



UNITED NATIONS
ZIMBABWE



2023

Annual Report





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UN ANNUAL REPORT 2023
ZIMBABWE



Foreword

The 2023 Annual Report provides an overview of the key results for the second year of implementation of the Zimbabwe United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (ZUNSDCF 2022-2026) and the UN's contribution to Zimbabwe's development priorities as articulated in the country's National Development Strategy (NDSI, 2021 -2025) now at its half way point. The Report presents the joint efforts of the United Nations in Zimbabwe in partnership with the Government, development partners, civil society, private sector, people with disabilities, youth and women's groups to address cross-sectoral challenges through joint cooperation and leaving no one (and no place) behind.

Structured around four pillars that speak to People, Planet, Prosperity and Peace and Security, the UN development system in Zimbabwe supported the advancement of Universal Health Coverage; Quality Education; Access to WASH Services; targeting of Social Assistance Programmes; Elimination of Violence Against Women; Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security; Disaster Risk Reduction; Environmental Protection; Decent Work and Employment; Industrialisation; Enhanced (public) Service Delivery; Institutional Capacity Strengthening; Public Participation and Representation in Decision Making; Compliance with International Human Rights Instruments and, Promotion of Peace and Social Cohesion.

A key instrument in improvement of coherence, efficiency and effectiveness of the UN System was the use of Joint Programming. Circa 50 percent of the USD 380 million mobilised for 2023 was delivered through Joint Programmes including the Health Resilience Fund, Joint SDG Fund for Renewable Energy, the UN Partnership for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Together for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, the Global Partnership for Education, the Anti-Microbial Resistance Fund, ZimECO II project, Great Zimbabwe Rehabilitation Project, the Joint UN AIDS programme and, the Enhanced Resilience for Vulnerable Households in Zimbabwe (ERVHIZ).

Two Joint Programmes (Spotlight Initiative and Zimbabwe Idai Recovery Programme) were successfully concluded. Most of the Joint Programmes were driven by availability of vertical and/or global funds and much more needs to be done to incentivise more country-based pooled fund mechanisms in Zimbabwe.

As we move into 2024, the key focus of the UN development System will include mainstreaming the six-transitions agreed at the 2023 UN SDG summit. These transitions include Jobs and Social Protection, Sustainable Food Systems, Transforming Education, Energy Access, Digitalisation and Climate Change, Biodiversity and Pollution. The UN will also continue its support to Government in elimination of Gender-Based Violence and promotion Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, strengthening public sector capacities, promotion of localisation to accelerate SDG transitions, Universal Health Coverage and Epidemic Preparedness, boosting economic development and unlocking the data dividend for SDGs. Also in focus will be the strengthening of coordination between government, development partners and other stakeholders across the NDSI Thematic Areas, SDG implementation clusters and the sectoral aid coordination mechanisms.



Edward Kallon
UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator

UN Country Team

Resident agencies



Non-resident agencies





Key Government Ministries and Offices

- Finance and Investment Promotion
- Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs
- Environment, Climate, Tourism and Hospitality Industry
- Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare
- Energy and Power Development
- Foreign Affairs and International Trade
- Health and Child Care
- Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development
- Home Affairs and Cultural Heritage
- Industry and Commerce
- Information Communication Technology, Postal and Courier Services
- Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services
- Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development
- Local Government and Public Works
- Mines and Mining Development
- National Housing and Social Amenities
- Primary and Secondary Education
- Transport and Infrastructural Development
- Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development
- Youth, Sport, Arts and Recreation.





Quick facts on Zimbabwe



People
Warm, hospitable & peaceful nation



Major economic pillars
Agriculture, Mining & Tourism
Holds world's second largest platinum deposits



Among Africa's highest literacy rates



Major attractions
Victoria Falls – One of the Seven Wonders of the World
Great Zimbabwe Monument
Wildlife



Social fabric
Diverse cultures & 16 indigenous languages

Key Indexes

ZIMBABWE is progressing on measures that gauge average achievement in key dimensions of human development, with the country moving into the Medium Human Development category, as its human development index marginally rose from 0.549 in 2021 to 0.550 in 2022, according to the latest United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Human Development Report 2023-2024.

Human Development Index *

0.549
YEAR 2021



0.550
YEAR 2022

Gender Development Index *

0.936
OUT OF 10

* See UNDP Human Development report 2023/2024 page 285

* See UNDP Human Development report 2023/2024 page 290

Chapter 1

Key developments in the country and regional context.

Political:

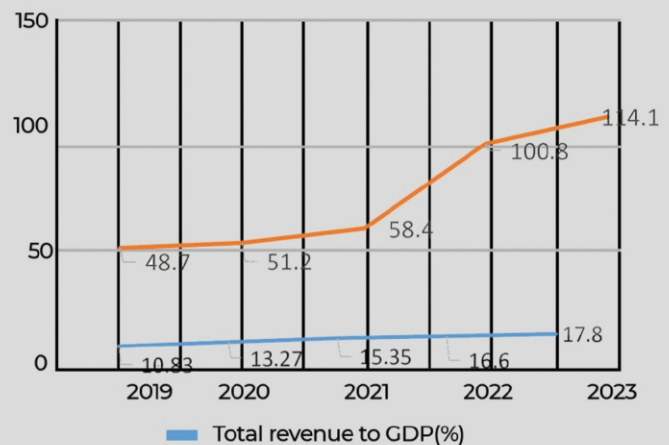
In August 2023, Zimbabwe held its 3rd “harmonized” elections since the introduction of the 2013 Constitution and 7th overall since attaining Independence in 1980. The elections were conducted under the Electoral Amendment Act of 2023 with the delimitation of 210 electoral constituencies established under Statutory Instrument 14 of 2023. The elections were observed by International Election Observer Missions including SADC, AU, Commonwealth, EU and the Carter Centre and national observer groups including CSOs. Election results indicated that the ruling party had maintained its majority while the opposition increased its share of seats in the lower House of Parliament. Only 22 Women (10%) were directly elected for the 210 National Assembly seats, with an additional 66 from the quota reserved for women. Women’s Representation stands at 31 percent in the 280-member Lower House. The 80-member Upper House (the Senate) has 36 female senators and two nominees for PWDs.

Economic Growth:

Zimbabwe’s economy expanded by 6.5 percent in 2022 and is estimated to grow by 5.5 percent in 2023, driven by agriculture, mining and services sectors. Zimbabwe’s economy is highly informal with Wholesale and Retail Trade, and Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles sectors contributing 19 percent of GDP in 2022.

The mining sector’s contribution has been gradually increasing from 12 percent in 2019 to 13.3 percent in 2022. This growth has been attributed to new mineral discoveries, high global commodity prices, and expanded projects. Intermittent power supply, high inflation, global uncertainties impede economic activities whilst high recurrent expenditures pose risks to fiscal sustainability. Annual inflation declined from 53 percent to 26.5 percent by year end due to tight monetary policies.

