



UNITED NATIONS
KENYA

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2022
UN KENYA
ANNUAL
RESULTS REPORT
KENYA



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Cover Photo: Mary Mariach, a member of the Pokot tribe, has been the chairperson of the West Pokot County Peace Committee for 15 years.
Photo: UN Women/Luke Horswell

Fisherman Emmanuel Ibei Maraka, 47, holds the Nile perch he caught in a boat provided for him by UN Kenya, in Rolopio, Turkana
Photo: WFP/Arete/Fredrik Lerneryd

Foreword by the Resident Coordinator

I am pleased to present the 2022 Annual Report of the United Nations in Kenya, which marks another year of strong and determined partnership between the UN and the Government of Kenya, as well as other stakeholders, towards achieving the country's aspirations under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Kenya's development context continuously evolves, with new challenges and opportunities emerging. In the face of the deep challenges posed by the climate emergency, the Covid-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, the UN in Kenya remains committed to supporting the Kenya's development aspirations and addressing emerging challenges.

The climate emergency is a mounting humanitarian crisis, jeopardising Kenya's path to recovery and hindering progress towards achieving sustainable development goals. It is tragic that despite having a negligible role in causing climate change, Kenya and other vulnerable nations are being hit hard by its consequences; five failed rainy seasons in a row, leaving millions in need of food and water. This harsh reality highlights the disproportionate burden borne by countries like Kenya and the urgent need for action to address the climate emergency. However, Kenya has shown commendable leadership and proactive efforts to tackle this global challenge, making significant strides in renewable energy and emerging as a regional and global pioneer in this crucial sector.



Kenya's accomplishment in the realm of democracy became evident with the seamless execution of the 2022 General Elections. Kenya ensured an unprecedented level of transparency and fairness while harnessing the power of technology effectively.

The well-executed general elections, orchestrated by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission and the Judiciary's essential role in effectively addressing post-election disputes, reflected Kenya's strong public institutions. This remarkable achievement marked a pivotal moment in Kenya's democratic journey, setting a positive precedent for future elections in Kenya and serving as an example for countries around the world.

In 2022, Kenya served as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, underscoring the country's growing regional and global leadership. As a member of the Security Council, Kenya shaped the global agenda, promoted peace and security, and advanced multilateralism at a moment when that is needed more than ever.

A significant milestone in our shared journey was the signing of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) for Kenya 2022-2026. This framework was signed in 2022, marking a consolidated effort by the United Nations to programme jointly and provide robust support to Kenya's development priorities. It serves as a testament to the shared commitment between the UN and Kenya to work towards a sustainable and inclusive future.

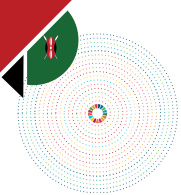
I commend the UN Kenya Country Team for their dedication and hard work in supporting Kenya towards achieving its sustainable development aspirations. I also thank the Government of Kenya, development partners, civil society and all stakeholders who contributed together to the achievements showcased in this report. Any successes highlighted in this report are shared



successes, and I acknowledge the excellent collaboration we have had with the Government of Kenya and other stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, and development partners.

It is my hope that the results presented in this report will inspire us to redouble our efforts. I look forward to our continued partnership towards building a more prosperous, peaceful, and sustainable Kenya.

Dr. Stephen Jackson
UN Resident Coordinator Kenya



UN Country Team in Kenya

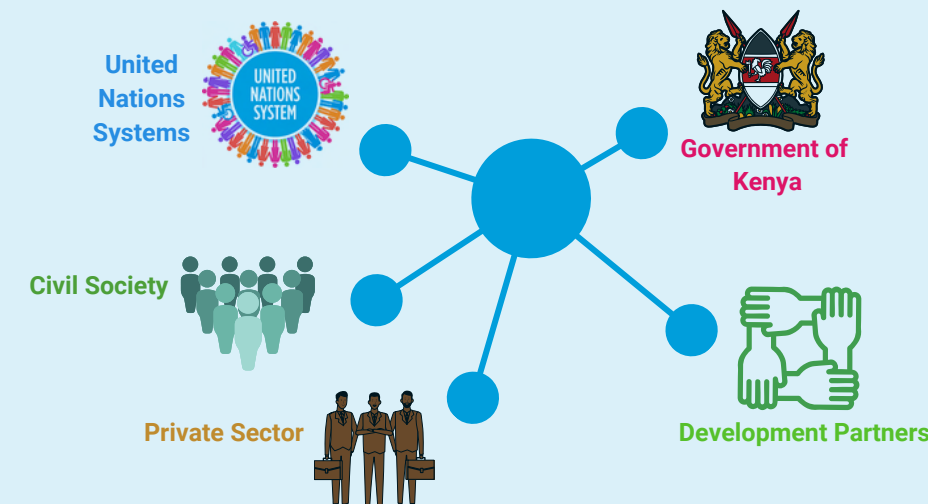
The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) comprises the heads of all the 24 UN agencies, funds and programmes active in Kenya. The UNCT leads the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2022- 2026, under a steering committee co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator.

