

UNDP Tajikistan Sustainable Development News



In the September–October edition of our Newsletter, we proudly mark 32 years of partnership in Tajikistan and 60 years of UNDP’s global impact—a milestone that comes as the UN celebrates its 80th anniversary. Together with our partners and the Government of Tajikistan, we are driving innovation, empowering young people, strengthening public services, expanding access to justice, and advancing bold climate action. And at the heart of it all lies one unwavering principle: gender equality is not just a priority—it’s the value that shapes everything we do.

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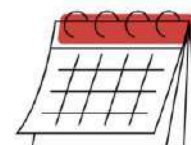
**Digitalisation,
Innovation &
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**Promoting Peace
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EXCLUSIVE

Sudipto Mukerjee: 'UNDP's task is to support a country at the right moment'



This year, UNDP Tajikistan celebrates several milestones – 32 years of partnerships in Tajikistan, 60 years globally. In his first interview in Dushanbe, Sudipto Mukerjee, Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Tajikistan, spoke with journalist Shoir Toirova about how the country's development priorities are changing, why young people are becoming a key factor of sustainability, and how innovation, climate adaptation, and local solutions are shaping the region's future. [Explore his insights and the path ahead](#)

OUR RECENT STORIES & NEWS

Tajikistan Takes First Step in Financing HIV Medicines and Tests for Newborns



[For the first time, the Government of Tajikistan has financed the procurement of antiretroviral therapy \(ART\) drugs and HIV early diagnosis tests for newborns](#), under the project “Support to the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population of Tajikistan in Procuring Quality Medical Products,” implemented by UNDP. The Government-financed procurement is sufficient to meet the needs of around 1,000 patients on the WHO-recommended TLD regimen for one year and provides essential tests for early HIV diagnosis among infants. An agreement signed on November 21, 2024, between the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population (MoHSPP) and UNDP facilitated the handover of medical products to the Republican AIDS Centre for nationwide distribution.

UNDP, GEF, and Tajikistan partner to support cleaner, more sustainable cooling systems



Tajikistan is modernising its refrigeration and air conditioning sector, gradually reducing climate-damaging hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and introducing energy-efficient, environmentally friendly technologies. [With](#)

[support from UNDP, and the GEF, a US\\$49.4 million project to be led by the Government of Tajikistan will help provide cleaner, more sustainable cooling systems](#), avoiding more than two million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

Central Asia launches Urban Resilience Coalition at Regional Dialogue in Dushanbe



[In a region increasingly vulnerable to disasters and climate-induced risks, the Regional Urban Resilience Dialogue](#), held in Dushanbe, marked a significant milestone in advancing sustainable urban development across Central Asia. Organised by UNDP, in partnership with the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction (CESDRR), the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), and hosted by the Government of Tajikistan, the event brought together national authorities, municipal leaders, and technical experts from all five Central Asian countries, as well as international development partners.

IMPORTANT MILESTONES & PARTNERSHIPS

Celebrating UN80 – the milestone that resonates with UNDP’s 60 years globally and 32 years in Tajikistan



[The UNDP team, led by our Resident Representative, joined the UN 80th anniversary celebrations](#) in Dushanbe, reaffirming our commitment to peace, sustainable development, and gender equality. A highlight of the celebrations was a Youth Dialogue, emphasizing the crucial role of young people—whose energy, creativity, and ideals drive progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. The event reflected UNDP’s dedication to fostering dialogue, trust, and collaboration between youth, government, and partners for a better, more equitable future.

UNDP and EU Strengthen Collaboration in Tajikistan on Youth, Gender Equality, and Civil Registry Modernisation



[Sudipto Mukerjee, UNDP Resident Representative, and Radoslaw Darski, newly appointed EU Ambassador to Tajikistan](#), discussed the context and priorities for mutual collaboration in the country. Ambassador Darski highlighted several key areas for collaboration with UNDP, emphasizing the country's relatively young population. Priority areas include the creation of job opportunities, investing in the skills and capacities of young women and men, and improving access to quality education and capacity-building programs. Gender equality and the promotion of equal opportunities for women and men were also underscored as central components of these efforts.

UNDP and Ministry of Finance Strengthen Cooperation on Sustainable Finance and Digital Transformation



[Sudipto Mukerjee, UNDP in Tajikistan Resident Representative, met with Faiziddin Qahhorzoda, Minister of Finance of Tajikistan](#), to discuss ways of deepening collaboration in advancing the country's development agenda. Minister Qahhorzoda acknowledged UNDP's longstanding partnership and welcomed the opportunity to further strengthen cooperation under Mukerjee's leadership. The parties also discussed the evolving donor landscape, noting that Tajikistan must increasingly move towards co-financing and positioning itself as a core donor to UNDP. Both sides highlighted the importance of accelerating the digitalization of public services and expanding cashless payments. UNDP proposed exploring innovative solutions in this area.

