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Message from Resident Representative (a.i.)

2018 marked the first implementation year of our new country programme (2018-2022) and we continued to work closely with our national partners to promote the achievement of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) in Ghana.

The year was also remarkable, as it witnessed preparations for the implementation of the new UN reform to delink the UN Resident Coordinator’s function from the UNDP Resident Representative. Despite the challenge of having to manage the transition process with our mandate, we remained committed to serving our partners and the communities in which we work.

With support from our donor partners, we delivered about $6,308,522 on our programme activities.

Our activities were inspired by the UNDP’s six ‘Signature Solutions’, which aim to achieve real impact on poverty, governance, energy, gender, resilience, and the environment. In line with the mandate of the UN delivering as one, UNDP worked within the framework of the UN Country Team’s development programme; the UN Sustainable Development Partnership (UNSDP), signed with the Government of Ghana and which is in line with the country’s development priorities. We focused on providing technical support to our national partners and on strengthening institutional capacities to address issues of governance including peacebuilding, corruption, health; and the environment. In terms of data for policy decision making, UNDP launched the Northern Ghana Human Development Report, which explored development challenges and opportunities in Northern Ghana and offered suggestions for poverty eradication in the zone.

At the community level, together with our national partners and with support from our donor partners, we worked with local communities by strengthening capacity for the conservation of natural resources through reforestation programmes. We also centred our programme activities on livelihood improvements, working with local partners to support over 50 communities in Northern Ghana to diversify their livelihoods through agro-processing, fish farming, dry season gardening, beekeeping, tree nurseries, providing over 50 boreholes and rehabilitating 10 dams. All these efforts aim to support the communities to become resilient to climate change impacts.

Internally, in line with the vision of the UNDP’s Administrator, Achim Steiner, to build the “next generation UNDP”, to make the organization more agile, innovative and enterprising, we remain a learning organization to offer excellent services to our sister agencies within the UN System in Ghana and to deliver values to all our partners.
1. UNDP in Ghana

Globally, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) works in about 170 countries and territories, focusing on poverty eradication, and reduction of inequalities and exclusion.

Anchored in the 2030 Agenda, and committed to the principles of universality and equity, UNDP’s vision for its 2018-2021 Strategic Plan is to help countries eradicate poverty in all its forms, accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development, and build resilience to crises and shocks.


The UNSDP is underpinned by the Government of Ghana’s Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies (CPESDP) for 2017-2024, which seeks to accelerate development in the country.

Specifically, UNDP Ghana’s programme for 2018-2022 has two pillars:

- Inclusive, Equitable and Accountable Governance
- Green, Equitable and Resilient Development
1.1 Programme Outlook

Our two programme areas are being driven by three clusters:
2. 2018 Programme Results

2.1 Environment and Climate Action

2.1.1 Climate Change & Green Economy

UNDP, with funding from the Adaptation Fund, is working with the Government of Ghana to support communities in Northern Ghana to reduce the impact of climate change on surface and groundwater sources and on their livelihoods.

- Water management and investment plans for the Black Volta and Oti river basins developed.
- About 100 members (65% male, 35% female) of Basin Boards and Sub-Catchment Committees for these rivers trained on water resource management.
- About 115 stakeholders including traditional leaders, women and youth groups, civil society organizations and other community-based organizations sensitised to improve water resources management.
- 18,000 trees seedlings planted in 15 communities (37.1 acres), to create buffer zones around watersheds to reduce siltation and help improve water supply throughout the year.
- Fifty flood-resilient boreholes drilled, providing access to clean water to about 15,000 people.
- Livelihoods diversification activities started in 50 communities (agro-processing, fish farming, dry season gardening, beekeeping and tree nurseries), directly benefiting 5,407 people (60% women) and 103,834 people indirectly.
Building Community Resilience through Early Warning

200m dam constructed in Akatsi-Torve, resulting in improved availability of water for agricultural and domestic use for about 5,000 low-income residents. This is also leading to reduced flood risk during rainy season.

Supported the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) to improve its disaster response capacities, to issue significant lead-time early warning information on floods and drought.

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Support Programme is facilitating Ghana’s climate action efforts with institutional/capacity strengthening.

- 40 business leaders and policy advisors trained to develop bankable products on climate action towards low carbon development

- Comprehensive practice guidance drafted for integrating climate change considerations into industrial sector environmental reporting as part of Ghana’s Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

- Capacities of 60 (80% male, 20% female) technical officers of Environmental Protection Agency built to incorporate climate indicators into industrial sector environmental reporting as part of the EIA process.