The UNCT in Kenya works closely with the Kenyan Government and other development partners to support the achievement of Kenya's National Development priorities and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across the 5 Ps framework: People, Prosperity, Planet, Partnership and Peace.

The UNCT works in close partnership with a majority of all Ministries of the Government of Kenya. UN Kenya is also working closely with the Council of Government, County Governments and Government agencies. A wide range of civil society organisations is vital for the work of the UN in Kenya, as are the partnerships with development partners and increasingly with private sector actors.



Key Partners of the UN Development System in Kenya



Kenya's Progress Towards Achieving SDGs*

COUNTRY RANKING

118 /163



Kenya is the highest ranked country in the region with an SDG Index Score of 61



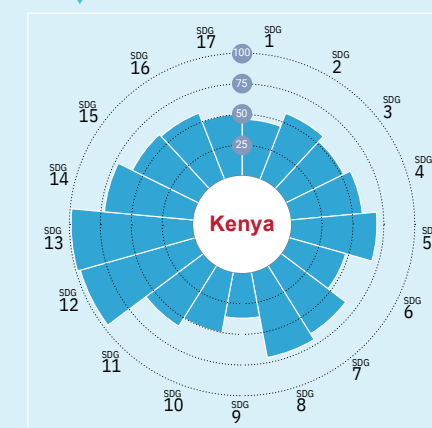
Kenya on track towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 12 and 13

COUNTRY SCORE

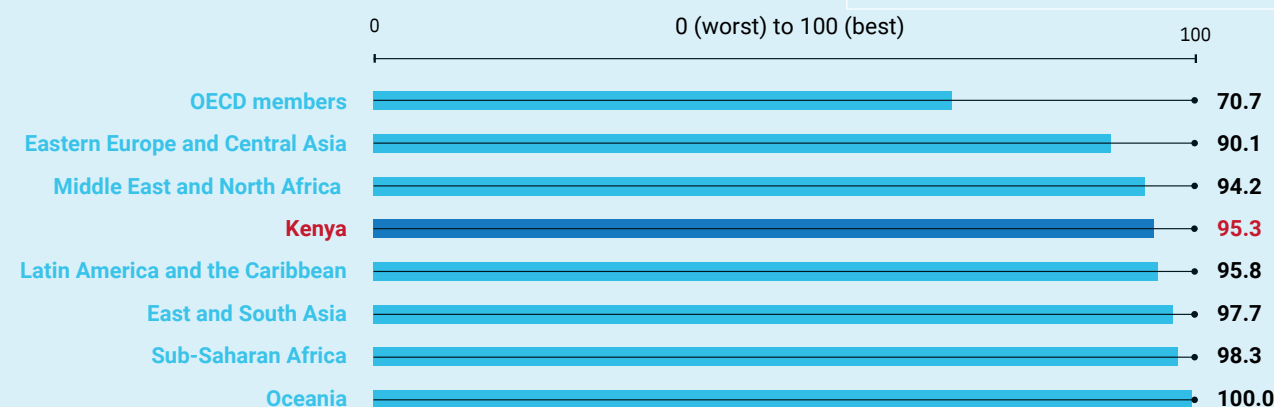
61.0

Regional Average: 53.6

AVERAGE PERFORMANCE BY SDG



INTERNATIONAL SPILLOVER INDEX*



*The Spillover Index assesses country spillovers along three dimensions: environmental, social impacts (embodied into trade, economy & finance) and security. A higher score means that a country causes more positive and fewer negative spillover effects.



Key Developments in the Country and Regional Context

Like the rest of the world, Kenya has faced numerous challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic, political instability, climate change-induced shocks, and international conflicts, such as the war in Ukraine, which have disrupted supply chains and raised food, energy, and services prices.

Amidst these global and domestic challenges, Kenya successfully held its 5th general elections on 9 August 2022, with President William Ruto taking office on 13 September. The peaceful electoral process bodes well for Kenya's institutional strengthening and political stability. However, a low voter turnout of 65% highlights the risk of public disengagement, particularly among younger voters.

Upon election, President Ruto introduced a new government structure, creating the position of Prime Cabinet Secretary (PCS)¹ and making changes to ministries, cabinet-level portfolios, and the number of Principal Secretaries (PS). Under Executive Order No. 1 of January 2023, the PCS is the most senior state officer after the President and his Deputy, tasked with coordinating and supervising Government and state departments and serving as a link between the executive and parliament. The Executive Order also brought several changes that saw the diaspora component added to foreign affairs, climate change added to the environment, the blue economy and maritime added to mining, digital economy component added to the information and communication docket while Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) were added to the cooperatives docket among the changes.

