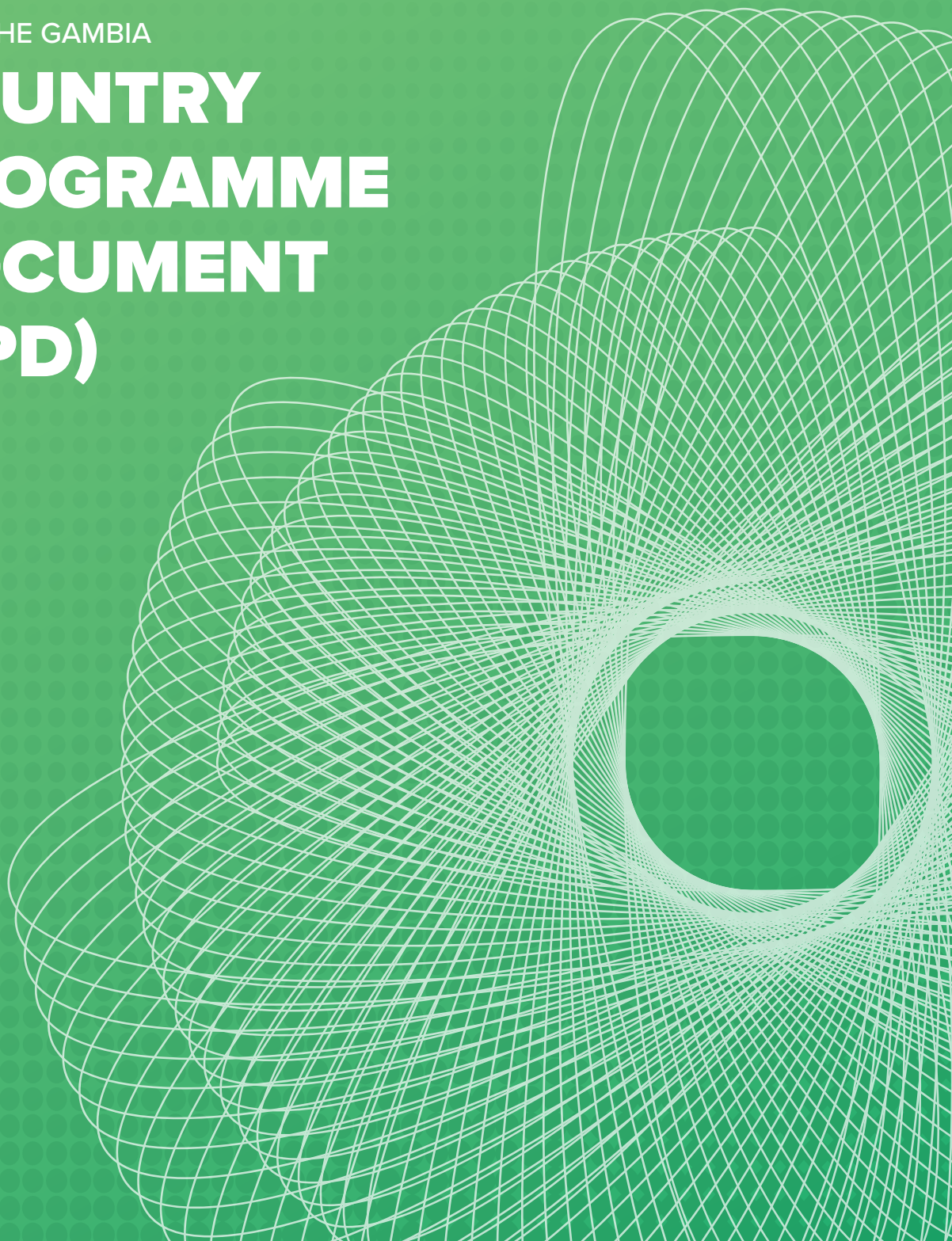




UNDP THE GAMBIA

COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT (CPD)





**WE CO-CREATE,
FINANCE, DELIVER
AND DISTRIBUTE
VALUE**

ABOUT UNDP

UNDP is the leading United Nations organization fighting to end the injustice of poverty, inequality, and climate change. Working with our broad network of experts and partners in 170 countries, we help nations to build integrated, lasting solutions for people and the planet.

