UNDP Results
Crisis Prevention and Recovery
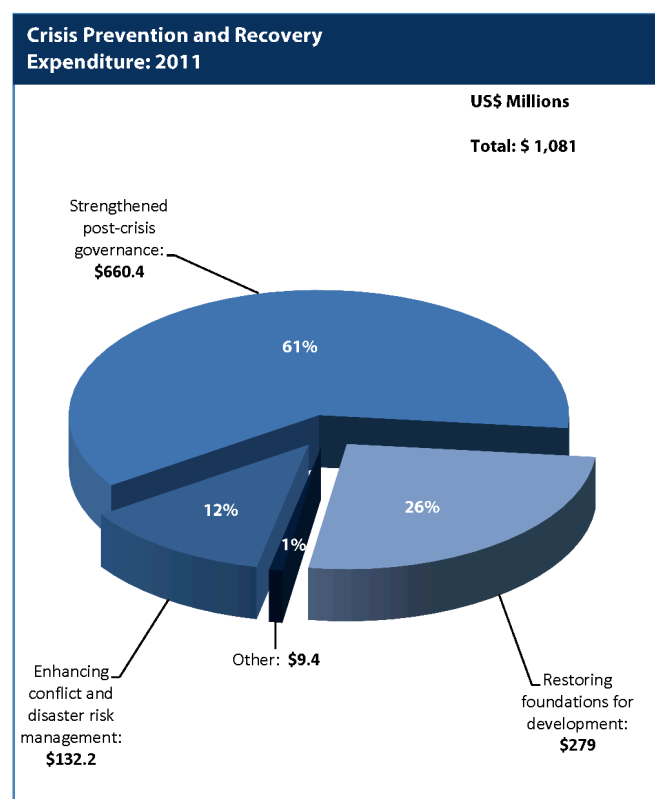
Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Approach

Conflicts and disasters pose a serious threat to development in many countries. Building resilience to these events is at the very heart of the efforts of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). UNDP helps countries manage conflict and disaster risks, and empowers people to build back their lives following crises.

In 2011, UNDP provided disaster risk reduction, conflict prevention and recovery services to some 80 countries; strengthened development gains in post-crisis countries by reinforcing governance and the rule of law; worked to support livelihoods and rebuild critical infrastructure following an emergency with short-term employment schemes; and promoted gender equality throughout the entire process.

This work plays an important role in helping countries to overcome setbacks to development when a disaster or conflict strikes.

Crisis Prevention and Recovery Expenditure: 2011

US$ Millions

Total: $ 1,081

Strengthened post-crisis governance: **$660.4** — 61%

Enhancing conflict and disaster risk management: **$132.2** — 12%

Other: **$9.4** — 1%

Restoring foundations for development: **$279** — 26%

Source: UNDP Operations Support Group

RESULTS

Preventing and responding to disasters

UNDP works to reduce the risk of disasters associated with natural hazards as well as to reduce their human and economic costs.

● In **Indonesia**, when a powerful earthquake hit Aceh province in northern Sumatra in January 2012, UNDP-supported institutional and community response systems put in place since the 2004 Tsunami worked efficiently. Early warning systems were issued on time and appropriate evacuations were made.

● In **Armenia**, UNDP helped the Government to understand the danger it faces from seismic hazards such as earthquakes and landslides. In 2011, UNDP helped establish a National Disaster Observatory, which evaluates, monitors and maps the country's earthquake risk.

● In **Haiti**, with UNDP support, over 60 percent of the 10 million cubic metres of rubble created by the 2010 earthquake has been removed, with more than 20 percent of this debris being recycled for use in new homes, pavements and retaining walls. Over 30,000 people were given emergency jobs as part of these efforts in a UNDP and Government partnership, which also included work to strengthen river embankments and terraces and dredge some rivers.