Despite facing national, regional and global challenges, Kenya's economy managed to achieve a remarkable 7.5% growth in 2021 and 5.5% in 2022. Nevertheless, economic inequality remains a pressing issue in the country. Oxfam reports that a mere 0.1% of the population, or 8,300 individuals, possess more wealth than the bottom 99.9%, which includes over 44 million people.² Consequently, poverty still affects millions of people's lives and economic inequalities continue to be a persistent challenge.

Inflation in Kenya in 2022 breached the Government's target range of 7.5%³ for the first time in five years, driven mainly by supply-side constraints caused by external shocks. The economy faces various bottlenecks, such as recurrent droughts, declining manufacturing productivity, and fiscal risks.

Kenya, with the rest of the greater Horn of Africa, is experiencing its worst drought in 40 years, with a fifth consecutive failed rainy season. This has resulted in a 1.5% contraction in Kenya's agriculture in the first half of 2022, reducing overall GDP growth by 0.3%.⁴ The ongoing drought highlights the region's vulnerability to the climate emergency and the importance of building resilience. Climate change and food security issues have resulted in severe crises, including heightened poverty, growing inequality among regions and households, and escalating social conflicts over resource competition, particularly for water. Supply disruptions, inequality, poverty, and social tensions further exacerbate these issues.

The new administration's medium-term development priorities are expected to align with the Kenya Kwanza coalition manifesto, which emphasises citizen participation in policies, strategies, programmes and projects. The Government's Economic Recovery Agenda, anchored on "Bottom-Up Economic Transformation," aims to stimulate economic growth and increase investments in at least five sectors envisaged to have the largest impact and linkages to the economy, as well as on household welfare. These include Agriculture; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME); Housing and Settlement; Healthcare; Digital Superhighway and Creative Industry.⁵ Special focus will be placed on increased employment, more equitable distribution of income, and social security while also expanding the tax revenue base and increasing foreign exchange earnings. These interventions are expected to boost economic growth to 6.1% in 2023.

Kenya is a keen supporter of closer integration within the East African Community (EAC), which has expanded to include the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The DRC's accession to the EAC in 2022 will boost business opportunities but also highlight the constraints imposed by deficient infrastructure. The growing EAC trade and Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), along with economic reform in Ethiopia, present opportunities for member states. However, regional security risks, such as conflicts in Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan, as well as the Somalia-based terrorist group al-Shabab, pose significant obstacles to growth and development, requiring increased defence spending.

 **5.5%**

Kenya's GDP growth rate:
7.5% in 2021 and 5.5% in
2022.

 **7.5%**

110 government-funded
projects were audited by
1,430 community
members.



Tackling economic
inequalities key for
Kenya's transition to
upper middle-income
country.

 **1.5%**

Kenya's agriculture sector
contracted by 1.5% in the
first half of 2022 due to
the prolonged drought.

 **6.1%**

Kenya's economy is
projected to experience a
significant boost in
growth, reaching a
projected 6.1% in 2023.

¹Executive Order No.1 of 2023, January 2023.

²Kenya: extreme inequality in numbers: <https://www.oxfam.org/en/kenya-extreme-inequality-numbers>

³Average monthly inflation rate, KNBS.

⁴Kenya Economic Update, December 2022, World Bank.

⁵The Kenya Kwanza Plan: The bottom-up economic transformation agenda 2022-2027.

2. UN Development System Support to National Development Priorities in 2022

2.1 Transition from the UN Development Assistance Framework to the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

2022 was unique for UN Kenya, as it transitioned from the United Nations Development Assistance Framework Kenya (UNDAF) (2018–2022) to the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework Kenya (UNSDCF) (2022–2026) in the middle of 2022. This critical transition symbolises a renewed commitment to promoting sustainable development in Kenya by providing a coherent and strategic direction for all UN development activities.

Compared with the UNDAF 2018-2022, the new UNSDCF has a sharper focus and an even stronger LNOB lens. Also, the UN country team has decided to increase their efforts on joint programming and pooled funding. The UNSDCF is embedded with rights-based programming for the Agenda 2030 that is underpinned by robust national analysis and significantly anchored on a renewed push for collective action and partnerships and a laser-like focus on helping countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), leaving no one behind.

The UNDAF (2018-2022) concluded in June 2022. Following a comprehensive evaluation of the UNDAF and an inclusive, consultative process spanning 2021-2022 to establish new priorities for UN Kenya, the UNSDCF (2022-2026) was launched on July 1, 2022. Signed in June 2022 by the Government of Kenya and the United Nations System in Kenya, represented by the United Nations Resident Coordinator, the UNSDCF aims to address Kenya's most pressing challenges while promoting inclusive growth and long-term prosperity.

Anchored on the five pillars of the Sustainable Development Goals - People, Peace, Planet, Prosperity and Partnerships, the UNSDCF features two overarching "Strategic Priorities" aligned with

the SDGs' 5 Ps. The first priority focuses on interventions supporting People and Peace, while the second targets Prosperity and Planet. Both priorities are bolstered by a "Strategic Enabler on Partnership." The identification of outcomes for the UNSDCF was informed by Kenya's Vision 2030, recommendations from the MTP III review, priorities outlined in the MTP IV concept note, sector plans, and the goals and targets of the SDGs.