Learn more at [undp.org](https://www.undp.org) or follow at @UNDP <https://www.undp.org>

About UNDP The Gambia

UNDP has been present in The Gambia since 1975, providing capacity building and policy development support to the Government, civil society and the people of The Gambia in three key focus areas: Responsive, Accountable Governance and Peacebuilding, Green and Inclusive Economic Growth, and Sustainable Environment and Climate Resilience. Through strategic partnerships and targeted interventions, UNDP continues to advance national efforts toward a more just, inclusive, and sustainable future..

For more information about UNDP The Gambia's activities and current updates follow our social media platforms:

Twitter: @UNDP_TheGambia

Facebook: UNDP The Gambia

Website: <https://www.undp.org/gambia>

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FOREWORD



Ms. Mandisa Mashologu
UNDP Resident Representative in The Gambia

The adoption of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Country Programme Document (CPD) 2024–2028 marked an important milestone in our partnership with the Government and people of The Gambia. Developed through an inclusive and consultative process, the CPD reflects a shared vision for accelerating sustainable development and advancing the country’s long-term aspirations. Aligned with the Recovery-Focused National Development Plan (YIRIWAA 2023–2027), the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2024–2028, the UNDP Strategic Plan 2026–2029, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it provides a coherent framework for supporting nationally led development priorities.

Over the past year, UNDP has continued to translate this strategic vision into meaningful results. Working alongside the Government and a broad coalition of partners, we have strengthened democratic governance and institutional effectiveness, expanded access to renewable energy and climate-resilient solutions, advanced environmental sustainability, promoted inclusive economic opportunities, and accelerated innovation and digital transformation. Across these areas, our focus has remained on building resilient institutions, empowering communities, and creating opportunities that improve lives while laying the foundation for sustainable and inclusive growth.

Partnerships remain the cornerstone of UNDP’s work in The Gambia. Our ability to deliver results is made possible through close collaboration with government institutions, development partners, international financial institutions, civil society, the private sector, academia, and communities. By bringing together diverse expertise, resources, and innovative approaches, we continue to support national efforts to address complex development challenges while strengthening the country’s capacity to deliver lasting and inclusive progress.

As the development landscape evolves, UNDP is also transforming the way it delivers support. We are increasingly adopting a portfolio-based programming approach that enables us to address interconnected challenges through integrated, scalable, and innovative solutions rather than isolated projects.