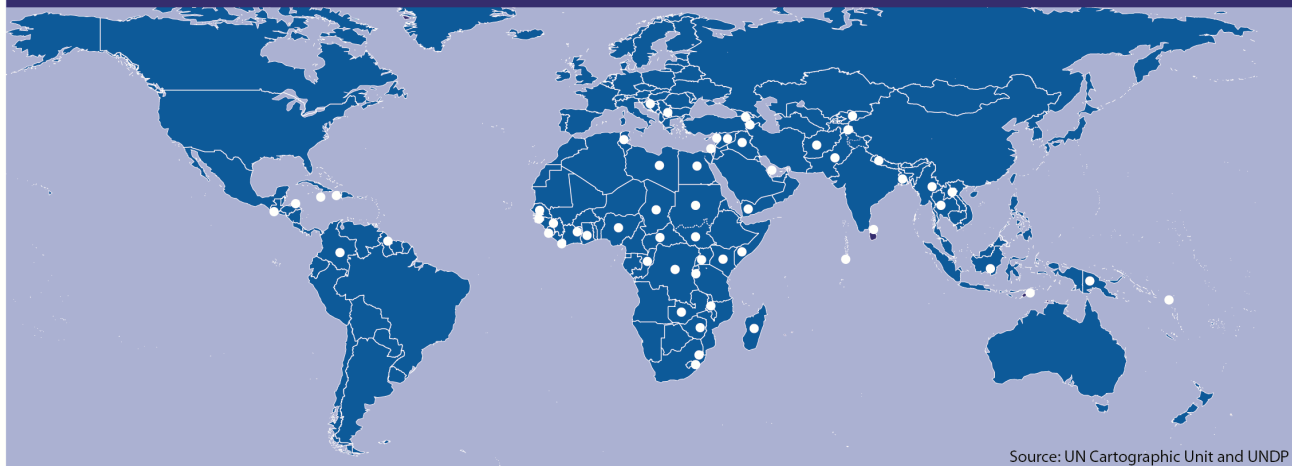### Preventing and responding to conflict

UNDP supports national and local institutions and leadership in efforts to prevent violence, manage conflicts constructively and engage peacefully in political transitions.

● In **Fiji**, in 2012, public emergency regulations were lifted and a conversation initiated around constitutional and electoral reform after a UNDP-facilitated process brought together the Government and civic leadership to meet for the first time since the military takeover in 2006.

Rule of law, justice and security

UNDP improves justice and security services in conflict, post-conflict and fragile settings to expand access to justice, ensure citizens and communities are protected, and prevent the escalation of conflicts.

Priority countries receiving UNDP technical and financial support for crisis prevention and recovery: 2011

Source: UN Cartographic Unit and UNDP

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties and appears without prejudice to the question of sovereignty. The final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

In countries affected by war, disaster and violence, the delivery of justice and security services strengthens public confidence and enables peace and overall development.

● In **El Salvador,** UNDP-supported "gun-free zones" have led to sharp reductions in crime and violence. In one municipality a 40 percent reduction in homicides was recorded in 2011 and 20 of the country's most violent cities witnessed, on average, a 12 percent dip in murder rates. UNDP has also helped local authorities respond to criminal incidents, increasing cooperation between the police, civil society and communities to prevent armed violence.

● In **Sierra Leone**, the introduction of UNDP-supported "Saturday Courts" enabled the justice system to tackle a backlog of sexual and gender-based violence cases. By the end of 2011, 78 percent of outstanding cases had come before the courts and 27 percent were completed.

Livelihoods and economic recovery

The events of 2011 in the Arab State region are reminders that unemployment and exclusion, especially of young people, are key drivers of conflict. The absence of job opportunities coupled with deficits in democratic governance and the rule of law are critical obstacles to peace and stability.

● In 2011 UNDP worked with partners to create over 5.2 million workdays of emergency jobs in **Burundi, Haiti, Honduras, Myanmar, Pakistan, Somalia and Uganda**, helping to sustain livelihoods and revitalise economies in these crisis and conflict-affected countries. Over 170,000 people directly supported by UNDP have seen an increase in their income through microfinance and livelihood projects in 11 priority countries.

● In the **Horn of Africa** in 2011, UNDP supported a broader UN System response that helped save hundreds of thousands of lives when that region faced the worse drought seen in over 20 years. In **Somalia**, in spite of the security and access challenges, more than

70,000 people have benefited from UNDP-rehabilitated infrastructure, including wells, 94 km of roads, 25 km of canals and the planting of 18,000 trees, as well as improvements to markets, hospitals and schools.

Crisis governance

Planning in advance for recovery accelerates decision-making, which helps vulnerable groups to recover faster. UNDP works to ensure that peacebuilding and capacity building of state institutions are on the agenda for crisis-affected and fragile states.

● In **Tunisia**, in the run-up to the country's historic October 2011 National Constituent Assembly elections, UNDP supported more than 50 political parties to engage in dialogue with each other. This helped to secure a consensus-based transition after the Government was deposed following widespread violence earlier in the year. UNDP experts supported the transitional regime in drafting new laws and 169 female candidates were trained in campaigning and public speaking. Four of the women coached by UNDP were among the 59 eventually elected to the Assembly.

● In **Colombia**, UNDP supports the Government's efforts to create peace and development plans that allow victims of paramilitary and guerilla violence greater access to government officials and a more effective restitution of land seized through conflict. UNDP has supported almost 800 civil society organizations representing victims of conflict, including 83 women's groups. As of January 2011, 121,000 hectares of land had been handed over to 38,000 rural workers.

For more information:

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August 2012

UNDP

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