# **FUNDING WINDOWS**

# UNDP's pooled thematic funds



1

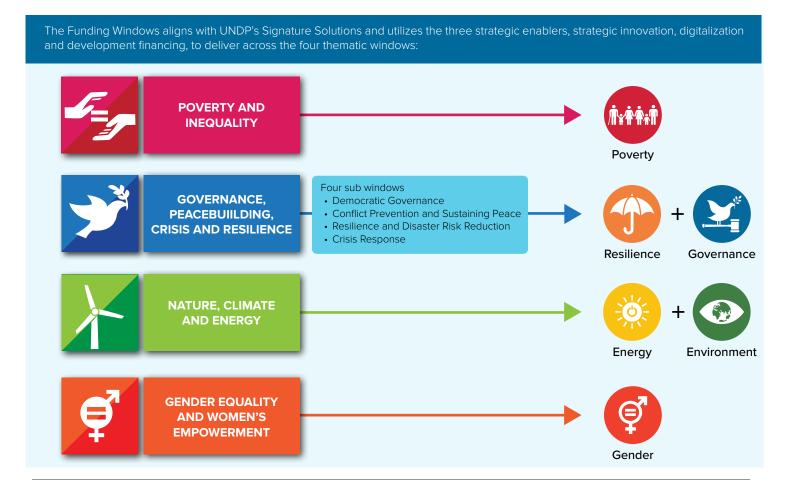
Newly emerging areas of concern, unprecedented development contexts, and evolving country priorities require accelerated and ambitious solutions to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as called by the Decade of Action. UNDP and its partners are responding to this call, working with countries to effectively tackle complexity and demonstrate results envisioned in <a href="UNDP's Strategic Plan 2022-2025">UNDP's Strategic Plan 2022-2025</a>.

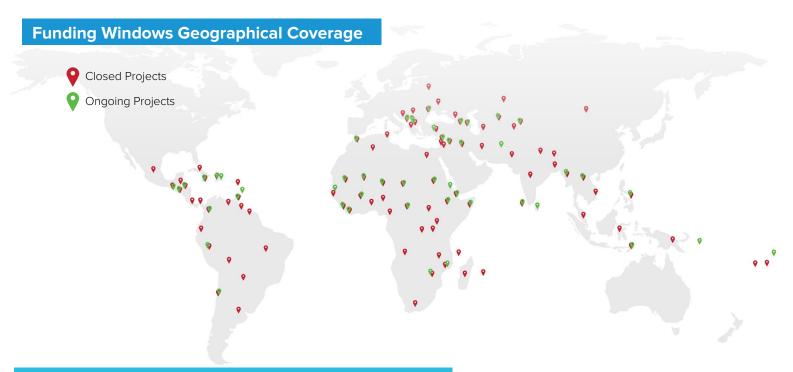
The Funding Windows are UNDP's primary vehicle for thematic non-core funding, a critical complement to UNDP's regular resources. In line with the Secretary-General's 'Funding Compact', UNDP's Funding Windows provide flexible and pooled funding options to countries coupled with rapid and effective oversight, reporting, and accountability principles and mechanisms. They also provide partners with greater coordination of their contributions and enhanced transparency and visibility.

The Funding Windows pooled resources are allocated as catalytic investments to respond to emerging development priorities and bolster integrated action within the UN system. These funds enable UNDP to pilot, scale up and accelerate initiatives and respond with agility and innovation to the greatest needs. Decisions are driven by global strategic direction, regional priorities, country demand and are accompanied by technical and policy experts from across the organization.

A fast-track Crisis Response channel exists to quickly allocate resources and deliver support in complex and highly volatile contexts, amplifying and multiplying the effect of UNDP core investments.

UNDP relies on flexible contributions to fulfill our mandate to end poverty, reduce inequality, and combat climate change. Working with our broad network of experts and partners in 170 countries, we help nations to build integrated, lasting solutions for people and planet.





## **Critical Returns from Pooled Flexible Thematic Resources**

After contributions to core, support to the Funding Windows provides the next best option. These provide UNDP with unparalleled flexibility to:



## **FOCUS ON GREATEST NEEDS**

Resources are directed to where they are needed most – to top global, regional or country priorities – including reacting swiftly to new needs in volatile contexts. Specific emphasis is placed to ensure those most marginalized and excluded are not left behind, reinforcing a rights-based approach. At least 15% of resources are allocated to interventions that focus on empowering women and gender equality. In 2022, 35% of resources delivered interventions that focused on empowering women and gender equality.



#### PROVIDE INTEGRATED PROGRAMMING FOR TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE

Leveraging its global network of policy experts, resources allow UNDP to design integrated, multi-sectoral interventions to achieve greater impact and reach the SDGs. Each proposal funded is designed for its context, is ambitious yet realistic, and will lead to transformative and measurable results.



