



50  
YEARS

*Empowered lives. Resilient nations.*

# 2015-2016 RESULTS REPORT

Regional Bureau  
for Asia and the Pacific



COVER: Renewable energy is improving the quality of life in rural Mongolia.

Photo credit: UNDP

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# Foreword

Last year world leaders agreed to transform the course of global development, aspiring to a future where progress includes all peoples and can be sustained through the careful use of common planetary resources. This commitment was embodied in the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) endorsed by the member countries of the United Nations. This new agenda underpins several landmark agreements adopted on tackling climate change, financing development, managing disaster risks, and responding to humanitarian crises.

Countries across Asia and the Pacific played central roles in negotiating these agreements. The region has much to celebrate and share with the rest of the world. Its emerging economies have become engines of global growth, and it has led the remarkable decline in poverty under the Millennium Development Goals. In 2000, 15 of the region's 36 countries qualified as low income; today, only 4 remain in that category. A number of countries have achieved gender parity in education and some are now providing universal health care.

Nonetheless, countries in the region, like all others, still have progress to make. The 2030 Agenda recognized that the current trajectory of global development is not without peril to people and the planet. That is why, in an historic first, the Agenda's goals apply to all countries, from the least to the most developed.

Inequalities remain stark in the Asia and the Pacific region, and in some cases have become worse. People in rural areas and minority groups are among those still left behind. Gender gaps continue in employment and political representation. Youth populations have reached record numbers, but they are not consistently making smooth transitions into adulthood, for reasons that include inadequate training and insufficient employment. People across the region are increasingly aware of the impacts of unsustainable depletion of natural resources, severe air pollution, and deadly natural disasters.

Asia and the Pacific today are increasingly poised to meet these complex challenges. Many countries will continue to turn to UNDP as a trusted and indispensable partner and source of solu-

tions. As we celebrated UNDP's 50th anniversary in 2016, it was a moment to look back at our long legacy of development support to countries, and also to highlight our strong potential for providing support to people around the world to realize their high aspirations of the 2030 Agenda.

Already we are assisting countries in moving forward to plan, finance, and track the steps they need to take to reach the SDGs. We offer a wealth of expertise on issues fundamental to the goals, such as poverty eradication, inclusive development, and peacebuilding, for countries at vastly different stages of progress. We are equipped to work with our partners across all elements of sustainable development—a 'whole of development' approach essential to the vision of the 2030 Agenda, which UNDP's 2013-2017 Strategic Plan anticipated and takes into account.

Everything we do reflects our strong commitment to accountability and integrity, and to making the most of investments in development which will be significant in the era of the SDGs. In 2016, for the second year in a row, UNDP was named the world's most transparent aid organization

by the non-governmental group Publish What You Fund, and is a leading advocate for universal adoption of the International Aid Transparency Index standard.

This annual results report highlights just some of UNDP's outstanding contributions made in Asia and the Pacific over the last year with our partner governments and with the support of donors. It shows, country by country, that the need for sustainable, inclusive development is often great. At the same time, transformative change is happening. Millions of people have greater hopes for well-being than ever before, whether that means a decent job, quality public services, or a freely cast vote. The right choices and actions, taken systematically and starting right now, will put us on track for a more peaceful and prosperous region—and world—within reach by 2030.



**Helen Clark**

**Administrator**

United Nations Development  
Programme

# Preface

The story of the Asia-Pacific region in recent years is the story of remarkable change.

From widespread poverty to increasing prosperity, from mainly rural communities to urban megalopolises, development has boomed, and that trend is expected to continue.

Progress is the hallmark of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs, which commit to transformative development that leaves no one behind.

UNDP in Asia and the Pacific has embraced this drive for change. We support 36 countries in the region, as this annual results report demonstrates. In a world committed to a better future, we aim for speed, innovation, agility, competitiveness and quality.

UNDP has the flexibility and expertise to tailor our assistance to large economies as well as small and fragile states, to countries seeking to fine-tune development progress and to those striving to restore foundations in the wake of protracted crises.

A powerful vote of confidence for our work comes from governments in the region. Increasingly, these governments are dedicat-

ing a growing share of their resources to partner in development work with us. During 2015-2016, UNDP received approximately US \$116 million in co-financing from 17 Asia-Pacific governments.

The 2030 Agenda is a major undertaking. It draws on political commitment at all levels, attracts development expertise, and potentially gives rise to trillions of dollars for developing new services and infrastructure.

Long active in tackling the triple challenge of poverty, inequality and exclusion, UNDP in Asia and the Pacific is partnering with governments to integrate the SDGs across their development programmes and investments. We are providing thought leadership to solve emerging challenges, and are at the vanguard of a data revolution to comprehensively measure progress of the goals.

The new Agenda calls on everyone to think and act in new ways, including through innovation. UNDP has a growing record of reaching out to the most vulnerable in innovative ways, so that essential services reach the most remote areas. For instance, our programmes have tapped into mobile technology, and global

positioning systems to boost participation in elections, and help finance and forestall the worst impacts of disasters.

We believe that innovation is key to mobilizing new resources and diversifying partnerships, and to prototype and test bright ideas that can be scaled up to transform development.

Given the ambitious scope of the SDGs, closer engagement between the public and the private sector is essential. Governments in Asia and the Pacific have called on UNDP to help define these relationships, to help connect peoples and to facilitate innovative solutions to development's toughest challenges.

With its regional and global presence, UNDP is well positioned to support countries in that critical exchange of knowledge, including through South-

South cooperation.

The 2030 Agenda seeks to multiply development 'wins', within and across countries, and that is our goal too.

UNDP is grateful for the sustained commitment of our partners and donor governments. It has enabled us to bring energy, expertise and progress to the people of Asia and the Pacific.

Challenges still lie ahead, but with the immense potential in the region, we can overcome those challenges together.



**Haoliang Xu**

**Assistant Administrator and Director**

Regional Bureau for Asia  
and the Pacific

# I. A Time of High Ambition

In 2015, the world arrived at a turning point. In adopting the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), countries everywhere agreed that we can wait no longer. The time has come to fight all forms of poverty and inequality, and combat climate change. We have the knowledge to tackle the former, and the last opportunity to fend off the worst consequences of the latter.

That means thinking big, acting with bold ambition, and aiming for no less than the transformation of our world. Much will need to happen in Asia and the Pacific, home to half the global

population.

Recent years have shown the region's enormous possibilities. Its diverse and dynamic economies power global growth, and on the global stage, it is increasingly a leader and generator of innovations shared within and beyond the region. From the start of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2000 until now, Asia and the Pacific's share of the world economy expanded from 30 percent to 40 percent. The number of people in poverty plummeted from 1.1 billion then to just over 300 million today.

These gains, while remarkable, have not come without costs. The

region faces mounting pressure from unprecedented urbanization and unsustainable drains on natural resources. Rapid growth has ushered in many benefits, yet these elude some population groups, who remain on the fringes of the economic miracle. Deep-seated gender discrimination persists in much of the region. Complicating these and other concerns is acute vulnerability to natural disasters.

So there is work to do—but also, in the 2030 Agenda, a common vision for how to move forward. As the global successor to the MDGs, the 2030 Agenda was shaped and endorsed by coun-

tries across Asia and the Pacific and the world. It represents the first universal agenda committing all nations, whether more or less developed, to development that is sustainable and leaves no one behind.

No country has yet achieved this. And no country will by the Agenda's 2030 endpoint without dismantling barriers such as those related to inequality, unsustainable consumption and production patterns, the lack of decent work and exclusion from public decision-making.

Despite complex challenges, Asia and the Pacific today is in a better position to meet and rise above these challenges. Its growing strengths, in people, knowledge and financing, are the foundation for realizing the 2030 Agenda. UNDP works in close partnership with countries across the region to help make change happen on the scale that transformation demands.

## Making gains, reducing risks

In 2015, at the beginning of the 2030 Agenda, strong economic growth continued across much of Asia and the Pacific, with a record number of countries having moved into a middle-income ranking. Elections deepened and extended democratic governance in Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan and Papua New Guinea's Bougainville, while a ceasefire agreement in Myanmar promised an end to one of the longest civil conflicts. Nepal appointed its first woman President, and the finalization of the Cook Island elections ushered women into 17 percent of parliamentary seats, the highest share ever in the Pacific region, where women's representation has long lingered in the low single digits.

The year also saw worrisome threats to democratic space and rights, from attacks on activists and religious minorities in Bangladesh, to pressure on space for civil society in Malaysia. In Afghanistan, an escalation in conflict spurred a new flood of migrants fleeing the country. Nat-

ural disasters including earthquakes, typhoons and droughts stole thousands of lives and imposed heavy economic costs—\$7 billion in losses and damages after the Nepal earthquake, for instance, with an additional \$6.7 billion required for reconstruction. When Typhoon Maysak hit the Federated States of Micronesia, 90 percent of food crops in some states were obliterated.

In 2015 and into 2016, across Asia and the Pacific, UNDP helped countries protect and advance gains that have been made, while reducing risks of reversal. We assisted in connecting people to sustainable livelihoods, such as slum dwellers in Bangladesh and herders in Mongolia. Our programmes aided people in Myanmar and Pakistan in conducting successful elections, improving prospects for stability and security along with the quality of democratic governance. Indian citizens affected by HIV gained greater access to social protection; rural Iranians acquired better defenses against malaria.

We responded to natural disasters in the Pacific and Nepal, while also putting in place mechanisms to more effectively manage risks from future crises. We helped heighten climate resilience in Cambodia and Timor-Leste, and safeguarded the rights of people

UNDP has drawn on combined public and private support  
to install solar drinking water systems in Pakistan.  
Photo credit: Mian Khursheed/UNDP Pakistan



across the region, including to be free from gender inequality and all other forms of discrimination. Afghanistan introduced gender-based budgeting through our assistance as part of extending services and opportunities to women and girls.

To achieve these and other development results documented in this annual report, UNDP brought people together, provided cutting-edge analysis, procured essential supplies, helped cultivate a variety of skills and capabilities, and advocated for development that is both inclusive and sustainable. Whatever forms our support took, it remained grounded foremost in responsiveness to the priorities of the countries where we work.

A testament to our continued success in Asia and the Pacific in the past five years has been the doubling in the financing that developing country governments have invested in UNDP programmes in their own countries.

## Partnership and innovation

Having served countries across Asia and the Pacific for 50 years, UNDP has become a trusted partner. Countries turn to us for development expertise in solving difficult issues, knowing that we can draw on extensive regional and global networks. Our support, long rooted in the realities of development, anticipated the emphasis on integration and inclusion in the 2030 Agenda. We work from a whole of society perspective, connecting different dimensions of sustainable development—economic, social and environmental—to unlock their combined power to accelerate and sustain progress.

At the start of the 2030 Agenda, we are bringing together the diverse actors, national and international, public and private, who will need to combine their knowledge and resources to achieve the 17 SDGs. With our assistance, a number of countries have already forged ahead with the planning and data collection processes required to put the SDGs at the centre of national development.

Now and moving forward,

UNDP will increasingly work with countries to capture innovations crucial in meeting the high ambitions of the 2030 Agenda—from crowdfunding to innovation labs to apps that give ordinary citizens a wider role in creating changes they want to see in their lives. Once new solutions have proven their worth, they need to be scaled up, within countries, around the region and beyond.

**In 12 countries, UNDP backed MDG action plans to close final gaps; 8 countries devised SDG transition plans.**

# Helping nations get a jump on the SDGs

The 2030 Agenda is a milestone global commitment to development that improves human well-being, leaves no one behind, and protects the environmental resources on which all societies depend. Even as governments were putting the finishing touches on the agreement at the United Nations, UNDP began helping countries in Asia and the Pacific become among the first to move towards implementation.

We provided detailed research and supported a cross-ministerial dialogue that **China** used to become the first G-20 country to fully align its national development plan with achieving the SDGs. **Lao People's Democratic Republic** finalized its 8th National Socioeconomic Development Plan with a monitoring and evaluation system based on measuring progress to reach the goals.

UNDP supported mappings of national development strategies against the SDGs in **Bhutan, Mongolia** and **Tonga**. In **Bhutan**, this assessment established alignment with 134

SDG targets and is being used to advocate for implementation support. In **Tonga**, assessment results are informing the formulation of planning and budgeting frameworks. **Mongolia's** assessment contributed to adjusting the national long-term sustainable development vision and is informing strategies and policies at the national and sub-national levels. It highlighted significant data gaps for three of the SDGs and identified 21 additional indicators for monitoring. An ongoing data ecosystem mapping, part of a global UNDP pilot exercise, is looking at the data gaps in greater detail as well as the institutional and policy changes required to close them.

