



UNDP KYRGYZSTAN

Annual Result Report 2023





FOREWORD	2
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: UNDP'S SUPPORT.....	5
SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS.....	7
CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENT, AND ENERGY.....	10
GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL COHESION.....	14
SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GREEN DEVELOPMENT.....	17
STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEM.....	20
GENDER EQUALITY AND FIGHT AGAINST SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE.....	22
REDUCING INEQUALITIES.....	25
THE THREE DIRECTIONS OF CHANGE.....	28
THE THREE DEVELOPMENT ENABLERS.....	30
UNDP INCLUSIVE ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE.....	32
GRATITUDE TO DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS.....	34

FOREWORD



As we reflect on the accomplishments and strides made in the past year, let us present the UNDP Kyrgyzstan Annual Report. This report encapsulates our achievements and collaborative efforts that help Kyrgyzstan promote sustainable development, economic growth, and enhanced resilience.

ALEXANDRA SOLOVIEVA,

UNDP RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE IN KYRGYZSTAN

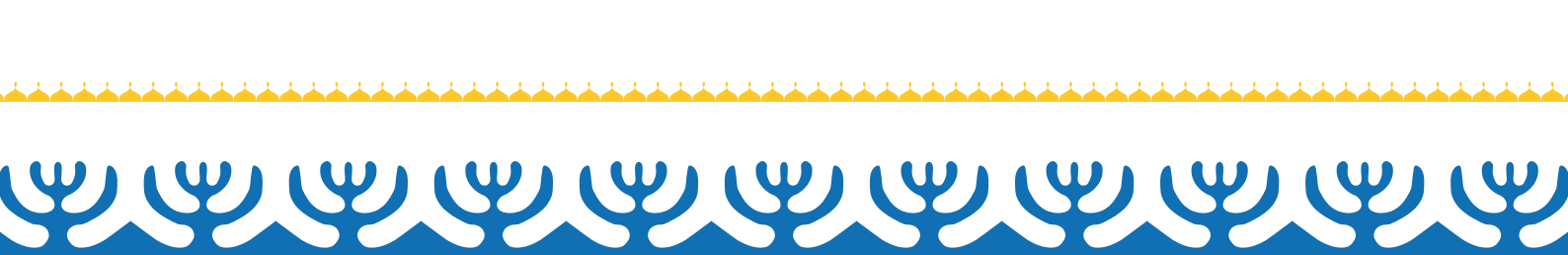
🔹 Governance and Social Cohesion:

In the realm of Governance and Social Cohesion, our collaborative efforts have led to significant milestones. Initiatives like the 'Bus of Solidarity' have ensured that legal assistance reaches remote areas, touching the lives of over 10,000 individuals. The successful adoption of laws on countering terrorism and extremism reflects our commitment to a just and secure society, achieved through extensive inclusive consultative processes. The Youth & Income Generation projects empowered 180 girls with digital skills, half of whom secured employment opportunities, contributing to economic growth and empowerment.

Additionally, our Gender Equality initiatives have successfully empowered Afghan women and united 500 women through Women Solidarity Leadership platforms.

🔹 Climate Change, Environment, and Energy

Our dedication to advancing positive outcomes in climate change policy, environmental sustainability, resilience, and disaster risk management has been clearly demonstrated throughout the past year. From developing gender responsive Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Implementation Plans to supporting the Government's long-term pathways for



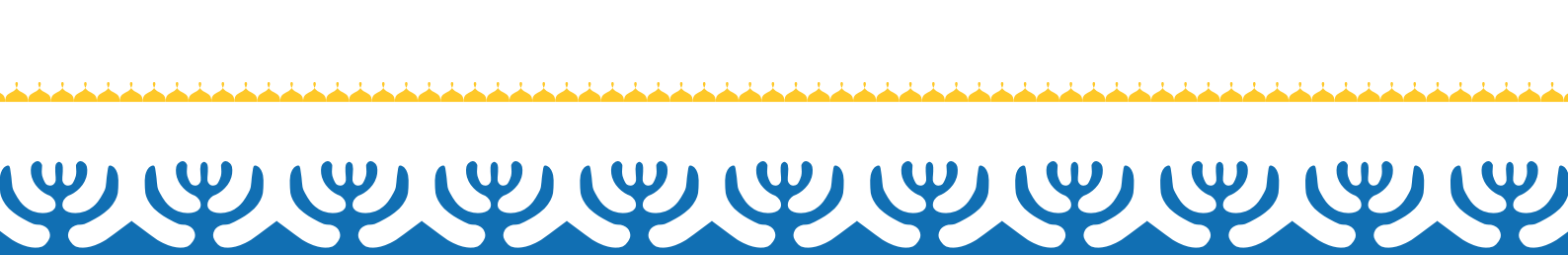
carbon neutrality by 2050, our contributions have been instrumental. UNDP provided support to strengthen capacity of national delegation for the COP28 in Dubai. Capacity building has been a cornerstone, with comprehensive training sessions benefiting staff from key ministries and fostering national adaptation planning. Our focus on disaster preparedness led to the establishment of equipped fire and rescue service buildings and avalanche monitoring stations strategically located in crucial areas.

