

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

ANNUAL REPORT

2021 | PAKISTAN



UN
DP



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“With over 90 per cent of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets corresponding to human rights obligations, UNDP is supporting countries to fulfil their human rights obligations – not only because it is the right thing to do but also because it is fundamental to achieving the SDGs”

Achim Steiner

Administrator, United Nations Development Programme

Speaking on the occasion of Human Rights Day 2021

A newly constructed camping pod at the camping village, Bumburet, Chitral.

Tourism has provided many people with a livelihood in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. To attract more tourists, UNDP has introduced the concept of camping villages through its eco-tourism project. Environmentally friendly camping pods have been constructed in five districts of the province: Swat, Batagram, Bunir, Chitral and Buner.



UNDP Pakistan Annual Report 2021

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ACRONYMS

AccLab	UNDP Innovation-Accelerator Lab
COP26	Twenty-sixth Conference of the Parties (United Nations Climate Change Conference 2021)
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECP	Election Commission of Pakistan
EU	European Union
FATA	Federally Administered Tribal Areas
GB	Gilgit-Baltistan
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GenU	Generation Unlimited
GLOF	Glacial Lake Outburst Flooding
KP	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDMA	National Disaster Management Authority
PAK	Pakistan Administered Kashmir
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEP	Special Emphasis Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

FOREWORD

The Economic Affairs Division is pleased to look back on another successful year of partnership with UNDP.

The Government of Pakistan is deeply committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and ensuring no Pakistani is left behind, despite setbacks due to COVID-19 pandemic. UNDP is an important partner in achieving this national and global vision. In 2021, UNDP provided invaluable support in mainstreaming gender in SDG programming and supported the development of an SDG investment portfolio as an innovative approach to accessing development financing.

UNDP supported the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa by providing technical support in order to improve planning and coordination mechanisms. UNDP has also provided institutional support for KPK and merged districts and has worked for capacity building for police, judges and court staff. UNDP and Election Commission of Pakistan worked together for sustainability of Women's NIC and Voter's Registration Campaign.

In 2021, UNDP substantially contributed in taking forward Pakistan's green and resilience building agenda. UNDP was also by our side as Pakistan took the world stage at COP26 in Glasgow and pointed to the devastating consequences of uncontrolled climate change, as well as

showing potential ways forward.

Through our partnership, we have consolidated a shared commitment to a digital future. Important steps were taken by various Ministries/Divisions/Departments of Government of Pakistan in digitizing processes and data which will make governance more effective, efficient, and accountable. Efficient mechanisms for collecting human rights data were also established, and are being harmonized, at the Federal and Provincial levels.

Over the past two years, UNDP has been a key partner contributing to Pakistan's success in navigating the challenges posed by COVID-19. The progress made in 2021 along the path towards equitable development is a testament to this longstanding partnership. The Government of Pakistan highly values the partnership with UNDP to steer Pakistan's recovery towards a more sustainable and inclusive path. The Government of Pakistan looks forward to working with UNDP to make a lasting contribution to national development priorities and improve the living conditions of all the people in the country.

Mian Asad Hayauddin

Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs
Government of Pakistan



INTRODUCTION

In 2021, UNDP continued its long-standing partnership with Pakistan to achieve its development goals and to ensure that no one is left behind.

At the request of the government and the Global Fund, UNDP was pleased to launch a 2.5-year programme last year to combat HIV and AIDS which created new opportunities and strengthened partnerships with communities and government for this purpose.

We also renewed our support to Pakistan's efforts to achieve its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advancing SDG localization at both federal and provincial levels, providing technical inputs to strategies, policy analyses and budgets, and showcasing progress towards the SDGs through a Voluntary National Review.

Pakistan is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change. With our support, in 2021 the government demonstrated its commitment to climate action with renewed Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for the United Nations Climate Conference (COP26), and the revised, more inclusive National Climate Change Policy, with strengthened mitigation efforts.

Through our GLOF-II project, we scaled up support for community-based preparedness and response to glacial lake outburst flooding (GLOF) in the country's mountainous regions. The project is embarking on a major rollout of Early Warning System in 2022, which will help communities respond to these devastating events.

Meanwhile, at the federal level, we worked with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to develop national and sub-national policies, and prepared recommendations to enhance alignment with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). While in coastal areas of Sindh, we supported preparedness and mitigation for earthquakes and tsunami, establishing 14 evacuation sites and five early warning systems.

As the end of the COVID-19 pandemic comes into view, Pakistan is to be congratulated for its success in limiting infections while alleviating economic impacts on the most vulnerable. The expansion of the government's cash transfer programme provided a crucial pandemic safety net for 13.2 million people who were identified partly using an implementation tracking index developed with UNDP technical support.



Through our Merged Areas Governance Project we supported the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) in integrating the former Federally Administered Tribal Areas – now the Merged Areas – into the mainstream of Pakistan's economic life and democratic governance, through the government's Special Emphasis Programmes (SEP).

In both the Merged Areas and Balochistan, our partnerships with local businesses, universities and governments helped young women and men build livelihoods through training and entrepreneurship support. In Balochistan, the SDG Acceleration Programme laid the foundation for prosperous communities.

Throughout 2021, we worked with the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) on the successful conduct of local government elections in KP. Following the passage of the Elections Bill (amendment), 2021, we also renewed our commitment to supporting ECP in implementing this bill.

We supported accountable, effective governance and service delivery through public administration reform and by helping Pakistan progress its digital transformation in governance and service delivery. With our support, ministries and departments have started digitizing their processes, data and knowledge management, complaints mechanisms and monitoring and evaluation systems. An important step in 2021 was the introduction of digital courts, bringing justice to the doorstep in KP and its Merged Areas.

The eradication of gender inequality and the empowerment of women and transgender people is a prerequisite for sustainable and equitable development. Our advocacy around gender mainstreaming helped turn commitments into action through, for example, registering women voters, rehabilitating girls' schools in the Merged Areas, and the establishment of the Transgender Protection Centre in Islamabad.

The launch of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights by the Ministry of Human Rights, with UNDP support, was a notable step in safeguarding human rights in Pakistan. This, the first plan of its kind in South Asia,

recognizes the crucial role of the private sector in protecting and upholding human rights.

Continuing our commitment to reimagining development solutions, our Innovation Accelerator Lab engaged with Unilever to design and invest in better waste management practises, leading to the establishment of a ground-breaking circular economy model in Rahim Yar Khan.

Now, in 2022, my colleagues at UNDP Pakistan join me in renewing our steadfast commitment to working with Pakistan's government, civil society, private sector and the public to achieve our shared vision of sustainable development.

Together, we will work for an equitable, prosperous, peaceful and resilient Pakistan.

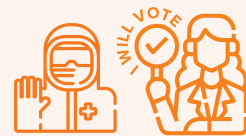


Knut Ostby
Resident Representative



HIGHLIGHTS 2021

DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE



15,120,088 voters reached with information on the local government elections and 69,500 (34,055 women) on COVID-19 protocols



8,188 people (1,884 women) attended legal awareness sessions in the Merged Areas



Annual intake of police trainees increased to 1,200 through constructing the **Joint Police Training Centre** in Nowshera



First-ever **gender strategy** of the Anti-Narcotics Force



Transgender Protection Centre established in Islamabad



National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights launched



41 all ministries signed performance agreements to improve civil service delivery



08 high-impact evidence-based SEPs (PKR 151 million) approved and initiated by KP government

CRISIS PREVENTION AND RECOVERY



615,389 people in KP's Merged Areas benefited from community mobilization, improved services and economic opportunities



Investment facilitation portal launched for Merged Area entrepreneurs



158 people (50 women) in Balochistan received entrepreneurship training, 100 people (25 women) received vocational training



78,215 young people (37,200 women, 20 transgender) participated in youth engagement and economic empowerment activities



First-ever **Youth Development Index** with district-level data on 16,000 youth



ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE



19,487 people in GB

accessed health services – 17,825 youth, 250 people in extreme poverty, 1385 women, 27 people with disabilities



