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Turkey-UNDP Partnership Framework Agreement

Progress Report for 2016 and Priority Areas for Cooperation in 2017



Turkey-UNDP Partnership Framework Agreement: Progress Report for 2016 and Priority Areas for Cooperation in 2017 March 2017

This document outlines the progress in 2016 of the expanded cooperation between the Government of Turkey and UNDP in the context of the Partnership Framework Agreement (PFA) signed in March 2011. It also presents an overview of the priorities for 2017 in line with the ongoing activities from 2016. As such, it will serve as background material for discussion at the Annual Partnership Dialogue between Turkey and UNDP scheduled for 27 March 2017.



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Background

Since 1957, UNDP and Turkey have had a long-standing partnership in development cooperation. In recent years, Turkey has consistently demonstrated its commitment to multilateral development, especially to cooperation with the UN system and UNDP in particular, in a number of areas of mutual priority. Turkey has also shown strong interest in supporting and sharing its development experience and knowledge with partner countries regionally and globally, including through technical and financial assistance, giving special attention to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), in the form of South-South and trilateral cooperation.

Turkey and UNDP share a mutual interest to facilitate the exchange of development knowledge and expertise across regions. Turkey's strategic location at the crossroads of different continents enables the country to take a more prominent role on the international arena. Its active presence and engagement in international and regional organizations allows Turkey to advocate for and advance the global development agendas, including, importantly, the Agenda 2030 or Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Turkey has a significant

potential to influence debates on the multilateral arena as hosted several major development cooperation events in Istanbul and Antalya in 2016, including the World Humanitarian Summit and the mid-term review of the LDC-IV Conference.

In 2011, the partnership between UNDP and Turkey reached a new level, with the signature of the 2011 Partnership Framework Agreement (PFA). The PFA created a flexible framework for the evolving and dynamic cooperation, premised on Turkey's interest in contributing to development across the regions and UNDP's global network of offices coupled with a strong understanding of local realities.

The PFA reflects Turkey's increasing role in global development, its geopolitical importance, and its role as a significant provider of Official Development Assistance (ODA) as OECD's fastest growing donor and one of the top providers of humanitarian assistance globally. Turkey's ODA in 2015 was \$3.9 billion, of which \$3.2 billion was delivered as humanitarian assistance (including assistance to Syrian refugees but also to Somalia, Iraq and Afghanistan).

Turkey and UNDP have been holding

regular annual consultations reviewing progress achieved in the framework of the PFA and to set the future strategic priorities. The first Annual Consultation in 2012/13 emphasized the importance of moving forward with the partnership implementation through a set of concrete initiatives. The second Annual Consultation in 2014 went even further and advanced the dialogue by agreeing on specific action plans for the partnership, including the support to Turkey's G20 Presidency and the joint UNDP/TIKA international conference on development cooperation, as well as finalizing the agreements around the establishment of the UNDP Regional Hub for ECIS in Istanbul. The third Annual Consultation in 2015 took stock of the first concrete results of the PFA, including Turkey's growing contribution to UNDP, and launched the Turkey – UNDP Partnership for Development Programme. The fourth Annual Consultation Meeting took place in an important period due to international events hosted by Turkey in 2016. UNDP and Turkey showed a strong partnership in the events within the framework of the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) and High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the LDCs Plan of Action (Istanbul Action Plan).



Photo: UNDP in Turkmenistan / Claire Ladavicius / UNDP Flickr

Progress in Major Areas in 2016

In 2016, the cooperation between Turkey and UNDP has continued to show impact at the global, regional and country-level. Turkey ranked number 20 out of the 52 member states contributing to UNDP core (number 3 amongst non-DACs), with a \$3 million annual contribution. Core contributions represent the bedrock of the organisation, allowing us to provide sustainable, predictable, good quality development support to the countries and communities that most need it.

On the global level, UNDP has benefited from the continued support of the Turkish government to the

Istanbul International Center for Private Sector in Development. As demonstrated during the last year's Executive Council of the Center, Turkey's support has been critical for UNDP's advocacy, reach-out and partnerships work with the private sector, an increasingly important line of work for UNDP, given the scope and ambitions of the new 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

UNDP and the Government of Turkey engaged closely in a number of joint initiatives within the framework of the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) and High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the LDCs Plan of

Action (Istanbul Action Plan). Furthermore, 2016 was the second year of implementation of the \$15 million contribution Turkey made to the UNDP RBEC Regional Programme. Finally, the Turkey-UNDP Partnership in Development Programme, initiated in 2015 with a budget of \$500,000 from the Ministry of Development of Turkey, was completed with four sub-projects in four countries. The preparations of the documentation for the second phase has been finalized.

These and other key achievements of 2016 are in this chapter.

Turkey's Support to the Regional Programme for Europe and the CIS

UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub

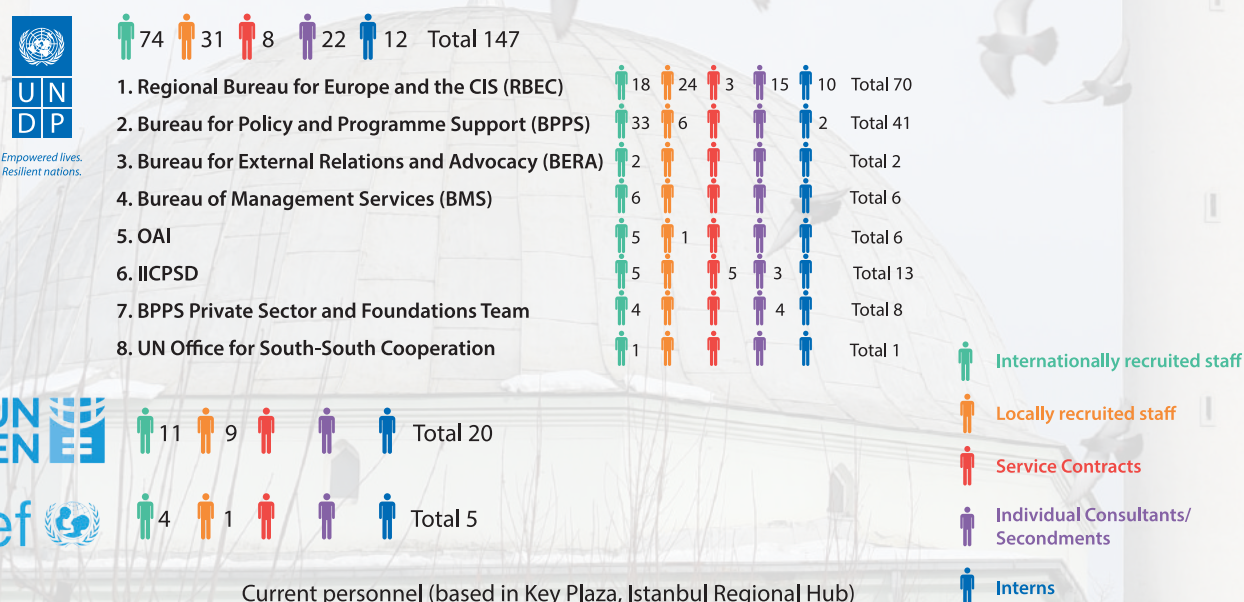
Since its inauguration, the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub (IRH) has established itself as one of the strongest regional hubs in UNDP and a center of knowledge for the Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS and beyond. The advantages of the Istanbul location include a global outlook and functions, highly developed infrastructure, and presence of a number of important regional and global organisations enabling IRH to position itself as a venue of choice for various international fora, regional and global events. Last year, IRH hosted and supported about **38 major meetings and events in Istanbul** (Annex I). It continued to play an important role as a **development thought leader** in the region, successfully convening the second "Istanbul Development Dialogue: #TalkInequality" in February 2016, UNDP's flagship research and advocacy event in the region. The event brought together representatives of UN and partner organisations from more than 20

