Country: Ukraine

COUNTRY PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE SUMMARY[1]

Reporting period: 2022-2023

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (1/2 page maximum)

Since the start of the full-scale invasion in February 2022, UNDP has continued supporting the government of Ukraine in responding to the challenges of the war, while safeguarding the progress made towards the achievement of SDGs.

In line with the five pillars of the Recovery Framework for Ukraine, UNDP has been committed to strengthening the government's capacities for crisis response, transparent recovery and reconstruction; delivery of public services, including structural transformation of the government's systems by promoting digital transition and accessibility; enabling safe returns and reconstruction through mine action, debris removal, rehabilitation of critical and essential infrastructure, with the focus on the energy sector; enabling inclusive economic growth through the support to private sector and in particular, MSMEs; and strengthening social fabric, empowering civil society, ensuring access to justice and enjoyment of human rights.

UNDP has been a partner of choice of the national government, local authorities, CSOs, private sector, directly working with more than 23 line ministries and central government agencies, over 200 municipalities, more than 230 civil society organizations, and more than 20 business memberships organizations. As an integral part of the UN system, UNDP has contributed to the RDNA, PDNA for Kakhovka Dam disaster and led the Human Impact Assessment, as well as co-implemented interventions focused on community recovery and resilience, promoting integrated national financing framework and mainstreaming gender and disability inclusion in humanitarian response.

In 2022-2023, UNDP has managed to mobilize more than $300mn funds, which underpinned the programmatic response to the war and has allowed to provide substantive support to the government on national and sub-national levels, maintaining the focus on the vulnerable and those left furthest behind.

[1] This assessment of results is to be prepared only in the absence of a completed Independent Country Programme Evaluation (ICPE) for the cycle.

II: Country Programme Performance Summary

Country information			
Country name: Ukraine			
Current country programme period: 2022-2023			
Outcomes	**Total Expenditure**	**Key Indicators of outcome (1-4 per outcome)**	**Progress made against key indicators**
1. By 2022, women and men, girls and boys participate in decision-making and enjoy human rights, gender equality, effective, transparent and non-discriminatory public services	$46.2mn	1.1. Availability of legal frameworks that promote, enforce and monitor equality and non-discrimination 1.2. Share of regions that have approved and are implementing sustainable development strategies/plans, developed with public participation 1.3. Public confidence in the courts 1.4. Percentage of women in the Parliament 1.5. Corruption Perception Index Score	• To promote equality and accessibility of digital public services, UNDP supported the adoption of Government Resolution #757, which ensures that public institutions adhere to new web accessibility standards. • According to the Human Rights Study, commissioned by UNDP in 2023, 29,6% of respondents believe appealing to court is an effective instrument of human rights protection. While the level of public trust in courts increased by almost 3 percentage points, it is twice below the target. Courts remain among the least trusted institutions. Because of military hostilities, many courts were destroyed/relocated resulting in restricted access to justice. • The share of women parliamentarians nearly doubled compared to the baseline and reached 21% after the 2019 elections. The status of the CPD indicator 1.4 remains overall unchanged, since the last elections to the Parliament were held in 2019. • The Ministry for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development now has its Anti-Corruption Programme for 2023-2025 as well as Professional Development Strategy for the Anti-Corruption Units (2023-2024), developed with UNDP support to ensure effective mechanisms for transparency and accountability.
UNDP Contribution: (Please provide an assessment of the progress made against the CP outputs over the cycle, and indicate their contribution to the outcome. Please indicate each of the main outputs and provide a summary assessment of overall progress) CP Outputs:			

The UNDP CP identified five major outputs to support the Government in achieving this outcome: (a) Regional and local authorities have scaled-up knowledge and skills to engage communities in planning coordination delivery and monitoring of public services provision; (b) National institutions systems laws and policies advance the equitable realization of human rights especially among vulnerable groups; (c) Civil society is more engaged in national development processes; d) Rule of law institutions have capacities and functions to effectively fulfil their mandates; and e) Measures scaled up and implemented to prevent and respond to domestic and gender-based violence.