18,000 youth

spoke up about their needs through the Youth Conversations platform



09

District Emergency Operations Centres strengthened



30%

of new vehicles to be electric by 2030 under National Electric Vehicles Policy



87,000 hectares

of land in Sindh freed of encroachment and brought under the control of the forest department



DEVELOPMENT POLICY



Pakistan National Human Development Report 2020
National Human Development Report 2020, focusing on inequality, launched



Gender Mainstreaming Framework
developed for the national SDG programme



Financing for Development
portfolio developed to mobilize private sector investments for climate finance and SDGs

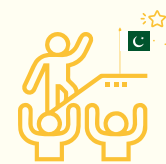


Urban resilience
strategies and pilot initiatives in Karachi's informal settlements initiated using the Social Innovation Platform, in partnership with IBA



Rawalpindi Resilience Roadmap
developed with the Rawalpindi Development Authority

INNOVATION



Pakistan recognized in UNDP Strategic Plan as a **pioneer of the Social Innovation Platform** as the next stage of project design



Circular waste model taken up by Unilever in Rahim Yar Khan



Hushey Valley – **food systems experiments** show way towards systemic change



New methodologies for **systemic transformation programming** Social Innovation Platform, portfolio logic, experimentation, deep listening and systemic design



Development of UNDP's new **Country Programme Document** facilitated with a workshop on using systemic design, foresight and design thinking tools

Pakistan: Places, Faces, Voices

UNDP has been working extensively in Pakistan to help it fulfill its Sustainable Development Goals. In an effort to access even more people and to learn more about their needs and requirements, in 2021, we reached out to different communities in the farthest parts of the country.

Our documentary, titled “Pakistan: Places, Faces, Voices” features some of the smallest ethnic groups and brings to surface the daily problems faced by these

communities, as they speak in their local languages in their own settings. Interviewing hundreds of people from across Pakistan, our film captures voices of diverse ethnic communities in over 22 languages including Balti, Brushuski, Wakhi, Khowar, Yadgha, Kalasha, Gawri, Torwali, Ushojo, Seraiki, Dari, Hazaragi, Brahui, Sansi, Marwari, Gurgula, Bagri, Parkari, Kachhi, Dhatki, and Gujrati.



"Our main problems are erratic power supply and lack of internet. These days the youth does everything online."

Bibi Nigar, from Gilgit Baltistan



"In our clan, only I educated my children. I laboured, worked hard, and educated my children. But they did not find any jobs. We remain where we were."

Hakim Daas, from Mirpur Khas

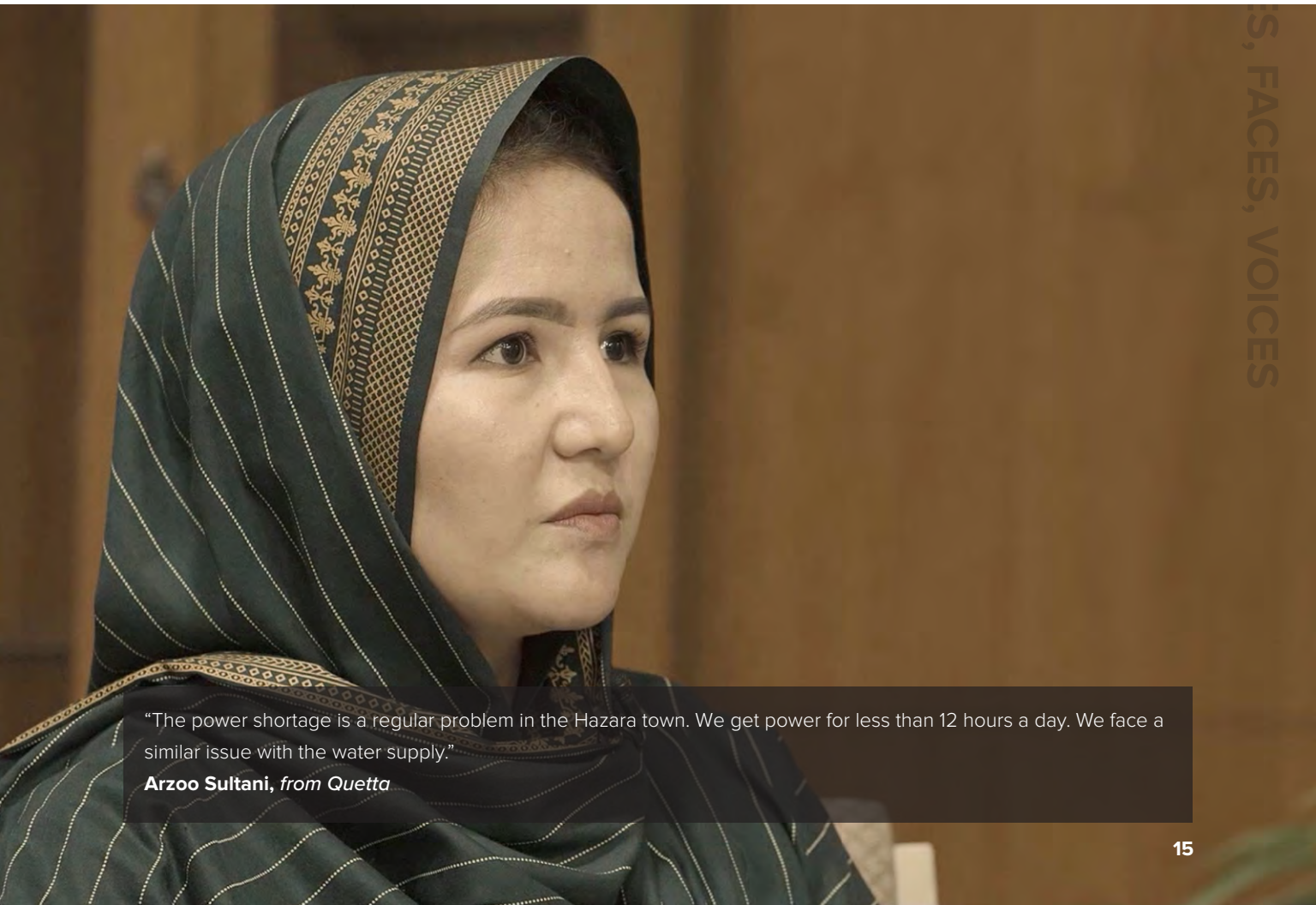
PAKISTAN: PLACES



"I pick cotton. That's how I make a living. We are poor people and just trying to get by. We need our own land. We will settle when we have our own land."

Meera, a Bhagri woman from Tando Jam

PAKISTAN: PLACES, FACES, VOICES



"The power shortage is a regular problem in the Hazara town. We get power for less than 12 hours a day. We face a similar issue with the water supply."

Arzoo Sultani, from Quetta



DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

Institutions and development in the Merged Areas

Since the merger of the former Federally Administered Tribal Areas into KP, UNDP has helped establish the institutions needed for success.

An evidence base for policymaking was developed through UNDP's partnership with the KP Bureau of Statistics, filling a critical need in regions where reliable information was historically lacking. A long-term agreement signed in 2021 helped fill critical data gaps, as data collection began to establish baselines for the SEPs on gender, education, health and skills.

Government line departments piloted eight high-impact interventions to strengthen

services through SEPs. Through these partnerships, all eight SEPs (amounting to PKR 151,203,600) are now being implemented.

Robust data also informed policy recommendations on export promotion for marble, tobacco and cement sectors; access to finance; creating employment opportunities for women; setting up border bazaars; the National Domestic Commerce Policy; design of the first enterprises; a census in the Merged Areas; and the KP Skills Development Fund.

4,392 businesses, traders and service providers in the Merged Areas are now registered, enabling planning and service delivery for a vibrant economic landscape.



08

high-impact government pilots supported for improved services under SEPs – all are already being implemented



4,392

Merged Area businesses registered for the first time

A law on land use planning and building control has been drafted by the local government department.

Young women and men acting as Local Government Ambassadors provides COVID-19 awareness and civic education, conducting 578 sessions for 7,452 people, including 1,724 women, and reaching communities, religious leaders and especially women in their homes. In 2021, their contribution was celebrated by the local government department and a UNDP Pakistan award.