- An in-depth gender analysis developed to inform the integration of gender considerations in NDC planning and implementation processes.
Partnership for Action on Green Economy

Contribute to develop tools and build the technical capacities of key stakeholders to effectively mainstream climate change, green economy and the SDGs into development plans of decentralized government institutions.

149 Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) representatives (18 females and 131 males) capacitated and this led to the incorporation of climate change and green economy related SDGs in medium term development plans of the MMDA.

60 Journalists (25 females, 35 males) trained to effectively report on climate change and SDGs and hold duty bearers accountable.
2.1.2 Forestry and REDD+

Promoting Sustainable Cocoa Production Practices

With support from Mondelez Cocoa Life Program, UNDP in partnership with the Ghana Cocoa Board, is helping cocoa farmers in 560 communities across 5 regions of Ghana (Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Central, Eastern & Western); to adopt environmentally sustainable and climate change resilient cocoa production practices, and to conserve ecosystems and natural resources in cocoa landscapes.

About 1,500 (55% female) trainers trained on environmentally sustainable cocoa production practices. Knowledge impacted to farmers–resulting in much improved management of the ecosystem of cocoa landscapes.

Over 27,000 farmers (40% female) trained on sustainable practices – This is leading to the creation of buffer zones around water bodies on farms to prevent pollution, and best practices resulting in increased crop yields and improved livelihoods.

Nearly 276,000 economic trees comprising of 3 species (Mahogany, Ofram & Emire) planted by about 12,000 farmers in 290 communities. Landscapes regaining their vegetative and tree cover, providing farms with better shade that is resulting in higher cocoa yields, creation of habitats for wildlife, and protection of water bodies.

43 Field District Enumerators trained to assist eligible farmers to register their trees, using a database management platform (web and mobile app). The tree registration is helping farmers to secure proof of ownership and this is expected to encourage them to plant more trees in their farms to improve the country’s forest cover.

Community Resource Management Centres (CREMAs) empowered through trainings, community and policy dialogues (having about 500 stakeholders), resulting in a more effective landscape management practice.
**Agreement between Ghana and Ecuador on Forestry Development**

UNDP facilitated a South-South Knowledge Exchange between the Governments of Ghana and Ecuador, leading to the signing of an Aide Memoire (agreement), where the two countries expressed interest to cooperate on environmental protection, with focus on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+).

**Ghana Shea Landscape REDD+ Project**

To support the implementation of Ghana’s ambitious climate agenda, UNDP, in partnership with the Forestry Commission, developed a project proposal for the “Ghana Shea Landscape REDD+ Project” and this was submitted to the Green Climate Fund for review and approval. This is a USD 109 million project that seeks to address the most compelling deforestation and forest degradation challenges in Northern Ghana, whilst promoting investments in the shea value chain and women’s empowerment.

The proposed financial model seeks to leverage vertical funds (USD 30 million) and government funding (USD 15 million) to de-risk and mobilize impact investments from the private sector. Thanks to a collaboration with the Global Shea Alliance, UNDP has mobilized USD 64 million as co-financing from private companies.
2.1.3 Sustainable Energy

Promoting China-Ghana South-South Cooperation on Renewable Energy Technology Transfer

Facilitating transfer and diffusion of renewable energy (RE) technologies from China to Ghana to increase access to and use of RE technologies in Ghana.

Mini-hydro being completed in Tsatsadu; & facilitating development of solar PV industry.

Sustainable business models for biogas, mini-hydro, solar for irrigation and institutional cookstoves developed to attract private sector investment.

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2.2.4 Waste and Chemical Management

Multi-Stakeholder Platform for Waste Recovery Exchange and Solutions
- Co-designing a digitally enabled ‘waste’ resource platform to connect key stakeholders with data and technological solutions to promote waste recovery in a larger circular economy context. This is expected to provide a lasting solution to Ghana’s waste challenges, while creating opportunities for economic development (particularly investments and jobs).

Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from the Health Sector in Ghana
- Worked with national partners to install 5 autoclaves in 3 health care facilities (Cape Coast Teaching Hospital and Eastern Regional Hospital-2 each, and Tegbi Health Center-1), to improve healthcare waste management.
- 350 health care staff trained and a modular course for health care waste management established at the Accra School of Hygiene, contributing to national capacity building to implement best techniques towards the elimination of emission of Unintended Persistent Organic Pollutants, in line with the Stockholm Convention.