**Pakistan**, with UNDP assistance, has begun integrating the SDGs in provincial development plans. Inclusive consultations to advance this process in Sindh and Punjab provinces involved senior provincial officials, civil society organizations, think tanks and academia. Nationally, the Government has committed \$15.5 million to co-finance the

mainstreaming of the SDGs into national policies and plans, data and reporting, inclusive budgeting processes and innovative practices. Special SDG units have already been set up at the federal level and in Sindh and Punjab.

At the 46th **Pacific Islands** Forum, UNDP helped countries from across the region agree on a framework to guide national application of the SDGs. In **Papua New Guinea**, which hosted the forum, the Government drew on a number of UNDP analyses in developing its Mid-Term Development Plan 2. Its aims, in line with the SDGs, include tripling the number of people employed in small and medium businesses by 2017.

In **Malaysia**, UNDP helped organize the Global Transformation Forum, a draw for over 3,000 participants from 70 countries, including former heads of state and government, ministers, senior policy makers and representatives from civil society and business. Together, they reflected on global lessons

from the MDGs, exchanged their own experiences from diverse development situations, and collaborated in 'thinking forward' to rapid SDG implementation.

With the **Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)**, UNDP took part in producing a final sub-regional assessment of MDG achievements. It will help lay the groundwork for implementing the 2030 Agenda, including through highlighting emerging challenges and recommending areas of regional support.

For the **Asia and the Pacific region** as a whole, a partnership between UNDP, the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) has highlighted implementation issues related to financing and the transfer of technology, and is positioned to systematically assess progress moving forward.

# Learning from a changing world

High performance will be critical in moving towards the 2030 Agenda. To that end, UNDP, as a learning organization, will continue seeking to understand what drives or holds back the delivery of strong results, and refine strategies accordingly. Other priorities will include further sharpening our programmatic focus on the poor and excluded, recognizing that social and economic inclusion is a vital concern.

We have learned from experience that programmes are more successful when they are focused but flexible enough to build on the interdependencies among the many dimensions of development, whether between livelihoods and natural resources management, or democratic governance and essential services, among many other issues. Some UNDP country offices are moving to reduce the number of standalone projects, aiming for a more strategic portfolio. Area-based approaches with a geographic concentration of projects are one way forward.

There is a need to consistently codify best practices, including as part of providing strong technical advisory services. Engaging with all those involved in and affected by a given programme from the earliest stages of development builds a level of awareness and ownership that often leads to greater, more lasting impacts. The potential of South-South cooperation is increasingly clear. Within UNDP, country offices pursuing more of these initiatives in many cases show higher levels of performance.

We have also learned the critical importance of factoring the interplay of risk and development into planning, management, monitoring and evaluation. The ability to adapt to changing circumstances—at times with no advance warning—is crucial. Routine, rigorous analysis helps understand risks that can derail local communities, economies and development overall. It supports timely programming adjustments and risk-informed decisions. Delivering results in high-security contexts, in particular, requires more innovative modes of programme delivery and partnerships to sustain delivery of support, as well as the broader prerogative of forging links between humanitarian, peace and security and develop-

ment interventions. Flexibility in using existing programmes for a crisis response can accelerate recovery efforts.

UNDP's commitment to the 36 Asia and Pacific countries where we work is that we will stand by all efforts to meet the transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda. Through inclusive, sustainable development, an ever-growing number of people will see steady improvements in their lives, and know that these can be sustained far into the future, for generations to come.



The N-Peace Network helps grass-roots peace-builders in Afghanistan, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and the Philippines make connections with each other and develop new skills. In 2015, Pakistan's gender equality and peace advocate Rubina Feroze Bhatti won the annual N-Peace Award.

# Shaping the agenda: national and regional Human Development Reports

As countries begin putting in place policies to transform the course of development over the next 15 years, the right knowledge and evidence will be critical. UNDP's Human Development Reports remain important sources of cutting-edge analysis, building on strong intellectual collaboration between international and national experts.

In 2016, the Asia and the Pacific Regional Human Development Report made the region's first detailed links between demographic changes and human development. Population shifts are happening in the region at a speed and scale never seen before, which presents enormous opportunities but also risks. Entitled *Shaping the Future: How Changing Demographics Can Power Hu-*

*man Development*, the report notes that Asia and the Pacific countries now have more working-aged people and fewer young and old dependents than at any point in history. This provides a springboard for growth and scaled-up investments in health, education and other building blocks of prosperity and well-being.

In line with UNDP's tailored support to diverse countries, the report outlines nine actions based on different population profiles. These cover countries poised to seize a 'demographic dividend' by having large shares of working-age people, countries that are still predominantly young, and countries that are rapidly ageing. Key findings of the report will shape UNDP assistance to countries as

they integrate the SDGs into national plans and policies.

UNDP partnered with the Viet Nam Academy of Social Sciences to deliver **Viet Nam's** 2015 National Human Development Report, *Growth That Works for All*. This groundbreaking report makes a case for an inclusive growth path—defined as rapid, sustainable, shared growth that leaves no one behind—and maps out a series of institutional and policy reforms to ensure that all Vietnamese realize their capabilities and full potentials. While maintaining a focus on Viet Nam's poor, the report also highlights the rising vulnerabilities faced by Viet Nam's emerging middle class. It recommends expanding productive employment, improving education and health care, and renovating the social protection system. The report provides innovative methods for tracking subnational development trajectories, finding that the best-performing areas have delivered balanced economic and social achievements.

**Mongolia's** 2016 National Human Development Report, *Building a Better Tomorrow: Including Youth in the Development of Mongolia*, called for equitable access to quality education, and urged actions to address non-communicable diseases, now a major health threat that often starts at a young

age. The report highlighted the need for the continued and effective engagement of youth in the economy, politics and development. Young people are more vulnerable to long-term unemployment and increasingly reluctant to vote, implying that the country's democratic institutions are not sufficiently responsive to their concerns.

In **Pakistan**, the 2016 National Human Development Report on youth stressed significant opportunities from a 'youth dividend', provided the country makes the right investments in quality education, gainful employment and meaningful engagement. Guided by an Advisory Council represented by major political parties, the Government and leading intellectuals, the report built on a comprehensive outreach process that included 130,000 individuals across the country, who expressed their ideas through surveys, consultations, research and social media exchanges.

# Countries trust UNDP's record of results...



**India** provided over a million social assistance benefits to HIV affected people.



40,000 voting sites for **Myanmar's** first-in-a-generation multiparty election.



Essential services restored for 300,000 people post-earthquake in **Nepal**.



**Maldives** climate adaptation pilot extended with first Green Climate Fund grant of \$23.6 million.

## Our ability to connect

### PEOPLE

South-South exchanges  
Problem-solving partnerships  
Citizen reporting

### IDEAS

Big data  
Design thinking  
Prototypes

### RESOURCES

Public-private  
Domestic-international  
Crowdfunding

## And to innovate



Point-of-sale terminals doubled the share of people with bank accounts in remote **Solomon Islands** communities.



A consortium of leading companies is rolling out online electronics recycling across **China**.

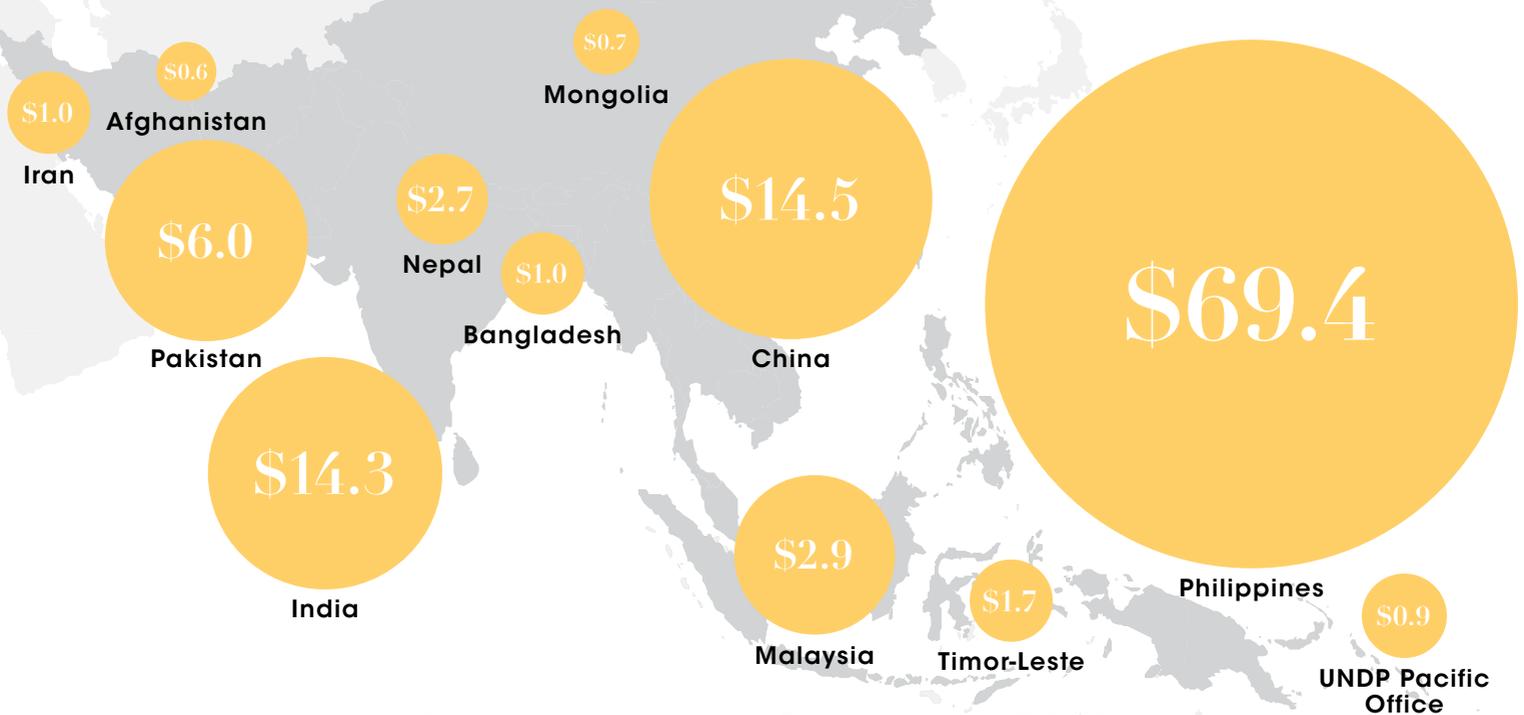


**Pakistan** tracked polling locations with a GIS system and kept elections peaceful.



Climate insurance with a quick payout sustains small farmers in the **Philippines**.

# More countries trust UNDP with their funds for high value programmes



Figures are in millions of US dollars. Country figures are for 2015–2016.  
Graphic reflects countries contributing more than \$400,000.  
Those contributing less than this amount include Bhutan, Indonesia, Maldives and Papua New Guinea.  
The backdrop indicates the region and the placement is indicative.

## Our common commitment: by 2030, sustainable progress for all

## Starting right now, together, we are aiming for transformation

# Shaping the Global Agenda in 2015-2016

**MARCH 2015**

The Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction aims to make the world more prepared by adopting the Sendai Framework for 2015-2030.



**JULY 2015**

The Third International Conference on Financing for Development forges agreement on financing the new sustainable development agenda.



**SEPTEMBER 2015**

193 UN Member States adopt the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs.



**OCTOBER 2015**

The United Nations marks its 70th anniversary.



**NOVEMBER–  
DECEMBER  
2015**

The United Nations Climate Change Conference negotiates the historic Paris Agreement on climate change, later signed by 175 world leaders.



**DECEMBER 2015**

UNDP's 2015 Human Development Report, *Work for Human Development*, rethinks the nature of work in today's world.



**FEBRUARY 2016**

UNDP celebrates its 50th Anniversary Ministerial Meeting.



**MAY 2016**

Political leaders at the World Humanitarian Summit agree to stand up for humanity, including by preventing conflict and ending need.



# UNDP-Supported Regional Events 2015-2016

**MARCH 2015**

The Government of the Philippines hosts a regional consultation to prepare for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.



**JULY 2015**

The 2014-2015 regional MDG report, *Making it Happen: Technology, Finance and Statistics for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific*, takes stock of MDG achievements and highlights priorities for achieving the 2030 Agenda.



**OCTOBER 2015**

The *Report of the ASEAN Regional Assessment of MDG Achievement and Post-2015 Development Priorities* reviews MDG experiences and outlines an ambitious policy framework for the 2030 Agenda.