Progress and Achievements:

1.1 Regional and local authorities have scaled-up knowledge and skills to engage communities in planning coordination delivery and monitoring of public services provision

The war led to accelerated service digitalization by the government. UNDP supported the Diia portal and app, offering 17 essential e-services to over 1.5 million Ukrainians, with 54% women users. The services enhanced awareness of human rights approaches and streamlined services for war veterans and children's health programs. UNDP also boosted Ukrainians' digital literacy through a grant program, promoting inclusivity and efficient governance. UNDP contributed to enhancing access to medical and rehabilitation services due to the increase in disability rates from the war, delivering essential equipment to 13 facilities. This effort addressed critical health needs and assisted over 9,758 direct beneficiaries, catering to the growing need for specialized services. To ensure the delivery of essential services to the affected people, UNDP supported the Emergency Medical Aid and Disaster Medicine Centers in Chernihiv, Sumy, Kharkiv and Odesa oblasts by providing 8 ambulances. Over 30,500 people have already received quality healthcare services. UNDP provided 30 "Mobile Administrator" units to regions such as Chernihiv, Dnipro, and Kyiv. These units brought essential services to the elderly, disabled, and those in conflict-damaged areas, streamlining service delivery and ensuring access in remote or war-affected locations.

1.2 National institutions systems laws and policies advance the equitable realization of human rights especially among vulnerable groups

UNDP played a key role in implementing the National Standard on web accessibility, mandated by Cabinet of Ministers Resolution #757. This effort was part of a comprehensive approach to enhance the accessibility of government resources online, rooted in two years of UNDP research on web accessibility. And the resilience of the digital network was enhanced through the development of an algorithm for operations during transitional periods, contributing to sustained service continuity in government-controlled territories and facilitating remote assistance elsewhere. This development led to the adoption of the National Standard on Digital Accessibility and the preparation of the draft Cabinet of Ministers Resolution on digital accessibility, thereby making digital resources more accessible to everyone and reinforcing the digital public infrastructure. UNDP assisted essential services in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, ensuring the operability of first responders. Over 8,000 individuals received assistance through the Ombudsperson’s regional network throughout 2023. Along with procurement of equipment for courts and Free Legal Aid Centers impacted by the war, UNDP supported in managing the humanitarian crisis-processing over 4.6 million online and offline applications for IDP through e-justice and digitization of the justice process. A comprehensive program was also initiated to improve communication between the Free Legal Aid System and its clients, impacting nearly 400 representatives. In collaboration with the Ministry of Social Policy, Ministry of Health, and the Office of the President, UNDP helped in formulating the 2023-2025 rehabilitation operational plan, focusing on vulnerable populations. UNDP contributed to the development of guidelines for social workers in multidisciplinary rehabilitation teams.

1.3 Civil society is more engaged in national development processes

With UNDP's support, the Open Government Initiative's Action Plan influenced educational reform, advocating for transparency and integrity. This led to the inclusion of the "Transparent Universities" initiative, a collaboration between the Ministry of Education and the National Agency on Corruption Prevention, in the policy. UNDP supported civil society's role in Ukraine's recovery, with a focus on government accountability. In partnership with the RISE (Reconstruction with Integrity and Sustainable Engagement) coalition and the Institute of Analytics and Advocacy, UNDP promoted transparent use of reconstruction funds in line with Ukrainian Accounting Chamber recommendations. In the Ivankiv community, a durable solution pilot, including a Community-Based Social Reintegration Working Group (CSRWG) with 60 participants (38 women, 22 men), boosted civic participation and sustainable grassroots initiatives in an area previously overlooked due to its proximity to the Chernobyl nuclear reactor site. Participants at the community level developed and implemented 10 civic initiatives, focusing on integrating young IDPs, enhancing youth mental wellbeing, developing their potential, and expanding the Youth Councils' network across Ukraine.

1.4 Rule of law institutions have capacities and functions to effectively fulfil their mandates

UNDP continued to support the reinstatement of the e-asset declaration system, which had been suspended due to the introduction of martial law. By requiring public officials to declare their assets, this system, now again accessible to the public, deters corruption and fosters public trust in government institutions, marking a substantial step forward in establishing a transparent governance framework. In 2023, public confidence in justice institutions significantly improved. A nationwide human rights survey revealed that 29% now see the police as effective in protecting their rights, up from 16% in 2016. 25% sought the national police for rights protection, compared to 20% previously. Awareness of legal mechanisms, like free legal aid, also rose, with 65% aware in 2023, up from 46% in 2016. UNDP partnered with Ukrainian police, Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, prosecutors, social service workers from all regions and legal aid to boost their capacity in addressing new human rights issues. 200+ legal aid lawyers improved communication and service for war-affected individuals. 70+ justice pros learned to integrate investigative interviews, and 100+ investigating sexual violence now grasp national and global standards.