People in the region protected themselves against COVID-19 through vaccination, and learned how government-led development initiatives benefit them

through over 200 videos and television commercials developed by UNDP.



Rule of law in KP, Balochistan and Islamabad

UNDP's partnership with the governments of KP, Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and Balochistan, as well as the federal government helps build trust between state and citizens by improving the infrastructure and capacity of the criminal justice system and rule of law institutions.

With UNDP support, the first-ever gender strategy of the Anti-Narcotics Force was developed, contributing towards gender inclusiveness and mainstreaming in its workforce and operations.

In GB, a Rule of Law Delivery Unit within the Chief Minister's Secretariat is now analysing data on service

delivery to monitor and course-correct when needed.

Recommendations on revising the Prison Act emerged following a consultative session on the prison legal framework. The KP police department now has Annual Policing Plans for the Merged Areas, revised Rules for Dispute Resolution Councils and a public outreach strategy under the KP Police Act of 2017.

Software for Internal Accountability and Public Liaison Councils, and trained staff are automating KP policing processes.



The second phase of construction at the Joint Police Training Centre in Nowshera has increased its capacity from 540 to 1,200 trainees per year.

8,188 people gained access to justice through UNDP-supported legal awareness sessions, including 1,884 women and 721 members of marginalized communities. 669 sessions were held in the Merged Areas – triple the year's target.

200 women joined the KP Women Lawyers' Forum, from 160 the year before. This increased women's representation in the legal profession and improved their access to justice.

32 women law students and graduates from the Merged Areas were provided scholarships to complete their degrees and join the legal profession.

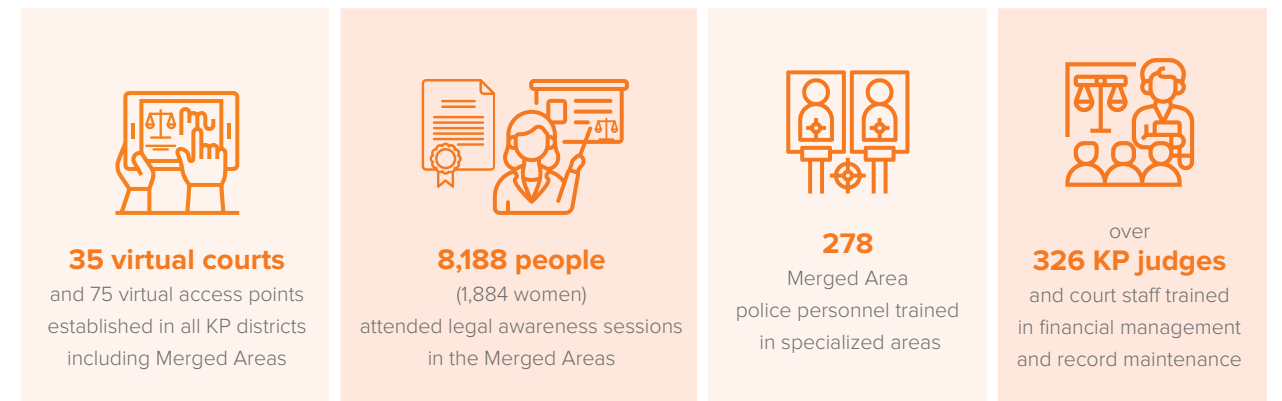
Virtual courts have now been operationalized within the KP judicial system, and people in all Merged Areas and KP districts can access justice through 35 virtual courts and 75 virtual points.

Judiciary in three Merged Areas now have uninterrupted electrical supply with the installation of three solar systems.

Criminal justice personnel are now following best practices in their work as 193 police officers in the Merged Areas received specialized training while 162 judges (including 11 women) and 135 court staff in the KP judiciary enhanced capacity in financial management and record maintenance.

In GB, a digitally connected Police Command and Control Centre in Gilgit improved communication between rule of law institutions, while video conferencing connected the GB Chief Court with the district court in Skardu to hear cases and train court staff. A professionally developed website created a channel for better public engagement, while a Case Flow Management System automated GB courts and improved their efficiency.

Recommendations on rules and amending section 89-A of the Balochistan Civil Procedure Code emerged from a workshop on court-annexed mediation.





Human rights and peacebuilding

UNDP supports Pakistan's civil society and provincial and federal administrations to protect human rights and monitor abuses.

The human rights information management system has now been institutionalized at the Ministry of Human Rights and all provincial human rights and social welfare departments. And Pakistan's first-ever National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights is raising human rights standards with the involvement of the private sector.

The United Nations Human Rights Task Force and Informal Human Rights Working Group, launched by the

Resident Coordinator's Office, are now creating synergy around rights-based development in Pakistan.

While civil society has developed capacity on protecting human rights, especially gender justice.

The newly-established Transgender Protection Centre in Islamabad and a multi-agency programme are now addressing social stigma and discrimination against transgender persons.

Three hundred youth accessed new opportunities to earn and gained awareness and psychosocial support to disengage from violent extremism in Quetta, Balochistan.



Transgender Protection Centre

established in Islamabad



National Action Plan

on Business and Human Rights launched



Efforts to disengage youth from violent extremism

expanded to Quetta



Consultations

on harmonizing data collection held to institutionalize the human rights information management system

Public services and representation

Effective public service delivery is the foundation of good governance that benefits the public.

All ministries committed to high standards of public service, entering into performance agreements with the prime minister.

Studies on civil service salary structures, reasons for slow top-level recruitment and gaps in management services, are now informing civil service reforms. While a roadmap for programmes and staff capability is now under development, following a digital readiness assessment of the Ministry of Information Technology & Telecommunication.

In Punjab and KP, a citizen satisfaction survey covering health, education, water and sanitation and citizen engagement and awareness has shown how shortcomings in the relationship between citizens and the state can be addressed.



41

all ministries signed performance agreements to improve civil service delivery



27,720 households

in KP and Punjab surveyed for satisfaction with public service delivery

Electoral representation

The ECP and its provincial counterparts are implementing the Election Bill, 2021 with UNDP support, and ensuring that eligible citizens, especially women and the most marginalized, exercise their democratic right.

Local government elections in KP and by-elections in Punjab were successfully conducted with UNDP support.

The Gender Wing of the ECP now has a committee to revitalize District Voter Education Committees, and a framework and consultative process is in place as part of the process of finalizing the Gender Mainstreaming and Social Inclusion Framework.



The first phase of the KP local government elections were smoothly conducted, with returning and election officials trained using a curriculum and guide prepared by UNDP. Public communication via text messaging, robocalls, radio messages, outreach materials and voter events built awareness about the elections amongst voters. 69,500 voters (including 34,055 women) learned about protocols to prevent spread of COVID-19 during the elections.

Women's citizen and voter registration initiatives expanded through a policy consultation to reduce gender gaps in voter registration, in partnership with the KP

Provincial Election Commission.

In Punjab, the local government department and Provincial Election Commission now have local government election rules.

UNDP capacitated 148 women as returning and election officers, providing them with the skills needed to perform their election duties efficiently during local government and senate elections.



657 election officials

trained to administer local government elections in KP



15,120,088 voters

reached with information on the local government elections and 69,500 (34,055 women) on COVID-19 protocols



In Focus

In Karachi, Sindh, UNDP's Local Level Disengagement & Rehabilitation Project disengages at-risk youth from violence extremism, and seeks to rehabilitate them as peaceful citizens.

Sara* was the highest scorer on the violent extremism psychometric assessment. The daughter of a Taliban-affiliated suicide bomber who died in Swat, she was waiting for an opportunity to "do her duty".

But, with continuous counselling and therapy, she was drawn away from extremism, while vocational training created opportunities to earn decent livelihoods.

Today, two years after the project, we've commissioned an impact assessment that shows that young participants like Sara have indeed seen a change for the better.

*Names have been changed.



PARTNERING FOR PEOPLE, PLANET AND PEACE

"The EU is pleased to partner with UNDP to strengthen the rule of in Pakistan, with a particular focus on women and marginalized groups. Effective national police and justice systems that are accessible to all are crucial for long-term peace, stability and development, and in achieving the sustainable development goals in Pakistan."

