

From
the People of Japan



JAPAN and UNDP Africa

PARTNERSHIP FOR BUILDING BACK BETTER

ANNUAL REPORT OF 2020 APPROVED PROJECTS*

*March 2020 - March 2021 cycle inclusive of prior year. No Cost Extension projects

Acknowledgements

In spite of the unforeseen obstacles brought on by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, development workers continued to demonstrate remarkable dedication and commitment to build better and build stronger, delivering much-needed assistance to vulnerable populations in the midst of a crisis - often in new and innovative ways.

This annual report prepared with the generous support of the Government of Japan in collaboration with UNDP's Regional Bureau for Africa and the Tokyo International Conference for Africa's Development (TICAD) Unit provides an overview of the 26 UNDP-Japan funded projects implemented in 20 countries across Africa totaling USD 40 million. The report covers projects that were approved in 2020, to be implemented from March 2020- March 2021, in addition to the No-Cost extension from prior year. The report covers projects across four thematic areas: supporting an inclusive and multisectoral response to COVID-19 by addressing its socio-economic impact; building a resilient and inclusive society; peace and stability and peacekeeping operations; and elections assistance.

We are especially thankful for the close collaboration with our partners in Japan, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), TOYOTA Academy, the Japanese NGO Community Road Empowerment (CORE), the Hiroshima Peacebuilders Centre (HPC), with whom we worked closely to implement a wide range of strategic projects in critical areas in order to contribute to building inclusive, resilient, and peaceful societies in Africa.

Our appreciation is also extended to African Member States: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Mauritius, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda, and Zambia.

We would like to commend, in particular, the leadership of senior management and the commitment of programme officers in UNDP country offices for providing timely and comprehensive inputs, which successfully captured the ongoing partnership and collaborative spirit of Japan-Africa relations.

Further, we are grateful for the support from colleagues in the UN family, UNICEF, UN WOMEN, UNHCR, and UNMISS. By leveraging our comparative advantages and expertise, these strong partnerships contributed to the delivery of concrete actions needed to tackle the complex challenges that were amplified by the pandemic.

The TICAD Unit wishes to extend its appreciation to the UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa's Communications team for the oversight of its production and dissemination.



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Foreword

Mr. YONETANI Koji
*Director-General, African Affairs Department
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan*



The Government of Japan and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have worked together to promote the further development of Africa through the TICAD process as co-organizers of the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD). Now that the impact of COVID-19 has cast a long shadow over the development of the continent, global solidarity is even more important. Japan will contribute to African development, while closely cooperating with UNDP.

COOPERATION AFTER TICAD7

The TICAD7 held in Yokohama in 2019 was an important opportunity for Japan and international organizations, including UNDP, as well as many other actors to reaffirm their strong commitment to African development. At TICAD7, the Government of Japan announced its contribution to Africa, such as promoting private investment, contributing to human security and the Sustainable Development Goals, and supporting African-led efforts for peace and stability, under the three pillars of Economy, Society and Peace and Stability. These commitments have been steadily implemented. Japan also advocated for the New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA) to support institution building and strengthening of governance in judicial, administrative and legislative systems, among others, in collaboration with UNDP in order to address the root causes of conflicts and terrorism.

TOWARDS A “BUILD BACK BETTER”

The COVID-19 pandemic also had a tremendous impact on African society and economy. It has slowed economic growth, reduced employment and educational opportunities, caused severe damage especially to vulnerable populations, such as women, youth and the poor, and raised concerns about widening disparities. How to achieve “Build Back Better” will constitute a major agenda for African development. In that respect, UNDP’s strategy, “Beyond Recovery: Towards 2030,” is important for achieving recovery from the COVID-19 crisis. The pathway UNDP envisions is particularly insightful when considering the key agendas of African development for the upcoming TICAD8 in view of “Build Back Better.”

TOWARDS TICAD8

Japan has continuously supported African development through the TICAD process for more than a quarter-century adhering to the principles of African ownership and international partnership. TICAD8 to be held on 27 - 28 August, 2022, will be an important opportunity to set out a pathway for African development looking ahead to the post-COVID-19 era, while addressing development challenges in Africa highlighted by COVID-19. In cooperation with UNDP, Japan will continue to strongly support African-led development, setting “green” and “digital” as new driving forces for growth.

Foreword

Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa
*UNDP’s Assistant Administrator
and Regional Director for Africa*



For the first time in 25 years, Africa is experiencing a devastating recession after nearly three decades of relatively consistent development gains. The socio-economic shocks sparked by the COVID-19 pandemic brought Africa’s GDP to fall by over 3% in 2020 and plunged more than 40 million Africans into poverty. The greatest impact has been felt in the informal economy, which millions depend on for their incomes and livelihoods.

This unprecedented health emergency has certainly tested multilateralism, international cooperation, and the global community’s resolve to find global solutions to complex challenges. As the pandemic continues to have far-reaching effects, it has become glaringly clear that nothing short of strengthened global cooperation is needed if we are to collectively recover from the socio-economic fall out of the health crisis.

During times of uncertainty, working together is critical. At UNDP Africa, partnership is at the heart of everything we do. We work closely and collaboratively with development partners in the region to ensure that assistance is fit-for-purpose, effective, and yields results that can accelerate the attainment of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Over 2020, through the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) framework, Japan’s partnership with UNDP played a vital role in supporting African countries in the face of the health emergency and the socioeconomic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Together with governments, civil society, and the rest of the UN family, we also continued to extend tailored support to countries as part of a holistic approach to bolster conflict prevention, improve human security and the rule of law as well as strengthen ongoing peacebuilding efforts.