Socio-Economic Growth:

In the pursuit of Socio-Economic Growth, our methodologies for assessing tax incentives and the successful continuation of the Partnership of Action for Green Economy marked significant strides. These initiatives have fostered transparency and efficiency in the economic landscape, contributing to a balanced regional development. Our commitment to inclusive economic growth continued with the launch of the next phase of Aid for Trade, resulting in almost 100 contracts worth over USD 1.5 million by MSMEs in selected value chains. Notably, UNDP's support under Strengthening Capacities for Sustainable Development Finance has resulted in the establishment of essential facilities, including the only urology clinic in remote Batken region and a sewing facility in Talas region.

Strengthening Health Systems Governance and Social Programmes:

Our contributions to health and social programs, particularly in the prevention, treatment, care, and support for people living with HIV and tuberculosis, have been impactful. More than 6,000 people living with HIV received uninterrupted treatment, and our collaboration with the Global Fund facilitated universal access to timely and quality TB diagnosis and treatment with steady increment of the treatment success rate among the MDR patients to 71% and adherence to the TB treatment largely due to case managers' and financial support for about 500 patients. UNDP continued the implementation of evidence-based HIV preventive activities focused primarily on key affected populations, creating enabling environment and ensuring programs sustainability for more than 40,000 of most vulnerable people. The programmes focused as well on the strengthening of the institutional capacity of the National HIV and TB Control Programmes and general health care system delivering complex and comprehensive measures to provide access to diagnosis and treatment, strengthening human and infrastructure capacity, increasing the effectiveness of national measures to slow down the spread of HIV and TB. UNDP substantially improved HIV and TB laboratory diagnostics, warehouse facilities and trained significant number of



health professionals as well as NGO staff in different aspects of the HIV and TB response.

Inclusivity and Innovation:

Cross-cutting issues such as inclusivity and innovation have been integral to UNDP programmes and operations. Embracing the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) principle, UNDP actively pushed for inclusivity, contributing to the development of a Glossary of key disability-inclusive terms and the brochure "Disability in the Media. The Accelerator Lab's initiatives, including STEM4ALL and collaborations with the Association of Creative Industries, grassroots NGOs and innovators, have empowered

rural women and youth, fostering an enabling environment for growth and innovation including the launch of the Park of Creative Industries.

As we close the chapter on 2023, we carry the lessons and achievements as catalysts for future endeavors. The invaluable support from UNDP partners and donors has been instrumental in achieving these milestones. Let us, together, continue to forge ahead, hand in hand, overcoming challenges, seizing opportunities, and creating positive change. Thank you for your commitment to the betterment of Kyrgyzstan, and we look forward to the continued journey towards a brighter and more prosperous future.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: UNDP'S SUPPORT

UNDP has been supporting the government's endeavors to secure development financing for Sustainable Development Goals through the implementation of the **Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF)**. This framework aimed to establish integrated management for diverse financial flows, optimizing their scale and performance. As part of this initiative, a draft integrated **national financing strategy** has been formulated to fund the development strategies and goals of the country. This strategy **focused** on mobilizing and aligning financing with national priorities and identified three key reform pillars: enhancing the availability and impact of **public finance**, expanding **public-private collaboration**, and accelerating inclusive **private sector development**. The government is currently contemplating the adoption of the draft financing strategy.

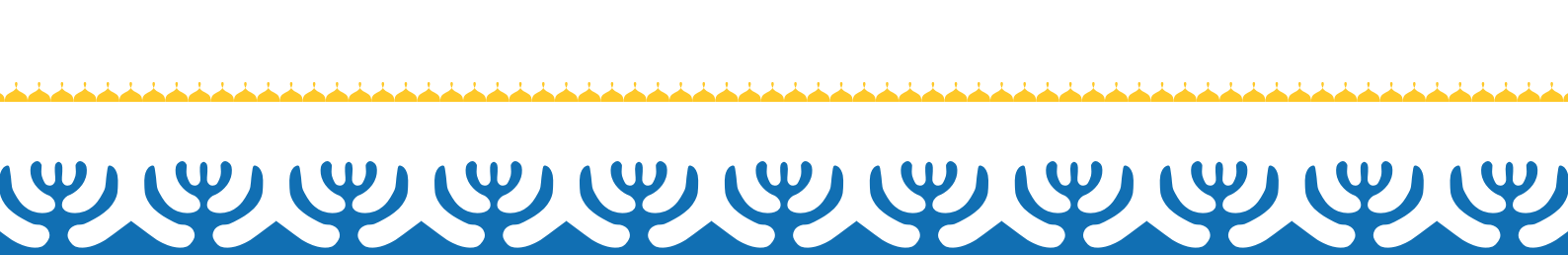
UNDP supported the Ministry of Economy and Commerce to optimize the **tax incentives framework** for expanding the fiscal scope for SDG finance. In partnership with UNICEF, the collaboration aimed to devise a novel methodology for evaluating the efficacy of tax incentives. Adopted in August 2023, this innovative methodology scrutinized five incentives, identifying four as

effective and flagging the tax exemption for credit unions' profits as inefficient. Consequently, there is a planned abolition of this ineffective incentive, which amounted to USD 0.4 million.

