## Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Status, partner engagement and transparency</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection Process for 2016 Allocations</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Allocations</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication (SDPE)</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance for Inclusive and Peaceful Societies (GIPS)</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR)</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Development Response to Crisis and Recovery (EDRCR)</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
UNDP has over a decade of managing pooled funds, and in 2016, launched the Funding Windows as an improved version of the thematic trust funds. The Funding Windows are designed to be a pooled, flexible mechanism through which partners can support countries to simultaneously achieve the eradication of poverty and the significant reduction in exclusion and inequalities. The Windows allow the alignment of resources with UNDP Strategic Plan outcomes and provides enhanced transparency and visibility for donors.

The Funding Windows also respond to Member State requests in the UN General Assembly and UNDP Executive Board for more predictable, flexible and adequate funding for development. Pooling funds gives UNDP greater flexibility to respond to country needs more effectively and in an integrated manner. Pooling funds also can amplify delivery and results for donors who can see greater impact for their contributions with reduced transaction costs.

The Windows allow UNDP and partners to align around common goals. Partners can contribute directly to supporting country-level efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, especially those related to poverty, inequality, sustainability, peace and justice, and strong institutions. The Windows are organized around four themes, as follows: 1) Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication; 2) Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction; 3) Governance for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies; 4) Emergency Development Response to Crisis and Recovery.

The Windows will promote resilience and support development that is risk-informed. There is a 15% requirement for funds to be used for gender-specific activities to ensure a fully mainstreamed and integrated approach to empower women and promote gender equality.

Initiatives supported by the Windows are vetted for quality, including adherence to corporate quality standards, which include strong results frameworks, social and environmental standards and gender mainstreaming. The quality assurance system is an integral part of UNDP’s overall risk management approach to programming and is underpinned by a rigorous Stakeholder Response Mechanism and a Compliance Review process.

UNDP will also take advantage of a strong pipeline and efficient allocation process to support immediate implementation upon receipt of funds.
Benefits of the Funding Windows

- Reduced transaction costs for partners and UNDP with a lower number of single-donor projects and associated management and reporting requirements.
- Alignment with development effectiveness principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, results and mutual accountability.
- Alignment of resources to critical country, regional and global needs.
- Strategic engagement with partners leading to better targeting, results and learning.
- Support coherence at country level complementing the impact of other UN funding instruments and contributing to enhance joint programming.
- Expanding the donor base to support the implementation of UNDP’s Strategic Plan, including from the private sector, foundations, and new emerging donors, in addition to UNDP’s current partners.
- Ability to adjust and respond to emerging issues, including migration and forced displacement, violent extremism, etc.
- Integrated approach that is tailored to local contexts and attuned to larger development trends.

Funding Status

In 2016, a total of $36.8m was received from 8 government partners (United Kingdom, Norway, Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden and Slovakia) (see graph 1). Six of these also committed $19.0m in future funding: $12.9m for 2017 and $6.2m for 2018. Contributions at the sub-window level for 2016, 2017 and 2018 are presented in graphs 3, 4 and 5 below. Of $36.6m received, $5.9m (16%) was un-earmarked; $10m (27%) was softly earmarked at sub-window level; $20.8m (57%) from a single contributor was exceptionally earmarked to projects. No contributions were earmarked at regional or country levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Contribution (US$ mil)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROK</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>20.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graph 1 - 2016 contribution per donor ($ mil)
Based on the agreements signed with governments, the contributions were distributed among the 4 funding windows as follows (see also graph 2):

1. Governance for Inclusive and Peaceful Societies (GiPS): 36.4% ($13.4m from 6 MS, including $2.7m hard earmarked);

2. Emergency Development Response for Crises and Recovery (EDRCR): 9.2% ($3.4m from 3 MS);

3. Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR): 51.5% ($18.9m from 2 MS, including $18.6M hard earmarked);

4. Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication (SDPE): 3% ($1.1m from 1 MS)

Graph 2 – Contribution by Funding Windows ($ mil)
*Germany’s contributions to FW2: GIPS (CP sub-window) and FW3: CCDRR (CC sub-window) are hard earmarked contributions at project level*

A target of minimum $50m has been set for 2017 for all windows, including $12.8m secured via multi-year commitments from 6 government partners in 2016 (see graph 4). As of March 2017 funding pledged for 2018 amounts to $6.1m from 4 government partners.
Partner Engagement and Visibility

All contributing partners to the Funding Windows will be recognized and acknowledged in UNDP’s annual reports, external website, Funding Windows on-line portal, and other communications and publications related to the Funding Windows.

UNDP Country Offices that receive allocations from the Funding Windows will also acknowledge and highlight partners’ contributions to country-level initiatives during related programmatic events and publications.

All contributing partners have been invited to nominate representatives to the Funding Windows Advisory Group, the key mechanism for ensuring active and substantive engagement with donors and key stakeholders. The Terms of Reference reflect contributors’ perspective on the functions and operations of the Advisory Group.

Advisory Group members will collectively monitor their support to the Funding Windows and advise UNDP, review progress towards expected results, contribution to the UNDP Strategic Plan and support to the achievement of the SDGs, and lessons learned through the implementation of activities supported at country level.

To ensure an inclusive approach to the participation of all contributing partners and relevant stakeholders in all sessions of the Advisory Group, the annual meetings will consist of a plenary session, followed by thematic sessions focused on each Funding Window. Advisory Group meetings will discuss:

- Strategic direction of the FWs;
- Overall progress, including results achieved against delivery;
- Review risks, lessons learned, evaluations, and provide recommendation;
- Funding levels in relation to resource needs and spending, as well as funding strategies;
- Visibility efforts for the FWs.
Transparency in reporting

Based on UNDP’s experience in managing the Multi Partner Trust Fund and its on-line reporting through the Gateway platform, the UNDP FW Portal is now operational. The Portal is a tool available to the general public from www.undp.org, and will provide donors with enhanced visibility, transparency and access to information on the FWs’ activities, allocations, expenditures and results.

UNDP will draw from results reported at country, regional, and global levels, as well as from projects and programmes around the world to provide a comprehensive picture of how funding contributes to the achievement of development results. Donors will receive an Annual Report for each FW, including an overview of donors, programmatic results, lessons learned and challenges, and a financial breakdown of contributions, allocations and expenditures. Light quarterly updates with project highlights will be provided. UNDP will also issue an annual certified financial statement per donor as of 31 December every year, in June of the following year. The report will provide the consolidated amount received per donor for each window, and the total expenditure per window.
Selection Process for 2016 Allocations

The UNDP Funding Window Governance and Management Framework identifies the following roles within the organisation relevant to the allocation process:

The Executive Group (EG) sets the strategic priorities and focus for the Funding Windows each year, including review of the status and performance of the Funding Windows and resource mobilization targets and also the identification of priority investment areas and gaps for catalytic activities to deliver on the Strategic Plan.

The Organisational Performance Group (OPG) is responsible for agreeing on allocation criteria and approving the priority pipeline for resource allocation. It is also responsible for reviewing the Funding Windows performance.

Regional Bureaus serve as the focal point for engagement with Country Offices and support the Country Offices in project pipeline preparation and propose prioritization to the Fund Manager for consideration by the OPG.

Roles and Responsibilities
Setting the Priorities

UNDP’s Executive Group (EG) provided the overall strategic guidance and priorities for the use of the funds in line with the objectives of the Strategic Plan. This direction guided the determination of the specific projects where allocation of funding will have the greatest impact depending on country-level needs, demands and gaps.