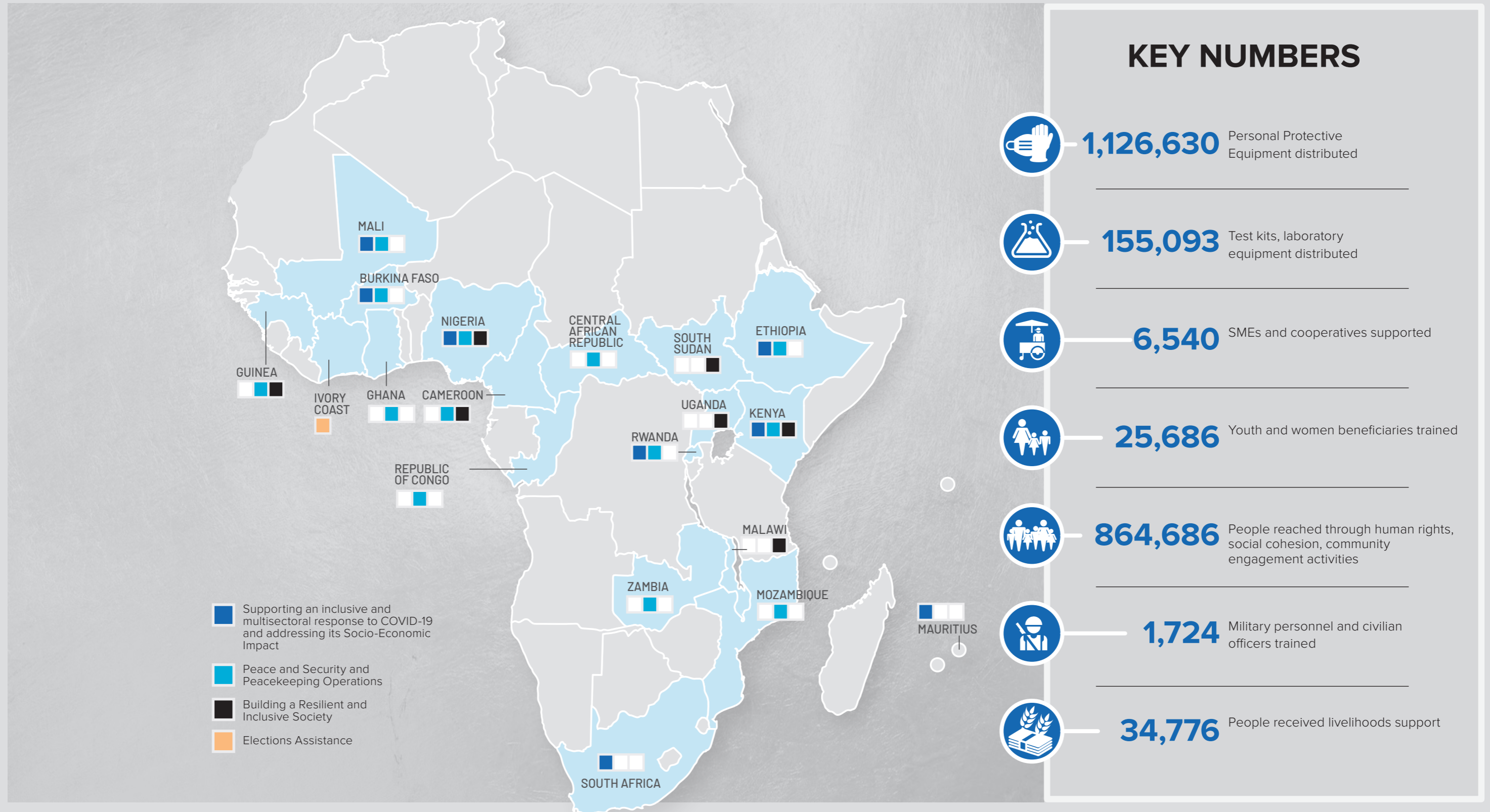
Cumulatively, 26 UNDP-Japan funded projects were implemented in 20 countries across Africa. A total of US\$16 million provided by Japan supported implementation of the COVID-19 response plan in 8 country offices improving health systems with more than one million personal protective equipment and nearly 200,000 test kits, as well as laboratory equipment, distributed. Some 7,800 health workers were trained, and 6,540 small-and-medium enterprises and cooperatives supported to weather the crisis.

Since its inception in 1993, TICAD has served as an inclusive platform for exploring innovative sustainable development solutions in Africa – bringing governments, regional institutions and a wide range of development partners together to explore collaborative, creative and results-driven strategies to the continent’s development challenges.

As we prepare for the eighth edition of the TICAD Summit (TICAD8) in 2022, UNDP Africa recognizes the unique role Japan-Africa relations can play in contributing to the SDGs and accelerating Agenda 2063. Building on the Yokohama Plan of Action agreed to during the TICAD 7 Summit in 2019, UNDP hopes that TICAD 8 will articulate a framework that addresses long-standing inequalities, environmental challenges and technological gaps. The post-COVID-19 phase is an opportune moment to build greener, smarter, and more sustainable societies.

UNDP expresses its highest appreciation to the Government of Japan for its partnership in promoting economic and human development in Africa. We will continue to collaborate under TICAD which reflects UNDP’s foundational belief that sustainable development can only happen with the full participation of a range of partners which believe in our collective humanity and are committed to multilateralism.

AT A GLANCE



About TICAD



Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)

The Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) was launched in 1993 by the Government of Japan, to promote Africa's development, peace and security, through the strengthening of relations in multilateral cooperation and partnership.

The launch of TICAD was catalytic for refocusing international attention on Africa's development needs. In the course of nearly 30 years, TICAD has evolved into a major global multilateral forum for mobilizing and sustaining international support for Africa's development under the principles of African ownership and international partnership.

As a founding co-organizer of TICAD, UNDP is committed to the success of TICAD. The TICAD process reflects UNDP's foundational belief that sustainable development can only happen with the full participation of a range of partners, including governments, regional and international organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and civil society.

Aligned with the Yokohama Declaration and Plan of Actions 2019, TICAD co-organizers, African countries and TICAD partners have consolidated partnerships and interventions under three pillars: society, economy, and peace and stability.

With its history spanning more than 25 years, TICAD is gaining further significance as an inclusive multilateral conference to address development issues in Africa, including in the area of health and private sector development.

In light of the outcomes of TICAD 7 held in Yokohama, Japan in August 2019, TICAD co-organisers will continue to fully support Africa-led development toward TICAD 8.



UNDP-JAPAN Funded Projects 2020

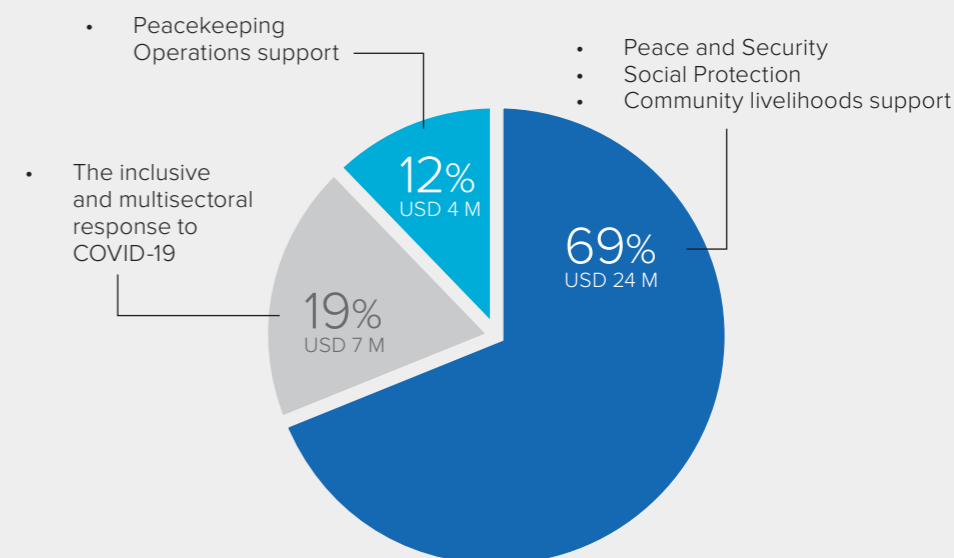
In 2020, UNDP Regional Bureau for Africa implemented a total of 26 UNDP-Japan funded projects over USD 40 million in 20 countries. These include Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central Africa, Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Mauritius, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, South Sudan, Uganda, and Zambia.