UNDP has been actively providing continuous technical support to the 30-member **Parliamentary SDG Working Group**. This support involves conducting workshops and training sessions covering various aspects such as SDG oversight, law implementation, budget control, and assessment tools. The outcome has been an enhanced understanding and crucial political support among parliamentary members for sustainable development initiatives.

In collaboration with UN Habitat and UNECE, UNDP has played a pivotal role in advancing the **SDG localization** in the urban context of Bishkek city. Focusing on SDGs 6, 9, 11 and 13, UNDP provided its technical expertise to support the first-ever **Volunteer Local Review (VLR)** aimed at assessing progress in Bishkek city.

A UNDP-supported **national stakeholder SDG consultation** brought together a diverse group of approximately 100 representatives with 40% being women, from government, civil society, private



sector, UN agencies, development partners, academia, and science. This gathering facilitated discussions on preliminary data related to the targeted SDGs, offering valuable insights that shaped the VLR process and content. The anticipated outcome of the VLR findings is to play a pivotal role in informing the second Voluntary National Review (VNR), scheduled to commence in 2024.

To further the agenda of SDG localization agenda, UNDP extended support to the Community Development and Investment Agency (ARIS) in **SDG budget tagging**. ARIS

implements public investment projects (over 13% of the whole public investments budget) in local infrastructure across Kyrgyzstan with an overarching aim to contribute to the alleviation of rural poverty. Key findings from the tagging process revealed that 36,5% of the investments support SDGs implementation, with SDG 6 receiving the highest funding at USD 141 million. Additionally, SDG 2 accounted for USD 34 million, SDG 4 for USD 33 million, and SDG 11 for USD 27 million. These findings are expected to guide the future program design of ARIS and other investment initiatives.



SELECTED HIGHLIGHTS



114 contracts/cooperation agreements signed in the tourism sector

Out of these,

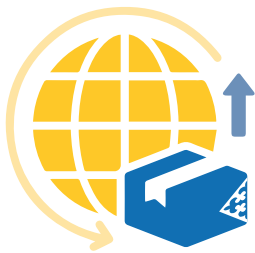
67

have been implemented for the amount of

USD 509,000



Contracts have been concluded with European and Arabic countries.



7 export contracts have been signed



predominantly, with respect to honey and frozen meat

for the total amount of

USD 1.7 million

Export markets are Qatar and China

3

avalanche stations were constructed

Operational avalanche stations

- Dolon**
- Chapchyma**
- Bashky-Terek**

ensure the safety of around

60,000

residents by enabling timely risk assessments and issuing early warnings.

3

fire stations was constructed

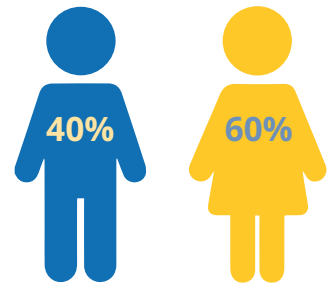
Fire and rescue stations in vulnerable areas have significantly enhanced disaster resilience

benefiting approximately 400,000 people and up to 1 million during touristic season.

744
people

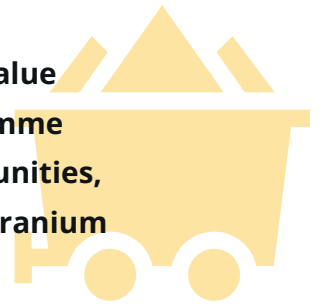
directly benefitted through low-value grants programme in communities located near protected areas and Key Biodiversity Areas.

out of them 60% are women



More than
25 000
people

benefitted through low-value grants programme in local communities, located near uranium tailing sites.



The refinement of the Local Communities Charter engaged



665
representatives,

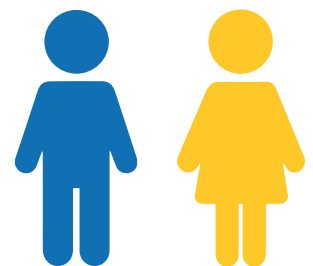
integrating peacebuilding strategies into local development plans.



UNDP's impactful technical support to the Ministry of Justice has provided free legal aid to

10,344
individuals

4,554 men
5,790 women





500

youth benefited from business acceleration programs



78

businesses and contributing to their economic and social empowerment

resulting in the establishment of

More than
5 000

youth nationwide learned about the future jobs, digital professions and creative entrepreneurship through joining the **Create4 and STEM4ALL Communities of Practice.**



1,200
people

with resistant tuberculosis received the most modern and high-quality treatment

The success rate of treatment is increasing every year and is already more than

70%



39,000

people from key groups have received HIV/TB prevention services



118 delivered essential health consultations to

25,000

individuals in 2023

CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENT, AND ENERGY





CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENT, AND ENERGY

The UNDP's Climate Promise has driven transformative change in the country's climate approach. The initiative fortified Nationally Determined Contributions, integrating them into national policies and creating environments conducive to implementation. It strategically charted pathways for **carbon neutrality by 2050 Long-term Strategy**, aligning with national priorities and commitments to Paris agreement.

