



UN  
DP



2022

# ANNUAL REPORT

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



“

“Pakistan is the latest country to be facing the devastating impacts of climate change first-hand. Clearly these are not ‘threats of the future’; these are very real risks of today. 33 million people have been affected by the worst flooding in decades. As part of the United Nations emergency response, UNDP is working together with our partners and preparing for climate smart **recovery** and **reconstruction** efforts, while building resilience long-term to support the people and the Government of Pakistan.”

**Achim Steiner**  
Administrator, UNDP



Photo: Asfar Hussain Shah/UNDP Pakistan

Cover photo:

Shama, residing in Dadu, Sindh, experienced the devastating effects of the flood that led to the complete destruction of her house. Presently, she is engaged in the reconstruction of her house, through financial aid offered by UNDP in the form of cash grants.

Photo: Shuja Hakim/UNDP Pakistan

## CONTENTS

Acronyms	02	Development Policy	26
Foreword	03	Accelerator Lab	30
Introduction	04	Gender Mainstreaming	34
Highlights 2022	06	Resources	36
Flood Response and Recovery	08		
Democratic Governance	10		
Crisis Prevention and Inclusion	14		
Where We Work	18		
Resilience, Environment and Climate Change	20		



### UNDP Pakistan Annual Report 2022

Copyright © 2023 All rights reserved.

All photographs are the property of UNDP Pakistan.

Layout & design: Asfar Hussain Shah

A publication by Communications Unit, UNDP Pakistan.



## ACRONYMS

<b>4RF</b>	Resilient Recovery, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction Framework
<b>AccLab</b>	UNDP Accelerator Lab
<b>AICS</b>	Italian Agency for Development Cooperation
<b>AIP</b>	Accelerated Implementation Programme
<b>ECP</b>	Election Commission of Pakistan
<b>FBR</b>	Federal Board of Revenue
<b>FCDO</b>	Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office
<b>GB</b>	Gilgit-Baltistan
<b>GLOF</b>	Glacial Lake Outburst Flooding
<b>KP</b>	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
<b>NDC</b>	Nationally Determined Contributions
<b>PAK</b>	Pakistan-Administered Kashmir
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNESCO</b>	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>WASH</b>	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Photo: Shahzad Ahmad/UNDP Pakistan

## FOREWORD

The devastating floods of 2022 had a profound impact on Pakistan, affecting one-third of the country and causing immense suffering to millions of people.

The partnership between the Ministry of Economic Affairs and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) remained strong and seamless. UNDP's invaluable technical support played a crucial role in the conduct of the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) which became the basis of the Resilient Recovery, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction Framework (4RF) for Pakistan. The 4RF document outlined the key priority areas, financing and implementation strategies required for the resilient reconstruction and rehabilitation in the post-floods' situation. UNDP's Flood Recovery Programme, addressing both urgent and long-term needs such as housing, community infrastructure, and livelihood recovery, is a cornerstone of this recovery process.

UNDP has been a close ally of the Government of Pakistan in its pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2022, their support was instrumental in the preparation of our inaugural SDG Status Report. This report allows us to assess Pakistan's progress towards sustainable development and chart a course for accelerating our efforts and making necessary course corrections.

This partnership has also yielded substantial gains in improved governance. Together, we have made significant strides in the realm of digital transformation, enhancing and broadening services to benefit Pakistan's citizens. A notable example is the implementation of a new digitized complaints mechanism by the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), which has streamlined and made more inclusive the process of addressing citizen concerns.

I am confident that partnership with UNDP during the year 2023, and beyond, will continue to be pivotal. Together, we will confront new challenges and develop new opportunities for sustainable development.

### Dr. Kazim Niaz

Federal Secretary  
Ministry of Economic Affairs  
Government of Pakistan



## INTRODUCTION

2022 will be remembered as a critical, trying year for Pakistan, with growing macroeconomic and fiscal concerns, a cost of living crisis impacting the most vulnerable, and cataclysmic floods whose threats were multiplied by climate change. Taken together, and with the country still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, Pakistan faced a multidimensional crisis that risked rolling back hard-won development gains.



Photo: Shahzad Ahmad/UNDP Pakistan

As the floodwaters slowly receded, UNDP remained a close partner of Pakistan's government, along with our sister agencies in the United Nations, the Asian Development Bank, European Union and the World Bank. I am proud that the UNDP team in Pakistan and globally came together to meet the immediate needs and ensure equitable mid-to-long-term recovery. We provided technical support to the Pakistan Post-Disaster Needs Assessment and Resilient Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Framework, which is guiding holistic efforts to rebuild devastated communities, infrastructure and economies sustainably. With an estimated US\$30 billion in loss and damage, and 8 million Pakistanis pushed below the poverty line, the work of rebuilding is necessary, and must be done with care to reach the most marginalized, especially women.

Aligned with the 4RF, UNDP's US\$90 million Flood Recovery Programme will help impoverished women and men in Sindh and Balochistan restore their housing and community infrastructure, rebuild livelihoods and essential social

services, while strengthening disaster resilience and environmental protections in the face of future inevitable climate and other disasters.

Gender-sensitive recovery is an important principle in this process. Our consultations held in partnership with the National Commission on the Status of Women in developing the *Climate Equity: Women as Agents of Change*<sup>1</sup> report will be crucial for a sustainable recovery in which women are at the fore. Our support for the revision of Pakistan's nationally determined contributions (NDCs) contributed to new commitments to limiting emissions, an inclusive green transition, and adaptation measures that recognise the country's extreme vulnerability to climate change.

On early warning – a critical aspect of risk management and mitigation – local actions included supporting tsunami preparedness, as well as the installation of four automated weather stations to provide mountain communities with early warning of potential glacial lake outburst flooding (GLOF) events.



Photo: Shuja Hakim/UNDP Pakistan

The year 2022 also brought positive developments for the country's development agenda. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province, our rule of law programme saw legal cases being processed faster than they were received, reducing backlog. In the Merged Areas of KP province, nearly a quarter of million people accessed livelihood opportunities, an important part of bringing this marginalized region into the economic mainstream.

We supported effective planning through a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights which upholds three important principles: the state's duty to protect human rights, the responsibility of businesses to respect these rights, and access to remedial measures when human rights are violated through business activity.

