displaced people, refugees or migrants | → | 28% of projects |
| 51,200+ people from minority groups (e.g., ethnicity, language, religion, etc.) | → | 17% of projects |
| 11,400+ unemployed people | → | 20% of projects |
| 8,600+ people with disabilities | → | 24% of projects |

⁵ The numbers provided in this table are not cumulative. Each figure represents the number of beneficiaries reached within the specific category indicated, through projects and initiatives undertaken at the country level through Funding Windows pooled resources.

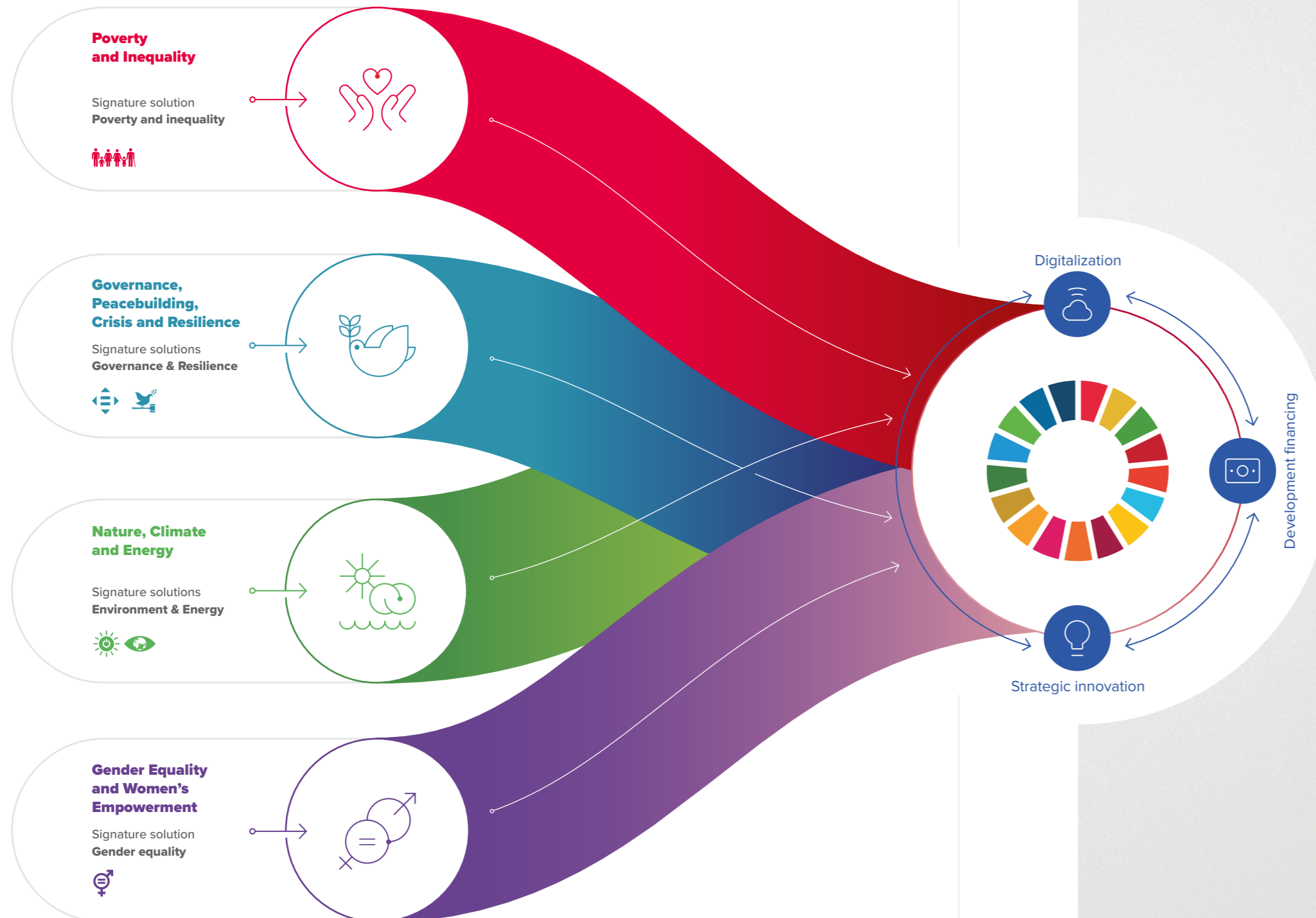


© Pierre Michel Jean

Funding Windows support: delivering on UNDP's development promise

In a year marked by complex global challenges, the Funding Windows remained a pivotal mechanism to achieve UNDP's development promise. As a multi-donor thematic funding vehicle linked to the UNDP Strategic Plan (2022–2025), the Funding Windows maximized opportunities to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and strategic priorities across the six signature solutions, leveraging the three development enablers.

Being the second-best funding option after core funding, the Funding Windows contributed to three directions of change outlined in UNDP Strategic Plan. It did so by supporting green and inclusive transitions, fostering access to services and livelihood opportunities towards leaving no one behind, and building resilience to address systemic risks and crises, particularly in fragile contexts, all while utilizing technologies and innovation to drive systemic change.



Funding Windows contribute to UNDP moonshots

100 million people escape multidimensional poverty

The Funding Windows contributed to this effort by strengthening social protection systems and supporting the elaboration of multidimensional poverty and vulnerability indexes to target the communities most at risk. A localized multidimensional poverty index (LMPI) was developed in four West African countries to improve institutional capacities and guide policymaking towards more efficient and targeted poverty alleviation programmes.

800 million people enabled to participate in elections

Funding Windows initiatives supported more responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making in 25 countries. This led to over 40 initiatives, policies and strategies to protect and promote civil society, and inclusive spaces and capacities for public dialogue in 20 countries. In Burkina Faso, Funding Windows support facilitated the issuance of national IDs for 32,000 people, including rural and internally displaced women, which enabled ID holders to initiate administrative procedures and participate in the electoral process as voters and potential candidates.

500 million people connected to clean and affordable energy

Funding Windows initiatives supported the transition to renewable energy and improved access to energy through solar solutions in six countries. In Niger, over 250,000 people benefited from lighting and access to water thanks to the installation of 259 solar streetlights.

US\$1 trillion aligned with the SDGs

The Funding Windows catalysed an additional US\$133 million of co-funding in 20 countries and territories to accelerate SDG progress across all four Funding Windows thematic areas. Every US\$1 invested in pooled resources mobilized an additional US\$4.50.

The value of the Funding Windows

Crucial for advancing UNDP strategic objectives, the Funding Windows facilitated the design, implementation and scaling up of impactful interventions, demonstrating their value in enabling flexibility and agility when addressing emerging challenges in complex environments, ensuring the coherence of UNDP efforts by complementing core resources to amplify reach, catalysing additional investments for impact at scale, and fostering strategic partnerships at the global, regional, national and local levels.

Speed and adaptability

Speed and adaptability are essential for addressing emerging needs, especially in fragile contexts. Flexible Funding Windows deployment models allowed UNDP to swiftly mobilize resources and expertise to support recovery and resilience-building efforts in the wake of sudden political transitions, escalation of conflict and crises, and occurrence of natural disasters.



In **Armenia**, following the escalation of the 2023 crisis, the vulnerability profile of refugee populations and host communities was undergoing rapid changes and the evolving geography of movement required rapid support, tailored to the needs of the affected individuals and inclusive of host communities. The Funding Windows supported the proactive deployment of human and financial resources, which were crucial to address challenges before they intensified, enabling partners to design interventions to build resilience from the start of the crisis. In **Chad**, Funding Windows resources enabled UNDP to support the development of the national post-flood recovery plan and similar tools for disaster prevention. Community-based support for women in **Myanmar** improved recovery rates following Cyclone Mocha, while Funding Windows support following the 2023 earthquake in **Syria** and **Türkiye** enabled rapid crisis response and recovery efforts for affected populations.

Catalytic investments

Catalytic investments through the Funding Windows enabled UNDP Country Offices (COs) to leverage additional resources and co-financing from other development contributors to amplify the impact and sustainability of development initiatives. In 2023, **20 countries and territories reported having mobilized additional resources thanks to Funding Windows investment.**



Funding Windows seed funding in the **Philippines** led to the Country Office securing its biggest pipeline project to date. Resources were invested in the design of a portfolio approach for the Green Economy Programme and led to the successful mobilization of EUR 23 million from the European Union to accelerate the transition to the circular economy, reduce waste, increase energy efficiency and promote climate change mitigation measures. In **Moldova**, Funding Windows resources acted as a catalyst to secure additional co-funding from various partners, totalling US\$9 million, to pilot innovative solutions in the energy sector through the Energy Innovation and Technology Sandbox.

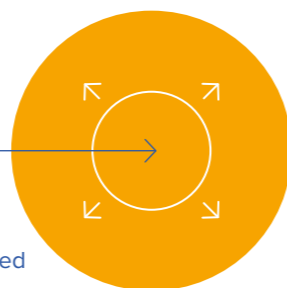


20

countries and territories mobilized additional resources thanks to FWs investment



every **\$1** invested in pooled resources mobilized an **additional \$4.50**



© UNDP Uzbekistan

Strategic partnerships

Forging strategic partnerships and expanding existing networks, within and outside the UN system, are imperative for guaranteeing the effectiveness of projects and enabling structural transformation. Funding Windows support bolstered integrated action within the UN system, leading **Country Offices to forge new partnerships and/or strengthening ongoing ones with 22 UN organizations** to accelerate achievement of the SDGs.



In **Cambodia**, UNDP partnered with International Labour Organization (ILO), government and national stakeholders to achieve the endorsement of a gender-sensitive National Strategy on Informal Economic Development. UNDP also collaborated with the World Health Organization (WHO) to launch an intergenerational Older People's Association (OPA) pilot with a focus on health promotion for elderly people. In **Afghanistan**, UNDP worked jointly with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other humanitarian stakeholders through the interagency Durable Solutions Working Group (DSWG), furthering programming across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus (HDPN) to protect communities affected by displacement. In **Eritrea**, UNDP, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) collaborated on a joint programme to support livelihoods and economic development across the date palm value chain, including strengthening date palm research and production capacities of the Tissue Culture Laboratory at the Eritrean National Agriculture Research Institute.



WATCH **UN collaboration empowers communities in Eritrea through sustainable date palm farming**



The Funding Windows enabled UNDP Country Offices to work closely with 22 UN agencies, funds and programmes, bolstering integrated action within the UN system



Beyond the United Nations system, Funding Windows resources enabled Country Offices to consolidate or form new partnerships with national and subnational governments, International Financing Institutions (IFIs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector, academia and other development stakeholders.

→ The UNDP **Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (PAPP)**, in close coordination with the Ministry of Local Government, facilitated public–private partnerships between Local Government Units and private solar energy developers resulting in a US\$2 million investment in private financing for the construction and operationalization of two solar-PV stations in Hebron and the West Bank. In **Rwanda**, collaboration with 16 civil society organizations (CSOs) resulted in expanding Rwanda Civil Society Platform membership to 110 registered CSOs and the publication of over 600 resources to strengthen the capacities of civil society actors and foster participatory governance.

US\$2 million
investment in private financing mobilized by the Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (PAPP)

Out of 47 countries and regional offices reporting on pooled resources in 2023:

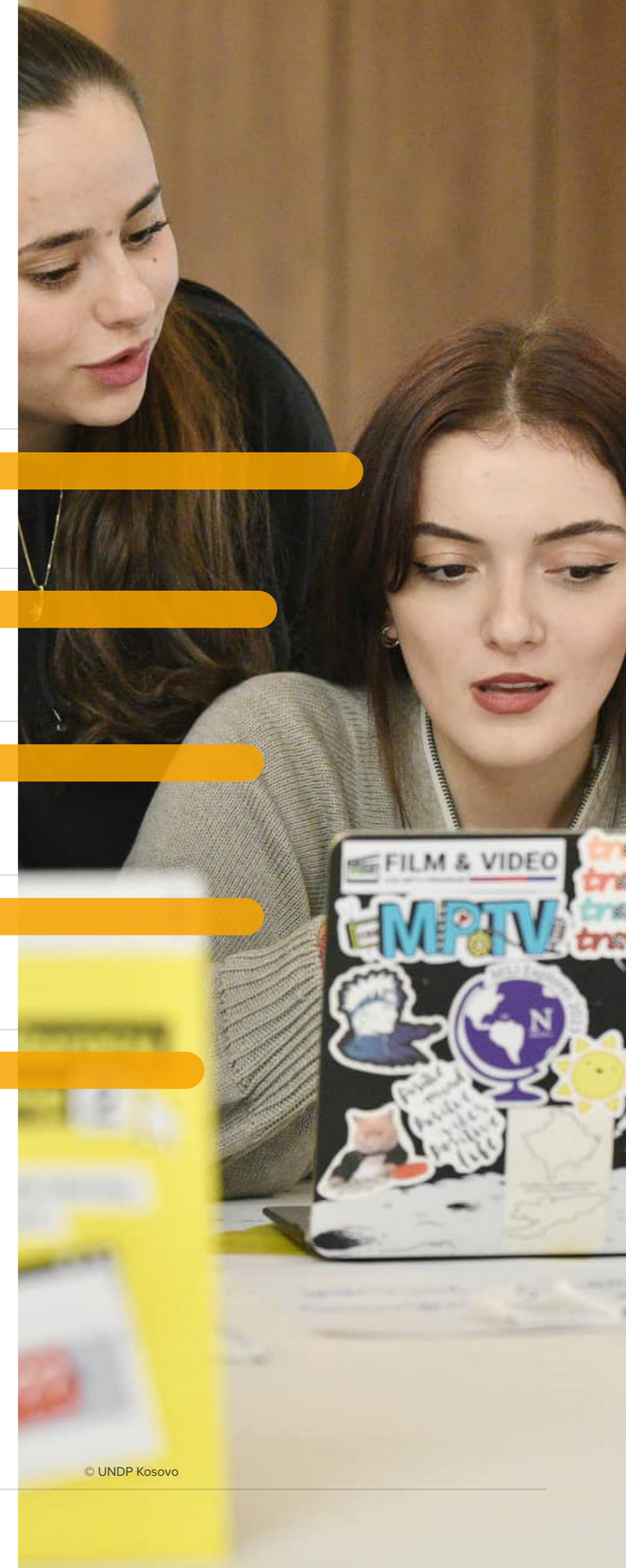
79%
reported FWs made it possible to form new non-UN partnerships

66%
reported FWs facilitated speed to address emerging and complex issues

64%
reported FWs facilitated partnerships with other UN organizations

64%
reported FWs enabled strategic positioning

55%
reported FWs provided catalytic investment



Our impact

The Funding Windows maximized UNDP's efforts to generate development impact across four key thematic areas

Key 2023 results

380,000+

people with improved access to essential services in 13 countries

1,300+

public infrastructures built or rebuilt in 9 countries



69,600+

people with strengthened livelihoods in 20 countries



53% women

9,400+

short-term jobs created in 8 fragile contexts

2,800+

MSMEs and businesses supported to enhance sustainable livelihood in 8 countries

40+

initiatives, policies and strategies put in place to protect and promote civil society, inclusive spaces and capacities for public dialogue in 20 countries

25 countries

supported more responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making



20 countries

advanced digital solutions



14 countries

increased capacities to prevent and manage vulnerability to crisis, shocks and disaster risks



12 countries

supported risk-informed and gender-responsive recovery solutions



11 countries

fostered durable solutions to IDPs, migrants and host communities



10 countries

strengthened policy and legislative and institutional capacity to prevent and respond to gender-based violence



Poverty and Inequality Window

Targeted investments to alleviate multidimensional poverty and build equitable futures



To achieve the ambition of helping people escape multidimensional poverty, Funding Windows resources were invested in revising social protection systems, promoting growth for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), increasing economic resilience through employment formalization and leveraging data on multidimensional poverty to improve the design and roll-out of policies and programmes tailored to the needs of the most vulnerable.