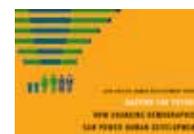
**OCTOBER 2015**

The Government of Malaysia hosts the Global Transformation Forum on transnational collaboration and transformational socioeconomic change.



**APRIL 2016**

UNDP's launches its regional Human Development Report, *Shaping the Future: How Changing Demographics Can Power Human Development*.



**JUNE 2016**

The Pacific Non-communicable Diseases Summit: Translating Global and Regional Commitments into Local Action tackles this emerging health concern for developing countries.



# II. UNDP at Work in the Region

## Sustainable Development

Sustainable development is a commitment to deeply rooted, transformative change. It calls for inclusive economies and societies that meet the needs of all people. It rests on sound environmental stewardship that supports human well-being without overstretching natural resources.

UNDP helps countries across Asia and the Pacific achieve sustainable development. We assist in crafting the right policies, building well-equipped institutions and services, and pursuing innovations that unleash rapid change. Countries at all stages of development draw on our expertise in tackling poverty and exclusion, and embedding environmental considerations in a range of development programmes, including to improve people's livelihoods.

Our solutions respond to pressing challenges, from diversifying economies so they deliver decent work, to fostering a fair sharing of the benefits of natural resources. Towards achieving the SDGs, we are a leading partner in measures to integrate the goals in national and subnational plans, mobilize financing and develop robust data to assess progress.



Highly vulnerable to climate change, Viet Nam aims to adapt agriculture to safeguard livelihoods, raise agricultural production and boost food security.



UNDP helps marginalized rural women in Bangladesh find decent work and play empowered roles in their communities.  
Photo credit: UNDP Bangladesh/Gazi Nafis Ahmed

# Diversifying economic opportunities

While **Timor-Leste** has been able to use large oil reserves to accelerate its development in recent years, UNDP is helping it avoid the 'resource curse' afflicting many countries highly dependent on a single natural resource. In 2015, we assisted with a draft national industrial policy to improve and diversify industries, boost business competitiveness and attract new sources of investment. Since small and medium enterprises power up economies

and generate a large share of jobs, a comprehensive study showed how to extend financial services that would unlock the potential of these businesses. Another analysis highlighted the merits of industry incubators to boost private sector dynamism, including among small processors of agricultural products.

UNDP also helped several model social businesses show how enterprises can simultaneously contribute to

economic, social and environmental aims. One recycling business, for example, oversaw the collection of more than 6 million bottles from the streets of Dili, the capital, while providing jobs for young people. Experiences like these made a convincing case for the Central Bank to launch the national Social Business Fund. It provides financial services and training to help other small businesses with a social purpose get off the ground.

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## *Bangladesh Communities Start to Solve the Problems of Urban Poverty*

Khadija Begum is one of the millions of poor people crowded into the sprawling slums of Bangladesh. At an earlier time, she lived in desperate straits, with no public services, not even a regular water supply. She and her husband struggled to take care of their children on meagre

wages as cooks.

And then they encountered Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction, a UNDP programme that has begun to transform the lives of Khadija and over 3 million slum dwellers like her. Under the programme's Settlement Improvement Fund, Khadija gained a safe water supply and clean sanitary facilities, as well as a proper footpath connecting her home to the road. By participating in a local savings group, she was able to set up a small business that improved the family income. As importantly, the programme taught Khadija leadership skills and urged her to speak up for herself and her community.

Empowered, Khadija successfully ran for a post as a local councilor and joined the local Women's Development Community. Today, her priorities include working to solve pressing problems in her community, such

**Over 3.5 million people in the region improved their livelihoods; more than half were women.**

# Scaling up social protection

**India** has a number of well-developed poverty reduction and social protection schemes, but it has only been recently that these have paid explicit attention to the distinct concerns faced by people living with HIV. Through UNDP assistance, over 100 state and central social assistance schemes extended benefits related to pensions, scholarships, travel allowances, subsidies for food and shelter, among others, to address the needs

of HIV-affected people. Lowering the pension age for spouses, for instance, recognizes that they may lose their partners at an earlier stage of life. So far, the schemes have responded to over a million requests for benefits, including multiple types of assistance for individuals with diverse requirements.

Almost 200 districts in areas with high HIV prevalence rates and/or high vulnerability have set up single-window service centres to connect peo-

ple to the full range of services that can improve their lives.

The experience has informed efforts to expand social protection to HIV-affected people in **Cambodia**. HIV-sensitive measures in survey instruments now allow the more precise identification of all poor urban households eligible for social protection schemes.

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as eliminating violence against women, preventing early marriages and promoting children's education—on top of serving as a role model for what she calls discouraged women in poverty.

“I always wanted to become a leader, but I didn't know how,” she says. “This programme gave me the opportunity to speak and be heard, and the skills and confidence to do more for my community.”

Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction ran from 2008 until 2015, and was the single largest urban poverty reduction programme in Bangladesh. Through it, in 23 towns and cities, poor and extremely poor people, especially

women and girls, saw improvements in health, education and living standards.

UNDP, by drawing together diverse expertise and building on strong partnerships, designed the programme to comprehensively tackle the many dimensions of urban poverty—a lack of income, poor housing, no political voice and inadequate services, among many others. Taking these on one at a time can leave little lasting impact, so the programme worked on them together, helping people transform their lives for the longer term. The starting point was the community itself, recognizing that people best understand their own needs and priorities.

Supported by the programme, groups of households created 2,600 community development committees, 90 percent of which are led by women. These are further grouped into federations at the municipal level, many of which are now represented within municipal governments, deepening the reach of democratic governance. Through the committees, slum dwellers have mobilized around community action plans and skillfully advocated for including these in municipal poverty reduction plans and budgets.

The committees helped slum dwellers create savings and loan groups that provided much-needed access to credit, while encour-

# Combatting threats to health

In partnership with the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) and the World Health Organization, UNDP has helped **Iran** develop and implement a comprehensive national strategy to eradicate malaria. Connecting the array of actions required to combat this debilitating disease, the plan guides

the reduction of mosquito breeding grounds, and has established over 400 diagnostic posts in remote and high risk rural villages. More than 3,700 local volunteers, mainly women, have been trained to educate their communities on malaria risks and encourage testing. Nearly 800,000 nets treated with insecticide have been distributed, and

1.5 million people trained to use them. By 2016, Iran could claim a 96 per cent reduction in annual local malaria cases since 2010. Over 800,000 people living in remote and socially and economically underdeveloped rural areas, who used to be at risk of malaria, now live in places free from the disease.

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aging people, often for the first time, to plan, invest in and aspire to higher standards of living. Almost 400,000 households were taking part in the groups by the end of 2015, and 93,000 women were running their own businesses. Committees also took actions to connect households to essential services, such as for clean water and health care, and to improve school attendance. They helped women in particular build skills and secure local employment opportunities.

A number of innovative urban planning processes were introduced. Settlement land maps presented some of the first comprehensive records of infrastructure and services in poor community, while a community contracting model opened doors for com-

munity-based organizations to participate in contracts for public services. Both are now used by municipalities across Bangladesh. In 2015, the World Bank agreed to finance the national scale-up of the Community Housing Development Fund, which makes low-cost financial services for housing improvements available to poor urban communities.

Lessons learned from Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction have become the foundation for the new National Urban Poverty Reduction Programme. It represents the first attempt to coordinate national and local actions to reduce poverty in cities, make development there more fair and inclusive, and build in resilience to climate change, given Bangladesh's vulnerability to

storms and rising sea levels. The programme aims to reach 6 million slum dwellers, scaling up many of the strategies that UNDP helped to introduce, with their value now well demonstrated by communities themselves.

## 14 countries adopted new partnerships to fund the sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystems, chemicals and waste.

### Sharing natural resource benefits

The fair sharing of natural resources helps make development more inclusive and sustainable. In **Sri Lanka**, a community forestry programme backed by UNDP allows poor households to use degraded government land as it is being reforested. People who live nearby can grow crops for food and income among newly planted sapling trees, which reduces the likelihood of encroachment on nearly 2 million hectares of mature local forests. Nearly 34,000 households have benefited so far, with income levels rising almost 36 percent. The government Forest Department, one of the country's largest landholders, plans to extend the strategy nationwide.

In **Bhutan**, a project financed by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) is bringing together local communities, deeply steeped in traditional knowledge of medicinal plants, with pharmaceutical companies testing new medications. The process is linked to a new national access and

benefit-sharing framework that spells out the rights and responsibilities of all parties. It aims at ensuring that communities are equitably involved in exploring new uses of natural resources, and draw direct benefits through economic opportunities that have otherwise eluded remote rural areas. Farmers learn about the framework as well as new cultivation techniques for promising plants.



A mobile app, "Baidu Recycle," connects users in 22 Chinese cities to legally certified e-waste disposal companies, like this one in Tianjin. Photo credit: UNDP China

# Innovation in Action

## Rethinking financial services to reach 1,000 islands

Five years ago, only 20 percent of people in the **Solomon Islands** had a bank account. Today, 40 percent do, largely through a partnership between the Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme, a joint initiative by UNDP and the United Nations Capital Development Fund, the Central Bank and a series of private banks. They worked together to overcome the geographical barriers of a country with 1,000 islands and many remote communities, developing a system involving point-of-sale terminals at small local shops where customers can deposit and withdraw cash using a swipe card. By the end of 2015, 195,000 new accounts had been opened, allowing people to save, invest and plan their finances in a way that had never been possible before.

## An e-waste app advances recycling

**China's** e-waste problem is huge—a staggering 65 million tonnes of discarded mobile phones, laptops and so on estimated by 2017. To step up recycling on a mass scale, UNDP partnered with Chinese tech giant Baidu to debut an app linking people with waste to businesses legally certified to recycle it. Available in 22 cities, the app has aided the safe and environmentally responsible processing of over 11,000 items.

Both the 2015 Global Solutions Summit and the MIT-sponsored Climate Co-Lab Contest 2015 recognized the app as a leading innovation. An alliance of leading companies has now joined the two founding partners and the Chinese Resource Recycling Association to back its expansion into a nationwide Internet-based e-waste management system. They include Intel, ROBAM Appliances, Midea, Joyoung, Changhong, Haier, Lenovo and TCL-Aobo.

## Next generation solutions to urban challenges

UNDP joined ASEAN, NIA Korea, United Nations Volunteers and the UN Global Pulse Lab Jakarta to launch the Big Ideas Challenge for Cities. It called on citizens across **South-east Asia** to share their ideas for solving public woes, improving resilience to disaster and fostering harmonious urban environments. Nearly 300 proposals streamed in from across the sub-region and the Republic of Korea and an outstanding set of solutions was selected, from maps for the blind to apps for public transport shortening queues to data collection making cities safer for women. The ideas are being widely shared to spur the next generation of innovations.



The 2015 Equator Prize winner Green Watershed works with indigenous peoples in China to develop agroforestry, ecological cropping, sound management of water resources and higher incomes. Photo credit: Green Watershed

# Protecting people and the planet

Among the winners of the 2015 Equator Prize, awarded to outstanding and innovative local initiatives that improve the well-being of people and their environment, was **China's** Green Watershed project. Funded by the GEF Small Grants Programme and implemented by UNDP, the project has helped two minority groups displaced two decades ago by a giant dam project in the Lashihai Lake watershed. Left without sufficient resources for their traditional methods of farming, they resorted to cultivation on hills, which caused devastating mudslides. Overfishing as people struggled to survive seriously depleted local fisheries.

Through the Green Watershed project, local communities formed autonomous associations to sustainably manage water and land resources. The collective adoption of agroforestry, for instance, has increased incomes and preserved over 1,300 hectares of mountain forest. Improved infrastructure provides reliable supplies of water for cooking and feeding livestock.

Protective forests have been planted to prevent landslides, and houses reinforced to resist earthquakes and snowstorms. The project has now become widely recognized in China as a model for poverty alleviation and watershed protection, as well as disaster preparedness.

**Nearly 700,000 people in 15 countries benefitted from improved natural resources management.**

# Democratic Governance and Peacebuilding

Democratic governance allows all citizens a voice in the decisions that affect them, whether through voting in elections or holding public officials accountable for delivering high-quality public services. As such, it is fundamental to development that is inclusive, stable and sustainable over time.

UNDP helps foster democratic governance through more responsive and transparent institutions. We assist in organizing credible elections, strengthening the effectiveness of parliaments, and bolstering the quality and inclusiveness of local governance. Our support backs the extension of quality public services to all citizens, particularly poor and marginalized communities, and reinforces the rule of law and citizen security through policies and laws as well as broadly accessible legal services.