Comparison of Debt to GDP and Revenue to GDP Ratios



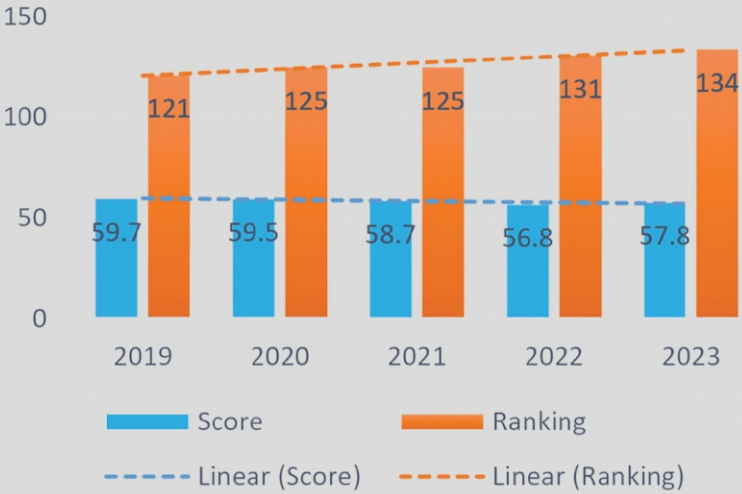
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development and Investment Promotion (MoFEDIP).

The widening gap between Zimbabwe’s Debt-to-GDP ratio and Revenue-to-GDP ratio raises concerns about the sustainability of its debt. This disparity indicates that the country’s revenue generation is insufficient to service its debt, posing significant risks to its fiscal stability and economic viability. The growing debt burden and insufficient revenue generation pose significant risks to Zimbabwe’s achievement of Vision 2030, as they threaten to undermine the country’s ability to invest in key development priorities, such as infrastructure, education, and healthcare, crucial for sustainable economic growth and prosperity.



Sustainable Development:

Zimbabwe's global SDG index has remained stagnant between 2019 and 2023 at an average of 58.5 while its global ranking has dropped by 12 places from 121 to 134. Notable progress has been made towards SDGs 5, 12 and 13 while challenges have been observed in SDGs 11 and 15 which have shown stagnation. Zimbabwe has regressed across several SDGs including 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16 and 17.



Progressing SDGs



Stagnating SDGs



Regressing SDGs



Environmental Issues:

In July 2023, the World Meteorological Organization declared the onset of the 2023-2024 El Niño event whose significant meteorological events would occur between November 2023 and April 2024. Zimbabwe started facing the impact of the El Niño in December 2023 witnessing above-average temperatures, below average rainfall and mid-season dry spells. The National Meteorological Services Department forecast that the drought would affect the southern parts of the country, including Matabeleland North, South, Midlands, Masvingo and Manicaland and in the Northwest and Northeast regions. There is increased risk of malnutrition and a higher food inflation could worsen food insecurity in a country that already has a population of 2.7 million people that require food assistance annually.

As a result of the El Nino forecast, available water resources for hydropower generation were reduced in 2023 and consequently the Government of Zimbabwe speeded up the commissioning of two new thermal units at the coal powered Hwange Thermal Power Station to add an additional 600 MW to the grid. Zimbabwe now has an installed capacity of 2,540 MW of which close to 60 percent is thermal while 40 percent is hydro and renewable. Installed capacity is still far short of the 5,000 MW required to meet its needs.

Social Issues:

Government introduced the Labour Amendment Act No. 11 2023 to strengthen gender equality, prevent discrimination and combat unfair labour practices. Through the Act, sexual harassment was criminalised. Women and men now have the same right to equal pay. Furthermore, employers will be liable to 10 years imprisonment, up from 2 years, for child labour. On maternity leave, there is no longer a requirement for a two-year interval and a maximum of three pregnancies while employed by one employer.

The Criminal Law (Codification and Reform) Amendment Act 2023 now prescribes life imprisonment or a term of not less than 15 years depending on aggravating circumstances for rape and imprisonment of between 5 and 15 years in the absence of aggravating circumstances. The list of dangerous drugs was outlined in the amended version. The definition of Criminal abuse of duty as a public officer was amended to include *'the intention of conferring an undue or illegal benefit on someone else or of unfairly or illegally prejudicing someone else.'*

Government further amended the Judicial Laws Amendment Act, 2023 to allow a person with expertise in a particular matter which is before the court to appear as a "friend of the Court." Section 10 of the principal Act is also amended to provide for virtual sittings of the Court and of Judges of the Court, Supreme Court, Administrative Court and Labour Court subject to the consent of the parties.

The Act also obliges the State to provide a sign language interpreter for persons with hearing and/or speech impairment. The Prisons and Correctional Service Act 9 of 2023 was passed. The Bill replaces the Prisons Act and conforms with Section 227 of the Constitution of Zimbabwe.

The National Peace and Reconciliation Commission (NPRC) was constituted in accordance with the Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment No.20 Act 2013 and the National Peace and Reconciliation Act Chapter 10:32 of 2018. In 2019, High Court Judge Justice Joseph Mafusire ruled that the 10 year lifespan of the NPRC should run from 5 January 2018 when the National Peace and Reconciliation Act was gazetted, as opposed to 2013 when the NPRC was constituted. The NPRC is one of the Chapter 12 independent commissions which include the Electoral Commission, the Human Rights Commission, the Gender Commission and the Media Commission.



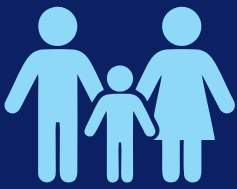
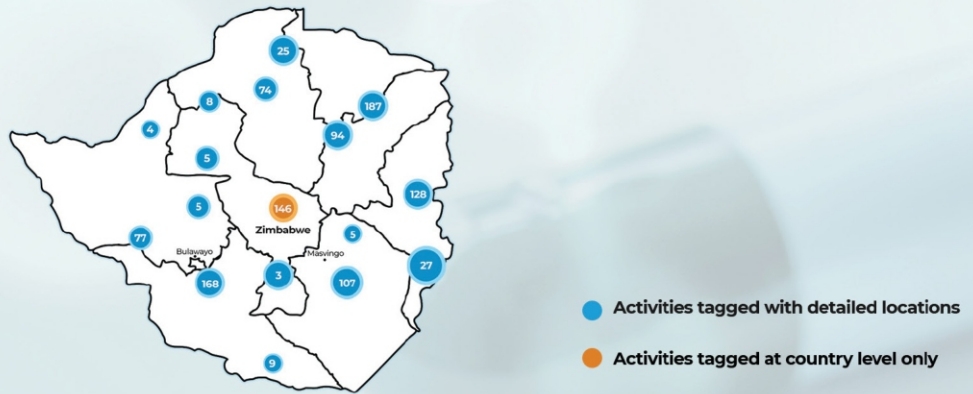


CHAPTER 2 : UN DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM SUPPORT TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES THROUGH COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

2.1 OVERVIEW OF COOPERATION FRAMEWORK RESULTS

Where we work: The UN's key activities

The UN is implementing 177 Key Activities during the ongoing programme cycle. The map below displays the number of activities* per location (note that an activity may be linked to more than one location).



PEOPLE PILLAR

Advancing the rights of all people in Zimbabwe: Equitable and quality social services and protection for all people.