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

"Boboy Dehqon" Greenhouse: A Bright Future for Khatlon Agriculture



[The “Boboy Dehqon” greenhouse](#), supported by Japan through JICA under UNDP’s LITACA Project, is bringing modern farming to Khatlon. Equipped with drip irrigation, it allows farmers to grow fresh vegetables year-round while building resilience to climate change.

Drip Irrigation Reservoir for Orchards in Khatlon



[Under UNDP in Tajikistan's LITACA Project, funded by JICA Tajikistan Office, a 1,000 m² water reservoir was constructed in Shamsiddin Shohin district using modern technology](#) — geomembrane and geotextile. The reservoir has been connected to a drip irrigation system equipped with a sand filtration station. The facility ensures reliable irrigation for 3 hectares of fruit-bearing peach orchards throughout the irrigation season.

Japan and Finland Support Khatlon Entrepreneurs with Cargo Trucks to Strengthen the Dried Fruit Value Chain



[Six entrepreneurs from the Khatlon region — including one woman — received cargo trucks](#) with a load capacity ranging from 1.5 to 3 tons as part of the LITACA and Aid for Trade projects, implemented by the Aga Khan Foundation and funded by the Governments of Japan and Finland, with support from UNDP. The trucks were provided to help local entrepreneurs collect fruits across the region and deliver them to aggregation centres.

Tajikistan Delegation Explores Finland's Best Practices in Sustainable Tourism



[A delegation from Tajikistan, joined by representatives from Uzbekistan, undertook a study visit to Finland](#) to learn about the country's best practices in sustainable tourism. Organised under the UNDP Aid for Trade project, funded by the Government of Finland, the visit aimed to strengthen the capacity of tourism policymakers, business support institutions, and private sector representatives from Central Asia. During the visit, participants attended a two-day lecture series at Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences, focusing on sustainable tourism trends, digital transformation, financing models, and community-based and eco-tourism practices.

DIGITALISATION, INNOVATION, GENDER EQUALITY

Empowering Women in Green Tech: Pathways to Sustainable and Innovative Business



The event brought together representatives from the private sector, civil society, government ministries and agencies, and women leaders from across Tajikistan to [explore ways to advance women's participation in green and digital innovation](#). During the "Women in Tech" panel session, Tahmina Rozikova, Project Manager of UNDP's Youth Skills Development Project, highlighted key initiatives empowering young women in the digital sector.

Empowering Women in Justice: Preventing Radicalization and Promoting Rehabilitation

UNDP, in partnership with the Main Department of Criminal Justice under the Ministry of Justice of Tajikistan, [held a training on “The Role of Women Law Enforcement Officials in Preventing Radicalization and Promoting Rehabilitation in Correctional Institutions.”](#) Women officers play a vital role in advancing human rights, gender equality, and inclusive practices in correctional settings. Strengthening their skills and networks helps improve rehabilitation for individuals convicted of terrorist and extremist offences.



Training the Next Generation of Legal Advocates: UNDP and UN Partners Support Young Women Lawyers in Tajikistan



UNDP’s Supporting Women in Law Project partnered with other UN agencies to bring the work of the United Nations to interns enrolled in the Internship Program for Young Women Lawyers at the Union of Advocates. [The Internship Program aims to increase the number of young women lawyers eligible to become licensed advocates in Tajikistan.](#) The interns are recent law graduates who receive intensive mentorship and specialized skills training during the course of the six-month Internship Program.

Advancing Gender Equality in Law: UNDP Trains Young Women Advocates



Continuing its support for the Union of Advocates Internship Program for Young Women Lawyers, the Supporting Women in Law Project at UNDP Tajikistan provided a specialized training on oral advocacy for the current cohort of interns. This is the second internship program at the Union of Advocates supported by UNDP that is designed to address the gender gap in the justice sector and increase the ranks of women advocates in the country. During the three-day training experienced [members of the Union of Advocates introduced the young women to techniques for delivering oral presentations during criminal, civil, and family proceedings.](#)

Youth on SDG 16: Engaging Youth for Promoting Justice and Stable & Inclusive Societies



Over 140 young people from across Tajikistan — young women and men, students, and volunteers — came together for the 3rd National Youth Forum on “Youth on SDG 16: Engaging Youth for Promoting Justice and Stable & Inclusive Societies.” The forum created a space for young people to learn, exchange ideas, and explore how they can contribute to promoting fairness, equality, and access to justice in their communities. It highlighted that youth awareness and participation are key to shaping more inclusive and accountable societies. Three inspiring young participants shared their reflections on what this experience meant to them — their hopes, ideas, and takeaways. [Watch the video to hear their inspiring stories!](#)