Turning static data into high impact action: The Multidimensional Poverty Index

A “pro-poor” tool developed by UNDP and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) features a 10-indicator measure for collating information on intersectional challenges, context, people most affected, provisional gaps and applicable avenues for introducing effective poverty reduction policies and practices around the world. In 2023, Funding Windows financing facilitated the development of the MPI in five countries for policymaking that puts people’s needs at the centre.



→ In **Uzbekistan**, policymakers have embarked on a perceptual shift to design policies going beyond monetary indicators that reflect whether an individual can afford essential goods and services and considering multidimensional poverty as an overlapping combination of deprivations in various dimensions. Through a joint collaboration with the Center for Economic Research and Reforms, UNDP piloted the first national MPI using survey results from 6,000 households. MPI results showed 18.4 percent of adults, or 4.2 million people, are multidimensionally poor. Findings will be used to guide targeted steps in poverty reduction, reveal vulnerabilities in human development, optimize the allocation of public funds and improve data-driven policy formulation to better help impoverished individuals access public services.

To bridge gaps in the national care economy, UNDP published a study to analyse current care provision and propose recommendations for inclusive and sustainable care system policies. Based on these recommendations, through policymaking and skills development sessions, UNDP contributed to enhance the capacity of public institutions and private enterprises towards designing and implementing innovative care economy policies, bringing youth to the table to develop creative market-based solutions to fill gaps in social protection and the care economy.



© UNDP Liberia

IN FOCUS

Uncovering the hidden, local aspects of poverty in Africa

In African countries, poverty studies have traditionally relied on quantitative methodologies conducted at the national level that often overlooked local specific contexts, perceptions and needs. The introduction of an integrated Local Multidimensional Poverty Index (LMPI) methodology piloted in **Burkina Faso**, the **Gambia**, **Liberia** and **Sierra Leone** represented a paradigm shift in poverty measurement towards deepening understanding of poverty and developing targeted interventions that reach those left behind.

Blending qualitative and participatory methods with traditional MPI methodology, the LMPI facilitated innovative and integrated local multidimensional assessments to shed light on context-specific nuances of poverty. One of the most remarkable breakthroughs was adopting a mixed-method and bottom-up approach to poverty data, analyses and solutions that engage marginalized local communities. In **Burkina Faso**, provincial and communal contributions guided LMPI methodology formulation, while in **Liberia**, the LMPI used focus groups and participatory discussions within the communities to allow them to co-create data, ensuring a diversity of voices. With the LMPI, everyone is considered an active agent of change with a role to play in shaping policy, empowering communities and redesigning poverty strategies to reach those in need.

Funding Windows resources facilitated collaboration with National Statistics Institutes (NSIs) for the deployment of the index methodology in government validation workshops, policy planning sessions and data used in national development plans and poverty eradication initiatives. In all countries, the LMPI allowed the introduction of participatory and qualitative methods to collect and parse poverty data, leading to expanded partnerships and collaboration between NSIs and sociologists and anthropologists to enrich the understanding of poverty and the needs of grass-roots populations.

Partners were able to collate data from 11,000 household surveys, of which 60 percent were women respondents, in **Liberia** and from over 7,000 household members in **Burkina Faso** and **Sierra Leone**, to establish a more comprehensive data-rich profile of people who experience multidimensional poverty, including youth and resource industry employees.

Promoting community ownership by modifying the approach to public debate and information gathering legitimized the LMPI. Through this subregional intervention, policymakers now have access to broader perspectives on the scale of multidimensional poverty to serve those most affected and take steps towards relevant gender-informed pro-poor policies.

Advancing inclusive social protection systems

→ UNDP in **Sri Lanka** supported government social protection reforms through the national welfare benefits assessment, critical in identifying beneficiaries for its new social welfare programme: *Aswesuma*. Funding Windows resources were used to facilitate remote information sessions for 355 officers and 14,000 enumerators in 25 districts to prepare them for the launch of the national welfare benefits assessment plan and consequent selection and enrolment of 2.2 million people in *Aswesuma*. To further strengthen social protection systems for the poorest communities, UNDP addressed the lack of granular data in the wake of the pandemic and socio-economic crisis by collecting socio-economic data from 25,000 households. Data from the survey informed the creation of the country's first **Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI)** report and an online digital index that hosts an interactive dashboard for data and knowledge sharing among policymakers at national and subnational levels. This is the first MVI in the world to consider climate change and disaster preparedness as priority dimensions and to rely on citizen science.

In **Costa Rica**, the Funding Windows contributed to the development of the Cantonal Multidimensional Poverty Index and improved data management capabilities of the National Information System and Unique Registry of State Beneficiaries (SINIRUBE), which integrates social protection data from 75 public institution databases on 80 percent of Costa Rica's 4 million inhabitants. In partnership with the University of Costa Rica, Funding Windows resources were used to convene 107 indigenous, rural and urban women leaders, and public and private institutions to elaborate a strategy and policy instruments that strengthen women's financial inclusion. The Ministry of Human Development and Social Inclusion was supported to address inequality and the challenges of a shrinking labour market, which disproportionately affect women, by improving the business models and entrepreneurial skills of 20 formalized production groups comprising women in 3 cantons that face poverty, inequality, unemployment, social exclusion and violence. Each organization received seed capital and mentoring on marketing, venture growth and sustainability, creating opportunities for women to sustainably improve their incomes by an average of 18 percent.

As a strategic contribution to guide the National Social Protection Policy, UNDP technical assistance led to the development of the Social Sector Articulation Plan (2023–2026), approved by the Presidential Council for Welfare, Labor and Social Inclusion in April 2024. In summary, the project promoted an interdependent approach to strengthening social programmes, while creating opportunities for social inclusion by building women's economic autonomy.

Formalizing the informal economy and leveraging digitalization for socio-economic change

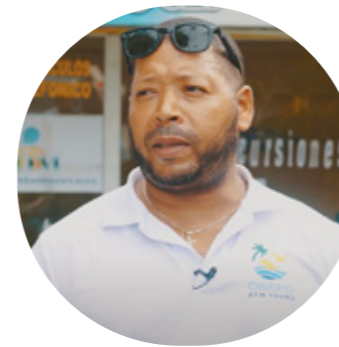
→ In **Belize**, UNDP provided technical insight to partners to expand the national Digital Transformation Programme and Funding Windows resources contributed to the opening of seven Digital Connect Centres across the country to broaden urban and rural residents' access to Internet services, government online services, and business and skills training at zero cost. At Connect Centres, MSME employees and entrepreneurs had access to the Virtual Knowledge Centre that houses a suite of content-specific learning products to guide enterprises on adopting relevant technology for business operations and technical guidance for responding to changing consumer habits and trade modalities. The extended virtual platform also houses the National MSME Directory, Export Catalogue and Belize Investment Portfolio and is a hub for job listings. In 2023, more than 2,400 young people used Digital Connect Centres in Belize.



WATCH
Rural and indigenous women in Costa Rica, develop nature-based business skills
(in Spanish)



2,400+
youth used Digital
Connect Centres



“During the pandemic, tourism died. We thought everything was lost ... Through the programme, I learned to organize my business, improve accounting methods and accept credit card payments, increasing my business by about 30 to 40 percent.”

Obispo Núñez
owner of ATM Tours in the Dominican Republic



© UNDP Costa Rica

→ In the **Dominican Republic**, UNDP, local universities and business organizations mapped market systems in the tourism sector to enhance labour policies and connect them to the tourism value chain. Through Funding Windows resources, 533 MSMEs were supported towards formalization benefiting 1,743 people of which 60 percent were women, including through specialized workshops on SDG standards for businesses and initiatives aimed at the economic empowerment of women and the prevention and reporting of gender-based violence (GBV) in tourist communities. Strategic alliances with local government representatives in Las Terrenas, El Limón and Las Galeras led to the broad incorporation of MSME and tourism stakeholders in municipal development plans, as well as collective efforts to gather data to assess the situation of women in the tourism sector. At the national level, Funding Windows partners designed a business intelligence platform to monitor market opportunities for investments, elaboration of regulatory instruments and sector expansion with officials from the Ministry of Tourism and Ministry of Industry, Commerce and MSMEs.



WATCH
Entrepreneurs in Dominican Republic revive sustainable tourism
(in Spanish)





79,000+

people enrolled in a new social security scheme



62% women



In Cambodia, 88.3 percent of employment is informal. To facilitate its transition to a formal economy, UNDP, ILO and the Ministry of Economy and Finance developed a gender-sensitive National Strategy on Informal Economic Development for 2023 to 2028. This strategy features a three-phase framework to strengthen the capacities and resilience of informal sector employees and MSMEs throughout the transition to a formal economy. This led to the roll-out of a new social security scheme for self-employed individuals to access national health insurance. In 2023, 79,479 people, of which almost 50,000 were women, enrolled in the programme. Through the development of the national gender-sensitive formalization incentive framework, the government now has in place strategic and practical policy options to facilitate the transition of the country's informal economy to formality and provide employees and businesses with social security assets, i.e. health insurance, injury and/or maternal benefits and pensions.

Through an intergenerational approach targeting different segments of the society, the Cambodian government sought sustainable ways to improve the well-being of older people. UNDP, in partnership with HelpAge Cambodia and the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation piloted a new model of Older Person's Associations at 10 sites that link and integrate these associations into existing services and traditional religious institutions.

Managing risks to build financial resilience globally

UNDP Insurance and Risk Finance Facility



More health, climate and socio-economic crises across the globe highlight the need for solutions that prevent people from spiralling into debt and poverty. The UNDP Insurance & Risk Finance Facility (IRFF) provides policy advice, guidance, tools, methodologies and networks to strengthen country and community financial resilience to various shocks. With a focus on five connected workstreams, the IRFF works with policymakers, governments and insurers to develop innovative, scalable insurance and risk financing solutions that deliver development and accelerate action for the SDGs.



Resilient countries & communities



Resilient households



Resilient businesses



Resilient nature



Resilient food system

In 2023, the IRFF portfolio increased to 34 countries, up from 29 in 2022. Funding Windows resources were used to improve institutional policies for financial risk management, as well as build financial protection for families, businesses and countries. In Indonesia, IRFF-ensured insurance is acknowledged by regulation as a financing solution within the national Marine Biodiversity Fund to boost the potential of mobilizing premium financing for coral reef insurance. In Colombia, the IRFF supported the improvement of inclusive insurance regulations for parametric insurance. Meanwhile, in Ghana, the development, coordination and management of a government-led, long-term financial risk management structure and contingency plan for disaster risk finance was supported.



© UNDP Cambodia

Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience Window

Promoting people-centred approaches that transform governance systems and speed up recovery in crises



In 2023, Funding Windows resources supported comprehensive interventions to foster transparent, democratic and accountable systems of governance, sustainable livelihood practices, peacebuilding and recovery efforts in crises and fragile contexts, to build forward better for more resilient societies.

Expanding civic spaces and increasing intergenerational engagement

Working with policymakers and stakeholders, UNDP tailored its evidence-based solutions to local realities to enhance government accountability through social engagement, promoting transparency and responsive institutions, and improving public service delivery.



→ In **Burkina Faso**, the Funding Windows played a pivotal role in fostering women's civic and political engagement. In this process, UNDP, the National Statistics Service and regional directorates carried out nationwide surveys on women in peace and security, using data to inform the development of the Integrated National Action Plan (PANI) 2023–2025 to include a gender perspective. In addition, in partnership with the Ministry of Solidarity, Humanitarian Action, National Reconciliation, Gender and Family, UNDP facilitated civil registration through the issuance of national IDs for 32,000 voters and potential candidates, including rural and internally displaced women in all 13 regions across the country.

Following an 18-month-long political transition in **Chad**, Funding Windows support to the Inclusive and Sovereign National Dialogue (DNIS) resulted in the adoption of 225 recommendations and 23 resolutions, including organizing a referendum on the form of the state and the subsequent adoption of a new constitution. To encourage the participation of women, young people and marginalized groups in this transition process, UNDP partnered with 16 CSOs and conducted a campaign on informed referendum participation in 20 out of 23 provinces in Chad—reaching 5 million people. The *Regards Citoyens* initiative, conducted jointly with the Ministry of Youth and the Chad National Youth Council, empowered young people to become a driving force of democratic change. More than 2,000 young people took part in debates to stimulate civic reflection to strengthen social contracts and digital citizenship.