KEY PILLAR SDGs: SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 6, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 10, SDG 13, SDG 16 and SDG 17



KEY PILLAR Agencies: FAO, ILO, IOM, ITU, UN WOMEN, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOPS, WFP, WHO, WORLD BANK

Budget

Required	Available	Funding gap
US\$448,929,746	US\$309,199,130	US\$139,730,616

NDS 1 PRIORITIES

Human and well-being; Human capital development; Devolution; Social protection; Digital Economy; Youth, Sports, Arts and culture.

Zimbabwe faces recurring climate change induced disasters such as cyclones, droughts and floods, which often trigger disease outbreaks. Since 12 February 2023, Government has been addressing a countrywide cholera outbreak. This health crisis occurs alongside a notable turnover in the healthcare sector, as skilled professionals seek opportunities abroad. Furthermore, Zimbabwe's healthcare workforce density falls below the global median, with only 36 health workers per 10,000 individuals.

Advancing Universal Health Coverage

The status of Universal Health coverage in Zimbabwe presents a marginal increase from 56 percent in 2015 to 57 percent in 2017, followed by a static status at 55 percent in both 2019 and 2021.

Through UN collaboration with the Government and partners, the under-5 mortality rate declined from



The number of mothers receiving 4 or more ANC visits increased from 81 percent in 2022 to 86 percent in 2023. Additionally, Zimbabwe maintained 92 percent skilled birth attendant coverage. Post natal care coverage increased from 59 percent in 2022 to 83 percent in 2023.

Zimbabwe surpassed the 2025 UNAids 95:95:95 target in 2023. The 2021 baseline was 91:98:89. HIV related deaths reduced from 21,000 in 2022 to 20,000 in 2023.

- Antenatal Care improved from 81 percent (2022) to 86 percent (2023) while post-natal care has increased from 59 percent (2022) to 83 percent (2023) but still short of the ambitious target of 93 percent.

- 95 percent of health facilities country-wide offer Basic Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (BEmONC).

- 95:95:95 target reached and surpassed with 95 percent of PLWHIV knowing their status; 98 percent of people who know their status are receiving ART and 95 percent of people on ART are viral suppressed. However ART coverage for children (0-14 years), adolescents (10-19 years) and pregnant women is still below target.

Water Services

The national average for basic drinking water coverage slightly decreased from 63 percent in 2020 to 62 percent in 2023.

Education (SDG 4.1)

Infant level net enrolment increased from 60.6 percent in 2019 to 66.4 percent in 2023.

Junior level net enrolment increased from 77 percent in 2022 to 81.9 percent in 2023 whilst

Secondary school enrolment jumped from 46 percent in 2022 to 56% in 2023. At 14.9 %, allocation for education against the 20 percent agreed Dakar Declaration of 2000 but close to the 15 percent in the Abuja Declaration (2001).

School completion rates are also still of concern with 5.67 percent drop-out rates reported at Grade 7 and 79.2 percent in Form 5.

Social Protection (SDG 1.3)

Social assistance programmes targeting the extremely poor increased from 47 percent in 2021 to 51 percent in 2023, signifying a substantial improvement in addressing poverty and food insecurity.

Gender Based Violence

At least 29 districts, representing 45 percent of all districts in Zimbabwe, can provide services to GBV survivors. No new data is yet available on intimate partner violence which was estimated at 5.5 percent in 2019.

Government and partners launch new strategies and programmes to support health in Zimbabwe

The Government of Zimbabwe and partners in 2023 launched the Health Resilience Fund (HRF), and key health sector strategies as part of a deliberate effort to improve the health and wellness of the population and to ensure universal access to health services.

Vice President of Zimbabwe and the then Minister of Health and Child Care, Gen. (Rtd) Dr C.G.D.N. Chiwenga presided over the launch. The Vice President and key donors also launched the National Health Strategy (2021–2025) and the Investment Case to the National Health Strategy (2021–2025) which calls for efficiencies in the utilisation of available health resources.

The HRF is a pooled health fund that will contribute under the coordination of the Ministry of Health and Child Care to improve health care for vulnerable mothers, new-borns, children and adolescents in Zimbabwe. Funding partners are the European Union, the Governments of Ireland, the United Kingdom, and Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance while UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO are the technical partners of the Fund.

The HRF is aligned with Zimbabwe’s National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1) and the National Health Strategy (NHS) 2021-2025. It will run until 2025. Its objective is to consolidate the gains achieved under the Health Development Fund (HDF). The Fund will focus on three health pillars: ending preventable maternal, newborn, child and adolescent deaths; global health security; and health systems strengthening. It has a budget of approximately USD 90 million.

The HRF will build on the gains of the HDF and address the remaining challenges to ensure access to maternal, child and sexual and reproductive health and nutrition services, and to strengthen the health system’s resilience to shocks.



PLANET PILLAR

Enhanced Environmental Stability and Food Systems Support, Healthy Lives and Sustainable Livelihoods for all Zimbabweans by 2026.

KEY PILLAR AGENCIES: FAO, ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNOPS, WFP.

Budget

Required	Available	Funding gap
US\$ 99,933,036	US\$ 85,345,698	US\$ 14,587,338



NDS 1 PRIORITIES: Food security and nutrition, Transport, infrastructure and utilities, Environmental Protection, Climate Resilience and Natural Resource Management.

Climate smart agriculture intervention enhanced Zimbabwe’s agricultural landscape leading to increased maize production

247,476
metric tonnes
2022/23



202,037
metric tonnes
2019/20

The country's food security situation underwent a significant improvement with the percentage of food insecurity dropping from



The UN-supported Multisectoral Community Based Model (MCBM) now extends its reach in 51 districts, a notable increase from 44 districts targeted in 2022, out of a target of 60 rural districts. The model aims to address stunting and malnutrition in all its forms.

Sanitation demand was created in

94 of the 100
targeted villages

whereby communities were supported to adopt optimal WASH practices for sustainable sanitation and hygiene in communities.

Ten villages in Manicaland and Matabeleland provinces of Zimbabwe have successfully achieved Open Defecation Free (ODF) status. This achievement marks a significant contribution to the ongoing efforts to reduce open defecation, which stood at 25% of the rural population in 2022.

Reports indicate 88 percent of targeted local authorities have DRR strategies.

•Circa 13.2 MWs generated from UN supported activities equivalent to 30 percent of total RE generation from Independent Power Producers (IPPs) in the country.



Harvesting Hope: Resilience Building in Masvingo District

Julius Siwadi, a 49-year-old farmer from Bhuranga Village in Masvingo District, proudly checks his yearly grain reserve. Stacked in his storeroom are 11 bags of grain—enough to feed his family until the next harvest. In 2023, Julius produced 2,000 kg of grain, a sixfold increase from the 300 kg he harvested in 2017 when his family relied on WFP food assistance.

In 2017, Julius' maize yield could only last his family of four from May to August, leaving them dependent on casual labor and food assistance for the rest of the year. Like many others in Masvingo, they faced the effects of climate shocks and a challenging socio-economic environment. At that time, 65 percent of Masvingo's population was cereal-insecure during the lean season.