The NDC implementation plan prioritized gender-sensitive strategies in adaptation and mitigation. The UNDP notably actualized the Energy Efficiency Program, enhancing energy conservation. It aided in crafting a national strategy for hydrofluorocarbon phase-out, targeting emission reductions in the cooling sector.

Kyrgyzstan reached a notable milestone by fostering inclusive climate discussions at all levels, particularly involving women and youth. The country engaged vulnerable sectors in climate adaptation efforts highlighting the significance of regional cooperation to address transboundary climate and environmental risks including a regional early warning system. The UNDP played a vital role in supporting Kyrgyzstan's

participation in international climate discourse, including COP28, and enhancing the Ministry of Natural Resources' role in **climate diplomacy**.

Improvement in infrastructure, such as the implementation of **3 avalanche stations** with support of the Government of Japan and **3 fire and rescue stations** with support of KOICA in vulnerable areas, were a tangible contribution to the technical capacity of key ministries. Through knowledge transfer and capacity building, the UNDP showed dedication to integrating advanced technologies for risk communication and disaster risk management.

Additionally, the UNDP supported implementation measures to protect Kyrgyzstan's diverse mountain biodiversity and natural resources by improving the legal framework, advocating for innovative financial management in conservation areas, and developing a Roadmap for the sustainable development of Mountain regions. **The Roadmap for the Development of Mountain regions**, supported by UNDP, demonstrated Kyrgyzstan's commitment to protecting its mountain landscape and making them



resilient to climate change.

UNDP played a key role in changing Kyrgyzstan's conservation approach towards the mountains' biodiversity and vital land and forest resources. By embedding the **High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF)** concept into the national legislation and advocating for **Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)**, the UNDP supported the legal framework and conservation efforts in Kyrgyzstan. The introduction of HCVF and the piloting of Voluntary Certification for SFM with National Standards stimulate a breakthrough in managing and preserving these critical ecosystems.

The UNDP's support made a significant progress in improving infrastructure in protected areas in West Tien Shan landscape. The construction of 2 administrative buildings and 3 ranger houses, along with the implementation of automatic gate in Sary-Chelek natural reserve to regularise the tourist flow, were important in enhancing the management effectiveness and safety of these crucial territories. Updated management plans and the provision of necessary equipment improved the guarding and maintenance of the natural reserves.

UNDP's comprehensive training programs provided opportunities for 621 people, including most women, to learn green practices with conservation benefits. The Low Value Grants Program provided significant assistance to local communities, supporting more than 740 people, mostly women, to start mini-projects for sustainable livelihoods. These efforts have not only reduced pressure on the ecosystem, but also contributed to the economic empowerment of the communities.

The establishment of the **Climate Resilience and Gender platform** under regional EU-funded project, with support of UNDP, was another notable stride, involving diverse stakeholders and empowering women in climate decision-making. This, along with supporting youth in climate action, reflected a holistic societal approach to the climate agenda. UNDP actively involved the private sector in climate adaptation across vulnerable sectors, identifying challenges and opportunities.

Joint Government and UNDP's proactive stance in exploring solutions for the establishment of a Conservation Trust Fund in Kyrgyzstan demonstrates the commitment to securing a sustainable financial future for conservation activities.

Highlights



2 administrative buildings and 3 rangers houses were constructed, equipped and furnished in two national parks for strengthening protected area management



1 automated barrier was installed to a state reserve for regulating visitors and tourists



7 online consultations as a PreCOP28 preparation which covered all key thematic areas indicated in COP. More than 200 participants have been attended from key line ministries, potential delegation members, youth, NGOs, private sectors.



A series of meetings were held to discuss and validate the prepared analyses on NDC Implementation Plan and Concept on Carbon neutrality by 2050, capacity building and awareness raising campaigns for government agencies as well as civil, financial and private sectors, youth and academia, media, development partners (about 800 people)



Climate Forums on PreCOP28 (180 people) and Post COP28 (100 people), Youth Conference (LCOY) (107 people)



621 individuals received training in inclusive biodiversity and ecosystem conservation, sustainable natural resource management, covering topics such as high conservation value forest, ecotourism and other livelihood development..



14 ecotourism itineraries developed and published, 4 video-films, 1 educational course and 5 educational training materials on biodiversity conservation and NRM produced and distributed.



3 field research on biodiversity conducted and maps created for establishing ecological corridors, buffer zones and to assess snow leopard population.



17 nature sanctuaries (zakazniks) underwent rapid assessment, including the identification of primary land users and borders, with the subsequent installation of informative signs.

GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL COHESION





GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL COHESION

UNDP worked in close partnership with the Government to advance human development. The main efforts focused on promoting transparent and inclusive policymaking, accessible public services, civic engagement, and community resilience.

UNDP supported the **7th Convocation of Parliament** in its development objectives, focusing on legislative effectiveness and accountability. UNDP worked with the Government and civil society to implement legal and judicial reforms focusing on promoting **human rights in business practices** and **expanding access to free legal aid** for vulnerable groups.

