



Ministry of Development
of North Eastern Region



PARTNERING FOR THE SDGs IN THE NORTH EAST





UNDP IN THE **NORTH EAST**

India's North East is extremely rich in natural resources, crafts and untapped human potential. At the same time, the region continues to face persistent environmental and developmental challenges. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is working with the State governments in the North East Region (NER) to promote sustainable and inclusive development by strengthening institutions and systems.

UNDP has a regional team in Guwahati to coordinate UNDP's support to the State governments in the North East Region, especially on localisation of the SDGs. This support includes creating digital tools, assisting with data collection, developing monitoring dashboards, conducting socio-economic impact assessments, and creating toolkits to build capacities.

In addition to these efforts, UNDP is also implementing several projects in various States and districts in the region. These include Resilience Building of Communities, Capacity Building of MSMEs, Alternate Vaccine Delivery System, Disaster and Climate Change Risk Reduction, and SECURE Himalaya Project.

NORTH EAST REGION DISTRICT SDG INDEX

UNDP India collaborated with Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (MDoNER) and NITI Aayog to publish the country's first regional district SDG Index in 2021. It measures progress on 84 key SDG indicators at the granular level in 120 districts of the region. The NER District SDG Index is aimed at delineating progress at the district level on a basket of indicators and enhancing analytical understanding of sectoral issues as well as data gaps, while assisting in designing future policy actions in the region. The second edition is expected to be released in December 2024.



INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING



01 ACCELERATING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: LEAVE NO-ONE BEHIND

- **Supporting State governments** in the North East Region to integrate SDGs into policy and vision planning
- **Enhanced capacities** of State governments to develop vision documents and policy interventions
- **Established** Sustainable Development Goals Coordination Centre (SDGCC) – Nagaland
- **Monitoring progress** of SDGs, including through the NER District SDG Index in partnership with NITI Aayog, supported by MDoNER
- **Supported** the Bodoland Territorial Council to prepare the SDG Vision 2030: Peaceful, Green and Smart Bodoland
- **Assisted** in the preparation of the SDG Vision 2030 Document, Agenda 2030 and SDG District Manual, and enhanced capacities till the district level in Assam



02 SUPPORTING STATISTICAL STRENGTHENING: STUDY ON EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENTS OF PEOPLE IN THE RIVERINE AREAS (CHARS) OF RIVER BRAHMAPUTRA

- **Assessed** the educational attainments of people in the riverine areas of Assam.
- **Enhanced** understanding on how improving landscape ecology and planning can result in better retention of students in schools and colleges.



03 INTEGRATED VILLAGE RESOURCES DATABASE FOR ALL REVENUE VILLAGES IN ASSAM WITH GIS INTERFACE

- Resource Mapping: 25,372 Revenue Villages
- Dynamic village-level database: planning and strategic decision making.
- Baseline of data and information on selected parameters for economic assessment of the revenue villages.
- Understanding on the Socio-Economic inequalities and implementation of government schemes and programmes, identification of beneficiaries, infrastructure-based projects etc.
- Post Covid crisis, the project has engaged more than 200 surveyors and Zonal Coordinators.





HEALTH FOR ALL

Health and development are intrinsically linked. With widening economic and social inequalities, rapid urbanization, threats to the environment, and challenges posed by diseases, UNDP focuses on multi-sectoral, rights-based and gender-sensitive approaches to achieve good health for all.

01 ELECTRONIC VACCINE INTELLIGENCE NETWORK

- The Government of India's Electronic Vaccine Intelligence Network, supported by UNDP, has been implemented in all eight states of the region.
- This system provides real-time information on vaccine stock and the temperature of cold chain equipment.
- Its implementation has accelerated the achievement of SDG 3 on Good Health and Well-Being.
- The eVIN system has numerous benefits, including making vaccines available to the last beneficiary, real-time monitoring of stock, reduced vaccine wastage, and strengthening management practices. It also helps in making evidence-based policy decisions at all levels of the health system.