As a trusted partner in Asia and the Pacific, UNDP fosters spaces for dialogue that encourage social consensus and reconciliation, and can cut the risk of conflict. In bridging the gap between humanitarian, peacebuilding and longer term development efforts, we help countries and communities resolve disputes, and progress towards a firm foundation for peace and democratic governance.



In India, 65-year-old Basi proudly holds a land deed in her name; it was secured at a "My Land" centre that provides rural women with information on land rights and resources for better farming.

Photo credit: UNDP India/Ruhani Kaur

In Myanmar, people celebrated successful elections in 2015,  
a testament to the strength of ongoing reforms.



# Assisting women's political participation

In **Mongolia**, as preparations geared up for elections in 2016, UNDP advocacy for women's political empowerment encouraged parties to increase women's share on party lists, which rose to 26 percent, exceeding a 20 percent quota. Women also saw gains in **Papua New Guinea's** autonomous region of Bougainville, where UNDP's extended support to the electoral process encompassed training women candidates. Four women, including two of the trainees, gained seats in

the 40-member House of Representatives. While their share of seats is still low, it signifies a slow but steady shift in a region where rates of women in office have traditionally been among the lowest in the world. Three of the women won seats reserved for women, but a fourth competed against men for an open constituency and won, another sign of progress. It was the first time in the history of Bougainville that a woman won an unreserved seat.

**Over 9.5 new people in the Asia-Pacific region registered to vote.**

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## *Myanmar Casts a Vote for a Peaceful Transition*

2015 was a historic moment in Myanmar, as it held its first multiparty general election in a generation. The fact that the poll came off successfully showed the strength of ongoing reforms and the faith of Myanmar's people, the vast majority of whom felt the election would shape the country's future. Thet Thet Win, the financial officer of a self-help

community group in the Ayerawaddy Region, echoing a common sentiment, proclaimed, "The ink on my finger means that I have voted, and I am really proud of that."

As one of the leading providers of electoral assistance around the world, UNDP supported the election in Myanmar from the beginning, through a series of measures aimed at keeping it secure and peaceful. The challenge was great, involving the establishment of 40,000 voting sites, even in areas with minimal roads and electricity. And the stakes were high, since polling intersected with a peace process meant to

guide a transition to long-term stability.

Any significant allegations of malpractices could have easily derailed the election, so UNDP worked closely with the Union Election Commission to detail needs for supplies vital to maintaining credibility. Following an assessment of the number of voters at each of the 40,000 polling stations, UNDP procured over 90,000 bottles of indelible ink, used to mark voters' fingers so they cast a vote only once. More than 51,000 solar-powered lamps were distributed to polling stations without reliable electricity so that they could remain open

# Improving laws and legal access

**Sri Lanka**'s recent efforts to firm up its foundations of democratic governance have included the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, approved by Parliament in 2015. The amendment, which drew on UNDP expertise, scaled back executive powers, reinstated nine independent oversight commissions on critical issues such as elections and human rights, and introduced procedures to oversee higher level judicial appointments. The amendment also introduced the principle of the right to information, which has already shaped a draft Right to Information Bill.

Eleven years of sustained UNDP support helped the **Maldives** reform its

penal code, including to ensure more uniform sentencing, and emphasize rehabilitation and social reintegration. To introduce the new code, UNDP assisted the development of the Legal Sector Resource Centre within the Attorney General's Office; it has trained over 98 percent of police officers and public prosecutors on the new legal concepts and practices.

In **Timor-Leste**, a system of mobile court sessions in 12 districts has extended access to justice among some of the most disadvantaged communities, while reducing large backlogs of pending cases. By 2015, more than 2,200 people had turned to the mobile courts to adjudicate

over 1,100 criminal and civil cases. This system has proven particularly valuable in protecting the rights of women; half the cases relate to gender-based violence.

UNDP supported **Fiji** for the first time to expand legal aid and other basic services to hard-to-reach rural areas and outer islands. A mobile service has already helped nearly 2,000 people. In **Nepal**, socio-legal aid centres expanded from 5 to 10 districts in 2015, serving nearly 5,400 people; another 26,000 received information from legal aid outreach programmes in those districts.

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**In 11 countries, Parliaments increased administrative and human resources capacities.**

after dark.

Improved coordination in managing the elections came through intensive training for 14 subnational electoral security management committees. Sessions delved into enhanced electoral security planning, risk reduction and enhanced communications across different levels of government. The training provided some of the first chances for committee members to work together and for members outside of the police to

contribute to security planning. This encouraged a shift from the traditional emphasis on stopping physical violence to a much greater focus on public safety and an environment actively fostering public participation.

Briefings for 400 candidates in 13 states and regions underscored how they could contribute to tranquil elections, including by acting in line with the established Code of Conduct for Political Parties and Candidates. Sessions

# Encouraging fully inclusive societies

A gender-responsive budgeting strategy can help assess and fill gender gaps in services and public resource allocations. UNDP has helped **Afghanistan's** Ministry of Finance develop such a strategy, now being implemented by six ministries covering an array of issues related to health, education, rural development and labour. All six ministries have established parameters to track service beneficiaries, 40 percent of whom are expected to be women in 2016. Several ministries have set aside specific funds to improve training for female staff. The Ministry of Women's Affairs has become a full member of the National Budget Committee to help oversee the process.

Support to the Ministry of Women's Affairs has also helped it to develop a gender policy review kit aimed at embedding gender priorities into national development strategies. This has, for instance, led the Ministry of Higher

Education to draft a policy for setting up a gender studies curriculum.

Children and youth represent the future, but still have little say in public decision-making, constraining the reach of democracy. **Bhutan** took a stand against this form of exclusion by launching the country's first Children's Parliament in 2015, developed by the Election Commission and the National Assembly with support from UNDP and the United Nations Children's Fund. Members come from a national network of Democracy Clubs where youth learn the principles and practices of electoral democracy. The Parliament will meet twice a year to debate top concerns for children and youth, with summary proceedings sent to the Prime Minister, Speaker of the National Assembly, Opposition Leader and other senior officials.

Across the **Asia and the Pacific region**, the Being LGBTI (lesbian,

gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex) initiative has increased attention to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. Under a partnership led by UNDP—involving the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions; regional civil society organizations; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization; among others—reports in eight countries comprehensively analysed the state of LGBTI rights. The findings drew widespread media attention and sparked public debates. More awareness and solid data are now fuelling advocacy across the region. In **Nepal**, civil society groups joined forces to push for a historic victory in the new Constitution, which explicitly protects gender and sexual minorities from discrimination.

clarified polling day procedures and electoral dispute resolution mechanisms, and corrected misconceptions. Civil society networks in seven states and regions disseminated information to educate voters, making special efforts to reach women, rural areas and

marginalized groups.

After the polls closed and the votes had been counted, international observers affirmed that the election had significantly strengthened the democratic process. People in Myanmar agreed. Voter turnout was high, and ready

access to information resulted in a soaring share of people feeling they could make informed decisions, from a mere 21 percent in the last poll in 2010 to 71 percent in 2015. Calm prevailed during the election and beyond, even where tensions initially had been high.

# Innovation in Action

## A GIS system helps keep polls free and fair

As **Pakistan**'s provinces of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Sindh and Islamabad completed a long-running exercise to extend democratic governance through electing local officials, UNDP worked with the Election Commission to help keep the polls free and fair. We turned to some traditional methods, such as voter education, which reached over 10 million women, encouraging many to vote for the first time.

We also pursued promising new strategies. In Islamabad, we assisted the Commission in piloting an innovative GIS scheme that made polling station details available online. This allowed voters to identify the correct place to vote, and aided the Commission

in complying with an election law requiring that stations be no more than two miles from where voters live. It reduced the possibility that stations might be moved at the last minute, a practice provoking widespread protests in the previous election. The scheme proved so valuable that the Commission plans to roll it out nationwide in the next general election, coupled with a mass information campaign to reach people without online access.

## SMS reporting cuts the cost of corruption

Corruption costs are high and pose a formidable challenge to **Papua New Guinea**. UNDP collaborated with the Australian telecom provider MobiMedia to prototype an SMS reporting system that sends warnings of corruption to a government watchdog. An initial pilot with staff in the Department of Finance resulted in 6,000 reports from over 1,500 users, the investigation of 251 cases of corruption and the arrest of two public officials for funds mismanagement entailing over \$2 million. This success led to the expansion of the pilot to six government departments involving 25,000 staff—towards the goal of eventually covering all of Papua New Guinea's nearly 84,000 civil servants.

## Foresight at the forefront of national development

UNDP engaged policy makers in **Sri Lanka** in putting foresight techniques and innovation at the forefront of the national development framework, including through a national summit headlined by the Prime Minister. Over 300 leaders from the worlds of government and business participated, learning about key concepts such as disruptive innovation, game-based foresight, big data, digital infrastructure, reimagining governance and sustainability. The event led to agreement on a Policy Innovation Lab, a private-public-people endeavour anchored in the Prime Minister's Office. It will offer scope for experimentation and social innovation aimed at effective public service delivery.



Health-care workers in India learn about eVIN, which provides real-time information on vaccine availability; it is expected to allow immunization of an additional 27 million new children each year.  
Photo credit: Prashanth Vishwanathan/UNDP India

# Ramping up services for a national reach

The quality of democratic governance can be measured in part through the provision of inclusive and effective public services. **Bangladesh** has drawn on UNDP's assistance to help establish nearly 5,300 digital service centres nationwide, mainly in areas with high rates of poverty and marginalization. The centres offer 102 public and private services, such as for birth registration, land records, passport applications, and access to email and the Internet. By the end of 2015, people had use them 216 million times. UNDP has also helped the Govern-

ment of Bangladesh establish an e-file document management system that processed 700,000 requests for information and services in 2015, with a 50 percent increase in response times. In the judicial arena, a pilot digital case management system has replaced the former system of manual entry. Mobile devices now record court cases, making the process faster and more efficient. Information is immediately uploaded online so it is readily available to different branches of the judiciary system as well as the public at large.

In **India**, UNDP helped design and roll out the Vaccine Intelligence Network, known as eVIN. It digitally records all vaccine supplies, and tracks their storage and distribution. Over 1,000 government staff have been trained in using the new system, and vaccine "stock-outs" have already fallen from 10 percent to less than 1 percent. Over time, this will make a major contribution to India's goal of immunizing all of its children, up from the current rate of 65 percent.

# Climate and Disaster Resilience

A changing climate presents an unprecedented challenge, with mounting risks from a range of natural hazards, such as floods, storms and drought. Many developing countries are not yet fully equipped to cope with the impact and are more likely to suffer harm, posing a threat that decades of development could be lost. Actions will be needed to reduce risks and build resilience across societies, in agriculture and health, energy and water resources, among many other areas of life.

UNDP helps countries in Asia and the Pacific mitigate and adapt to climate fallout, manage disaster risks and pursue greener growth. Our support aims to improve resilience and reduce the severity of crises. When a disaster does strike, people prepared with the right mechanisms can more quickly respond and speed recovery.

Around the region, we are working with countries in gaining access to significant sources of climate finance. We support the integration of climate and disaster risk management measures into development planning, guided by the SDGs as well as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Assistance with climate and disaster-risk related budget formulation and tracking systems helps countries bring together and manage development and climate finance, including to channel an equitable share of resources to the poor and vulnerable.



Nepal's 2015 earthquake was the worst in over 80 years, requiring immediate support to manage and remove rubble so people could resume their lives.

Photo credit: UNDP Nepal/Laxmi Prasad Ngakhushi

In Fiji, Faisal Ridwan, a debris clearance expert, helped youth play key roles in recovery from Tropical Cyclone Winston. Photo credit: UNDP Fiji/Romain Desclois



# Recovering from crisis

**Nepal's** devastating 2015 earthquake required a massive national and international response. UNDP coordinated diverse humanitarian actors to speed the transition from emergency action to early recovery, ensuring that various forms of support reached those who needed them most. Our own programmes restored livelihoods for nearly 12,000 people, provided emergency cash for work on house demolitions to 4,300 people and connected 7,500 people to renewable energy supplies. Around 3,800 private and public buildings were safely demolished after a series of vulnerability assessments.

We helped install pre-fab offices so multiple local government offices could restore vital public services

for 300,000 people. Legal aid desks allowed nearly 4,000 families in the district of Sindhupalchok to obtain identification cards and compensation for lost homes. A partnership with Microsoft developed a smart phone app that monitored reconstruction in real time, tracking, for instance, the demolition of buildings and the removal of debris, and ensuring that people in the cash-for-work programme were paid promptly. With the National Human Rights Commission, UNDP established mobile human rights clinics to protect against human trafficking and gender-based violence, among other violations.

