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Resilient nations.*



UNDP SUPPORT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT **GOAL 13**

TAKING URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

United Nations Development Programme

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



*This is a living document that will be updated periodically.
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For further information, please contact: sdgsupport@undp.org*



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

A path towards global prosperity, human well-being and a healthy planet

The world has achieved remarkable gains in human development over the past two decades. Extreme poverty has significantly reduced, access to primary education and health outcomes has improved, and substantial inroads have been made in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women. The pursuit of the eight Millennium Development Goals has contributed to this progress and enabled people across the world to improve their lives and future prospects. Yet, despite these significant gains, extreme poverty remains a key challenge, in 2013, 767 million people lived on less than \$1.90 per day (purchasing power parity). Inequalities are either high or widening, especially within countries. Unemployment and vulnerable employment levels are high in many countries, particularly among youth. Unsustainable consumption and production are pushing ecosystems beyond their limits – undermining their ability to provide services vital to life, development and their own regeneration. Shocks associated with macroeconomic instability, disasters linked to natural hazards, environmental degradation and socio-political unrest impact negatively on the lives of millions. In many cases, these shocks hold back, if not reverse, progress already achieved in meeting national and internationally agreed development goals. Preserving the gains that have been made and addressing the current development challenges the world faces cannot be accomplished by tinkering at the margins.

There is an imperative today to foster sustainable development. A vision for what this encapsulates is laid out in the new sustainable development agenda that aims to end poverty, promote prosperity and people's well-being while protecting the environment. As the United Nations' global development network, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has a key role to play in supporting countries to make this vision a reality – guiding societies towards a sustainable development pathway, managing risk and enhancing resilience, and advancing prosperity and well-being. Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a top priority for UNDP.

UNDP has outlined a vision in its Strategic Plan 2014-17, which is focused on making the next big breakthrough in development: to help countries achieve the simultaneous eradication of poverty and significant reduction of inequalities and exclusion. This vision builds on UNDP's core strengths: a large country network in more than 170 countries and territories, a principal coordination role within the United Nations system and proven ability in supporting efforts to reduce poverty, inequalities and exclusion and protect vital ecosystems.

UNDP has worked with the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) in developing a strategy for effective and coherent implementation support of the new sustainable development agenda under the acronym 'MAPS' (Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support). The *Mainstreaming* component of MAPS aims to generate awareness amongst all relevant actors; help governments land the agenda at national and local levels; and, ultimately, mainstream the agenda into their national plans, strategies and budgets. The *Acceleration* component aims to help governments accelerate progress on SDG targets by providing tools to identify critical constraints and focus on development objectives relevant to the country context. The *Policy Support* component aims to provide coordinated and pooled policy support to countries working to meet their SDG targets. To support the MAPS strategy, UNDP offers an integrated package of policy support services that align with its programming priorities. These services cover a wide range of areas: poverty reduction, inclusive growth and productive employment, gender equality and the empowerment of women, HIV and health, access to water and sanitation, climate change adaptation, access to sustainable energy, sustainable management of terrestrial ecosystems, oceans governance, and promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies.

Well-equipped with this integrated package of policy support services, UNDP stands ready to support country partners to effectively implement the new agenda for sustainable development and make this plan of action for people, planet and prosperity a reality.



TAKE URGENT ACTION TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

Why does this matter?

Urgent action on climate change is central to delivering sustainable development. The impacts of climate change can undermine existing development gains and hinder progress to achieve sustainable development. With the predicted levels of climate change due to create more impacts, especially in developing countries, this challenge will only intensify in coming decades. The most recent report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) highlights this trend, noting it is the poorest and most vulnerable who bear the brunt of climate impacts. It is estimated that over 100 million people could fall below the poverty line in 2030 without rapid and inclusive development that integrates climate action.² Similarly, UNDP analysis has shown that lack of action on climate change will lower the incomes and reduce the opportunities of vulnerable populations. By 2080, the number of additional people at risk of hunger could reach 600 million - twice the number of people living in poverty in sub-Saharan Africa today.³ Numerous analyses also expect global economic losses to increase if climate change is not kept below 1.5 degrees.⁴