In **Rwanda**, to foster participatory governance, UNDP collaborated with 16 CSOs and National Youth Council representatives to develop a guide for civic youth engagement and reached over 9,900 young people, of which 54 percent were women, through training-of-trainers sessions on youth civic engagement and participation—going well beyond the original target of 4,000. As a result, more than 4,700 participants reported an increased awareness of their rights to participate in decision-making processes and contribute actively to community engagement fora.

In **Uruguay**, UNDP led efforts to reactivate the Interparty Youth Caucus to increase youth involvement in politics and collaborated with the National Parliament and CSOs to explore and develop alternative spaces for intergenerational dialogue, encouraging the engagement of young political leaders in decision-making. In **Timor-Leste**, UNDP supported the establishment of a mobile citizen lab, slated to become operational in 2024, to redefine participatory governance by enabling Ministers of Parliament to directly engage with youth and women's groups around the country.



→ The Funding Windows in **Sri Lanka** improved parliamentary capacities on public finance management, public engagement and representation towards building a culture of trust and confidence among citizens. UNDP spearheaded a review of the Sri Lanka Parliamentary Development Action Plan (PDAP) 2020–2023 and technically supported the development of the PDAP II 2024–2027. Critical areas identified for intervention included restructuring sectoral oversight committees and financial oversight committees to eliminate the overlap of mandates, enhance efficiency and inclusivity, and strengthen oversight. Further, the Funding Windows helped UNDP forge strategic alliances with the Women Parliamentarians' Caucus and the Parliamentary Caucus for Persons with Disabilities to enhance the political participation of women and people with disabilities while ensuring inclusive economic governance and accountability.

Addressing polarization and misinformation through information integrity

Amidst concerns over threats to democratic practices and rampant levels of disinformation, the Funding Windows backed initiatives to enhance traditional and digital governance systems, addressing polarization and disinformation through the promotion of information integrity in the Western Balkans and Central Asia.



→ In **North Macedonia**, disinformation, especially gendered disinformation, poses one of the greatest risks to the rule of law, transparency and accountability. To confront this challenge, a rigorous analysis of disinformation and gendered disinformation was initiated across six regions, using social media monitoring to identify risks and opportunities in the lead-up to the 2024 parliamentary elections. Drawing from in-depth qualitative insights gathered through surveys and semi-structured interviews with media organizations, journalists, human rights CSOs and regulatory bodies, a pioneering knowledge product, *Between Challenges and Solutions – A Guide to Media Integrity in North Macedonia*, was published. This initiative led to collaboration with the national Association of Journalists of Macedonia (AJM), culminating in the creation of *Jasno* ("Clear"), a cutting-edge digital platform dedicated to disseminating verified news stories, serving as a corrective measure to the proliferation of junk news outlets on the Internet.

Zeroing in on sexism, misogyny and gender-based hate speech in **Montenegro**, journalists, CSO activists, judges, prosecutors, civil servants and youth were engaged to foster an environment that actively prevents and addresses gender-based violence. More than 30 recommendations for preventing and addressing gender inequality, sexism and sexist hate speech in policy instruments such as media laws, the Law on Protection of Equality and Prohibition of Discrimination, and two national strategies on gender and youth were developed. Recommendations were coupled with the capacity-building of national institutions to strengthen the policy and legislative environment to prevent and respond to sexism and gender-based hate speech. Professional trainers of the national Authority for Human Resources were empowered to build the skills of more than 40,000 local and national public servants on curbing gender-based hate speech and developing legal recourse and policy measures.



"It is necessary to speak in a language understandable to people who are not aware of the issues ... and speak the language of young people. When talking about sexism, we can't only engage girls and women or only those who want to participate. Sexism concerns us all and we should all deal with this topic."

Kristina Jankovic
participant in UNDP-organized local youth dialogues on the causes of hate speech, misogyny and sexism in Montenegro



© UNDP Kyrgyzstan

→ Similarly in **Kyrgyzstan**, UNDP, in collaboration with UNESCO, supported a locally driven initiative by the Office of the Akyikatchy (Ombudsman) of the Kyrgyz Republic and local CSOs to design the country's first-ever framework to analyse hate speech and online information pollution, identify marginalized audiences, track sources and recommend countermeasures tailored to the national context and international human rights standards. Findings were used to publish the manual, *From Hate Speech to Non-Violent Communication*, and develop an online course on the causes of hate speech, the value of freedom of opinion and speech, cyberbullying and hostile language. So far, 253 participants have completed the course and received certificates.

UNDP actively promoted accountability and transparency for good governance in **Liberia** by engaging over 2,200 local stakeholders, including women, youth, people with disabilities, students, legislators, anti-corruption actors, media institutions and CSOs to enhance their understanding of laws, policies and mechanisms related to corruption to prevent and respond to it. UNDP also supported the Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) in developing and popularizing a new online anti-corruption application (TALKAY) for logging incidents of corruption for prosecution, with 81 cases of alleged corruption reported through the app in 2023, which are currently being reviewed by the LACC to establish probable causes for prosecution.

In **Djibouti**, UNDP collaborated with the Ministry of Economy and Finance to strengthen public accountability by empowering financial auditors with enhanced skills in auditing and internal control practices and developing a guide for the Inspectorate General of Finance. A new online portal for the Ministry of Finance was developed which allows citizens to easily access public documents and financial reports. Moreover, the implementation of the Delta Monitoring and Evaluation software, supported by UNDP, has facilitated improved data transparency and enabled better planning and monitoring of development initiatives across Djibouti. Aligned with Vision 2035 and the National Development Plan, this initiative "Djibouti ICI" demonstrates the collaborative efforts between government entities, international partners and the private sector, which drive sustainable development.



READ
Lessons on information integrity

Communities in Djibouti, Sri Lanka, and Syria were pushed apart, and then reconnected by water



Promoting the rule of law and access to justice for all

→ The Funding Windows contributed to improving access to justice for hard-to-reach and marginalized populations in **Burkina Faso** through the Cohésion Sociale Sécurité et Etat de Droit (COSED) programme. Civil and correctional mobile courts were activated for mobile hearings, adjudicating 113 cases involving hundreds of people. These mobile courts helped rural populations access proceedings usually offered in cities where courts are situated, and contributed to breaking down the psychological barriers people feel towards the judiciary by improving knowledge of how the justice system functions. In total, more than 30,000 people, of which 9,000 were women, accessed information on court operations, women's rights and legal services, while 15,350 people, including 5,770 women and 3,961 youth, registered for clinic-run awareness sessions on human rights violations, legal assistance and reparation services. UNDP also supported digitalization in tribunals and courts in three cities by launching a delivery system that allowed 6,000 citizens to receive electronic criminal records between October and December 2023.



6,000
citizens accessed criminal
records electronically

In **Somalia**, considerable progress was made to strengthen security actor capacities, state and non-state, to provide effective and inclusive services that uphold human rights and the rule of law. The deployment and training of 400 new recruits in Galmudug state marked a significant milestone, introducing formal professional policing services to the region. Additionally, Federal and State Police Acts were developed in a consultative manner and approved by parliaments in South-West State, Galmudug and Hirshabelle, representing a crucial step towards establishing efficient state police forces that operate in accordance with international standards.

Policy met practice in **Mauritania** with UNDP supporting the government in holding the first-ever States General of Justice forum that brought together actors from across the judicial system, including magistrates, lawyers, clerks and civil society leaders. Forum participants elaborated an in-depth diagnosis of judicial system strengths and weaknesses and reached a national consensus on necessary reforms. They also adopted an action plan for implementing recommendations, with several steps towards reforms actualized in the immediate aftermath. Post-reform action included a judiciary training programme for executives, legal assistance provisions for women and a collaboration with the Ministry of Justice on revising the punitive legal code, starting with the release of 25 women prisoners.

The Global Programme for Strengthening the Rule of Law, Human Rights, Justice and Security for Sustainable Peace and Development (ROLSHR)

→ The **ROLSHR global programme** is a mechanism for implementing comprehensive and integrated rule of law and human rights interventions across UNDP and the wider United Nations system. In 2023, over US\$26 million was provided to 57 countries through the Global Programme, with US\$8 million channeled through the Funding Windows to 41 countries and regional initiatives.

Through ROLSHR, in **Georgia** and **Moldova**, Funding Windows resources contributed to improving the Rule of Law and access to justice for excluded communities, including refugees from Ukraine and displaced communities. In **Moldova**, partnerships with grass-roots NGOs addressed legal grievances and protection concerns for over 1,500 refugees. Mobile teams in nine districts assisted over 1,000 women and girls from host and refugee communities in accessing support related to gender-based violence. In **Georgia**, over 2,300 people, including 1,647 women, people with disabilities, people from remote and rural areas, and representatives of ethnic minorities received free legal consultations at mobile legal clinics, as well as integration and referral services provided by the Ukrainian House. In the **Democratic Republic of Congo**, the UNDP pooled funds with the UN Police (UNPOL) to support a Criminal Analysis Bureau to strengthen the investigative capacities of judicial police units in unstable regions. UNDP also enabled the police to benefit from digitalization within the criminal analysis process, increasing impact and efficiency.



2,300
people received free legal
consultations at mobile clinics



71% women

Building resilience by supporting livelihoods and reconstruction in fragile contexts

To strengthen social contracts, promote risk-informed, resilient recovery and establish sustainable pathways away from fragility and conflict, the Funding Windows supported multidimensional risk analyses and area-based development interventions to restore government functionality and improve individual access to essential and public services.



UNDP strengthened local economic recovery in **Afghanistan** through technical and financial support to MSMEs led by internally displaced people and women-led micro businesses, as well as solar solutions for rural communities. The former resulted in the creation of 440 new job opportunities and the introduction of digital payment mechanisms that connect women and internally displaced peoples (IDPs) to the financial market. This was coupled with providing energy-efficient cooking stoves and solar panels to 400 rural households, of which 40 percent were headed by women, in provinces categorized as Priority Areas for Returns and Reintegration, benefiting approximately 2,800 individuals. This multifaceted intervention not only improved household access to electricity and cooking facilities and contributed to reducing reliance on traditional, environmentally harmful energy sources, but it also positively impacted the well-being of communities affected by displacement.

Funding Windows resources in **Mali** supported the empowerment of young people and women by providing them with economic opportunities and natural resource management assistance. A total of 670 young individuals, including 200 women and 150 displaced youth, were engaged in an income-generating project through High Labour Intensity Works that focused on waste collection and the rehabilitation of public infrastructure. Additionally, 570 women received support on socio-economic advancement with business planning and resource management courses and the provision of equipment and training on sustainable agricultural practices.

In **Ethiopia**, the conflict in the north part of the country resulted in multiple humanitarian and security crises, displacements, loss of life and the destruction of the socio-economic gains of millions of people. UNDP worked with micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and local peace committees in the conflict regions of Amhara, Afar and Tigray providing 6,405 civil servants of which 35 percent were women, 1,685 government officials and 1,662 community members with knowledge and skills on restoring peace, the rule of law, peacebuilding and methods of preventing conflicts. This took place in tandem with restoring the functionality of 119 local government offices to provide necessary public services. By the end of 2023, 63,561 individuals had received basic social services in all regions, 24,834 students of which 48 percent were girls returned to school, 45,000 patients accessed health care services, and 6,520 people accessed clean water, decreasing their exposure to water-borne diseases. In addition, the reintegration of 444 internally displaced population households, of which 56 percent were women-headed, into the community was facilitated through the provision of livelihood support, including income-generating activities, grants and repairs of shelters, while 644 MSMEs received cash grants to assist in the recovery of businesses affected by conflict.



63,500+

individuals received basic social services

The Funding Windows contributed to enhancing the resilience of some of the most marginalized communities in **Myanmar** to better cope with multidimensional shocks. Following Cyclone Mocha, a community-based rehabilitation intervention provided cash-for-work to 4,940 individuals of which 52 percent were women and improved food security and dietary diversity for 40,000 people of which 52 percent were women, including Rakhine and Rohingya minorities in 11 townships in Rakhine in 44 communities. The Funding Windows also supported 6,396 individuals of which 57 percent were women from 44 communities through cash-for-work interventions, distribution of vegetable seeds and fertilizers, and targeted livelihoods assistance support for women. These initiatives enabled communities to generate essential income, boost local food production and reduce reliance on food aid.



6,300+

people received livelihoods support



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IN FOCUS

Localized interventions for improved stabilization and recovery in the Sahel

The **UNDP Regional Stabilization Facility** is a Funding Windows-supported mechanism in the **Liptako-Gourma** region—**Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger**—to implement context-relevant, localized interventions to reduce the risks of conflict and lay the foundations for longer-term peacebuilding, recovery and development efforts.

The Facility rehabilitated social service infrastructure and created new avenues of economic growth for target populations in one of the most unpredictable, volatile and complex crisis settings in Africa. Across the three countries, 3,300 people of which 78 percent were women participated in cash-for-work activities and received business grants and livelihood training in 2023. In **Burkina Faso**, partners constructed 1 youth centre and 3 temporary learning spaces to accommodate 1,929 students, of which 46 percent were girls and 6 percent IDPs, as well as 6 human-powered pumps and 20 boreholes for 30,000 people, of which 50 percent were women. Stabilization Facility support in **Mali** resulted in the construction of six schools along with eight boreholes for community access to clean water, while in **Niger** two markets were constructed. These interventions have significantly improved the livelihoods and access to essential services for 162,500 people, including 82,700 women, fostering the return of internally displaced populations.

Incorporating renewable technologies has enhanced public service quality, with over 50 percent of households in Burkina Faso and Mali expressing satisfaction with access to services like health care and education. At the subregional level, the adoption of the Regional Strategy for Stabilization, Resilience and Recovery of Liptako-Gourma in 2023 constitutes an important step that will guide future stabilization and humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) interventions in the three countries, facilitating synergy and cross-border coordination.