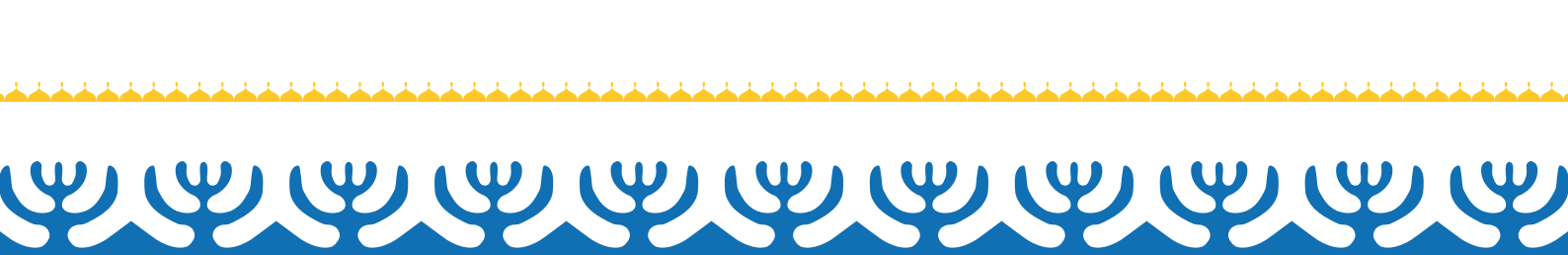
UNDP mainstreams the **rights of people with disabilities** through overall portfolio and has made targeted effort to empower persons with disabilities, promote and protect their rights by strengthening existing structures and supporting national institutions and organizations of people with disabilities to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

UNDP is focusing on implementing measures to promote dialogue, effective service delivery and participatory

decision-making. Efforts are focused on **strengthening social cohesion** and **building community resilience** with particular focus on Batken and the Fergana Valley.

The Ministry of Economy, with UNDP and the Government of Japan support, has established an interagency working group to draft a National Action Plan on **business and human rights** in alignment with UN Guiding Principles. An initial baseline assessment on business and human rights has been completed, providing a comprehensive analysis of the political and legislative framework. Recommendations stemming from this assessment aimed to strengthen the implementation of UN Guiding Principles.

UNDP's support extended to the Supreme Court, where an International Conference on Access to **Environmental Justice** heightened awareness. This initiative emphasized collaboration among judicial systems and addressed regional challenges, contributing to a better understanding of environmental justice with support of the Government of Netherlands. National Dialogue Platform involving Supreme Court, Ministry of Ecology, Prosecutor General's Office, Bar and Aarhus Center established to



collaboratively address national environmental justice concerns.

UNDP with support of the Government of Finland assisted the Ministry of Justice in provision **free legal aid to 10,344 individuals**, with a gender-inclusive focus benefiting **4,554 men and 5,790 women**. Local discussions and an information campaign reaching **41,471 unique readers** preceded the "Bus of Solidarity" initiative, offering legal aid across 11 municipalities to 1,199 individuals. UNDP supported the establishment of a **free legal aid hotline** assisting 3,257 beneficiaries in legal matters crucial for women and girls.

UNDP's support has expanded access to justice and public services for individuals with disabilities, notably through the adoption of the "**Accessible Country**" State Program 2023-2030, aligning with UN Convention norms. Initiatives like the "Glossary of Key Disability Terms" and an updated legal database with 39 sign language interpreters have further improved accessibility for individuals with hearing impairments.

With UNDP support, the country has achieved remarkable progress in reinforcing local governance and nurturing social cohesion. The refinement of **the Local Communities Charter** engaged 665 representatives, integrating peacebuilding

strategies into local development plans under PBF-funded joint UN programming.

In youth empowerment, **500 youth benefited** from business acceleration programs, resulting in the establishment of **78 businesses** and contributing to their economic and social empowerment. The National Youth Congress and a high-level **Youth Forum** facilitated dialogue between the President, national authorities, and over **2000 young men and women**, addressing civic participation and priorities. These initiatives have established a sustainable communication channel between youth and government, ensuring that youth voices are integral to the development agenda.

9 inclusive Preventing Violent Extremism advisory groups were established, ensuring community engagement in shaping local peace strategies. **The ARTurduuluk** (diversity through Art), a promising domain unleashes the potential of creative industries as a mechanism for strengthening social cohesion and diversity of inter-cultural ties, youth empowerment, and local development. It has already engaged 40 artists and 400 citizens from the Osh city alone. "**Rhythm of the City**" festival united **1 000 people** in Osh city through collaboration with creative industries and community.

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GREEN DEVELOPMENT





SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GREEN DEVELOPMENT

UNDP supported the Ministry of Economy in shaping the subsequent phase of the **green economy** development program under UN PAGE programme. An in-depth analysis of lessons learned from the preceding program has been undertaken. The forthcoming program, set to be concluded in the first quarter of 2024, will delineate the nation's key priorities in advancing green development. Furthermore, it will be harmonized with the country's current national climate commitments.