Rising sea levels, changing rainfall patterns, increased droughts, ocean acidification and more frequent and intense natural hazards, are all observed examples of how climate change intensifies existing development challenges in the areas of disaster risk, water, food insecurity, migration, livelihoods, health and damaged infrastructure. This also jeopardizes recent development gains in these areas. For example, it is now estimated that 90 percent of disasters are caused by hydro-meteorological drivers and climate change is increasing their frequency and severity.⁵ Climate disasters affected some 262 million people each year from 2000 to 2004, UNDP estimates show. More than 98 percent were in developing countries, and the impacts are intensified.⁶ Similarly, deforestation, poor land use management and the failure to invest in sustainable energy and manufacturing practices is destroying carbon sinks and locking countries into unsustainable development pathways characterized by high greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Sustainable development must be “climate proof” – resilient to climate change and contributing to zero-carbon development. A rapid approach is essential given the significant impacts. Equally important, taking ambitious action on climate change presents a huge opportunity to accelerate sustainable development.

Tackling climate change through adaptation and mitigation has enormous potential to drive sustainable development outcomes in key areas of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Mitigation and investment in renewable energy have knock-on development impacts such as improved energy access, health benefits through reduced and non-polluting emissions and the creation of jobs through new investment in the renewable energy sector. Action on forests and land use not only supports climate action, but also protects and builds sustainable livelihoods for communities, whilst safeguarding important natural assets and the environment. Similarly, investing in adaptation measures can help strengthen and build resilient economies and reduce poverty. For example, teaching agricultural communities farming techniques that can withstand climate impacts and diversify income streams can ensure ongoing stable livelihoods and contribute to economic growth.

Other areas where climate action can drive sustainable development include reducing disaster risk, advancing gender equality, and delivering basic social services. Climate action can also reduce fragility, displacement, migration and conflict – key development challenges that are often exacerbated by climate change.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the scale and opportunity of the climate change and sustainable development interface.

Climate change is identified as a cross cutting issues that needs to be addressed to ensure successful implementation of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Goal 1 to end poverty and Goal 11 on sustainable cities and communities have specific climate targets. Also, Goal 6 on water, Goal 7 on energy, Goal 12 on consumption and production, Goal 14 on oceans and



Goal 15 on ecosystems, forests and biodiversity support national action that tackles climate change and fosters zero-carbon growth.

The cross-cutting inclusion of climate change in the 2030 Agenda is complemented by a focussed goal: Goal 13 to "Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts". It promotes climate-specific actions in adaptation, mitigation and finance that will help prepare countries for the impacts of climate change and support emissions reduction.

A stand-alone goal on climate change is essential to ensure that targeted action is taken on climate change, but at the same time must not be seen in exclusivity. To ensure that countries are able to be appropriately prepared for climate change and global ambition for emissions is to be reached, governments must be supported on implementing the targets of 13 alongside mainstreaming climate action through all goals and sustainable development approaches. The creation of this architecture is prudent for advancing sustainable development; failure to take action on Goal 13 while at the same time mainstreaming climate action across development will limit progress on the other goals.

Climate measures in three key action areas will help governments to implement and exceed the targets of Goal 13:

Climate change adaptation will put in place policy, programme and institutional measures to help countries reduce vulnerability and risks, build resilience and deal with the impacts of climate change, so as to contribute to and minimize impact on sustainable development. Examples include support for national adaptation planning to identify and address potential impacts; community-based measures to build resilient livelihoods and improve food and water security for agricultural communities affected by changing rainfall patterns; climate-informed social protection systems and disaster risk governance; and access to climate information and early warning systems to ensure development is risk-informed and addresses the growing frequency and intensity of natural hazards.

Zero-carbon development will help countries reduce emissions from existing activities through mitigation measures that will encourage development that is resilient and climate-proof. Zero-carbon development examples include investment in renewable energy solutions such as solar or wind power, and pursuing energy efficiency measures that reduce emissions from energy intensive activities. It also importantly includes measures to combat deforestation and enhance protection of forests and wider land use issues including agriculture and land degradation, as well as other emissions sources including methane. Here action on Goal 7 on energy and Goal 15 on ecosystems, forests and biodiversity will play an important complementary role in advancing Goal 13 on climate change action.