countries, to discuss issues of inequalities and the post-2015 development agenda, as well as recent development in research and analysis on inequalities. IRH has also taken a prominent role in the region in making efforts to bring Agenda 2030 to the national level. In order to support the roll-out of the Sustainable Development Goals, IRH has been organizing various fora and events to understand emerging needs around SDGs and to discuss available tools and expertise at global, regional and national levels in order to further mainstream SDGs into development planning, nationalizing and localizing SDGs on the ground.

Because of its unique location, the **Istanbul Regional Hub implements and oversees not just regional projects within Europe and the CIS, but hosts an increasing number of global projects** and projects outside of Europe and the CIS region. For example, **the Global Environment Finance advisors based at the Hub**

guide and oversee about 137 global, regional and country projects (annual portfolio of \$89 million) covering the ECIS, Arab States and Africa regions. In 2016, UNDP also made a corporate decision to create a stronger presence of technical expertise in Istanbul to facilitate strong cross-regional collaboration, synergies and fertilization. As a result, the Istanbul-based HIV, Health and Development Team expanded by concentrating its capacities to support countries in three regions (Europe and the CIS, Arab States and Africa) in the Hub.

Currently, the Istanbul Regional Hub accommodates 147 UNDP personnel (staff, consultants and interns) including over 50 Turkish nationals who are currently working in the IRH, with about 25 Turkish specialists involved in the Regional Programme implementation, 6 of whom are funded by Turkey's contribution annually. The below table shows the breakdown per agency:



The IRH's location and substantive strengths make it ideally placed to facilitate cross-regional collaboration efforts, a number of which took place in 2016. The Istanbul Regional Hub hosted, among others:

- the Global Consultations Meeting of all UNDP Regional Hubs, where the Hub Managers of all five regional UNDP hubs met to discuss common issues and explored further synergies; as well as the
- Crowd-funding Academy Week, which brought together colleagues from 11 countries from all five continents, a group of top notch experts in the field of new financing mechanisms,
- Istanbul Innovation Days with over 80 participants from more than 30 countries.

These results have become possible due to the tremendous support from the donors and partners, especially the Government of Turkey.

Regional Programme

The overall delivery of the Istanbul Regional Hub has amounted to \$19.1 million in 2016 through some 30 various regional and global projects in different areas arranged around the UNDP RBEC Regional Programme. The below table presents a brief snapshot of the overall spending of the Regional Programme, including the spending of Turkey's contribution in 2016, and highlights some of the major results.

Regional Programme main area **Inclusive and Sustainable Growth**

Total expenditure of the Regional Programme 2016 \$6,488,280

Of which spending from Turkish contribution \$674,025

Major Highlights

Central Asia sub-regional meeting on Employment, trade and sustainable development jointly organized by UNDP/World Bank/ ILO;

Advancement of the work on Roma survey in close partnership with the EU and the World Bank;

Launch of the sub-regional project on employment in the Western Balkans, co-funded by the Austrian Development Agency and progress in promoting peer learning and innovative practices to improve labour market governance.

Launch of the publication "Gender inequalities in labour markets in Central Asia";

Discussion Paper Green Economy and green Jobs: Challenges and Opportunities in Europe and Central Asia;

Formulation of National Employment Strategy (mainstreaming migration) in Moldova;

Release of the Russian version of the publication: Impact of Public Investment in Social Care Services on Employment, Gender Equality and Poverty: The Turkish Case;

Support to creation of almost 0.5 million of jobs for low-income persons in 3 countries of Central Asia through the Aid for Trade Project. Also supported exports worth \$ 313 million mostly in the agricultural sector and thus strengthening income generation and employment prospects in agricultural areas. About 12,677 individuals and 2,838 companies benefited either directly from or through services supported by the Aid for Trade project.

Support to countries in development of Low Emission Strategies and National Adaptation Plans in line with the Paris Agreement (Moldova, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Uzbekistan);

Implementation of Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) goals by converting remote rural areas into "Green Villages" through decentralized renewable energy technology solutions and innovative financing models;

First ever assessment of the Social, Economic and Environmental Determinants (SEEDs) of Health to maximize co-benefits between health and development, resulting in the production of strategic SEEDs guidance publications.