UNDP had initially set an internal target of $5m per window as a minimum level of capitalization before allocations were to be made and in order to demonstrate impact and visibility. However, it was later decided to begin allocations from all windows, even though only one had achieved the $5m target. When $10m had been received in total across the FWs, allocations were made to all of them to test the new internal processes. More importantly, it demonstrated to partners that their contributions were used effectively.

In late September 2016, the EG decided the direction for the initial allocation for the three Windows: Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication; Governance for Inclusive and Peaceful Societies; and Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction. The Emergency Development Response to Crisis and Recovery Window has separate allocation criteria and procedures, and a ‘fast-track’ approval procedure for releasing funds to sudden onset crises based on recommendations made during UNDP Crisis Board deliberations.

In line with the design of the Funding Windows, the Executive Group endorsed the following criteria for projects to:

- Target populations and communities that are most vulnerable;
- Demonstrate strong national ownership, in line with Country Programme Documents;
- Require catalytic support to deliver the Strategic Plan and can leverage additional resources;
- Ensure allocation of 15% gender-specific interventions (defined as use of GEN 3 in the Gender marker1); and
- Provide strategic and sizeable allocations to ensure impact and avoid spreading resources too thinly (i.e. allocations should be in the range of $200,000 - $500,000 per project).

The EG also considered that the initial allocations from the Windows could be directed toward both existing projects and mature new projects; projects that should be able to demonstrate results; and should be able to leverage additional partnerships and resources. Wherever appropriate, the preferred initiatives would also consider piloting of innovative approaches and promotion and utilization of South-South and Triangular cooperation as a complementary modality for delivering results across countries and achieving impact at scale.

In addition, the EG endorsed seven priority outputs from the UNDP Strategic Plan for this initial tranche of funding, detailed below.

Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication (SDPE)
1.3: Solutions developed at national and subnational levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste.
7.3: National development plans to address poverty and inequality are sustainable and risk resilient.

Governance for Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (GIPS)
2.1: Parliaments, constitution making bodies and electoral institutions enabled to perform core functions for improved accountability, participation, and representation, including for peaceful transitions.
2.2: Institutions and systems enabled to address awareness, prevention and enforcement of anti-corruption measures across sectors and stakeholders.
5.5: Policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms enabled at the national and sub-national levels for the peaceful management of emerging and recurring conflicts and tensions.

Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR)
1.4: Scaled up action on climate change adaptation and mitigation across sectors which is funded and implemented.
5.2: Effective institutional, legislative and policy frameworks in place to enhance the implementation of disaster and climate risk management measures at national and subnational levels.

1 The GEN 3 gender marker in Atlas is defined as the achievement of gender equality and/or women’s empowerment as explicit objectives of the project. GEN 2 projects have gender equality and/or women’s empowerment as a significant objective. GEN 1 projects have limited contributions to gender equality and women’s empowerment. GEN 0 projects have no contributions to gender equality or women’s empowerment.
Once the EG had set the strategic guidance, the Fund Manager and the Regional Bureaux engaged in a series of consultations to identify their priority submissions in line with the strategic outputs and criteria and to take into consideration the level of funding for each Window. Offices completed a short project summary that articulated how their proposed initiative met the set criteria and provided additional details used for analysis. When the consultations concluded, the Fund Manager proposed a set of projects to the OPG for consideration. The approved projects for each Window are discussed in greater detail in the following section.

The OPG approved allocations totaling approximately $10m to 38 projects in late November 2016. In addition, 2 emergency allocations were made from the EDRCR Funding Window for an overall total of 40 projects totaling $11m.

The average project size of the 2016 lot was $277,000 and focused on 6 Strategic Plan outputs. In this first round of allocations, 7 projects below the $200,000 threshold were included for two reasons: they would be used as seed funds to leverage more significant levels of resources; they would be commensurate with the absorptive capacity of the Country Office.

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Approximately 32% of the 2016-funded projects are existing and the remaining 68% were mature initiatives in the pipeline. The implementation period for the allocated funds is expected to be 12 months, although there is a provision for extension on an exceptional basis.

15% of the projects have gender equality as a principle objective (GEN3), totaling $1.8m out of the $11m envelope, achieving the target. An important lesson from the initial round has been the need to help mainstream gender into projects during the design phase to allow more gender-focused projects to be submitted for funding.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender Marker</th>
<th># of projects</th>
<th>% of projects</th>
<th>% of Overall FW Resources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEN 3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEN 2</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEN 1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The six funded SP Outputs are: SDPE: 7.3; GIPS: 2.1; 2.2; 5.5; CC/DRR: 5.2; EDRCR: 6.1.
Despite significant progress in reducing poverty since 1990, poverty levels remain unacceptable. In 2015 there were an estimated 700 million people—nearly 10% of the world’s population—living in extreme poverty.

To respond to these challenges, UNDP has created the Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication Funding Window to support its work in this important area.
The 2030 Agenda provides an unparalleled opportunity to address the persistent challenges of poverty and environmental degradation. Despite significant progress in reducing poverty since 1990, levels remain unacceptable. In 2015, there were an estimated 700 million people – nearly 10% of the world’s population – living in extreme poverty. Over half of those living in poverty reside in cities, and this proportion is expected to increase steadily in the coming decades. Income gaps, coupled with insecure livelihoods and unreliable services, increase the prospect of people falling below poverty lines and into poverty traps. Employment growth is lagging behind population growth, expected to reach 9.7 billion by 2050, and gender gaps in employment and wages remain.

In addition, the livelihoods of 70% of the world’s women and men living in poverty depend on ecosystem goods and services and natural resources - poverty will only increase unless environmental degradation is curtailed. The combination of poverty, underemployment, unemployment, food insecurity and environmental degradation creates fertile ground for conflict, forced displacement and migration.

UNDP’s approach recognizes the complex nature of development and tailors integrated responses to different contexts to support countries to achieve sustainable development. These holistic solutions are socially inclusive, gender responsive, environmentally sustainable and economically durable. UNDP’s approach focuses on the rights of poor and vulnerable groups, including women to secure access to decent work, livelihoods, basic needs, including food, water, sanitation, and shelter, and to benefit from a healthy environment. There is a need to decouple development from environmental destruction and to take measures to protect and restore ecosystems to ensure they supply the ecosystem services that underpin development.

Within the SDPE Window, work aligns with the UNDG MAPS approach (Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support). An important component is the promotion of integrating the 2030 Agenda into national and subnational development plans and the strengthening of country capacities to produce data for SDG monitoring and reporting. It leverages investment and addresses bottlenecks to sustained progress.

This Funding Window has three sub-windows to advance inclusive, environmentally sustainable development: Development, Planning and Inclusive Sustainable Growth; Livelihoods and Jobs; and Environment and Natural Capital.

According to the desire expressed by donors and as outlined in the Funding Windows brochure, 9 out of the 40 projects (23%) were allocated to Least Development Countries (LDCs):

- Bangladesh
- Central African Republic
- Guinea-Bissau
- Haiti (2)
- Liberia
- Myanmar
- Niger
- Somalia
- Bangladesh
- Central African Republic
- Guinea-Bissau
- Haiti (2)
- Liberia
- Myanmar
- Niger
- Somalia
2016 Allocations SDPE

During the 2016 allocation process, this Window had the greatest unmet demand, in part because of the importance of the 2030 Agenda globally and the need to accelerate SDG implementation and support to national planning. Over $4m in proposals were submitted related to Strategic Plan output 7.3 on national planning. A total 6 projects were prioritized, totaling $1.13m.