Scaled up climate finance will also be important in ensuring that enough resources are available for developing countries to tackle climate change. It will be essential that the Paris Commitment is honored to provide at least an additional \$100 billion a year on top of ODA for adaptation and mitigation in developing countries.⁷ Scaling up finance for climate change action and supporting countries to budget, plan and spend internationally and nationally sourced funds will be essential for driving an increased level of climate action. At the same time, equally important will be ensuring that existing development funds consider and account for climate risk and can yield climate solutions

Climate change does not affect all areas equally, with Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) often bearing the brunt of devastating impacts. Challenges such as increasing climate hazards or changing rainfall patterns will require differing responses in different country contexts,

based on the geographical location, vulnerabilities and capacities of countries. The LDCs, for example, often have less capacity and resources to reduce emissions, adapt to climate impacts and manage the uncertainty of climate compared with wealthier countries. Emerging economies or higher income developing countries may also face challenges from rapidly growing climate impacts. At the same time, all countries everywhere need to invest in moving towards zero-carbon development, which includes decarbonization of energy systems to create a cleaner, greener low emission future. The level of action and type of interventions must be nationally contextualized and appropriate to the climate context and risk profile of a country or areas within a country.

Governments can further enhance and complement climate action under Goal 13 and through all of the 2030 Agenda through the implementation of other key agreements of 2015, including but not limited to the Paris Climate Change Agreement and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016. The Paris Agreement highlights the interrelationship between action on climate change and advancing sustainable development. For example, through the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (countries individual climate targets under the agreement), governments can drive the integration of climate action in national development policy and planning.

Similarly, the action areas of the Sendai Framework include greater resilience to disasters and better risk management. Integrating and addressing climate risk will be essential if countries are to successfully undertake risk management and build resilience.

The impact of climate change on development is clear and the opportunity climate action presents at national level to advance sustainable development is evident. Failure to seize this opportunity will not only mean a failure on Goal 13, but also in ensuring the entire range of 17 Sustainable Development Goals are achieved. At the same time, taking climate action will ensure the enormous opportunity for development and economic growth is realised, thus galvanizing and driving sustainable development across all sectors, that is risk informed and zero carbon.





CLIMATE CHANGE - KEY FACTS



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

CAUSES

30%

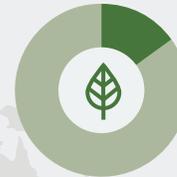
Over the last **50 years**, the concentration of greenhouse gases (e.g. carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide and other gases) in the atmosphere has increased by **30%**.



Fossil fuel based energy production and use accounts for **two thirds of the world's** greenhouse gas emissions.



In 2016, global levels of CO₂ passed **400 parts per million**, potentially causing a 3-6° temperature rise.



15% of global greenhouse gas emissions from 2000 to 2009 came from **forests and other land use change**.

GLOBAL IMPACTS

\$50 billion

\$200 billion

Over the last decade, **annual economic losses from climate-related disasters** have risen from an average of \$50 billion to \$200 billion



Average **global sea level** is expected to **rise 7 to 23 inches** before the end of this century.



By 2025, climate change could increase the number of people facing water scarcity to **1.8 billion**.



Global economic losses for additional temperature increases of ~2°C are estimated between 0.2% and **2% of global income**.

REGIONAL IMPACTS

IN LATIN AMERICA

80% of crops will be impacted in more than

60% of cultivated areas



IN EUROPE AND THE CIS

economic losses due to floods could increase **17-fold** by the end of the century.



IN AFRICA

climate change is increasing the prevalence of vector-borne diseases such as malaria.



IN ASIA

an additional **9 million to 11 million children** could suffer from malnutrition by 2050.

ACTION

2010

2050

40 to 70%

To limit global warming to 1.5 degrees celsius, greenhouse gas emissions in 2050 must be 40% to 70% lower than in 2010.



An estimated sum of at least **\$100 billion a year by 2020** is needed to support adaptation and mitigation in developing countries.



Climate change responses need to be inclusive and gender-responsive in order to achieve sustained results and ensure that benefits and opportunities are equally distributed.

What do we offer?

UNDP has extensive experience supporting countries to take action on climate change that advances sustainable development and ensures that climate change does not undermine existing development gains. Building on its 25 years of experience in climate change mitigation and adaptation in over 140 countries (including 48 LDCs and 39 SIDS), UNDP offers partnership and support to countries to identify and implement policy and programming that can meet and aim to exceed the aspirations of national climate pledges and development goals - working closely with countries as they transition towards zero-emission, risk-informed and sustainable development. This work includes mainstreaming climate throughout the 2030 Agenda implementing Goal 13 and connecting climate action with new mechanisms such as under the Paris Agreement.