Police units in Zaporizhzhia, Dnipro, Poltava, Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, including those relocated from war-affected areas, are now able to ensure public order and provide emergency assistance to the population following provision of generators, first aid kits, heating stoves and other equipment and supplies. More than 2,000 police officers and cadets relocated to Dnipro, Kropyvnytskyi, and Ivano-Frankivsk have received support in resettling in dignified living conditions that enabled them to continue studies. Such support allowed national police to keep providing critical support to those in need supposedly resulting in increased public trust. Indeed, while the perceived legitimacy of justice institutions has been shrinking during the last years, this has changed dramatically in 2022 when 25% respondents reported trust in national justice agencies (margin of error does not exceed 2.3%). While this is still below the ambitious target of 33%, it is the largest proportion of the population trusting justice institutions since 2019, with the latter mostly being a consequence of the vital role and increased visibility of police in protecting Ukrainians during the ongoing war.

1.5 Measures scaled up and implemented to prevent and respond to domestic and gender-based violence

The conflict in Ukraine has resulted in a rise in sexual and gender-based violence, particularly affecting women, and girls. Ukraine's ratification of the Istanbul Convention, the Council of Europe's treaty aimed at preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. This ratification underscores Ukraine's dedication to

upholding European standards for human rights and liberties. UNDP, a trusted partner of Ukraine, played an instrumental role in supporting and facilitating this significant milestone. The Ukrainian justice system, in collaboration with UNDP, strengthened its capacity to identify, document, and investigate CRSV cases, providing comprehensive support to survivors and witnesses. A comprehensive CRSV training program for prosecutors and investigators was developed and piloted in May 2023 in close coordination with the General Prosecutor's Office. UNDP also supported the Ombudsperson's regional network, offering consultations and assistance to over 8,000 individuals at local level, while continuing capacity-building efforts, including training Ombudsperson's staff to effectively communicate with victims of war crimes. In 2022, UNDP legally empowered 787 survivors of gender-based violence and women at risk of such violence from Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, raising their awareness of the rights of GBV victims, legal procedures, protection mechanisms and specialized services. To respond to the issues of domestic and gender-based violence in the war-affected oblasts, two SGBV/DV situational rooms and classrooms were furnished in Mariupol and Sievierodonetsk police training centres, both relocated from war-affected areas. The fully outfitted study rooms allowed to improve the learning process for police officers, equipping them better to address and prevent gender-based discrimination and violence in their communities.			
2. By 2022, all women and men, especially young people, equally benefit from an enabling environment that includes labour market, access to decent jobs and economic opportunities	$9.6mn	2.1. Employment rate of population aged 15-70, by sex and age 2.2. Wage gap between women and men 2.3. Ranking in Ease of Doing Business Index	• UNDP assisted MSMEs during the conflict and established 9 anti-crisis platforms in collaboration with regional Chambers of Commerce, Industry, and Development Agencies. These platforms provided MSMEs with critical assistance, which contributed to a reduction in the unemployment rate from 21% in 2022 to 20% in 2023. 34 war-affected MSMEs, including 18 women- and 16 men-owned businesses, expanded commercial activities through online stores, and supporting employment in affected communities. • 46 entrepreneurs showcased their businesses on the Diia.Business portal, simplifying engagement with potential clients. In Lviv, a Centre for Relocated Businesses was established, accommodating two producers of prosthetics and rehabilitation equipment from war-affected regions. 7 regional Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CCIs) provided specialized Geographical diversification of business" services to MSMEs, expanding their operational reach. The number of cost-recovery business development services offered to participating BMOs increased to 85 from 27 in previous years. The CCI system also established three informational support centers for MSMEs. • 30 Vocational Education and Training (VET) institutions in 20 cities and 6 oblasts participated in a UNDP-supported vocational retraining program. With 57 mentors from 50

			enterprises, 506 individuals, including 226 women, completed the program, gaining skills in 23 professions. The retraining program achieved an average employment rate of about 65% for its graduates. • Data availability for the outcome deteriorated during the reported period. The state data on employment rate is not available because of the martial law, thereby making it impossible to accurately assess indicator 2.1. Same applies to estimating wage gap between men and women, though according to the Work.ua study, representatives of 8 out of 12 professions claim that men are paid more than women [indicator 2.2]. The data on Ease of Doing Business Indicator [indicator 2.3] is not available as it was discontinued by the World Bank.

UNDP Contribution:

CP Outputs:

The UNDP CP identified two major outputs to support the Government in achieving this outcome: a) National and subnational institutions are better able to develop and implement policies and measures that generate sustainable jobs and livelihoods; b) Public institutions and private entities effectively cooperate to improve the business environment.