The UNSDCF draws on the global normative agenda, for which the United Nations is the guardian, particularly the international commitments and instruments ratified by the Government of Kenya. Other factors considered include the comparative advantages of UN agencies, findings from the 2021 Common Country Analysis (CCA), the 2021 evaluation of the Kenya UNDAF (2018-2022), and the 2022 UN Kenya Leave No One Behind (LNOB) Report.

Partnerships are integral to implementing the UNSDCF in Kenya. The UN will collaborate closely with diverse national, local, regional, and international stakeholders to achieve the SDGs. Strategically, the UNSDCF offers a platform for fostering these collaborations and partnerships, enabling recovery, shared prosperity, and development.

The Leave No One Behind (LNOB) principle is central to the UNSDCF's goal of promoting inclusive and sustainable development. In the Kenyan context, the UNSDCF puts increased focus on four groups at risk of particularly being left behind: women and girls, children and youth, people living in informal urban settlements, and those residing in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs).

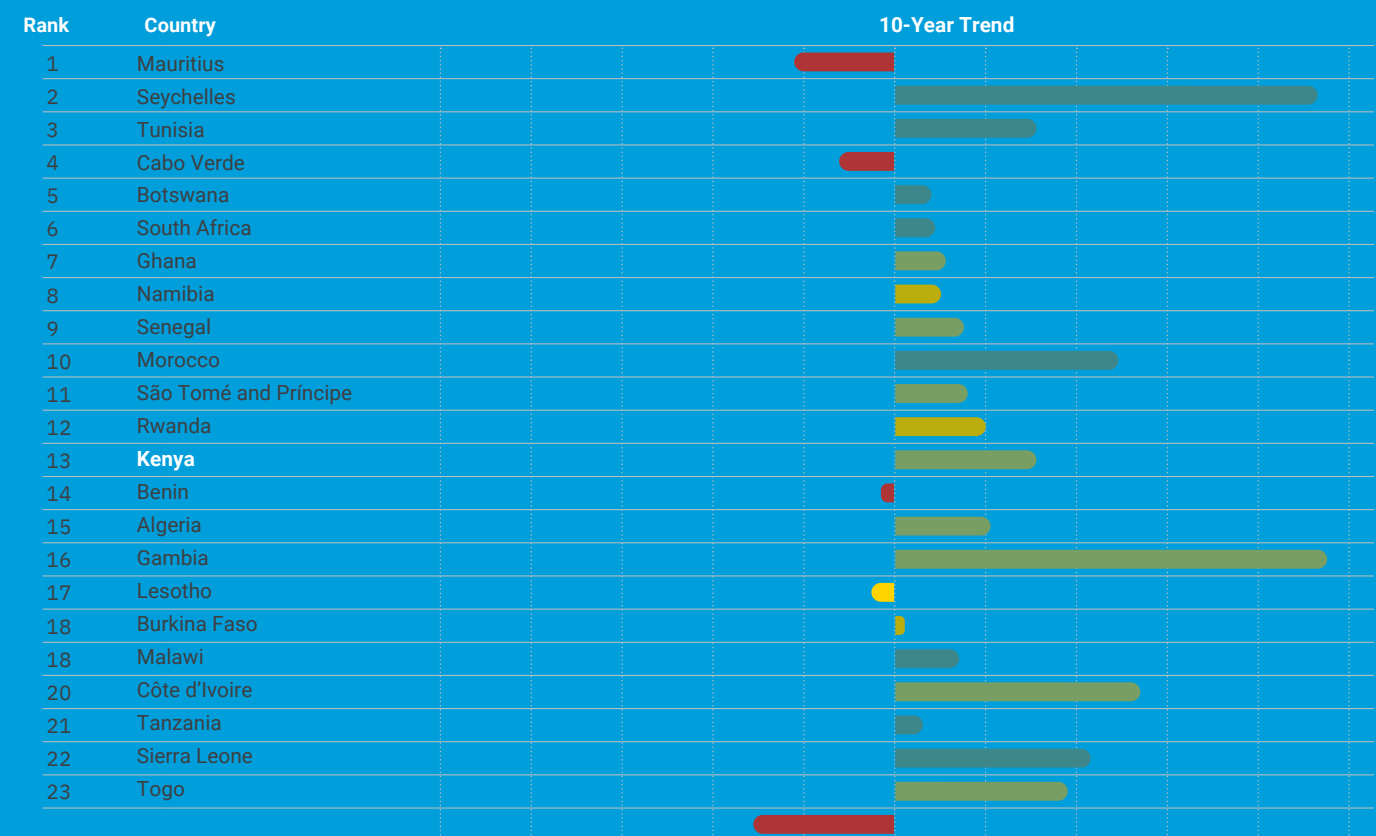


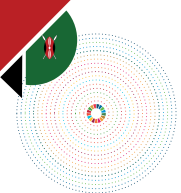
The UN Country team led by the Resident Coordinator for Kenya during a courtesy call to Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua. Photo: Communication Services in the Office of the Deputy President



Kenya ranked 13th in 2022 Ibrahim Index of African Governance⁶. Additionally, Kenya achieved the 6th and 12th ranks in the categories of Foundations for Economic Opportunity and Human Development, respectively.