This annual report also includes key results of prior year projects over the course of 2021.

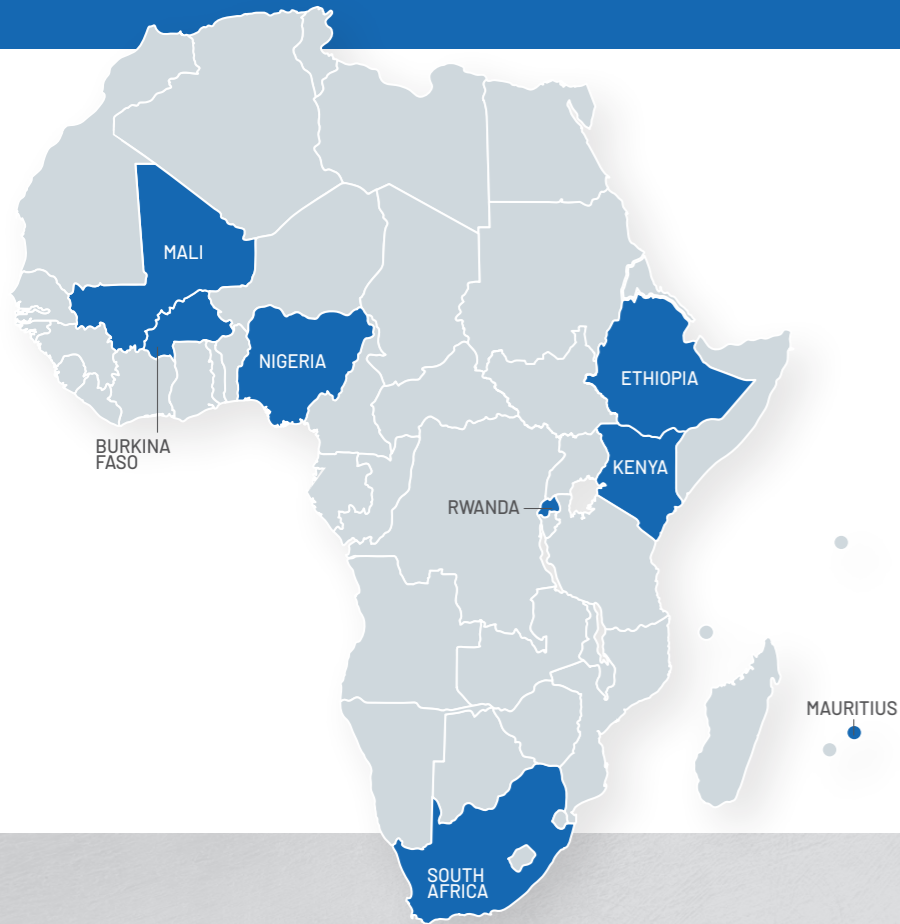
The 2020 UNDP Japan-funded projects cover the following thematic areas:

- **Supporting an inclusive and multisectoral response to COVID-19 addressing its socio-economic impact**
- **Building a resilient and inclusive society**
- **Peace and Security and Peacekeeping Operations**
- **Elections Assistance**

% OF TOTAL APPROVED AMOUNT ALLOCATED TO THEMATIC AREAS



SUPPORTING AN INCLUSIVE AND MULTI-SECTORAL RESPONSE TO COVID-19 AND ADDRESSING ITS SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT



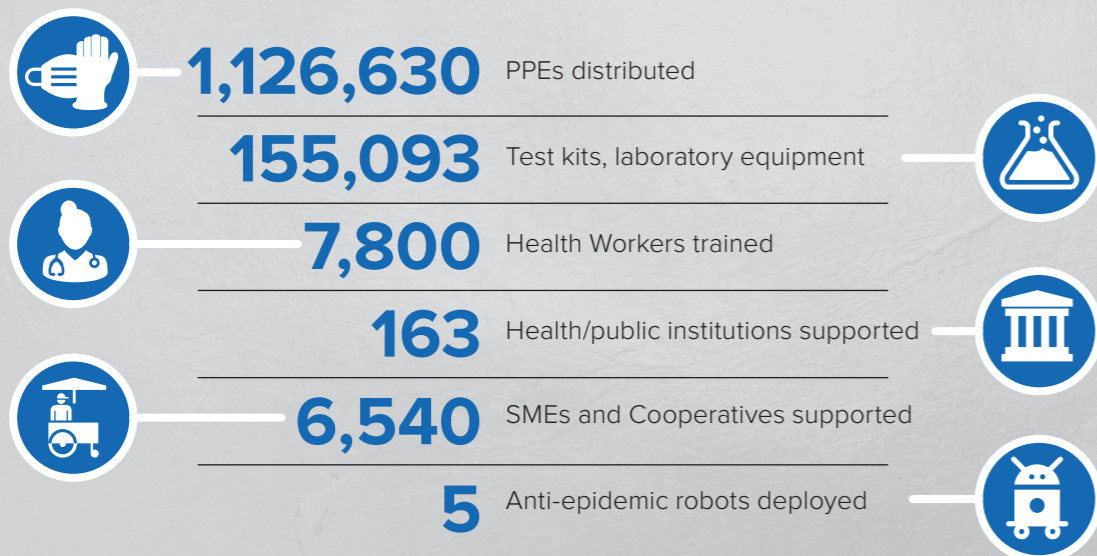
UNDP has been supporting countries since the very early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, responding to a growing volume of requests from countries to help them prepare for, respond to, and recover from the pandemic,

The three immediate priorities are:

- Health systems strengthening to respond to COVID-19.
- Inclusive and multi-sectoral crisis management and responses; and
- Addressing the Socio-Economic Impact of COVID-19.

The 8 country offices of the Regional Bureau for Africa that implemented Global JSB COVID-19 projects are: Burkina Faso, Mauritius, Kenya, Ethiopia, South Africa, Mali, Rwanda, Nigeria

KEY NUMBERS



Throughout 2020 and 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic had an unprecedented global impact on health, lives and livelihoods – disrupting economies, markets and societal relations.

The challenge for UNDP - Japan assistance was to take practical, actionable steps. This required holistic, integrated and coherent partnerships that met the needs of vulnerable people and communities, thereby delivering on our collective ambitions in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of leaving no-one behind. The pandemic, and its containment measures, will continue to require a very different response in fragile and crisis-affected situations, where it creates both a public health and socio-economic emergency. The UNDP-Japan collaborative response has been contextualised, comprehensive and multidimensional, given that COVID-19 compounds broader challenges of conflict, poverty and stability, and undermine previous development efforts.