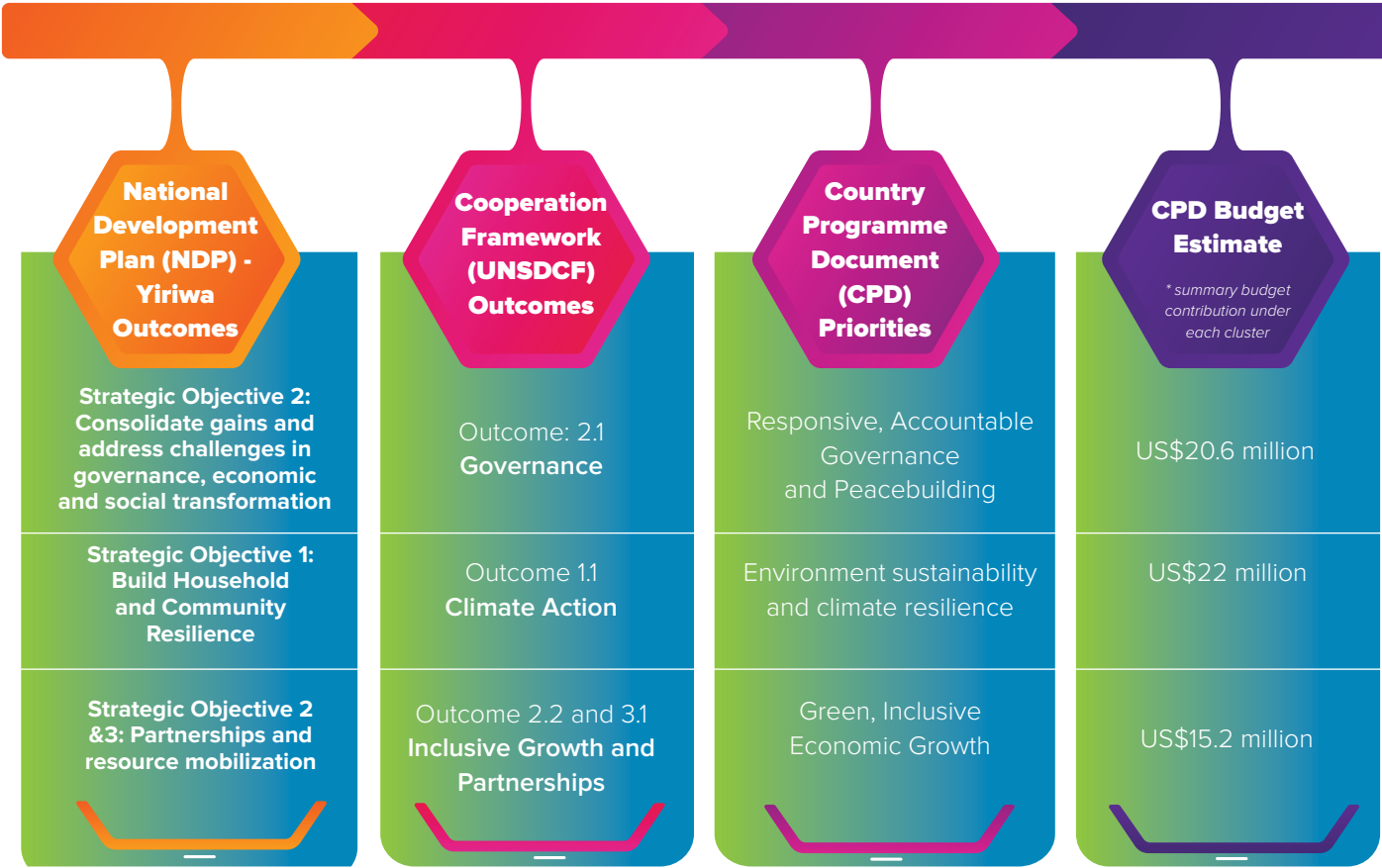
This approach strengthens collaboration across sectors, enhances efficiency, and maximizes development impact while ensuring that our support remains responsive to the country’s emerging priorities and opportunities.

We also recognize that sustainable development is measured not only by the results achieved but by the trust, knowledge, and partnerships built along the way. We therefore remain committed to communicating the impact of our work more effectively, highlighting the stories of resilience, innovation, and transformation that demonstrate the value of collective action and the difference our partnerships are making in the lives of the Gambian people.

As we look ahead, UNDP reaffirms its commitment to supporting the Government and people of The Gambia in delivering the ambitions of YIRIWAA 2023–2027, advancing the UNSDCF 2024–2028, implementing the UNDP Strategic Plan, and accelerating progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

Together, through strong national leadership, trusted partnerships, and innovative solutions, we will continue working to build a more resilient, inclusive, and prosperous future for all, ensuring that no one is left behind.

CPD Alignment to
National Development Plan - Yiriwa



UNDP'S SUPPORT TO FAST-TRACK THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOVERY FOCUSED - NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN - "YIRIWA"



The Country Programme Document (2024-2028) is aligned with the Recovery-Focused National Development Plan (2023-2027) (Yiriwaa) and follows extensive consultations with key partners. It is guided by the UN Cooperation Framework (2024-2028), the UNDP Strategic Plan, (2026-2029), the UNDP Renewed Strategic Offer for Africa, the UNDP Gender Strategy (2026-2029), the UNDP Digital Strategy, the UNDP Energy Compact, the UNDP 'People 2030' Strategy, and a commitment to focus on youth, inclusive digital transformation, the principles of gender equality, and leaving no one behind.

STRENGTHENING FOUNDATIONS OF RESPONSIVE, ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE AND PEACEBUILDING

Despite post-2017 reforms, institutions need continued strengthening, access to justice is still a challenge especially for women, youth, rural communities, and persons with disabilities, and public trust in courts and local authorities should continue to be supported. Implementation of the Truth Commission's recommendations has been slow, fuelling demands for accountability. Political inclusion is minimal, with marginalized groups underrepresented in leadership.