Significant strides have been made under support of UNDP in advancing **the green finance agenda**. In partnership with the Ministry of Economy and Union of Banks, UNDP supported a **green finance market assessment**. This assessment, in turn, facilitated the development of a feasibility study for the green financing vehicle.

In 2023, UNDP successfully reached an agreement with the Ministry of Economy and the State Development Bank (SDB) to promote the establishment of the **green financing vehicle** under the auspices of the SDB. Participation of the SDB is particularly important as it possess financial resources which can play catalyzing and resource mobilizing role for the overall capital of the

green financing vehicle (SDB's capital is over USD 200 mln.)

To enhance favorable business environment, UNDP provided support to the Ministry of Economy and Commerce to develop a strategic document "**Business Development Program** of the Kyrgyz Republic until 2026" comprising a set of concrete measures and initiatives developed jointly with the private sector. The Program was approved by the decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic. It is expected that the comprehensive private sector development mainly targeted to **Micro-, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) development** will integrate the efforts of all the stakeholders, including development partners and Civil Society Organizations. UNDP already identified entry points for its support to the Ministry of Economy and Commerce based on the adopted policy document.

To facilitate Kyrgyz Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises' access to new markets, UNDP has supported their participation in various international trade fairs and exhibitions which resulted in export contracts for the total amount of USD 2.2 million.



UNDP is implementing the Vth phase (2022-2025) of the regional “Aid for Trade in Central Asia” funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland aimed at enhancing and diversifying the countries’ export capacity. To achieve this, UNDP works on enabling environment for

trade-oriented private sector development and export-oriented value chain development. At the policy level, UNDP supported the development of two important documents: Methodology for the collection of e-commerce related statistics and Tourism Development Programme 2024-2027.

STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEM





STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEM

UNDP has extended its support to the prevention, diagnostics, and treatment of HIV/TB and COVID patients. This involves strengthening equitable, resilient, and sustainable health systems and pandemic preparedness. Through capacity building initiatives targeting health staff and relevant communities in the areas of HIV and TB, the result has been significant – **39,000 people** from key groups have received HIV/TB prevention services.

More than **6 thousand people living with HIV** received uninterrupted treatment and monitoring of its effectiveness, including with the support of the UNDP/Global Fund Project. In 2023, 1,200 people with resistant tuberculosis received the most modern and high-quality treatment purchased by UNDP with funds from the Global Fund; the success rate of treatment is increasing every year and is already more than 70%. Together with the National Tuberculosis Program, doctors and nurses at the primary health

care level identified more than 800 new cases of resistant tuberculosis, and all these individuals have access to modern treatment and social support.

In 2023, 7 centres for people with HIV and tuberculosis, as well as women who have experienced violence, provided vital services for accommodation, food, as well as restoration of documents and psychologically supported these citizens along the path of treatment.

In partnership with the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Office of the Ombudsman, and other ministries and departments, UNDP worked to reduce stigma and discrimination towards people living with HIV and tuberculosis and individuals from key populations. As a result of this collaborative effort, such as policy development and monitoring of their implementation, the level of stigma towards beneficiaries is steadily decreasing.

GENDER EQUALITY AND FIGHT AGAINST SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE





GENDER EQUALITY AND FIGHT AGAINST SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Addressing gender-based digital divides, **180 girls and women equipped with digital skills achieved a notable 54% employment rate.** Efforts on positive messaging included a gender-responsive campaign utilizing digital solutions, and the Ombudsman Institute launched a Chatbot to increase awareness of misogyny and gender-related hate speech.

Additionally, UNDP assisted Parliament in financial calculations and amending Legislative Acts for the "Protection against Domestic, Sexual, and Gender Violence" Law, ensuring safeguarding of victims' rights. The draft passed the first reading.

In addition, UNDP focused on addressing gender-based violence and helped to create an enabling policy, legal and resource environment to advance the agenda to eliminate gender-based violence. This was achieved by **reviewing and promoting laws** on detention of domestic violence suspects, free legal aid for survivors and alimony.

In collaboration with the International Labor Organization, UNDP supported the Ministry of Labor in promoting the Violence and Harassment Convention, addressing crucial workplace issues.

Under UNDP guidance, the Council on Women's and Children's Rights developed a strategy to prevent violence against women, aligning with international obligations.

Thematic policy briefs summarized legal reviews on laws related to domestic violence and gender issues. UNDP supported the Ministry of Labor in monitoring the **National Action Plan on Gender Equality**, enhancing its effectiveness.

Gender indicators developed by UNDP evaluated gender-sensitive service delivery. Training on human rights and violence against women was provided to 18 judges and 195 professionals/students, setting procedural requirements for gender sensitivity courses.

In the educational sphere, an online course on gender sensitivity and domestic violence reached over 100 individuals, complemented by a conference on gender-based violence attended by 128 participants.

Since the high-level and decision-making positions in the state agencies responsible for climate change and disaster risk reduction policy are male-dominated in



Kyrgyzstan, women's representation and contribution to climate-related issues remain low. Therefore, under the 16 days Gender Advocacy campaigns, UNDP joined the Government's efforts and conducted series of discussions on **Safe Public Spaces for Women and Girls**, particularly during extreme weather events and disasters. This initiative was a part of a comprehensive approach to addressing gender-based violence and building climate resilience in communities, empowering women, and girls to become agents of change.