The establishment of an SDG Investment and Climate Financing Facility represents an important step towards achieving the SDGs by leveraging private sector investments for a sustainable and climate-resilient future.

Our ambitious support for the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) contributed to millions of people in KP, Balochistan and Sindh being reached by voter information campaigns, supporting the smooth conduct of local government elections. In KP, these campaigns reached voters in the Merged Areas which, for the first time, have elected local governments.

As the Country Programme (2018–2022) came to an end, UNDP is committed to building on the progress made. Over these four years, over 855,000 women have received national identity cards with UNDP support, enabling them to register to vote and access services. We furthered the

development of a localized institutional framework to guide progress towards the SDGs, and worked with government counterparts to integrate the Merged Areas and support over 1.1 million displaced people with education, health and social development. With our support, 40,000 people, nearly half of them women, improved their access to justice. We celebrated the development of a National Climate Change Policy, and the passage of the Transgender Act. We also supported the establishment of nine district emergency operations centres which provide crucial coordination support when climate change catastrophes occur.

These are only some of the successes we celebrate from the past four years, and acknowledge that their driving force is our close partnership with government counterparts at federal, provincial and local levels. Our sister agencies in the United Nations, international financial institutions and development banks were, as ever, crucial partners bringing expertise, motivation and convening power. Civil society organizations and academic institutions brought their profound knowledge and local networks. Above all, communities, women and youth inspired and motivated us through their commitment to sustainable, inclusive, equitable development and to Pakistan's future.

Every individual in Pakistan is now personally experiencing the effects of climate change, and UNDP is working closely to build resilience and support adaptation. Strong institutions, vibrant economies, and an informed, engaged and employed population – including women and youth – is essential to successfully weather coming storms.

The year 2023 marks the beginning of a new five-year Country Programme, developed in consultation with stakeholders across Pakistan, approved by the government, and aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. This lays out the roadmap for cooperation with government partners and beyond to meet Pakistan's development aspirations. To ensure development impact and effectiveness in policy and programming, this new Country Programme brings multiple thematic and sectoral interventions into coherent, integrated portfolios that are boosted by the innovative tools and techniques pioneered by UNDP's Accelerator Lab (AccLab).

Through innovation and technical expertise, and rich partnerships with government, development partners, civil society and communities throughout the country, we're committed to stand with Pakistan in achieving transformative, dignified, equitable, resilient development for all.

### Samuel Rizk (PhD)

Resident Representative  
UNDP Pakistan

1. Available at <https://www.undp.org/pakistan/publications/climate-equity-women-agents-change>



# HIGHLIGHTS 2022



**69 MILLION VOTERS**

IN BALOCHISTAN, SINDH AND KP REACHED BY EDUCATION CAMPAIGNS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS



**62,252 PEOPLE (16,782 WOMEN)**

RECEIVED ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY FOR HIV



**19,371 PEOPLE (9,104 WOMEN)**

BENEFIT FROM IMPROVED WASTE MANAGEMENT IN ISLAMABAD



**PAKISTAN'S NDCs UPDATED**



**UPDATED NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY**



**EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI RISK ASSESSMENTS IN KARACHI**



**NATIONAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT ON DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION INITIATED**



**UPGRADED SYSTEM AND AN INCLUSIVE CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS PORTAL FOR TRADERS AT PAKISTAN CUSTOMS AND FBR**

**DEVELOPMENT ADVOCATE PAKISTAN**

4 ISSUES: MEDIA FOR DEVELOPMENT, INCLUSIVE GROWTH, THE FUTURE OF WORK, CLIMATE STRESSORS ON GENDER EQUALITY



**3,300 GIRLS** IN THE MERGED AREAS AND CHITRAL ARE STUDYING IN **22 REHABILITATED SCHOOLS**



**75 MARKET HUBS** IN THE MERGED AREAS WITH NEW WASH SERVICES



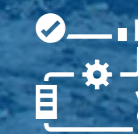
**5 BALOCHISTAN SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS** RENOVATED



**SDG INVESTMENTS AND CLIMATE FINANCING FACILITY** LAUNCHED



**PAKISTAN'S FIRST SDG STATUS REPORT** PUBLISHED



**URBAN RESILIENCE CONFERENCE** IN KARACHI CONVENED, **RAWALPINDI RESILIENCE ROADMAP** LAUNCHED



**1,163** local elected officials trained in KP Merged Areas including **37 WOMEN**



**CASE DISPOSAL RATE** OF THE KP JUDICIARY INCREASED BY **10%** FROM 2021 TO 2022



**4 VALLEYS WITH EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS** FOR GLOF THROUGH **AUTOMATED WEATHER STATIONS**



**IMPROVED FOOD SECURITY, LIVELIHOODS AND MARKET CONNECTIONS** THROUGH SOCIAL INNOVATION PLATFORM EXPERIMENTS IN HUSHEY VALLEY



**HUMAN-CENTRED DESIGN** FOR BETTER SERVICES THROUGH THE **NEW FBR COMPLAINTS DASHBOARD**



**GENDER PORTFOLIO** DEVELOPMENT STEERED USING THE **PORTFOLIO INITIATION FRAMEWORK**



# FLOOD RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

The 2022 floods showed that Pakistan stands at the frontlines of climate change. UNDP is working across the humanitarian-development nexus for short and long-term solutions that enhance resilience, build environmental protections, and include women and vulnerable groups (youth, ethnic, gender, and religious minorities, and persons with disabilities) in critical areas of post-disaster programming. Through partnerships with communities and governments, UNDP is helping ensure that they can withstand future disasters.



Photo: Shahzad Ahmad/UNDP Pakistan

## IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

In the immediate aftermath of the floods, UNDP mobilized resources, provided technical support for designing framework documents, managed external communications and coordinated an effective multisectoral response.

UNDP technical experts placed in the Ministry of Planning, Development, and Special Initiatives, and provincial departments of planning and development, contributed to finalized flood recovery plans for Sindh, Balochistan, and KP provinces.