A recent analysis identifies economic hardship, growing polarization, land disputes, and delayed reforms as key drivers of tension, threatening national cohesion and the country's democratic transition. Strengthening governance and inclusion remains critical to sustaining peace and development.

UNDP is working to strengthen inclusive, effective, and accountable governance in The Gambia to improve development outcomes, as outlined in the Country Programme Document and the UN Cooperation Framework. This includes improving governance structures, enhancing service delivery, supporting legal and digital reforms, and creating safe, inclusive spaces for public participation, especially for women, youth, and marginalized groups.

UNDP also addresses the root causes of conflict by promoting inclusive dialogue, mediation, early warning systems, and developing national peace infrastructure with strong engagement from youth and women

Strategic areas of focus

- ✓ Strengthening the rule of law and access to justice
- ✓ Promoting democratic governance
- ✓ Supporting conflict resolution and community safety
- ✓ Advancing implementation of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparations Commission recommendations
- ✓ Enhancing professionalism and accountability in security institutions
- ✓ Improving decentralized governance and service delivery

Some of our partners

UNDP collaborates with donors such as the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Japan, the African Development Bank, and the UN Secretary General's Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), the European Union. UNDP works closely with the Government, civil society, academia, and UN entities to ensure sustainable, impactful, and nationally aligned solutions.

Prosperity for all.





FACILITATING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR GREEN AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

The Gambia has substantial potential, but development is constrained by structural economic limitations. Limited private sector investment, high unemployment, and the nascent mapping of skills to entrepreneurial and innovative needs poses challenges to national development. These issues disproportionately impact women, youth, and persons with disabilities, especially in rural communities, where most of the country's most vulnerable reside with limited access to opportunities and essential services. Despite ongoing reforms and policy efforts, The Gambia's path toward inclusive growth and structural transformation remains slow, highlighting the need for strategic partnerships, targeted investment, and sustainable solutions.

UNDP supports inclusive, resilient economic development in The Gambia through a people-centred approach focused on equity, sustainability, and reducing inequality. We help build resilient systems to protect vulnerable households, promote environmental sustainability, and transform economic structures for long-term growth. Our work aligns with national priorities and SDGs, strengthening institutions, expanding economic opportunities, and supporting evidence-based policymaking, especially for women, youth, and marginalized groups. Drawing on diverse experiences, UNDP combines policy support with implementation to drive structural transformation, reduce poverty and inequality, and advance rights-based human development, as outlined in our Country Programme Document and the UN Cooperation Framework.

Strategic areas of focus

- ✓ Gender-responsive, data-driven planning and budgeting
- ✓ Improving development financing coordination
- ✓ Increasing Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSME) access to finance, digital tools, and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) markets
- ✓ Adaptive social protection for vulnerable groups
- ✓ Strengthening health system capacity for marginalized groups
- ✓ Boosting youth and women's roles in climate-smart agriculture

Some of our partners

UNDP partners together with the Government of The Gambia (Programme for Accelerated Community Development - PACD), Japan, the African Development Bank, the World Bank, the Global Fund, national institutions, civil society organizations, academia, the private sector, and other UN entities with a strong focus on youth and women.

Resilient in every way.



ACCELERATING CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Climate change poses a major threat to The Gambia's development, disrupting agriculture, water systems, health, and fragile coastal ecosystems. Women, youth, and rural communities who depend heavily on climate-sensitive livelihoods are increasingly vulnerable to extreme weather, environmental degradation, and rising sea levels. Weak implementation of regulatory reforms, institutional gaps, inadequate infrastructure, deforestation, and land degradation accelerate biodiversity loss and strains national efforts in natural resource management.

UNDP supports The Gambia in pursuing a sustainable, climate-resilient future aligned with national priorities and global frameworks like the SDGs and the Paris Agreement (2015).

This includes support to develop and implement climate action plans such as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans, and a Low-Emission Development Strategy focusing on climate finance, integration into development planning, and private sector engagement. The strategy promotes inclusion, gender equality, digital innovation, and resilience, especially for women, youth, persons with disabilities, and rural communities. Grounded in the CPD and UN Cooperation Framework, UNDP's work contributes to access to food security, clean energy, health and social protection in vulnerable areas.