The European Union Delegation in Pakistan

"The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) partners with the Government of KP KP to implement reforms for the Merged Areas, erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). As the implementing partner of USAID's FATA Reforms Support Activity, UNDP supports the KP Government to plan and implement the development interventions associated with these reforms. These shared efforts have improved service delivery in the area and contributed to peace and prosperity in the region."

US Agency for International Development, Pakistan



CRISIS PREVENTION AND RECOVERY

Resilient communities in the Merged Areas

In 2021, UNDP continued to develop productive capacity and generate opportunities for employment in the Merged Areas. Improved access to basic services and social cohesion contributed to helping communities rebuild after years of marginalization. UNDP focused particularly on women, who made up 56 per cent of those who benefited.

As 50 schools were rehabilitated, girls were able to learn in new, furnished classrooms, with secure boundary walls, water and sanitation facilities to maintain hygiene.

Communities gained essential infrastructure and connection to markets and essential services through 84 community infrastructure schemes. Communities participated more

actively in development as 62 community organizations were reactivated, while 24 social cohesion events helped repair ruptures within them.

Young people learned vital skills for work and entrepreneurship, and kickstarted economic activity. Through technical and vocational training, 618 youth (268 women) began contributing to their region's economic growth, and 212 (97 women) accessed finance and business incubation services.

Another 4,345 small and medium entrepreneurs (1,715 women) and 1,522 people participating in workforce development programmes (757 women) started new jobs, and 2,509 accessed small loans for micro-businesses.



6,000 girls
will benefit from improved school infrastructure



615,389 people
in KP's Merged Areas benefited from community mobilization, improved services and economic opportunities



18,900 people (51% women)
gained better access to water, roads and connectivity

Economic landscapes

Flourishing local economies that offer employment opportunities and foster entrepreneurship lead to peaceful societies and households that are able to withstand shocks.

Private sector experts came together in the Economic Cooperation and Development Forum to inform government decision-making for economic development in the Merged Areas. Their inputs informed policy formulation to improve ease of doing business, and their recommendations were endorsed by the KP chief minister.

A mid-term evaluation showed the benefits for communities of the business grants and vocational skills development provided by UNDP, while incubators are helping young people pilot innovative ideas.

In Balochistan, university staff and students acknowledged the benefits of UNDP-supported entrepreneurship training provided by the Institute of Business Administration.

The Small Medium Enterprise Development Authority, in partnership with UNDP, launched an investment facilitation portal for entrepreneurs in the Merged Areas to access investment opportunities.



158 people (50 women)

in Balochistan received entrepreneurship training, 100 people (25 women) received vocational training



Investment facilitation portal

launched for Merged Area entrepreneurs



Investments in the future

Localized solutions and gender-sensitive approaches ensure that Pakistan's youth – both men and women – can step up to play their part as architects of the future.

KP youth developed a deeper understanding of social entrepreneurship, and how they could use it to help Pakistan achieve the SDGs.

Pakistan's first-ever Youth Development Index provided decision-makers with essential data to inform how to prioritize, invest in and track interventions in youth development. This gave data down to district and tehsil level, collected by UNDP in partnership with Viamo.

On-campus engagement inculcated the values of peace, tolerance, harmony, pluralism and co-existence among 8,303 university students.

With UNDP training, 201 young journalists practiced evidence-based and gender-sensitive reporting, with reinforced principles of verification and journalistic ethics.

By completing internships arranged by UNDP, 24 KP youth received the hands-on experience and confidence to effectively make demands on decision-makers.

While 100 young women, including former offenders were drawn away from violent activities through

psychosocial support, training on marketable skills and job placement.

marketable skills for the digital economy, on software quality assurance and app store optimization. And 1,000 KP women improved their employability through digital training.

Another 600 KP youth, including 120 women learned



78,215 young people
(37,200 women, 20 transgender)
participated in youth engagement and economic empowerment activities



First-ever
Youth Development Index
with district-level data on 16,000 youth



3,374 KP students
(40% women)
built understanding of social entrepreneurship



1,100 KP women
gained advanced digital skills and improved their employability and entrepreneurship



In Focus

In Pakistan's scenic north, UNDP promotes eco-tourism and new livelihood opportunities for young people.

We identified and supported training in eco-tourism for 1,500 youth from Chitral and Swat, in KP, through the Hashoo Foundation.

Amongst them are Shehriyar Ali and Sehar Shah, who have set up a tourism company called Homely Tours in Chitral.

Now, they're drawing on their connections with communities to establish a network of community homestays. The idea is to ensure that tourism benefits local people above all.

Shehriyar and Sehar are part of a new wave of young people building tourism infrastructure to benefit local economies while protecting the natural environment.



Shehriyar Ali and Sehar Shah, founders of Homely Tours

PARTNERING FOR PEOPLE, PLANET AND PEACE

“UNDP has been an effective partner in promoting the Generation Unlimited (GenU) agenda for young people on connecting education to skills, employment, and civic engagement. UNICEF and UNDP have jointly engaged young people, including adolescents, to amplify their important voice in decision-making through platforms such as E-policy lab and the GenU youth challenge. These platforms have reached disadvantaged youth, including Afghan refugees. The team has also skilfully designed a programme under GenU to enhance employment prospects by connecting young people to micro-credit and improving the government's job portal through a partnership with Silatech, a Qatar-based organization.”

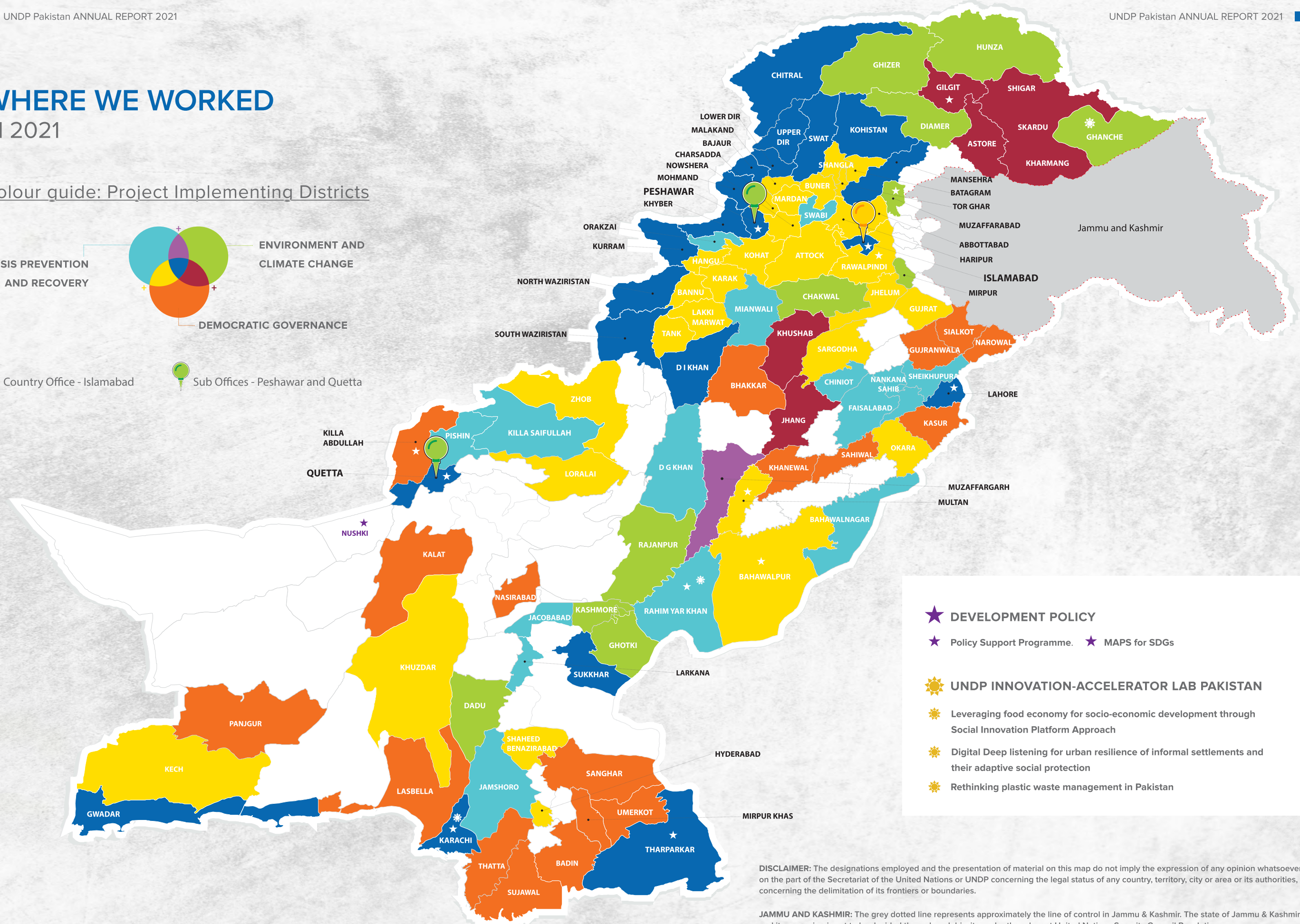
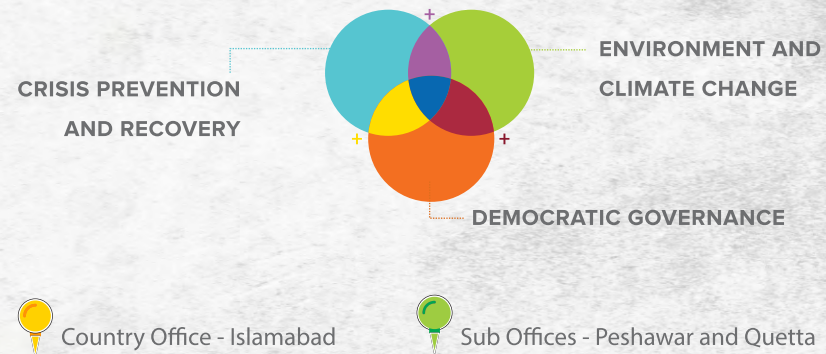
Ellen Van Kalmthout
Chief Education, UNICEF Pakistan