Towards lessening the toll of future disasters, UNDP brought in engineering expertise to train 1,200 engineers

**Nearly 78,000 emergency jobs were created in crisis or post-crisis settings.**

and masons on the safe reconstruction of houses, and assisted in the development of safer building codes. Other support is helping the National Reconstruction Authority better equip emergency operation centres and create a system for community-based early warning.

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## *Cleaning Up Massive Debris after a Cyclone Hits Fiji*

Pouring rain in Nacodu village did not stop people from packing into the local primary school to learn about debris clearance.

Their community suffered some of the most severe damage when Tropical Cyclone Winston hit Fiji in early 2016. A once picturesque landscape had been obliterated by a mess of crumpled corrugated iron sheets, metal scrap and broken concrete, along with piles of coconut trees uprooted or snapped in half.

Nationwide, the cyclone left a trail of devastation for 540,000

people. Many lost homes and land vital to livelihoods. Some 120,000 people required shelter and access to schools and hospitals, many of which were destroyed. The United Nations immediately mobilized a humanitarian response to the crisis, with UNDP taking the lead on clearing debris and managing waste. We brought in top-level experts with experience from similar crises in Indonesia, Nepal, the

Philippines, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Longstanding relationships with national authorities helped define and channel resources to areas most in need.

In Nacodu, the villagers were willing to do whatever it took to restore normalcy, but had to be careful in handling the tons of debris. The session at the school spelled out what could be reused, what must be discarded, and what items might be dangerous. The villagers listened closely and asked questions. “How do we store the debris safely to avoid having it fly away during storms?” wondered Josvini, 27. Each query was answered in detail, and the session closed with the distribution of laminated sheets of pictographs to guide clearance and waste management. Shovels and sledge hammers were provided, along with protective equipment such as gloves and boots.

Within six weeks after the storm, in eight villages of Koro Island, including Nacodu, and 15 villages in Ra province, UNDP had jumpstarted mass debris removal in communities with some of the poorest families and most extensive damage. Hundreds of youth had joined a cash-for-work programme that prioritized the rehabilitation of basic community infrastructure and access paths to essential services for transport,

water sources, health services and so on. In Ra province, rapid debris clearance freed over 210 hectares of farming land so villagers could cultivate new crops and vegetables. Community sessions showed how to reuse timber and roofing iron to create home gardens on small plots that provide adequate and nutritious food for families as well as income.

Nationally, UNDP helped the Fijian Government quickly scale up overall management of the disaster response. New staff coordinated assessments to define recovery priorities, oversaw targeted food and seed distribution, and guided measures to protect women and children vulnerable to violence and other abuses. Partnership with the private sector pulled in additional support, with two traditional competitors from the telecommunications industry, Digicel and Vodafone, delivering free text messages on steps to stay healthy and safe to 200,000 of the most affected people.

Full recovery will take years, but UNDP has accelerated early progress by leading a post-disaster needs assessment. It maps the main socio-economic impacts of the cyclone, quantifying damages and losses in critical sectors of the economy, such as agriculture, as well as to infrastructure and services. In developing a framework

to guide longer term recovery actions and investments, UNDP has advocated activities that deliver on multiple fronts, such as public works projects that link employment and much-needed income with the restoration of communities and the natural resources on which they depend.

The cyclone has also underscored the urgency of expanding disaster risk management in Fiji, an area where UNDP is also providing support. As a Pacific island in the age of climate change, Fiji is in a vulnerable position geographically. But it can take steps now so that in the future, it is more resilient to whatever storms or other crises buffet its fragile shores.

**9 countries strengthened systems to manage climate finance.**

# Building resilience through adaptation

UNDP helps a growing number of countries pursue development that builds resilience by adapting to climate change. For over 6,000 of the poorest households in two provinces in **Cambodia**, shrinking fresh water supplies posed a serious threat. We helped install series of pumping wells, rainwater harvesting tanks, community ponds and water pumps powered by renewable energy. Improved access to water tripled the amount of rice paddy fed by irrigation; yields per hectare rose as much as 80 percent.

In three municipalities of **Timor-Leste**, UNDP is helping the Ministry of Public Administration, local administrations and communities climate-proof essential small-scale rural infrastruc-

ture, such as roads, bridges and water networks. Protective features such as drainage canals, diverters and retaining walls have been introduced, and local grasses, bamboos and other plant varieties are stabilizing slopes. So far, these moves have protected lives and livelihoods for nearly 70,000 people. They also help to ease burdens on scarce local financial resources, which can now be invested in infrastructure with a lower risk of damage.

Climate changes in **Mongolia** have increasingly threatened fragile areas in its mountains and steppes, and consequently, the livelihoods of rural herders, who struggle with more limited water resources and overgrazing. A UNDP partnership with the Ad-

aptation Fund has helped improve local ecosystems to protect both the herders and the environment on which they depend. An integrated water management plan has been put in place aimed at preserving existing resources and teaching farmers to use land and water sustainably, such as through advanced irrigation systems, pasture rotation and techniques to slow erosion. So far, 80 communities are involved in learning about these practices, while the restoration of water resources has rehabilitated 133,000 hectares of abandoned pastures. Protected watersheds—vital to the maintenance of entire water supply systems—have expanded by 6,000 square kilometres.

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# Curbing the pace of climate change

UNDP supported **Pacific** island states as they successfully argued for global agreement at the 2015 Paris climate talks to restrict the global temperature rise to less than 1.5 degrees Celsius. Above that level, fallout could be catastrophic, particularly for island nations. In the course of the year, we also helped these countries access over \$89 million in environment and climate financing and begin defining

national contributions to emissions reductions. **Samoa**, for instance, has set a target of having 100 percent renewable electricity generation by 2017.

Under the 2015 climate talks, **Viet Nam** made the first unconditional global commitment in the developing world to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, setting a target of 8 percent by 2030, or 25 percent with international support, compared to

a business-as-usual scenario. UNDP provided technical advice in formulating the commitment. We also back steps to 'green' Viet Nam, such as through improved fuel and energy efficiency standards, and incentives to invest in low-carbon development and renewable energy.



Despite massive flooding, children returned to school a month after Tropical Cyclone Pam struck Tuvalu due to speedy recovery efforts.

Photo credit: UNDP Pacific Office

# Managing risks on a national scale

In **Bhutan**, an earthquake in 2015 sparked heightened national debate on disaster preparedness. UNDP responded through support for a new National Disaster Management Authority complemented by disaster management committees in all 20 districts of the country. **Mongolia** used UNDP assistance to develop a National Disaster Management Plan and programme for risk reduction that includes extending an early warning system to 75,000 people. Similar efforts are underway to help establish early warning systems in **Papua New Guinea** and **Tuvalu**, including to reach the remote outer islands of the latter.

The Maldives established a National Disaster Management Authority in 2015 along with a national emergency operation plan. UNDP assisted this process, while supporting a series of climate adaptation measures. Two islands tested coastal protection and flood risk management options, in-

cluding through the use of geotex sandbags and revegetation, and underground drainage that uses gravity to reduce floods while replenishing groundwater. Small grants, mainly for youth organizations, have aimed at improving the local environment and economy. They have, for example, allowed a youth group to place special baskets in the ocean that encourage coral to grow and increase fish yields.

As part of national efforts to manage fallout from natural hazards and climate change in the **Philippines**, UNDP developed a simple guide for local governments to assess risks to vital parts of the local economy, such as agriculture and fisheries, as well as health, infrastructure and water supplies. This information, captured in tools such as multi-hazard maps, can guide development planning geared towards lowering risks and strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities. Metro Manila piloted

a climate exposure database that fed detailed information into multi-hazard maps covering 17 local governments and four adjoining provinces. The resulting Integrated Metro Manila Contingency Plan is the first of its kind in the country. Coordinated earthquake drills have been among early implementation measures.

In response to the El Niño phenomenon, UNDP partnered with Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for Africa and Asia or RIMES to develop a methodology for assessing social, economic and environmental impacts so that countries can take measures to minimize potential losses and build resilience. Pulse Lab Jakarta has been engaged to devise an El Niño dashboard for **Asia and the Pacific** that will use graphic presentations to show risk and seasonal forecasting data.

# Innovation in Action

## Insuring against climate vulnerabilities

Climate insurance for smallholder farmers is among the new financial services that help people contend with climate change. It is affordable, readily accessible and geared towards smaller farms that still largely dominate agriculture in developing economies. In periods when, for example, drought leaves crops shriveling in the fields, insurance for the most vulnerable farmers can mean protection from permanently losing their land and livelihood.

In partnership with the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation, the Philippine Rice Research Institute, the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration and several banks, UNDP has helped introduce a climate insurance product in the **Philippines** that provides a quick

payout in less than 10 days. This enables small farmers to restart their livelihoods during the same season, a critical cushion for people who have few other resources to recover. The insurance reduces a barrier—payouts requiring months—that had discouraged use by smaller farmers in the past.

## Finding a bus to fight traffic congestion

Snarls of traffic in Dhaka, the capital of **Bangladesh**, cost \$4.6 billion a year in lost time, fuel and health consequences, among other elements. That's the annual income of over a million citizens. But many people felt they had no choice but to commute by cars and scooters, since public transport seemed too unreliable.

Enter a solution pioneered by UNDP with the Bangladesh Road and Transport Corporation and Go-BD, a local start-up. It placed GPS trackers on buses, linked to a mobile app showing where the buses are and how the traffic is flowing (or not). By the end of 2015, commuters had used the app nearly 34,000 times on one bus route alone, with some commenting that it has become the best way to navigate around their congested city.

## Making new tools work for social change

Across the **Asia and the Pacific** region, UNDP is bringing people from all walks of life together to solve problems through dynamic new tools such as crowdfunding and crowdsourcing. In **Thailand**, crowdsourcing identified innovations to reduce disaster risks, with the best now being further developed by 23 partner organizations from civil society and the private sector. Indonesia's "Bring Water for Life" campaign used crowdfunding to provide a remote village with a solar-powered system to pump clean drinking water, saving time and improving health. In the **Maldives**, young people shared their *salhi halleh* (cool ideas) on inspiring social change through a dedicated Facebook page, with standouts further incubated through an innovation camp and seed funding.

# III. Scaling Up to Meet Great Aspirations

The high aspirations of the Asia and the Pacific region, bolstered by the 2030 Agenda, underscore the importance of scaling up action to reach all people and sustain progress over time. UNDP stands behind many development innovations that can help unleash transformative changes. At the same time, we draw on a long history of proven strategies and a nearly universal presence, allowing us to see that what delivers well in one country may offer value when adapted in another.

Within nations, we are equipped to pilot new approaches in one locality, extend them to other areas, and help countries

integrate the most successful cases in national policies and investments. This process is at work in Bangladesh through the mass extension of essential services, in the Solomon Islands through the first mass penetration of financial services across a 1,000-island territory, and in Viet Nam through its commitment to pivot towards a green economy.

Our orientation towards big-picture outcomes—sustainable development, democratic governance and resilience to crisis—allows us to connect diverse issues, build on the ways they reinforce each other, and respond flexibly to national needs.

## Mobilizing finance for the climate challenge

Across Asia and the Pacific, UNDP has helped countries put sustainable development commitments into public budgets, one of the most direct routes to scaled-up action. Our introduction of the first Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review in Nepal had been replicated in more than 30 countries by 2015, including



Malaysians explore innovative solutions to public sector transformation.  
Photo Credit: UNDP Malaysia



Climate and glacier data monitoring aid Bhutan in managing climate change adaptation.  
Photo credit: LDCE, UNDP Bhutan

in Africa and Latin America. The exercise provides a comprehensive mapping of climate change issues as a basis for steering and apportioning sufficient climate finance. As climate change accelerates, the reviews help reorient development planning to build in greater resilience.

**China, Pakistan and Viet Nam** launched reviews in 2015. China is using its review to track progress towards its target of devoting 20 percent of public expenditures to climate change. **Cambodia** completed a climate finance framework based on an earlier review that has already helped guide budget proposals to boost climate-resilient agriculture. **Bangladesh** has adopted climate finance frameworks for planning and budgeting on the national and local levels, with around 7 percent of public spending now geared towards tackling climate issues. Through a comprehensive development finance assessment supported by UNDP, it has also set up a sophisticated

**10 countries  
gained greater  
access to climate  
financing.**

new system linking official development assistance, South-South cooperation and climate finance in one package connected to the national budget.

With rising demand for expertise in managing climate finance, UNDP introduced a series of new knowledge tools related to the Climate Public Expenditure and Institutional Review in 2015, including a methodological guidebook launched at the 2015 regional meeting on Climate Change Finance and Sustainable Development, an analysis of lessons learned worldwide, and a study of climate budget tagging based on experiences in four Asia and the Pacific countries.