Overall Governance 10-year trend & trend classification (2012-2021)*





2.2 Results by UN Kenya in 2022 under the UNDAF 2018-2022 and the UNSDCF 2022-2026

The 2022 results are organised according to the **"Five Ps" of the Sustainable Development Goals: People, Peace, Prosperity, Planet, and Partnerships**. Organising and presenting our results under the "5 Ps" framework enables a comprehensive and impact-focused presentation of the accomplishments achieved by the UNCT in 2022, underscoring UN Kenya's commitment to driving meaningful change in the lives of Kenyans and advancing sustainable development in the country.

2.2.1 People

Transformative and Inclusive Governance

UN Kenya's support for Transformative and Inclusive Governance in Kenya has yielded significant results, such as **increased transparency and accountability in county governance, greater public participation, and a more inclusive and participatory democratic system**.

UN Kenya facilitated the establishment of **public participation policies, legislation, and frameworks** in several counties. As a result, there has been a 36% improvement in public access to budget documents on County Government websites, and all 47 counties now have **County Budget and Economic Forums (CBEFs)** as mandated by the Public Finance Management Act 2012. 45 counties are actively engaging CBEFs in the budgeting process, which has led to increased public involvement in County Government processes.

The creation of **civic education and public participation Bills in Lamu, Samburu, and Garissa counties** is a positive step towards **greater transparency and accountability in governance**. Additionally, Isiolo and Wajir counties have dedicated Kshs. 60 million and

Kshs. 3.5 million, respectively, to support youth and women's involvement in county projects, reflecting a growing commitment to promoting inclusivity and equity.

In the **2022 Kenya General Elections, 22,120,440 individuals registered as voters**, representing a 12.8% increase in the number of registered voters compared to the 2017 general elections, where 19,611,423 individuals registered to vote. **Of the 22,120,440, 10,865,560 were women and youth, representing 49.12% of registered voters**. With a 64.7% turnout, the increase in the number of registered voters, particularly women and youth, reflects the efforts of various entities like UN Kenya, the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) and civil society organisations in promoting voter registration and civic education.

UN Kenya was crucial in **promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in political processes**. The UN supported the **development and launch of the Charter on Inclusion**, an advocacy instrument that aimed to guarantee adherence to the two-thirds gender principle by state institutions.

UN Kenya in partnership with the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP), the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC), and other stakeholders spearheaded a successful campaign securing political parties' commitment to the two-thirds gender rule during party primaries. This persistent advocacy resulted in **98% compliance, with 75 out of 77 political parties' nomination lists for Member of the National Assembly and 68 out of 69 political parties' nomination lists for the Senate**.

UN Kenya further collaborated with the Kenya Women Parliamentarian Association (KEWOPA), various Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and

Women's Rights Organisations (WROs) towards strengthening the capacity and amplifying the voices of women in decision-making spaces across Turkana, Marsabit, Kwale, and Kitui. Through this initiative, **1,500 women aspirants and candidates were mentored before the 2022 general elections**, strengthening their capacity and participation in politics. As a result of such initiatives, women's participation in politics increased significantly, contributing to a more inclusive and representative democracy in Kenya.

UN Kenya supported several initiatives aimed at the **inclusion of women, youth, and persons with disabilities in planning and decision-making processes**. These initiatives included implementing an electronic data portal at the Office of the Controller of Budget (OCOB) to improve the capture and reporting of budget and financial information. An electronic data capture and reporting system for the OCOB was also designed to monitor budget implications for children, women, and persons with disabilities.

The National Treasury's release of official **social accountability guidelines, which have been implemented across 47 counties**, was a significant step towards promoting inclusivity, transparency and accountability in governance.

The significant results achieved in Kenya's governance landscape were made possible through the combined efforts of strategic partners. Notably, **the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the European Union, as well as the Governments of Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America** have played instrumental roles in providing financial resources and strategic support to enhance the effectiveness of UN Kenya's initiatives and fostering a more inclusive, transparent, and participatory governance system in Kenya.



 **36%**

36% improvement in public access to budget documents on county government websites.

 **1500**

1,500 women aspirants and candidates mentored before the 2022 general elections.

 **47**

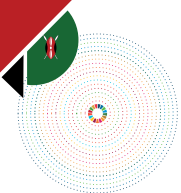
The National Treasury's release of official social accountability guidelines, have been implemented across 47 counties.



12.8%

12.8% increase in registered voters. 22.1M (50.88% men) and (49.12% women and youth) registered for the 2022 general elections compared to 19.6M in 2017.