Regional Programme main area **Stronger Systems of Democratic Governance**

Total expenditure of the Regional Programme 2016 \$4,810,443

Of which spending from Turkish contribution \$200,761

Major Highlights

- First regional event on using data for development results in Istanbul;
- Launch of a handbook for data journalism and a regional training of media academics, aimed to introduce inter-disciplinary thinking, new skills and more objective reporting to students of media schools;
- Regional consultations and exchange of knowledge among National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs);
- Launch of a flagship publication on Compliance with International Environmental Conventions on Chemicals: A guide for UNDP procurement practitioners;
- Production of the regional report "Strengthening Women's Political Participation";
- Sub-regional conference on advancing gender equality in the countries of the Western Balkans and Turkey

Regional Programme main area **Resilience Building and Risk Management**

Total expenditure of the Regional Programme 2016 \$1,415,153

Of which spending from Turkish contribution \$617,993

Major Highlights

- Provision of the comprehensive emergency support to countries e.g., Moldova, Serbia, and the FYR Macedonia to respond to the various disasters such as floods and storms;
- Co-organization of the Regional post-Sendai forum for Central Asia and South Caucasus in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, together with UNISDR;
- Development of Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change snapshots for all programme countries and territories in the region and DRR country profiles for 8 most disaster prone countries;
- High-Level Experts Meeting on Framing Development Solutions for the Prevention of Violent Extremism and advancement of the understanding on "pathways to radicalization" to prevent the violent extremism through the support to the drafting of National Action Plans;
- Improved communication on UNDP impact and efforts in conflict prevention, conflict risk management and peacebuilding;

Regional Programme main area **Contribution to Development Debates and Effective Development Cooperation**

Total expenditure of the Regional Programme 2016 \$5,171,094

Of which spending from Turkish contribution \$567,041

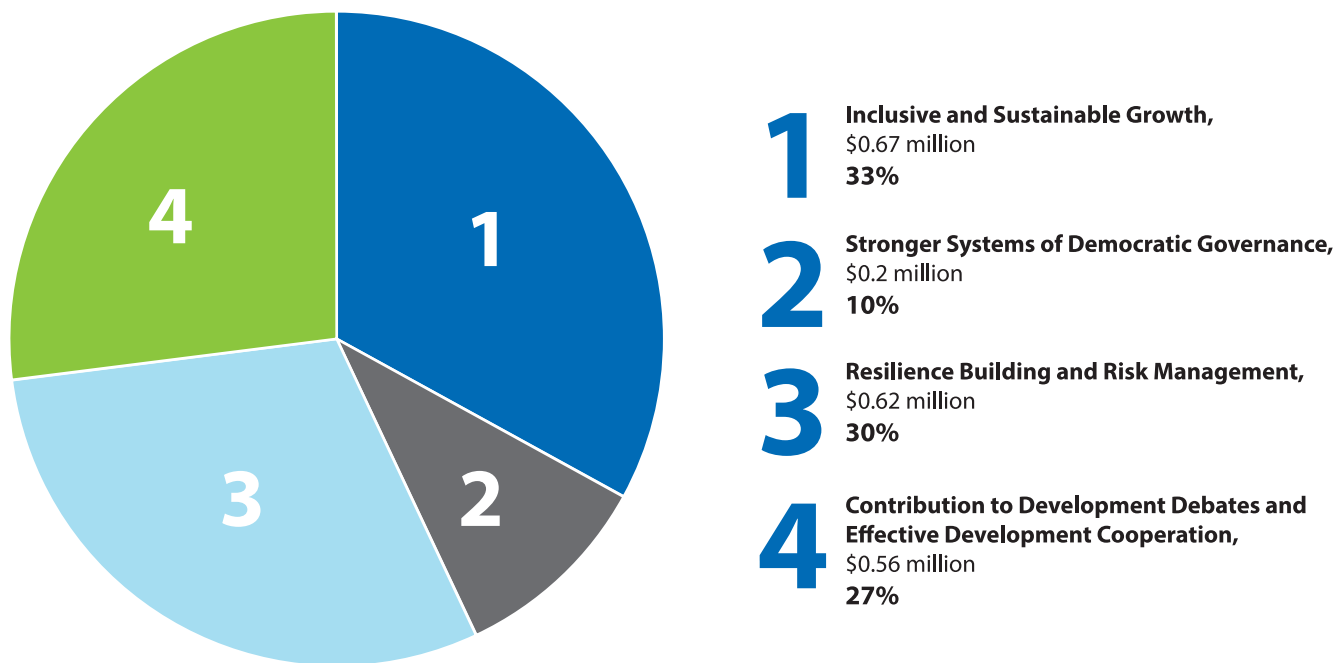
Major Highlights

- Continuous research and advocacy work on poverty, exclusion and inequalities, and the launch of the Regional Human Development Report: Progress at Risk
- Successful organization of the IRH flagship research and advocacy event, Istanbul Development Dialogues: #TalkInequality
- Launch of the Guide to Data Innovation for Development: From Idea to Proof of Concept and 20 experiments with alternative finance mechanisms
- Innovative Memorandum of Understanding with the Galatasaray Sport Club, to raise public awareness on the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda

Other¹ \$1,229,851

TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF THE REGIONAL PROGRAMME 2016 \$19,114,821
OF WHICH SPENDING FROM TURKISH CONTRIBUTION \$2,059,820

Turkey remained one of the top three donors to the Regional Programme in 2016, together with the European Commission and the Global Environment Facility.

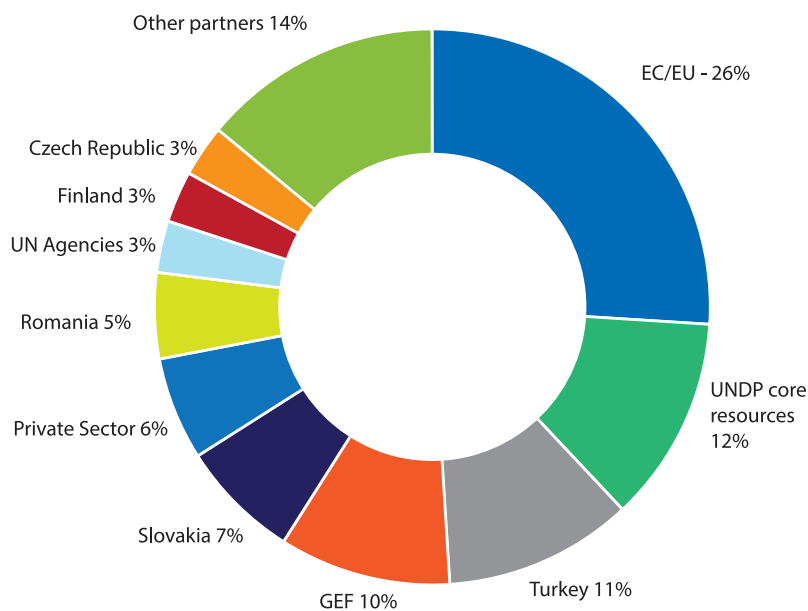


Expenditures from Turkey's contribution - \$2.05 million

Delivery by major funding sources

Funding sources	\$ million
European Commission	4.99
UNDP regional core	2.22
Turkey	2.05
Global Environment Facility	1.96
Slovakia	1.28
Private sector	1.17
Romania	0.98
UN Agencies	0.6
Finland	0.55
Czech Republic	0.53
Norway	0.3
USA	0.29
UNDP HQ Units/Development Effectiveness funds	1.22
Austrian Development Agency	0.26
Russia	0.22
Other contributions	0.5

Top 10 funding sources



Through the second round of the Catalytic and Scaling-up Facility 2016 amounting to \$1.06 million, the Istanbul Regional Hub supported 13 initiatives from 13 countries, including:

- Deriving data for better service delivery for persons with disabilities (the FYR of Macedonia);
- Technical support on human rights (Turkmenistan);
- Integrated resource efficiency in agriculture/ agro-based industries (Turkey);
- Building Statistical Capacity to Monitor SDGs (Azerbaijan);
- Youth-centered Skills Observatory (Moldova).