Progress and Achievements:

2.1 National and subnational institutions are better able to develop and implement policies and measures that generate sustainable jobs and livelihoods

The national Open Regulatory Platform was established in collaboration with the Regulatory Service of Ukraine. Local platforms were formed in Vinnytsia, Lviv, and Chernihiv on the oblast or municipal level. Partner BMO developed eight industry-based and sectoral standards to enhance organizational capacities and streamline operational processes in various sectors. These standards include: - Standard for visual industry businesses (Ukrainian Association of Visual Industry) – Sectoral "Basic Code" with a voluntary badge system (Trustmark) for real estate managers (Association of Housing Managers) - Codes of Business to Client and Business to Business Conduct for companies (League of Business and Professional Women) - Industry code establishing rules for marketing communications (Organic Ukraine) - Complaints resolution scheme for Code of Ethics (Ukrainian Association of Furniture Manufacturers) - Non-state service quality standard for rural tourism (Association for the Promotion of the Development of Rural Green Tourism in Ukraine). Six dialogue platforms were established to enhance public-private cooperation and create clear and transparent regulations. Overall, 32 laws aimed at improving the governance and business environment were submitted to respective authorities for adoption, and 12 were adopted; 28 by-laws were offered for adoption, and 26 adopted. The staff of the 5 regional SES offices is now able to provide its services to residents of remote

settlements in these oblasts. UNDP contributed to this result by procuring furniture, IT equipment, communication equipment and five mini-buses for the State Employment Service. UNDP helped develop 30 online stores (websites) to help displaced MSMEs (15 owned by women, 15 by men) shift their commercial activity online, strengthen their crisis resilience and support employment in the war-torn communities. At least 409 people (240 women and 169 men) benefited from the new income-generating opportunities, including in seven communities of Rivne oblast. Ten sets of sewing equipment were transferred to the communities hosting IDPs from various regions of Ukraine. 2.2 Public institutions and private entities effectively cooperate to improve the business environment UNDP continued to support 33 export-oriented MSMEs from conflict-affected regions with comprehensive service packages for business relocation. An "early warning" digital tool and database were developed for BMO and UCCI members, enhancing crisis response and business environment assessment. Business Intermediary Organizations (BIOs) received small grants, facilitating the organization of 13 BMOs and improving support in market research and digital tool consultation. UNDP played an integrator role by fostering collaboration among private businesses, regional and local authorities, business support institutions (both governmental and non-governmental), business association representatives, and other relevant stakeholders. This collaboration led to eight exchange visits, focusing on sharing experiences and implementing regional plans, especially for MSMEs and export-oriented businesses. In five targeted regions (Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, Rivne, and Chernivtsi oblasts), over 100 SMEs were trained in export-oriented activities and conflict resolution. To facilitate networking and export discussions, seven forums were conducted. UNDP also carried out the "Foresight for the recovery and development of Ukrainian exports until 2030" study, launched during the “Western Ukrainian Export” forum, which outlined strategies for enhancing the competitiveness of Ukrainian MSMEs.			
3. **By 2022, national institutions, private business and communities implement gender-responsive policies and practices to achieve sustainable management of natural resources, preservation of ecosystems, mitigation, adaptation to climate change and generation of green jobs**	$5.3mn	3.1. Share of areas of territories and natural reserves in the total territory 3.2. Share of energy produced from renewable sources in the total final energy consumption 3.3. Share of population benefiting from improved coverage by cost-efficient and sustainable energy in the public sector, by sex	• UNDP in collaboration with Ministry of Energy of Ukraine spearheaded initiatives for the recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine's energy sector, intensifying efforts through evidence and needs assessments in partnership with the World Bank. These efforts aided the government in preparing for the 2023/24 winter energy needs and devising a strategy for energy independence. UNDP provided winterization support across Ukraine oblasts, delivering 2 autotransformers and marking it as the first international agency to do so. This support, coupled with modern infrastructure equipment, benefited around 1 million people by improving energy systems in major cities. • UNDP promoted sustainable, cost-efficient energy in Ukraine's public sector, implementing energy efficiency measures across 28 cities using the Energy Service Company (ESCO) modality. This initiative resulted in 22 213 MWh of energy savings and reduced CO2 emissions by 15 504 tons.

			This has also allowed for generation of USD 2.7 million in additional investments and increased use of the ESCO modality as a sustainable modality for increasing investments and implementation of energy efficiency measures. • UNDP's initiatives also encompassed clearing debris and waste. They cleared 80,000 m^3 of material from mines and unexploded ordnance, securing 175,000 m^2 in destroyed areas. This work was crucial for ensuring safety, facilitating the return of 1.5 million more people in 2023, increasing the total from 4.5 million in 2022.