While the Facility benefited more than 300,000 people directly and indirectly since 2021, its first phase will come to an end in December 2024. Severe resource constraints, mainly due to political instability in all three countries, threaten the sustainability of the change achieved so far. Suspending stabilization efforts in the region will have detrimental consequences given the volatile security situation and the deteriorating humanitarian needs with over 2.8 million individuals displaced.



162,500

benefited from livelihood opportunities and access to essential services



50% women



“What I earn now is higher than what I earned when I went to Cotonou to work. Besides, now I’m at home. I have no intention of going back on an exodus.”

Chamsou Soumana
construction worker in Niger



© UNDP Mali

Funding Windows support to stabilization expanded to the **Lake Chad Basin** to help **Niger** maintain continuity of programming in areas destabilized by insecurity. Located in the eastern part of Niger, the Diffa region is a vast semi-arid expanse, where agricultural and pastoral activities are being disrupted by conflict and crises. Funding Window interventions in 2023 significantly improved living conditions for crisis-affected communities, particularly enhancing basic social services and the overall quality of life.

Flexibility in funding allowed for continuity of stabilization actions, benefiting 250,311 individuals with lighting and water access. Installation of solar streetlights enhanced security for previously underserved communities, transforming their quality of life and economic activities. Transversal actions facilitated the return and integration of displaced populations, witnessing a 46.52 percent increase in internally displaced households by 2023, signaling improved security and access to basic services.



250,000+
people accessed lighting and water

Health services became accessible to over 11,536 people in 30 villages, improving maternal, reproductive and child health, while educational interventions, including solar-powered lighting in schools, benefited approximately 2,589 children. Notably, youth empowerment initiatives in solar technology maintenance created new job prospects and contributed to community resilience. The holistic approach prioritized marginalized groups, resulting in stability for 95,679 returnees and improved security perceptions among villagers.



46%
increase in IDP households reporting improved security and access to services

UNDP Stabilization Academy

→ The UNDP Stabilization Academy supports UNDP Country Offices in Africa and the Middle East in transitioning towards stabilization programmes by strengthening the capacities of personnel with knowledge and skills. This involves a three-track approach focused on peer-to-peer learning, campus community exchange and networking to build a new generation of crisis professionals towards strategic action. In 2023, 273 individuals completed the online **Stabilization Essentials Course** and four campus events engaged 304 stabilization professionals of which 45 percent were women around specific thematic areas of relevance. These included online and in-person events to present findings from a UNDP preventing violent extremism (PVE) **report series**, an open house on practical examples of adaptive management in stabilization contexts, a forum on bridging the UNDP stabilization approach and the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, and a panel discussion for PVE and stabilization practitioners on good practices, lessons learned and challenges from Iraq, Mozambique and Nigeria, facilitating South-South exchange.

From the ground up, strengthening communities to prevent conflict and sustain peace

To prevent future conflict and instil hope among communities and individuals in post-conflict reconstruction, the Funding Windows promoted social cohesion, intergenerational and intercommunity dialogue, psychosocial care, mediation, and resilience-based legal and social service provision.

→ In **Ethiopia**, the initiative supported by the Funding Windows, focusing on psychosocial support in post-conflict environments, engaged 1,048 individuals of which 63 percent were women in sessions on mental health and trauma with 75 percent of participants reporting significant improvements in their psychological well-being. The initiative played a crucial role in reviving specialized, local law enforcement and legal aid services for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. Community psychosocial sessions and peace dialogues helped 750 individuals of which 57 percent were women feel greater levels of safety in their neighbourhoods. Moreover, 466 women survivors of sexual and gender-based violence participated in business management training and received grants for entrepreneurial ventures, resulting in a 50 percent increase in household incomes.



“With this support, I purchased all necessary basic equipment and ideas for [my] small cafe. I have started regular saving on a monthly basis to expand my business.”

Maritu Kasse
business development grant recipient in Ethiopia

Funding Windows resources in **Somalia** helped bridge immediate humanitarian aid with long-term development goals in the Southwest State. Recognizing the crucial roles of local leadership and community involvement in achieving and sustaining peace, UNDP worked to expand membership of a network of religious leaders and women madrasa teachers who acted as community mediators and peacebuilders. The network conducted 50 social dialogue sessions in several villages which were attended by more than 5,000 people. Each focused on the Islamic perspective of governance, inclusivity, coexistence, peacebuilding, conflict transformation and the role of the ulema in mediation of conflict. As a result, the Southwest State administration successfully mediated a conflict within the Diinsoor settlement between the Dabare and Geelidle clans. The dispute, sparked by an accidental shooting, underscored the potential for minor incidents to escalate into significant conflicts in societies with deep tribal and clan affiliations. Traditional clan elders led the mediation efforts and achieved acknowledgement of wrongdoing, compensation, release of detainees, property restitution and commitment to justice, demonstrating the effectiveness of locally led conflict resolution strategies.



In **Iraq**, following the defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in 2017, disengaged volunteer fighters returned to their home communities. Without strategies for reintegration, few socio-economic opportunities and high rates of mental health disorders, violent extremism has been steadily increasing. With support from the Funding Windows, local partners have adopted holistic approaches to reconciliation and reintegrating former ISIL combatants and their family members. Community readiness was strengthened by combining cash-for-work programmes with socio-economic training and business grants to fast-track assimilation into the economic workforce, as well as mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services and the establishment of one-stop information and outreach centres. In total, MSME grants helped entrepreneurs develop and operationalize their business plans, of which 40 percent of recipients were women, and 3,840 community members benefited from stability support schemes.

“The [motivation to participate in this project] was not only financial, but also to show that women can do anything. Before, in our community, it was taboo that women work or go out of the house. This project empowered me to work as a woman.”

Business development participant from Sinuni, Iraq



© UNDP Iraq / Claire Thomas



Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Responsive Institutions (CPPRI)

In 2023, 50 UNDP Country Offices and regional hubs received support through the **CPPRI Global Programme**, including through Funding Windows resources, to advance conflict prevention and peacebuilding, improve understanding of localized climate-related security risks, and sustain or restore responsive and inclusive core government functions. As the Secretariat of the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding (IDPS), the CPPRI Global Programme enabled dialogue between OECD donors, conflict-affected states and civil society on conflict, fragility, prevention, peacebuilding and state building. Moreover, the CPPRI Global Programme—including the Peacebuilding Fund and Climate Security Mechanism—partnered with NATO, the European Union and other global entities to garner support for the COP28 Declaration on Climate, Relief, Recovery and Peace that was endorsed by 74 governments and 43 organizations. Towards integrating climate security considerations into policies, plans and strategies, the CPPRI Global Programme collaborated on the *Re-envisioning Climate Change Adaptation Policy to Sustain Peace* study that assesses how the intersection of climate, peace and security is addressed in 44 National Adaptation Plans submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

At the regional level in Africa, a landmark declaration on the links between climate change impacts and peace and security resulted from a regional forum on climate security in Mali, supported by the programme. To strengthen capacities to prevent violent extremism at the regional and global levels, UNDP launched the second iteration of the flagship report, *Journey to Extremism in Africa: Pathways to Recruitment and Disengagement*, which recommended greater investment in basic services including child welfare, education and quality livelihoods to prevent youth’s radicalization, and *Dynamics of Violent Extremism in Africa: Conflict Ecosystems, Political Ecology, and the Spread of the Proto-State*, which examined the emergence of violent extremist groups exploiting local grievances.

Locally, the programme fostered conflict anticipation and prevention approaches through integrated country support in **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Tajikistan** and **Uzbekistan**.



Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention

Through the Funding Windows, and with support from other donors, the Joint **UNDP-UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention** deployed 124 Peace and Development Advisors (PDAs) in 69 countries in 2023 to strengthen national capacities for conflict prevention and support United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) to prevent conflict and sustain peace.

In **Nigeria**, the PDA team facilitated preventive diplomacy with the UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel, the African Union, national actors and state-level stakeholders to establish an environment conducive to peaceful elections. To enable risk-informed UN programming, the PDA team in **Ecuador** developed a Crisis Risk Dashboard focused on southern border contingencies for migration, social cohesion and security, in collaboration with the national PDA in **Peru**. Meanwhile, in **Moldova** the PDA team helped establish a cross-river Women’s Advisory Board and launched the first-ever Social Cohesion and Reconciliation Index (SCORE) covering both banks of the Nistru.

PDA teams supported national and UN stakeholders to enhance the operationalization of the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agendas. In **Brazil**, the PDA collaborated with UN Women to develop the National Action Plan on WPS, launched during the annual UN Security Council Open Debate on WPS. In **Georgia**, the PDA team supported the formation of a network of 20 young peacebuilders, and in **Tunisia**, a 16-member women mediators’ network was established and capacitated, with over half of its participants being young women.



UN Transitions Project

During 2023, the UN Transitions Project continued to be the primary integrated mechanism within the UN System to support UN transition processes due to the abrupt mission exits of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and the United Nations Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS), underscoring the necessity of proactive planning in complex contexts.

The project offered tailored assistance for early transition planning in **Central African Republic, Somalia** and **South Sudan**, and has continued supporting the full-fledged transition in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**. Moreover, UN staff transition capacities were strengthened through country-based training workshops and piloting scenario-based global transition training. The Transitions Project also supported the revision of the Integrated Assessment and Planning Policy, positioning the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework as the main transition planning framework. This approach emphasized the evolution of strategic reconfiguration of the entire UN presence to adapt to changing ground realities. Overall, these efforts will ensure the UN is fit for purpose to plan and manage current and upcoming transitions in a more proactive and sustainable manner, continuing to be a vital partner for countries striving to build lasting peace.

The humanitarian-development-peace nexus:

Addressing crises system-wide for long-lasting recovery



In an era of polycrises, linear interventions fall short. The UNDP humanitarian-development-peace (HDP) nexus approach tackles multirisk, multidimensional challenges in crisis contexts by operationalizing coordination and policy solutions at the global, regional and country levels.

In 2023, **eight countries** that received Funding Windows resources reported working on advancing the HDP nexus.

To strengthen UNDP's co-leadership role in multi-stakeholder nexus coordination, Funding Windows resources through the Nexus Academy were used for 239 UNDP and other UN agency staff, bilateral organizations and governments to attend 7 training courses, including 4 multi-stakeholder trainings and 3 UNDP-specific trainings, an increase from the 5 courses and 200 participants in 2022.

At the country level, in **Myanmar**, Funding Windows resources were essential for a collaboration between the Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU) and the Myanmar Development Observatory to operationalize the HDP nexus approach in Rakhine state and nationwide, designing sectoral and area-based approaches, programmes and pilots based on data collated through new assessments and analysis that spans across silos. In **South Sudan**, UNDP and the World Food Programme published a long-awaited flagship study on the relationship and impact of humanitarian assistance on state-building processes in South Sudan. The study features analyses on strengthening local institutions and promoting coordination with recommendations on applying innovative approaches to enhance the positive impact of humanitarian assistance on long-term state-building outcomes.

Propelling recovery and resilience amidst crises

Guided by the principles of the UNDP Crisis Offer, UNDP works to anticipate, prevent, respond and recover in crises contexts when development progress is hindered or reversed. The Funding Windows flexible mechanism facilitated the rapid deployment of critical funds and human resources to get ahead of the crisis curve, break fragility cycles and invest in hope in times of crises in five countries.



In 2023, Funding Windows support to **Ukraine** led to the procurement of gas engines and autotransformers for regions heavily affected by the conflict, aiming at restoring power supplies and ensuring access to safe water, sanitation and heating for an estimated 2 million people. Through a multidonor funded intervention in collaboration with the National Mine Action Authority (NMAA), the Model of Victim Assistance in Mine Action programme provided psychosocial training to state-of-emergency psychologists to deliver trauma-related services to communities, including explosive ordnance survivors. To date, 1,747 people of which 54 percent were women and girls gained knowledge on Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) to support debris removal and planned demolition. Meanwhile, a partnership with the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) led to the development of a nationwide EORE campaign that reached 1 million people.

UNDP also supported the Office of the President and the Cabinet of Ministers in conducting a comprehensive Human Impact Assessment on the war in Ukraine, focusing on living conditions, health, education, livelihoods and gender equality. The assessment relied on mixed methods, including primary data collection from over 3,200 households, of which 37 percent were in rural areas, 45 percent home to a person with disabilities and/or chronic illness, and 25 percent IDPs and returnees. The recommendations are informing strategic inputs to the government for developing legislation to define and evaluate human capital at the national and local levels, support affected groups, improve social protection and implement recovery efforts.

The Funding Windows also supported a school repair project in 12 schools across Ukraine aiming at benefiting 6,751 students. In an effort of "building forward better," UNDP and ministry representatives piloted a new concept for the school project where technical assessments and repair plans prioritize safety, inclusivity and resilience in target regions and sustainable educational infrastructure in Kyiv. Evidence from conducted surveys, as well as institutional and community perspectives, were used to design pilots that embrace inclusivity and prioritize marginalized populations, including internally displaced people and students with special needs.



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To address complex cross-border issues, the Funding Windows contributed to improve access to services for 10,000 Ukrainian refugees and people in **Moldova** through enhancements to sanitation facilities and a social centre for older people, improving medical service accessibility in 2 villages, and providing continuous energy-related services to 1,390 people in 5 rural communities that resulted in a 30 to 60 percent savings in commodity costs.

In **Armenia**, efforts focused on improving the food security and livelihoods of both Ukrainian refugees and host communities to prevent a regression in their socio-economic conditions in conflict-affected areas. Thanks to the installation of 8 bio-toilets, 50,000 refugees of which 52 percent were women arriving at the Syunik Humanitarian Centre had improved access to essential hygiene and sanitation services. The Funding Windows also supported agricultural activities to prevent household income levels from dropping below the poverty line. The provision of fodder and grain seeds was crucial to revitalizing the livelihoods of 3,300 predominantly rural populations of which 53 percent were women in conflict-affected areas heavily reliant on agriculture for both food security and income. According to UNDP estimates, the harvest of wheat and barley secured with Funding Windows resources met the needs of more than 49,000 people and contributed to food security and self-sufficiency in conflict-affected communities.