“The Australian High Commission was very pleased to support UNDP to undertake valuable and ground-breaking work to highlight and bring forward the peacebuilding role of women in conflict-affected areas. The project, 'Creating Pathways for Women's Thought Leadership and Activism for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa', enhanced women's roles as community leaders and activists in preventing and countering radicalization and violent extremism in Swat and Malakand. UNDP achieved this by working directly with women in communities and higher education institutions to demonstrate the positive roles women can play as change agents. It is pleasing that sustainability is to be achieved, with UNDP planning to expand activities to other areas on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border and to advocate for embedding critical thinking courses in higher education institutions across Pakistan.”

Joanne Frederiksen
Acting Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan

WHERE WE WORKED IN 2021

Colour guide: Project Implementing Districts



DISCLAIMER: The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations or UNDP concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR: The grey dotted line represents approximately the line of control in Jammu & Kashmir. The state of Jammu & Kashmir and its accession is yet to be decided through a plebiscite under the relevant United Nations Security Council Resolutions.



ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Communities and livelihoods

Pakistan is one of the countries most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Substantial efforts and investment are needed to make communities resilient, and better able to withstand climate change.

Conserving natural resources, including ecosystems and biodiversity, is integral to resilience. This not only safeguards them for the use of present and future generations, it ensures natural resources substantially contribute to the lives of communities, including livelihood opportunities. That's why it's crucial to mobilize and engage communities especially youth, and to understand their views.

In GB, communities created safer, healthier environments and resilient food systems by adopting climate-smart tunnel farms. Using these, they grew off-season vegetables and contributed to food security throughout the year, with higher crop yields. By using fuel-efficient stoves, they reaped environmental, social and health benefits, particularly for women.

Pathways to accessing safe drinking water and basic health services improved family health, improved opportunities for children's education and reduced the impacts of illness and poor nutrition on livelihoods.



19,487 people in GB

accessed health services –
17,825 youth, 250 people in extreme poverty,
1385 women, 27 people with disabilities



18,000 youth

spoke up about their needs
through the Youth Conversations
platform



Forests and natural environments

With UNDP's support, provincial governments have developed and implemented measures to conserve biodiversity, protect ecosystems and natural resources, while ensuring communities and youth have access to sustainable livelihoods.

In 2021, this encompassed landscape management planning, defining forest land boundaries, and the establishment of management information systems to monitor forests. With UNDP support, provincial forest and wildlife departments trained 30 officials on digital reporting. In Punjab, new rules for community-based

organizations and protected areas supported provincial governments in conserving biodiversity.

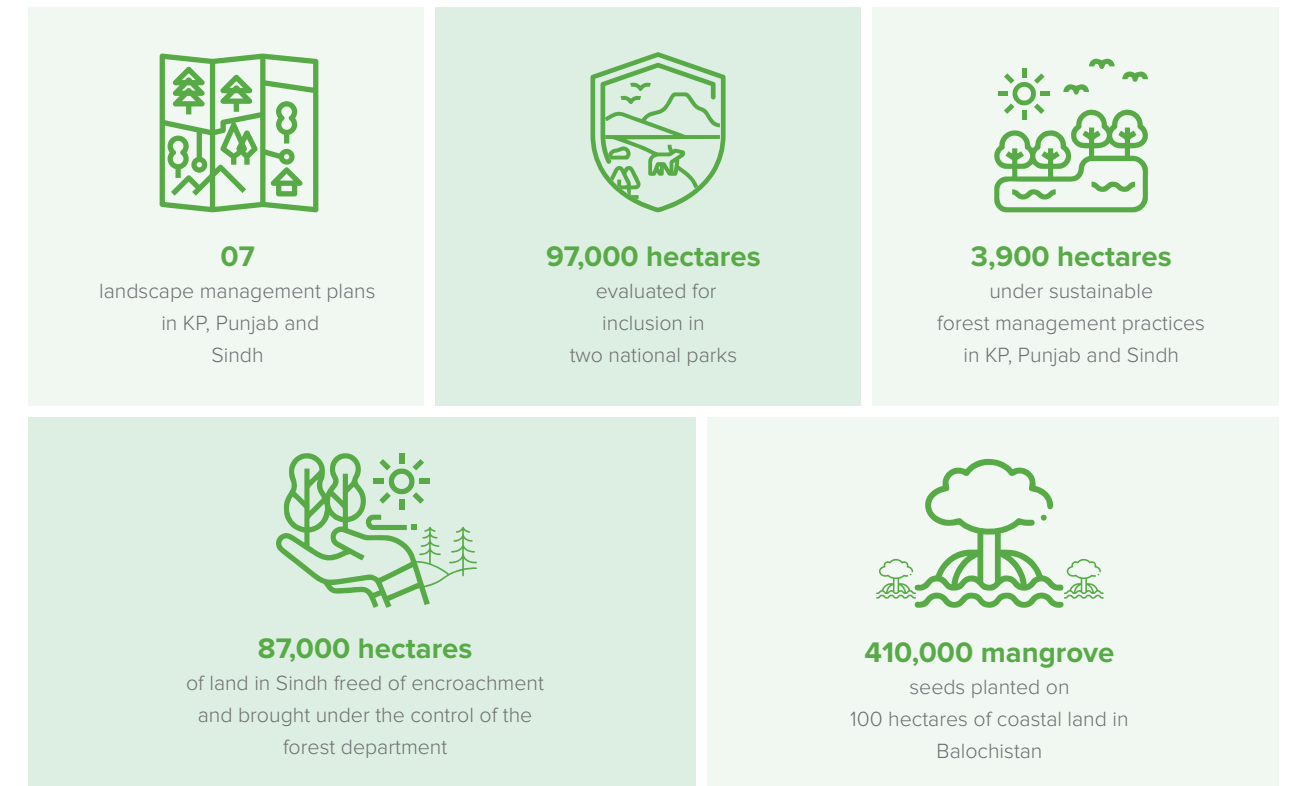
Sustainable forest management practices are now in use, incorporating consideration of ecosystems and biodiversity conservation, in KP, Sindh and Punjab. While in Balochistan, the forests and wildlife department's mangrove restoration efforts have gathered pace in Gwadar.