Regional Bureaux had different ways that they prioritized their submissions to this Window. For example, the Regional Bureau for Africa focused on ‘at risk’ countries to give a boost to national development planning from an inequality and a risk resilience perspective using a peace and development planning nexus. Others, such as the Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean balanced the demand generated with the launch of the Regional Human Development Report to assist countries in developing road maps for SDG implementation. Jamaica was the first country that requested MAPS support whereas Argentina’s road map was advanced but lacked resources to push forward.

Argentina “Strategic Plan for Implementation and Monitoring of SDGs” - $200,000

The objective of the project is to support the implementation of an articulated package of planning and monitoring tools to address key sustainable development drivers. It will support awareness and dissemination within the government and civil society of the new global 2030 Agenda and the importance of reaching sustainable development that includes social, economic and environmental dimensions. It will also support the adaptation process of the new Agenda to the national priorities and coordinate the follow-up towards the goals. It also incorporates the 2030 Agenda at sub-national jurisdictions to be a consensual and effective tool contributing to sustainable development and social inclusion. The Window support helps develop a web platform and awareness materials on the SDGs and will support workshops throughout the country.

Azerbaijan “Supporting Localisation of SDGs and Alignment of National Development Plans to the SDGs” - $200,000

In October 2016, the National Coordination Council of Sustainable Development (NCCSD) was established and was a significant step towards integrating SDGs into national development strategies. The project was operationalized in early February 2017 and is designed to catalyse SDG nationalization by mainstreaming SDGs and localizing into the strategic roadmap; developing national statistic capacity to monitor SDG progress and strengthening governmental analytical capacity to undertake SDG research. The main activity currently underway is supporting the government of Azerbaijan in its preparation for 2017 High Level Political Forum.

As a result of the Funding Window support, UNDP is the only international organisation providing dedicated support to the government to embrace the 2030 Agenda. Given the nature of the SDGs – both as a set of global goals and as a process, the project should serve as a means for building a broader coalition of partners, both national and international, for longer-term cooperation and commitments towards 2030. The project serves as a platform for engaging other donors, including development banks and bilateral and multilateral donors – that are essential for building broader international support for the SDG process in Azerbaijan.
Guinea-Bissau “Local Governance and Economic Development Project” - $200,000

The Funding Windows contribution is integrated in a larger local economic development project and will be used to build capacities of local, regional and national state authorities for development planning coordination. This includes participatory and inclusive planning processes, identification of regional economic potentialities and value chains that offer investment opportunities and elaboration of regional development plans consistent with sector strategies and SDGs, focusing in two pilot regions (Gabu and Quinara), out of the 3 target in the overall project. Trainings will begin in March with the local planning structures (community councils) which include a required number of women, youth, elderly and people with special needs to ensure that their voices are heard and that all groups of the community are represented. The project also targets the most vulnerable communities; for example, Pitchi in Gabu region, is one of the most vulnerable to climate change in the form of desertification and selecting it also allows the project to leverage GEF-funded resources from a UNDP Climate Change Adaptation project and its existing community forum as well as to incorporate issues of natural resources management into the planning process.

Jamaica “Localizing SDGs: Global Goals, Local Action” - $150,000

Jamaica was one of the initial countries to have a dedicated SDG mainstreaming and acceleration support missions to work with the national authorities. This project will build awareness of the SDGs at the national, local and community levels, and develop a coherent coordination mechanism for SDG implementation highlighting institutional arrangements. It also includes capacity building support to improve data quality, analyses, estimation and imputation of information gaps for the production of the SDG indicators.

Mongolia “Preparatory Assistance for the Implementation of the SDGs 2030 Agenda in Mongolia” - $200,000

In early 2016, the government of Mongolia approved its new long-term Sustainable Development Vision (SDV) 2030, which is anchored in The 2030 Agenda. This has created a strong enabling environment for the project which has already taken many preparatory steps such as signing a MOU with Ulaanbaatar city. The MOU establishes a general framework of SDG-centred cooperation and creates space for joint project initiatives and co-financing. Approximately half of Mongolia’s population live in Ulaanbaatar. UNDP will support the city to translate the national SDV 2030 and global SDGs into its own 15-year city vision document and related plans. A data dashboard tool will be developed to help align these policies and resource allocation. Among the city’s priorities will be planning, data, bankable projects, and air pollution (for example, leveraging vertical funding).

Somalia “Capacity Development – Strengthening Institutional Performance” - $180,000

This project supports the capacity development of the Federal Government of Somalia. In particular, it aims to enhance the performance, efficiency and effectiveness of government institutions through gender-mainstreamed institutional capacity development combined with formulation and implementation of the SDG-focused National Development Plan (NDP). The NDP was developed in 2016 and is I-PRSP compliant and is anchored in the implementation of The 2030 Agenda.

The NDP was the first comprehensive long-term development planning effort in over two decades in Somalia, signaling that The 2030 Agenda can be taken forward in crisis and post-crisis settings. UNDP will continue to support the implementation of the Plan and the mainstreaming of SDGs through a broadly consultative and inclusive process. Given the varying stages of development across Somalia, ‘localisation’ of the SDGs will require region-specific approaches. While localization of the SDGs on the sub-national level is important in the effort to reach the overall goals, alignment on the national level is equally important. Therefore, support will be provided to the newly-established SDG unit within the Federal Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation.
In 2014 there were more than 400 politically driven conflicts, many with cross-border spillover effects. Some 30 countries are now dealing with impacts of violent extremism, and more than 60 million people are forcibly displaced, posing serious challenges in terms of social cohesion and service delivery.

UNDP’s work through the Governance for Inclusive and Peaceful Societies (GIPS) Funding Window will contribute to inclusive and effective democratic governance.
Despite important progress towards achieving the MDGs, inequalities are still growing in many countries and extreme poverty and different forms of violence remain a challenge. Violent conflicts are increasingly protracted and complex. There are currently hundreds of politically driven conflicts, many with cross-border spillover effects. Some 30 countries are now dealing with impacts of violent extremism, and more than 60 million people are forcibly displaced, posing serious challenges in terms of social cohesion and service delivery. The global cost of conflict – cautiously estimated at $817b per year – drains resources that otherwise could be invested to achieve and maintain development gains.

Hard-won development gains in countries and cities can easily be undone by sudden disruption or shocks. Fragility, conflict and violence can affect any country or society, and not just those experiencing, or emerging from, protracted warfare. Locally-confined tensions can easily become regionalized, complex and costly. While today 43% of the world’s poor people live in fragile states, that proportion is expected to grow to 62% by 2030. In number terms, more than 1.4 billion people are now living in areas affected by conflict, violence and fragility and by 2030, possibly 2 billion people could be.

Even as the number of formal democracies has increased over the last decades, in many, civic space is shrinking and there is a failure of the rule of law institutions to ensure justice and public security. Rising disillusionment with the responsiveness and inclusiveness of state institutions and processes generates new tensions and mistrust between governments and people. Prolonged transitions in many post-conflict situations are often due to weak political settlements which can lead to increased polarization and marginalization, which can then provide fertile space for radicalization or violent extremism.

In many countries, weak institutions and poor governance render communities and countries more vulnerable and unable to withstand shocks, hence also impeding progress on HIV, health and development more broadly. Though significant progress has been made in the global response to HIV, TB and malaria over the last 15 years, these diseases continue to take five million lives a year, concentrated among the poorest and most excluded populations.