As UN technical lead, UNDP supported the development of the Government of Pakistan's Post-Disaster Needs Assessment, which estimates flood damages at US\$14.9 billion and recovery needs at US\$16 billion, and the Government of Pakistan's 4RF. UNDP is now the secretariat to the International Partners Support Group, a high-level advisory body to coordinate the implementation of the 4RF.

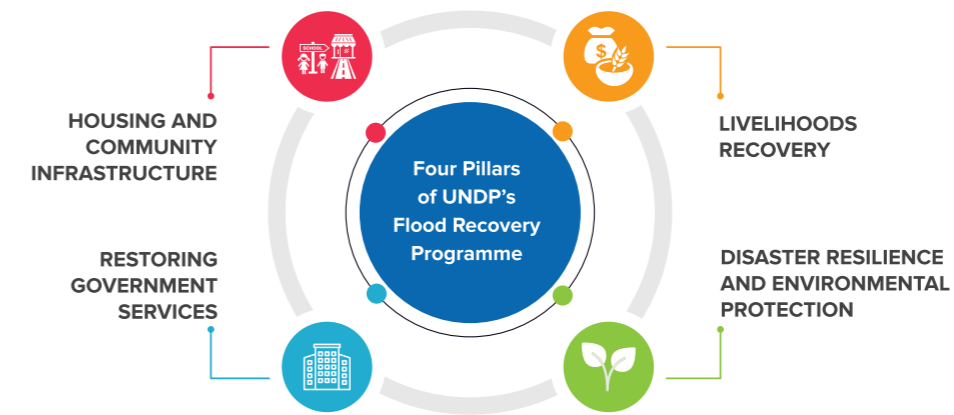
UNDP was also technical lead on the UN side for the International Conference on Climate-Resilient Pakistan in Geneva, at which international partners committed over \$9 billion for recovery.

## FLOOD RECOVERY PROGRAMME

In Sindh and Balochistan, the two worst-affected provinces, UNDP has begun recovery operations.

The US\$90 million Flood Recovery Programme aims to help communities transition from relief towards resilient and sustainable recovery under Pakistan's 4RF.

UNDP's approach to recovery bridges the gap between relief, recovery, and long-term development. The four pillars of the programme are:



Through these four pillars, the programme aims both to meet immediate critical needs and to lay the foundation for a more resilient future. Furthermore, to tackle recovery needs, UNDP is collaborating with sister agencies to develop joint programmes and integrated approaches for education and WASH, livelihoods recovery and women's access to justice, empowerment and social protection.



Photo: Shahzad Ahmad/UNDP Pakistan

## TARGETS

Cash grant support to 580 beneficiaries (50% women) in Sindh and Balochistan

35 community infrastructure schemes (10 in Balochistan and 25 in Sindh)

Over 896 people (702 men and 194 women) engaged in Balochistan and Sindh for cash-for-work programming

Support the Government of Pakistan's flood recovery process

Develop the Government of Pakistan's recovery vision and programme





Photo: Shuja Hakim/UNDP Pakistan

“

*“The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) partners with the Government of KP through UNDP to strengthen border governance of the Merged Areas which border Afghanistan to improve cross-border connectivity, improve economic growth, security and stability as a result of these interventions. This will help to create the groundwork for a resilient border, enabling the free flow of goods and people, and the organic promotion of shared economic opportunities.”*

**Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)  
United Kingdom**

*“The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is partnering with the UNDP in Pakistan to support the Government of KP’s Accelerated Implementation Programme (AIP) – a strategic initiative to drive development in the region’s most under-served areas along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border. With funding support from USAID, UNDP is planning and executing the developmental interventions integral to the AIP and, in addition, supporting the newly introduced local government system, thereby promoting democracy and enhancing the delivery of public services.”*

**United States Agency for International Development (USAID) United States of America**

# DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

In 2022, UNDP continued its support for government in improving governance and rule of law mechanisms at national and sub-national levels. Through institutional development, including policy, capacity building and infrastructure support, UNDP contributed towards strengthened service delivery by government, building trust between state and citizens and creating an enabling environment where individuals, particularly the most vulnerable, can exercise their rights.

## STRENGTHENED GOVERNANCE IN THE MERGED AREAS

With continued strategic support from UNDP, government systems in the Merged Areas of KP province were integrated and strengthened. UNDP worked closely with district and local administrations to improve service quality and enhance accountable governance and economic opportunities.

UNDP support facilitated response to the catastrophic 2022 floods and informed the government’s US\$ 2.1 billion Accelerated Implementation Programme (AIP) to integrate the Merged Areas.

This accelerated development strategy was supported through eight high-impact pilot interventions including skills training for 361 young people, the introduction of tunnel farming for climate-smart agriculture at 150 farms in Bajaur, educating communities on health, hygiene and water conservation, and testing their willingness to pay for electricity.

Capacity building support extended by UNDP to the Merged Area’s first-ever cohort of 1,219 (1,044 men and 175 women) local elected officials, in Bajaur and Mohmand, strengthened their ability to effectively represent their communities.



**1,219 (1,044 men and 175 women) local elected officials trained in KP Merged Areas**



**361 youths received skills training for employability**



**150 farms pioneered tunnel farming techniques**

## STRENGTHENING RULE OF LAW

With UNDP support, law enforcement agencies and rule of law institutions in the country’s most challenging regions – Balochistan, KP and the Merged Areas – strengthened the delivery of efficient and affordable justice, and empowered marginalized communities through improved access to justice.

The year saw the completion of major infrastructure projects, including the KP Prosecution Academy, support for developing policy and guidelines for the Anti-Narcotics Force, KP’s first-ever gender strategy, and strengthened alternate dispute resolution mechanisms in KP and Balochistan.

With the development of its first-ever Policing Plan with UNDP support, the KP government is now setting priorities that will guide effective law enforcement in the Merged Areas.



**Case disposal rate of the KP judiciary increased by 10% from 2021 to 2022**



**KP Prosecution academy inaugurated**



UNDP support led to the establishment of 35 virtual courts and 75 virtual points to link prisons to the Peshawar High Court in 2021. As a result, the case disposal rate for the KP judiciary rose by 12 percentage points, from 94% in 2021 to 106% in 2022.

The provincial prosecution system has been strengthened through the development of Service and Operations Rules for KP Forensic Science Agency Act, 2020, while revisions to the KP Prison Act and Rules are helping to improve conditions for prison inmates.