Strategic areas of focus

- ✓ Promote access to clean and affordable energy
- ✓ Support sustainable natural resource management,
- ✓ Support climate resilience and disaster risk management
- ✓ Promote sustainable waste and chemical management

Some of our partners

UNDP partners together with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Governments of France and Japan, the African Development Bank, the World Bank, the European Union, national institutions, civil society organizations, and other UN entities.



Healthy planet, healthy future.

RESULTS AND RESOURCES FRAMEWORK

NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: #1 BUILD HOUSEHOLD AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE TO ADDRESS SHOCKS AND CRISES ARISING FROM CLIMATE CHANGE, ECONOMIC VOLATILITY AND TO COUNTER THE EFFECTS OF DISEASE PANDEMICS (COVID-19)

1.1. UN Cooperation Framework outcome involving UNDP: By 2028, women, children, displaced people, youths and Persons with Disability (PWD) particularly in rural and urban disaster, conflict prone areas are resilient to climate related and other shocks and have access to sustainable food, WASH and health systems, including education and social protection.

Related Strategic Plan Outcome 1: Structural transformation accelerated, particularly green, inclusive, and digital transitions.

Indicative Country Programme Outputs	Estimated cost by outcome (\$)
Output 1.1.1: Natural resources protected and managed to enhance sustainable productivity, livelihoods and mitigate effects of climate change and respond to disasters.	Core: \$7,007,000 Other: \$13,680,000
Output: 1.1.2: Solutions adopted for chemicals and waste management; and to achieve universal access to clean, affordable, and sustainable energy and clean cooking	

NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: #2 CONSOLIDATE GAINS AND ADDRESS CRITICAL DEVELOPMENT GAPS IN GOVERNANCE AND IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

2.1. UN Cooperation Framework outcome involving UNDP: By 2028, marginalized and vulnerable people in The Gambia, participate in functional, accountable and transparent institutions for the efficient delivery of public services and good governance.

Related Strategic Plan Outcome 2: No one left behind centring on equitable access to opportunities and a rights-based approach to human agency and human development.

Indicative Country Programme Outputs	Estimated cost by outcome (\$)
Output 2.1.1: Technical capacity of governance institutions enhanced to promote rule of law, social cohesion, gender equality, equitable access to justice, and respect for human rights.	Core – \$9,314,000 Other – \$12,720,000
Output 2.1.2: Responsive governance systems and local governance strengthened for socio economic opportunity, inclusive basic service delivery, community security, and peacebuilding (IRRF-2.3)	
Output 2.1.3: Capacities ingender equality and human rights enhanced to increase meaningful participation of citizens, particularly women, youth, and PWDs in decision-making processes and leadership roles.	

NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: #2 CONSOLIDATE GAINS AND ADDRESS CRITICAL DEVELOPMENT GAPS IN GOVERNANCE AND IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION. #3 STRENGTHEN ACCOUNTABILITY, BUILD PARTNERSHIPS AND SET UP ROBUST AND SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MOBILIZATION STRATEGIES FOR ENHANCED DELIVERY AND DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES

2.2. UN Cooperation Framework outcome involving UNDP: By 2028, marginalized and vulnerable people in The Gambia enjoy efficient social and economic inclusion, right-based human development for reduced poverty and inequality

Related Strategic Plan Outcome 2: No one left behind centring on equitable access to opportunities and a rights-based approach to human agency and human development.

Indicative Country Programme Outputs	Estimated cost by outcome (\$)
Output 2.2.1: Institutional capacities enhanced to develop and implement gender responsive national and local development plans linked to budgets and supported by data for increased productivity and LED.	Core: \$8,200,000 Other: \$7,000,000
Output 2.2.2: Capacities of MSMEs enabled to access finance, digital and business development services, and leverage AFCTA opportunities, for sustainable livelihoods and employment.	
Output: 2.3.1: Institutions enabled at national and subnational levels for inclusive and sustainable social protection.	
Output: 2.3.2: Government, development partners, private sector and the diaspora are better coordinated to contribute to sustained development financing, and effective partnership for integrated implementation of the NDP, SDGs and AU Agenda 2063.	