Additionally, the UNDP played a crucial role in supporting civil society organizations, women-led organizations, and gender experts in addressing climate change challenges through series consultation sessions with over 100 participants. This initiative helped to integrate climate dimensions into a knowledge-sharing platform and promoted gender mainstreaming in climate issues. The

initiative empowered women and climate organizations to be active participants in decision-making processes related to climate change and water management for sustainable development.

The UNDP supported the organization of **Regional Women's Solidarity platforms** (Kurultai) in Batken, Jalalabad, Issyk-Kul, and Talas regions. The platform provided a safe space for over **700 women leaders** to discuss and address challenges related to women's participation in political, social, and economic development, and uncovered joint initiatives and empowerment strategies for women across Kyrgyzstan.

Over **280 women entrepreneurs** celebrated Women's Entrepreneurship Day, successfully organized by the UNDP in cooperation with other development partners, which promoted women's entrepreneurship in the socio-economic development of the country.

REDUCING INEQUALITIES





REDUCING INEQUITIES

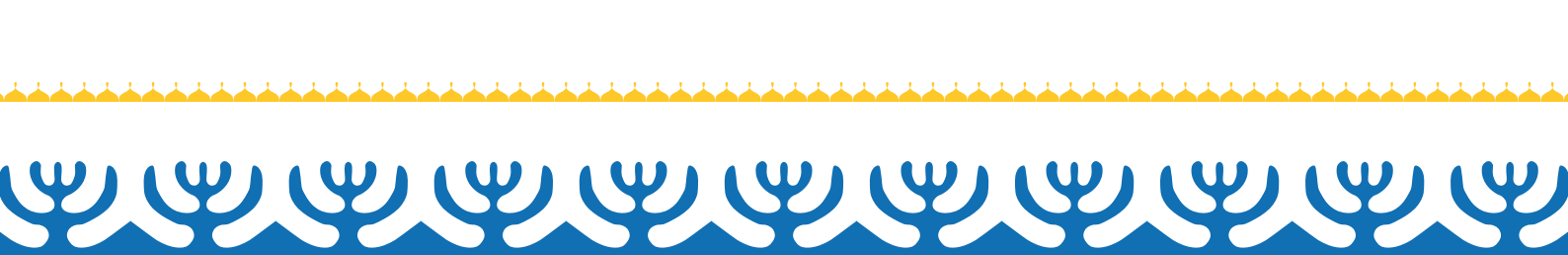
In April 2023, the UNDP formed an unofficial working group, including representatives from different organizations of people with disabilities. The group consists of 15 people with disabilities or representing the interests of people with disabilities. Participation in the group is voluntary. The main task of group members is to participate in decision-making regarding disability issues. They provided recommendations that play a key role in decisions made for the implementation of all UNDP activities related to disability issues. Thus, UNDP follows the basic principle of the CRPD: **Nothing About Us Without Us!** It means that decisions on all issues related to disability should be made only with the participation of people with disabilities.

During March–May 2023, the research team conducted a situational analysis of the rights of persons with disabilities, which was commissioned by the United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD). During the situation analysis, the team was supported in finding data, making necessary contacts, and editing the report.

Based on the situational analysis, priority

issues were selected in order to propose a two-year project to the partnership through a Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF). A joint coordination meeting of UNDP, UNICEF, and UNFPA prioritized the recommendations for a potential joint programme implementation. During the meeting, the participants recognized the importance of supporting the implementation of the **"Accessible Country" programme**, strengthening the Disability Council's capacity, improving data on disability, and the need for expert analyses on this issue, as well as engaging OPDs in the national climate adaptation plan.

In 2023, UNDP developed with support of the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a **glossary of key disability-inclusive terms** was developed in partnership with representatives of the Ministry of Labour, Social Welfare, and Migration, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Health, and the Council for Persons with Disabilities under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. The document was approved by the Ministry of Labour, Social Welfare, and Migration of the Kyrgyz Republic (Order No. 150 dated September 4, 2023) and by the Council for Persons with



Disabilities under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. This Glossary is a comprehensive resource on disability-inclusive terminology that recognizes diversity and promotes a rights-based approach to disability. The aim of the Glossary is to help society foster a more inclusive culture and language.

In May 2023, UNDP led the development of the **brochure Disability in the Media** in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, Information, Sports, and Youth Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic and the community of people with disabilities, journalists, and representatives of UN agencies. In December 2023, these guidelines were

approved by the Council for Persons with Disabilities under the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic. The main purpose of this publication is to raise awareness among media workers (journalists, specialists in communications, bloggers, and others) about disability representation in the media. This brochure reveals the concept of disability and presents different approaches to its perception, introducing the audience to the human rights-based approach to people with disabilities. The brochure “Disability in the Media” was published in English, Kyrgyz, and Russian. The accessible formats (Easy-to-Read, electronic Braille, and audio versions) are in the process of development.