Protecting people and strengthening health systems

Cumulatively, more than 1,126,630 pieces of personal protective equipment were distributed across project in the eight countries targeted for assistance. To further ensure that fragile health systems were better prepared to cope with rising infections, about 155,000 test kits and laboratory items were provided to beneficiary communities, health centres and hospitals.

COVID-19 SPURS HEALTH INNOVATION IN AFRICA

The COVID-19 pandemic galvanized the development of more than 120 health technology innovations that have been piloted or adopted in Africa, a new World Health Organization analysis found.

In **Kenya**, capacity for surveillance in two of the country's designated COVID-19 hospitals and at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport were enhanced through deployment of smart anti-epidemic robots. These glossy, white robots deployed with the support of Japan and UNDP have the ability to screen temperatures of large numbers of people, detect facemask adherence and sanitize areas of high human traffic. The innovation helped to curb the spread of an epidemic that had infected more than 100,000 in the East African nation.

The use of anti-epidemic robots were critical in reducing infections in high risk areas including in COVID-19 treatment centres in Rwanda.



Similarly, smart robots also played an important role in **Rwanda's** fight against COVID-19. A partnership with UNDP, the Ministry of ICT and Innovation as well as the Ministry of Health through the Rwanda Biomedical Centre was able to procure five ultraviolet robots which have the capacity to screen 50 to 150 people per minute, deliver food and medication to patient rooms, capture data and notify officers on duty about detected abnormalities.

The effective and innovative use of anti-epidemic robots to combat the COVID-19 pandemic in Rwanda and Kenya was illustrative of the benefits of South-South collaboration between the two African countries.

Economic Response and Recovery

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in unprecedented global health, economic and financial repercussions. Among its myriad adverse effects, the pandemic is also characterized by a sharp slowdown in economic activity around the world – and Africa has been left especially vulnerable.

UNDP has been supporting countries since the very early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, responding to a growing volume of requests from countries to help them prepare for, respond to and recover from the pandemic, mobilizing various assets and operational mechanisms including the Rapid Response Facility.

A report launched by UNDP and **Nigeria's** National Bureau of Statistics and funded through a grant provided by the Government of Japan provided a detailed ledger of the pandemic's disproportionate fallout. The report surveyed small business and detailed that 43 per cent suffered a decline in business during the pandemic.

While the project in Nigeria firstly focused on strengthening the health care system and the overall federal response including PPE and essential equipment including autoclave and ambulances, it also supported the socio-economic response, including cash for work and supporting 3,466 micro and small enterprises with livelihood and business continuity grants.

Business **Mauritius** and Statistics Mauritius benefited from the technical assistance of UNDP Mauritius Country Office and the funding and support of the Government of Japan. A total of 2,707 local companies, small, medium and large, operating in some 20 sectors, were contacted during the Business Survey.



Ambassador Matsunaga Kazuyoshi in hand-over ceremony of ambulances to help strengthen health systems cope with COVID-19.



A training workshop in Mali provided skills to entrepreneurs to make reusable masks for the vulnerable.

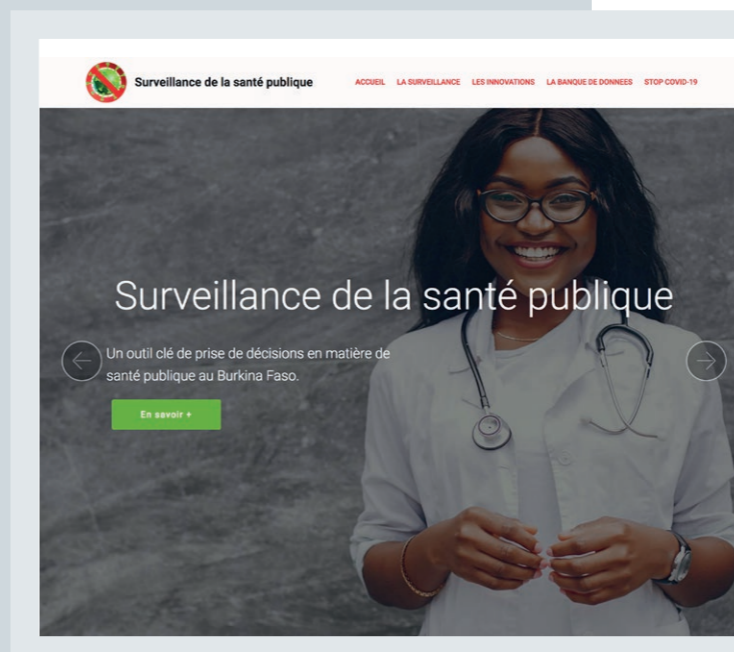
Thirty-six Gender Based Violence (GBV) Survivors in four shelters benefited from economic empowerment training to enable them to contribute to the economy and society at large.

In **Mali** and **Ethiopia**, countries where most of the population rely heavily on informal business to sustain their livelihoods, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) have been particularly hard hit, and some even forced to shut down due to the impact of the virus on their daily operations.

Recognizing the socio-economic disruptions created by the pandemic in these two countries, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), together with UNDP provided much-needed support to help tackle the negative and lasting socio-economic effects of COVID-19 on SMEs.

Forty-one local textile cooperatives and enterprises in **Mali** received improved capacity support in entrepreneurship skills by adopting the UNDP 3X6 approach and the KAIZEN method to make 267,289 reusable masks for the most vulnerable. These capacity building activities enabled these young people to improve the quality of mask production, strengthen their savings and business acumen to facilitate the rebuilding of their livelihoods in preparation for post COVID-19 recovery.

Meanwhile in **Burkina Faso**, the project supported the Ministry of Digital Economy to select four digital solutions developed by Burkinabè youth innovators, which were integrated within a national COVID-19 web portal and dashboard. The project further helped the Municipality of Ouagadougou to develop an e-commerce platform for the promotion of fresh produce and the 'Made in Burkina' brand. With the facilitation of UNDP TICAD Unit, and in line with the principles of South-South cooperation, Burkina Faso has since shared its experience developing its e-commerce platform with **Republic of Congo** and **Mauritius**.



Four digital solutions were developed by Burkinabe youth innovators and integrated into a COVID-19 web portal and dashboard.