Confronted with this steady rise in fragility, the UN Secretary-General and Member States have called for a stronger focus on conflict prevention, and for more comprehensive and predictable investments towards ‘sustaining peace.’ The 2030 development agenda confirms that sustainable development cannot be realized without building peaceful, just and inclusive societies with a strong focus on the rule of law, addressing violent, citizen security and corruption and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions.

In response to these challenges, UNDP has adopted an approach that features a stronger integration of governance, conflict prevention and support to inclusive and peaceful societies, aiming to build a more inclusive and resilient social contract between State and society. UNDP’s work on governance and support to peaceful and inclusive societies is guided by human rights-based, politically-informed and conflict sensitive thinking on how development occurs in a given context, analyzing the complex power dynamics that contribute to structural inequalities. This integrated approach will help to create the resilient institutions and inclusive social contract needed to sustain peace.
The activities supported by the GIPS Window will contribute to inclusive and effective democratic governance and promote conflict prevention and conflict management. These are essential to achieve SDG 16 on peaceful, just and inclusive societies, which provide the enabling governance environment to achieve the entire 2030 Agenda. Greater investments in governance and the promotion of human rights will also be at the heart of UNDP’s effort to address HIV and achieve universal health coverage.

There are 3 sub-windows as follows: Democratic Governance for Peace and Development; Conflict Prevention; and HIV, Health and Development.

At the time of the allocation decisions, in October 2016, the GIPS Window had received the most contributions, approximately $8.6m. Within the Conflict Prevention sub-window, 15 projects were prioritized linked to Strategic Plan output 5.5, which addresses traditional conflict prevention, as well as the social cohesion component of larger recovery programmes, totaling $4.65m. Within the Democratic Governance sub-window, 16 projects were prioritized totaling $3.97m and focused on Strategic Plan outputs related to anti-corruption (2.2) and elections/parliamentary support (2.1). Gender was well represented in this sub-window with 3 GEN3 projects and 12 GEN2 projects.

**2016 Allocations Overall GIPS**

**CAR “Support to the Recovery and Peace Consolidation Plan” as the foundation of CAR’s National Development Plan - $150,000**

CAR’s National Plan for Recovery and Peace Consolidation (RCPCA) outlines the needs and priorities for the coming 5 years, along 3 pillars: peace and security; renewed social contract between the State and its citizens; and promoting economic recovery and the revitalization of the productive sectors. Relevant to all 3 pillars is the vulnerability of youth to armed conflict and violent extremism, which appears to be increasing as a result of poor education, inequality, and limited livelihoods opportunities. This project aims to target ‘at risk’ youth – both male and female – with emergency employment opportunities and livelihoods support. It also aims to reach youth in ungoverned parts of the country and, in effect, reach parts of society that have remained disenfranchised from ongoing peacebuilding efforts. In addition to the expected employment opportunities would be the injection of cash into vulnerable communities and also the creation of the necessary entry points for broader work on social cohesion and psycho-social support.
Jordan “Inclusive Political Process in Jordan (IPPJ)” - $300,000

The IPPJ project focuses on strengthening the capacities and structures of the Independent Election Commission (IEC) and Jordanian Parliament to be effective and representative decision-making bodies that promote transparency, inclusion and participation in political processes. The GIPS funding is crucial to continuing the support and advice to the IEC to manage for the first time the Municipal and Governorate Councils election planned for mid-August 2017. It will also support the new parliament on the promotion and achievement of the SDGs through strengthening parliamentary oversight on the implementation of the SDG Agenda as well as reviewing and adopting legislation in line with SDG 16. UNDP is the lead for support on both these components so the GIPS funds allow UNDP in partnership with the national institutions to embark on a more significant resource mobilization drive.

Suriname “UN-wide Conflict-Related Activities in Suriname” - $150,000

In recent months, Suriname has seen a sharp deterioration of a persistent economic crisis, and this downturn has exposed the structural weaknesses of a small and fragile economy that is heavily dependent on natural resources exports. A Stand-by Agreement with the IMF provided resources to address the immediate financial gaps, but mixed results have been achieved in terms of long-term recovery. The economic crisis is closely connected to the political situation, and so far the centralization of power and political divisions have prevented a cohesive response to the ongoing economic decline. As a result, the recession has severely affected the Surinamese population and there is the potential for social unrest. This project includes 2 inter-linked components to support a system-wide response to the multi-dimension crisis: a roll-out of a scenario-based strategic thinking process (PAPEP) to create an analytical baseline, develop political scenarios and identify entry point; and build national capacities for peaceful resolution of conflict and democratic dialogue.

Tunisia “Strengthening Democratic Governance and Public Accountability in Tunisia” - $300,000

Within the framework of UNDP Tunisia’s anti-corruption portfolio, the Country Office initially partnered with 3 pilot sectors (Customs, Police, and Municipality) committed to promote effective collective action to tackle corruption. After extensive consultations, the Ministry of Health has agreed to be the fourth “Integrity Island” in this anti-corruption initiative. Besides its vulnerability to corruption, the health sector was also chosen because of its direct impact on people. The project also has a component that will examine women’s access to public health care services as well as more standard capacity building elements to develop operating procedures and make public services more cost-effective and easier for citizens to use. The activities with the health sector began implementation in February 2017.

Ukraine “Capacity Development for the Ministry of Temporarily Occupied Territories (MTOT) for Operationalisation for the Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Recovery in Ukraine” - $200,000

The project’s objective is to assist the Ministry of Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons in Ukraine (MTOT) to undertake the steps needed to operationalize the Multi-Partner Trust Fund. This includes developing institutional capacity of MTOT through knowledge transfer on strategic planning and monitoring and providing advisory support capacity to draft strategic planning documents. It also promotes policy dialogue and coordination at both national and sub-national levels on peacebuilding and inclusive development planning. The project started on 1 January 2017 and its team is involved in the inclusive process of elaboration of the State Target Programme for Recovery of eastern regions of Ukraine (STP) which targets the most vulnerable conflict-affected people in eastern Ukraine.
2016 Allocations GIPS Conflict Prevention Sub-Window

Bangladesh “Partnerships for an Inclusive and Tolerant Bangladesh” - $500,000

Violent extremism undermines the safety and security for all Bangladesh citizens, especially after the declaration of a new jihad frontier for Islamic State and Al Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent. However, insecurity affects the marginalized and vulnerable to a disproportionate degree. This innovative project will work primarily with urban youth and women. This allocation assists in leveraging UNDP Bangladesh’s earlier work on Preventing Violent Extremism by supporting research on the nature and drivers of violent extremism in partnership with the government (now at the draft approval stage) as well as 2 independent research projects mapping extremist and counter extremist online narratives (also are at the draft approval stage).

In early March, there will be the soft launch of a violent incident mapping platform at the Bangladesh Peace Observatory at the University of Dhaka. Partnering with Google and Facebook, a series of youth challenges to create tolerant online content that promotes peaceful content using cross-media platforms and reaching the widest possible audience. In March, the winners will be announced and receive grants to rollout their concepts. UNDP will also partner with veteran gender-rights campaigns to give women new platforms (both online and in local communities) to recognize gender equality as a natural extension of Bangladesh’s inclusive and tolerant history. As the Prevention of Violent Extremism is a growing programme area, especially the gendered perspective, the lessons from these activities will feed into UNDP’s regional and global programming and learning.

