Crisis prevention and increased resilience

PREVENTION OFFER

GLOBAL CONTEXT

Violent conflict continues to rise globally with around 2 billion people live in countries affected by conflict and 82.4 million are forcibly displaced.¹ Contemporary conflicts often occur in the context of prolonged, complex and turbulent political transitions and involve formal and informal actors whose numbers, diversity and scope are increasing.² In many countries, the social contract between the state and citizens is weak or fracturing and social cohesion among communities, while climate risks threaten to contribute to fragility and exacerbate tensions. Unless these trends can be reversed in the Decade of Action, more than 80 percent of the world’s poor are expected to live in countries affected by fragility and high levels of violence by 2030.³

In line with the UNDP Strategic Plan 2022-2025,⁴ informed by the Evaluation of UNDP’s Support to Conflict-Affected Countries,⁵ and guided by the five UNDP Prevention in Action Regional Dialogues and the Prevention in Action Global Forum⁶ that were conducted in 2020-2021, UNDP has developed a new Prevention Offer that outlines its ambition for prevention and peacebuilding that will target 30 countries in four years between 2022-2025 (30x4 ambition). The Prevention Offer aligns with the new agenda for peace articulated in the Secretary General’s Common Agenda⁷ and acknowledges that achieving sustainable peace will rest in mind-set change, a complete transformation⁸.

UNDP’S SERVICE LINES

The Prevention Offer (2022-2025) aims to articulate UNDP’s prevention and peacebuilding ambition and promotes a strong development lens that calls for acting early and at scale in conflict and crisis prevention and peacebuilding. Its objectives are threefold, to: (i) stabilize and protect hard-won development gains; (ii) mitigate risks of relapse or recurrence; and (iii) build institutional and community resilience to sustain peaceful development pathways.
Acknowledging that the path out of conflict and fragility and towards sustainable peace will rest on working collaboratively with all humanitarian, development, and peace actors through delivering a nexus approach, UNDP’s Prevention Offer is not confined to ‘conflict’ contexts but tailors and delivers its preventive responses across all development settings. In settings facing bottlenecks to sustainable development, this means looking beyond solving immediate development challenges and accelerating structural transformations in the underlying systems and structures. In settings of extreme poverty and marginalization, this means acknowledging the multidimensionality of underlying roots causes, social grievances and inequalities contributing to conflict and addressing them with a vision to leave no one behind. In contexts experiencing, or at the risk of, rapid onset of crisis and complex political transitions, this entails strengthening resilience to shocks and crises.

At global, regional and national levels, the offer complements and scales up existing facilities (such as the Funding Windows and the PBF), partnerships (for example, P/CVE with UNOCT), capacities (Peace & Development Advisors), and flagship joint programming across the UN system including the Global Focal Point, the Joint Transitions Project and the Climate Security Mechanism among others.
At a Glance: UNDP’s Prevention Offer

**Analysis and Evidence-based Action**

- Establish a **Peace Frontiers Research Lab** to deepen and systematize foresight, analysis, research and data capacities for prevention and peacebuilding, undertake flagship research and deepen research and analytical partnerships.

- Innovate in prevention and peacebuilding impact measurement for UNDP and partners.

- Build knowledge management capacities for UNDP offices and expanding horizon scanning and early warning capacities building on the Crisis Risk Dashboard.

- Support national capacities to produce, collect, analyse and use data for prevention.

- Make use of **behavioral insights** to better understand and affect transformative change.

- Utilize the **Gender and Crisis Engagement Facility** to support UNDP teams in addressing the most persistent drivers of gender inequality and drive transformational

**Resources for Prevention and Peacebuilding**

- Promote integrated and predictable financing streams to address both immediate needs of ending violence and long-term needs relating to sustaining peace.

- Deploy **strategic human resource inputs** to deliver on policy and programming, expand capacity to operate in conflict and crisis contexts, support resource mobilization and partnerships.

- Through the **Prevention Academy** translate policy and practice guidance and lessons learned into gender-responsive prevention and peacebuilding engagement.

- Expand partnerships with the UN Peacebuilding Architecture, Member States and regional organizations, national and sub-national authorities, IFIs, the private sector, and CSOs.

- Invest in **new prevention tools** and approaches, including behavioral insights, artificial intelligence, mental health and psychological support.

**Predictable and Sustained Technical Support**

- Boost prevention and peacebuilding in **30 countries** over 2022-2025 through evidence-based cross-pillar engagement.

- Develop **regional prevention strategies** and assist the delivery of integrated prevention solutions through dedicated technical accompaniment and capacity development.

- Invest in **innovative cross-thematic programming** to address multidimensional conflict drivers and conflict impacts and ensure conflict sensitivity across thematic areas.

- Institutionalize **peer support mechanisms to Resident Representatives** to support conflict sensitive engagement, determine strategic entry points for prevention and peacebuilding, and provide accomaniment to national actors as needed.

- Institutionalize **Prevention Boards** to ensure that UNDP offices are prepared to anticipate shocks, determine entry points and respond early with preventive action.

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