Access to justice in the Merged Areas of KP is more effective and equitable, with more efficient informal justice mechanisms following revisions to the Dispute Resolution Councils Rules under KP Police Act 2017. Similarly, the Balochistan High Court has developed rules for the province's alternate dispute resolution mechanism (pre-trial mediation by court officials) under section 89-A, Civil Procedure Court 1908, with UNDP technical support.



Court-annexed mediation rules developed in Balochistan

### ELECTORAL REPRESENTATION

A total of 1,433 (1,202 men and 231 women) election officials improved their technical and professional skills to conduct free and fair general elections with UNDP support. The ECP tested and developed an election monitoring system, with UNDP support, and enhanced its research and development centre.

Through UNDP-supported voter education campaigns, the ECP reached out to 18.2 million people in KP, 6.8 million in Balochistan and 44 million in Sindh, informing and educating them in preparation for local government elections.

For the 2023 general election, public awareness was enhanced through national voter education campaigns that reached 3,238 youth voters (including 1,683 women and 1,554 men and 1 transgender) in colleges and universities and engaged 1,163 people (37 women and 1,126 men) people in KP and Balochistan through sessions held with media, communities and civil society.



69 million voters in Balochistan, Sindh and KP reached by education campaigns for local government elections



3,238 youth voters educated



1,163 election official trained including 37 women



Photo: UNDP Pakistan

### ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

With UNDP's strategic support for the Office of the Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Government Effectiveness, a Strategic Roadmap was developed for the government's national agenda for economic recovery in 2023, focusing particularly on Pakistan's energy needs.

An inclusive online customer complaint portal has enabled traders, particularly women, young entrepreneurs and small traders, to raise issues directly with Pakistan Customs and the FBR. While senior customs officials have benefitted from an improved digital dashboard providing on-the-ground data analytics, enabling them to oversee operations more effectively.

The Ministry of Human Rights now has a strategy to ensure mechanisms to collect human rights data across Pakistan are harmonized and is now implementing the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights with UNDP support.



Development of Strategic Roadmap supported to guide economic recovery



Inclusive customer complaint portal for traders at Pakistan Customs and FBR



Strengthened digital dashboard for customs officials



National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights implemented

Photo: UNDP Pakistan

## IN FOCUS

Shahzaib had always wanted to be an architect, but his life was turned upside down in 2009, when militancy and military operations in the Merged Areas forced his family to relocate to a camp for displaced people. Living in the camp, Shahzaib could not stop thinking of his home and school, both razed to the ground. The only thing that kept him going was his passion for learning.

Today, Shahzaib is one of the most promising students at the Construction Training and Technology Institute, set up under the Government of KP's Accelerated Skills Development Programme to cater to the needs of youth from the Merged Areas. Thanks to the UNDP-supported programme, youths like Shahzaib receive a modern education and gain soft skills and are linked to apprenticeship programmes to help them excel in the world of work.





“

“Canada is proud to be funding UNDP’s efforts to deliver programming through the “Improved Access to Quality Education in Tribal Districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa” project which has contributed significantly towards school reconstruction, teacher training, and institutional strengthening. This has resulted in improved service delivery, leading to stronger education outcomes for girls in the newly merged areas of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. The achievement of results to date is especially noteworthy given the implementation constraints the project has faced due to a very challenging operating environment.”

**Luke Myers**  
Counsellor (Development) and Head of Cooperation  
High Commission of Canada in Pakistan

Photo: Shahzad Ahmad/UNDP Pakistan

# CRISIS PREVENTION AND INCLUSION

In 2022, UNDP helped build the resilience of communities in Pakistan to natural and man-made disasters. This longstanding commitment to resilience helped mitigate the impacts of disasters through rehabilitation and early recovery.

Working closely with national and provincial governments, iUNDP helped create new opportunities for communities, especially young people, to build livelihoods and thus enhance their resilience to shocks and reduce risk of conflict.

## ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN KP AND THE MERGED AREAS

The Government of KP now has a Planning Support Unit in its provincial planning and development department, established with UNDP assistance, to support sustainable gender-inclusive economic development. It has already performed detailed analyses in five thematic areas for economic growth, with action plans for improvement.

UNDP entered into institutional engagements with commercial banks to extend their services to under-served districts in the Merged Areas of KP, and develop financing products tailored to the needs of medium, small and micro-enterprises and young entrepreneurs, facilitating them to start or scale up their businesses.

With UNDP support, 2,480 young people (including 784 women) are now trained in industrial trades, 223 (72 women) in eco-tourism and e-commerce, and 402 (161 women) in social entrepreneurship. Of these, 1,238 (including 372 girls) have already found employment.

3,105 young people (1,017 women) trained in industrial trades, ecotourism and e-commerce, and social entrepreneurship – 1,238 are already employed.



Photo: Shahzad Ahmad/UNDP Pakistan





Photo: Shuja Hakim/UNDP Pakistan

### SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS AND SERVICES IN BALOCHISTAN

Balochistan has amongst the highest levels of deprivation in Pakistan, with social services that are hampered by extreme poverty, lack of infrastructure and low population density in difficult terrain.

In 2022, the Government of Balochistan began improving health and education services with UNDP support in four Balochistan districts: Gwadar, Kila Abdullah, Quetta and Noshki.

Five schools and hospitals in two districts (Noshki and Killa Abdullah) have been renovated by UNDP, providing quality services to communities who would otherwise have to travel long distances. These are the first of the 29 schools and hospitals that UNDP is renovating.

With UNDP support, 280 marginalized youth (including 90 women) have been trained in technical and vocational skills designed to integrate them into the province's broader economic landscape as small-scale suppliers.



280 marginalized young people (90 women) trained in technical and vocational skills



5 schools and hospitals in Balochistan renovated

### IMPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY

The Merged Areas of KP have historically been deprived of quality social services. In 2022, service delivery was improved for border communities following over 40 stakeholder engagements by the home and tribal affairs department and district administrations, with UNDP support.

A new recruitment manual developed with UNDP support is now guiding recruitment for top-level positions in the KP public sector, and is based on a study of the key factors behind delayed recruitment

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services have been constructed in 75 market hubs, with two water filtration plants. These are benefitting shop owners by attracting more customers and providing safe drinking water to local communities.