The Sindh forest department took control of forest land that had been subject to encroachment. While UNDP

prepared feasibility studies for two new national parks: Koh-e-Suleman and Topi Rakh.

Sindh and Punjab, where indicator species – hog deer, partridge, bear and grey langur – increased in an area of 15,000 hectares.

Conservation efforts showed concrete results in KP,



Protecting the planet

The Montreal Protocol is the global climate agreement that has produced tangible results in reducing chemicals that deplete ozone. With UNDP's support, Pakistan is doing its part.

In 2021, Pakistan reduced half of its chemicals with ozone-depleting potential, against a target of 248.11 tons. Pakistan is well on track to meeting its target to reduce by 67.5 per cent by 2025, and complete phaseout by 2040.

A youth survey led by the Ministry of Climate Change mapped climate awareness and contributions amongst young people, while youth and volunteer groups joined national discussions on Pakistan's existing NDCs on mitigating and adapting to climate change.

Pakistan now has a finalized National Action Plan on Climate Change, guiding climate change adaptation and mitigation measures, and announced enhanced NDCs at COP26 in Glasgow in 2021.

Amongst Pakistan's NDCs for COP26 is an ambitious commitment to ensure that, by 2030, 30 per cent of new vehicles sold in Pakistan are electric.

As the refrigeration and air conditioning industry grows rapidly, Pakistan aims to reduce its overall greenhouse gas emissions up to 50 per cent by 2030, with a 15 per cent drop below business as usual from the country's own resources, and the rest with international financial support.

Two project proposals developed with UNDP support are soon to be presented to the Global Environment Facility (GEF).



 <p>50% Pakistan reduced ozone-depleting chemicals</p>	 <p>National Action Plan on Climate Change finalized</p>	 <p>US\$ 6.7 million Global Environment Facility financing obtained</p>
 <p>30% of new vehicles to be electric by 2030 under National Electric Vehicles Policy</p>	 <p>50% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 under Climate change commitments</p>	

Preparing for disasters


Pakistan is vulnerable to a wide range of natural disasters and the impacts of a climate that is already changing. But with thorough, evidence-based DRR planning, communities can be helped to prepare and respond in a timely and efficient manner.

In 2021, the NDMA organized consultations in all the provinces with UNDP support, to better understand and guide the implementation of the Sendai Framework for DRR. The National Institute on Disaster Management built the capacity of district line departments on disaster risk management, climate risk management and independently conducting needs assessments in the event of a disaster.

While online courses on DRR, climate change adaptation and pandemic management enabled public sector staff to

learn to manage sudden shocks, even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

If a tsunami strikes, Pakistan's coastal population faces devastation without preparedness. Now, special safety guidelines exist for coastal schools, while evacuation guidelines have been developed for health facilities. In three vulnerable districts – Karachi West, Malir and Gwadar – preparedness and mitigation plans have been developed. The provincial emergency operations centre at the Sindh Provincial Disaster Management Authority, and district emergency operations centre in the three districts, have received essential equipment to strengthen response. Guidelines for building codes have been developed, and an early warning system is now in place so communities can take life-preserving action if a tsunami is imminent.

 <p>Tsunami risk preparedness –safety guidelines for schools and health facilities, preparedness plans and building codes, to leave no one behind</p>	 <p>05 tsunami early warning systems now in place</p>	 <p>09 District Emergency Operations Centres strengthened</p>
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In Focus

Pakistan's mountain communities depend on meltwater for agriculture and domestic use. But with climate change, water supply is more erratic. Accelerated melting wreaks havoc through floods, or water quantity falls.

But thanks to a UNDP-supported project, 11,812 people in four GB communities now have a reliable source of water which is helping them cultivate food and restore ecosystems.

We've helped them establish institutional platforms for participatory decision-making. Over 9.2 billion litres of water tapped from nature have now been returned to nature, protecting the environment and biodiversity, and improving socioeconomic conditions so communities and ecosystems thrive together.



Freshwater for the residents of Tassu village in Gol, Skardu.



DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Evidence for robust policymaking

Policies that are based on evidence rely on solid data and statistics that show what works and what the genuine needs are. They offer value for money, and are monitored and modified to ensure they continue to provide the right solutions.

UNDP's National Human Development Report 2020 on Inequality analysed data and articulated key policy needs to address inequality across multiple axes. Advocacy around the report's findings at federal and provincial levels, focusing on policy makers, civil society and development partners, informed public policies and programming, and their implementation, on issues of poverty and inequality.

In the Development Advocate Pakistan, experts and policy makers explored ideas that are crucial to the country's interests and development:

- *Crisis and resilience*
- *Climate change adaptation and mitigation*
- *Regional connectivity*
- *Equality*
- *Womenomics*

 **Pakistan National Human Development Report 2020**

National Human Development Report 2020,
focusing on inequality,
launched

DEVELOPMENT ADVOCATE PAKISTAN

05
issues of
Development Advocate Pakistan
published



Ehsaas Implementation Tracking Index
developed

Women's essential role in development came to the fore with the special report on Womenomics and a corresponding Twitter chat, and regional and federal webinars on International Women's Day. The National Commission on the Status of Women and UNDP Pakistan worked on a report based on nationwide consultations on women as agents of change, with

policy prescriptions to enhance resilience and reduce vulnerabilities of women.

UNDP provided technical support to the Ehsaas programme on research, stakeholder consultations and advocacy, and supported the development of the Ehsaas Implementation Tracking Index for a more inclusive strategy in the COVID-19 context.



Road to sustainable development

The SDGs are a promise for Pakistan's future. Meeting these historic goals is a crucial step towards achieving sustainable development that benefits all Pakistanis. And this requires mainstreaming the goals in policies and programmes at federal, provincial and local levels, bringing gender to the centre of the conversation, and modifying development approaches in a changing global context.

With SDG frameworks and policy documents prepared, Pakistan localized the SDGs, taking into account contextual development needs and ensuring governments are catalysts of change at federal and provincial levels. With UNDP's technical inputs, strategies, budgets and analyses of existing policies were aligned with the SDGs.

Recognizing that a changing post-pandemic context requires new approaches to sustainable development, UNDP proposed a new five-year SDG-plus programme to the Government of Pakistan, with support for public sector development programmes, financing and implementation to achieve inclusive and green recovery that leaves no one behind.

A Design Think Workshop hosted by UNDP was an opportunity for project teams and government counterparts to come together to develop a strategic framework for the next phase of the SDGs.

A new Gender Mainstreaming Framework guided efforts to mainstream gender into SDG programming, public discourse and policy. And the SDG Units marked the 16

Days of Activism campaign with awareness sessions calling for the elimination of violence against women and girls.


In Punjab, the Bureau of Statistics enhanced its ability to monitor and report on the SDGs, while in KP, district SDG profiles were developed. Pakistan Administered Kashmir (PAK) developed its first-ever education policy, and GB reported on its development budgets through an

SDG lens.

A partnership with the University of Balochistan led to the establishment of a Government Innovation Lab to utilize the ideas of youth to deliver people-oriented and accountable public services. UNDP also partnered with the Gwadar Institute of Technology which trained Balochistan youth on repairing boat engines and solar photovoltaic systems.



SDG-plus
programme proposed to
Government of Pakistan



Innovation
leveraged for
youth development in Balochistan



First-ever
education policy
for PAK



**Gender Mainstreaming
Framework**
developed for the national SDG programme



KP District
SDGs Scorecards
prepared



Financing for development


In the post-pandemic world, strategic partnerships with international investors looking for impactful investments can be a way to amplify targeted sustainable development. In 2021, a UNDP partnership with the Government of Pakistan to build a Financing for Development portfolio sought to mobilize private sector investments for climate finance and SDGs.

This included presenting Pakistan's SDG investment portfolio at global investment platforms such as SDG investment fairs. Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs drafted its first SDG Investment Report, and is setting up a Project Development Facility to play a key role in structuring selected strategic projects into a commercial

value proposition for development financing and impact investments.