In 2015, UNDP became one of the first international organizations accredited as an implementing agency of the Green Climate Fund, which operates under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. With our assistance, within a few months after the historic Paris Agreement on Climate Change, **Maldives, Sri Lanka, Tuvalu and Viet Nam** obtained more than \$120 million from the fund. Similar support is underway for another 12 countries in the region.

The first round of approvals included a \$23.6 million grant for climate change adaptation in the **Maldives**. It will build on a

pilot UNDP project on three islands that set up integrated water resource management systems to harvest rainwater, recharge ground water and supply desalinated water during dry periods. For the first time, 6,000 people were connected to an uninterrupted supply of safe freshwater for drinking and household use. The Green Climate Fund grant will extend similar efforts to 49 islands suffering recurrent water shortages.

## **Bringing the private sector on board**

Over the last decade, the Government of **India**, its Ministry of Steel and UNDP have partnered to introduce a range of technologies to improve energy efficiency in the secondary steel industry. Through technical assistance, customized solutions and skills development, the partnership has set benchmarks for energy efficiency and strengthened vendor networks. As a result, the production of almost 10 percent of total steel produced by 330 steel units

consumes less energy, saving 400 million units of electricity, equal to lighting 3,000 villages.

The partnership has been notable in achieving significant buy-in from the private sector, with much of the investment in cleaner production processes driven by small mill owners. An initial investment of \$13 million in public grants by the Ministry of Steel, AusAid and UNDP leveraged \$22 million in private investment. To raise awareness about energy efficient technologies, multiple approaches have been adopted, including peer-to-peer learning and e-networks that allow business owners to share ideas and challenges, and enable regular interactions with industry associations.

## Leveraging local and international resources

In Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province and Federally Administered Territories, lawlessness once went unchecked by weak judicial and security sys-

tems, devastating development prospects in an already poor region. Improved rule of law was critical to staunching the violence and building peace and trust, so UNDP began working to improve the effectiveness of judicial institutions and increase access to justice within communities themselves. The programme started in three districts, but soon expanded to all seven of those most affected by conflict, co-financed by the government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, a first. A consortium of international donors has further expanded support.

In 2016, the Pakistan Institute of Legislative Development and Transparency released Pakistan's first-ever Provincial Rule of Law Index; Khyber Pakhtunkhwa captured the highest rating. This was supported by a UNDP study that found a pronounced shift in people going to local courts and police in cases of disputes, rather than relying on traditional community mechanisms.

The programme connected different parts of the judicial system to strengthen it as a whole. Assistance to lower courts cut case backlogs by 12 percent. The development of a legal aid system, which included outreach to build awareness among nearly 46,000 marginalized women, later became the basis for a national legal

aid strategy.

Training has improved skills across diverse members of the justice and security sectors. The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Judicial Academy, operational since 2011, has trained over 2,000 judicial officials, while support through scholarships and the payment of attorney licenses helped 40 women become lawyers. The renovation of dormitories and provision of daycare facilities at the Police Regional Training Centre has encouraged a large share of women trainees, who have comprised over a third of 1,500 trained police personnel.

In 2015, UNDP supported the development of judicial guidelines on court-annexed alternative dispute resolution mechanisms as well as a paralegal course to support such mechanisms, reduce case backlogs and make justice more accessible. Eighteen model police stations were set up to perform community policing and offer gender-responsive policing desks.

# Connecting countries to share experiences

UNDP helped the Republic of Korea work with six developing countries, including Bolivia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Rwanda, Uganda and Viet Nam to scale up a comprehensive, multifaceted rural development model known as Saemaul Undong. It applies successful experiences in the **Republic of Korea**, with an emphasis on inclusion and sustainability.

In **Viet Nam**, with UNDP's support, community empowerment and self-help approaches have been introduced in eight provinces. Local officials have learned advanced skills to better administer integrated rural development programmes, resulting in better quality services. Thousands of poor households now participate

in shaping and implementing the programmes, and have improved their livelihoods. For the country as a whole, community-based development and multidimensional poverty concepts have been fully integrated in the new National Targeted Programmes on Sustainable Poverty Reduction and New Rural Development, which will be rolled out in the poorest rural communities.

Volunteers staff community radio stations in Lao People's Democratic Republic that offer local shows reaching 285,000 people.  
Photo credit: UNDP Lao People's Democratic Republic/Chelsey Parish



## Helping communities aim higher

Information, even on essentials such as basic health measures, has traditionally been in short supply in rural areas of **Lao People's Democratic Republic**, especially for ethnic minorities speaking only local languages. Development has lagged significantly behind as a result. But now, community radio is showing the way forward, supported by UNDP. Initially, three stations reached more than 80,000 people in the poorest and most remote regions of the country. The stations encourage local people to participate and make their voices heard, in their own languages, on key development concerns. They also offer programmes grounded in local cultures and equipped to

spread messages aimed at improving people's well-being.

In one area, health education programmes have spurred a 50 percent jump in vaccination rates and a 70 percent increase in women using health facilities during pregnancy. Today, eight stations reach 285,000 people. A network of local volunteers has been trained to manage the stations, which have now garnered support from local governments, the private sector and other international organizations.

Lack of water remains a major challenge in the **Philippines**, particularly in poor and vulnerable areas. Working with 26 communities with constrained or non-existent supplies, including some considered severely marginalized, UNDP took a new approach to extending access. It started by establishing local governance structures that brought local citizens into decisions about planning and paying for services as well as

controlling losses and corruption. The structures include local water and sanitation councils, which link into regional networks of academic institutions, water service providers and civil society groups. The last help in strengthening community capacities to demand that water management meet their needs. A local customer service code defines the roles and responsibilities of local governments and service providers.

By 2015, all communities had extended services to at least 50 percent of households; some had reached 100 percent. Local budget resources allocated to water supplies had risen sevenfold. UNDP is now helping to scale up the model in 12 additional communities, with funding from the national water programme. The process is building on established good practices and introducing an integrated approach to safe water, sanitation and hygiene.

# Where We Go from Here:

## IV. Meeting Changing Needs

In an era of large challenges and equally high ambitions, progress sufficient to attain inclusive and sustainable development will require linking diverse partners and issues, capacities and institutions, and sources of knowledge and finance. At the heart of the UN development system, serving as an integrator and connector, UNDP is positioned to help countries make these links.

As the world embarks on the journey to the 2030 Agenda, our partner governments have emphasized our credibility and transparency, referring to the value of our cross-country, cross-sectoral approach. Increasingly, our

close alignment with nationally ‘owned’ development priorities has encouraged governments to dedicate their own funds to our programmes, leveraging combined national and international resources to deliver greater results.

### **Aiming for integration**

In realizing the 2030 Agenda, UNDP will support national efforts to orient development

models to balance all three dimensions of sustainable development—social, economic and environmental. We are already working with countries in the Asia and the Pacific region to develop an integrated set of services to address SDG planning, prioritization, budgeting, financing, implementation and monitoring.

As SDG implementation rolls forward, we will assist countries in defining priority areas under the overarching agenda of achieving sustainable development. This will include assessing consistency between the goals and national, sector and sub-national plans, analysing gaps and bottlenecks, and



Fisherman Nestor Oguingag rebuilds homes as part of a cash-for-work project aimed at helping people in the Philippines recover from frequent typhoons.  
Photo credit: UNDP



UNDP partnered with Microsoft to roll out a mobile app for managing debris and emergency employment after the 2015 Nepal earthquake.

Photo credit: UNDP

# Launching a world centre for disaster data

At the 2015 World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, UNDP launched the Global Centre for Disaster Statistics in partnership with Tohoko University, **Japan**. As a world centre for the study of disaster risk reduction and recovery, it will help improve systems for producing disaster statistics and analysis of social vulnerabilities, including to capture damages and losses, monitor measures to reduce risks and guide development investments.

It will also support reporting on goals and targets under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the 2030 Agenda. UNDP has partnered with UNESCAP to develop guidelines on improved monitoring and reporting of disaster-related statistics.

aiding the insertion of the goals in national frameworks. It will entail managing trade-offs, and maximizing synergies that deliver the strongest results and make the most of invested resources. In advocating the principle of leaving no one behind, UNDP will urge countries to aim high and go beyond averages, ensuring that the SDGs as a whole reach all regions, communities and population groups.

Through our roles as a connector and facilitator, we will help in mobilizing finance from diverse sources, national and international, public and private. We will also stand by efforts to align government budget and tax systems to deliver on the SDGs, including to back the right priorities and make investments on time, with strong value for money.

A UNDP-devised tool called the Development Finance Assessment is already helping countries construct integrated national financing frameworks to implement the SDGs. These assessments provide planning, finance and other ministries with data and analysis on changing trends in development finance, and recommendations to manage different sources to achieve national priorities. **Papua New Guinea** has used a Development Finance Assessment to formu-

late a new Development Finance and Aid Policy, while **Viet Nam** has applied findings for national dialogue on development cooperation and the reform of foreign direct investment policies.

Identifying innovations and development ‘accelerators’ will guide cost-effective investment in interventions that yield multiple dividends, such as women and girls’ empowerment, and energy access that contributes to greener growth and poverty reduction. As solutions emerge, we will regularly canvas for examples that are most innovative and impactful, and widely share them across countries facing similar issues.

In working with national and international institutions, we will encourage mechanisms that break down silos by encouraging collaboration and cross-sector coordination. Other support will help develop systems to produce and apply quality data, disaggregated to capture differences among different population groups, and in line with the data revolution called for by the comprehensive SDG targets and indicators. Effective monitoring of results will keep progress on track.

## Co-financing a better future

Asia and the Pacific, on the whole, is today a more prosperous region, where revenues for development mainly come from within countries themselves. Governments increasingly see the value of co-financing UNDP support finely attuned to their top priorities, and in line with their commitment to the 2030 Agenda. Since UNDP’s continued presence in countries attracts resources from external financing, co-financing brings financial returns.

In 2016, regionally, we aim for co-financing to reach 10 percent of total resources for our country programmes as a whole, with some country offices having already significantly exceeded this share.

During the year, for example, UNDP signed a \$60 million government co-financing agreement with the Department of Education in the **Philippines**. UNDP will provide procurement and capacity building services to strengthen procurement management and project implementation in one

More than 160 ministers, Heads of State and Government, and other senior officials commemorated UNDP's 50th anniversary in 2016.

Photo credit: UNDP



of the country's top-spending agencies. The process will boost access to education and improve its quality from kindergarten to grade 12. Greater citizen participation in monitoring education will enhance public accountability and strengthen local governance in over 600 municipalities.

UNDP and **India's** Ministry of Finance have established a funding instrument known as the Development Support Services. It entails UNDP implementing priority activities funded through the national budget. These are based on government demand for specific services to accelerate implementation of flagship programmes, nationally and at the state level, and aimed at longer term development of national capacities to sustain the services. To date, the government has devoted \$45 million to start and scale up initiatives for rural sanitation, energy, housing, disaster risk reduction, skills development, the nurturing of small and medium enterprises, and financial inclusion.

In **Pakistan** in 2015, the Planning Commission provided \$7 million to UNDP for civil service reform. Another agreement finalized in early 2016 dedicated an additional \$7 million for localizing the SDGs at the national level and in one pilot province.

A new set of services provides implementation support to provincial and local governments as they carry out development plans and programmes.

The Government of **Palau** committed \$40,000 to produce a Household Income and Expenditures Survey Analysis report, and is now allocating additional resources to start a local governance project with UNDP to develop skills in four state governments.

## On-demand, tailored support

UNDP, over its 50 years, has supported countries at many stages of human development. This experience allows us to respond to a wide range of country demands, whether those of a small island state at high risk from climate change, or those of a country that has done well in recent years on national averages but still faces stark disparities among different regions and social groups, or those of an emerging economy poised to offer new forms of assis-

tance to other developing nations. We recognize that in achieving the SDGs, some countries require relatively light support, such as through specific types of policy expertise. In small and fragile states, UNDP will help meet the challenges of weak capacities and limited resources.

In the coming years, UNDP will build on traditional strengths. We will continue helping countries develop institutions and capacities, assist in managing the risks of crisis, and respond quickly and comprehensively if disaster strikes. We will also pursue new directions as issues emerge and evolve, as demonstrated by recent leadership on issues such as urbanization, youth, ageing and the demographic dividend. Our growing track record in the innovative use of technology to accelerate change will receive continued emphasis, particularly in reaching marginalized communities, and encouraging voice and participation.

UNDP also plans to support efforts to deepen regional integration, whether to build bond markets to facilitate development finance or ensure more reliable energy supplies. In response to demands from governments across the region, we will advise on practical ways to engage the private sector in achieving the

SDGs, including through partnership strategies and monitoring frameworks that keep consistent progress towards the goals on track.