A total of 3,300 girls are now receiving a quality education in safe and improved learning environments, following the rehabilitation of 22 girls' schools in the Merged Areas and flood-affected Chitral district (KP), and provision of furniture for students and teachers.

A total of 62,252 people living with HIV and AIDS are receiving lifesaving antiretroviral therapy through UNDP support for national and provincial HIV and AIDS control programmes.



62,252 people (16,782 women) received antiretroviral therapy for HIV



3,300 girls in the Merged Areas and Chitral are studying in 22 rehabilitated schools



75 market hubs in the Merged Areas with new WASH services

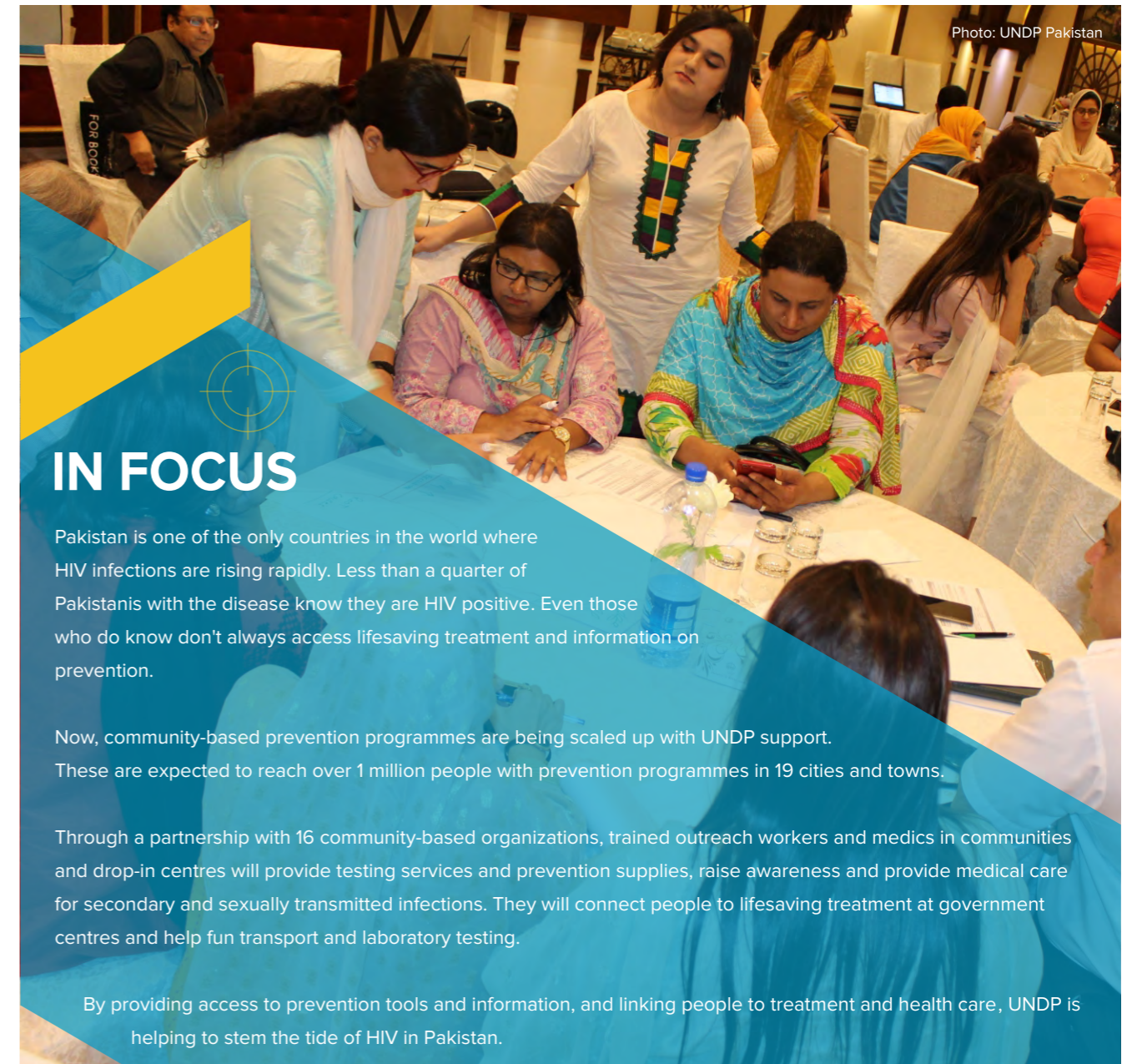


Photo: UNDP Pakistan

### IN FOCUS

Pakistan is one of the only countries in the world where HIV infections are rising rapidly. Less than a quarter of Pakistanis with the disease know they are HIV positive. Even those who do know don't always access lifesaving treatment and information on prevention.

Now, community-based prevention programmes are being scaled up with UNDP support. These are expected to reach over 1 million people with prevention programmes in 19 cities and towns.

Through a partnership with 16 community-based organizations, trained outreach workers and medics in communities and drop-in centres will provide testing services and prevention supplies, raise awareness and provide medical care for secondary and sexually transmitted infections. They will connect people to lifesaving treatment at government centres and help fun transport and laboratory testing.

By providing access to prevention tools and information, and linking people to treatment and health care, UNDP is helping to stem the tide of HIV in Pakistan.









Photo: Shuja Hakim/UNDP Pakistan

“

“The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) has a strong focus on Pakistan's mandate to implement climate change adaptation strategies. In this regard, UNDP has been a time-tested partner in Gilgit-Baltistan for the improvement of the Central Karakoram National Park management system, as a model for the mountain ecosystem, and for the enhancement of livelihoods of the mountain community.

Moreover, the most recent collaboration, entitled “Glaciers & Students”, involves the development of a comprehensive glacier inventory of Pakistan along with a substantial capacity-building component targeted towards students of universities in the mountain areas of Pakistan. AICS looks forward to making this flagship project a success in collaboration with the dedicated team of UNDP Pakistan, along with EVK2CNR and the University of Milan as the implementing partners.”