UNDP Contribution:

CP Outputs:

The UNDP CP identified three major outputs to support the Government in achieving this outcome: a) Comprehensive measures on climate change adaptation and mitigation across various sectors are scaled up; b) Local authorities and communities adopt gender-responsive and sustainable solutions for increased energy efficiency and modern energy access especially of renewable energy; and c) Local authorities develop gender-responsive solutions at subnational levels for the sustainable management of natural resources ecosystem services, chemicals and waste.

Progress and Achievements:

3.1 Comprehensive measures on climate change adaptation and mitigation across various sectors are scaled up

UNDP assisted the Ministry of Environment in developing key provisions of Ukraine's draft Climate Law, focusing on climate policy, financial market adaptations, and methane emission monitoring. At the sub-national level, UNDP provided training for municipalities on climate risk assessments, local climate plans, and projects aligned with Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) strategies. During COP 28, UNDP helped the Ukrainian government organize the National Pavilion and led discussions on gender equality in green recovery and the war's environmental impact which contributed to retain the government's consideration for climate action throughout 2023, with a focus on gender responsive policies. Over 300 municipal representatives, with around 60% women and 40% men, received training in climate adaptation planning, enhancing local capacity for climate change response.

In 2022, UNDP focused on strengthening capacities of national counterparts on green recovery, including developing legal frameworks and the enabling environment for establishing financing mechanisms. A total of 120 participants (70 women and 50 men, including 20 civil servants and 18 CSO representatives) were reached with these initiatives in the area of green recovery and green financing. At the Climate Change Conference (COP 27), UNDP supported the Government in organizing Ukraine's first-ever National Pavilion and several activities, including a discussion panel that focused forward on green financing, resilience building and sustainable development in Ukraine. The Ukrainian pavilion demonstrated that climate justice remains at the core of the Ukrainian government's plan for sustainability and recovery, even in this

difficult time for the country.

In partnership with the State Agency on Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving of Ukraine, UNDP worked on introducing guarantee of origin of energy. Today there is no mechanism of determining the source of origin of electricity received by Ukrainian consumers through the grids. The introduction of a traceability system such as a guarantee of origin scheme enables a consumer to choose a source of electricity production (renewable or non-renewable) thereby stimulating production and consumption of energy from renewable sources. UNDP support included development of studies, roadmap elaboration, preparation of legislation and regulations on the guarantee of origin registers, all together contributing to enhancing Agency's regulation and policy making function.

3.2 Local authorities and communities adopt gender-responsive and sustainable solutions for increased energy efficiency and modern energy access especially of renewable energy

UNDP innovated the use of the Energy Service (ESCO) modality in installing solar power plants on public buildings, in collaboration with the EU-funded 'Ray of Hope' project. Through this partnership, UNDP carried out urgent energy efficiency audits and feasibility studies to support installing solar stations in 26 hospitals across Kyiv, Odesa, Zhytomyr, and Volyn oblasts. The expected outcome for 2024 is a 25% reduction in energy consumption, amounting to 3,141,979KWh. UNDP initiated ESCO works in 17 municipalities, surpassing the goal of implementing energy efficiency measures in 7,020 public buildings, significantly advancing public infrastructure energy efficiency. 900 representatives, including 24% women and 76% men from communities and central executive authorities, received training to better understand implementing energy-efficient measures through ESCO. This training supported improvements in ESCO procurement legislation, a key area of UNDP's project development and support. In partnership with the State Agency on Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving (SAEE) and local NGOs, UNDP conducted a comprehensive course for energy managers, focusing on creating new green jobs and upskilling communities and local authorities in managing energy for public buildings. A total of 758 individuals (410 women and 348 men) received certification from this course.

Some 11,214 men and 18,990 women have benefited from implementation of energy efficiency measures in 237 public buildings with support from UNDP cumulatively since 2019. A total of 7,020 public buildings in Rivne and Kirovohrad regions and Odesa city are now covered by improved energy efficiency management thanks to their connection to a local energy management information system (EMIS). Some evidence suggests that this allows targeted communities to reduce energy consumption by some 5-10%.

A total of 2,674 energy managers (1,193 women and 1,481 men) enhanced their capacities with UNDP support in 2022 and are now developing energy management in the public facilities to improve energy efficiency in buildings and implement the requirements of the Law of Ukraine on Energy Efficiency. They have received certificates after successfully completing training on energy management and monitoring that was organized and conducted by UNDP at the request of the State Agency on Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving of Ukraine.