Cameroon “Community Empowerment and Peacebuilding in the Far North of Cameroon” - $500,000

UNDP has been implementing early recovery activities in the Far North region, in particular for IDPs and host communities, in the most affected areas by Boko Haram crisis for 2 years. The increased tensions between communities fueled by Boko Haram insurgency and the considerable number of IDPs (approximately 18,000) and refugees (over 73,000) has created a range of issues, especially related to livelihoods and social cohesion. The funding will support strengthened early recovery and resilience efforts in conflict prevention and capacity building with the aim to reduce the risk of radicalization, reduce isolation and exclusion of certain communities, and enhance coexistence between antagonistic communities. It also includes activities to improve conflict and tension resolution for land disputes and other existing conflicts, especially those involving natural resources.

Chad “Promoting Space for Civil Society to Collaborate with Government in Strengthening Resilience and Addressing the Root Causes of Radicalisation and Displacement in the Southern Region” - $500,000

This project was 1 of 4 prioritized by the Regional Bureau as part of a multi-country initiative for the Lake Chad Basin countries (LCBC) sub-region to address conflict prevention/peacebuilding, livelihoods, preventing violent extremism and recovery. In particular, it aims to create more space for civil society organisations, including traditional leaders, to work with local authorities to manage migration flows in the South (CAR-displaced populations) and increase the provision of basic services to the people. In parallel, this support is intended to address cross-border conflict, strengthen security and stability in host communities and promote economic opportunities for youth to counter radicalization and migration. Activities to build capacity will support a partnership between civil society and local authorities to manage the crisis and post-crisis phases by improving local governance and the government’s capacity to deliver services in affected regions. So far, several assessments have been conducted and meetings held with the relevant authorities, NGOs, the Muslim National Council, etc., to refine the project outputs. UNDP will also work with UNICEF to address the issue of 1,100 young surrenders from Boko Haram, who have returned to their communities.
Colombia “Local Capacities” to Promote Peaceful and Inclusive Societies” - $150,000

There is a need to strengthen strategies for the implementation of citizen participation mechanisms to voice people’s concerns and promote participation in the Colombian peacebuilding processes, particularly the differentiated views of women, Afro-Colombians, and indigenous groups affected the armed conflict. This project aims to contribute, in partnership with local institutions, civil society and international cooperation, the implementation of SDG 16 of the 2030 Agenda, moving towards a participatory development of a peaceful society, with territorial perspective, environmental sustainability, gender equality and respect for fundamental rights. Support from the GIPS Window will specifically bolster community-based conflict resolution mechanisms to build resilient communities capable of trust building and peaceful transformation of social and environmental conflicts.

Haiti “Economic Recovery through Social, Professional and Economic Women” - $150,000

The project is part of UNDP’s Post-Matthew Recovery Programme which aims to create conditions for long-term recovery, resilience to multiple shocks and sustainable development, while meeting the immediate needs in the affected region to kick-start recovery. The Window funding component will promote the stability of marginalized post-hurricane neighborhoods by creating economic opportunities for young people and women vulnerable to violence in Grand Goave, Miragoâne and Jeremie with added elements to help reduce the risk of crime. The wider programme includes capacity building with national and local authorities for planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of post-Matthew recovery efforts and additional employment trainings and socio-economic integration for 600 young people and vulnerable women.

Kosovo (1244)² “Preventing Violent Extremism in Kosovo” - $250,000

The UNDP office in Kosovo invested heavily in raising the issue of preventing violent extremism, producing the first assessment and white paper with high visibility due to data/survey-driven work and support to an inter-ministerial working group. The critical elements of UNDP’s vision include work at the community level with youth, employment, referral mechanisms, and gender-specific work. The project hopes to foster the resilience of vulnerable groups from radicalization that leads to violent extremism in Kosovo. The main focuses will be on prevention, de-radicalization and reintegration. The project will work with central authorities and initially with the 4 municipalities that were identified as “hotspots” for radicalisation. Preparation is now underway to further issues such as support to the voluntary surrender and legalization of small arms; implementation of the precursor regulation; training of frontline workers, development of a handbook for schools; and operationalization of the referral mechanism to identify and address persons vulnerable to radicalization. National strategies will be supported and capacity development activities are planned for special divisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Education, Kosovo Police, Kosovo Forensic Agency and municipal institutions. Gender-specific interventions include support to the police unit dealing with domestic violence, specific activities to prevent women from becoming vulnerable to radicalization and support to female victims of violent extremism.

²References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of UN Security Council resolution 1244 (1999)
Lebanon “Peacebuilding in Lebanon: Phase 3: Strengthening Tripoli’s Social Cohesion” - $400,000
Through the support of this Funding Window, the project interventions focus on youth engagement and their role in strengthening social cohesion and reducing violence in Lebanon's second-largest city. Tripoli has suffered from repetitive rounds of inter-communal armed clashes and continues to host over 50,000 Syrian refugees in its poorest areas, therefore exacerbating existing divisions among groups and adding tremendous pressure on an already fragile peace. This intervention builds on the strong partnership existing with the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MoIM) and the Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA) who are at the forefront of responding to the implications of the Syrian crisis on Lebanon. The 2 ministries play a leading role in the Lebanon Crisis Response Plan (LCRP) Social Stability Sector (where most of UNDP programming falls). A key component of UNDP’s contribution to the LCRP is the implementation of the Local Mechanism for Social Stability (MSS) in over 70 hot spots areas and communities hosting a high number of Syrian refugees. This mechanism aims at providing safe and common spaces for local groups to discuss their fears in public and suggest mechanisms to resolve their conflicts. UNDP will implement the Mechanism for Social Stability in Tripoli. The funding allows UNDP to start tackling social stability in one of the most challenging and volatile municipalities in the country and also the development of a wider comprehensive approach to address the core drivers of conflict that can be used to leverage additional funding.

Liberia “Strengthening Transparency and Accountability for Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion in Liberia” - $500,000
The overall objective of this project is help Liberia strengthen anti-corruption systems, institutions and civil engagement mechanisms to better manage and deliver public resources and services. This will help Liberia and all its 15 counties achieve the simultaneous eradication of poverty and significant reduction of inequalities and exclusion that have emerged as key vectors of conflict. It has a specific focus on the Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC) where it is helping to establish an e-procurement management information system as part of a wider effort to fight corruption and enhance integrity in public procurement. In seeking to minimize the system’s waste and abuse vulnerability, the system will ensure the government can get value for its meager resources that are earmarked for procurement. In turn, this will ensure that basic social services and development projects are executed and the benefits derived from these interventions by the government is optimized for all strata of society particularly by the vulnerable segments of the population. The Window support will contribute to: accountability and transparency mechanisms at selected sectoral and community levels; strengthened investigation and prosecution capacity of the Liberian Anti-Corruption Commission; promotion of public sector integrity through interests and assets declarations; a fully-functional e-procurement management information system established at the PPCC; and the creation and strengthening of oversight and compliance capacity of the Office of the Ombudsman.

Myanmar “Support Platform for the Joint Monitoring Committee of the National Ceasefire Agreement” - $300,000
Established under the 2015 Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), the Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) for the ceasefire is mandated to conduct ceasefire monitoring, reporting, verification and dispute resolution functions. This project is a vehicle to channel international assistance to the JMC and to support it technically and institutionally while taking fiduciary responsibility for international funds. It is a 4 year project made up of 2 phases. It is expected to start as soon as the Joint Coordination Body, which oversees Myanmar’s peace process, gives it final approval. With the project’s support, the JMC will strengthen its local presence (through offices, civilian monitors and outreach), allowing communities to direct ceasefire-related complaints and concerns to the formal mechanism. Funding from the Window will partly support a technical needs assessment in the first half of the year as well as to kickstart institutional support. The project is the UN/UNDP’s first country level engagement with the formal peace process and marks a potential entry point for broader engagement.
Niger “Strengthening Regional and Local Capacities to Improve Security in Niger: phase 2” - $300,000
This is another of the 4 Lake Chad Basin Countries (LCBC) projects that were prioritized as part of a sub-regional initiative to address conflict prevention/peacebuilding, livelihoods, preventing violent extremism and recovery. It aims to continue strengthening the capacity of local and regional authorities through the coordination of security structures in response to civil security crises with the support and commitment of local communities. The project will strengthen the capacities of all stakeholders in conflict prevention, community security at regional, local and community levels. It seeks to reinforce the involvement of women and youth in the process of consolidation of community safety and peace. The funding will be used to improve regional, departmental and municipal mechanisms for the prevention, coordination and management of security crises, including the reinforcement of social cohesion interventions and confidence building between security and defense forces and the civilian population, including activities to revive the local economy for young people and women.