50,000

had improved access to hygiene and sanitation services



52% women



49,000

people with increased food security



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IN FOCUS

Multi-tiered approaches for post-earthquake recovery in Türkiye and Syria

In February 2023, a series of devastating earthquakes hit southwest **Türkiye** and central and northwestern parts of Syria, with thousands of people dead and injured and severe damage to buildings and basic service infrastructure, leaving many without food, water and shelter and in urgent need of emergency medical and psychosocial assistance.

With Funding Windows resources, UNDP supported the Government of Türkiye to put into motion a four-point plan for earthquake response and recovery, including to rapidly reinstate quality services for survivors, raise individual and community resilience, and improve waste and debris management services. Central to the UNDP response was meeting the needs of small businesses in a region where women are traditionally underrepresented in the labour market. Through a pilot programme, the Funding Windows helped revive 257 women-led businesses.

Following its success, UNDP scaled up efforts in 11 affected provinces, eventually awarding grants to 4,620 small businesses, of which 42 percent were led by women, whose businesses were destroyed or damaged in the disaster. These grants helped rescue an estimated 124,200 people from disaster-induced poverty and served as an important gesture of solidarity and hope for the future, crucial for economic recovery.

The collapse of social services following the earthquake left the elderly and people with disabilities vulnerable. UNDP, the Ministry of Family and Social Services, and local authorities addressed this crucial issue, rehabilitating care centres and critical health devices and assets in the ‘container cities’ of Kahramanmaraş and Adiyaman. As a result, more than 200,000 earthquake survivors had access to temporary housing and 2,200 earthquake survivors received quality care, including physical therapy, mental health support and personal hygiene assistance. Similarly, 2,771 employees from 19 textile companies and their family members in 4 southeastern cities accessed rapid response psychosocial services.



124,200

people rescued from disaster-induced poverty

In response to the earthquake that hit both countries, with Funding Windows resources, the UNDP Crisis Bureau orchestrated swift SURGE⁶ deployments of crisis advisors to support post-earthquake recovery efforts. Teams were rapidly mobilized to deliver vital aid and expertise to communities in dire need.

In **Türkiye**, 11 UNDP experts were deployed through Funding Windows resources to help the Country Office secure new partnerships with Turkish institutions at both central and local levels. Those experts assisted the Country Office in coordinating the earthquake response with other UN entities and international and national NGOs, including in scaling up the delivery of procured goods and services on time, supporting the co-chairmanship of the Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), running initiatives for social protection and servicing of marginalized populations and victims of violence, and the overall strengthening of programme coverage, coordination and information exchange with authorities, NGOs and citizens in the earthquake-affected areas.

In **Syria**, the Funding Windows supported the Syria SURGE Plan to bolster organizational and operational capacities for early recovery after the earthquake. Through Funding Windows resources, five technical experts were deployed to support the Country Office and impacted populations with life-sustaining interventions. These positions provided essential technical capacity to the Country Office, enabling the restoration of access to basic services and community infrastructure, a pillar of the Country Office recovery offer.

The SURGE team carried out a rapid needs assessment to analyse UNDP intervention areas and develop strategic recommendations on the overall Country Office approach to early recovery and a longer-term earthquake response. This included mapping the scope of damage to housing and community and public infrastructure to identify institutional partners to design and implement a costed plan for the safe removal, disposal and reuse of debris, as well as livelihood and environmental projects. The actions resulted in a comprehensive report on damage assessment findings and a UNDP intervention strategy, providing technical advice on community guidelines and interim and compliance measures.



200,000

earthquake survivors had access to temporary housing

⁶ SURGE Advisors are trusted UNDP staff trained and ready for rapid deployment within days when crises erupt. These experts are selected for their extensive field experience in crisis, knowledge of immediate crisis response situations, and technical expertise.



WATCH
Serving people: UNDP's support to Türkiye after the 2023 earthquakes



Nature, Climate and Energy Window

Financing inclusive, localized and sustainable solutions for nature, climate and energy-based challenges

UNDP has been at the forefront of addressing the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution through a multidisciplinary approach that tackles all three dimensions. The Funding Windows accelerated the transition to inclusive green economies and progress on the UNDP energy moonshot by supporting the adoption of renewable energy sources, developing climate-resilient infrastructure, mitigating biodiversity loss and promoting sustainable land management practices, while empowering vulnerable and marginalized populations to become leaders in environmental conservation efforts and sustainable energy practices.



Greening economies and mitigating vulnerabilities through women-centred financing

→ In **Mexico**, Funding Windows investments boosted the productivity of women beekeepers, farmers and chicken producers from indigenous communities while integrating environmental sustainability and financial mechanisms through sorority networks. A share of 9 out of 10 women's groups established savings mechanisms, reflecting a significant increase in their economic capabilities and financial literacy, which led to 90 percent higher savings levels among group members.

Of those women, 47 percent formalized their savings for the first time—granting them greater control over resources and offering a safety net in case of difficulties. Saving group members often took on active roles as 'biodiversity guardians', contributing to proposing a public policy that encourages women's growth, and working together on local initiatives to raise the environmental resilience of their communities. Solidarity within groups fostered mutual support and facilitated interregional fora where women identified common challenges, forged alliances and gained insights from the experiences of others in managing the natural resources crucial for their livelihoods and ecosystems.



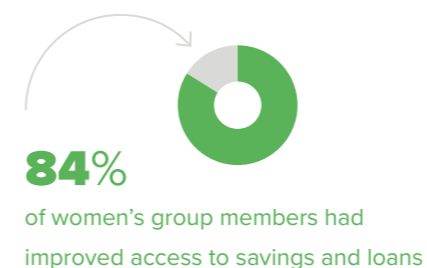
"Having a savings fund has greatly helped us as a group and our families, as what we earn is also brought for the welfare of our family. I am very happy. This is the first time we have had this experience and we are very motivated. Without this support, it would not be easy."

Micaela Díaz
member of the savings group Chiapas San José Majoval in Mexico



© UNDP Mexico

→ In **Guinea Bissau**, a dual approach supported by the Funding Windows combined rural women's financial empowerment through savings groups with improved health care access through microinsurance benefiting 535 women. Modelled on the local *abotas* mechanism, UNDP and Caritas exceeded targets by forming 12 community savings groups. By the end of the year, 84 percent of group members had improved access to savings and loans with profits generated through *abotas* borrowing fees. Savings groups and loans have played a pivotal role in fostering human and social capital among women, equipping them to prepare for and recover from climate-related shocks such as crop failures and natural disasters, as well as unforeseen health costs. Beyond finances, 57 percent of these women have registered a tangible reduction in food insecurity, and 19 percent of them increased investments in agricultural businesses and tools, and the ability to meet financial commitments such as school fees for their children. Alongside Village Savings and Loan Associations, micro-insurance schemes designed for the needs of women and their dependents were introduced. New health microinsurance solutions created an impactful support system for rural women, facilitating their access to health care services, and covering essential expenses for them and their dependents, benefiting a total of 1,027 people.



In **Eswatini**, the focus was on improving the green skills of youth and women and scaling up sustainable economic activities and business practices in energy, climate-smart agriculture and waste management. Supported by the Funding Windows, UNDP accelerated the development of skills for the application of climate-smart agriculture technologies, such as permaculture and drip irrigation, bridging the digital divide by registering farmers on the Eswatini Horticulture Information System (EHIS). The digital platform emerged as a vital resource, offering access to information about markets and crop availability, and connecting farmers directly with buyers, input suppliers and other key stakeholders in the horticultural ecosystem. Beyond technological empowerment, the EHIS facilitated the integration of farmers into formal market systems with registered smallholder farmers trading with the National Marketing and Agricultural Board, opening new avenues for economic growth and the marketing of community-supported agricultural products. Digital engagement represents a significant stride towards modernizing agriculture in Eswatini, ensuring farmers are not left behind in the digital age.

Fostering global networks for catalysing action, policies and awareness on pollution

→ Globally, humans produce 430 million metric tons of new plastics every year: a volume that, at this rate, will triple by 2060. In Rwanda, to foster behavioural and policy changes on plastic pollution, Funding Windows resources supported UNDP to work with public and private institutions and civil society to deliver courses on Behaviour Change and Plastics Management in Africa through South–South and triangular cooperation. A partnership was established with Rwanda Polytechnic and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme to collate data on plastics management and develop a web-based peer learning platform that will become operational by the end of 2024 for other countries across the world. The learning platform is designed for users to network and gain valuable insights into the Rwandan practice of managing plastics while minimizing their adverse impact on the environment using home-grown solutions. A community of practice for plastics management convened plastic pollution global experts and practitioners from more than 30 countries in the Global South to exchange best practices, forge synergies for joint action and align towards a shared vision to drive transformative change to beat plastic pollution.

Promoting a renewable and sustainable energy transition

→ In **Kazakhstan**, coal has been used for cooking and heating most homes in rural areas. Through the Funding Windows, UNDP addressed this reliance on coal by evaluating the market potential of unused biomass (sawdust, straw and other agricultural wastes) for producing fuel briquettes as a replacement and moving towards a carbon-neutral heating system. Relevant ministries, local authorities, financial institutions and stakeholders were consulted on policy changes and business plans to enhance small business access to affordable finance and mobilize private funds for briquette production. To validate briquette production technology and encourage the adoption of biomass energy, a pilot fuel briquette production cycle was implemented in two villages in northern Kazakhstan and free briquettes were distributed to local consumers to raise awareness on their use as an alternative to firewood and coal. Positive feedback from users confirmed that biofuel combustion is a viable solution for carbon-neutral heating in Kazakhstan.

In **Sri Lanka**, a government and UNDP-led tuk-tuk pilot project promoted electrification in support of the national transition to a low-carbon, green development pathway. Technical experts and partners from the ministries of transport, environment and power conducted a detailed analysis of low-income tuk-tuk drivers and those experiencing multidimensional poverty. This led to initiating policy development in support of e-tuk-tuks and e-mobility, building consensus among key stakeholders including the private sector interested in converting three-wheelers into safe electric vehicles.



Thinking globally, acting locally: Climate action and national pledges

Climate Promise
→ The **UNDP Climate Promise** is the world's largest support system for countries to fulfil their commitments under the Paris Agreement and enhance implementation of their climate pledges, known as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). In 2023, “scale” and “speed” were prioritized through Funding Windows resources, expanding support to 31 countries to strengthen gender-responsive NDC implementation processes, an increase from 17 in 2022.

In **Senegal**, the National Statistics and Demography and National Renewable Energy agencies conducted an extensive field survey on public and private renewable energy installations, populating data for the energy sector. Similarly, in **Belize**, a comprehensive diagnostic study of the industrial sector was conducted to inform the development of a national industrial policy and a local low-carbon investment roadmap. To support **Armenia's** commitments under the Global Methane pledge, a transitional system for air pollution was developed that aligns the existing national legal framework with European Union Industrial Emissions Directive principles. **Lebanon's** Green Investment Facility is now operational, guiding investments in sectors vital for NDC targets, including sustainable energy, transport, agriculture, water, waste and forestry, amidst the country's socio-economic crisis. **Viet Nam** established innovative e-tracking systems to support low-carbon supply chains for dragon fruit and shrimp production.

Three countries completed NDC investment plans (the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, **El Salvador** and **Paraguay**), while four countries advanced long-term mitigation strategies (**Argentina**, **Kazakhstan**, **Paraguay** and **Tunisia**). Overall, inclusivity was upheld by engaging non-party stakeholders throughout the NDC implementation process, with seven countries (**Bangladesh**, **Belize**, the **Lao People's Democratic Republic**, **Nepal**, **Panama**, **Uganda** and **Uruguay**) actively involving youth constituencies in 2023 and strengthening their capacities ahead of COP28.

Accelerating finance, partnership and community inclusion for biodiversity conservation

Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN)
→ UNDP's **BIOFIN** is a global knowledge network of finance experts, government partners, the private sector and local leaders that designs, implements and tracks national Biodiversity Finance Plans and finance solutions. In 2023, Funding Windows resources contributed to UNDP technical support to 38 countries from Asia and the Pacific (15), Africa (14) and Latin America and the Caribbean (10) to increase green financing. In **Zambia**, support through the Funding Windows enabled the country to adopt a national framework and tax benefits for green bonds. This led to the Copperbelt Energy Corporation registering and issuing the country's first green bond, valued at US\$200 million to help generate at least 200 megawatts of renewable energy. Drawing from BIOFIN engagement with national stakeholders, the Central Bank adopted green loan guidelines, mainstreaming biodiversity in the country's financial sector. In **Kazakhstan**, BIOFIN and UNDP-GEF programme experts worked with the Ministry of Finance to increase public funding for protected areas through improving management plans. As a result, protected area budgets rose by a total of over US\$70 million from 2019–2023.

PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet

The Funding Windows supported the promotion and uptake of replicable solutions for biodiversity protection and conservation efforts through **PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet**, a global knowledge-sharing and learning initiative comprising 12 partner organizations and 11 communities. In 2023, the global learning and knowledge partnership between UNDP, GIZ (the German development agency) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature made significant advancements in understanding, documenting and communicating the unique value proposition, opportunities and constraints of PANORAMA, and using this as the basis for forward-looking strategic planning. Across all partner organizations and communities, the PANORAMA initiative made significant strides in 2023 towards expanding the repository of success stories on nature conservation and sustainable development by unveiling 186 novel solutions, bringing the total of published solutions on the PANORAMA platform to 1,411, a 15 percent surge from the previous year and a 73 percent surge since 2020.



The Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net)

Implemented jointly by UNDP, the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) World Conservation Monitoring Centre and UNESCO, BES-Net is committed to co-creating concrete evidence-based solutions for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation worldwide by leveraging the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). In 2023, Funding Windows resources supported national ecosystem assessments in **Botswana**, the **Dominican Republic**, **Malawi** and **Thailand**, leading to the engagement of over 2,000 people, including from Indigenous and local communities, in a comprehensive synthesis of knowledge on biodiversity realities, solutions and outcomes.