This experience derives from maintaining a **\$2.8 billion portfolio in climate change** mitigation and adaptation efforts between 2008 and 2016 and a **\$1.9 billion portfolio in disaster risk reduction and recovery** over the past 10 years. Through this portfolio as well as experience of implementing sustainable development across all sectors with governments, UNDP has well-established expertise in working at the country level, bringing together a range of stakeholders to share detailed knowledge of national and local development priorities, challenges and solutions. UNDP offers experience, expertise and a range of programmatic services we offer on climate change that can be used and leveraged for effective national ownership of climate change action and capacity building. More specifically, UNDP offers support in key areas to achieve the Goal 13 targets.

What are our key actions?

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity

Target 13.1: Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.

Key UNDP services include policy and programme support on:

- **Advancing cross-sectoral adaptation action:** To strengthen the adaptive capacity of developing countries, UNDP offers support for scaling-up climate resilient livelihoods for the poor and vulnerable, supporting small and medium enterprises to reduce exposure to climate risks. For risk-informed approaches at national and sub-national levels, UNDP supports improving access to climate information and early warning systems, expanding ecosystem-based adaptation solutions and expanding resilient infrastructure.
- **Addressing climate and disaster risks:** This work involves incorporating the management of climate risks with disaster risk reduction (DRR) into all governance, planning, implementation and monitoring.
- **Instilling risk-informed disaster recovery:** The process of integrating climate change into disaster recovery efforts also presents an opportunity to build back more resilient development.



Integrating climate change into national development policies and programmes

Target 13.2: Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.

Key UNDP services include policy and programme support on:

- **Strengthening integrated adaptation policies, plans and strategies:** Implementation of mechanisms of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) that support national level action on climate change will strengthen adaptation. UNDP works with governments to integrate these mechanisms into existing national development planning processes.
- **Implementing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs):** UNDP helps countries turn national targets agreed through the Paris Agreement into concrete actions at policy and programme levels. This work includes the planning and delivery of climate change initiatives, as provided for through the mechanisms of the UNFCCC. For Goal 13, UNDP supports governments in integrating the ambition and targets of NDCs in overall development approaches, including sectoral plans.

Improving education, awareness-raising and capacity on climate change

Target 13.3: Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

Key UNDP services include policy and programme support on:

Strengthened national capacity to deliver climate and development objectives is central to Goal 13. UNDP supports countries to strengthen individual, institutional and system capacities to scale up climate action, pursue zero carbon goals, and build both national and local resilience. UNDP also delivers institutional support that advances climate change action through its large sustainable energy portfolio, forestry programmes and ongoing support to climate information and early warning.

- **Delivering sustainable energy:** This includes increasing access to affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy including through on- and off-grid electricity access,

promoting energy efficiency and conservation, and increasing the global share of renewable energy. Energy market transformation and de-risking investment to create an environment conducive to private sector investment underpin these efforts. UNDP sustainable energy support has assisted 65 countries with improved clean energy access and has avoided 522.7 million tons of CO₂ emissions.

- **Reducing emissions through protecting forests:** UNDP will support efforts to protect against deforestation and forest degradation while also reducing emissions and promoting sustainable livelihoods. Examples include ongoing support to countries through UN REDD (a partnership with UNEP and FAO) and the Central Africa Forests Initiative (CAFI).
- **Implementation of the Montreal Protocol:** This makes an indirect but significant contribution to climate change mitigation efforts by phasing out the use of ozone-depleting substances that often have high global warming potential. UNDP's assistance to implement the Montreal Protocol has enabled 120 countries to phase out the use of 67,870 tons of ozone-depleting substances while simultaneously reducing 5.08 billion tons of CO₂-equivalent greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Risk information:** UNDP will continue to work with partners globally to conduct risk assessments to determine the full extent of exposure and vulnerabilities, including climate vulnerability. With this information, better evidence-informed planning can assist in the preparation for, reduction of and management of risk.
- **Early warning and preparedness:** UNDP supports countries and communities to put in place the necessary systems and procedures to receive and relay warning to reduce risk, and also expedites emergency life-saving action.

Accessing and implementing climate finance

Target 13.a: Implement the commitment undertaken by developed-country parties to the UNFCCC to a goal of mobilizing jointly \$100 billion annually by 2020 from all sources to address the needs of developing countries in the context of meaningful mitigation actions and transparency on implementation and fully operationalize the Green Climate Fund through its capitalization as soon as possible.