Enhanced Service Delivery Through Devolution

Devolution remains critical to Kenya's development because it ensures that all regions of the country are empowered to take charge of their own development agenda, thereby promoting inclusive and sustainable growth.

UN Kenya played a critical role in supporting the **development and implementation of policies and bills that aimed to enhance devolution and inclusive service delivery**. Several bills and policies were developed and implemented, including amendments to the Public Finance Management Act, revisions to the Policy on Devolved System of Government, and Intergovernmental Relations and Alternative Dispute Resolution Regulations. Furthermore, **39 bills and policies were developed** in the Health, Early Childhood Development Education, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene sectors across 12 counties. Children-inclusive bills were also developed for Turkana, West Pokot and Isiolo Counties, aligned with the National Child Protection Policy.

Counties have made significant strides in **developing, adopting, and implementing equitable and inclusive budgeting** interventions, leading to a significant increase in budget allocation to social sectors. The evidence shows that the budget allocation to social sectors has steadily risen, from 37.5% in FY 2020/21 to 43.5% in FY 2021/22, and further increased to 45.6% in FY 2022/23. This increase is particularly remarkable compared to the national average of 42.6%, demonstrating that counties are fully committed to prioritising social sector needs and investing in improving the lives of citizens.

The successful **adoption of the County Assembly Gender Mainstreaming Policy** by the Kilifi County Assembly Service Board, and the launch of the Garissa Gender Policy in Garissa County, were noteworthy achievements. These bills and policies have had a significant impact, as

evidenced by **enhanced gender-responsive budgeting and planning processes**, improved service delivery, and increased public participation in decision-making processes.

The initial provisions in the County Allocation of Revenue Act 2021 were crucial in ensuring that **lapsed budgets from FY 20/21 were utilised in FY 21/22**. The budget increases had a positive impact on the lives of communities, resulting in enhanced access to quality education, healthcare and other essential services. The increased budget allocation also enabled counties to implement various projects and programmes aimed at creating employment opportunities, promoting economic growth, and reducing poverty. The successful utilisation of these funds further demonstrates that counties are prioritising the needs of their citizens and are committed to enhancing their lives, which is vital for building stronger and more prosperous communities.

UN Kenya-supported training on public participation yielded remarkable results in improving citizen engagement and transparency in County Government-funded projects. A total of **1,430 community members took part in auditing 110 government-funded projects**, deepening their understanding of the critical role of public engagement and mastering the skills necessary for active participation.

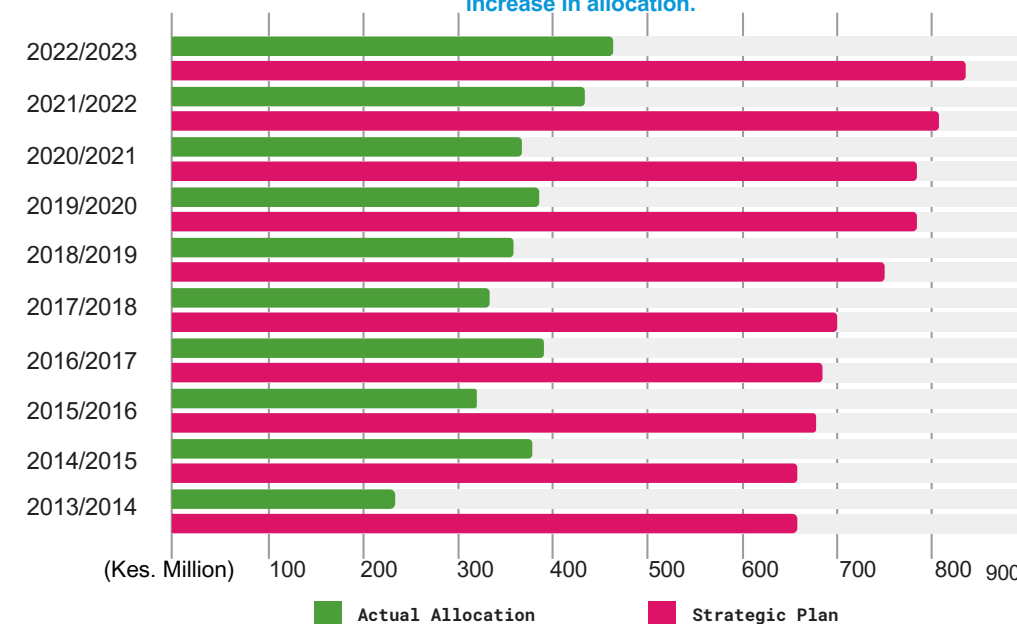


The insightful social audit reports submitted to Ward Administrators offered actionable recommendations for enhancing Gender Results Budgeting and promoting social inclusion across various social sectors and service delivery.