**Francesco Zatta**  
 Director  
 Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), Pakistan

# RESILIENCE, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Through close partnerships with government, UNDP supported national policies and plans to respond to climate change and prepare for disasters, and incorporate lessons learned from the devastating floods of 2022. With the frequency and intensity of hazards such as floods and drought rising with climate change, UNDP worked with local and provincial authorities to help communities plan, prepare and increase their resilience to disaster.

## POLICIES AND PLANS FOR ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

With UNDP support, key national policies and plans to guide Pakistan in reducing risks and adapting to climate change are now in place. These incorporate the latest and best understanding of how communities should adapt to a world that is already changing.



Updated **National Climate Change Policy**

As a result, Pakistan now has an updated National Climate Change Policy and NDCs as well as climate change action plans for all provinces.



Landscape management plans in Sindh and KP

The governments of Sindh and KP formulated landscape management plans with UNDP support, which will help to reduce climate change risks and sustainably manage the natural environment.



Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans in GB and KP

Drawing on capacity-building support from UNDP, district disaster response teams conducted independent assessments of the early recovery needs of the 33 million people affected by the 2022 floods.



Preparedness planning for monsoons and severe winter in KP and GB

In 2022, the governments of Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and KP adopted Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans developed with support from UNDP. These are now guiding efforts to address and mitigate risks of GLOF and related climate impacts. The two provinces also developed monsoon and winter contingency plans to help preserve lives and livelihoods in the face of major risks in Pakistan's mountainous north.



Photo: Shuja Hakim/UNDP Pakistan



## IMPLEMENTING PAKISTAN'S NDCs

With UNDP support, the Government of Pakistan has updated its NDCs and submitted them to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Provincial consultations conducted in disaster-prone areas by UNDP have enabled the identification of the essential actions to implement Pakistan's NDCs and help communities in these areas adapt. Through this process, all of Pakistan's provinces and regions – Balochistan, GB, KP, Pakistan-Administered Kashmir (PAK), Punjab and Sindh – have identified thematic areas of work and projects based on their specific needs and contexts.



Pakistan's NDCs updated



Provincial consultations to identify NDC priority actions

## COASTAL PREPAREDNESS

Pakistan's low-lying coastal areas include the megalopolis of Karachi, with millions of inhabitants at risk of earthquakes, storms and tsunami, as well as impoverished and remote communities with little capacity to withstand sudden disasters.

Provincial disaster management authorities in Sindh and Balochistan, the two coastal provinces, have improved their capacity to respond to risks faced by coastal communities. National school safety guide for earthquakes and tsunami are now in place, while safe havens established in two Sindh and one Balochistan district provide refuge in case of disaster.

Preparedness and resilience in tsunami-prone areas are now underpinned by policy actions such as earthquake and tsunami risk assessments of Karachi's coastal belt. Tsunami early warning communication systems and protocols have been instituted, with guidelines for tsunami-safe building bylaws to reduce the risk of death and damage.



National school safety guidelines for earthquakes and tsunami



14 safe havens built against flooding



Earthquake and tsunami risk assessments in Karachi

Photo: Jamil Akhtar/UNDP Pakistan



## GLOF PREPAREDNESS FOR MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES

In the northern mountains, global heating is causing glaciers to melt, increasing the risk of sudden catastrophic Glacial Lake Outburst Flooding (GLOF) events that can sweep away homes, fields, livestock and people. But the right infrastructure can help protect community assets, and early warning systems can ensure they are able to respond quickly to imminent disasters.

Four valleys in GB now have automated systems that provide early warning of extreme weather that can lead to flooding or landslides. Following a survey in the Baltoro region on the need for early warning, UNDP has procured Early Warning System units that will protect another 24 valleys against GLOF.

In KP and GB, 44,702 people (including 23,136 women) living in 24 valleys are benefiting from protective small-scale infrastructure, while 13,210 people (6,640 women) have access to irrigation channels that provide reliable water and reduce flood risks.

Sustainable forest management was made possible through the stabilization of 400 hectares of slope to prevent soil erosion, landslides and other failures that can significantly harm forests and their ecosystems. When stable slopes are maintained, forest ecosystems can thrive, and their benefits enjoyed by present and future generations.



4 valleys with early warning systems for GLOF through automated weather stations



44,702 people (23,136 women) benefiting from small-scale infrastructure



13,210 people (6,640 women) benefiting from irrigation channels



400 hectares of slope stabilized



Photo: Jamil Akhtar/UNDP Pakistan



## WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RECYCLING

Managing waste effectively is good for people and for the planet. It helps maintain a healthy environment with reduced risk of disease, helps conserve natural resources and prevents harmful substances from escaping into the environment.

In Islamabad, 19,371 people (including 9,104 women) now have access to improved waste management through a collaboration between UNDP and the Capital Development Authority.

To reduce plastic waste, UNDP worked with UNESCO and the Pakistan Science Foundation to support teams at universities to develop recycling solutions that work in Pakistan. In 2022, these teams developed five low-cost plastic recycling solutions that transform plastic into new products or turn them into filaments for 3D printing.

Drawing on these solutions, UNDP provided 45 benches made from recycled plastics to the Capital Development Authority and the Senate of Pakistan as a demonstration of the power of recycling.



19,371 people (9,104 women) benefit from improved waste management in Islamabad



Five low-cost plastic recycling innovations pioneered



45 benches made of recycled plastic installed in Islamabad



Photo: Shuja Hakim/UNDP Pakistan



Photo: Shuja Hakim/UNDP Pakistan

## IN FOCUS

“We returned to nothing. Our crops and houses have been destroyed,” said Shamma, a 30-year-old woman in Dadu, Sindh. She is among the 33 million Pakistanis who were impacted by the catastrophic floods of 2022. Her family are now rebuilding their damaged home with a cash grant from UNDP.

Of Pakistan's 25 poorest districts, 19 – all in Sindh and Balochistan – were declared calamity hit. In these areas, homes, agricultural lands, roads, bridges and livestock – the fundamental components of rural livelihoods – were damaged or destroyed.

In two of the worst affected districts, Dadu in Sindh and Kachhi in Balochistan, UNDP immediately began early recovery activities so people could get back on their feet with dignity and agency. Communities are now rebuilding homes, clearing water channels for irrigation, replanting crops and building WASH systems for clean drinking water.