Meeting the challenge of climate change requires not only additional climate finance but also ensuring that spending of development finance is effective so that it is risk informed



and can contribute to resilient development and climate outcomes. UNDP works with developing countries plan for, access, combine, sequence, deliver and measure climate finance, and has identified scaling up this support as essential for delivering on both the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Key UNDP services include policy and programme support on:

- **Derisking investment conditions for increased private finance flows:** This includes supporting governments to implement policies that de-risk investment to encourage the private sector to fund renewable energy in developing countries, thus facilitating zero-carbon development.
- **Working with the private sector to identify opportunities for engagement in climate action:** This includes leveraging private sector expertise and improving business practices for climate outcomes, as well as building conditions for scaled up private sector investment – such as through policy frameworks and institutional reform that encourage sustainable energy led by the private sector.
- **Climate finance readiness:** This includes support to governments to put in place governance and frameworks to be able to receive and implement increased flows of climate finance to deliver effective climate action and sustainable development. This is increasingly relevant as growing flows of finance are reaching developing countries and these countries are budgeting more national funds for national climate action.
- **Budgeting and analysis of climate expenditure for improved effectiveness:** This includes our work on Climate Public Expenditure Reviews, which enables countries to identify activities directly and indirectly addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation already included in national budgets, facilitating greater

integration of climate change in overall development spending, budgeting and planning.

- **Accessing funding for direct climate change programming:** The focus is on adaptation, mitigation and other areas through vertical funds and other multilateral and bilateral sources such as the Global Environment Facility, Green Climate Fund (GCF) and other funds.

Raise capacity for planning for women and youth

Target 13.b: Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and Small Island Developing States, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities.

UNDP works at country level in targeting capacity building so that it benefits all populations, particularly those that are often marginalized such as women, indigenous groups and youth.

Key UNDP services include policy and programme support on:

Gender-focused climate change interventions: This includes integrating gender equality principles into global climate change policy, dialogue and climate finance structures, gender-sensitive and women’s empowerment principles into decision making and policy and engaging directly with communities to reduce vulnerabilities of women and to empower them as actors in tackling climate change.

- **Support to indigenous populations on climate action:** Securing forest rights and land tenure for indigenous and local communities is an effective climate solution. Where indigenous and community rights over forests are secure, there is greater reduced deforestation than under other management regimes. Working through UN REDD and in supporting indigenous groups to engage in the UNFCCC process, UNDP supports progress in indigenous rights at national and global level and empowers indigenous communities to play a role in climate solutions.

- **Partnerships for development:** Strong development initiatives are a collaborative effort. UNDP brings together national government, private sector, civil society and other partners at national level to convene and develop inclusive approaches to tackling climate change.



UNDP IN ACTION

UNDP work at country level is already facilitating the implementation of Goal 13. This is done through mainstreaming of climate change in development and identifying synergies between the Sustainable Development Goals and other important frameworks of 2015, such as the Paris Agreement. Below are examples of recent UNDP-supported initiatives that seek to enable governments to take ambitious action on climate change and sustainable development.

Strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity

Since 2008, UNDP has supported over 115 countries and at least 19,000 local communities in managing issues ranging from changing rainfall patterns to sea level rise to soil erosion and better land use that contributes to strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity.

In **Comoros**, the Government and UNDP have worked to increase communities' capacities to cope with the effects of climate change, with funding from the GEF's Least Developed Countries Fund. Farmers in communities that have struggled to access fresh water have received drip irrigation kits and retention tanks that collect and hold rainwater. Farmers, almost half of them women, have been trained to set up, operate and maintain the equipment so that they will be able to earn higher crop yields and enjoy an overall improvement in food security.

In **Lao PDR**, improving the resilience of the agricultural sector to climate impacts is the focus of a project of the Government and UNDP, supported by the GEF's Least Developed Countries Fund. This project aims to reduce vulnerabilities to climate change by promoting community-based adaptive agricultural practices and off-farm income generation activities that are especially beneficial for women. Three provinces, five districts and over 30,000 households are benefiting from best practices that also serve to reduce the gender gap and ensure that livelihoods and economic opportunities are resilient to climate change.