Inspired by the IPBES Assessment on pollinators, pollination and food production, UNDP in **Trinidad and Tobago** mobilized 260 research and citizen scientists to conduct 3,000 observations of local pollinator and pest species, resulting in the identification of 16 new species previously unrecorded in the country. The national government demonstrated its determination to strengthen the country's commitment to pollinator conservation by joining the Coalition of the Willing on Pollinators, an international alliance among countries to work together and share knowledge for the protection of pollinators and their habitats. Drawing from successful national-level efforts in 2022, BES-Net translated key national ecosystem assessment messages into context-relevant and actionable strategies in two regions in **Colombia**. UNDP also engaged Indigenous Peoples in planning and developing actions rooted in biodiversity commitments and established 11 Indigenous-led, localized, nature-based solutions.



16

new previously unrecorded species identified

Global Support Initiative to territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities (ICCA-GSI)



Funding Windows resources contributed to addressing the lack of recognition of Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' (IPs and LCs) rights and their valuable contribution to biodiversity conservation through the Global Support Initiative to territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities (ICCA-GSI). The ICCA-GSI community-led projects in 39 countries influenced the protection of 1.9 million hectares in Indigenous and community territories benefiting over 150,000 people. The Global ICCA Registry database was updated, including an interactive map and summary of the latest ICCA Registry data. With support from the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre UNEP-WCMC, over 311,799 km² or 31,179,900 hectares of ICCAs spread over 310 Indigenous and local communities in 24 countries and territories have been registered and are now part of the global count for Protected Areas. The partnership also led to the roll-out of Mapeo, a digital tool for the mapping of traditional territories. In **Belize**, ICCA-GSI partners facilitated legal access agreements between Indigenous people, local communities and the government in the Maya Mountain North Forest Reserve, which is a 36,130-acre government-managed protected area. This resulted in the creation of the first agroforestry concession for residents to become stewards of a protected area. It also led to an average yearly increase of 79 percent in cacao bean yields between 2019 and 2023, the development of 31 new plots, a harvest of 303,473 pounds of beans, and US\$259,860 in premium organic cacao sales for members.



1.9 million

hectares of Indigenous and community territories protected



150,000

people benefited in 39 countries



79%

increase in cacao bean yields



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Advancing structural-based solutions for transformative global outcomes



The Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD)

The UNDP flagship Enable and Scale-up Market Adoption of Nature-related Financial Disclosures initiative advocates the uptake of the framework of the TNFD, thus contributing to redirecting global financial flows to nature-positive outcomes in line with the Global Biodiversity Framework and the Convention on Biological Diversity. In 2023, Funding Windows investments supported the expansion of the TNFD Forum, with membership reaching a total of 1,435 companies, financial institutions and market service providers from 70 countries and territories and 86 sectors—representing US\$27.2 trillion in assets under management and US\$19.4 trillion in market capitalization. Over 200 organizations pilot tested TNFD beta frameworks throughout the year and, at the New York Stock Exchange in September 2023, TNFD launched the final set of disclosure recommendations, providing companies and financial institutions of all sizes with a risk management and disclosure framework to identify, assess, manage and disclose nature-related issues. As a result, TNFD announced a first cohort of 320 organizations from 46 countries that committed to making nature-related disclosures based on TNFD recommendations at the Davos 2024 World Economic Forum.



320

organizations from 46 countries committed to making nature-related disclosures



Scaling up Climate Ambition on Land Use and Agriculture (SCALA)

The SCALA programme supports 12 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America to translate their NDCs and National Action Plans into actionable and transformative climate solutions in land use and agriculture, with a focus on multi-stakeholder collaboration and private sector engagement. In 2023, 11 SCALA countries undertook participatory assessments to allow policymakers to fill information gaps and implement their countries' climate priorities within agrifood systems. In **Uganda**, an assessment on mixed farming systems in the cattle corridor found that household resilience was low with restricted income, limited access to climate information and increased occurrence of shocks. The assessment also found that improved pastureland management, feeding and livestock breeds as well as enhanced resilience in the dairy and cassava value chains are key climate solutions to build adaptive capacity.

SCALA also provided technical and financial assistance for the formulation and adoption of national and sectoral plans that incorporate gender-responsive agriculture and land-use priorities in six countries. National capacities and frameworks on monitoring and evaluation (M&E) and measurement, reporting and verification (MRV) were enhanced to strengthen monitoring and reporting in line with UNFCCC requirements. Another 7 new countries (**Belize, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Grenada, Maldives, Uzbekistan** and **Zambia**) were added to the SCALA's Private Sector Engagement Facility (PSEF) which promotes private sector engagement in non-SCALA countries, bringing the total number of participating countries to 12. In 2023, a hackathon was organized bringing together youth innovators from **Cambodia, Mongolia** and **Nepal** to find innovative digital solutions to climate challenges in their countries. The winning team from Mongolia proposed an app-based solution to monitor livestock herd numbers to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, a key priority in Mongolia's NDC



The Forest Declaration Platform (FDP) and the Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership (FCLP)

In 2023, Funding Windows resources enabled the Forest Declaration Platform (FDP) Advisory Committee to create strategies and recommendations to support Indigenous communities, local NGOs and youth organizations for scaling up environmental and whole-of-government measures to prevent forest loss. These recommendations advocated for structural transformation, including the use of rights-based approaches, recognition of Indigenous governance and challenging traditional human-nature dichotomies, identifying correlations between colonial legacies and climate change. Following recommendations from the Advisory Committee, FDP partners were able to secure additional funding from the Government of the United Kingdom to expedite NDC implementation, through agriculture and land sectors, as well as providing direct grants for Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Resources were also secured to continue independent progress assessments of the global forest goals, in coordination with the Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership (FCLP).

The FCLP was launched at COP27, where members committed to developing actions that would catalyse the global systemic shifts required to halt and reverse forest loss and deliver on the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use. In its first year in 2023, Funding Windows support to establish the FCLP Secretariat was instrumental in helping member countries to access new and additional funding to implement their national visions to halt and reverse forest loss. This includes a country packages initiative designed and launched at COP28 for the **Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana** and **Papua New Guinea** where FCLP members, NGOs and philanthropists committed over US\$242 million.



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Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Window

Expanding opportunities, meaningful participation and empowered choices for women and girls in all aspects of their lives

UNDP puts gender equality at the core of its development work and focuses on accelerators for structural change through its [Gender Equality Strategy 2022–2025](#). Investments through the Funding Windows have supported integrated and scalable initiatives to help countries shift power structures and transform the economic, social and political systems that perpetuate discrimination and inequality. This included supporting public finance and fiscal policies for gender equality, strengthening state capabilities to advance gender equality and address backlashes, and enhancing the integration of gender equality in the UNDP clean energy portfolio.



New evidence for gender equality policymaking

Drawing data from their COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker, UNDP and UN Women published in 2023, [Promising Practices for Gender Equality](#), a catalogue of policy measures for countries to respond to future crises and to build more gender-equitable societies and economies. Further, together with UN Women and the OECD, UNDP published the [“Global Factsheet: Gender Equality and Environmental Considerations in Covid-19 Response and Recovery”](#), which maps both gender-sensitive and green measures from nearly 200 countries and territories, highlighting innovative practices as well as major gaps.



Equanomics

Fiscal policies that work for gender equality and inclusive fiscal governance are critical to reduce poverty, eliminate structural gender discrimination and finance gender equality. The flagship initiative ‘Equanomics’ contributes to UNDP’s ambition to help unlock US\$100 billion of public and private finance for gender equality.

Equanomics promotes reforms and the alignment of fiscal policies with gender equality objectives of countries, working on both public revenue and expenditure. It assists governments in generating evidence, identifying and accompanying countries to make reforms providing tools and capacities to succeed. Launched with support from the Funding Windows in 2023, Equanomics has worked with the ministries of finance and tax authorities in **Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Ghana, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nigeria, the Philippines and Rwanda**.

Equanomics has integrated the [Gender Equality Seal](#) for public institutions in its offer to governments, to help ministries of finance and taxation authorities to meet international gender equality standards, planting the seeds to design and implement policies that work for gender equality, accelerating progress toward SDGs 5 and 16. This flagship initiative works in more than 30 countries and 4 regions with 91 public institutions, a marked jump from 63 public institutions in 2022. As a result, over 224,000 public servants, of which 105,000 were women, benefited from improved gender skills and safer and more enabling working environments, up from 88,000 public servants in 2022.



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As part of Equanomics, UNDP is supporting **Mongolia** to assess and reform their fiscal policy and tax system through a gender assessment of personal income tax and the care economy, and a tax incidence analysis to understand the impact of fiscal policies on women and men. Mongolia has presented a proposal to the Parliament for tax reforms that encourage women’s participation in the economy. To ensure that reforms are sustainable, a number of institutional reforms have been conducted as part of the implementation of the Gender Equality Seal. The General Tax Authority (GTA) has established an in-house gender specialist for the Civil Service Council, reformed its tax payer database system to ensure sex and age disaggregation, has included key gender indicators in institutional M&E mechanisms and has incorporated gender equality in education, communication and outreach programmes.

Similarly, UNDP is supporting **Nigeria** to implement an integrated reform of tax policies and the tax system. A diagnosis of the tax system has been conducted that identifies gaps, necessary tax reforms and innovative strategies that can be implemented, while the Gender Equality Seal is facilitating institutional reforms of the tax administration. As a result, an accountability mechanism was set up for women entrepreneurs’ civil society organizations to better inform reforms of tax programmes and services so they respond to the specific needs of women. In **Rwanda**, the Revenue Authority has strengthened their systems for gender-disaggregated data and gender analysis and made available for the first time a specific chapter on gender statistics in the Tax Statistics Report for 2022–2023.

Gender Equality Seal

improved gender skills



30

countries



91

institutions



224,000+

public servants





Powering Gender Equality in Africa

Collaborative and learning-oriented, the Powering Gender Equality programme leverages UNDP large-scale energy programmes across Africa to strengthen gender equality impacts. This initiative complements countries' existing programming to increase women's economic empowerment, strengthen gender-responsive energy governance, and steer clean energy policy frameworks to "power gender equality." **Ethiopia, Eswatini, Madagascar and Malawi** are working together as a peer learning group to address gender biases that commonly restrict women's participation and influence in the energy sector, curb entrepreneurial growth and hinder women's access to technical skills and opportunities. In **Eswatini**, women politicians were brought together to increase awareness on clean energy issues, and rural women cooperative members, including those who live with disabilities, acquired skills on clean energy technologies and entrepreneurship through the country's first-of-its-kind network for women in the energy sector.

Meanwhile, **Malawi** equipped rural women entrepreneurs with essential business knowledge to develop businesses with off-grid clean energy. Participant Anne Damiano Nyendwa, expressed optimism towards this women-focused investment: "I believe the skills acquired will not only benefit my business but also positively impact my life and the lives of those around me," she said.

Gender equality and women's empowerment are cross-cutting themes across all four Funding Windows.



READ
Breaking the cycle of poverty for women and their communities

in Costa Rica, Eswatini, Guinea-Bissau and Mexico.



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Trends and opportunities

Designing future-proofed and resource-based development solutions of tomorrow



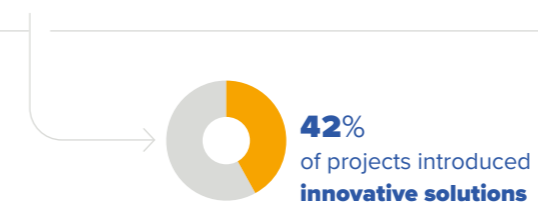
From experimenting with innovative approaches and harnessing digitalization to identifying drivers of environmental resource-based conflict, the Funding Windows leverage enablers, trends, and opportunities to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs.

This serves to not only improve understanding of areas where the Funding Windows can act as a bridge for context-relevant and dynamic solutions that meet today's needs *now*, but also get strategic insight into the thematic and programmatic issues likely to develop into prominent flashpoints that need to be addressed *tomorrow*.

At the tip of the innovation spear

In 2023, the Funding Windows supported ambitious initiatives that catalyse innovation to accelerate structural transformation, with **28 countries** (42 percent of projects) reporting having introduced innovative solutions. Going beyond mere technological advancements, flexible funds channelled through the Funding Windows have driven innovation by spearheading a shift from traditional, siloed approaches to a more dynamic framework that embraces experimentation, learning and adaptive management to tackle interconnected development challenges in line with UNDP's new corporate portfolio policy.

Funding Windows resources have been used as seed funding to develop and operationalize the portfolio approach in the **Philippines** and accelerate the transition to the circular economy, to strengthen governance in **Tunisia** as an enabler of socio-economic development, and to design, test and scale innovative interventions in the garment manufacturing sector in **Paraguay** towards employment formalization. Seed funding has facilitated strategic alliances with national and local governments, municipalities, universities, local sector associations and civil society for co-designing interventions and documenting emerging lessons.





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IN FOCUS

Enabling systems transformation in Tunisia

In September 2023, UNDP Tunisia completed an 18-month journey to develop a “governance as a lever for socio-economic development” portfolio. Bringing together the government and funding partners, the portfolio represents joint efforts to expand people’s access to public services, as well as socio-economic opportunities.