Photo: Shahzad Ahmad/UNDP Pakistan

“

“There is a critical need today to bridge the gap between development needs, policy priorities and market opportunities in Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan’s strong partnership with UNDP Pakistan – on initiatives such as our joint SDG Investments and Climate Financing Facility, Pakistan’s first SDG Investor Map, and Financing for Development presentations at global platforms – is a much-needed collaboration. It will enable us to take better decisions, increase financing towards the SDGs, and foster meaningful partnerships to fulfil the promise of Agenda 2030 in Pakistan and ensure we Leave No One Behind.”

**Mr Hamed Yaqoob Sheikh**  
Former Federal Secretary  
Finance Division, Ministry of Finance

“The Sustainable Development Goals are a roadmap to ending poverty, protecting the planet, and ensuring that all Pakistanis enjoy peace and prosperity. The Government of Pakistan firmly believes that sustainable development is a shared responsibility, and our meaningful collaboration with UNDP and international development partners has exemplified the power of effective partnerships. We reiterate our unwavering national commitment to continue working together towards achieving the SDGs and creating a better future for all.”

**Mr Syed Zafar Ali Shah**  
Federal Secretary, Ministry of Planning,  
Development & Special Initiatives

# DEVELOPMENT POLICY

In 2022, UNDP continued working closely with the Government of Pakistan, academia and civil society to reinforce evidence-based development and reform. From charting a path to sustainable development to researching Pakistan’s digital transformation for efficient, effective governance, UNDP created a platform for partners to identify innovative and evidence-based approaches to the country’s most intractable challenges.

## ANALYSIS AND EVIDENCE FOR ROBUST POLICYMAKING

Polymakers benefited from robust analysis and evidence on issues that matter for Pakistan’s development.

Drawing on research and analysis by researchers, think-tanks and policy experts, UNDP published four issues of *Development Advocate*, on:

- media for development
- inclusive growth
- the future of work
- climatic and politico-economic stressors on gender equality

Three policy papers on social protection and poverty alleviation, published in collaboration with the Ehsaas Programme, have enabled a deeper understanding around social protection at a time of economic uncertainty in Pakistan and globally.

Development is sustainable and equitable only if the special needs and roles of women are understood and supported. In 2022, the National Commission on the Status of Women collaborated with UNDP to conduct country-wide consultations leading to a report titled *Climate Equity: Women as Agents of Change*.



4 issues of **Development Advocate Pakistan**: media for development, inclusive growth, the future of work, climate stressors on gender equality



3 policy papers on **social protection and poverty alleviation**



Report on Climate Equity: **Women as Agents of Change** published

## ROAD TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

As the world approaches the half-way point in the effort to achieve the SDGs, UNDP is working with national and provincial governments to localize the goals, mobilize resources and monitor progress made.

With UNDP support, governments have developed SDG frameworks and sectoral policy documents to identify the right approaches for local contexts, strengthening the whole-of-society approach which makes sustainable development into a national endeavour, and are mainstreaming gender to ensure women’s needs are met. Through this collaboration, UNDP Pakistan is also supporting the government in leveraging financing for sustainable development.

In 2022, the Government of Pakistan prepared two major reports on progress towards the SDGs with UNDP support, presenting the second Voluntary National Review at the United



Pakistan’s first **SDG Status Report** published



Second voluntary **national review of SDG progress** presented to the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development





Nations High-Level Political Forum, and releasing the first-ever Pakistan SDG Status Report to guide where resources are directed for success.

The Government of Pakistan moved forward on its efforts to achieve regional equalization, with UNDP technical assistance for the preparation of District Development Plans to lift up the country's 20 poorest districts, which were identified using data including from the Multidimensional Poverty Index developed with UNDP support.

The *SDG Investment Report*, released in 2021 in collaboration with the government catalysed significant interventions in 2022, including presentations at global investment platforms, the launch of the SDG Investments and Climate Financing Facility, a diagnostic report on inclusive insurance and risk financing, and countrywide consultations on disaster risk financing solutions and the SDG Investor Map.



SDG Investments and Climate Financing Facility launched

### TRANSFORMATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Digital tools give unprecedented pathways towards more cost-effective, efficient and equitable governance and service delivery.

In 2022, UNDP began work on its flagship National Human Development Report, taking digital transformation as its theme. The report will explore how digitalization can impact human development in the country and offer policy solutions for growth.

Civil society organizations across Pakistan learned how to crowdfund and apply digital solutions for poverty alleviation through a UNDP partnership with the Islamic Development Bank and the Islamic Solidarity Fund for Development.

With over a third of Pakistanis now living in cities, many in informal settlements, building urban resilience is a growing priority. Partnering with the Institute for Business Administration, UNDP used its Social Innovation Platform to strengthen resilience, build capacity, conduct workshops and offer grants to residents of informal settlements in Karachi for community-based solutions to address urban resilience challenges.



National Human Development Report on Digital Transformation initiated



Civil society organizations trained on digital poverty alleviation

In 2022, the Urban Resilience Conference in Karachi was a major forum for convening partners. A major report on migration, livelihoods and resilience was launched here, kicking off a national conversation.

Rawalpindi, a growing city in northern Pakistan, now has a roadmap for urban resilience developed in partnership with UNDP.



Urban Resilience Conference in Karachi convened, Rawalpindi Resilience Roadmap launched



Photo: Jamil Akhtar/UNDP Pakistan

## IN FOCUS

The 2022 floods demonstrated the urgent need to address Pakistan's climate adaptation and development needs. But financing sustainable development and climate mitigation and adaptation needs large investments. Pakistan's annual financing gap for the SDGs is \$3.72 billion for 2020–2030, while \$7–14 billion is required for climate adaptation.

The Pakistan SDG Investments & Climate Financing Facility, established jointly by UNDP and the Government of Pakistan, aims to close this gap by bringing in the private sector as a core contributor.

The facility will leverage private sector investments in the SDGs, climate resilience and disaster risk financing as the pillars of a sustainable economy. Its high-impact value propositions for climate and SDG financing aim to attract investments from national and international investors and thus support recovery and sustainable development for the most marginalized including women headed households.