THE THREE DIRECTIONS OF CHANGE





THE THREE DIRECTIONS OF CHANGE

In 2023, UNDP aligned with Kyrgyzstan's ambition to achieve nationally determined contribution targets. Focused on resilience, green economic policies and climate finance, UNDP helped to strengthen institutions, policies and implement field interventions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Structural transformation. UNDP continued to support the Government in advancement of environmentally sustainable, export-focused value chains in vulnerable regions. The initiative enhanced the capabilities of over 50 micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises, resulting in USD 2.2 million in export contracts.

Building resilience. Emphasizing community resilience, UNDP supported over 30 local municipalities to empower vulnerable groups, fostering economic opportunities

and social cohesion. Economic empowerment, startup support, and climate adaptation strategies contributed to 1067 jobs creation and community resilience. Inclusive governance and social cohesion efforts strengthened local capacities, mitigated grievances, and enhanced overall community resilience.

Leave no-one behind. UNDP successfully promoted inclusivity through targeted programs for 100 women, youth, people with disabilities. Advocating for gender equality, UNDP's initiatives in women and youth empowerment addressed disparities in economic opportunities. Through active engagement and advocacy for the rights of people with disabilities, UNDP significantly contributed to their inclusion, capacity building and policy advocacy, to create a more inclusive and equitable society.

THE THREE DEVELOPMENT ENABLERS

CREATE4

IT | business | innovation | arts





THE THREE DEVELOPMENT ENABLERS

Digitalisation. The UNDP supported the Ministry of Digital Development conducting a Digital Readiness Assessment to shape a new national digital strategy with involvement of the government and society in digital transformation. Also, UNDP supported the development of the Digital Code with a special emphasis on a planned Data Ecosystem that will be adopted in 2024.

Strategic Innovation. Under the Create4 platform, the Government and UNDP have collaborated effectively to establish the Park of Creative Industries, making Kyrgyzstan first country in the world to provide a creative ecosystem and offer unique opportunities for local innovators. The initiative involved over 30 partners and 100 organizations.

UNDP continues scaling the innovative paradigm for women empowerment called Women Creative Lab (WCL). WCL is a woman oriented coworking space with a uniquely enabling and nurturing peer environment. The success of WCL in Osh has paved the way for expansion into the Batken and Jalal-Abad regions, providing rural women with training, skills, and opportunities to generate sustainable income. More than 200 Labs' residents have access to tailored training and mentoring support programs as well as to seed funding sources to test or accelerate their business ideas in creative industries; while more than 600 are engaged

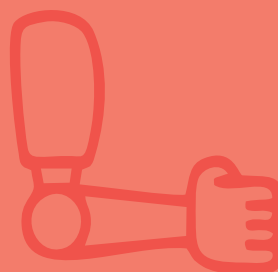
into the network through joint initiatives and events.

UNDP successfully tested a creative placemaking, an innovative approach to local and urban development. In 2023 in collaboration with the creative association ILGERI, UNDP launched the game ILGERI JOLU in the format of a quest for the residents of Bishkek. The aim of the initiative was to raise awareness and support the protection and preservation of the city's cultural heritage using innovative approaches and harnessing state-of-the-art technologies such as NFT and Augmented Reality.

Through the STEM4ALL platform and in partnership with UNICEF, UNDP supported the creation of "Community of Practice" in Kyrgyzstan, aimed to promote gender equality in science, technology, and innovation.

With support of UNDP, the national disaster risk monitoring system was significantly improved by integrating AI with satellite and historical data. The initiative covered 10 villages in Issyk Kul oblast. As a result, around 1,550,000 individuals will benefit from community measures, effectively addressing early warnings and awareness efforts, contributing to a more resilient community.

UNDP INCLUSIVE ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE





UNDP INCLUSIVE ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

In 2023, the entire staff of UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic participated in the training on disability inclusion. This training was organized with the goal of raising awareness among the staff about disability and the rights of people with disabilities.

In 2023, the Disability-Inclusive Employment Roadmap 2024-2027 (DIER) was developed for UNDP in the Kyrgyz Republic. The DIER is the strategic framework of the UNDP in the

Kyrgyz Republic for creating employment opportunities for persons with disabilities within UNDP offices, programmes, and projects. The purpose of this Roadmap is to attract, recruit, and promote accessibility, career development, and job retention for people with disabilities. In December 2023, the UNDP office in the Kyrgyz Republic became a champion of the UNDP People Awards 2023 in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Champion category.



GRATITUDE TO DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



From
the People of Japan



SUOMI
FINLAND



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Ministry of Environment
Republic of Korea



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY



Eurasian
Development Bank



THE WORLD BANK



german
cooperation
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT



giz
GIZ - German Technical Cooperation
Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



SWEDISH ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY



GREEN
CLIMATE
FUND



JOINT
SDG
FUND



THE
GLOBAL
FUND



United Nations
MPF Office
Partners Gateway



PEACEBUILDING
FUND



Notes



Notes



Notes



undp.org/kyrgyzstan



@undpkg

UNDP IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Phone: +996-312-611211 Phone: +996-312-611211
160 Chui Avenue, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, 720000