However, through a series of resilience-building initiatives led by WFP, in collaboration with the government and other partners, food insecurity in Masvingo has significantly decreased. By 2023, the rate of food-insecure households fell by 42 percent, from 65 percent in 2019, to 23 percent in 2023.

"WFP helped us improve our yield and farming practices," Julius shared. "Our community built a weir dam, started a community garden, and adopted climate-smart agriculture techniques. Farmers learned to grow drought-tolerant crops and improve soil health, while savings groups enabled them to purchase farming inputs in bulk, ensuring timely preparation for each season."

WFP's resilience-building initiatives combine food assistance, asset creation, and livelihood support. These programs address both immediate food needs and long-term development, helping communities like Julius' withstand future shocks. By improving access to water for irrigation, teaching business-oriented farming, and linking farmers to markets, WFP, the government and its partners have contributed to better food, income, and nutrition security in the region.

In 2023, these efforts helped 21,000 people in Masvingo, thanks to the generous support of donors and partners. Julius and many others have been empowered to build sustainable and resilient futures for themselves and their families.



PROSPERITY PILLAR

Promoting Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth and Decent Opportunities for all Zimbabweans by 2026.



KEY PILLAR AGENCIES: IOM, FAO, ILO, ITU, UN DESA, UNIDO, UN WOMEN, UNDP, UNAIDS, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR

Budget

Required	Available	Funding gap
US\$9,358,523	US\$4,331,851	US\$ 5,026,672

NDS 1 PRIORITIES: Economic growth and stability; Moving the Economy up the value chain and Structural Transformation; Image Building and International Re-engagement; Youth.

National unemployment rates


21% rising to 47.8%

in the expanded/relaxed category according to the Labour Force Survey 2023 Q3 survey.

Youth aged 15-24 and 15-34 face unemployment rates of 38.1 percent and 28.7% respectively, with even higher rates among young women and persons with disabilities.

The SEDWAY project equips youth with technical, vocational skills

The SEDWAY project, conducted in eight TVET institutions across six provinces, trained over 1,500 youths (57% females, 43% males) to enter the formal economy, attain economic empowerment and navigate career transitions. Funded by the AfDB, the project aims to address the pressing need for job opportunities and skill development.

Over the past three years the country exhibited a robust growth trajectory with GDP growth rate reaching 8.5% in 2021, 6.5% in 2022 and 6.2% in the first quarter of 2023. This growth has been largely anchored on the resilience and expansion of key sectors, especially agriculture and mining.

The agriculture sector experienced a remarkable growth surge in 2023, jumping from 6.2% in 2022 to 11.1%, whilst the manufacturing sector experienced a notable growth with domestically produced goods making up approximately 80% of the products found on supermarket shelves in 2023.

This positive trajectory is underscored by a significant increase in the capacity utilization rate, which surged from 36.4% in 2020 to 66% in 2022.

Youth in Masvingo empowered with technical and vocational skills

Funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Sustainable Enterprise Development and Youth (SEDWAY) project is supporting the Government of Zimbabwe (GoZ) to enhance youth empowerment through entrepreneurship and skills development.

Equipping young people with technical and vocational skills has become strategic in Zimbabwe where formal sector job opportunities have dwindled with the national youth

unemployment rate at 38.4% in 2023. Youths not in education, employment nor in training (NEETs) stood at 45.4% for ages 15-24 years and 48.5% for the 15-34 year age group. This was due to multiple factors that include overall lack of economic transformation, impacting negatively on economic growth and poverty reduction.

With support from the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Development and Vocational Training's Community Skills Outreach Programme, the SEDWAY project is equipping 3,000 young people across the country with technical and vocational skills. At the Mushagashe Vocational Training Centre (VTC) in Masvingo Province, 150 young people (86 Female and 64 Male) are undergoing training.

Through the project, the VTC has acquired new equipment to enhance its training in skills that include sewing, hairdressing, garment making, construction, carpentry, mechanics, hospitality, and tourism. The Centre has begun to tender and supply uniforms to government departments and schools in the community. This training model increases access to employment and opens economic opportunities, giving hope to many educated but unemployed young people.

AfDB's Country Manager for Zimbabwe, Moono Mupotola, and ILO's Officer in Charge, Annamarie Kiaga, toured the training centre to witness how the programme was being rolled out and assess its capacity to impact the young people's lives and livelihoods.

Charity Mazire, 22, a dressmaking student at the institution said; "I have been taught how to make tracksuits, work-suits, dresses and other clothing in general and I am currently working on my final year project. My ambition is to start my own business. Once I manage to secure my own equipment, I will be able to get my own business off the ground. I do not want to be employed; I want to start my own business."

The project is also building women's agency and self-mastery. It is helping to reduce historical gender imbalances and making sure women are not left behind in the economic development of the country,





PEACE PILLAR

Enhanced Accountability, Rule of Law, Human Rights and Access to Justice.



KEY PILLAR AGENCIES: ILO, IOM, UN DESA, UN WOMEN, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNHCR

Required	Available	Funding gap
US\$9,824,026	US\$8,647,217	US\$1,176,809

NDS 1 PRIORITIES: Enhanced Service Delivery; Youth and Women Participation in Development and decision-making processes Governance; Improved justice delivery; Enhanced social cohesion.

The third year of implementing the ZUNSDCF for the period 2022-2026 has seen notable strides in promoting transparent, accountable, and inclusive Governance Institutions and Systems; Enhanced Democratic Participation/Leadership and inclusivity; Advancing Human Rights Standards and International Commitments; access to justice and Promotion of peacebuilding and Social Cohesion.

The satisfaction rate among citizens and public service employees saw a notable increase rising from 48% in 2021 to 68.4% in 2022, according to a survey aimed at assessing the perception of Zimbabwe's public service delivery system and the prevailing work culture among public servants.

The 2023 general elections saw a record number of women entering decision-making spaces, with a 30.4 representation in parliament and 42% in local government.

- As of June 2023, women held 28% of managerial positions in the public sector,
 - o 29.3% of Permanent Secretaries,
 - o 23.5% of Chief Directors,
 - o 27.7% of Directors,
 - o 25.5% of Deputy Directors.
- In the judiciary, women represent
 - o 50% of Supreme Court Judges,
 - o 36.6% of High Court Judges,
 - o 38.4% of Registrars,
 - o 37.6% of Magistrates

87.3 percent of refugees/asylum seekers have a legally recognized identity document, including government issued temporary residence permits.

Media training enhances the quality of election coverage

For Toneo Rutsito aged 39, a journalist with TechMag TV, participating in UNDP Zimbabwe Electoral Commission Capacity Building Project Media Training, significantly improved his expertise in election coverage and professional conduct during the 2023 Harmonized Elections. The skills in election coverage enabled Toneo to identify hate speech and fake news. Toneo became a trainer in successive media training sessions after participating in the pilot media training facilitated and implemented through a partnership with UNESCO and the Zimbabwe Media Commission (ZMC).

"I received knowledge that equipped me to become a trainer of other journalists. The training enlightened me on how to practise responsible journalism which in turn empowered me to provide fair election coverage of political party rallies without discriminating against anyone. I also refrained from transmitting fake news and hate speech," he said.