Development of Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) for Ghana
- Minamata Initial Assessment Report (MIA) developed, providing information on mercury use and sources, populations at risk and a roadmap for mainstreaming the Minamata Convention.
- Awareness on mercury risks in Ghana at public fora.

Institutional Strengthening on Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS)
- Supported Government Partners to sensitize 10 second cycle schools on best practices in the use of refrigeration appliances and the importance of the Montreal Protocol. About 1,166 students (Male 623; Female 543) in Central, Eastern and Ashanti regions of Ghana sensitized and social media campaign also reached about 6 million people.
- 269 refrigeration operators from 16 towns in the Ashanti and Western regions of Ghana trained, increasing knowledge on best practices and technologies in refrigeration.

Hydro chlorofluorocarbon (HCFCs) Phase-out Management Plan for Ghana
- Established 2 Centres of Excellence in Takoradi and Kumasi (in addition to the one established in Accra) to provide training on use and handling of hydrocarbon refrigerants.
- 400 refrigeration technicians trained on best techniques in refrigeration. The 11 centres trained converted 870 units of ACs to run on HC 290, recovering 1,584.62kg of non-compliant gases, contributing to national efforts to phase out the use of HCFCs in line with the Montreal Protocol.
2018 Programme Results

2.2 Governance & Inclusive Growth Programme

Responsible, Accountable and Peaceful Governance for All

Ghana’s 2018 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) score of 41/100 represents an improvement by one point from its 40/100 2017 score. This progress stops the continuous decline since 2014 and maybe the result of several policies and initiatives implemented during the period. Government’s initiative of establishing the Cabinet Committee on Forensic Audits and Investigations, supported by UNDP, could also be a contributing factor to this result. The committee enhanced coordination of all investigations and forensic audits in Ghana’s public sector which resulted in the completion of 20 high profile investigations currently under consideration for prosecution.

Similarly, citizen’s level of trust in public institutions, particularly in Parliament, Courts of Law, Electoral Commission (EC), Local Government Body, and Army increased over the period except for the Police.
2.2.1 Supporting Electoral Process/Reforms

Key stakeholders identified priority institutional and electoral reforms needed to promote consensus and restore public and political parties’ confidence in the legitimacy and neutrality of Ghana’s Electoral Commission (EC).

The reforms were identified at a fact-finding mission carried out by UNDP in partnership with the UN Country Team (UNCT) and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) to ascertain the level of confidence in the electoral process and responsible institutions.

The UN was encouraged by stakeholders to resume its convening role with periodic engagements to raise visibility on the need for continued early warning vigilance to avoid complacency.

The Bill to amend article 55(3) and 243 of the 1992 Constitution was drafted in 2018 by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD). This bill, if passed by a referendum in 2019, will allow Political Parties to participate in local level elections by sponsoring candidates to stand for any local level election. UNDP provided technical support to the MLGRD to prepare the Bill to amend the entrenched provision of article 55(3) of the 1992 constitution which has since been gazette awaiting the expiration of the 6 months mandatory period.

2.2.2 HIV, Health and Development

National medicines policy to improve policy coherence for access to health technologies was launched and disseminated, providing the needed framework to improve access to health technologies in Ghana.

Similarly, the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice’s (CHRAJ) manual on reducing HIV related stigma and discrimination was revised and this is being converted into an e-learning manual.
Also, a stigma-free environment in Ghana’s HIV response was promoted by 18 Traditional authorities (11 chiefs/7 queen mothers) and 35 health media reporters (20 females/15 males), whose capacity was strengthened to contribute to reducing HIV related stigma and discrimination in their communities in Greater Accra Region.

Furthermore, a platform was created to discuss and build consensus on the provisions of National HIV and AIDS Policy and the Legislative Instrument of the GAC Act 2016, Act 93, which looks at the governance of HIV response, stigma reduction, and sustainable financing for HIV.

Dissemination of anti-stigma strategy and key anti-stigma provisions of the GAC Act led to increased buy-in for effective implementation of the strategy and improved understanding of the key policy provisions for reducing HIV related stigma and discrimination in Ghana.

### 2.2.3 Conflict Prevention & Social Cohesion

![Image](image1.jpg)

**Improving Response Capacities to Terrorism in Peacekeeping Theatres in Africa**

Improved the knowledge and skills of 62 training officers including 10 female Police/Troop training officers from 8 African countries (Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo) on terrorism scenarios and strategies to handle different situations. Training manual is being developed for strengthening peacekeepers’ capacity gaps to fight.