Turkey and UNDP partnering in key multilateral settings

World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) (23-24 May 2016)

The Government of Turkey hosted the World Humanitarian Summit, convened by the Secretary General of the United Nations. It marked the first time in the history of the United Nations that representatives of Member States, non-governmental organizations, civil society, populations affected by crises, the private sector and international organizations came together on such a significant scale, with so many stakeholders, to commit to collectively and individually reduce the unprecedented level of humanitarian need and suffering in the world today. UNDP joined several side events that were organized by the leadership of Turkey.

From Humanitarian Aid to Sustainable Development (TIKA Side Event)

The opening speech of the session was made by TIKKA President Mr. Serdar Çam on Turkey's experiences and exemplary practices in humanitarian assistance and sustainable development. The Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Director of UNDP's Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS, Ms. Cihan Sultanoglu, represented UNDP at the side event

and delivered a speech on UNDP perspectives about the raising role of humanitarian assistance in changing ODA landscape.

Humanitarian- Development Nexus: Collaborative Approaches for Finding Solutions for Forcibly Displaced Persons

Izumi Nakamitsu, Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Crisis Response Unit Leader from UNDP joined the side-event. She underlined the significance of the collaboration between humanitarian assistance and development assistance with a focus on the crisis Syria and beyond.

Side Event on Future of Philanthropy

IICPSD contributed to the organization of the side-event and Marcos Neto, the Director of the IICPSD, made the opening remarks. Other partners in the event are SDG Philanthropy Platform, Humanitarian Forum, Congress of Muslim Philanthropists, and Government of Romania. The aim was to mobilize philanthropic leadership around the world for effective humanitarian action. The event was built on existing global partnerships represented in the

SDG Philanthropy Platform.

Side Event on Public Private Partnerships for Resilience and Localized Response

The event was organized by the IICPSD. The director of the IICPSD gave the opening speech. The side event explored effective models of public-private collaboration and business engagement for generating commitments to replicate and scale these models to ensure that the knowledge, access, resources and expertise of the private sector were mobilized in support of humanitarian action

Connecting Business Special Session

The UNDP Administrator made the opening speech. Izumi Nakamitsu, Assistant Administrator, United Nations Development Programme, also joined the event. Participants from Turkey were AFAD and Hurriyet Daily News. The aim was to showcase concrete examples of private sector engagement in disaster risk reduction, crisis preparedness, response and recovery through the Connecting Business initiative and to announce commitments in support of the initiative and mobilize more support.

Mid-term Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) (27-29 May 2016)

In light of the need for stronger commitment implement the Istanbul Programme of Action, the General Assembly, through its Resolution 69/231, decided to hold the comprehensive High-level Midterm review of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) in June 2016, in Antalya, Turkey. The

review undertook an assessment of the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action by the LDCs and their development partners and facilitated the sharing of best practices and lessons learned. It identified obstacles and constraints as well as actions and initiatives needed to overcome them, and focused also on

new challenges and emerging issues.

UNDP Administrator, Ms. Helen Clark, headed the UN delegation and UNDP was represented at highest level. Ms. Clark delivered one of the opening speeches. Several units of UNDP organized some of the panels and side-events to enhance the quality of the discussion.

Financing the SDGs in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs)

Diversifying the Financing Tool-box and Managing Vulnerability: UNDP Administrator delivered the opening speech of the panel. A report prepared by UNDP and French Development Agency (AFD) was presented in the event. The report was drafted to guide countries on financing the SDGs in LDCs with a more blended finance, guarantees and local currency for financing and presents how this financing can be used to support priority interventions such as investments in infrastructure and local private sector development.

Side event on the preliminary findings of a study conducted by UNDP's Regional Bureau for Africa (RBA) on "Emerging opportunities

and risks of LDCs Graduation in Africa in the context of the SDGs

UNDP in collaboration with the Government of Kazakhstan and the Republic of Benin organized a High-Level Side event on 28 May 2016 to validate the preliminary findings of a study conducted by UNDP's Regional Bureau for Africa (RBA) on "Emerging opportunities and risks of LDCs Graduation in Africa in the context of the SDGs. UNDP RBEC Director Cihan Sultanoglu represented UNDP, made the opening speech and moderated the panel.

Side event "Getting to the Last Mile: A discussion on Lessons Learned"

The event was organized by the United Nations Capital

Development Fund (UNCDF) and UNDP. Ms. Sultanoglu made the opening speech on behalf of the UN. UNDP underlined that new approaches that, as a strategy, target and prioritize the last mile – and this includes the LDCs as a group, but also the household, sub-national, and small enterprise levels where benefits from growth tend to leave people excluded and where development needs are greatest.

Side Event on Inclusive Business for Sustainable Development in LDCS

The event was co-organized by IICPSD and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey. The moderator of the panel was Marcos Neto, who is the Director of the IICPSD. Mustafa Osman Turan from MFA Turkey was one of the speakers.

Turkey – UNDP Partnership in action at the country level

The strength of the global and regional partnership is increasingly being replicated at country level, enabling an enhanced development impact for Turkish ODA. In 2016, the partnership was based on three mutually re-enforcing pillars, namely 1) the **Turkey-UNDP Partnership in Development Programme**; 2) the **Inguri Bridge Rehabilitation activity within the "Abkhazia Community Revitalization Project**; and 3) discussion around a **Turkey JPO Programme**

Turkey-UNDP Partnership in Development Programme

In line with the commitment made at the 2nd Annual Partnership Dialogue in February 2014, Turkey and UNDP agreed on designing a regional programmatic instrument to facilitate cooperation between Turkey and UNDP in third countries. The aims of the program are to strengthen Turkey's contribution to global development through specific projects in UNDP program countries and to enhance Turkey's role as a knowledge hub that forges South-South, triangular and other forms of cooperation. It is expected that the program will improve

Turkey's development cooperation partnership with UNDP as a source of experience for the countries in the region and beyond. The Turkey-UNDP Partnership in Development Programme is seen as an evolving instrument, which will complement UNDP's existing global, regional and country-level engagement modalities, as well as Turkey's own modalities of engagement in development cooperation.