UNDP'S GLOBAL STRATEGIC PLAN (2026-2029)

UNDP works with countries to expand people's choices for a fairer, sustainable future, as envisioned by the 2030 Agenda. The Strategic Plan 2026-2029 represents UNDP's commitment to accelerating human development while easing planetary pressures. Built on unprecedented consultation, almost 600 consultations across 116 countries, independent evaluations, a business

model review and input from 11,000 development partners, the Plan crystallizes three distinctive features: advancing human development while protecting the planet; delivering integrated solutions that drive systems change; and building an agile organization, ready for multiple futures.

CREATING VALUE



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Prosperity for all:** Moving beyond minimum poverty lines to build dynamic, resilient economies where everyone can thrive.
- Effective governance:** Accountable, peoplecentred and rights-based governance, aligned with intergovernmental principles of effective governance.
- Crisis resilience:** Protecting development gains from day one of a crisis, laying the groundwork for recovery and eventual exit from humanitarian assistance.
- Healthy planet:** Connecting planet and development, translating global commitments into local action, supporting countries towards just and sustainable transitions.

ACCELERATORS

- Digital and AI transformation:** Leveraging technological advancements to expand opportunities, improve public services, enhance civic engagement and speed crisis response.
- Gender equality:** Recognizing that women's rights accelerate results across all development dimensions, integrating gender equality throughout UNDP programming.
- Sustainable finance:** Aligning capital flows with sustainable development priorities to unlock new pathways to prosperity and a healthy planet.

DELIVERING VALUE

SYSTEMS APPROACH: UNDP's portfolio policy supports system transformation by bringing diverse partners together toward common goals. Working alongside governments, this approach moves beyond short-term interventions to change underlying systems.

PARTNERSHIP ECOSYSTEM: UNDP connects partners across the UN system and beyond, integrating efforts across sectors and amplifying results for development. Partners value UNDP as a convener and enabler, an honest broker building consensus between stakeholders, and a catalyst for public-private partnerships.

UNIQUE CAPABILITIES:

	Global Reach Serving 170 countries and territories
	Partnership Catalyst Fostering collaboration across the UN system
	Deep Expertise Providing knowledge in governance, environment, crisis, and poverty
	Integrated Solutions Connecting diverse sectors for comprehensive outcomes
	Thought Leadership Producing influential reports and indices
	Crisis Commitment Ensuring long-term development during crises
	Policy Expertise Combining policy development with operational skills
	Value at Scale Serving over 70 UN entities efficiently

FUTURE-SMART OPERATIONS: UNDP continues to increase its efficiency and effectiveness, building a leaner, faster, more responsive organization.

FINANCING VALUE

UNDP's strategy is grounded in ensuring that every dollar delivers maximum development impact and that UNDP remains a reliable partner in an uncertain world.

Core resources have declined to just 12% of total resources. Rebuilding core funding is vital for UNDP to respond rapidly, drive innovation and reach those furthest behind.

The Strategic Plan is built for complexity. It provides flexible, adaptive approaches to navigate change and respond to evolving country demands, even amid funding fluctuations.

The ultimate vision is clear: a future where no country must choose between human development and planetary health, where prosperity and sustainability advance together, leaving no-one behind. This represents humanity's next frontier, and with the right support, it is within reach.

**TAKING DEVELOPMENT
TO WHERE ITS NEEDED
THE MOST**

OUR LEADERSHIP



Mandisa Mashologu
Resident Representative



Evelyn Edroma
Deputy Resident Representative



Sainey Ceesay
Team Leader - Governance



Samba B. Jallow
Team Leader - Inclusive Growth



Sambou Nget
Team Leader - Environment



Haja Binta Barry
Economist



Fatmata Jangana
Operations Manager



Elina Cole
Staff Association
Representative



Delivering for The Gambia.



European
Union



From
the People of Japan



FONDS
FRANÇAIS POUR
L'ENVIRONNEMENT
MONDIAL



Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité
REPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

PARTNERS AT CORE

Core funding underpins everything UNDP does. It keeps UNDP present in over 170 countries and territories, ready to act immediately when crises break out and able to reach the places and people others cannot. This flexible funding also allows UNDP to connect the dots: supporting climate action that strengthens health systems, ensuring crisis recovery reduces poverty and driving digital innovation that accelerates equality.



Partnerships make it possible.







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