In the past, many journalists feared violence while in the line of duty, which hampered their freedom to gather and disseminate information during elections. This not only affected

media practitioners but also contributed to less information for the electorate, who rely on journalists to make informed decisions about the election process.

“Our safety as journalists has generally been an issue of concern during elections. However, because of the media training, we now work effectively with police officers to ensure our safety during potentially violent environments. On numerous occasions, we have been able to work effectively with police officers when gathering news content. I appreciate the ZIM-ECO2 Project for empowering journalists. I hope that we will have future training on artificial intelligence and social media use so that we can continue to improve our election coverage work in digitally changing environments,” added Toneo.

Through the UNDP ZIM-ECO2 support, 900 media professionals across the country received training on media professionalism and election reporting. The training contributed to a conducive media operating environment and improved media coverage of the 2023 Harmonized Elections as commended by one Election Observer Mission report.

ZIM-ECO2 also facilitated the engagement of the Zimbabwe Republic Police and media practitioners during media training and this helped with building constructive working relationships between the two stakeholders. For the first time in Zimbabwe's election history, there were no reported cases of violence against journalists by members of the police during the 2023 Harmonized Elections.



2.2 COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTPUTS

The UN support in Zimbabwe is multifaceted ranging from strategic-level engagement, to facilitating dialogue and policy formulation, brokering ground breaking partnerships and providing technical and financial assistance to transformative initiatives.

2.2.1: 34 policies, tools, strategies, plans and frameworks developed with UN support.

Two new policies which included the National Sanitation Policy aimed at creating an Open Defecation Free Zimbabwe by 2030 and the Early Learning Policy aimed at providing a coherent coordination system for Early Childhood Education in Zimbabwe were developed. Government has also initiated processes for the review of the 1983 Refugee Act.

Two Acts of Parliament including the Children's Act – to address the question of age of consent- and the Labour Amendment – to address issues of the SEA and GBV in the workplace were promulgated. The UN supported the development of the WASH financing strategy and is supporting the finalization of the School Financing Policy for the education sector in Zimbabwe.

A five-year framework of women in leadership, decision-making and political participation was implemented while four national action plans were developed including Women in Peace and Security, Youth in Peace Security, PS, implementation of Universal Periodic Review Recommendations and implementation of Commission of Status of Women (CSW67) outcomes. In addition, an election reporting and peace journalism manual and tools for use to collect data on media violations were developed. A Conflict Early Warning and Early Response System was also developed.

The National Education for Sustainable Development Strategic Framework was developed, including the operationalization of the Eastern and Southern African Ministerial (ESA) commitments on education and health for the wellbeing of adolescents and young girls to ensure that these commitments are integrated into national educational plans and strategies. In this respect, UN supported the conduct of a key study on sexual health and reproductive rights

The Agrifood Systems Transformation Strategy was updated, four animal health regulations were reviewed and three new ones developed with UN support. An animal disease surveillance plan has been developed as well as the production of a Fisheries Management Plan for Lake Kariba. The UN is supporting the development of the Zimbabwe- Zambia (Zim-Zam) agro-industrial park project.

Various tools and guidelines including the National Social Protection Information Management System (SPIMs), the National Nutrition Emergency Guidelines, the Productive Community Works Guidelines, the Sustainable Livelihoods Manual, the Harmonised Cash Transfer Operational Manual, the WASH Service Standards, the WASH facilities improvement tool, the WASHFIT costing tool, the Presidential WASH Compact and the Integrated Electronic Case Management System for the Judiciary were developed. In response to the threat of floods and droughts, the UN supported the development of flood and drought monitors to be used in the Drought and Flood Anticipatory Action Trigger Protocol which has been rolled out. A Global Flood Awareness System (GloFAS) is now also operational.

2.2.2: Over 8,000 institutions at national, provincial, local government and village-level (including schools, health facilities and village committees) supported with various capacity-building initiatives.

Government officials in 51 districts were trained in the use of a multi-sectoral model on food security analysis and also supported to establish food security committees. Furthermore, districts were supported to develop district Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies, 6 districts were trained in the Drinking Water Safety and Security Planning (DWSSP) approach and 5 districts had IT-equipped (GBV) knowledge hubs established. A number of other institutions received training including 20 registry departments on birth registration services, 13 institutions (WHO) for WASH services, 9 institutions on gender-responsive and child-friendly frameworks, 7 institutions on forest-resource assessments using remote-sensing tools and the Zimbabwe Refugee Commission on Refugee Status Determination (RSD).

Solar facilities installed in 81 schools while 13 GBV-related facilities were built. Eleven WASH coordination mechanisms were also established. Close to 120 health facilities had the e-Logistics management information system installed and close to 7,400 schools were reached with training on disaster risk management and resilience. The Ministry of Education was also capacitated to mainstream climate change adaptation and environmental sustainability into education sector plans, budgets and strategies while 386 village savings and lending groups were established in various areas of the country.



2.2.3: Circa 2.67 million individuals empowered with various skills and training opportunities.

Close to 1.1 million people were provided skills in Climate Smart Agriculture practices. This includes close to 300,000 small-holder farmers who were trained on access to weather information, 69,000 farmers that benefitted from resilience training under the Zimbabwe ERVHIZ programme, 25,540 farmers under the Irrigation Revitalisation Project and 1,584 farmers under the Emergency Food Production project. Close to 790,000 young learners benefitted from various skills training opportunities. Over 500,000 young learners were recruited into Child Protection Committees and trained on Comprehensive Sexual Education and issues of Early/Unwanted Pregnancies, 133,400 participated in trainings on Adolescent Development and Participation while, 157,700 were reached through School Health Clubs.

Close to 51,200 individuals received training in entrepreneurial skills including 40,000 that were trained on adaptive capacities; 8,200 youths in various skills including 6,500 on entrepreneurship and employment, 3,000 refugees on self-reliance, 1,500 with TVET skills and close to 180 on Waged Employment and Green Jobs for Rural Youth Programmes.

2.2.4: Close to 8.7 million individuals benefit from UN supported and/or provided services.

Close to 6.5 million people benefitted from health services including 3.1 million children who received vaccinations, 2.1 million who accessed contraception services and 1.22 million people on ARTs – including 12,000 girls who received vital education services as PLWHIV.

Close to 1.13 million people benefitted from social protection services including circa 0.99 million that received food packages ,143,000 who received emergency social cash transfers and 18,224 refugees that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items.

About 1.04 million people benefitted from school-based services including 0.98 million that benefitted from school-improvement grants and, 60,000 learners with safe-water services.

Close to 95,000 benefitted from protection services including 60,000 that benefitted from the Safe2learn programme, 12,270 who benefitted from comprehensive child-friendly and gender-responsive services and 1,700 GBV cases that received legal assistance.

About 1,580 small-holder farmers received support to access a USD6.1 million financial inclusion loan facility.

2.3 Support to Partnerships and financing the 2030 Agenda

In 2023, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Zimbabwe demonstrated unparalleled dedication to leveraging joint initiatives and forging strategic partnerships, resulting in the remarkable mobilisation of over US\$380 million. This achievement, occurring within the second year of the 2022-2026 ZUNSDCF, represents a monumental leap forward in the collective pursuit of the SDGs and the National Development Strategy 2021-2025. Through collaborative efforts and innovative financing mechanisms, the UNCT has catalysed substantial resources, propelling Zimbabwe towards tangible progress in its journey towards Agenda 2030.