Pakistan “Balochistan Economic Development Programme (BEDP)” - $300,000
BEDP attempts through economic empowerment to mitigate and prevent youth from being recruited into violence and extremism in Balochistan province. Extreme economic marginalization has rendered communities, especially young people, vulnerable to involvement in violence and conflict. Balochistan is a province vast with resources and opportunities, yet it is isolated due to security challenges and poor infrastructure. It can be difficult to attract donor awareness or support as a result. The funding allocation made it possible for BEDP to be included in the Public Sector Development Programme for co-funding by the Government of Balochistan, which could attract additional funding if successful. The project aims to strengthen economic and social empowerment of youth through interrelated livelihoods and participatory activities that contribute to economic growth, reduction in violence and the prevention of armed violence. The project will also prepare the youth of Balochistan to participate in economic activities generated by the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which is a part of China’s “One Belt One Road” initiative. The first round of demand-based skills training for youth is expected to begin in March 2017.

Philippines “Development and Application of Local Capacities for the Prevention of Violent Extremism in the Bangasamoro Philippines” - $300,000
The swift implementation of prevention of violent extremism (PVE) interventions is an urgent priority for the Office of the Presidential Advisor to the Peace Process, partners in government, and civil society in the Philippines. The PVE Agenda is very much linked to the implementation of the Comprehensive Agreement for Bangasamoro and the provision of viable social and economic alternatives for communities through the development of a strategic approach towards addressing the alienation that drives violent radicalization in parts of Muslim Mindanao. Project activities began in February 2017 building on intensive local research into the drivers of radicalization. The project aims at ensuring the development of an appropriately trained and capacitated, credible, group of local intermediaries drawn from the ranks of women, youth and faith-based leaders in particular, who can reach out to disaffected individuals and communities and generate dialogue around addressing alienation through creative approaches to political and economic empowerment. The support from the Window allows UNDP to move beyond the research into action, the first systematic international effort to do so and will help establish early warning systems. The funding also provides UNDP an opportunity to support the Government’s peace and develop roadmap.

2016 Allocations GIPS Democratic Governance Sub-Window

Albania “For a More Accessible Justice for Albanian Women and Men” - $220,000
As part of the broader justice sector reform currently underway in Albania, this project aims to bring a stronger access to justice approach into the legislative reform process which will translate into real benefits for men and women. This will be the first time that UNDP Albania has engaged in a people/community-centered access to justice assessment, and one with a focus on women’s access to justice. Activities include developing an action plan focusing on access to justice accelerators, improved services of the national human rights institutions and better outreach and legal aid services. Other elements include improving civil society advocacy capacity to have more constructive dialogue with the Parliament on issues of access of justice and legal aid.
Belarus “Support to the Institutional Development of the Newly Elected Parliament” - $200,000

The current situation in Belarus offers a unique opportunity to engage with the recently elected Parliament (September 2016) given signs of rapprochement with the European Union. After many years, the opposition is now represented as well. UNDP was among the first to reach out to the Parliament on core development issues, and this project will further strategic engagement with Parliament. Among the expected results are: the establishment of a parliamentary framework for SDG localization, implementation, monitoring and evaluation; integration of gender and human rights based approaches in legislative processes and institutional operations; a comprehensive institutional capacity assessment related to key parliamentary functions; and improved coordination between the legislative, executive and judicial branches on justice and rule of law issues. A Caucus on Gender Issues will also be created within the Parliament and open hearings on human rights issues such as the death penalty or the rights of people with disabilities.

Belize “Strengthening National Systems to Support UNCAC Implementation in Belize”- $200,000

Following intense public civil society and private sector pressure, Belize acceded to the UN Convention on Anti-Corruption (UNCAC) in December 2016. A UNCAC Self-Assessment takes place following accession and feeds into the UNCAC Review Mechanism to assist the government in identifying compliance issues and then prioritise and sequence anti-corruption reforms. This project will support the government to implement the UNCAC and proposes to employ UNDP’s ‘Going Beyond the Minimum’ approach to ensure meaningfulness to the ratification process. It will also encourage the government to collaborate with civil society, including women's organisations, during the assessment, planning and capacity development processes. This includes a gender assessment of perception and experiences of corruption. National capacities will be strengthened through technical training and south-south exchange.

Bolivia “Strengthen Electoral Capacities to Promote Implementation of Intercultural Democracy” - $200,000

Bolivia began a new political cycle with the approval of its 2009 Constitution which included element of intercultural democracy recognizing the collective rights of the indigenous people as well as the autonomous and decentralized nature of the State. The Constitution also transformed the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE) into the fourth branch of the State and gave the electoral administration new responsibilities to implement the new democratic model in Bolivia with the principles and mechanisms of gender parity, self-government and direct democracy. This project strengthens the capacity of the TSE and nine departmental electoral tribunals to fully exercise their roles per the 2009 Constitution. They will have enhanced institutional and technical capacities to supervise and monitor the processes of conversion to indigenous autonomy and ability to implement referenda, promote gender equality and publicize electoral information.

Chile “Promotion of Electoral Participation and Improvement of Women’s Representation” - $150,000

Chilean democracy faces new and significant challenges in areas that had been traditionally recognised as its key strengths (e.g. voter turnout, legitimacy and organisation of elections) while it continues to grapple with persistent inequalities in levels of participation and representation: women, youth and indigenous people. Chile has had the largest drop in voter turnout in Latin America, dropping 36% since 1990. At the government’s request, UNDP has been working to increase public support for elections. Funding from the Windows will allow the preparation of a comprehensive programme to promote electoral participation and improve public opinion regarding elections. It also has a component to improve women’s representation focused on the legislative elections in 2017 with informational outreach and training to candidates, political parties and movements.
El Salvador “Electoral Support for the Elections of 2018 and 2019” - $200,000

For the first time in the democratic history of El Salvador, it is required by law that the people who participate in temporary electoral bodies cannot belong to a political party. This means that more than 100,000 people, with no political alliance, need to participate in managing and overseeing the electoral process. The Supreme Electoral Tribunal needs to come up with an efficient and quick methodology to select and train people who will work in the temporary electoral bodies. This project will strengthen the Tribunal’s capacities in light of the upcoming elections, including the legislative and municipal elections of 2017 and presidential election of 2018. UNDP will build alliances with civil society and universities to develop a training methodology based on the new reforms. Support from the Window will develop virtual learning courses, train trainers from the Tribunal to be able to train the citizens who will participate in the temporary bodies, and print the electoral codes and procedural manuals.