3.3 Local authorities develop gender-responsive solutions at subnational levels for the sustainable management of natural resources ecosystem services, chemicals and waste

UNDP supported war-affected communities in Ukraine, particularly in enhancing their capacity for recycling as part of a broader waste management system by creating economic opportunities in the recovery process through procurement of recycling plants, waste collection trucks, and other assets, while also providing technical advice

for sustainable operations. This effort contributed to environmental sustainability and economic development in the recovery phase. In collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, UNDP also enhanced capacitated mapping and ranking for environmental hazards- resulting in development of a database for mapping and prioritizing hazard risks. This tool is currently deployed in informing programming and policy development, helping the government and partners address risks based on their threat level to both the environment and public health in Ukraine. UNDP addressed the water disruption challenges from the Kakhovka Dam disaster by supplying critical equipment, such as mobile water treatment facilities for Kryvyi Rih and water pumps for Nikopol city. This intervention successfully restored emergency water supply in these heavily affected areas, alleviating the water supply issues caused by the disaster. UNDP has also conducted an environmental assessment and a gender assessment, focused on understanding the differential impacts of the disaster on women, men, girls, and boys, providing valuable insights to support decision-making for the safe return of communities. The war has caused an unprecedented scale of damages to residential buildings and infrastructure. The damaged and unstable structures are a hazard, which hampers humanitarian actors' accessing affected areas and delivering assistance and prevents safe returns of the displaced people. In many cases, mines and explosive ordnance are present in the rubble, which complicates debris removal. UNDP assessed and quantified the amount of war damages, and found that there are at least 5 mln tonnes of debris in 40 settlements of Kyiv oblast (out of 200 communities). UNDP has supported debris removal in the Kyiv oblast, while ensuring proper management and disposal of hazardous waste, which contains dangerous materials, such as asbestos. In this way, the rubble from 2 destroyed kindergartens in Makariv settlement has been cleared. UNDP also helped train 110 debris removal workers and local authority representatives from Kyiv Oblast on handling explosive ordnance and hazardous waste. The participants received a Training Kit with useful information on debris removal.			
4. By 2022, communities, including vulnerable people and IDPs, are more resilient and equitably benefit from greater social cohesion, quality services and recovery support	$207mn	4.1. The level of neighborhood support in eastern Ukraine 4.2. The level of exposure to sexual and gender-based violence 4.3. Extent to which people in Eastern Ukraine feel safe in their community, by sex and age	• To support maintenance of social fabric, the integration of IDPs into host communities, community cohesion and cooperation, community-level advisory bodies have been established or strengthened in 86 amalgamated territorial communities across 12 oblasts of Ukraine. They have been crucial in introducing participatory approaches that take a whole-of-community view to recovery discourse. • To ensure community security, tailored support was provided to first responders/security service providers to replenish assets that had been lost (equipment and supplies but also the renovation of rural police stations in areas that were temporarily not under the control of the Government of Ukraine) and boost their capacities to maintain uninterrupted rescue operations. UNDP also supported SESU by equipping 202 pyrotechnic teams for clearing territories contaminated by explosive remnants of war, thus contributing to the safe returns and resumption of economic activity in the affected areas.

			• To support the survivors of GBV, UNDP established a Day Centre for GBV/DV survivors and Crisis Room in Nizhyn, Chernihiv Oblast, as well as the Centre of Social Services in Novomoskovsk, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, A mobile unit for reacting to GBV/DV was created, and provided trainings to police units in Dnipropetrovsk oblasts, reaching overall 370 women and girls. • UNDP-supported Community Security and Social Cohesion Working Groups from Donetsk, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia oblasts are now better equipped to provide mental health recovery and stress resilience for the population. National community cooperation has increased, with recorded change from 5.1 in 2021 to 5.4 out of 10 maximum in 2022. • Only 12.5% of Ukrainians feel very safe in their everyday life and there is also a double gender gap for this metric (17.1% men vs 8.6% women). 38.5% feel somewhat safe. Young people tend to feel slightly safer compared to other age groups. UNDP mobilized emergency supplies to support more than one million people fleeing the hostilities. Support was scaled up to the State Emergency Service and local authorities for repair of critical energy and other infrastructure necessary for public safety and restoration and smooth functioning of public services. More than 300 families in war-affected Kyiv oblast have already benefited from the removal of hazardous waste and reduced risk of buildings collapse.

UNDP Contribution:

CP Outputs:

The UNDP CP identified three major outputs to support the Government in achieving this outcome: a) Conflict-affected communities feel safer and satisfied with security services following UNDP support; b) Crisis-affected women and men have more sustainable livelihoods opportunities including jobs created with UNDP support; and c) National and regional authorities have the knowledge and skills to engage communities in gender-responsive planning coordination delivery and monitoring of recovery efforts.