This unprecedented mobilization underscores the transformative impact of partnerships and sustainable financing in driving sustainable development and ensuring a brighter future for all.

Charting a Path of Progress: UNCT's Collaborative Endeavours with Zimbabwe Development Partners

In a testament to the power of collaboration, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Zimbabwe has achieved remarkable outcomes by working hand-in-hand with Zimbabwe's Development Partners. This collaborative approach has not only amplified the impact of initiatives but has also fostered greater trust, cooperation, and synergy among stakeholders. This dynamic partnership between the UNCT and Development Partners exemplifies a shared commitment to building a brighter, more prosperous future for Zimbabweans.

Example of partnership - Unlocking Health Resilience: A Multi-donor coalition's \$90 million commitment

The Health Resilience Fund was officially launched in 2023. This multi-donor initiative is supported by the EU, UK, Ireland and Gavi.

Breaking boundaries: UN Partnerships Drive Sustainable Energy Investment in Zimbabwe.

In an ongoing effort, UNESCO, UNDP and UN Women are collaborating with the Government of Zimbabwe on a ground breaking Joint SDG Programme aimed at accelerating progress towards the SDGs through renewable energy investment. A major milestone achieved in 2023 was the finalisation of the Impact Investment Framework for the Renewable Energy Fund. The Impact Investment Framework for the Renewable Energy Fund is a tool for investment screening of potential renewal energy projects for Zimbabwe, which will be mainly utilized by the Fund

Manager Old Mutual Investment Group and related Committee (UNCDF Impact Investment Committee) to assess potential impact generated by transactions invested or to be invested by the Fund.

Partnership Pioneers: UNCT's proactive Approach to Humanitarian Preparedness

Leveraging an anticipatory action planning model, the UNCT (WFP, WHO, UNHCR, UNICEF, FAO and IOM) proactively engaged in addressing potential humanitarian crises, including the looming threat of a cholera outbreak and projected El Nino weather patterns. This foresight led to the development of a comprehensive US\$28 million Anticipatory Action Plan. Through robust collaboration and advocacy efforts, the UNCT secured US\$8 million from the UN Central Emergency Response Fund. This critical funding enabled swift and targeted interventions to mitigate the impact of outbreaks, particularly addressing the urgent needs stemming from measles and cholera outbreaks. This strategic partnership exemplifies proactive humanitarian leadership, ensuring rapid response and effective mitigation of crises to safeguard vulnerable populations.

Bridging Borders: Harnessing South-South and Triangular Collaboration for Migration and Child Protection

180,000

Exemption Permit Holders in South Africa

US\$27 million

Response plan

In a proactive response to the multifaceted challenges confronting nearly 180,000 Exemption Permit Holders in South Africa, an extensive US\$27 million response plan was designed to effectively address their reintegration and support needs. Moreover, South-South or triangular partnerships to advance the 2030 Agenda/SDGs targeting issues

of migration and Children on the move were established: For example, the Zimbabwe Exemptions Permit (ZEP) Holder, Child Protection in Emergency (CPiE) contingency and response plan in collaboration with UNICEF South Africa.

The UN's technical expertise and advocacy efforts serve as catalysts for transformative shifts in economic policies, revenue enhancement and fiscal governance.

The UN's impactful technical expertise and advocacy efforts catalyse profound shifts in economic policies, revenue augmentation, and fiscal governance. This was demonstrated when the Government of Zimbabwe embraced UN recommendations embedded in the 2024 National Budget, notably implementing a Sugar Tax to bolster domestic resource mobilization. These funds will be specifically allocated to treating non-communicable diseases (NCDs), addressing critical gaps in healthcare infrastructure such as the absence of functioning cancer machines in hospitals. This collaborative endeavor underscores Zimbabwe's proactive stance in leveraging locally-sourced resources for the welfare of its citizens.

By harmonizing the Zimbabwean tax framework with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 5 (Gender Equality), 3 (Good Health and Well-being), and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), this initiative transcends conventional fiscal measures, emerging as a potent force for societal advancement. Concurrently, the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority, with UN (UNDP and UN Women) support, launched a groundbreaking Tax and Gender Action Plan, marking a significant stride in transformative policy frameworks. Moreover, there has been a remarkable 79% increase in Ministries/Departments/Agencies (MDAs) submitting gender-responsive statements for consideration in the National Budget.



2.4 Results of UN Working Better Together

Strategic Thematic Frameworks: Uniting UN Efforts for Sustainable Development in Zimbabwe.

UN Zimbabwe embraced thematic frameworks on Engaging and Working with Youth, Disability Inclusion, Resilience Building and Gender Equality. These thematic pillars stand as cornerstones, empowering UN Agencies to spearhead collaborative initiatives that advance SDGs and priorities outlined in NDS1. By focusing on these key areas, the UN is fostering a holistic development, promoting inclusivity and a more equitable and sustainable future for Zimbabwe.

UN Joint-Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

The United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) MPTF Round 4 Strengthening Disability Rights Accountability, Governance and Coordination project helped improve coordination, institutional strengthening and accountability on disability inclusion.



Key results in advancing joint UN disability inclusive approaches

65 national and provincial staff trained on disability inclusion.

First costed Action plan to support implementation of the National Disability Policy developed.

Evidence-based knowledge tool to increase engagement of organisations of disabled persons in policy and law formulation developed.

Strengthened capacity of 20 UNCT staff on disability inclusion concepts and reporting in UNSDCF and UNINFO mechanisms.

Developed national guide for duty bearers (26 Ministries) on the rights of women and girls with disabilities.

Established community-based stimulation centres in five rural districts to provide physiotherapy and equip parents/guardians with skills to better protect children with disabilities.

UN network on nutrition

•The UN supported the development of the National Nutrition Emergency Response Plan.

•Provided technical support to update National Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition guidelines.

Quadripartite partnership on Antimicrobial Resistance

The UN supported the Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) programme aimed at addressing and combating AMR. The project was funded by:

Flemming Fund

GBP4 million

2020-2023

UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund

US\$1 million

2020-2023

International Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance Solutions

US\$600,000

UNCT Zimbabwe's media engagement: A game changer!



450

news articles



30 compelling

messages through

TV



Radio

appearances.

Further, the UNCT collaborated closely with Government and various stakeholders to mark 16 International Days, utilising over 40 public events, summits and conferences to further amplify UN programmes, actions and messages. The approach has increased visibility and strengthened partnerships while garnering substantial support for UN endeavours.



100,000 unique visitors



90,000 followers



21,000 followers

The UNCT's online presence has significantly extended its reach and influence.