## **A broker of knowledge and expertise**

Within the Asia and the Pacific region and around the world, UNDP regularly tests solutions to pressing development challenges and identifies those that have worked well. With developing countries increasingly in search of adaptable solutions from other countries at similar stages of progress, we are strengthening our internal and external knowledge networks to pull in the most relevant ideas and information, on demand, and tailored to country context. A number of our country programmes in the region have embedded South-South and triangular cooperation objectives, as a step towards scaling up these exchanges and offering systematic support.

Among partner developing

countries with a stronger economic position, and on their way to becoming sources of development cooperation in their own right, we are helping to make cooperation strategies and investments fully compatible with the SDGs. Some priorities include supporting poverty reduction, the sustainable management of environment resources, the extension of social services and support systems, and infrastructure projects, to name just a few.

# A UNDP country programme adjusts its strategic approach—and its financing

**Malaysia's** 11th national development plan for 2016-2020 is among the first of its kind to align with the core 2030 Agenda principles of inclusion and sustainability, and integrate the SDGs. The plan emphasizes assisting poor and marginalized groups as well as lagging states, ramping up efforts to attain gender equality and adopting green growth strategies. UNDP helped introduce a more comprehensive measure of poverty and steps to improve the quality of subnational data. Socio-spatial and GIS data mapping have already informed strategies to improve housing and services in low-income communities.

With Malaysia well on the way to becoming a high-income nation in the next few years, the plan is primarily self-financed, underscoring the shrinking role of international

assistance. UNDP has responded to this shift in the design of its own country programme and the model to finance it.

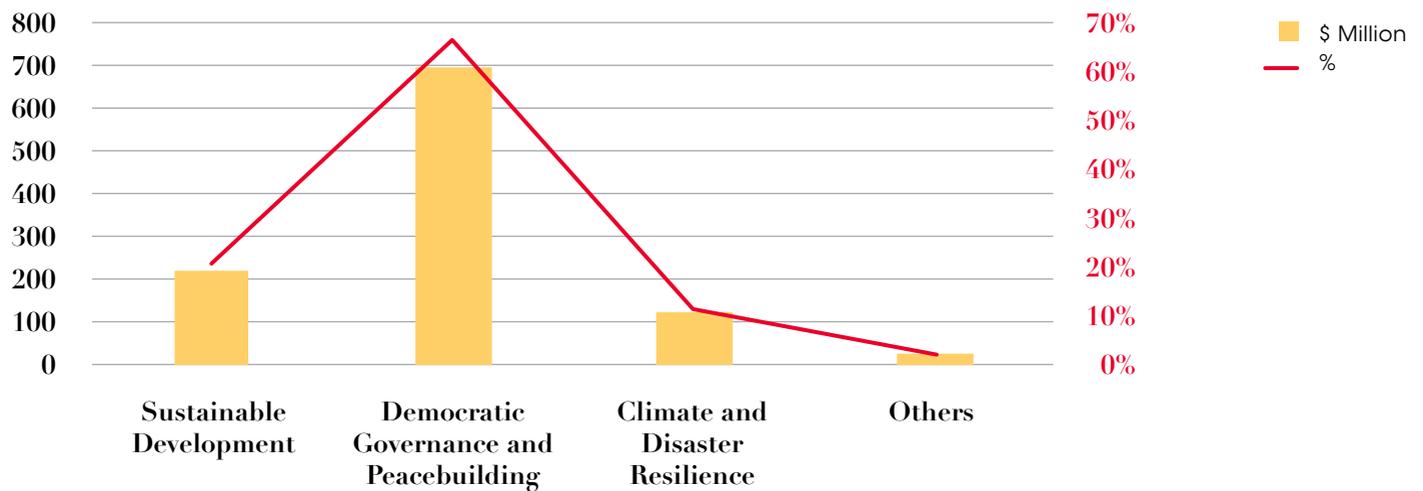
In close partnership with the Central Planning Ministry and line ministries responsible for different parts of the national plan, UNDP grounded its country programme in responding to remaining national and sub-national development challenges, prioritizing inclusive growth and climate-resilient development. Over the next five years, UNDP will help bolster capacities for analysis that links multiple dimensions of development and provides rigorous evidence for policy-making. We will assist in strengthening public service quality, and enhancing the voice of citizens in steering the course of national development. More engagement with non-state actors will

seek to accelerate the pace of development, particularly in vulnerable communities.

The country programme is in part backed by government co-financing. This is geared towards whole-of-government approaches to develop more systematic coordination across different institutions and consistent alignment of all policies behind the objectives of the national plan. Other priorities are the scale-up of proven development innovations and support for research and development linked to national plan objectives. For the first time, the UNDP programme offers a new fee for services mode, so that the government, as needed, can secure technical and policy advisory services through UNDP's national, regional and global networks of experts.

# V Financial Resources

## Expenditures in Asia and the Pacific by Area of Work, 2015

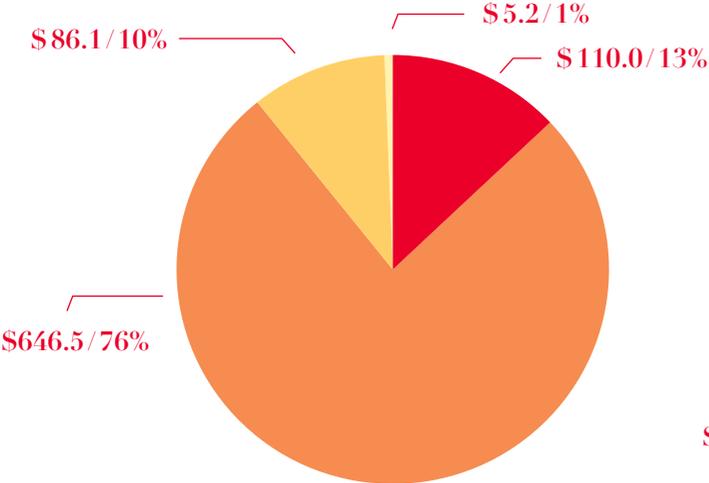


Source: UNDP Executive Snapshot as of 31 July 2016.

# UNDP Asia and the Pacific Expenditures in Low- and Middle-Income Countries by Area of Work, 2015

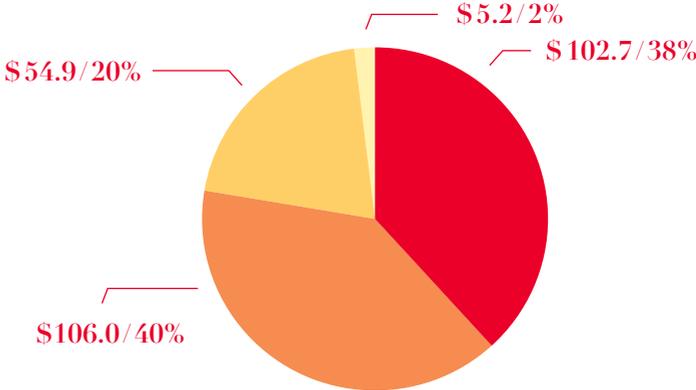
## LOW-INCOME COUNTRY EXPENDITURES

with Afghanistan in millions \$



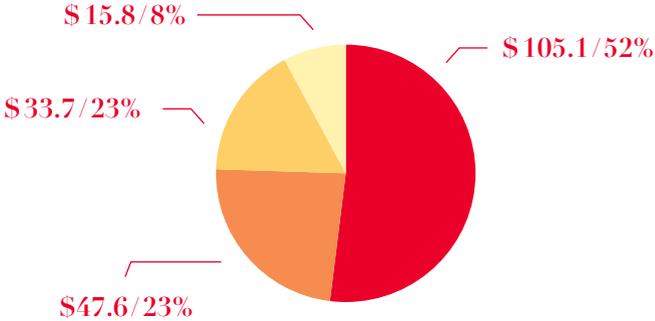
## LOW-INCOME COUNTRY EXPENDITURES

without Afghanistan in millions \$



## MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRY EXPENDITURES

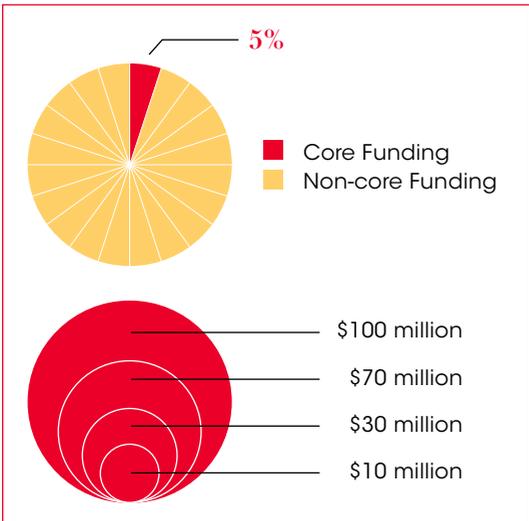
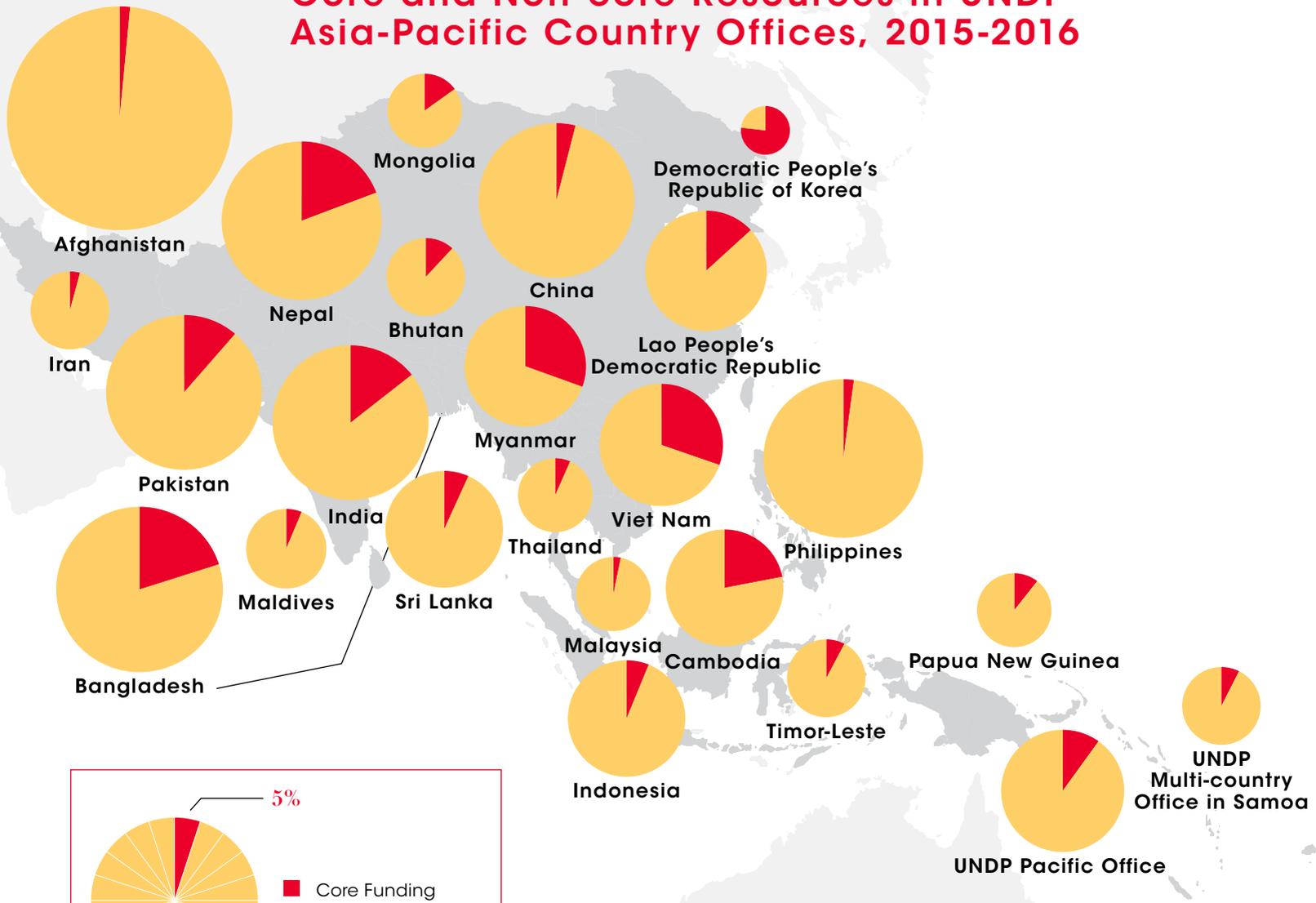
in millions \$



- Sustainable Development
- Climate and Disaster Resilience
- Democratic Governance and Peacebuilding
- Others

Source: UNDP Executive Snapshot as of 31 July 2016.