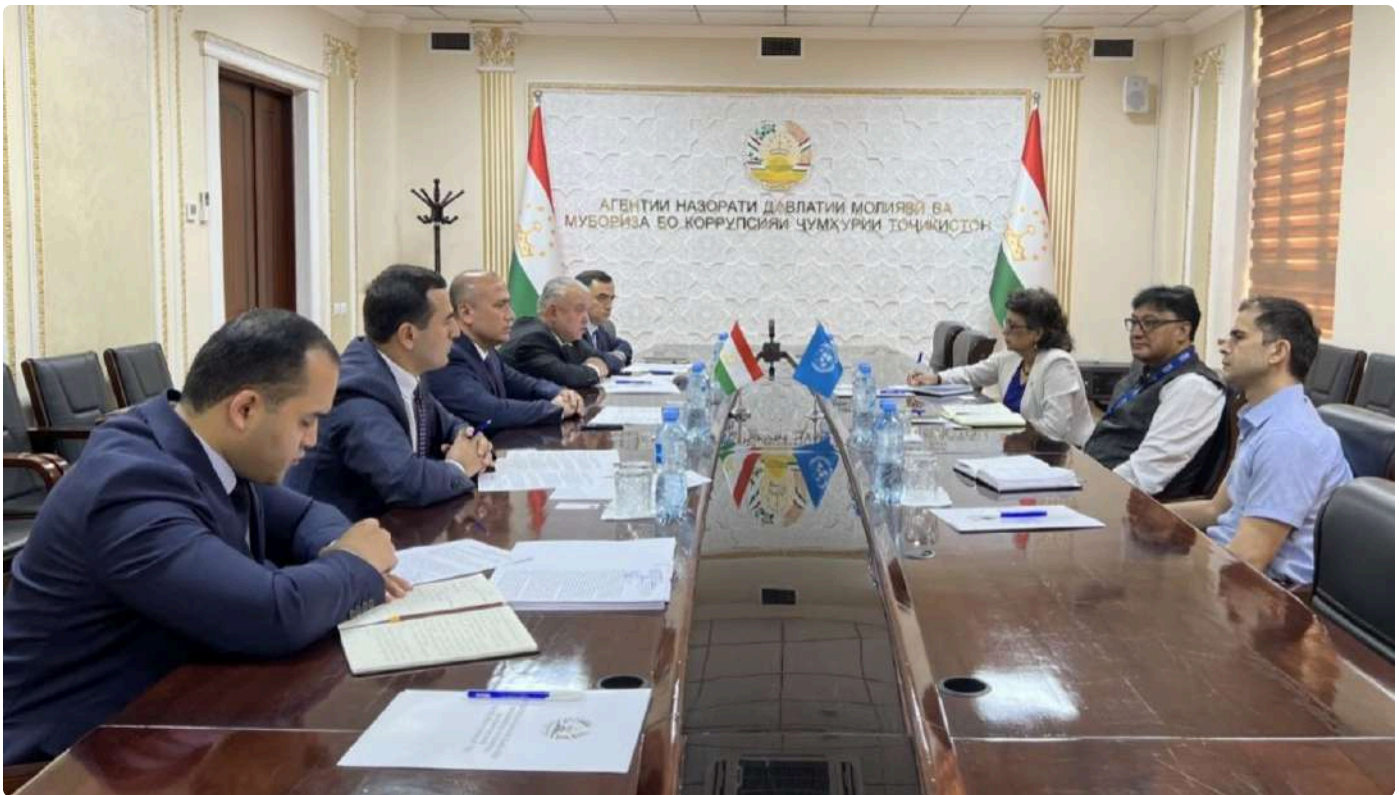
PROMOTING PEACE AND SECURITY & BETTER PUBLIC SERVICES

Justice must be a right, not a privilege



To ensure survivors of violence and vulnerable groups are not left behind, access to quality legal aid must be strengthened. [With support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, UNDP brought in Shikha Pandey, an international expert from International Legal Foundation \(ILF\),](#) to equip advocates of the Union of Advocates in Tajikistan with the tools to deliver effective secondary legal aid in criminal cases. On 4–5 September 2025, she led a Training of Trainers for 15 advocates (5 women, 10 men) from across the regions, alongside developing a Core Skills Training Manual for Secondary Legal Aid Lawyers.

