

Growing a Global Development Network

UNDP is the UN's global development network, advocating for change and connecting countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life. We are on the ground in 166 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. As they develop local capacity, they draw not just on the people of UNDP but also on our wide range of partners.

In an era of globalization and specialization, no one agency or programme has all the answers. And in an age when movements of people, capital and ideas are breaking down borders, development challenges are not just local, but global. So UNDP's network operates worldwide to connect donor and developing countries, private and public sectors, policy advice and programme resources—helping nations build their own development skills and other organizations better deploy their own unique skills and resources.

In 2001, UNDP set out to strengthen and extend our global network by building stronger connections to:



2002

FOUNDATIONS

UNDP has built a pathbreaking array of partnerships with more than 30 foundations on every continent. Among them in 2001-2002:

- African Capacity Building Foundation
- Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development
- Heinrich Boell Foundation
- Coca Cola Foundation
- Ford Foundation
- Fondation Internationale Carrefour
- John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
- Markle Foundation
- Open Society Institute
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- Rockefeller Foundation
- Shell Foundation
- Soros Foundation
- UN Foundation
- World Space

SOUTH-SOUTH EXCHANGES

Last year, UNDP brokered a programme in which teachers from Botswana share with their counterparts in Brazil strategies for HIV/AIDS education, behaviour change, and dealing with culturally-sensitive issues. The programme initially covers 100 schools and colleges but will eventually reach every teacher in Botswana.

Civil society organizations, which play key roles in designing, funding, implementing and monitoring development assistance. They are bringing valuable expertise to the global development network—and making people-to-people ties that strengthen development at the grassroots.

Foundations, which bring to the table their own diverse experience in areas including governance and institution-building, environment, microfinance and HIV/AIDS prevention. Our network increasingly draws on their expert advice and joins them in advocacy; and they are deploying resources that act as a multiplier for our own assistance to developing countries.

The private sector, which can play a very important role in development. Private-sector ties are a fast-growing part of UNDP's development network, as we connect business expertise and resources to development partners around the globe.

International organizations: Successful development in any country requires complex sets of interventions by multiple actors. International organizations, including the entire UN system, must work together—and UNDP, with its near-universal presence and convening role, is ideally suited to reach out and lay the groundwork for a new level of partnership.



UN Volunteers are working with UN agencies and civil society organizations on UNDP's Village and Rehabilitation Programme in Mitrovica, Kosovo to re-establish basic social services.

The UNDP network is also increasingly focused on **South-South cooperation**, enabling developing countries to partner with each other. Through dialogues, exchanges, and on-line networks, we help governments share expertise, build ties, and create opportunity.

Last year, UNDP successfully launched a **Partnership Facility**, offering UNDP country offices seed funds to catalyze new alliances among UN agencies, business, civil society, and others. Twenty-two UNDP offices received funds in the programme's first year, building new partnerships from the Philippines to Poland and making available new experience and resources on issues from drug abuse and HIV/AIDS to environmental conservation and energy policy.

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FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

UNDP now helps developing countries chart and express real choices, alternatives and priorities within strategies supported by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. UNDP provides technical expertise and advocacy to help see that poverty reduction is a key priority within those strategies, and to assist countries in developing a real sense of ownership of, and responsibility for, the plans. And the UNDP network will be there to advise and assist developing countries in effectively implementing them.

As part of a 2001 initiative to expand cooperation with the regional development banks, UNDP mapped out partnerships with the African Development Bank and Asian Development Bank, and began negotiations on an agreement with the Inter-American Development Bank.

UNDP and the European Commission are bringing their complimentary strengths together to establish joint projects particularly on governance and the environment.

PROVIDING ACCESS TO A WORLD OF KNOWLEDGE

UNDP connects developing countries not just to ideas and resources, but also to hard information and analysis that can inform debate and catalyze policy-making. UNDP's annual Human Development Report sets the terms of the development debate and provides the roadmap for forward movement. Developing countries and their international partners alike use the report to gauge results and set new goals.

Last year's report, *Making New Technologies Work for Human Development*, was launched with President Vicente Fox of Mexico and has played a major role in changing the terms of the often-contentious debate over technology's role and potential in the developing world. It brings facts and sober arguments to controversial topics—from the promise of information and communications technology, to the challenge of making intellectual property rights fair for developing countries, to the risks and opportunities of genetically modified foods. The 2002 report is titled *Deepening Democracy in a Fragmented World*.

UNDP also supports regional, national and local human development reports that help governments generate and share quality analysis on key issues. More than 400 National Human Development Reports (NHDRs) have been published in 135 countries. Their success—from Benin to Bolivia—shows how quality research and advocacy can generate significant policy debates within developing countries, helping them build their own development solutions.

Botswana, for example, published a NHDR focused on how HIV/AIDS hinders growth and increases poverty. The report provided tools and information for a national discussion on the accessibility of AIDS treatment. The report itself is being used as a tool for teaching about HIV/AIDS in Botswana's schools; the debate it sparked eventually spurred Botswana's President Festus C. Mogae, with support from UNDP and others, to provide AIDS drug therapies to all citizens who need them.



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