# Core and Non-core Resources in UNDP Asia-Pacific Country Offices, 2015-2016

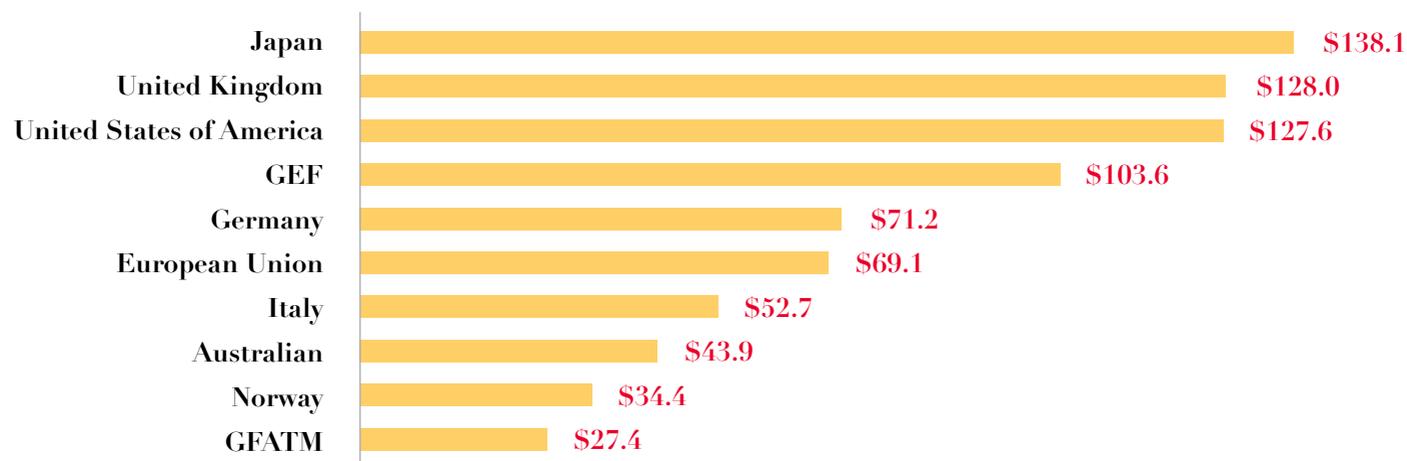


**Source:** 2015 data taken from UNDP Executive Snapshot as of 31 July 2016. 2016 delivery projection data taken from UNDP Asia-Pacific Bureau as of July 2016.

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The backdrop indicates the region and the placement of the delivery pie chart is indicative.

## Top Donors to UNDP in Asia and the Pacific, 2015

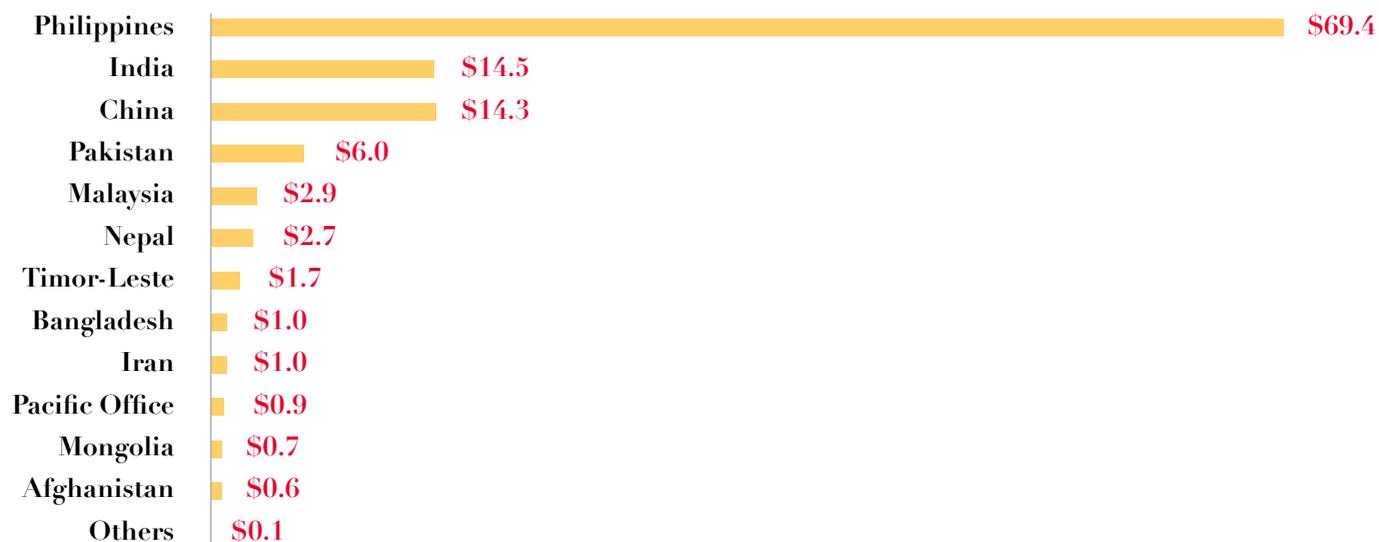
in millions \$



Source: UNDP Executive Snapshot as of 31 July 2016.  
These do not include Government Co-financing partners reflected below.

## Government Co-financing, 2015-2016

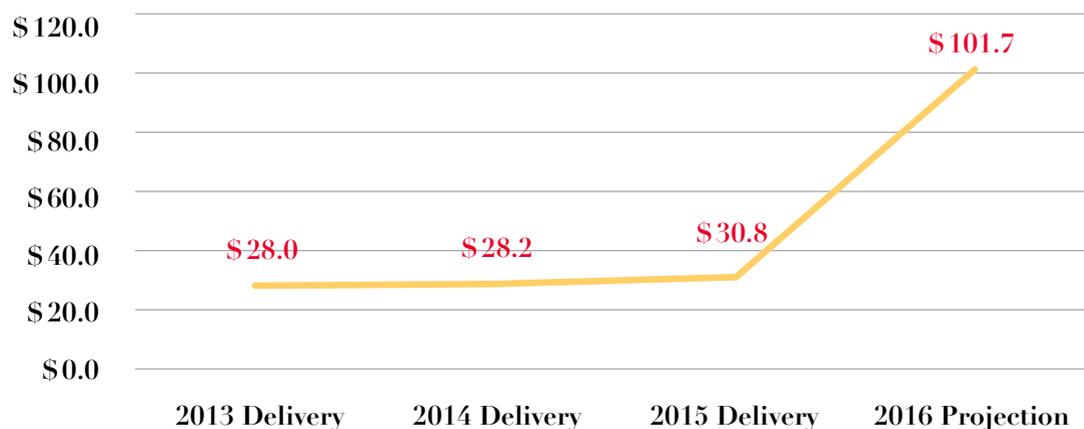
in millions \$



Source: UNDP Executive Snapshot as of 31 July 2016.

## Government Co-financing in Asia and the Pacific 2013 Actual Delivery through 2016 Projected Delivery

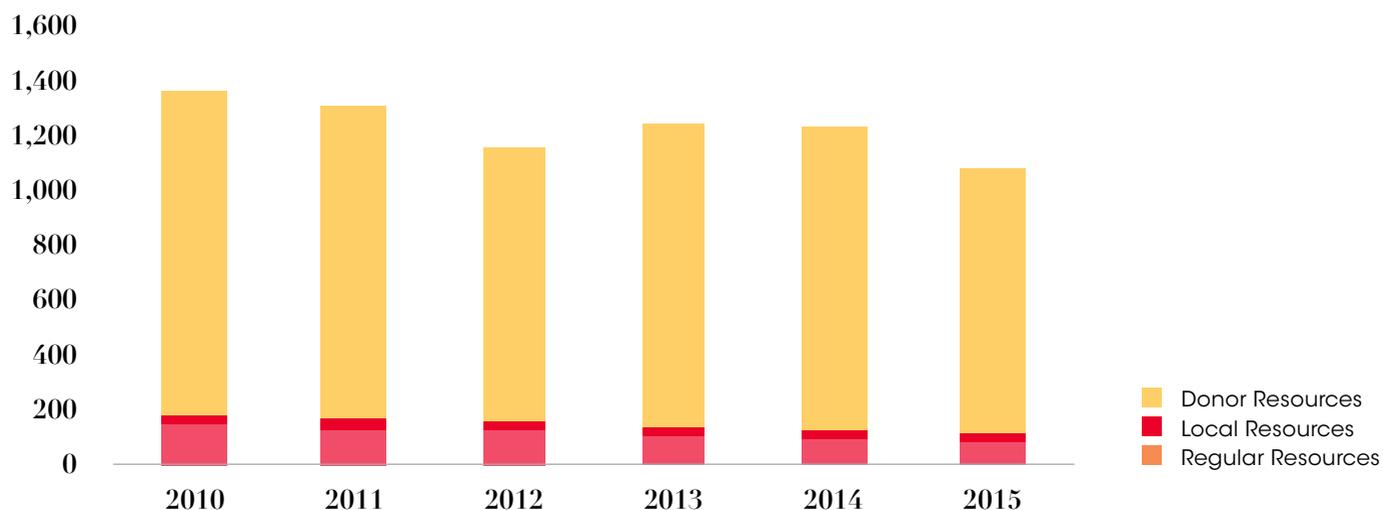
in millions \$



**Source:** 2013, 2014 and 2015 data taken from UNDP Executive Snapshot as of 31 July 2016. 2016 projection data on government co-financing taken from UNDP Asia-Pacific Bureau as of July 2016.

## UNDP Expenditures in Asia and the Pacific, 2010-2015

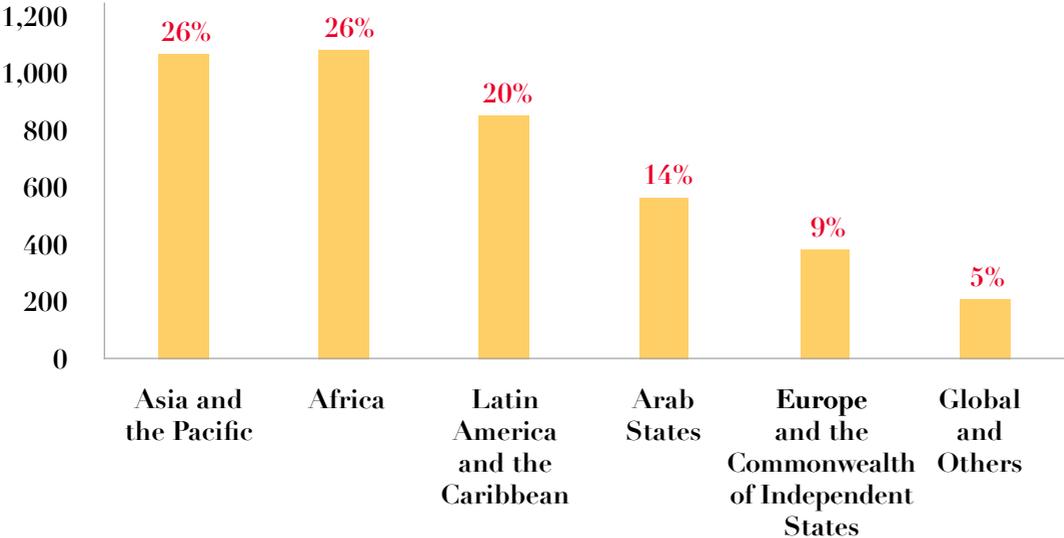
in millions \$



**Source:** UNDP Executive Snapshot as of 31 July 2016.

# UNDP Programme Delivery by Region, 2015

in millions \$



Source: UNDP Executive Snapshot as of 31 July 2016.



# Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific

## 2015-2016 RESULTS REPORT

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Graphic design: Cristina Ottolini

Printing: Beijing Han Xiang Rui Sheng Graphic Design Co., Ltd.

### ACRONYMS

ASEAN: Association of Southeast Asian Nations

GEF: Global Environment Facility

GFATM: Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

GIS: Geographic information system

GPS: Global positioning system

HIV: Human immunodeficiency virus

LGBTI: Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex

MDGs: Millennium Development Goals

MIT: Massachusetts Institute of Technology

SDGs: Sustainable Development Goals

UNDP: United Nations Development Programme

UNESCAP: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Data source for margin text: UNDP Integrated Results and Resources Framework, March 2016.



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