A high-level delegation of the Government of Pakistan participated in UNDP events at COP26, bringing Pakistan's climate issues to global attention. UNDP also supported the development of a draft prospectus, following a major joint statement with government and development partners on exploring debt write-offs in return for meeting ecosystem and biodiversity targets.

Following Pakistan's first national stakeholder dialogue on DRR, UNDP supported development of a diagnostic study on inclusive insurance and risk finance.



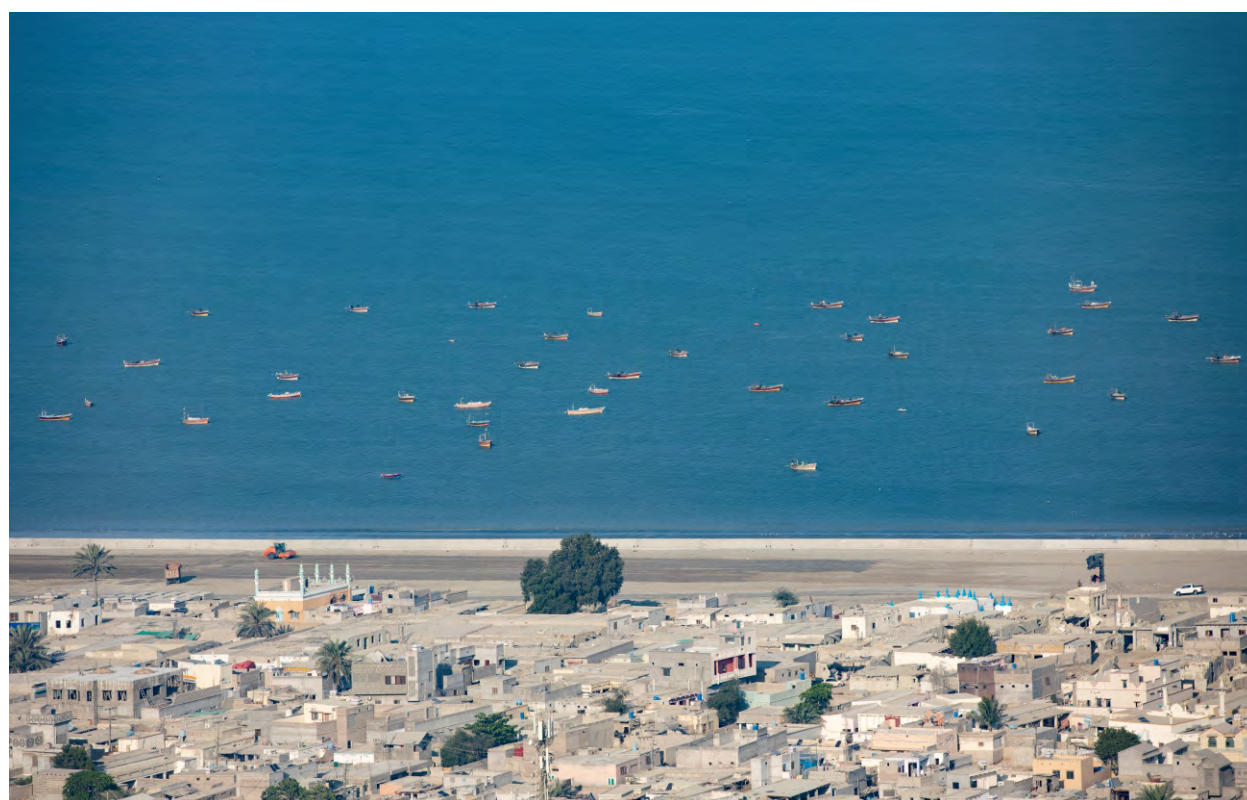
SDG Investment Report 2021
Pakistan's first SDG investment portfolio developed



Diagnostic study conducted on **inclusive insurance and risk finance**



Joint statement on **nature performance bonds**




Cities of the future

The Social Innovation Platform tested by the UNDP Innovation-Accelerator Lab (AccLab) provides an invaluable approach to blue-sky thinking on the cities of the future, building urban resilience and meeting the development challenges faced by marginalized and migrant communities.


Using this platform, UNDP collaborated with the Rawalpindi Development Authority to develop an urban

resilience roadmap, and piloted interventions including water conservation and recycling in the hospitality sector and mosques, and planting urban forests.

A pilot project on urban resilience conducted with the Institute of Business Administration showed new paths to strengthening inclusion and resilience of migrants, displaced people and host communities in the informal urban settlements of Karachi.



Rawalpindi Resilience Roadmap
developed with the Rawalpindi Development Authority



Urban resilience
strategies and pilot initiatives in Karachi's informal settlements initiated using the Social Innovation Platform, in partnership with IBA



In Focus

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UNDP launched the first-ever Pakistan SDG Investment Report 2021 to leverage local and international private sector investment for sustainable development and green economic recovery.

This gives an overview of Pakistan's policy priorities, regulatory environment and private sector development. It is an invaluable tool for creating strategic partnerships with international investors looking for impact investments in climate change and climate financing, small and medium enterprises and industrial development, information and communication technology, healthcare and education, and transportation and logistics.

This will help expand the pool of public and private sector financing for targeted sustainable development projects in Pakistan.

The report forms the basis of UNDP's work under its flagship SDG Impact Initiative. UNDP is also setting up a Project Development Facility to promote private financing and impact investments in Pakistan.



PARTNERING FOR PEOPLE, PLANET AND PEACE

"A strong social protection system is one of the best ways to address rising inequality, poverty, and lack of inclusion. UNDP's focus on Leaving No One Behind has huge synergies with social protection platforms like Ehsaas, which truly leaves no one behind and targets 16 vulnerable groups through 16 programmes; it is also structured to respond to emergencies as in the context of COVID-19. UNDP's assistance in research, consultations,

advocacy and in supporting our Ehsaas Implementation Tracking Index has been hugely meaningful to us, and has showcased their deep commitment towards the inclusion of vulnerable groups in socioeconomic life."

Dr Sania Nishtar
Former Chairperson, BISP



INNOVATION

UNDP Innovation-Accelerator Lab (Acclab) is a **strategic innovation support unit** at the centre of UNDP programming. The Lab is a **safe learning space** which collaborates with projects and partners to field test new programming and use **innovative tools** such as systems thinking, design and experimentation.



Replacing traditional linear projects with the Social Innovation Platform

In 2021, UNDP's Acclab tested the Social Innovation Platform model through a series of experiments in Hushey Valley GB, in partnership with the Agirre Lehendakaria Center and GB Foundation and the governance team from UNDP's Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific.

The experiment focused on food systems as a key driver for socio-economic change in Hushey Valley. A portfolio of interconnected experiments was designed with local communities and key stakeholders, aiming to create a systemic shift.

The first round of experiments focused on tunnel farming, herbal tea production and apricot oil, and identified entry points such as market access for these products and e-commerce training for young men and women.

By using the Social Innovation Platform in the urban resilience programme, Acclab and UNDP's Development Planning Unit obtained funding from the Government of Denmark to use a digital listening platform to capture the voices of marginalized women and young girls to predict their needs and promote timely action for social protection by government and other partners. This project will begin in 2022.



Hushey Valley –
food systems experiments
show way towards
systemic change



Funding obtained for
digital listening platform
for marginalized women and girls

Testing the circular economy model through plastic waste management

The first phase of experiments drew on new methodologies, including portfolio logic and experimentation, aiming to rethink extractive economic models and testing out a circular economic model for plastic waste in Rahim Yar Khan.

The objectives of these experiments were:

- Improving the design of plastic products to make them more recyclable
- Identifying ways to improve plastic waste collection, sorting and recycling through a partnership with Unilever in Rahim Yar Khan

- Setting a research, development and policy agenda for circular plastics
- Creating a movement to “rethink plastics”, stirring conversations around better plastic waste management
- Researching the waste-to-energy potential of plastic waste to make a business case

This model has been taken up by Unilever Pakistan. Acclab supported it and UNDP's Environment and Climate Change Unit to develop a scale-up strategy for 2022, in line with UNDP's global commitment to support



governments worldwide in developing business solutions for waste management.