To fortify both **National and County Governments' monitoring, evaluation, and reporting systems**, UN Kenya supported the enhancement of the National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (NIMES-CIMES) interface. This collaboration has resulted in substantial improvements, with 46 counties adopting the CIMES and e-CIMES systems. Consequently, reporting on development indicators and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has been significantly enhanced. Equally, **Voluntary Local Reporting (VLR) of the SDGs has been institutionalised in Busia, Marsabit, and West Pokot counties**, which now utilise it for tracking and reporting on SDGs 4, 5, 14, 15, and 17. The integration of VLR into these counties demonstrates a commitment to monitoring progress and ensuring alignment with national and global development objectives. The strengthening of these systems is vital as it enables more effective tracking and reporting of progress towards achieving the SDGs. This, in turn, supports informed decision-making and resource allocation by both National and County Governments, ultimately promoting sustainable and inclusive development across Kenya.

The United Nations' transformative endeavours to deepen devolution in Kenya have been **profoundly bolstered by the strategic support of the Governments of Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, as well as the European Union**. These partners have been pivotal allies in this collective endeavour.

Figure 1. Table showing the increase in National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) Budget over the years, with 2022 having the highest increase in allocation.



45.6%

The budget allocation to social sectors in counties increased from 37.5% in FY 2020/21 to 45.6% in FY 2022/23.

110

110 government-funded projects were audited by 1,430 community members.

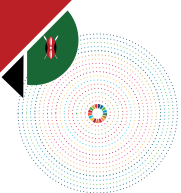
There is great appreciation for devolved governance and affirmation that it is a great development model for Kenya.

~ Devolution at 10 in Kenya, a study released by Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, 2022.

Significant positive impact on education, provision of health services in different counties owing to sustained resource allocation averaging 30% of the total county budgets; and the establishment of municipalities to enhance the provision of services in urban areas, providing services that has targeted safely and security of women.

~ The Impact of Devolution on Women and Girls, a study, by the Council of Governors (CoG), 2022.





Human Rights, Gender Equality, Justice, and Rule of Law

UN Kenya has contributed to advancing human rights, gender equality, justice, and the rule of law in Kenya. From empowering marginalised and vulnerable communities to enhancing the capacities of justice institutions, **collective efforts have been made possible through the strategic support of the Governments of Canada, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Sweden, the United States of America and the European Union.**

UN Kenya continued to provide support to Non-State Actors (NSAs) in delivering **legal aid services to marginalised and vulnerable communities** across 12 focal counties. These counties include Nairobi, Mombasa, Nakuru, Kisumu, Uasin Gishu, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Tana River, Lamu, Isiolo and Marsabit. Employing a range of strategies and approaches, such as Community Education Sessions, Capacity Building sessions, Community Paralegals training, and the establishment of Toll-Free Lines platforms, UN Kenya has made a substantial impact on these communities.

A total of 73,042 direct beneficiaries (33,312 male; 39,730 female) and an estimated 4,331,427 indirect beneficiaries have been reached. **This accounts for approximately 34.15% of the total population in the 12 target counties.** This support is crucial in fostering equal access to justice and empowering marginalised and vulnerable communities, thus enabling them to better understand and exercise their legal rights.

UN Kenya's support for the justice sector in Kenya had a significant impact on the development and implementation of various initiatives. One of the key supported initiatives was the development of a comprehensive **training programme for Probation Officers and Community Probation Volunteers.** 300 officers successfully completed the training in this initiative designed to promote alternatives to imprisonment and reduce prison overcrowding.

Additionally, a training policy was developed to support the training of Community Probation volunteers across the country. These efforts had a significant impact on the justice system's rehabilitation approach.

In collaboration with the judiciary, UN Kenya supported the development of tools for **accurate caseload data collection, transmission, analysis, reporting, and dissemination.** These tools were instrumental in compiling 2021-22 statistics. Furthermore, the UN supported the development and launch of a **Prosecutor's Guide to Children in the Criminal Justice System,** fostering a more compassionate approach towards children within the criminal justice system. The initiative aimed to promote child-friendly justice and international principles in the criminal justice system.

Institutions' capacities to develop and implement laws and policies were also strengthened through technical assistance provided by the UN Kenya. The UN supported the **development and launch of the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Rapid Reference Guide** for the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP). The development of this guide marks a significant step forward in the fight against SGBV, with the guide serving as an effective tool in combating SGBV cases.

UN Kenya further strengthened the capacity of the Child Justice Unit within the ODPP's Children's Division, with **56 prosecutors assigned to the Child Justice Unit of ODPP's Children's Division having trained on developing and implementing child-friendly laws and policies.** The UN also supported seventeen entities drawn from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), media and state actors in advocacy sessions to comply with human rights standards and to apply a human rights-based approach in services delivery, elections and public participation.



*In partnership with UN Women and the Government of Japan, women and girls from refugee and host communities received vocational skills to strengthen their resilience in humanitarian and crisis settings.
Photo: UN Women/Luke Horswell*

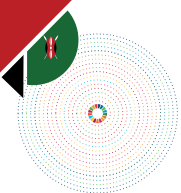


73,042



73,042 direct beneficiaries and an estimated 4,331,427 indirect beneficiaries were reached through UN-supported legal aid services in twelve target counties.