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### 2.2.4 Representation & Participation

![Image](image2.jpg)

**Promoting Peace**

75 women and youth (35 females & 40 males), following training facilitated by UNDP and European Union (EU), actively promoted peace in the Northern region communities of Bimbilla and Bunkpurugu where longstanding chieftaincy disputes have led to the loss of many lives.

Provided technical support in the drafting of Ghana’s affirmative action bill which is meant to increase women’s participation in decision making. The protracted review and approval process for this legislation saw some progress as the bill is expected to be transmitted to Parliament for adoption after cabinet approval.
2.2.5 Providing Policy Support for Inclusive Growth

Northern Ghana Human Development Report
Launched a Human Development Report on Northern Ghana entitled "Bridging the Poverty Gap and Fostering Socio-Economic Transformation for All". The report explores development challenges and opportunities in Northern Ghana and offers suggestions for poverty eradication in the zone.

Institutional Capacity Strengthening
Technical capacity of the newly established Ministry of Planning strengthened to lead the preparation process of the Coordinated Program of Economic and Social Development Policies (CPESDP).

Also provided guidance for the formulation and implementation of sectoral and sub-national development plans; ensuring the mainstreaming of SDGs and the African Agenda 2063 in national development processes.

Similarly, supported the Northern Development Authority (NDA) to develop a comprehensive M&E framework and M&E Plan to track progress and performance of the implementation of its four-year medium-term development plan (2018-2021) as well as its 25-year master/regional concept plan.

Ghana Living Standard Survey (GLSS) and the Multiple Cluster Indicator Survey (MICS)
In collaboration with other Development Partners (DPs), UNDP supported the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) to produce two important datasets, the Ghana Living Standard Survey (GLSS) and the Multiple Cluster Indicator Survey (MICS).

Mining Vision and Related Policies
Minerals Commission of Ghana was strengthened to adopt and localize the Africa Mining Vision (AMV) through the preparation of a Country Mining Vision (CMV). A Ghana CMV Strategic Plan has been developed to fully enhance the contributions of the extractive sector to the national economy.

SDGs Baseline Indicator Report
Provided technical and financial support for the development of the first SDGs report for Ghana, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Indicator Baseline report. The report provides baseline status for a set of SDGs indicators and serves as a reference point for tracking progress on the achievement of the SDGs and Africa Union’s Agenda 2063.

2.2.6 SDGs Advocacy / Outreach

SDGs Summits
UNDP provided technical support and advocated for the SDGs at various summits in 2018 including the 2nd African Youth SDGs Summit, Young Diplomats of Ghana Opening Forum, Accra Youth Summit and Social Good Summit.

These platforms were seized to reach over 5000 youth with SDGs sensitization messages, particularly urging them to develop innovative solutions to help address social, environmental and economic challenges, towards the achievement of the global goals.
SDGs School Outreach
Over 10,000 students were sensitized and encouraged to take actions on the SDGs, during outreach events. The outreach involved about 25 schools in Eastern, Greater Accra and the Northern regions of Ghana, covering Junior High, Senior High and Tertiary institutions students.

Some of the sensitization sessions were done within a joint UN4U outreach activities organized by the United Nations Communications Group (UNCG), in collaboration with Young Visionary Leaders Ghana (YVLG), a non-governmental organization (NGO) and the Ghana Education Service (GES) in Accra. The UN4U outreach has been adopted by the UNCG as one of its core advocacy events to reach out to the youth and share knowledge about the work of the UN, the SDGs and other global and national development priorities. The sensitization platforms were used to encourage the youth to explore opportunities to make meaningful impact in societies.

2.3 Communicating Programme Results

Communications materials (available online) such as factsheets, brochures, videos, newsletters, press releases, success stories, articles and social media messaging, were developed and disseminated on programme activities, to showcase the impacts of the supports received from our partners for various programmes and initiatives.

Averagely, in 2018, information being shared on programme results and activities was reaching over 10million audience monthly via traditional and social media.
3. Partnerships

3.1 Partnership with Government / National Partners
3.2 Partnership with Multilateral / Bilateral Institutions
3.3 Partnership within the UN
4. Resources

In 2018, the Ghana Country Office delivered an amount of $6,308,522 on its programmes. The breakdown is as follows:

4.1 Fund Contributors in 2018

Of the total programme delivery, UNDP core resource was about $1,340,037. Other funding sources is presented below:
5. Our Team

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