The Programme on Climate Information for Resilient Development in Africa (CIRDA) is enabling vulnerable countries in **Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Liberia, Malawi, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda** and **Zambia** to strengthen national climate information systems, to benefit from regional

coordination, and to draw upon a platform of knowledge management. With support from the GEF's Least Developed Countries Fund, CIRDA coordinates among different stakeholders' needs and capacities in collecting, generating, analysing and disseminating relevant climate information. It also provides capacity building on risk identification and early warning systems and the use of alternative cost-effective technologies.

With support from the Green Climate Fund, UNDP will be further working to strengthen climate resilience and support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. In the **Maldives**, for example, with \$23.6 million in GCF financing, UNDP will support vulnerable communities to manage water shortages induced by climate change. Some 100,000 people are expected to benefit from clean drinking water in the dry season, strengthening resilience and also contributing to action under Goal 6 for clean water and sanitation.

Integrating climate change into national development policies and programmes

The Government of **Viet Nam** is formulating and incorporating climate change policy and action plans into relevant national programmes and policies with support from UNDP. For example, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment has carried out a first-time national capacity needs assessment for climate change. UNDP provides technical support to the Ministry to prepare action plans and develop technical guidelines on, for example, a provincial-level assessment of climate change vulnerabilities and appropriate adaptation measures and a target plan for implementation and management. As a result, Viet Nam has a governance and policy framework to facilitate improved climate action and identify opportunities for its mainstreaming.

In **Ghana**, UNDP is working with the Ghanaian Ministry of Health, the GEF and the World Bank to combat the emergence of climate-sensitive diseases, thus approaching the challenges of Goal 3 on health in tandem with climate change and achieving specific targets of Goal 13. This is achieved through planning and strategy support in the health sector and aims to improve capacity to monitor outbreaks of malaria, diarrhoea and meningitis. Awareness of the health risks that climate change poses has been mainstreamed into decision making at local and national health policy levels.



Improving education, awareness-raising and capacity on climate change

UNDP’s work to mitigate climate change and reduce carbon emissions covers sustainable energy investments and efforts to reduce forest-related emissions and enhance terrestrial carbon sinks. A key element of achieving this includes bolstering national regulatory and institutional capacities to promote access for all to renewable energy and energy efficient technologies, while working through REDD+ to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, and to improve natural environments that absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

UNDP support to the Government of **Uruguay** has strengthened its capacity to enable them to install a policy framework for independent power producers in the wind energy sector. This legislation has reduced the market risks surrounding potential investment and 340 MW of wind farms are now operational, with a total of 1 GW in output

anticipated by the end of 2015. This GEF-funded support has helped build a policy framework that attracts private sector investments to the wind energy sector. As a result, the risks surrounding potential investment in low-emission energy have been substantially reduced and retail tariffs for consumers have been lowered, enabling a long-term low-carbon energy pathway for Uruguay.

In **Pakistan**, UNDP and the GEF have supported the scale up of energy-efficient cooking, heating and housing technologies, including household education and capacity to understand sustainable fuel use and practices. As a result, fuel wood consumption has fallen by more than 50 percent in concerned households, freeing up valuable disposable income, improving indoor air quality and allowing women and children to spend more time on productive activities, such as education. In total, 64 kilotons of fuel wood have been saved and approximately 118,000 tons of CO₂ emissions avoided, as well as directly supporting the health and education of women.





In the **Congo Basin**, UNDP is supporting countries to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation through the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI), a partnership among donors (European Union, Germany, Norway, France and the United Kingdom) and Central African partner countries (including the **Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of Cameroon, Republic of Congo, Republic of Equatorial Guinea and Republic of Gabon**). The objective of this initiative is to implement measures that recognize and preserve the value of the forests in the region, to mitigate climate change and to reduce poverty. The focus is on implementation of country-led, national-scale REDD+ and low-emission development (LED) investment frameworks that include policy reforms and measures to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and to promote sustainable development.

UNDP's future work on mitigation will help partners achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement as well as build capacity and institutional tools that will deliver on Goal 13. A key area will be UNDP's support to countries on Nationally Determined Contributions. Ahead of the Paris climate conference, approximately 130 countries and 1,000 national representatives participated in dialogues organized by UNDP and the UNFCCC to support preparation of Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs); in addition, UNDP provided direct support to 43 countries to prepare and submit these climate pledges. As countries transition from INDCs to NDCs, as outlined in the Paris Agreement, UNDP will continue to provide countries with a platform for discussion; support direct policy and programme interventions on the technical and institutional infrastructure required at the national level to support implementation; and help countries to integrate NDCs in overall development policy and programming.