#### **RESPOND RAPIDLY TO CRISIS**

Through fast-track approval procedures, UNDP provides flexible funds quickly in response to sudden crises, kick-starting developmental actions and, safeguarding development gains in often deeply humanitarian situations, and complementing core resources.



## INVEST WITH CATALYTIC PURPOSE AND HIGH LEVERAGE

Pooled resources have a track record of incubating and scaling-up successful initiatives and leveraging sizeable additional resources. In addition, this funding drives collaboration with other local and international partners. In 2022, the funding helped drive collaboration with 20 UN entities.



#### MORE DEVELOPMENT IMPACT THROUGH COORDINATED FUNDING

The Funding Windows provide a single conduit - for pooled resources or earmarked funds to specific projects - to liaise with partners and channel contributions. In the new multilateral funding reality, this enables UNDP to enhance coordination and leverage the mosaic of funding sources, modalities, geographic and thematic preferences for greater development impact. The Funding Windows ensure and prioritize complementarity between pooled and earmarked funds, where resources are allocated directly to countries against corporate strategic priorities.

## **Benefits for our Partners**

Partners can count on building a strong partnership with UNDP with certainty of meeting the highest development standards.



#### **INCLUSIVE PARTNER ENGAGEMENT**

Two modalities are in place for partners to stay engaged and build ownership: the Technical Engagement Groups, under each of the thematic windows, for substantive policy dialogues on emerging development priorities; and the Funding Windows' annual Advisory Group to review the fund's results, performance and direction.



#### TRANSPARENCY AND REPORTING

The Funding Windows Portal provides up-to-date tracking of contributions received, allocations approved, utilization recorded and project details, giving partners an immediate overview of the fund's management. A consolidated annual report highlights results achieved in each and across all Windows, linked to UNDP's Strategic Plan and with feature stories, aggregated information and reflections.



#### **VISIBILITY**

UNDP recognizes Funding Windows partners by featuring them in: the <u>Funding Windows Portal</u>, the annual <u>Funding Windows report</u>, <u>UNDP's Annual Report</u>, <u>the Funding Compendium</u>, and other relevant corporate materials and social media (#FundingWindows). In addition, throughout the year, Country Offices showcase results and stories, acknowledging partners' support.



#### **MANAGEMENT EFFICIENCIES**

Shared oversight, planning, monitoring and reporting mechanisms reduce transaction costs, which translates into maximum resources directed to country-level interventions. This includes a simplified agreement template and accelerated process. Importantly, pooled resources benefit from a reduced General Management Support (GMS) rate.



## FUNDING WINDOWS HELPS TO RESPOND TO EMERGING CRISES

Following the outbreak of the war in Ukraine in February 2022, the Funding Windows rapidly released flexible funding, enabling immediate support to the Government of Ukraine to provide quality public services while at the same time upskilling vulnerable populations to strengthen their livelihoods.







# **Examples of results**

## **Liptako-Gourma Region**

As part of the UNDP Liptako Gourma Stabilization Facility, the FWs supported the immediate stabilization of communes affected by violent extremism and community violence, including by rehabilitating and constructing essential social services infrastructures such education, health, water and sanitation infrastructures in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, benefitting thousands of people. The response is aligned to the Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience strategy formulated in collaboration with the Liptako Gourma Authority (LGA) in the 3 affected countries.

## Moldova

Public authorities from rural hosting communities have enhanced their capacity to manage the Ukraine refugee crisis and ensure continuous supply of social services to over 8,500 women and children refugees, as well as improving energy access, medical services, childcare and elderly-focused care for local community members. Through local partnership, the private sector in three peri-urban and rural communities is now offering income-generating opportunities to the refugees and local host communities.

#### Peru

Regional and municipal elections took important steps towards more inclusive political and democratic process, including 20% more women candidates for regional governor, 48% more women running for councillors at regional, provincial and district levels, and 14% of the elected authorities at the regional council level were from indigenous groups.

## Syria

Farmers were able to reclaim their lands and increase the growth rate and quality of their plants through rehabilitation of farmland devastated by the conflict. Over 2,000 women and men laborers now have a source of income harvesting the farming lands.

#### Solomon Islands & Samoa

More women sought assistance and asserted their rights after their access to justice services was enhanced through behavioural insights. In the Solomon Islands, accessing the Public Solicitor's Office was made easier to women through raising their awareness of its free services via SMS messages. In Samoa, safer spaces for women with disabilities were created through family conversation guides.

# **BECOME A FUNDING WINDOWS CONTRIBUTOR**

Contributions from Member States, foundations, private sector and High Net Worth Individuals are welcome. Partners can contribute at the window or sub-window level, pooling funds for greater impact and flexibility, target their resources to specific countries or regions, or earmarked funds to projects.



Please contact <u>fundingwindows@undp.org</u> or your UNDP contact for additional information.



<sup>\*</sup> In accordance with the UN A/RES/72/279 guidelines on levy application, pooled thematic funding is exempt from the 1% coordination levy.