Progress and Achievements:

4.1 Conflict-affected communities feel safer and satisfied with security services following UNDP support

In 2023, UNDP's engagement in local recovery has expanded to cover 12 oblasts across Ukraine both in the east and west of the country. Community-level advisory bodies have been established or strengthened in 86 amalgamated territorial communities and have been crucial in introducing participatory approaches that take a whole-of-community view and bring the needs and vision of those groups most at risks of being marginalized in the recovery discourse (veterans, IDPs, young people of both genders) at the centre. Two Local Development Forums were organized in Chernihiv and Dnipropetrovsk Oblast bringing together regional level stakeholders to discuss issues linked to security and recovery and crystalize it around shared objectives that enable the transition out of the humanitarian phase. Thanks to these efforts, 132 projects have been launched and 59 grants have been awarded to local communities to implement tangible initiatives in support to local recovery benefiting overall 115,000 individuals (67% women). Tailored support was provided to first responders/security service providers to replenish assets that had been lost (equipment and supplies but also the renovation of rural police stations in areas that were temporarily not under the control of the Government of Ukraine) and boost their capacities to maintain uninterrupted rescue operations. UNDP also contributed to demining efforts, equipping 202 pyrotechnic teams and empowering SESU with new technologies, increasing safety in conflict-affected areas and building trust in national authorities. It is also worth noting the progress made by UNDP in forming a solid evidence basis. Besides SCORE and SHARP data, UNDP has been able to complete research work analysing the availability of legal services for displaced populations during the martial law; to assess the human impact of the war; and is continuing to collect and analyze data on damages to civilian infrastructure as a consequence of the war.

4.2 Crisis-affected women and men have more sustainable livelihoods opportunities including jobs created with UNDP support

UNDP has supported communities in streamlining gender-responsive recovery planning, opening 4 additional Recovery and Development Offices in Donetsk, Kharkiv, Luhansk and Mykolaiv oblasts. UNDP facilitated the delivery of quality public services to more than 2,5 mln people, with the focus on the most vulnerable and residents of remote and frontline communities. Solutions for emergency livelihoods support have been provided to more than 111,500 war-affected women and men, including vocational training, to strengthen their resilience in response to the crisis.

Despite strengthened sense of national unity, mass internal displacement is posing new challenges and might increase tensions between host communities and IDPs. Building on extensive experience with social cohesion programming in the east of Ukraine, UNDP focused on initiatives to tackle tensions in transit and host communities, increase social fabric and propensity for dialogue, while addressing the drivers of disunity, such as economic insecurity, safety concerns and psychological distress. More than 190,000 IDPs were reached with emergency and early recovery response through civic initiatives supported by UNDP. Additionally, 1,802 consultations were provided through the hotline of the National Psychological Association active in Ukraine and 14 European countries to support mental health of adults and children.

Around 1,000 people benefited from 21 local economic initiatives supported by UNDP. Associations, communal enterprises, and agricultural service co-operatives received support in the creation of new jobs (including for IDPs) and economic development through the procurement and provision of equipment and technology for the production and operation of economic activities (cheese factories, honey farming, sewing, utility). To address war-induced business disruptions, 90 vouchers were competitively awarded to MSMEs, providing essential support for restoring affected business infrastructure. Moreover, 60 MSMEs from Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson, Kharkiv, Sumy, and Dnipropetrovsk oblasts received expert support and recommendations on business relocation and reintegration. 342 individuals (236 women, 6 veterans, 113 IDPs, and 7 persons with disabilities) enhanced their knowledge and skills, covering areas such as starting a business, business plan development. IDP centres within 12 educational institutions across five oblasts in Ukraine were established, 343 individuals underwent training on fundamental aspects of employment

and received essential knowledge on labour legislation, guidance on job applications, effective communication with employers. In total, 421 (370 women) representatives of VET institutions and State Employment Service (SES) staff increased their capacities in teaching students, managing VET institutions, and applying principles of inclusivity in their work. UNDP contributed to this by organizing tailored training programmes and study visits. 32 VET schools in 11 oblasts received furniture, teaching and IT equipment, household appliances to outfit VET workshop and improve the teaching process, and specifically for practical sessions. Over 110 (65 women) CVET staff completed training programme on the Moodle e-learning management system, introduced by UNDP, and 76 men underwent hybrid online/in-person vocational course on the profession of plumber.