VOICES OF BENEFICIARIES

Aissata Ly, founder of LY'A Sarl fashion

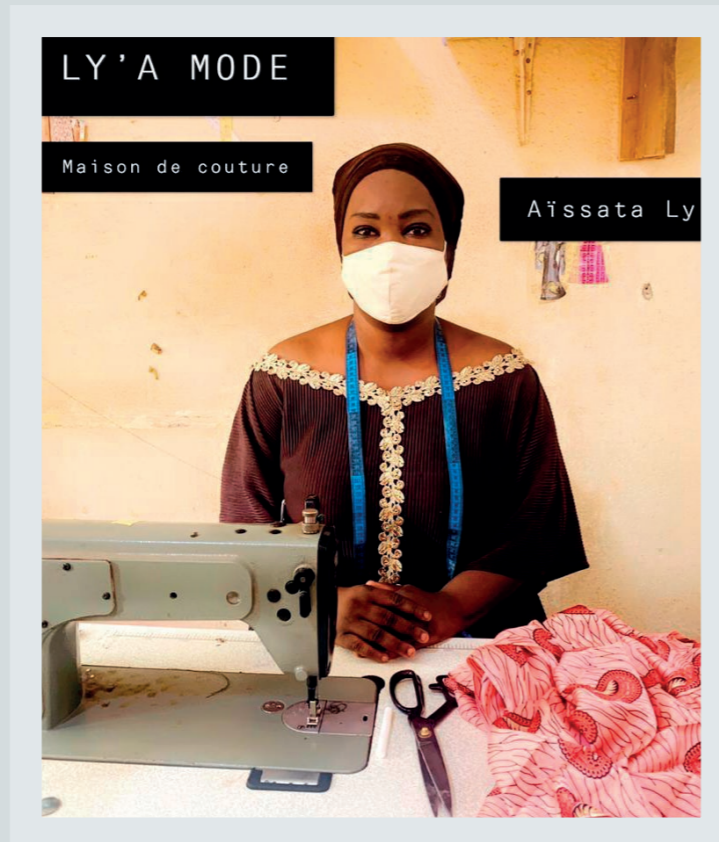
The disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic on global value chains and its impact on African businesses is evident. Many small and medium sized enterprises on the continent have already been forced to close their doors, leaving scores unemployed.

However, partnerships and interventions by the UNDP and JICA are helping to resuscitate some of the affected businesses and sustain livelihoods.

Miss Aissata Ly, 31, founder of LY'A Sarl fashion, is a recipient of one of the JICA and UNDP interventions in Mali. The grant that Ly is benefitting from is for the production of facemasks, which she says comes at the perfect time.

"The fashion sector has been deeply affected by the pandemic because of the drop in purchasing power and the closure of borders, with difficulties in getting supplies and a drop in sales," said Ms. Ly, who started her business in 2012 with her own funds.

She said before making the masks, the six young people employed by herself were trained by the COVID-19 Project on the UNDP's 3X6 approach and the KAIZEN method.



Aissata Ly, founder of LY'A Sarl fashion says the JICA-UNDP support had come at a perfect time given the drop in sales as a result of the pandemic.

"This training on the KAIZEN method was very useful for my enterprise. It improved the knowledge and techniques of my employees on cutting and design techniques, and improved time management and quality of production."

The 3x6 is an innovative UNDP programme approach promoting sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable and crisis-affected groups, such as those affected by disasters or conflict. The Kaizen method is a Japanese management approach of continuous improvement to achieve enhanced quality and productivity.

Ms. Ly said the KAIZEN method has helped to increase and improve the quality of their sewing products and more. "It also helped to improve our entire production process including the marketing of our products with a focus on production quality and customer satisfaction."

"I was also able to carry out another project, namely the opening of a shop [Univers Made in Mali] for the sale of various local products with the participation of 20 women entrepreneurs and leaders of women's associations," said Ms. Ly.

County Governments as centres of development have been at the frontline in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic in Kenya. Consequently, the Council of Governors with the support of the Government of Japan organized a virtual conference aimed at appraising the sub-national Government's response to date; sharing lessons, best practices, challenges; as well as recommending actions to both levels of Government on how best to remain resilient during the pandemic, and how to remain prepared in the event of future pandemics.

The virtual conference, which aimed at facilitating the exchange of ideas and learning was a first, and brought together various stakeholders including the National Government and County Governments and their representatives, development partners, constitutional commissions, civil society organizations, the private sector as well as marginalised groups.



H.E. Ryoichi Horie, Ambassador of Japan to Kenya (right) and H.E. Governor Kivutha Kibwana (left), Chair of the COVID-19 County Conference, follow proceedings during a high-level event in Kenya to develop and implement a communique affirming coordinated action against COVID-19

"I would like to assure all Kenyans, that this assistance is part of our seamless contribution to Kenya. While taking precautionary measures against COVID-19, Kenya has chosen the path to move the country forward. I appreciate the Kenyan people's courage and tireless efforts in this endeavor."

*H.E. Ryoichi Horie,
Ambassador of Japan to Kenya*

With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNDP **Rwanda** in partnership with the Government of Japan, supported efforts to sustain the business of cooperatives of persons with disabilities. As many people lost their jobs, securing an income to purchase food and hygienic products was extremely difficult. Work opportunities for persons with disabilities were extremely limited and, in many cases, non-existent. UNDP supported the members of 13 cooperatives of persons with disabilities with immediate life-saving food support for their families, as well as economic recovery of their businesses. The economic recovery of the small businesses focused on providing cooperatives with health trainings for safe return to business, hygienic materials such as soap, PPEs and portable handwashing stations, business investment capital to purchase additional equipment and raw materials, and innovation grants aimed at helping them to adapt to new realities.

Additionally, 13 cooperatives of persons with disabilities were supported with immediate life-saving food support for their families, as well as economic recovery of their businesses. A total of 227 cooperative members (persons with disabilities) from different districts in Rwanda were supported directly with food and hygiene items while 795 of their family members benefited indirectly. This support was considered lifesaving as it ensured their dignity and survival during the height of the lockdown.



Persons with disabilities from different districts in Rwanda were supported directly with food and hygiene items.



The economic recovery of the small businesses aimed at helping beneficiaries adapt to new realities.

VOICES OF BENEFICIARIES

Building Kaya's 'market of the future'

COVID-19 prevention measures offer women vendors a unique chance to say goodbye to unsafe market infrastructure

In the heart of Kaya's District 7 – 100km from the Burkinabè capital, Ouagadougou – on a formerly empty ground commonly known as “the reserve”, counters with built-in metal storage now serve as stalls for the city's women vendors, who take refuge from the midday sun under the welcoming embrace of the stalls' purpose-built umbrellas.

These stalls offer a new and innovative vision for the future of Kaya's markets. What is more, they were borne of the COVID-19 health crisis. The onset of the pandemic threatened not just the health of market patrons, but that of the market itself. To combat this concern, UNDP Burkina Faso joined forces with Kaya's local authorities to offer 'yaar' vendors newly designed, three-in-one units to sell their wares, compromising stall, shelter and a vegetable storage box. This innovative approach permits women fresh food vendors to continue their business activities, while ensuring compliance with sanitary measures proscribed by health authorities e.g., avoiding the shaking of hands and practicing social distancing.