Following the signature of the Programme Document, the Programme Board (PB) was convened in Ankara on 9 June 2015. The PB

assessed 5 project proposals from UNDP COs and other UN Agencies. The PB endorsed three of these five project proposals and also advised the project team to design a project in an African LDC as the fourth and last project of the Programme. The selected country was Comoros Union in line with the priorities of MFA.

In 2016, significant progress was made with the completion of 2 out of 4 projects and the extension of two others until June 2017 to ensure the highest possible impact. The update on the four projects is:



Development of bee farming in Karakalpakstan through application of advanced technology (Uzbekistan)

This project was designed in collaboration between UNDP's office in Uzbekistan and TIKA's Uzbekistan Country Coordination Office. Bee farming is an area where TIKA has a comparative advantage thanks to its previous experience in several Central Asian countries. Turkey is also an important producer of honey and the Ministry of Agriculture of Turkey is closely engaged in the efforts to increase honey production and the honey market as a whole. The partnership has been developed with TIKA to replicate and develop the bee farming sector further through the application of advanced technologies and capacity building support using TIKA's expertise. The financing in the amount of \$106,920 was transferred to UNDP in Uzbekistan after the endorsement by the Programme Board.

Consultations were held with the Tashkent TIKA office, while developing specifications for the equipment to be

purchased as well as disseminating the information about the tender. The previous TIKA project experiences and lessons learned in bee farming sector in Uzbekistan were shared and considered in the course of the project launch and implementation. Experts from Uzbek Bee farming Association, which benefited from previous TIKA project were also involved in the training package development and conducting the training.

Turkey's experience was shared with local bee-farmers and the related association in Uzbekistan to enhance productive capacities in the Aral Sea disaster area. Through the project, two mini-plants for honey processing and wax production were established in Nukus and Amudarya districts of Karakalpakstan. The project resulted in creating the necessary infrastructure for honey processing and wax production and led to creation of 6 jobs. In addition, over 50 bee farmers

from 14 districts of the region increased skills in bee farming.

The two key success factors of the project were: an active engagement of local authorities throughout the entire project to ensure the sustainability of the achieved results and the importance of changing the mindsets of the final beneficiaries on the importance and effects of green agricultural practices. All bee farmers plant more fruit trees and vegetables in surroundings and encourage other people to do so as bees can collect more nectar for production of honey. Scaling up and replication of the good initiatives through outreach, close cooperation and involvement of partners, and demonstration events especially to the Banking sector as well as relevant ministries and donors bring very good spillover effects to cover more beneficiaries and geographical area in the Aral Sea region.



Developing Capacities for Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships for Skills Development in Kosovo*

The project is based on the existing partnership between TIKA, IICPSD and UNDP Kosovo* to support UNDP Kosovo Territorial Employment Pacts. As part of the project, the Honorary Consulate of Kosovo* to Bursa and Bursa Chamber of Commerce and Industry Education Foundation (BUTGEM) provided the industry grade demand-oriented training and mobilized the diaspora network. The IICPSD is the bridging partner and provides support to develop capacities for multi-stakeholder partnerships with the private sector on skills development.

Given the fact that textile production is

one of the six priority sectors with highest potential to grow in Kosovo, high-level skills in textile production, clothes design and tailoring are very marketable in Kosovo. The women trained under the project in Bursa are now equipped with such skills, and can more easily enter the labor market.

Opportunities exist for trained women to enter into various active labor market schemes in place, implemented by the Kosovo institutions in cooperation with UNDP and the private sector, such as on-the-job training, self-employment, or wage subsidy. As such, skilled women can apply into the competitive

self-employment programme, which targets young unemployed in a gender-equitable manner, and among which textile production is one of the main sectors. The BUTGEM trainings equip the beneficiaries to launch their own textile production or clothes design start-up.

Based on the initial results of the project and the positive feedback received from all interested stakeholders, there is potential for more widespread replication of the BUTGEM vocational training model in Kosovo and subsequent development of marketable skills in a high-potential economic sector.

Community Resilience through Inclusive Agricultural Value Chains in Abkhazia (Georgia/Abkhazia)

The inclusive agricultural value chains in Abkhazia project was designed by UNDP Georgia in close cooperation with the TIKA country office and Turkey's Embassy in Tbilisi, with a budget of \$124,200.

Within the project, a network of 9 small-scale markets across Abkhazia with 5 trading stalls per market was built in localities where there is high consumer (both local and tourist) demand for fruits and vegetables. It is estimated that no less than 120 households which produce agricultural outputs will have their incomes increased due to markets available. The project has also supported 3 research papers on agriculture-related livelihoods and income generation gaps and opportunities in Abkhazia, as well as organizing a large-scale fair to open new marketing opportunities for producers.

UNDP, in cooperation with the TIKA country office, organized an agricultural market gathering 39 local

producers from all over Abkhazia that was attended by no less than 800 customers. The market also attracted attention of decision-makers at all levels. The event was directly linked to the construction of 9 small-scale markets and therefore the population was informed that similar local production will be displayed on the stalls of those 9 markets in accessible areas along the main highway of Abkhazia in the future. The media and social coverage to the fair was positive and extensive. Many observers appealed to continue similar initiatives at least monthly, especially considering future continuous support to the agricultural sector and private farmers in Abkhazia.

Finally, UNDP, in partnership with the Agro-engineering faculty of the Abkhaz State University, organized a series of practical on-site seminars on organic farming targeting students.

The project has forged consensus between civil society, local communities, the private sector and

DF authorities on the importance of facilitating access to high yield markets in the West of Abkhazia for the most politically, socially or economically excluded farmers especially in the East. Thus, the causal link between access to small markets and poverty reduction was demonstrated.

Local civil society and local communities engages in a participatory dialogue in each of the initial 5 locations ensuring that the legal status, management structure, design were in line with local needs and expectations.

The frozen conflict in Abkhazia makes ODA operations very difficult in the region. The only agency that is capable of opening an office and implementing projects in Abkhazia is UNDP. Turkey is very credible for both parties in the conflict, and support from the UNDP-Turkey partnership to Abkhazia has a great potential for the benefit of the communities in the region.

* References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).