Funding Windows flexible resources were catalytic in providing space for the UNDP Tunisia team to build a shared understanding of policy challenges, accelerate momentum and align interests across partners. In the first six months of implementation, the portfolio received US\$23 million in pledges and commitments from partners. Some key lessons learned through the portfolio-building process include:

- **Activating an alliance for change.**
Joint decision-making and the ability to learn and adapt as a collective define the success of the Tunisia portfolio. National partners committed to a new way of working together through technical and strategic committees. As implementation moves forward, UNDP will continue to generate evidence and insights to guide joint decision-making by all portfolio stakeholders and to mobilize political and financial support.
- **Building new tools for joint ownership.**
The new way of working—using an integrated approach across sectors to address interconnected policy issues—requires the establishment of new mechanisms for collaborative action between all stakeholders. Funding Windows resources were used for the design of new tools and approaches that will allow a true portfolio approach to programming that operationalizes learning, people-centred monitoring and evaluation, and area-based and integrated approaches to data production and analysis.
- **Positioning learning as the core function.**
To create ‘fit for purpose’ policy choices and interventions in an ever-changing context, continuous learning and adaptation is pivotal. Evolving situations require ‘a finger on the pulse’ to identify emerging insights, risks and opportunities, and manage them in a timely and effective manner. Partners agreed to establish a dedicated portfolio function that would generate analytics and knowledge for use in advocacy, learning and adaptive management

Towards inclusive, ethical, sustainable and digital societies

The COVID-19 pandemic triggered an accelerated rate of digital transformation that increased the demand for digital skills while highlighting a lack of harmonized digital regulatory practices. The Funding Windows promoted the advancement of digital solutions in **20 countries** (32 percent of projects) in 2023. Strategic investments supported projects that leverage digital technologies to enhance governance systems, improve service access and promote socio-economic opportunities. Recognizing the importance of inclusivity in the digital era, projects bridged the digital divide by expanding Internet connectivity, enhancing digital skills and ensuring marginalized communities benefit equally from digitalization



In **Somalia**, UNDP worked with the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) to increase digital skills among women and youth for improving health systems in at-risk communities. Information and communication technology (ICT) and telemedicine equipment were delivered to four youth centres across Somalia. By the end of the year, almost 400 young people of which 54 percent were women had acquired digital literacy and ICT skills through training courses.

Funding Windows support in **Moldova** led to the establishment of the Digital Delivery Unit with Chief Digital Officers deployed to key ministries, along with efforts to strengthen the National Digitalization Council, underscoring commitment to implementing the country’s Digital Transformation Strategy. Led by the Ministry of Energy, the Energy Innovation and Technology Sandbox was launched, allowing for testing and scaling innovative technologies like smart electricity meters, projected to reach 35,000 users, and Renewable Energy Communities by 2025. The UNDP partnership with the ‘Tekwill in Every School’ programme successfully expanded IT-focused opportunities to a network of over 1,000 teachers and 70,000 students in 300 schools, demonstrating tangible progress in enhancing digital capabilities with a focus on inclusivity.

In **Trinidad and Tobago**, Funding Windows resources contributed to high-level digital impact to enhance the institutional capacities of justice sector agencies to manage criminal cases effectively and efficiently to reduce current backlogs of criminal cases and prevent future ones from occurring. In December 2023, the country abolished preliminary enquiries and implemented a new system, aimed at modernizing and improving the efficiency of pretrial proceedings in the High Court through a historic shift, whereby electronic filing of cases by law enforcement and prosecutors is now mandatory. The new pretrial system highlighted the inadequacy of ICT infrastructure across the justice sector, with the Funding Windows supporting this immediate need to operationalize the requirements of the new law.



32%
of projects advanced
digital solutions

Managing environmental risks to safeguard people and the planet

In our interconnected world, the nexus between inequality, environmental degradation and conflicts presents a complex challenge, influencing the vulnerability of communities and threatening social cohesion. Effective risk management that leverages the early identification of conflicts arising from resource deterioration is crucial in order to put in place multidimensional approaches amidst growing resource constraints.

To this end, Funding Windows resources supported collaborative efforts across communities to address drivers of environmental resource-based conflicts. Through multi-stakeholder dialogues and community engagement, UNDP demonstrated its commitment to promoting local solutions towards sustainable resource management and enhanced social cohesion to safeguard people and the planet.



In **Sri Lanka**, the first-ever geospatial and historical database on environmental resource-based conflict was established, containing logs from 13,069 incidents related to land and water conflict in three districts between 1956 and 2022. The Funding Windows helped pilot an early warning mobile application linked to the database to ensure the timely escalation of incidents to relevant authorities, with 144 incidents reported by the end of 2023. Feedback from government and NGO officials trained on the usage of the mobile application emphasized its critical role in facilitating prompt conflict reporting and actionable responses.

Collaborative efforts involving state, non-state and community actors led to targeted interventions to tackle identified drivers of environmental resources-based conflicts which have negatively impacted social cohesion in diverse communities. These interventions have directly or indirectly benefited over 18,350 individuals, of which 52 percent were women and 10 percent youth, by mitigating conflict triggers related to access to water, sanitation, drainage and other essential resources, including tensions between individuals from various ethnic backgrounds and producer groups. For example, differences between communities due to unsafe drinking water and inequitable access to water were alleviated through support to construct water purification infrastructure and the establishment of a Community Circle, fostering unity and addressing grievances among different ethnicities.



18,300+

people benefited from reduction of tensions
in communities affected by resource-related conflicts



In **Djibouti**, near the Ethiopian border, the remote and arid Dikhil region is home to a diverse mix of ethnic communities comprising nomadic Afar and Somali communities. Over 1,000 residents face challenges accessing water. Recurrent droughts in the Horn of Africa have increased migration across the border, enhancing vulnerability and affecting the social fabric of the two communities. Using community surveys and hydro-geophysical studies, UNDP supported the construction of a water facility equipped with solar pumps, providing a reliable source of water for people, farms and animals and enhancing resilience amidst climate-related risks. Joint farming initiatives have emerged as a result, fostering trust and social cohesion between the diverse ethnic communities in the region and contributing to the sustainable development and well-being of over 1,000 people.



READ
Water unites communities

Communities in Djibouti, Syria and Sri Lanka were pushed apart, and then reconnected by water.



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In **Syria's** Deir ez-Zor governorate, accessing water from the Euphrates River is essential for farming due to arid conditions worsened by years of conflict. Funding Windows support facilitated partnerships with local community organizations, leaders and council members, leading to the establishment of seven Collaborative Dispute Resolution committees to facilitate dialogues and community involvement in addressing shared issues. Participants gained skills to serve as mediators for conflict resolution and social cohesion within their communities, while also enhancing engagement in new interventions on water resource governance and community tensions related to exclusion. A noteworthy outcome was a collaborative proposal from stakeholders in Mazloum and Marat villages to address issues with the local irrigation canal. Through active community participation and mediation, an agreement was reached to extend and rehabilitate the canal, thereby enabling irrigation of approximately 2.5 km² of land. This initiative benefited families from both villages that depend on these farms.



WATCH
Harvesting Hope in Sri Lanka

Building the Kindness Canal in Syria

Syria

Sri Lanka



Challenges, risks and lessons learned

While interventions implemented through Funding Windows pooled resources successfully achieved over 80 percent of the targets set at the country level in 2023,⁷ UNDP faced contextual and programmatic risks and challenges across countries.



Challenges reported by Country Offices highlighted a lack of supportive institutional environments and entrenched cultural and gender norms, hindering the participation of marginalized groups in development initiatives.

Accessing financing and understanding risk drivers, especially in fragile contexts affected by crises, remained difficult. In response, UNDP adopted proactive, risk-informed development approaches, emphasizing the need for adaptive strategies, gender integration and community empowerment towards achieving a long-lasting impact.

Navigating the terrain:

Responding to challenges at the country level

Ongoing fragility and widening inequalities in **Haiti**, particularly in remote and landlocked areas, underscored the need to strengthen institutions to address vulnerabilities and uphold the rule of law. Operating in a challenging political and security context marked by gang violence and unpredictability, UNDP learned the importance of collaboration with national and local authorities to navigate security concerns and access real-time information.

Leveraging local expertise and community networks helped overcome logistical hurdles in remote areas where collaboration with local NGOs proved instrumental in resource-sharing and transportation optimization. Detailed emergency plans and online communication platforms facilitated seamless coordination among stakeholders, enhancing adaptability to evolving challenges, while ethical data practices reinforced trust and integrity. Ultimately, UNDP's experience in Haiti underscored the critical importance of flexibility, transparency and ongoing communication in managing risks and addressing complex development challenges with agility.

In **Syria**, UNDP aimed to empower social enterprises as vital contributors to sustainable solutions, offering small grants to support pollution prevention, biodiversity conservation, renewable energy, circular economy practices and sustainable resource management. However, critical hurdles encountered included sanctions imposed on Syria—hindering the establishment of a digital platform crucial for helping enterprises access markets—and rapid currency depreciation, diminishing the value of the grants. Moreover, the absence of supportive regulations on licensing procedures, taxation and access to essential services posed further obstacles to the work of social enterprises.

To address these challenges, UNDP led advocacy efforts to mobilize support for legislation conducive to social enterprises and green businesses, including exceptions or supportive measures. Extending the business acceleration period and adjusting grant sizes to counteract inflation proved effective in mitigating economic fluctuations and promoting sustainability. These lessons will guide UNDP's approach to enhance the effectiveness of future initiatives aimed at fostering green recovery and supporting social enterprises in Syria and beyond.

⁷ The percentage reflects the attainment of targets set at the country level and categorized as final results for the year 2023.



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IN FOCUS

Integrating gender-based violence prevention into women's economic empowerment (WEE) projects in crises

Amidst the turmoil in Sudan and South Sudan, the risk of sexual and gender-based violence intensified, underscoring the urgency to address gender-based violence as an impediment to crisis response and recovery efforts. Drawing from successful interventions in Lebanon, the Global Integrated WEE/GBV project seeks to address the norms that drive gender-based violence as an entry point to enhance economic outcomes for women during the crises in both countries.

Despite changing conflict dynamics, staff turnover and security threats, which resulted in delays in kickstarting project activities in both countries, significant milestones were achieved. This underscores the need for flexibility and longer project durations in crisis contexts.

In **Sudan**, amidst renewed civil war in April 2023, UNDP managed to swiftly reallocate resources to integrate gender-based violence as a central pillar of the Sudan Crisis Response Plan. Community engagement led to the establishment of protection structures, enhancing coordinated GBV services and providing survivors with confidential spaces for reporting.

In **South Sudan**, integrating gender-based violence into other portfolios fostered partnerships with CSOs to establish community awareness strategies and referral pathways.

Integrated GBV/WEE programming is as important as ever for countries facing acute crises and conflict. In response to alarming rates of gender-based violence in all regions of Sudan, the country's recommitment to the prevention of gender-based violence demonstrates that building the capacity of and partnerships with national institutions and CSOs is pivotal to advancing gender transformation within communities and ensuring the sustainability of interventions. However, the growing demand for GBV-related services underscores the critical need for sustained financial resources and coordination among UN and non-UN partners to ensure the effectiveness of both prevention and response mechanisms.

Lessons from Funding Windows management and implementation

Beyond insights from Country Offices, the following lessons learned from the management and implementation of the Funding Windows will guide UNDP's future programming and help improve the effectiveness of this flexible funding mechanism for greater impact.



Adaptability

The ability to swiftly adapt to changing needs on the ground means UNDP can navigate complex challenges and seize emerging opportunities. During the transition from a project-based to a portfolio approach in **Tunisia**, operational changes and cultural shifts were necessary for both UNDP staff and national and local stakeholders. Moreover, agile reprogramming of resources proved invaluable in crises-affected regions and countries, including **Armenia, Syria** and **Türkiye**, facilitating effective coordination with humanitarian actors, interagency collaboration and the engagement of civil society in addressing critical needs on the ground.

Acknowledging the importance of reinforcing adaptive management to maintain Funding Windows' agility and flexibility, alongside expanding the portfolio approach, UNDP aims to leverage multidisciplinary learning to contribute effectively to systemic transformation and long-lasting change.



Multidisciplinary expert engagement across policy and programming

By tapping into expertise across the Global Policy Network (GPN) at corporate and regional levels, UNDP has been able to design integrated, multisectoral interventions. Drawing on diverse expertise across UNDP has enriched UNDP's integrated solutions to comprehensively tackle complex challenges by leveraging knowledge, resources and best practices.

UNDP is committed to further tapping into integrated support provided by GPN experts across the organization to ensure interventions align with global policy priorities while being tailored to meet local needs. Leveraging capacities at headquarters, regional and country levels, UNDP aims for more coherent and quality programming for breakthroughs towards achieving ambitious development objectives.



Strategic allocation of resources

Strategic resource allocation through regular consultation with partners is crucial for maximizing the impact of Funding Windows resources. At the midpoint of the Strategic Plan, measures are underway to further enhance the coherence of investments to accelerate transformational change. In this context, Funding Window resources will be allocated to select flagship initiatives with a steadfast commitment to global priorities and continued focus on achieving impact at the country level.

This shift will enable UNDP to tackle complex, interconnected global, regional and cross-border challenges cohesively, while also reducing administrative burden by sharing oversight, planning, monitoring and reporting mechanisms to enhance efficiency. Looking ahead, a stronger emphasis will be placed on promoting collaboration with UN and non-UN partners.



Enhanced partner engagement

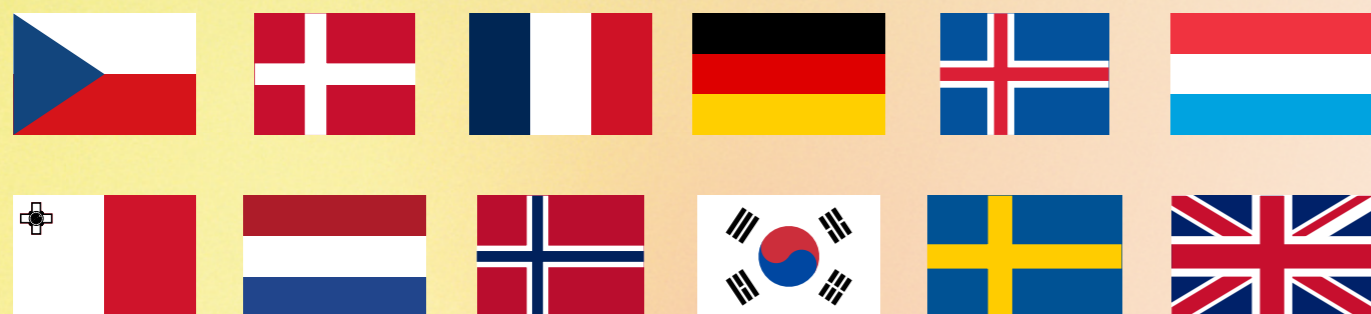
The Advisory Group Meeting held with contributing partners in September 2023 offered direction and guidance on optimizing the impact of the Funding Windows. Furthermore, three Technical Engagement Group (TEG) meetings with the GPN experts in 2023 on Disaster Risk Reduction, Democratic Governance, and Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment further enriched collaboration and expertise exchange with the contributing partners.