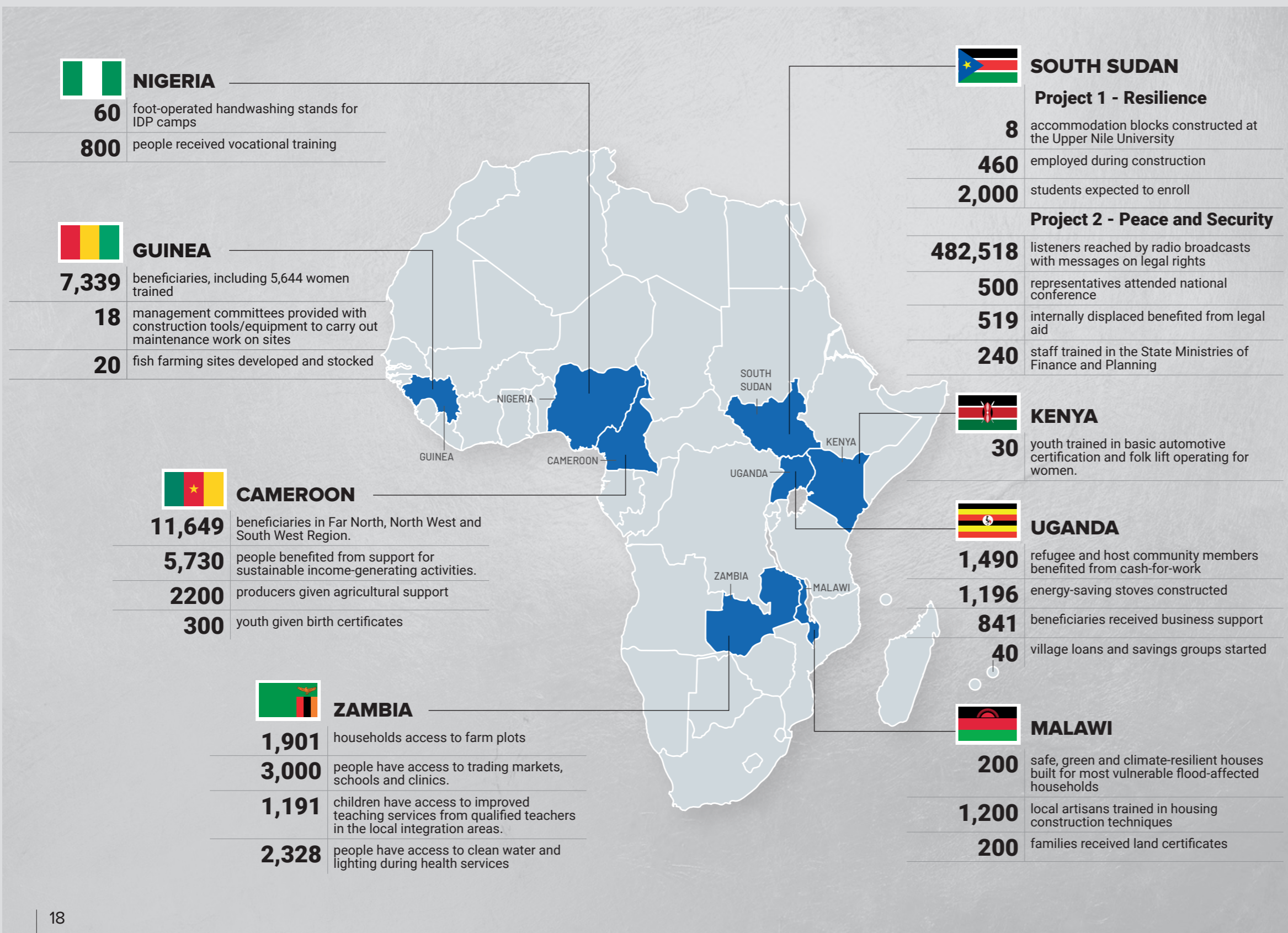
The initiative forms part of UNDP's support to the government's COVID-19 response, made possible by Japanese funding. In addition to the provision of medical and technical equipment (oximeters, respirators, gloves, etc.) to the Ministry of Health, UNDP has supported innovative actions to build community resilience in the face of the current poverty, security and health challenges, especially engaging women and youth.

Ms. Zaharata Sawadogo takes pride in her new stand, “Do you even see how beautiful and useful it is?” she declares joyfully. For this businesswoman, the stall offers a means to get on with her work while protecting her customers. “I now have enough space to both display my produce and stock my reserves, and the counter is much larger and more robust ...”. Ms. Sawadogo is confident of the continued success of the innovation.



Madam Ouedraogo Habibou, a vendor of fresh products within the regulated market in Kaya supported by the project.

BUILDING A RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY



KEY NUMBERS

11,649 Cameroon

8,870 Zambia

7,339 Guinea

2,331 Uganda

2,163 Malawi

1,594 South Sudan

800 Nigeria

30 Kenya

Empowering people through partnerships

Respect for human rights and the rule of law constitute main elements of human security that protect and empower each and every individual. In order to make sure that no one is left behind, UNDP and the Government of Japan in close collaboration with partners enhanced support that placed emphasis on social and economic development, including in the areas of disaster preparedness and prevention.

In **Cameroon**, JICA and UNDP deepened mutual understanding with various development cooperation agencies and built close partnerships. These included relations with CFAO (CAMI Toyota) to implement specific activities in the Far North Region to strengthen the technical capacity of car mechanics. Additionally, JICA in collaboration with UNDP launched the Project for the *Upland Rice and Irrigation Rice Development* with Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to strengthen the capacity of rice production.

In **Kenya**, a strong partnership between the Japanese private sector, represented by Toyota Tsusho Corporation, UNDP and UNHCR was cemented through the signing of a Statement of Intent (SOI) which will guide cooperation. This also created a strong partnership with the county government of Turkana and the national government, which enabled support in the monitoring and mentoring aspects of the project. The project also leveraged previous support provided by JICA to the Toyota Kenya Academy in the form of heavy equipment, a process which served to build on previous support from the government of Japan.

Meanwhile, collaboration with the Youth Empowerment and Employment Project, the United Nations Mission in **South Sudan** (UNMISS), UNDP and Japan for the renovations of the Upper Nile University and the Japan Cultural Centre at the University of Juba helped create 460 jobs and eight accommodation blocks - two for females with capacity for 224 females and six blocks for males with capacity for 480 male - completed. Some 2,000 students are expected to enroll.



The foundation training at the Toyota Kenya Academy was designed to bridge the gender gap in automotive skills.



Groundbreaking ceremony to mark the start of renovations of the Upper Nile University and University of Juba Culture Center



Road construction in Palabek Refugee Settlement Lamwo District, Uganda.



JICA has been working to assist the promotion of a new type of aquaculture which transforms natural marshes into aquaculture ponds and fertilizes them to improve productivity of fish.



200 flood-resilient houses for the most vulnerable flood-affected communities in Malawi were constructed



In Malawi, 1,200 local artisans were trained in safer housing construction techniques.