Support to strengthening Statistics, and Monitoring and Evaluation Capacities in Comoros in the Context of Post-2015 Agenda

The cooperation between Turkey and the Union of the Comoros is still limited, but the two countries have expressed their desire to promote partnerships in all areas, including development cooperation. On the commercial dimension, Turkey is one of the leading trading partners of Comoros.

Within the framework of the technical assistance provided by TIKA to Comoros, a stadium was constructed on the Island of Anjuan. TIKA opened an office in Moroni to give new impetus to the cooperation that is already a reality in the field of education. Turkey also offers scholarships on an annual basis to young Comorians to continue their education at Turkish universities. UNDP plays an important role to support the development of an emerging South-South partnership

between Turkey and Comoros and this project provided a unique opportunity to foster it. In addition, the UNDP Office in Comoros has had contacts with Turkish technical missions visiting the Comoros. Based on the request of the Programme Board to support a project in the Comoros, UNDP IRH collaborated with UNDP Africa Bureau and UNDP Comoros Union.

The aim of the project is to contribute to strengthening the capacity of the Union of Comoros in management of data and system management and monitoring through the operationalization of an integrated socio-economic data system at Union and Island levels.

The following key activities are pursued under the project:

Redefine and validate the national monitoring and evaluation system for public programmes and projects from the basic elements included in the SCA2D

Train managers responsible for monitoring and evaluation tools and techniques

Update and validate the architecture of the database (by capitalizing on DEV INFO and other databases)

Provide technical support to National Institute of Statistics, Economic and Demographic Studies (INSEED) for the management of the database

Provide INSEED and Island Departments of Statistics minimum required equipment, materials and other ICT facilities to effectively use the database

The Inguri Bridge Rehabilitation activity within the “Abkhazia Community Revitalization Project”

The post-conflict conditions make it difficult for donors to engage in Abkhazia, however Turkey is uniquely positioned and was the only donor accepted by all parties to support rehabilitation of infrastructure, namely the Inguri bridge. TIKA

provided \$470,000 to the Turkish Embassy in Tbilisi and this amount was transferred to UNDP Georgia via exchange of letters. This budget is used for the rehabilitation of the Inguri bridge, which is critical for the connection of Abkhazia with the rest

of Georgia. The tendering process for the rehabilitation project was finalized in 2016 and the construction works have started.

Developing dialogue on possible Junior Professional Officer (JPO) programme with Turkey

UNDP CO continued to further the dialogue on the re-introduction the UNDP JPO mechanism in Turkey. Following the high interest expressed by Government representatives as a result of two information sessions with officials from the JPO Service Center

(May 2015 and January 2016) and the strong indication that Turkey's participation in the UNDP JPO scheme is well aligned with the Government's priorities, the Director of the UNDP Office of Human Resources visited Ankara in June 2016 and held

meetings with key government counterparts. The conclusion was that consultations and technical discussions should take place within the Government to detail the next steps for Turkey's acceding to the UNDP JPO scheme.

New partnerships with Intergovernmental and Civil Society Organizations

Turkic Council

Following a first joint activity (International Conference on ICT and Development, October 2015), UNDP and the Turkic Council signed an Memorandum of Understanding on 24 May 2016, providing a framework for a promising partnership.

In October 2016, UNDP supported the Turkic Council and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) in organizing an international conference on the “Role of Youth in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism: Holistic Approaches from Education to De-Radicalization”. UNDP IRH has cooperated with the Turkic Council on exploring the role of youth in preventing and countering

violent extremism. Intensive exchanges culminated in the joint organization of a panel discussion on Framing Development Solutions and Urging South-South Cooperation for the Empowerment of Youth in Countering Violent Extremism. UNDP was instrumental in mobilizing expertise from across the Region on diverse means of youth empowerment as factors contributing to tackling violent extremism. UNDP Practitioners, government representative and the private sector assembled at the October 2016 Conference co-organized (with the support of TIKA) by the Turkic Council and the United National Alliance of Civilization provided a diverse

perspective on the phenomenon of radicalization and violent extremism and helped to identify tangible solutions for programming for the governments, civil society, the UN and its bi-lateral partners. The UNDP Assistant Administrator and Regional Director for Europe and the CIS gave the opening speech.

The Turkic Council also tries to enhance the cooperation with UNDP country offices in the region. However, due to the lack of operational and programmatic capacity, the partnership has not reached its potential yet. This will be one of the priority partnership areas for 2017.

Cooperation between UNDP and Unilever

UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub (IRH) partnered with Unilever Turkey in securing funds from Unilever HQ (€100,000) for the response to the Syrian Refugee Crisis in Turkey and Jordan. The resources will be used for the two ongoing UNDP programmes implemented to mitigate the impact the crisis in Turkey and Jordan.

Turkey: The project is supplementary support to the Support to Adaptation of Syrian Women Living in Southeast Anatolia to Social and Economic Life. The project aims to strengthen the response capacities of CATOMs (Multi-purpose Community Centers) in support of empowerment of Syrian women in selected locations. The fund from Unilever will be used for the needs of the local units and

Community Centers to support Syrian Women in selected locations of Southeast Anatolia in line with the product range of Unilever. GAP RDA is the coordinator partner due to its coordination role in Southeast Anatolia Region and as the institutional host of CATOMs. This specific project will build on the ongoing interventions and mechanisms that aim at socio-economic strengthening of Syrian women through joint activities with Turkish and Syrian women. These activities include basic skills and practical Turkish trainings, health and hygiene trainings, general communication activities, income generating activities, joint workshops in CATOMs and social interaction

activities. These are conducted in partnership with Syrian women NGOs and CATOMs, contributing at the same time to capacity building of these grassroots organizations.

Jordan: UNDP Jordan has a programme on Mitigating the impact of the Syrian refugee crisis on Jordanian vulnerable host communities. The programme is funded by a number of donors (Japan, Switzerland, Kuwait and the World Bank). The resources from Unilever will be a complementary fund and Unilever will be the first private sector donor in this programme. The capacity and range of products of Unilever will also be another asset for improving the implementation of the programme.

Cooperation between UNDP and Galatasaray Sports Club

UNDP and Galatasaray signed an Memorandum of Understanding, including a concrete plan of activities, on 28 April 2016. A short-video promoting the SDGs was prepared with the contribution of four Galatasaray footballers and was launched at the signature ceremony. The Galatasaray players carried the UNDP logo on their jerseys during 6 matches of the 2015-2016 football

season. After the start of the new season UNDP and Galatasaray started to work on a high-visibility charity match in Istanbul. The match would be played between UEFA Cup Winner legends of Galatasaray and international legends from several countries. The date of the match was initially planned as 17 May 2017, however could not be realized due to a number of reasons. The plan now is

to have the match on a mutually agreed date in the coming months, pending agreement of both sides. The intention of both partners is to transform the Goals for Goals in an annual event, that will raise the awareness of the general public on the 2030 Sustainable development Agenda and help fundraise for strategic development initiatives.