Iraq “Funding Facility for Economic Reform (FFER) – Federal” - $400,000

Following the March 2016 visit of the UN Secretary-General, the Prime Minister approached UNDP for support to conceptualise, develop and implement the reform agenda in which anti-corruption would be a key component. The GIPS funding is critical in allowing UNDP to build on the initial steps taken on anti-corruption and hopefully to attract additional donor support to be able to expand its activities. It focuses on reviewing laws and regulations governing anti-corruption processes and the institutional effectiveness and capacity of relevant government entities with an emphasis on preventative measures to eliminate corruption within the public sector.

Maldives “Integrated Governance Programme” - $250,000

Given the current political situation in the country which is characterized by a deterioration of human rights and shrinking democratic space, this project focuses on the most marginalized and vulnerable groups in underserved communities. Enhancing legal frameworks provides access to those communities and empowers them with awareness and knowledge on legal representation. Working with national partners, the project will develop necessary legislations including the Legal Aid Bill and Legal Professions Bill as well as develop a pro bono mechanism to provide services to victims of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). The funding has also enabled the scaling up of many other activities within the larger governance programme to reach a wider target group. This support also paved the way for UNDP to sign the first government co-financing agreement with the Attorney General’s office on legal reform and now provides a platform and opportunity for UNDP to continue its engagement on critical legal reform issues such as fighting discrimination and the national human rights mechanisms.

Mexico “Best Practices for Access to Electoral Justice and Promoting Lawfulness Culture” - $200,000

The project’s main objective is to strengthen Mexican democracy and to promote the consolidation of an effective justice system that ensures human rights, particularly electoral-political rights, with a focus on indigenous peoples and women. This will be achieved by promoting access to electoral justice, with actions that encourage transparency and electoral judicial ethics. It will provide technical assistance to the Tribunal Electoral and the Office for the Defense of Political Rights of Indigenous Peoples. An earlier phase of the project provided models on access to justice, judicial ethics and transparency; this funding allows the implementation, especially the reinforcement of gender and indigenous people’s perspectives. It will also support the design of a strategy to prevent political violence against women.

Morocco “Strengthen Integrity and Prevent Corruption for Development” - $300,000

Morocco’s political, economic and social reform process that began over a decade ago received new impetus with the constitutional reforms passed by referendum in 2011. A strong commitment to good governance and anti-corruption was explicitly embedded in the new Constitution, including specific reforms to strengthen the mandate of the Central Authority for Corruption Prevention (ICPC). The Government of Morocco recently accelerated its support to implement a National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2015-2030, endorsed in early 2016. This project seeks to support Morocco to progress its anti-corruption agenda, with a view of reducing corruption and improving accountability and to ensuring that more efficient and responsive social services are delivered to the people of Morocco. This initiative works through 3 entry points: strengthening inter-ministerial coordination to support the implementation and monitoring of anti-corruption reforms; enhancing institutional capacity to address corruption; and supporting the establishment of a harmonized legal framework in support the implementation of the anti-corruption national strategy.
Papua New Guinea “Advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Participation in Politics” - $250,000

The objective of the project is to increase the number of women contesting and successfully gaining election in the PNG 2017 National and Local Level Elections. Traditionally UNDP’s portfolio in PNG was focused on environment and climate change, but in recent years, the office has developing more of its governance, peacebuilding and women’s empowerment work. The allocation from the Window has proven catalytic to diversify both its funding sources (including a first time contribution from Italy to UNDP in PNG) and ensuring that gender-related work be continued. There is an acute need to work on women’s empowerment in PNG, particularly around women’s participation in politics and leadership where PNG is ranked among the lowest in the world in terms of women’s representation in politics. The project contains capacity development and training, advocacy and awareness raising activities. For example, advocacy is directed towards political parties and parliamentarians to call for set quotas in political parties and trainings will be geared towards women’s groups and the electoral management body on election campaign preparation (planning and financing a campaign, working with political parties, and preparing media strategies).

Paraguay “Capacity Strengthening for Women’s Political Participation” - $150,000

In preparation for the 2018 national general elections, this project will promote women’s political participation by strengthening the institutional capacities of the national electoral regulatory authority to foster effective exercise of women’s suffrage rights, to promote increased access to political decision-making positions for women (including through action plans and policies implemented by the Ministry of Women), and to advocate for the inclusion of gender perspectives and women-empowering legislative reforms in Congress.


The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was one of the first 10 countries to sign the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combatting Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence in 2011. 5 years later, however, the country has failed to move forward with ratification, making it one of 2 standout countries. In this context, UNDP will renew its efforts to work with national partners to refocus and re-energize preparations to ratify and implement the Istanbul Convention. The project will support official counterparts and civil society in advocating for the ratification, creating the statistical framework necessary to monitor gender-based violence, and adopting and enacting the relevant legislation and policies needed to implement the Convention. It also includes provisions for support to survivors of domestic violence in escaping economic dependency, including through vocational training and job placement.

Turkmenistan “Cooperation in Implementation of the NHRAP for 2016-2020 in the Area of Rule of Law and Access to Justice” - $250,000

The Government of Turkmenistan adopted a National Human Rights Action Plan for 2016-2020 (NHRAP) in 2015 which represents the Government’s effort to initiate changes in its ways of dealing with human rights. The NHRAP provides a solid framework and foundation for UNDP programming in human rights and justice area, and the Government requested UNDP assistance to several national ministries and agencies to implement the NHRAP, especially in the area of justice and rule of law. The funding allocation provided critical seed funding to respond to this request. The main objective of the project is to support the Supreme Court, the Ministry of Justice, and the Bar Association in NHRAP implementation which will contribute to strengthening and improving the system of human rights monitoring, legal aid and counsel, and enhancing the role of civil society in this process.
In the past twenty years, disasters have cost more than $2 trillion, killed over 1.3 million people and affected more than 4.4 billion, including a disproportionately high number of women, children and other vulnerable groups.

To respond to these challenges, UNDP has created a Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Funding Window (the CC/DRR FW) designed to build countries’ capacity to manage risks associated with natural hazards and climate change.
In the past 2 decades, disasters have cost more than $2 trillion, killed over 1.3 million people and affected more than 4.4 billion, including a disproportionately high number of women, children and other vulnerable groups. Whatever their cause, these disasters are all too often exacerbated by the result of poor, risk-blind development decisions that expose people and communities to risk. The increase of climate-related hazards such as cyclones, droughts and floods will only make this reality worse. In this new context of volatility, communities and nations are facing increasing, multiple and interconnected risks that can reverse years – and sometimes decades – of development progress.

Solutions to these challenges have traditionally been pursued in silos. Many development programmes are still uninformed by climate and disaster risks, while climate adaptation and disaster programmes often take little account of the broader political economy and other types of development needs. The result is further development losses, wasted resources and missed opportunities to address underlying risks or tackle challenges holistically.

To overcome these challenges, UNDP promotes a holistic approach anchored in the notion that development can only be made sustainable if it is risk-informed. Based on decades of country-level experience, this new approach is critical to meet the SDGs and to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) and the Paris Climate Change Agreement.

Consistent with the UNDP Strategic Plan, the approach integrates solutions to mitigate and adapt to climate change, reduce the risk of disaster and use energy efficiently and sustainably through comprehensive risk management programmes that are gender-sensitive. The expected outcomes of this approach are lower risk of natural disasters, including from climate change, lower carbon emissions, improved access to sustainable energy, better preparedness levels, and better response and resilient recovery.

To promote risk-informed development, the CCDRR Window was designed to build countries’ capacity to manage the risk associated with natural hazards and climate change. It has 2 sub-windows, each corresponding to a UNDP global flagship initiative: Climate Change (Towards Zero Carbon Development) and Disaster Risk Reduction (5-10-50). At the heart of both flagship initiatives is the notion that risk-informed development, and through it, resilience cannot be built alone. To implement these initiatives, UNDP will mobilise the right partners to bring about catalytic change on the ground by leveraging each partner’s comparative advantage.