Building on these efforts, UNDP aims for stronger collaboration with contributing and potential partners in 2024 and beyond, engaging them in forward-looking policy dialogues through the Funding Windows. Understanding the evolving needs of contributing partners, UNDP revamped the Funding Windows Portal in 2023 to offer real-time access to essential data, including contributions, allocations, utilization and project details. This enhanced transparency provided partners with immediate insight into fund management. Furthermore, acknowledging the importance of showcasing the results achieved through partner investments, Funding Windows' communications and visibility efforts were enhanced in 2023 through a dedicated communications strategy, impact stories, press releases and social media messages, as well as capacity-building for selected UNDP Country Offices on visibility and storytelling.

Financial analysis

In 2023, the Funding Windows received US\$126 million in contributions from 12 partners:

The Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Iceland, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and the United Kingdom



The Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience Window accumulated the most resources, with a total of US\$75 million in contributions, followed by the Nature, Climate and Energy Window with US\$48.5 million. The Poverty and Inequality and Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Windows continue to be underfunded, both accumulating 1 percent of resources. Across the four Funding Windows, pooled contributions totalled US\$42.7 million, 34 percent of total resources.

Despite an increase in contributions in 2023, single-agency thematic funds constituted approximately 3 percent of total non-core contributions, falling short of the 6 percent Funding Compact target.

Expenditures totalled US\$112.2 million in 2023, a 16 percent increase from 2022. A share of 30 percent of the total expenditures, US\$33.8 million, was utilized in **42 Least Developed Countries (LDCs)**, a 15 percent increase from 2022, while 35 percent of the total expenditures, US\$39 million, was used in **56 fragile contexts**.

Figure 1 lists 2023 contributions received by partner and Funding Window.

Figure 2 illustrates expenditures by Funding Window in 2023.

Figure 3 presents the 10 countries with the highest expenditures across all four Funding Windows.

Figure 4 details country, regional and global project expenditures by Funding Window and Sub-Window.

Figure 5 illustrates expenditures by region.

All financial figures are presented in US dollars and represent the period between 1 January and 31 December 2023.

Figure 1

Contributions by donor and Funding Window

| 2023 Contributions | Poverty and Inequality | Governance, Peacebuilding, Crisis and Resilience | Nature, Climate and Energy | Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment | Total per Donor |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|--|----------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Germany | | 8,894,940 | 26,412,653 | | 35,307,593 |
| Denmark | | 27,533,859 | 3,720,792 | | 31,254,651 |
| Sweden | | 25,669,392 | 5,580,876 | | 31,250,268 |
| Netherlands | | 7,713,685 | | | 7,713,685 |
| Norway | | 457,321 | 4,492,767 | | 4,950,088 |
| Republic of Korea | | 3,080,693 | 1,000,000 | 300,000 | 4,380,693 |
| United Kingdom | | | 4,205,518 | | 4,205,518 |
| France | | | 2,158,309 | 1,068,068 | 3,226,377 |
| Luxembourg | 1,293,571 | 1,063,480 | 426,730 | 210,020 | 2,993,801 |
| Iceland | | | 500,000 | | 500,000 |
| Czech Republic | | 441,772 | | | 441,772 |
| Malta | | 42,689 | | | 42,689 |
| Total per Funding Window | 1,293,571 | 74,897,830 | 48,497,644 | 1,578,088 | 126,267,135 |
| Percentage of 2023 total | 1% | 59% | 38% | 1% | |

Figure 2
Expenditures by Funding Window



Figure 3
Top 10 countries with the highest expenditures across all four Funding Windows



Figure 4
Expenditures by Funding Window and Sub-Window⁸

| Poverty and Inequality | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Country/location | 2023 Expenditures |
| Belize | 137,436 |
| Cambodia | 294,841 |
| Costa Rica | 357,640 |
| Dominican Republic | 83,754 |
| Gambia | 61,036 |
| Haiti | 129,701 |
| Global Project: IIRFF | 307,533 |
| Liberia | 88,089 |
| Paraguay | 152,070 |
| Regional Centre – Addis Ababa | 123,300 |
| Sierra Leone | 102,658 |
| Sri Lanka | 268,965 |
| Uzbekistan | 188,662 |
| Adjustments | (104,167) |
| Total | 2,191,518 |

⁸ Because the Funding Windows operate on a rolling basis, smaller expenditures can be assumed to correspond to initiatives that either just started or ended at the beginning of the 2023 calendar year. Accordingly, expenditures lower than US\$5,000 for any given country or global project have been combined as 'Adjustments' under each Funding Window.

**Governance, Peacebuilding,
Crisis and Resilience**



| Country/location | Main Funding Window | Democratic Governance Sub-Window | Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace Sub-Window | Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction Sub-Window | Crisis Response Sub-Window |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|
| Afghanistan | 2,435,355 | | | | |
| Armenia | | | 60,464 | | 264,154 |
| Azerbaijan | | | 12,375 | | |
| Barbados | | | 186,565 | | |
| Bolivia | | | 20,692 | | |
| Burkina Faso | 603,148 | | | | |
| C. A. R. | 83,743 | | | | |
| Chad | 852,188 | | | | |
| Colombia | | 21,803 | | | |
| Djibouti | 956,832 | | | | |
| Eritrea | 520,504 | | | | |
| Ethiopia | 2,602,803 | | | | 998,152 |
| Haiti | 8,680 | | | | |
| Honduras | | | 293,194 | | |
| India | | | | 117,516 | |
| Iraq | 1,055,272 | | 34,580 | | |
| Kosovo | 34,952 | 112,916 | 80,513 | | |
| Kyrgyzstan | | | 294,786 | | |
| Liberia | 37,298 | | | | |
| Madagascar | | | 102,311 | | |
| Mali | 644,885 | | | | |
| Mauritania | 1,096,459 | | | | |
| Moldova | | 43,386 | 262,551 | | 193,316 |
| Montenegro | | | 217,720 | | |
| Myanmar | 70,319 | | 431,158 | | 30,663 |
| Niger | 885,043 | | | | |
| North Macedonia | | 111,323 | | | |
| Papua New Guinea | | | 58,588 | | |
| Peru | | 29,200 | | | |
| Rwanda | | 96,146 | | | |
| Samoa | | 83,167 | | | |
| Senegal | 22,067 | | | | |
| Somalia | 3,322,180 | | | | |
| South Sudan | 52,920 | | | | |
| Sri Lanka | 78,707 | | 43,592 | | |
| Suriname | | 62,934 | | | |

**Governance, Peacebuilding,
Crisis and Resilience**



| Country/location | Main Funding Window | Democratic Governance Sub-Window | Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace Sub-Window | Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction Sub-Window | Crisis Response Sub-Window |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|
| Syrian Arab Republic | 1,438,777 | | | | |
| Timor-Leste | 104,720 | | | | |
| Tunisia | 23,917 | | | | |
| Ukraine | | | | | 249,249 |
| Uruguay | | 86,457 | | | |
| Uzbekistan | | | 50,064 | | |
| Country Project: Burkina Faso COSED | 9,898,893 | | | | |
| Country Project: GPRoL for Sustaining Peace and Fostering Development Project (Georgia) | | | 716,302 | | |
| Country Project: GPRoL for Sustaining Peace and Fostering Development Project (Moldova) | | | 746,846 | | |
| Country Project: Immediate Response to Earthquake in Türkiye | | | | | 6,096,749 |
| Country Project: Programme of Support to the Haitian National Police | | | | | 285,254 |
| Country Project: Supporting Humanitarian Mine Action in Ukraine | | | | | 2,342,840 |
| Global Project: CB Core Capacities | 1,144,212 | | | | |
| Global Project: CB Country Support Mgt Team | 10,552 | | | | 746,307 |
| Global Project: Climate Security | | | 1,153,648 | | |
| Global Project: CPPRI | | | 1,486,836 | | |
| Global Project: HDP Nexus | 231,885 | | | | |
| Global Project: ROLSHR Global Programme | | | 7,498,714 | | |
| Global Project: Stabilization Academy Project | | | 115,615 | | |
| Global Project: UN Transition | 1,083,456 | | | | |
| Global Project: UNDP-DPPA | | | 12,650,561 | | |
| Adjustments | (7,098) | (7,271) | (437) | (1,631) | (16) |
| Total | 67,805,424 | 654,604 | 26,518,111 | 119,147 | 11,206,699 |

Nature, Climate and Energy



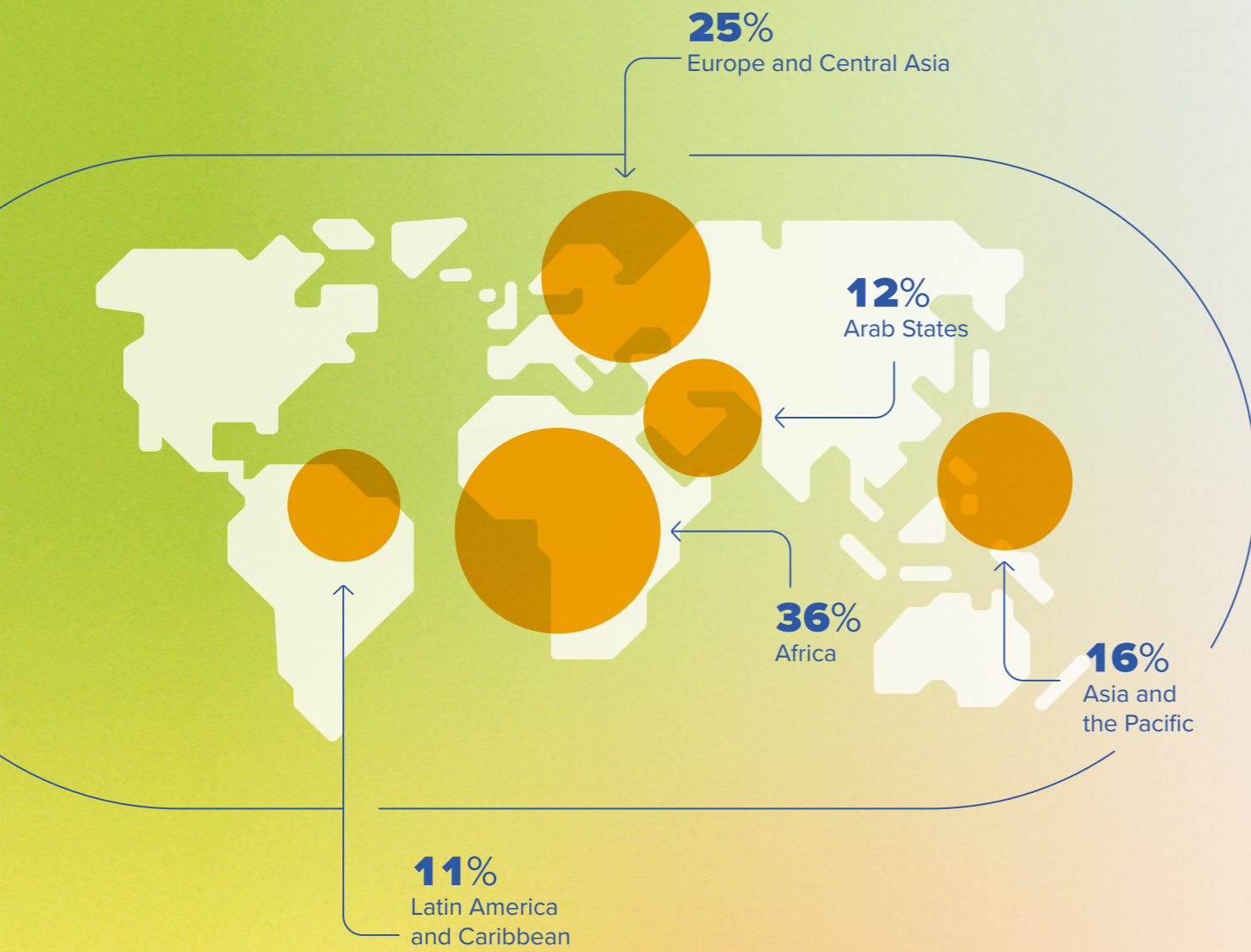
| Country/location | 2023 Expenditures |
|--|-------------------|
| Eswatini | 225,585 |
| Guinea-Bissau | 210,041 |
| Kazakhstan | 277,053 |
| Mexico | 128,221 |
| Palestine | 217,860 |
| Philippines | 102,863 |
| Rwanda | 116,489 |
| Sri Lanka | 66,416 |
| Viet Nam | 253,087 |
| Country Project: Support for Critical Energy Infrastructure and Immediate Provision of Energy Equipment in Ukraine | 4,224,342 |
| Global Project: ICCA | 2,968,364 |
| Global Project: TNFD | 4,068,949 |
| Global Project: BES-NET | 3,191,309 |
| Global Project: BIOFIN | 8,572,999 |
| Global Project: Climate Promise | 5,542,107 |
| Global Project: Forest Declaration Platform | 1,585,498 |
| Global Project: NDC | 4,217,400 |
| Global Project: NYDF | 333,864 |
| Global Project: PANORAMA | 594,504 |
| Global Project: SCALA | 4,603,014 |
| Total | 41,499,965 |

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment



| Country/location | 2023 Expenditures |
|--|-------------------|
| Global Project: Ending Gender-based Violence and Achieving the SDGs | 421,597 |
| Global Project: Global Observatory for Gender-Responsive Public Policies | 113,888 |
| South Sudan | 33,462 |
| Sudan | 179,270 |
| Adjustments | (42,962) |
| Total | 705,255 |

Figure 5
Expenditures by region across all Funding Windows





United Nations Development Programme

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