2.5 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilisation

2023 Required and Available Resources

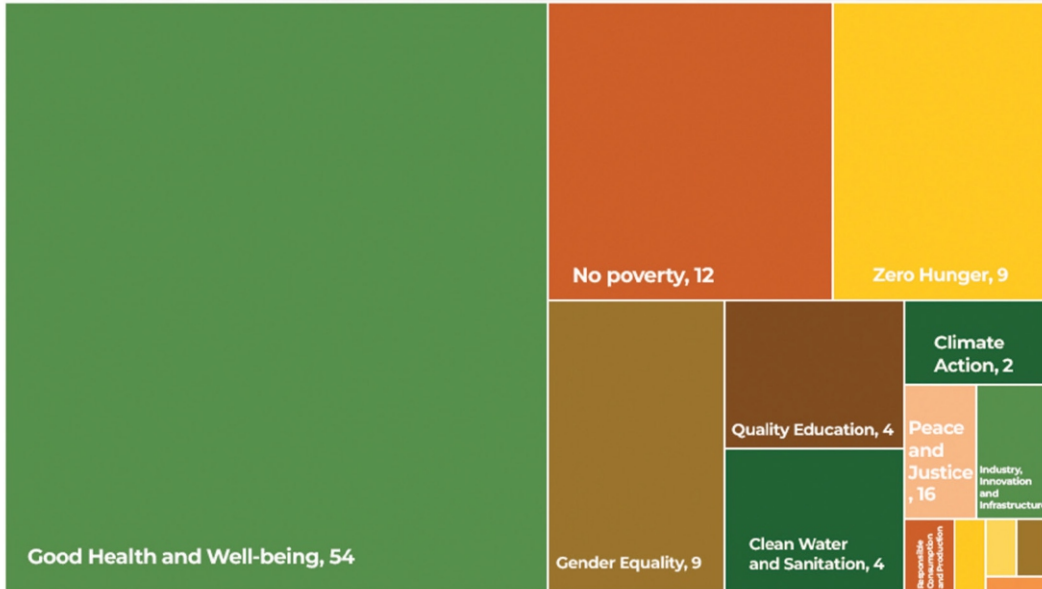
Priority Area	Required Resources 2023	Available Resources 2023	Funding Gap
People	448,929,746	309,199,130	139,730,616
Planet	99,933,036	85,345,698	14,587,338
Prosperity	9,358,523	4,331,851	5,026,672
Peace	9,824,026	8,647,217	1,176,809
Grand Total	568,045,331	407,523,896	160,521,435

Resources by Entity

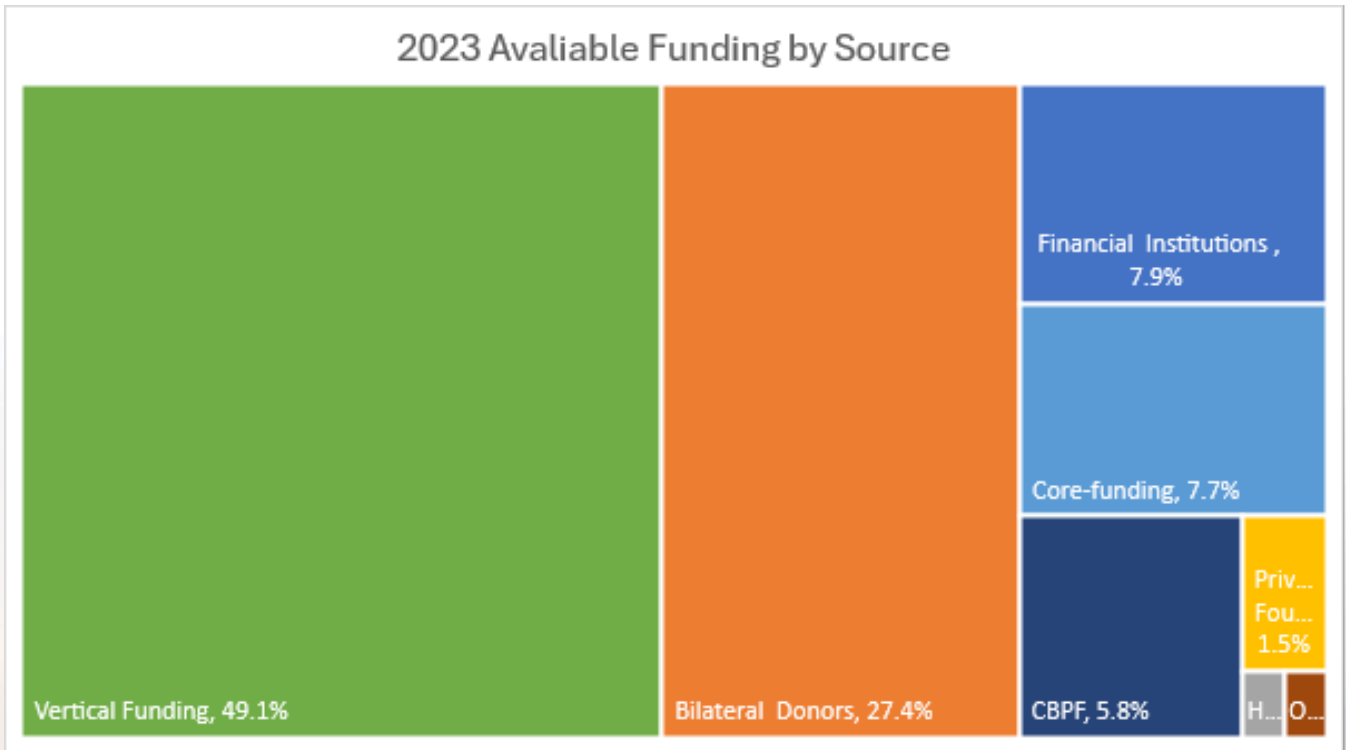
AGENCY	TOTAL REQUIRED RESOURCES-2023	AVAILABLE RESOURCES-2023
Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations	17,537,314.00	17,519,314.00
International Fund for Agriculture Development	23,294,637.00	23,294,637.00
International Labour Organisation	1,158,973.00	1,114,302.00
International Organisation for Migration	2,343,900.00	2,343,900.00
UN Women	3,465,073.00	3,465,073.00
United Nations Children's Fund	126,279,335.00	48,946,713.00
United Nations Development Programme	196,642,798.00	196,633,317.00
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation	3,667,877.00	3,701,988.00
United Nations Environment Programme	1,858,885.00	
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	6,066,672.00	2,897,423.00
United Nations Industrial Development Organisation	4,700,000.00	500,000.00
United Nations Joint Programme on HIV and AIDS Secretariat	1,970,000.00	1,485,000.00
United Nations Office for Project Services	15,560,850.00	16,116,761.00
United Nations Population Fund	21,430,000.00	12,118,966.00
United Nations World Food Programme	132,896,515.00	60,516,437.00
World Health Organisation	9,172,502.00	16,870,065.00
GRAND TOTAL	544,750,694.00	384,229,259.00



Where is the money going? How the UN contributes to the SDGs?