Photo: Shahzad Ahmad/UNDP Pakistan

“

*“In Hushe Valley, the collaboration between Agirre Lehendakaria Center and UNDP Pakistan’s AccLab has sparked transformative change, driven by deep listening and co-creation with local stakeholders and communities. This dynamic partnership has enabled a safe experimentation space for governments and organizations, leading to innovative solutions that address development challenges through a systemic lens.”*

**Agirre Lehendakaria Centre**  
Spain

# ACCELERATOR LAB

Through the award-winning AccLab, in 2022 UNDP explored innovative approaches to achieve inclusive sustainable development and identify emerging priorities.

## GROWING RESILIENCE IN HUSHE VALLEY

In Hushe Valley, GB, UNDP explored new ways of lifting communities out of poverty, become resilient and access sustainable food.

As a result, farmers in Hushe Valley have established eight tunnel farms to produce non-seasonal vegetables, ensuring they can access nutritious food and earn reliable incomes even during the harsh winter.

Through UNDP, local communities are bringing their products to the world. In 2022, Michelin-starred chefs in Spain purchased 5,000 bottles of Hushe Valley apricot oil, while revenue from local sales of apricot oil doubled since the previous year.

Eleven farmers are now using local herbs to produce high-value teas, and women are have been trained in finance and embroidery, with an agreement with the Spanish clothing brand Ternua to produce 1,965 hats. Over 80 young men and women have been trained on e-commerce and freelancing skills, helping to ensure that these global market linkages can be sustained.



UNDP Pakistan’s AccLab recognized as the **most integrated lab in Asia-Pacific region**



Better food security, livelihoods and market connections through **Social Innovation Platform** experiments in Hushe Valley



Hushe Valley communities supply **high-end local products to Spanish markets**



Photo: Shahzad Ahmad/UNDP Pakistan





Photo: Shuja Hakim/UNDP Pakistan

### PROJECT DESIGN THAT MEETS COMMUNITY NEEDS

Through AccLab, UNDP has introduced techniques drawing on human-centred design, deep listening and digital techniques to work with communities to co-design initiatives that respond to their needs and deliver results.

Using these techniques, a new complaints dashboard has been developed for the FBR. Co-designed by the community, the dashboard is more accessible and attractive to users, including youth and women.

AccLab is now providing training to researchers on using the Social Innovation Platform and has facilitated a gender and technology workshop based on collective intelligence to develop stronger youth employment programmes.



Human-centred design for better services through the new FBR complaints dashboard

### DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF COMMUNITY NEEDS

Digital tools give unprecedented voice to women, youth and marginalized communities. In 2022, UNDP's AccLab took this a step further through an experiment to better understand communities and their contexts using digital means, such as conducting robocalls and analysing online content using machine learning.

In Karachi, displaced communities are co-designing urban resilience initiatives through a joint initiative between Citibeats and UNDP. They are devising collective solutions through sensemaking, a guided process of reflecting on their situation and identifying ways of achieving the change they hope to see. These solutions are then funded through small grants.

This approach has informed key UNDP projects including the SDG Investment Facility, the National Human Development Report, support for the 20 poorest districts and the urban resilience project.



Experiments in deep learning to feed into future project planning

### PROJECT DESIGN FOR SYSTEMIC CHANGE

In times of polycrisis, linear approaches to project design are no longer sufficient to meet complex challenges. UNDP is drawing on the AccLab's Portfolio Initiation Framework to design a gender portfolio with interlinked initiatives for systemic change.



Gender portfolio development steered using the Portfolio Initiation Framework

This framework is informing UNDP Pakistan's new gender strategy and gender-transformative climate change action.



Photo: Shahzad Ahmad/UNDP Pakistan

### IN FOCUS

In Hushey Valley, UNDP's AccLab used the SIP approach to understand the complexity and interconnectedness of development challenges and to co-design solutions.

Using deep listening, AccLab conducted over 200 interviews to better understand community needs. This was supplemented by digital interviews with 500 community members.

Deep listening revealed the challenges faced by Hushey Valley communities, especially women, and suggested that the food economy is the key to development.

This conclusion was validated through sensemaking, a process in which UNDP presented narratives to stakeholders to determine if they accurately reflect local realities.

Local people came together to co-design a portfolio to improve food production and link local products to markets – from tunnel farming for off-season vegetables, to high-quality apricot oil for the international luxury market.

“Khanday is a small village where people don't have much land, in winter we don't have anything to do.

Now I am busy looking after tunnel vegetables,” said Asma. “It also helps address the challenge of malnutrition because in winter, we don't have fresh vegetables.”





Photo: Shuja Hakim/UNDP Pakistan

# GENDER MAINSTREAMING

In 2022, UNDP Pakistan set aspirational gender equality targets for sustainable structural transformation. For the first time, gender equality has been designated a dedicated outcome of the Country Programme and is embedded across UNDP's portfolio. Critically, women's inclusion is ensured at every stage of flood response.

The innovative portfolio initiation framework approach pioneered by UNDP AccLab is being used to develop a holistic and effective UNDP Pakistan Gender Equality Strategy aligned with the new Global UNDP Gender Strategy 2022–2025 and UNDP Strategic Plan 2022–2025.

With UNDP support, gender justice mechanisms are being established across Pakistan to provide targeted assistance, including awareness, redressal and protection, to vulnerable women.

A ground-breaking programme upholding the rights of women with disabilities and addressing drivers of discrimination, is now being implemented by government with UNDP support.

In 2022, Pakistan's Planning Commission launched the National Gender Policy Framework, developed with technical support from UNDP. While country-wide consultations held in collaboration with the National Commission on the Status of Women led to a report on *Climate Equity: Women as Agents of Change 2022* – the theme of the 66th session of the Global Commission on the Status of Women.



UNDP PAKISTAN AWARDED  
**SILVER GENDER EQUALITY SEAL**  
 FOR 2021 AND 2022



# RESOURCES

2022 expenditure by source of funds (in US\$)



2022



Photo: Shahzad Ahmad/UNDP Pakistan



“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 in its Strategic Plan, 2022–2025*



**United Nations Development Programme**

4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Serena Business Complex, Khayaban-e-Suharwardy, G-5/1, Islamabad, Pakistan