02 ASSESSMENT OF VACCINE DISTRIBUTION TILL THE LAST MILE - ASSAM

- UNDP is supporting the Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Assam, to conduct a study on vaccine distribution. This captures the methods and modes of vaccine delivery from cold chain points to the sites of immunization session, recording information on vaccine distributors, recording vaccine temperature for safety till the last mile, rational distribution and allocation of vaccines to sub-centres in view of distance, recording processes and practices. UNDP has developed a tool to record and analyze this information for efficient vaccine distribution.

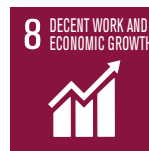




LIVELIHOOD AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

01 SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

- The project “Capacity Building of the MSMEs in the North East for Export Competitiveness” focused on fair, sustained and inclusive economic growth of the target beneficiaries, which included women, men and young people.
- Under the project, UNDP implemented various interventions to enhance the technical and management capacities of entrepreneurs. These interventions included exposure visits, creating market linkages, skill enhancement, and managerial training.
- A network of social entrepreneurs was established with more than 100 enterprises. This network is an active platform that shares knowledge and mentors new entrepreneurs to improve the reach, quality, and sustainability of MSMEs in the region.



02 BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

- UNDP, in partnership with the Airports Authority of India (AAI), supported the project Resilience Building of communities around Guwahati Airport.
- To provide access to health services, quality education, clean energy, and community infrastructure with special focus on women and children.
- The project has enabled partnerships between various stakeholders, including district and local administration, health experts, social welfare organizations, academic institutions, research centers, technical experts, local vendors, and communities. Through this approach, the project extensively practices SDG 17, which focuses on partnerships for the sustainable development of communities.









ENVIRONMENT

PROTECTION AND RESILIENCE

01 SECURE HIMALAYA PROJECT - SIKKIM



The SECURE Himalaya Project is an initiative by the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and UNDP supported by Global Environment Facility (GEF). The project seeks to implement participatory conservation plans in select snow leopard landscapes. In Sikkim, the project initiatives are:

1. ENHANCING CAPACITIES OF GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS THROUGH:

- Development of comprehensive wetland management plans for high-altitude areas.
- Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) to measure implementation impact in Protected Area management.
- Sustainable Harvesting Protocols designed for key medicinal and aromatic plants.
- Standardized data collection protocols to mitigate illegal trade in wildlife and medicinal plants.

2. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY-BASED CONSERVATION MODELS THROUGH:

- Capacity building and training of Biodiversity Management Committees and preparation of Peoples' Biodiversity Registers.
- Training of 'Himal Rakshaks' or community volunteers undertaking monitoring and surveillance activities.
- Upscaling plastic waste management model of local Dzumsas.
- Automated alarm systems to reduce human-wildlife conflict.



3. ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS FOR COMMUNITIES TO REDUCE NATURAL RESOURCE DEPENDENCY INCLUDING:

- Solar drying systems for large cardamom to reduce fuelwood consumption.
- Detailed micro-plans prepared for high altitude villages in snow leopard landscapes.

02 CONSERVATION OF WILD CATS

- Promote the conservation of the wild cat landscapes through a landscape conservation approach, and integrate small cat needs into existing large cat conservation initiatives. This is under implementation in Pakke-Eaglenest landscape in Arunachal Pradesh in partnership with the MoEFCC, Forest & Wildlife Department, Arunachal Pradesh, and Global Tiger Forum.

03 STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES FOR SECURING BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION COMMITMENTS

- To mainstream biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use and management into village level self-governance institutional planning and budgeting systems.
- To be implemented in Garo Hills in partnership with the MoEFCC & Government of Meghalaya.





04 GEF - SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

- Supporting vulnerable communities through people-led approaches towards environmental conservation and livelihood enhancement with focus on biodiversity and climate change.
- Supported 440+ community-based projects till date, benefitting more than 600,000 people across India.
- Seventh grants cycle is being rolled out in Assam and Meghalaya.



05 NORTH EAST INDIA BIO-CULTURAL CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

- To identify, recognise & support community conservation initiatives, including their Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) in partnership with the MoEFCC, National Biodiversity Authority, and State Biodiversity Boards
- Selected nine proposals from five states in the first cycle of this two-year small grants initiative





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