At the time of allocations, this Window had received the smallest volume of resources in 2016 ($340,000), so it was decided to support only 1 project in order not to spread the resources too thinly. Priority was given to a mature GEN3 project.

2016 Allocations CC/DRR

Kosovo (1244)
“Confidence Building through Disaster Risk Reduction in the northern Kosovo in Kosovo” - $340,000

Focusing on one of the poorest areas of Kosovo, this project needs to be augmented to expand to northern Kosovo municipalities. UNDP is the sole actor on disaster risk reduction in Kosovo and potentially this investment could open doors for other projects or donor support. The key result of the project is to build trust and confidence between the Serb-majority municipalities in northern Kosovo and the central authorities in Pristina through disaster risk reduction activities. This work will also contribute to the enhanced capacities of northern municipalities in Kosovo to prevent, prepare for and response to natural disaster.
Disasters and violent conflicts are major obstacles to development. They erode development gains and leave communities more vulnerable to future risks and shocks.

UNDP has established an Emergency Development Response to Crisis and Recovery (EDRCR) Funding Window to enable a robust, efficient, predictable and immediate response to crisis and recovery, recognizing the increased risks related to crisis situations.
UNDP established the Emergency Development Response to Crisis and Recovery (EDRCR) Funding Window to enable a robust, efficient, predictable and immediate response to crisis and recovery, recognizing the increased risks related to crisis situations. Resources in this Funding Window complement core UNDP resources to ensure that UNDP can support immediate response and recovery, including coordination and assessments.

The EDRCR Funding Window is an important component of the toolkit for crisis response outlined in UNDP’s Crisis Response Strategy, adopted in 2015. The toolkit encompasses Standard Operating Procedures for Crisis Response and ‘Crisis Response Packages’ that allow UNDP country offices to quickly design and deliver interventions in UNDP areas of particular expertise. The focus areas of the crisis response packages are:

- Emergency livelihoods through community infrastructure and debris/solid waste management;
- Emergency livelihoods through emergency employment, enterprise recovery and cash-based interventions;
- Core government functions; and
- National recovery planning and coordination.

Each crisis response package contains support for programming (guidance notes, generic terms of reference, impact assessment forms, management tools, monitoring and evaluation), operations (pre-dispositioned items in UN depots around the world; guidance on contract management in emergency situations), staffing (access to rosters of additional experts who can be rapidly deployed to assist country teams, access to additional experts through standby partners, NGOs and other UN agencies), and support on communications and advocacy, including handling intense media attention after a crisis. Importantly, these crisis response packages can be adapted to each specific context.

A key feature of UNDP’s crisis response toolkit is the deployment of rapid response experts to support and build additional capacity within country teams during a crisis response. In 2016, UNDP facilitated the crisis response deployment of a record total of 334 experts to 77 countries/offices, the highest number since the inception of the roster in 2009. Over 50% of the 334 global deployments focused on providing technical support to 68 country offices in areas such as crisis governance, disaster risk management, rule of law, early recovery coordination, livelihoods, and conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

UNDP’s Standard Operating Procedures for Immediate Crisis Response foresee the declaration of different levels of crisis depending on the scale, complexity, urgency, capacity, and reputational risk for UNDP. In 2016, 3 crises were declared as L3, the highest level of crisis: Yemen, Nigeria, and Iraq. 7 crises were declared L2 crisis for UNDP: Burundi, Cuba, Ecuador, Fiji, Haiti, Nepal, and South Sudan. UNDP country offices in L3 and L2 crises receive emergency response allocations from UNDP’s core resources or from the EDRCR Funding Window as well as SURGE capacities to supplement its staffing. The EDRCR Funding Window served to provide immediate response allocations to two of the L3/L2 crises: Nigeria and Haiti.
Haiti “Emergency Rehabilitation Programme for Haiti” - $500,000

In response to hurricane Matthew, $500,000 from the EDRCR was immediately allocated to UNDP Haiti. The allocation was critical to set-up emergency employment mechanisms in the most affected region. UNDP also deployed additional surge capacity to support immediate recovery interventions, help coordinate the post-disaster needs assessment process and help establish an early recovery cluster co-led by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation and UNDP. Based on the early positive results, UNDP was successful in mobilizing more than $2 million from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to expand the emergency employment programme to other affected departments. Other donors and partners, including Japan, Mauritius, New Zealand, Switzerland and IFAD, have also supported UNDP initial early recovery initiatives.

The objective of the EDRCR allocation was to enable the creation of emergency employment, as a means to immediately restore people's livelihoods and create access to income opportunities for the affected population through debris clearance, waste management and small infrastructure rehabilitation. These initial activities integrate into the broader scope of UNDP's Post Matthew Recovery Programme, which totals $29 million over 3 years and aims to:

- Enhance national and local capacities for planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of inclusive and equitable post-Matthew recovery efforts;
- Revitalized communities through immediate livelihood opportunities for women and men, focused on contributing to the environmental and economic restoration of the community;
- Support communities in longer-term recovery efforts, ensuring greater resilience to climate and disaster risk.

As of 15 March 2017, UNDP has contributed to the restoration of local capacities in 10 of the most-affected and hard-to-reach municipalities by creating 200,000 daily jobs. These jobs have provided immediate income to the most vulnerable. 40,000 m3 of debris and waste have been removed, facilitating access to remote areas to bring assistance to affected people and allowing the resumption of economic and agricultural activities in some communes.

Nigeria “Support to Early Recovery and Social Cohesion in the North East” - $500,000

In order to support early recovery and social cohesion in North East Nigeria, $500,000 was allocated from the EDRCR. The allocation was catalytic to quickly kick-start recovery activities in areas newly liberated from Boko Haram in Borno, Adamawa and Yobe. Additionally, since January 2017, UNDP has significantly scaled up its presence in North East Nigeria, opening a sub-office in Maiduguri and deploying over 10 national and international staff to run the operations and programmes on the ground. The funds received support the implementation of the North East Integrated Community Stabilization and Early Recovery Programme, which has already succeeded in mobilizing additional resources of $2.3 million, aiming at improving living conditions for 75,000 direct beneficiaries in the most vulnerable communities.

The overarching goal of this resilience-based approach is essentially to stabilize local communities that were devastated by the onslaught of Boko Haram through the provision of support in four inter-related areas: livelihoods, security, basic services, and emerging local governance.

Alongside humanitarian responses that address the most immediate needs of affected population, the North-East Integrated Community Stabilization and Early Recovery Programme – which totals $50 million over 3 years – addresses the root causes of the conflict and contributes to create a long-lasting stable and safe environment for the return of internally displaced persons (IDPs), assisting affected communities to recover from the socio-economic impact of the crisis.

In designing the programme, UNDP has established a platform for early recovery that is bringing together key humanitarian and recovery actors. Applying the New Way of Working, the programme is implemented jointly with the World Health Organization (WHO), in close collaboration with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). It is implemented in partnership with the Nigerian Ministry of Reconstruction, Rehabilitation, and Resettlement and key line ministries (Agriculture, Education, and Health).

The EDRCR allocation and initial funding are being used to target a number of identified pilot communities, kick-starting immediate early recovery activities where it is most needed. Based on these early results, the programme is planning to scale up and expand to a total of 50 communities in 5 local government areas (LGAs), with support from additional donors that have already indicated interest to support, including the EU, Germany, Canada and the UK.