4.3 National and regional authorities have the knowledge and skills to engage communities in gender-responsive planning coordination delivery and monitoring of recovery efforts

UNDP boosted a tailored Capacity Development Programme for regional and local authorities on crisis response and recovery catering to 724 participants with 46% women participation across 9 target oblasts - Chernivtsi, Vinnytsia, Volyn, Ternopil, Khmelnitsky, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Rivne, Zakarpatiia, which led to implementation of 44 Integrated Approach of programming across 4 target oblasts and 6 communities on fostering community recovery and resilience of local communities. All targeted territories received experts and equipment support to establish Recovery and Development Offices. The Integrated Approach was implemented across four target oblasts and six communities and focuses on fostering community recovery and resilience. It aims to cultivate citizens' trust in regional and local authorities by enhancing their capacity to deliver quality public services in a gender-responsive manner, addressing the socio-economic impact of the war on local communities. All targeted territories received expert and equipment support to establish Recovery and Development Offices. Capacity development sessions were conducted for community representatives.

Summary of evaluation findings (e.g. from outcome and project evaluations, UNDAF reviews, and other assessments)

Since 2022, Ukraine CO has completed eight project evaluations (as of March 28, 2024), which represent all three CO portfolios (Inclusive Development, Recovery and Peacebuilding, Democratic Governance, and Energy and Environment), and that are summarized below:

- Feb 2022 Empowered Partnership for Sustainable Development Programme in Ukraine
- Apr 2022 Civil Society for Enhanced Democracy and Human Rights in Ukraine
- May 2022 Parliamentary reform project
- Jan 2023 Strengthening SME membership organizations (phase II) -
- Mar 2023 Procurement Support Services to the Ministry of Health of Ukraine (phase II)
- Sep 2023 Human Rights for Ukraine
- Sep 2023 DIA Support project
- Oct 2023 Terminal Evaluation of EU4Climate

The evaluation reports conclude that all projects met most of the stated objectives, with the exception of the Parliamentary reform project, where some of the results were only partially achieved. The management across the projects demonstrated adaptive capacity, key government counterparts – remarkable resilience, and international partners – strong commitment to Ukraine's recovery and development, which helped to maintain project activities and demonstrate progress. This was despite facing complex operating environment and external factors, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, political volatility due to national and local elections and ongoing decentralization reform, and the full-scale invasion.

The major lessons learned were:

1.The Importance of Design Flexibility for Effective Implementation in Challenging Contexts. Such flexibility has shown to be a prerequisite for ensuring interventions' relevance, efficiency, and effectiveness. The evaluations concluded that the capacity for adaptability had been a cornerstone of projects' substantial success in volatile contexts like Ukraine, which faces multifaceted challenges—ranging from epidemiological to political and security.

2. Strategic Alignment as a Catalyst for Institutional Buy-In and Sustainable Impact. Aligning the projects with national and sectoral strategies enhance institutional buy-in, making it easier to leverage support and resources from governmental entities. It also facilitates collaborative relationships with diverse stakeholders. Finally, strategic alignment allows for better resource allocation by avoiding duplication of efforts, thereby fostering operational efficiency.

3. Importance of Internal Synergies for Effective Implementation and Coherence. Internal synergies within UNDP, and between UN agencies and other stakeholders, significantly enhances the effectiveness and coherence of initiatives. The coordination and collaboration frameworks and mechanisms facilitate information sharing and alignment of activities, contributing to more robust, focused, and strategic implementation of the projects.

4. Data-Driven Approach in the Human Rights for Ukraine Project. The data-driven approach, which emphasizes the use of empirical, sociological data to inform strategic decision-making processes significantly enhances project outcomes. It contributes to the alignment of the project with the needs of the target population, thereby optimizing the impact and relevance of implemented activities. However, in some cases there is lack of quantitative data and limited ability of some (government and private sector) stakeholders to provide inputs and impossibility for some evaluators to participate in field mission for direct interviews and observation due to security concerns. These challenges have been addressed by triangulating available data, using online mode for communication, and engaging national evaluators, among others.

III. Country Programme Resources

Focus Area[2]	Programme Expenditure 2022-2023, ($, mln)			% of Total
	Regular (TRAC 1-3)	Other	Total	
Democratic Governance	1.09	47.79	48.88	18.23
Energy and Environment	0.24	153.18	153.42	57.23
Inclusive Development, Recovery and Peacebuilding	1.12	62.19	63.30	23.61
Other	0.33	2.13	2.46	0.92
Total	2.78	265.28	268.06	100

Data sources: (please indicate the main sources from which data were obtained for this report.)
Stream, Resource Overview, Project Details reports

[2] Replace with the focus areas of your programme.