Cooperation with the Private Sector on the UNDP Gender Seal certification

UNDP Istanbul Hub Gender Team is working with private sector companies and parliament in Turkey to promote the UNDP global initiative, Gender Equality Seal for Private

Sector. Turkish companies and the head of the parliament equal opportunities commission attended the 3rd UNDP Global Forum "**Business for Gender Equality: Advancing the**

Sustainable Development Goals" held in Panama in November 2016, and follow-up is expected in 2017.



03

Priority Areas for Cooperation in 2017

Building on the progress achieved in 2016, and in line with the PFA, there are a number of priority areas for cooperation in 2017 for review at the Annual Partnership Dialogue between Turkey and UNDP, briefly outlined below:

Increasing impact and visibility

UNDP-Turkey Partnership in third countries will be strengthened in 2017 with the replenishment of Turkey-UNDP Partnership in Development Programme. Based on the successes of the first phase the second phase will be the main instrument to make this partnership more visible globally. UNDP-Turkey Partnership will be continued to be presented as an innovative partnership contributing to the implementation of Agenda 2030.

Open for discussion at the 2017 Annual Consultation and beyond, the following key global events can provide a good opportunity to increase the visibility of the partnership and to strengthen Turkey's positioning in the development cooperation arena:

- Conference on National Evaluation Capacities (NEC) is planned to be held in Europe and the CIS region in 2017 as it is a bi-annual conference and there is an informal regional rotation for hosting it. There is an in principle agreement with Permanent Mission of Turkey to the UN that the event will be held in Turkey in October 2017.
- Potential joint events with the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the UN on the margins of the UN General Assembly in September 2017
- Other events deemed appropriate by the partners.

In addition, an effort will be made to increase the visibility and impact of the

partnership between UNDP and Turkey at the country level, through joint events co-organized by UNDP COs and Turkish Embassies / TIKA CCOs (similar to the event in Albania). These events can be linked to the milestones in the implementation of projects funded by the Turkey – UNDP Partnership in Development Programme.

Moreover, should Turkey consider a possibility of increasing its contribution to UNDP's core (regular) resources, an effort will be made to ensure maximum visibility of such a contribution, given the importance of core funding for UNDP's sustainability in the current constrained resource environment.

Partnership with Turkey in key Multilateral Development Platforms

While there are currently no concrete plans for joint events, the very positive experience of partnering in key Multilateral Development Platforms,

which yielded important results and amplified the partnership, provides the basis for future joint approaches. Therefore a proactive and flexible

approach to identifying opportunities in 2017 should be maintained in order to ensure the continuation of the fruitful cooperation.

Turkey – UNDP Partnership at the country level Second Phase of Turkey-UNDP Partnership in Development Programme

Three projects under the Regional Programme entitled "Turkey-UNDP Partnership in Development" were completed in 2016. The fourth project, in the Comoros Union, will be completed this year. The expected second phase of Turkey-UNDP

Partnership in Development Programme was discussed between UNDP and relevant government agencies briefly and the draft document was prepared by UNDP. The primary aim of the programme will be to create innovative

partnerships for the achievement of the SDGs. The geographical priorities of the programme will be determined in line with the requests of the Government of Turkey.

The implementation modality is expected to be the same as in the first phase. The programme will continue to be managed by the UNDP IRH with close coordination with other partners such as MFA, MOD, TIKA and UNDP CO. UNDP Country Offices, in coordination with TIKA Country Coordination Offices, in recipient countries will play the main implementing function. If TIKA does not have a coordination Office in the project country, Turkish embassies and

TIKA headquarters will be informed to ensure coordination. The budget of the Programme in 2017 will be \$1 million, which will be delivered by Ministry of Development of Turkey as in the first phase. The programme will enable funding of specific initiatives to be selected by the Programme Board, following a Call for Proposals, tentatively planned for May-June 2017.

During the first phase of the Programme, some of the COs and Embassies of Turkey, including Bosnia-Herzegovina, Albania, Moldavia and Kyrgyzstan, requested to benefit from the Programme and presented their concrete project proposals. Unfortunately, the resources in the first phase were not sufficient to cover all those requests. Therefore, UNDP IRH advised Turkish Embassies and TIKA Offices to send their requests to the MFA or TIKA HQ.

Launching the Turkey JPO Programme

Based on the extensive discussions with the UNDP JPO Center and the UNDP Office of Human Resources, should the Government of Turkey decide to support the JPO programme, a respective

agreement with UNDP JPO Center will be negotiated and signed, outlining the legal and operational aspects, as well as geographic and thematic priorities. In addition, the Government of Turkey and

UNDP may consider partnering on other human resource modalities, as foreseen by the PFA, including staff secondments, internships and UN Volunteers.

Partnerships with Intergovernmental and CSOs

Turkic Council

There are two opportunities for the partnership modality between UNDP and Turkic Council. The first one is direct partnership with UNDP country offices and Turkic Council. There are some attempts between UNDP in Kazakhstan and Turkic Council for a

cooperation in the field of tourism but it has not been materialized yet.

The second alternative is a regional programme co-implemented by UNDP IRH and Turkic Council. Both organizations have been working on

such a programme in the area of Investment Promotion. Initial discussions have been done with Investment Promotion Agency of Turkey. This initiative needs a push from all parties including the Government of Turkey.

Galatasaray Sports Club

The main activity of UNDP-Galatasaray Partnership is Goals for Goals Match now planned for a future date in Fall 2017, pending agreement of all sides. UNDP and Galatasaray have been working on securing sponsorships from significant Turkish brands to make Turkey more visible in this event.

The second possible activity with

Galatasaray is a visit to Syrian Refugees by some popular Galatasaray players. Preliminary discussions with Galatasaray have taken place, confirming the interest of the partner. The dates and logistics of such visits need to be further discussed upon, based on the evolving situation on the ground and the rules and procedures

that oversee the functioning of the refugee camps in the Southeastern part of Turkey.

The third activity discussed with Galatasaray is to design and sell UNDP-Galatasaray jerseys. The income from the sales of these limited edition jerseys will be transferred to UNDP.