Strengthening Partnership for Anti-Corruption Efforts in Tajikistan



Sudipto Mukerjee, UNDP in Tajikistan Resident Representative, met with Sulaimon Sultonzoda, Head of the Agency for State Financial Control and Combating Corruption of Tajikistan. [The parties discussed opportunities for collaboration within the newly developed UNDP initiatives, which were designed in close consultation with the Agency.](#) These initiatives aim to strengthen Tajikistan’s anti-corruption ecosystem by introducing two proven Korean approaches: the Clean Portal (a secure and anonymous digital platform for citizen reporting) and the Integrity Efforts Assessment (IEA) (a performance-based tool to evaluate and improve institutional integrity).

UNDP and Supreme Court Discuss E-Justice, Judicial Capacity, and Gender-Based Violence



[Sudipto Mukerjee, UNDP Resident Representative](#), and [Rustam Mirzozoda, Chairperson of the Supreme Court of Tajikistan](#), discussed ways to modernise the justice system further. A key focus was on introducing more digital solutions to make justice more efficient and accessible for everyone — especially women, survivors of violence, and people in remote areas who often face barriers to justice.

CLIMATE CHANGE, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Young Leaders Drove First Hackathon in Tajikistan



[UNDP held the first-ever Hackathon in Tajikistan — uniting young leaders: women, and men to reimagine how to finance a nature-positive future.](#) In partnership with IT RUN and with support from dedicated mentors, this 3-day event challenged participants to design innovative finance solutions that protect biodiversity while advancing inclusive growth. With 70% of the population under the age of 35, Tajikistan had a unique opportunity to harness the energy, creativity, and leadership of its youth.

Tajikistan is stepping up its commitment to biodiversity finance



The country is among more than 120 biodiversity finance experts and government representatives from 46 countries gathering in Da Nang, Viet Nam, for the Eurasia-Pacific Regional Dialogue on BIOFIN – the Biodiversity Finance Initiative. With support from the Global Environment Facility, [Tajikistan joined counterparts from Asia, the Pacific, and Europe to exchange lessons and explore innovative financing solutions from biodiversity credits to green bonds](#) that can help close the funding gap for nature.

Can AI help save nature?

This question sparked the BioDivCode+ Hackathon 2025 - Tajikistan's first innovation sprint on biodiversity finance and ESG integration. Over 54 hours, more than 70 young women and men innovators came together to code, design, and pitch bold ready-to-go solutions connecting technology, finance with nature and its diversity.

[Watch more.](#)



Advancing Climate Transparency in Tajikistan



UNDP, in partnership with the Agency for Hydrometeorology and the Committee for Environmental Protection, is [launching collaboration on the Biennial Transparency Reporting \(BTR\) and the Fifth National Communication \(5NC\) to the UNFCCC](#). This new initiative aims to strengthen national climate governance by improving data collection, inventory of greenhouse gas emissions, and informing evidence-based policies.

UNDP and Global Environment Facility Support Tajikistan in Strengthening Protected Areas through Equipment and Ranger Uniform Handover



As part of UNDP’s “Conservation and Sustainable Management of High-Value Arid Ecosystems in the Lower Amu Darya Basin” project funded by GEF, [ranger uniforms and field monitoring equipment were handed over to seven targeted Specially Protected Natural Areas](#), covering more than 157,000 hectares of high-value arid ecosystems in southern Tajikistan. This support aims to strengthen their monitoring and enforcement capacities.

Young Women and Men Leading a Greener and More Resilient Central Asia



Over 248 young women and men leaders from Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and the Kyrgyz Republic came together for the Third Youth Forum of the Syr Darya River Basin, a vibrant platform promoting equal youth participation in climate and water governance. For the first time, [Green Patrol teams from all three countries united to exchange experiences and design joint climate actions.](#)

INTERNATIONAL DAYS

September 21, 2025 | International Day of Peace



On the International Day of Peace, we are reminded that peace is not just the absence of violence, but the presence of justice, equality, and social cohesion. This year’s message is clear: No Development Without Peace, No Peace Without Development. In Tajikistan, building social cohesion means ensuring that women, men, and youth are equally included in shaping stronger and safer communities. [Learn more about how UNDP and Global Affairs Canada are working together to promote peace, strengthen communities, and support inclusive development in Tajikistan.](#)

October 11, 2025 | International Day of the Girl Child



On October 11, we observed the International Day of the Girl Child under the theme “The girl I am, the change I lead: Girls on the frontlines of crisis.” Across the world, girls continue to face the greatest barriers — from limited access to education and healthcare to discrimination and exclusion from decision-making. Yet, they stand at the forefront of change, leading efforts to build a more just and equal future. The short film “Invisible Girl” tells the story of Lailo, a girl without a birth certificate who remains invisible and is deprived of access to basic rights, including education, health services, and legal protection. [Click to watch more.](#)

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