In the district of Lamwo, **Uganda**, UNDP in collaboration with the Japanese International NGO Community Roads Empowerment (CORE) worked together with the Office of the Prime Minister, the UN Refugee Agency to build refugee and host community resilience for enhanced gender responsive livelihoods and environmental sustainability. The partnership ensured communities and local municipalities have increased capacity to enable resilient livelihoods, employment opportunities, and delivery of basic services and security. The project surpassed its target of 1,000 beneficiaries by providing livelihood support to 1,490 refugee and host community members through cash-for-work activities. Beneficiaries were supported with cash grants, mobilized to form 40 village savings and loans associations, and were trained in business skills.

In the highlands of the **Republic of Guinea**, community-based aquaculture of river fish is playing an active role in the empowerment of women. Here, JICA collaborated to assist the promotion of a new type of aquaculture which transforms natural marshes into aquaculture ponds and fertilizes them to improve productivity of fish.

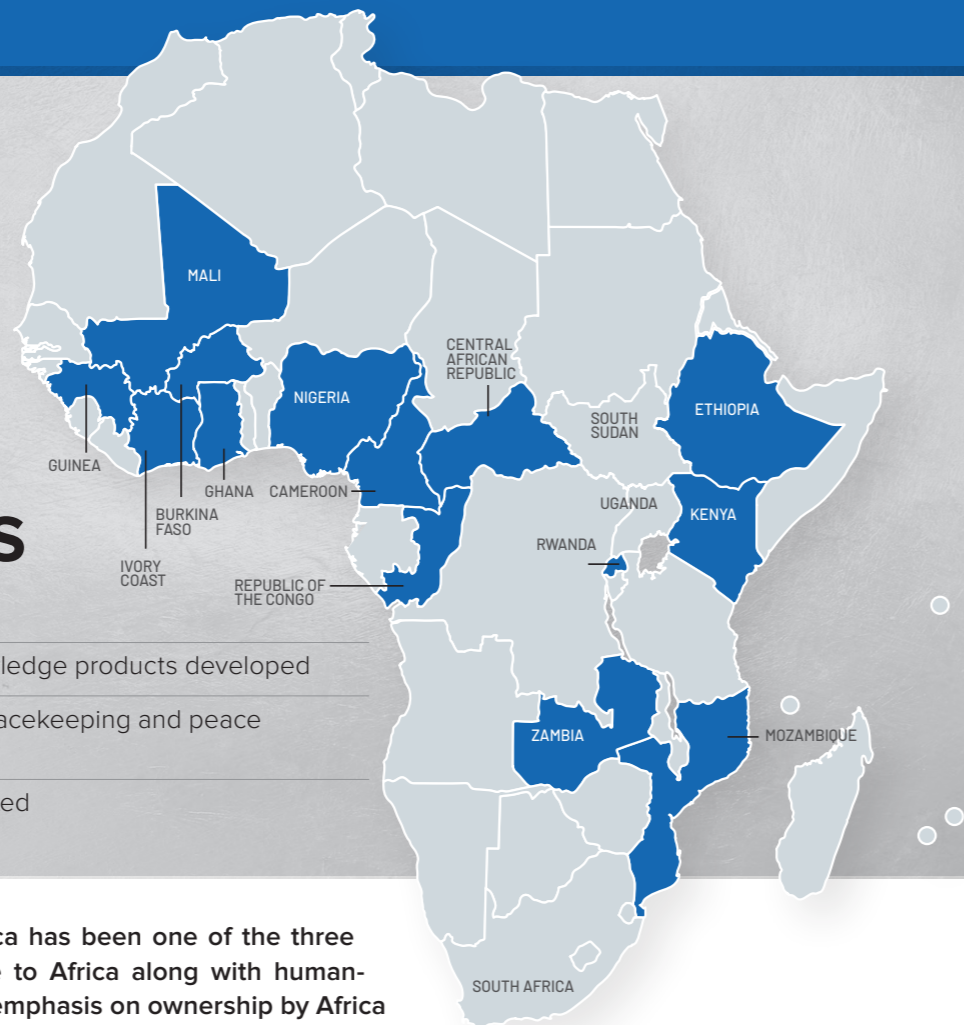
In a unique partnership between Habitat for Humanity **Malawi** and UNDP with funding from the Government of Japan, the Disaster Risk Management for Resilience Project aimed to support human security through safe and dignified access to climate-resilient housing for affected communities in Malawi displaced by floods from Cyclone Idai. The collaboration saw the construction of 200 flood-resilient houses for the most vulnerable flood-affected communities in Zomba and Phalombe Districts while also restoring two community markets and two community water points.

The project also strengthened the capacity of district and national authorities, private sector firms and communities to apply techniques from the Safer Housing Construction Guidelines including training on inclusive disaster recovery through climate- and weather-resilient housing targeting the most vulnerable, that includes; women, children, the elderly and people with disabilities.

PEACE AND SECURITY AND PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS

KEY NUMBERS

1,796	officers trained
74	research papers and knowledge products developed
14	countries, participated peacekeeping and peace and security training
1,000	military personnel vaccinated



The consolidation of peace across Africa has been one of the three key policy pillars of Japan's assistance to Africa along with human-centered development. Placing special emphasis on ownership by Africa and corresponding partnership by the international community as TICAD's basic principles, Japan together with UNDP has over the course of 2020 been making steady efforts to promote peace consolidation in Africa with concrete actions. Through the New Approach for Peace and Stability in Africa (NAPSA), Japan continued to support Africa's efforts to prevent, intervene and mediate conflicts with Africa in the driver's seat. Japan also continues to support institution building and strengthening of governance including judicial, administrative and legislative systems in order to address the root causes of conflicts.

South-South cooperation for lasting peace

Africa has made commendable progress in defining its own priorities and agenda for South-South Cooperation, including through the adoption of Agenda 2063, the implementation of developmental goals through the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), and its transformation into the African Union Development Agency (AUDA).

Across the UNDP-Japan funded projects that support peace and security there were inspiring examples of South-South and triangular cooperation. For example, south-south cooperation in **Kenya** led to collaboration with Japanese NGO, REALs Alternatives, which focuses on peace building and provided skills transfer to local counterparts to help build capacity for maritime disaster management and response to peace and security threats within the East African country.



Cycle for Peace Event in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique.

In **Ethiopia**, support to the International Peace Support Training Institute aimed at strengthening all aspects of peace operation training in Ethiopia and Africa, by addressing critical training gaps in peace keeping operations of the African Union and the United Nations. The Government of Japan, the Ethiopian International Peace Support Training Institute and UNDP played significant roles as the key partners during the implementation of this project. UNDP- Ethiopia worked together with Japanese counterparts to maximize its comparative advantages and unique roles in strengthening institutional capacity for the promotion of peace and security.



Training of command post leaders on voting security in Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

The major activities implemented during this period included two international courses on conflict prevention and conflict management and the local course on dialogue, negotiation and mediation course. The international courses on the conflict prevention and conflict management brought together course participants nominated from **Somalia, Mali, Rwanda, Tunisia, Djibouti, Sudan, South Sudan, Morocco, Uganda, Burundi, Kenya** and **Ethiopia**.