UNDP is part of a regional cohort of five countries (Pakistan, the Maldives, Vietnam, Sri Lanka and the

Philippines) working on plastic waste management with the Regional Innovation Centre in Bangkok, and published an intelligence report to codify the systemic processes used to unpack the problem and design solutions.



Circular waste model
taken up by Unilever
in Rahim Yar Khan



Intelligence report published on
**systemic design
methodology**

Reimagining development programming

UNDP's AccLab reimagines how development solutions are designed.

In a rapidly changing world, with new challenges and opportunities, it explores and experiments with new approaches to envisage radically different development solutions.

In addition to our portfolio work on major frontier challenges, it sits at the heart of strategic programming at UNDP's country office, identifying emerging trends and using design tools to develop innovative programming, solutions and identifying new partnerships.



Development of UNDP's new **Country Programme Document**

facilitated with a workshop on using systemic design, foresight and design thinking tools



New methodologies for **systemic transformation programming**

Social Innovation Platform, portfolio logic, experimentation, deep listening and systemic design



New programming opportunities identified in **green jobs for youth, and women** and technology

In Focus

Zehra Parveen supplements her husband's small salary as a police officer by growing peas and wheat on her small farm. Until recently, earnings were low and she only had one crop a year due to the harsh winters of the Hushe Valley, GB.

Today, however, Zehra is participating in a prototype livelihood initiative developed through the Social Innovation Platform. Hers is one of eight villages where tunnel farming introduced through the platform is enabling people like Zehra to grow vegetables even during the off-season.

"We are so excited as we are already harvesting the first batch," says Zehra. "I am expecting that from next year we will be able to grow and sell vegetables in the winters and generate income."



PARTNERING FOR PEOPLE, PLANET AND PEACE

"We are confident that partnership with UNDP will identify a solution that will not only reduce plastic waste in Rahim Yar Khan but also provide an opportunity for livelihood to thousands of people across the country"

Amir Paracha
Chairman & CEO, Unilever Pakistan

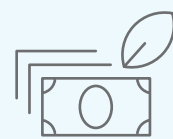
GLOBAL VISION NATIONAL SOLUTIONS

UNDP put its global experience and technical expertise at the service of Pakistan's future, supporting efforts to engage UN agencies, national and sub-national governments, the private sector and civil society to achieve the shared vision of eradicating poverty.



Supporting a shared vision to eradicate poverty in Pakistan

- 78,215 marginalized people, including 37,200 women, gained access to livelihood and income opportunities and basic services.
- All 41 federal ministries and divisions signed two-year performance contracts with the prime minister.
- Implementation plans were developed for election oversight, inclusive access to human rights services and SDG localization.



Structural transformation laying the ground for sustained and equitable development

- The financial management information system was integrated in the Merged Areas, and a local government budgetary framework developed for technologically assisted land resettlement.
- A financial accounting and budgeting system was established to track national and sub-national development and current expenditures.



Building local capacity to adapt to climate change impacts

- Forest management plans were developed for all seven target landscapes.
- A digital management information system came into operation in Sindh.



Facilitating governments to manage conflict, prepare for shocks and integrate risk management in development planning

- NDMA developed an Action Plan to implement the Sendai Framework for DRR.
- 1,348,579 hectares of protected land was managed using improved plans.

In 2021 UNDP directly supported Pakistan's achievement of the SDGs



UNDP implemented its Strategic Plan

Outcome 1

Eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions

Outcome 2

Accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development

Outcome 3

Build resilience to shocks and crises

UNDP supported Pakistan programmes for equitable development



Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety
Government of Pakistan



RESPONDING TO COVID-19

In the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNDP built capacity, provided technical assistance and assisted with communication to support the government in achieving an effective and more inclusive COVID-19 response.

Small enterprises were supported with business continuity and youth training helped them explore new avenues for income generation and employment.

The Pakistan National Human Development Report 2020 was launched in April 2021 by the prime minister. The report gives a unique understanding of the dimensions of inequality in Pakistan, and how COVID-19 will exacerbate the vulnerabilities experienced by the most marginalized.

The launch was followed by the Pakistan Inequality Debates to disseminate and advocate around the findings at national and provincial levels.

UNDP also supported COVID-19 resilience through

green economic recovery and social protection enhancement for reducing inequalities, including collaboration with the government's social protection programme, providing technical assistance for a national tracking index, research and evidence production, advocacy, knowledge management and stakeholder engagement.



5,000 medical professionals

trained in intensive care through partnerships with the private sector and

65 ICUs became operational.



LOOKING AHEAD

We will mobilize private sector investments in SDG and development through the first-ever SDG Investor Map for Pakistan, and an SDG Investment Project Development Facility. ■

We will implement a global Social Innovation Platform approach to strengthen urban resilience and development and new policy sectors, like the blue economy, with federal, provincial and local governments. ■

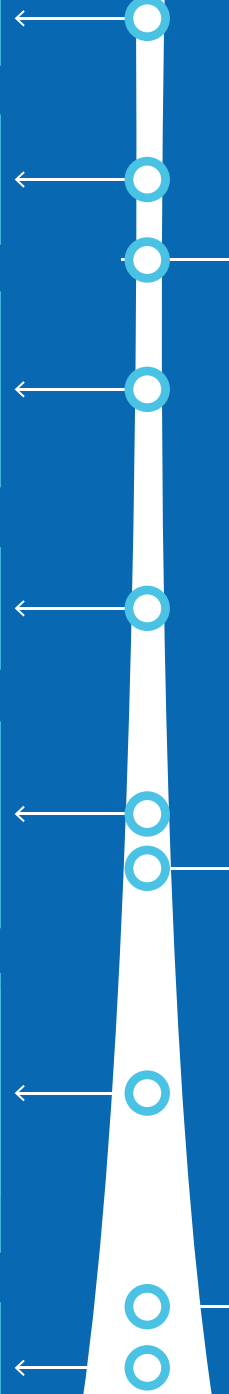
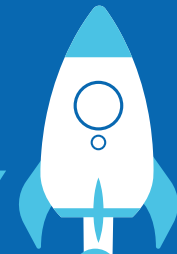
Through a newly signed grant with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis, we will work with government health institutions at federal and provincial levels to achieve the strategic goals of the Pakistan AIDS Strategy IV (PAS-IV) on addressing low prevention and testing coverage among key populations. ■

We will partner with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to publish Pakistan's first SDG investment report to mobilize private sector investment in public sector development projects aligned with the SDGs. ■

We will produce evidence-based research and analysis, with policy briefs for the National Human Development Report 2023, convene the digital transformation policy hub and deepen our programmatic focus on innovation for development through e-governance, e-service delivery, and green economic recovery, focusing particularly on vulnerable youth and women. ■

We will expand our programming on economic stabilization, inclusion and resilience, both geographically and programmatically, and provide analytical, policy advisory, research and evidence, and technical assistance support for the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, and strategic coordination and partnerships with the United Nations across the region – the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, and UNDP in Afghanistan, Iran and Central Asia. ■

We will implement Gender Mainstreaming in SDG frameworks, develop gender proposals and engage potential donors and UN agencies on pipeline projects to integrate gender mainstreaming as a principal objective. ■



We will create the conditions for women and girls to play their part in the prosperity of the Merged Areas by working in consortium with UNICEF to support the education department in rehabilitating girls' primary schools, and by building water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in rehabilitated markets, making them more customer-friendly for women and girls. ■

We will draw on systems thinking and experimentation to design innovative solutions to Pakistan's complex challenges, deepening our partnerships with the innovators, private sector and start-ups to bring creative, locally designed ideas into development programming. ■

In KP, we will place a six-member team to strengthen the Planning Support Unit within the planning and development department. ■



RESOURCES

2021 expenditure by source of funds (in US\$)



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“ *To expand people’s choices for a fairer, sustainable future,
to build the world envisioned by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
Development
with planet and people in balance.* ”

UNDP's vision for its Strategic Plan, 2018–2021



United Nations Development Programme

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