Accessing and implementing climate finance

UNDP is providing extensive support to countries to facilitate access to new and additional climate finance, a key element of both the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda. This includes from bilateral sources and multilateral "vertical" funds such as the GEF-managed sources (i.e. GEF Trust Fund, Least Developed Countries Fund and Special Climate Change Fund) as well as the Adaptation Fund and Green Climate Fund. It also includes support to mobilize private finance from private sector actors for climate change adaptation and mitigation, which will be essential in achieving the finance-related targets of Goal 13.

One example of UNDP's contribution to climate finance has been in the energy sector. The last 10 years have seen the development of an innovative De-risking of Renewable Energy Investment (DREI) framework, which assists countries in cost-effectively promoting investment in renewable energy by building capacity to put in place policies and frameworks that enable private sector investment. As part of DREI development, case study analyses were performed in projects funded by the GEF in **Kenya, Mongolia, Panama and South Africa**, emphasizing wind energy. As the approach demonstrated how public interventions could reduce risk, lower financing costs and make renewable energy more affordable, it was replicated through pilot initiatives in **Kazakhstan, Nigeria and Tunisia**.

UNDP's support in conducting Climate Public Expenditures and Institutional Reviews (CPEIRs) in Asia and the Pacific (e.g. **Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal, Philippines, Samoa, Thailand and Viet Nam**) demonstrates the value of analysing climate-related policies and policy-making



processes across a range of institutions and the importance of translating policy objectives into budget allocations and expenditures. The reviews focus on three pillars of analysis: policies, institutions and budgets. Through CPEIRs exercises, countries have come to recognize that many activities which directly and indirectly address climate change adaptation and mitigation are already included in national budgets, but they are rarely explicitly referenced or categorized as such. Linking the three pillars provides a better understanding of whether governments are addressing climate change in their national development agenda and if they are creating the right linkages to sectoral policies. This is key to mobilization, management, and targeting of resources earmarked towards a climate change response and ensuring that development finance and national budgets can deliver effective climate and development outcomes.

UNDP is supporting climate finance readiness activities in nine countries: **Benin, Colombia, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Kenya, Nepal, the Philippines** and **Uzbekistan**. The programme is a joint effort with the German Government

in partnership with the World Resources Institute and UNEP. It is country-specific readiness plans that are crafted according to the specific climate change policies, plans and priorities of target countries. In line with the Green Climate Fund mandate to encourage country-owned processes, the readiness plans are developed with the full cooperation of relevant stakeholders in each country, including the private, financial and civil society sectors.

In addition, UNDP is a delivery partner for GCF readiness activities in eight countries: **Bangladesh, Central African Republic, Congo Brazzaville, Guinea, India, Liberia, Swaziland** and **Timor Leste**. Some of the key activities to be supported by the GCF Readiness and Preparatory Support Programme are establishing and strengthening national designated authorities or focal points; developing strategic frameworks, including disseminating information and engaging stakeholders in the development of a GCF country programme; supporting accreditation and accredited direct access entities; and assisting with the formulation of national adaptation plans.



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2. Shock Waves: Managing the Impacts of Climate Change on Poverty.
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7. United Nations, 2011. Report of the Secretary-General's High-level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing.

Photo credits:

Page 5: Flood victims rush towards a military rescue boat in Makalanga, Malawi. Photo: © Freya Morales - UNDP Malawi

Page 6: Flood refugees like this young child take shelter at the Sekeni II Camp in Southern Malawi. Photo: © Freya Morales / UNDP Malawi

Page 8: The Amal Education Institute in Lebanon was selected as a pilot site to build a photovoltaic plant through the EU-funded project MED-SOLAR. Photo: UNDP Lebanon

Page 10: Releasing a weather balloon at a meteorological station in Uganda. Photo: © Andrea Egan / UNDP Uganda

Page 12: Planting more stress-resistant crop varieties in Sudan, through the Canada-UNDP Climate Change Adaptation Facility. Photo: UNDP Sudan

Page 13: Monitoring water levels in the Vrbas River Basin as part of flood management. Photo: © Andrea Egan / UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina

Page 14: Schoolchildren in Croatia plant seeds for sunflowers that, while growing, will track the sun like solar panel arrays. Photo: UNDP Croatia





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United Nations Development Programme
One United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017
www.undp.org