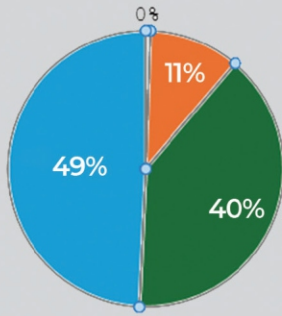


2023 Available Funding by Source



Where is the money going? How the UN contributes to the Gender Equality

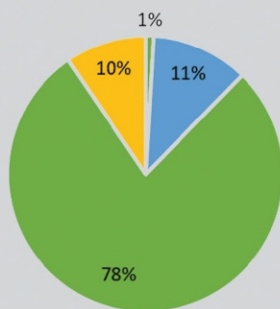
The graph shows how UN available resources were allocated towards interventions for promoting Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE).



- 0- Not expected to contribute to gender equality/ women's empowerment
- 1- Contributes to gender equality/ women's empowerment in a limited way
- 2- Gender equality/ women's empowerment is a significant objective
- 3- Gender equality/ women's empowerment is the principal objective

Where is the money going? How the UN contributes to Human Rights

The graph shows how UN available financial resources were allocated towards interventions for promoting human rights

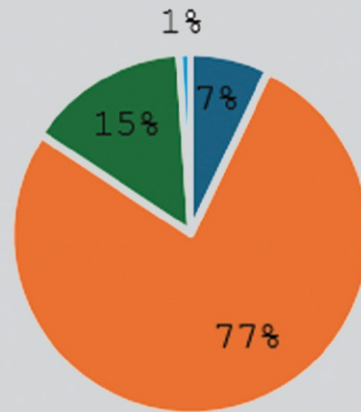


- 0- Not expected to contribute to realization of human rights
- 1- Limited contribution to realization of human rights
- 2- Significant contribution to realization of human rights
- 3- Principal contribution is to the realization of human rights

Where is the money going? How the UN contributes to Sustaining Peace

The graph shows how UN available resources were allocated towards interventions for promoting for sustaining peace

UN contribution towards Sustaining Peace



- 0- Not expected to contribute to gender equality/ women's empowerment
- 1- Contributes to gender equality/ women's empowerment in a limited way
- 2- Gender equality/ women's empowerment is a significant objective
- 3- Gender equality/ women's empowerment is the principal objective



Funding Support and Development Partnerships



FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	BILATERAL DONORS	VERTICAL FUNDING
African Development Bank	EU	GEF
World Bank	Government of the	UNPRDP
KfW	Republic of Korea	UNDP (Multi-Partner) Trust
	United Kingdom	Fund
	United Arab Emirates	UBRAF
	Norway	GAVI
	Sweden	GF -HIV, TB and Malaria
	Ireland	Green Climate Fund
	Japan	Joint SDG Fund
	United States of America	Global Partnership for
	Qatar	Education
	France	OCHA -CERF
	Germany	MPTF Montreal
	Switzerland	UN Development Account
	China	
	Netherlands	
	Canada	
	Denmark	
	Australia	
	Luxemburg	
	Spain	
	Austria	










CHAPTER 3: UNCT FOCUS FOR 2024

2024 Priorities













Jobs and Social Protection Coverage

SDGs	     
NDS1 KRA/KPI	<p>KRA: Quality and affordable social protection for all. KPI: Percentage of population covered by social protection systems i.e social assistance, social care and support services, livelihood support, social insurance.</p> <p>KRA: Inclusive Economic Growth KPI: Percentage of people in formal employment.</p>
ILO UNDP UNICEF WFP UNFPA UNCHR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ Deployment of the ILO/Pensions actuarial model ▷ Informal Economy Scheme ▷ Employment Promotion ▷ Youths and Women Economic Empowerment ▷ Social Protection Programmes (Global Fund) ▷ Lean Season Assistance (Rural) ▷ Food and cash assistance to refugees & forcibly displaced persons ▷ Urban and Emergency Social Cash Transfers ▷ Community-based health insurance ▷ GBV and PSEA

Digital Connectivity

SDGs	      
NDS1 KRA/KPI	<p>KRA: Digitally enabled economy KPI: Internet subscribers per 100 inhabitants - Internet penetration rate.</p>
UNDP UNCTAD UNFPA UNCHR UNICEF WFP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ Institutional Capacity Building ▷ Electronic Logistics Management Information System (ELMIS) - Strengthening the national commodities supply chain management system. ▷ Electronic Martenal and Perinatal Deaths Surveillance System (MPDSR) ▷ Roll-out of the Integrated Social Protection MIS ▷ PoFuturo: Connected Education Enabling Environment (Laws, Policies, etc) ▷ Connectivity and Access to Education ▷ Connectivity for all schools ▷ Improve maternal health - E-partograph

Climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution. DDR strategies and Green house emissions

SDGs	           
NDS1 KRA/KPI	<p>KRA: Environment and Climate Protection KPI: Number of districts integrating Climate change in development planning framework KPT: Levels of GHGs emissions (MtCO2eq)</p> <p>KRA: Sustainable Natural Resource Utilisation KPI: National Forest Cover (%)</p>
FAO UNDP ILO UNIDO UNESCO UNFPA UNICEF WFP UNCHR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▷ Climate Resilience and Adaptation ▷ Sustainable Agriculture and Livelihoods ▷ Community Empowerment and Disaster Preparedness ▷ Youth Engagement and Education ▷ Biodiversity and Ecosystems Management ▷ Integrated Climate Risk Management ▷ Innovative Solutions and Technology Transfer ▷ Chemicals and Waste Management

Data

SDGs



National Strategy for the Development of Statistics

Promote and ensure availability of quality and credible official statistics
 Improve capacities and systems across the NSS
 Enhance data user satisfaction
 Modernise the NSS

ILO
 UNDP
 UNICEF
 WFP
 UNCHR

Data Collection and Analysis

- Support to demographic and health surveys
- Labour market information system development
- Census data analysis
- Social development survey
- Evidence collection and analysis for education sector
- Capacity building for statistical systems

Livelihoods Assessment and Support

- Livelihood assessment
- Food security assessment
- Support for Tongogara settlement

Education

SDGs



NDS1
 KRA/KPI

KRA: Innovation and Knowledge driven economy
 KPI: % of critical skilled experts available

UNDP
 UNESCO
 UNICEF
 ILO
 UNFPA
 UNCHR

- Inclusive and equitable, safe and healthy schools
- Learning and skills for life work and sustainable development
- Teachers, teaching and profession - skills for the teachers
- Digital learning and transformation
- Financing of education

Food Systems

SDGs



NDS1
 KRA/KPI

KRA: Food Security
 KPI: Proportion of food insecure
KRA: Nutrition Security
 KPI: Proportion of children stunted

UNDP
 FAO
 UNICEF
 WFP
 UNCHR

- Sustainable Agriculture & Food Production
- Climate Resilience & Adaptation
- Youth Employment and Rural Development
- Nutritional Improvement and Food Security
- Technology and Innovation in Agriculture
- Humanitarian Assistance & Refugees support including Irrigation Schemes

Energy access and affordability

Promote renewable energy

SDGs



NDSI
KRA/KPI

KRA: Provision of improved infrastructure and services

Sector Outcome: Improved energy supply capacity

Sector Indicator: Number of households using modern energy forms

UN WOMEN
UNESCO
UNIDO
UNDP
UN Habitat
UNICEF

- Renewable Energy Promotion
- Sustainable Urban Development
- Climate Resilience and Adaptation
- Education and Energy Access





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