Meanwhile, South-South cooperation resulted in training being held in three African countries: **Nigeria, Benin** and **Ghana**. The role of non-state actors was also highlighted as partners contributing to improving maritime security. Gradually, a shift in thinking of traditional actors and partners in the maritime security sector could be observed.

South-South cooperation was also evidenced in **Rwanda** with the country's Peace Academy's capacity being strengthened through courses that increased the number of skilled personnel for the African Union and the UN to draw from during deployments to peace support missions.

VOICES OF BENEFICIARIES

Nyabach Okach Chan, a 30-year-old woman, mother of five is the primary bread winner for her extended family and resides in the Protection of Civilian site in Bentiu, northern South Sudan. An old man who requested her to refund part of the dowry he had paid for her daughter sued her in the traditional court in April 2020 for failing to do so.

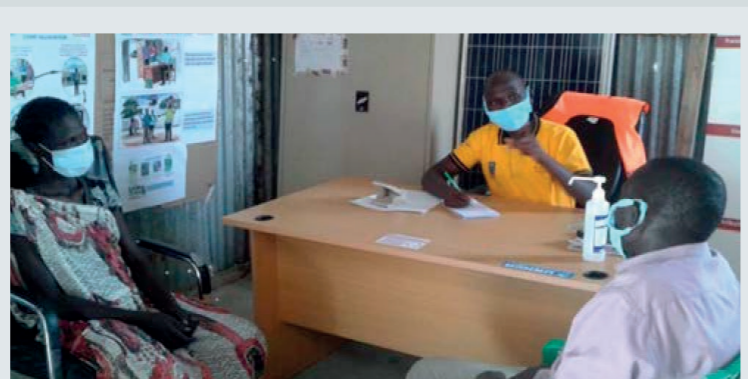
Nyabach's daughter had become pregnant because of another relationship with a young man and she was blamed for failing to prevent it. She was arrested and detained in Malakal Central Prison with her youngest child and subsequently sentenced to five years in prison or refund the paid dowry to the old man.

During a prison visit, a legal officer from the Justice and Confidence Centre, took her case before the local court. He challenged the decision to imprison her arguing that the young man who impregnated her daughter was responsible for refunding the dowry in accordance with their culture.

Nyabach said, "The judge ruled in my favor, and I was released on 20 February 2021 having spent 10 months in prison with my 2-year-old son. HDC officers counselled me. They continued to visit me to ensure that I am no longer being harassed."

Nyabach's case is not unique. Traditional courts continue to make decisions that favour men and contravene human rights. UNDP is addressing this by continuously training traditional leaders on human rights, gender equality and fair trial standards.

Positive changes in the attitudes of some traditional leaders and decisions of traditional courts have been recorded in Yambio, Bor, Aweil, Torit, Wau and Juba.



Nyabach Okach Chan's case is not unique in that courts still tend to favour male claims over females'.

Japan continued its support for safe, dignified and voluntary returns to ensure durable peace in **South Sudan**. In a wide collaborative effort, UNDP worked closely with the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Commission as a strategic partner. In addition, UNDP also partnered with UNICEF, UN WOMEN, and UN Mission in South Sudan Security Sector Reform during the consultative process of designing DDR guidelines and policy documents and during implementation as well.

The programme partnered with three CSOs to deliver legal aid services to vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and support community policing initiatives at the grassroots level to increase local level security. The project also collaborated with the Judiciary of South Sudan and the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, as well as UNMISS and UNHCR to conduct assessments and deploy mobile courts to locations with huge case backlogs and prolonged pretrial detention.

Nearly 500,000 people were reached by radio broadcasts with messages on legal rights while 500 representatives attended a national conference. Some 519 internally displaced persons benefited from legal aid and 240 staff in the Ministry of Finance and Planning were trained.

In the **Republic of Congo**, the Japan-supported project aimed to bolster economic and social recovery, reintegration, and to improve the living conditions of returning internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities in the Pool Department and other neighboring departments such as Brazzaville and Bouenza.

The project supported the socio-economic recovery of 612 people directly, including 315 women, the Pool department through the development of income-generating activities in the agro-pastoral sector. This was done in the form of equipment support and the construction of agropastoral infrastructure. The project has also promoted employment by building infrastructure through labor intensive work. As part of the strengthening of social cohesion, 40 young social facilitators were trained and deployed in four districts of the Pool department. Awareness-raising activities on the values of peace, citizenship and moral values



A member of the National Dialogue Secretariat presenting the paper on Social Cohesion to the delegates at the National Conference

reached 12,660 people, including 6,434 women and included the local media. Activities to strengthen the authority of the State were also carried out with the help of dialogue committees as well as the delivery of computer equipment for the decentralized administration (prefecture and districts).

The Project also saw innovation as the practice of agropastoral activities is increasingly more digitized. Taking into account the difficulties experienced by producers to evaluate produce, UNDP through this project set up an e-commerce platform for the benefit of project beneficiaries.

To date, the site has been created and is functional. Field visits are planned in order to collect information from beneficiaries in terms of products and costs to include up to date on the site and promote it. An online payment mechanism has been incorporated and partnerships are being established with transporters to ensure the delivery of products.

Zambia pledged to locally integrate 23,000 former Angolan and Rwandan refugees through a Local Integration Programme. The Local Integration Programme will give many of those who formerly had refugee status permanent residency in Zambia.

Through the support from the Japanese Government, the local integration programme received support, which enabled programme implementation through UNDP to attain significant results.

Nearly 2,000 households including Zambians, former Angolans and Rwandese nationals gained access to farm/residential plots in Meheba and Mayukwayukwa resettlement schemes. A 1.7 kilometer stretch of roads was constructed and rehabilitated in the resettlement areas ensuring that over 3000 people have access to areas of services such as trading markets, schools and clinics. With the provision of improved housing for teaching staff, 1,191 children will have access to improved teaching services from qualified teachers in the local integration areas. With improved solar power 2,328 people have access to clean water and lighting during health services in Meheba resettlement.



The involvement of local populations and community leaders in the project implementation made it possible to establish mixed groups without difficulties.



UNDP and the Government of Japan provided electoral assistance to strengthen the credibility, inclusiveness, and transparency of the electoral process in Ivory Coast.

Electoral assistance

UNDP and the Government of Japan provided assistance to strengthen the credibility, inclusiveness and transparency of the electoral process in **Ivory Coast** through the main national actors involved. In addition to the CEI - the main beneficiary of electoral assistance - the government, public institutions, political parties, civil society organizations, media, and the broader Ivorian population, in particular women, young people, under-represented or marginalized groups were considered in the implementation of the project. The overall aim was to enable the effective, efficient and sustainable conduct of a free, transparent, credible and inclusive electoral process, in accordance with international standards.



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