Cooperation between UNDP and the Private Sector

UNDP will continue to engage with the private sector on issues around achieving the SDGs. The engagement is

expected to be enhanced in 2017 through more systematic engagement over gender equality, poverty reduction,

employment and skills promotion and the green economy.



04

Conclusion

In 2016 the strategic partnership between UNDP and the Government of Turkey was further solidified through the successful completion of several country-specific development projects, the cooperation in multi-lateral forums and the joint organization of events and side events. The partnership remains a model for other countries in the region and beyond. Turkey's ODA growth, its leading role in multilateral development platforms and its hosting of the UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub underpin this partnership. New instruments have emerged, and the partnership has gained a new degree of visibility, while Turkey became a key funder and supporter of UNDP's regional

programme for Europe and the CIS. There is however, still space for growth and for further enhancement of the cooperation both in the Europe and CIS region and beyond.

The launch of Agenda 2030 in 2015 created a foundation for scaled up cooperation between the government of Turkey and UNDP in 2016. The First World Humanitarian Summit and several other key events hosted by Turkey provided important anchoring and visibility. Further concrete programmatic results have emerged from the work of the Istanbul Regional Hub, with Turkish funding. The Turkey-UNDP Partnership in Development Programme generated new models of on-the-ground

development cooperation, strengthening the relationship and coordination between TIKA country offices, Turkish embassies and the UNDP Country Offices.

In addition, new partnerships with Turkey-based regional organizations have benefitted from the UNDP-Turkey strategic partnerships. UNDP's growing capacity to engage the private sector in helping achieve the SDGs is benefiting from the access to Turkish companies as well as multinationals based in Istanbul, while cooperation is also taking place with such institutions of higher learning as Bogazici University and the ITU.

Annex I

EVENTS ORGANIZED/HOSTED BY ISTANBUL REGIONAL HUB (Jan – Dec 2016)

	Event Name	Start date	End date	Event organizer
1	UNDP Eritrea Consultations Event	19-Jan-16	23-Jan-16	UNDP HQ
2	UNDP Knowledge and Innovation Workshop	26-Jan-16	29-Jan-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
3	Istanbul Development Dialogues - Inequalities	10-Feb-16	13-Feb-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
4	Joint meeting with UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and UNDP on Inequalities	11-Feb-16	12-Feb-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
5	Istanbul Regional Hub Strategic Retreat and Regional Advisory Board Meeting	11-Feb-16	12-Feb-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
6	Meeting of International Labour Organization and UNDP Regional Offices on Employment	3-Mar-16	4-Mar-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
7	UN Department of Political Affairs -UNDP Joint Meeting on Georgia Programme	6-Mar-16	7-Mar-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
8	Regional Resource Mobilization and Partnerships Workshop for UNDP senior managers in country offices	9-Mar-16	11-Mar-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
9	Project Board Meeting within the UNDP Regional Ozone Project	16-Mar-16	17-Mar-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
10	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Planning Workshop, UNDP	4-Apr-16	8-Apr-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
11	UN Resident Coordinator/UN Country Team Performance Appraisal Meeting	18-Apr-16	18-Apr-16	UN Development Group
12	UNDP Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) workshop	24-Apr-16	26-Apr-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
13	Sub -regional consultations on Human Rights, Rule of Law and Accountability programmes in Central Asia	2-May-16	3-May-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
14	Quality Assurance and RBM Workshop for all UNDP Country Offices in the region	11-May-16	13-May-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
15	Anti-Corruption Training (ACT)	16-May-16	16-Sep-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
16	UNDP Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction	23-May-16	23-May-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
17	Meeting of the UN Inter-Agency Support Group for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	25-May-16	25-May-16	UNICEF/UNHCR
18	Global Meeting of all UNDP regional hubs for Africa; Asia Pacific; Arab States; Latin America; and Europe and the CIS.	1-Jun-16	2-Jun-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
19	Open Data Leaders Network (ODLN) for government officials	6-Jun-16	7-Jun-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub

	Event Name	Start date	End date	Event organizer
20	Communications Workshop and Community of Practitioners Meeting for all country offices	7-Jun-16	9-Jun-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
21	Regional Environment and Security Initiative (ENVSEC) Meeting	9-Jun-16	10-Jun-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
22	Regional Planning meeting for UN Women	16-Jun-16	17-Jun-16	UN Women, Europe and Central Asia Regional Office
23	Candidate Pool Assessments for senior managers of UNDP	20-Jun-16	24-Jun-16	UNDP HQ
24	Human Resources and Operations Managers workshop for the Europe and the CIS region	20-Jun-16	24-Jun-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub and HQ
25	UNDP Procurement Certification Training – Level 2	21-Jun-16	24-Jun-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub and HQ
26	UN Chief Executives Board for Coordination Meeting, 33rd session	28-Jun-16	1-Jul-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub and HQ, UNFPA
27	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)-UNDP Staff Talks Event	14-Jul-16	14-Jul-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
28	Istanbul Regional Hub Operations Team Retreat	6-Sep-16	7-Sep-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
29	UNDP Social Good Summit (connecting with UN General Assembly in NY)	29-Sep-16	29-Sep-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
30	Istanbul Innovation Days – a global event attended by all regions (Africa, Arab States, Asia Pacific, Europe and the CIS, Latin America)	17-Oct-16	19-Oct-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub and HQ
31	Istanbul International Center for Private Sector in Development Team Meeting	7-Nov-16	8-Nov-16	UNDP IICPSD
32	UNDP Capacity Building Series for Emerging Donors in Europe and the CIS region with the Financing For Development (FFD) Week	14-Nov-16	17-Nov-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
33	Regional Development Team SDGs Retreat	16-Nov-16	18-Nov-16	UN Women, Europe and Central Asia Regional Office
34	Future Makers Initiative Workshop (Joint UNDP and UN Volunteers project on innovation covering three countries in the Europe and the CIS region and Arab States)	23-Nov-16	24-Nov-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
35	Regional consultation of the National Human Rights Institutions from Central Asia	28-Nov-16	29-Nov-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
36	SCORE (the Social Cohesion and Reconciliation) Index - Lessons learned and next steps	29-Nov-16	30-Nov-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
37	Regional Consultations with Human rights Institutions from Europe/CIS and Arab States on SDGs	5-Dec-16	5-Dec-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
38	Training of National Human Rights Institutions to develop their capacity on monitoring and fact-finding (Europe and CIS and Arab States regions)	6-Dec-16	7-Dec-16	UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub







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