Education

The UN's support has brought about significant advancements in Kenya's education system, with a focus on providing **inclusive, equitable, and quality learning opportunities**.

UN Kenya has made a key contribution to attracting and keeping children in schools by supporting the Government of Kenya to provide technical assistance for the **National School Meals Programme**, which currently covers about 2.5 million children and is a safety net for the most vulnerable children and communities, especially in drought-affected regions. It is also a key programme and at the heart of Kenya's commitments under the Global School Meals Coalition, for which Kenya's target is to scale up school meals to 10 million children by 2030.

In partnership with the UN, the Government of Kenya launched the book "**History of Kenya's school meals programme**," which documents Kenya's experience in transitioning school meals to the Government and lays a foundation for South-South knowledge transfer. UN Kenya further supported the rolling out of the digital application for the Home-Grown School Meals Programme in three counties to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability of the Government-led programme.

Schools' enrollment rose significantly, with 100,017 primary and 18,805 secondary school students gaining continuous access to formal education. Enhancing access to schooling, UN Kenya further supported 22,000 girls with Menstrual Hygiene Management Kits and conducted enrolment drives in 15 counties enrolling 15,141 children in primary schools.

Over **5,400 students in 18 schools** also gained access to gender and disability-sensitive WASH facilities. Moreover, 30,189 newly enrolled out-of-school children benefitted from teaching and learning materials, and 4,985 school board of management members trained on their roles and

and responsibilities enhancing their capacities to develop sustainable and strategic plans for student enrollment and retention.

Additionally, **118,324 learners received essential teaching materials to enhance the quality of learning**. 86 primary school teachers were trained on the competency-based curriculum, while 40 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) teachers were trained to strengthen quality STEM innovation and implementation.

108 schools were connected to the internet through UN Kenya's support, making a total of 237 schools connected. Additionally, UN Kenya, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, supported the establishment of the first-ever **Offline Intranet Learning Resource Centre**, along the provision of digital libraries to three schools. The UN also supported training teachers in these schools on using ICTs in education for teaching and learning.

UN Kenya also supported the development of the National Early Childhood Education Committee (NECEC) work plan for 2022-2024 towards young children in Kenya have access to high-quality education. As part of this plan, a **scheme of service for Early Childhood Education (ECE) teachers has been developed** and disseminated to County Government officials through the Council of Governors. The scheme aimed to



improve the recruitment and remuneration of ECE teachers in Kenya, which will help attract and retain qualified educators in this critical field.

UN Kenya support further strengthened coordination mechanisms for the Education Sector through the **Local Education Group (LEG) and Education in Emergencies (EiE)** at the national and county levels. For example, following the deterioration of the drought in the country, the UN supported the MoE through a drought response plan, established the EiE Working Group at the county level, and built its capacity.

Significantly, UN Kenya has played a pivotal role in supporting Kenya's Ministry of Education (MOE) to prepare for the UN Transforming Education Summit. This pivotal engagement saw the **Kenyan Government develop a commitment statement and report outlining key areas for transformation**, setting Kenya on a path towards achieving the ambitious targets of Sustainable Development Goal 4.

This transformative work **would not have been possible without the unwavering support of the European Union, the Fund to End Violence Against Children, the Global Fund to End Modern Slavery, the Mastercard Foundation, Morneau Shepell (Lifeworks Ltd.), Vodafone Foundation, and the Governments of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy Kenya, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, who have all been instrumental in the collective efforts to transform inclusive, equitable access to education.**



2.5m

The National School Meals Programme covers about 2.5 million children and is a safety net for the most vulnerable children and communities, especially in drought-affected regions.

4,985

4,985 school board of management members trained enhancing their capacities to develop sustainable and strategic plans for student enrollment and retention.



118,324

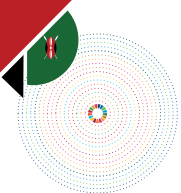
118,324 learners (47,012 girls and 71,312 boys) were provided with teaching and learning materials to enhance quality learning.



100,017

100,017 learners (41,174 girls and 58,843 boys) enrolled in primary schools, and a further 18,805 learners (5,838 girls and 12,967 boys) accessed secondary school formal education.





Health

The UN has made significant strides in **promoting and delivering comprehensive healthcare services to vulnerable and marginalised populations.**

UN Kenya's healthcare interventions have yielded impressive results, including the adoption of **WHO Quality of Care standards**, the development of an **integrated community care management plan for common childhood illnesses**, and the finalisation of an Early Childhood Disease scale-up plan. Moreover, the UN has improved its leadership, technical, and institutional capacity to prevent, control, eliminate, or eradicate communicable and neglected tropical diseases, as well as manage and control non-communicable conditions, including mental health.

The UN has enhanced **knowledge of sexual and reproductive health information among young people** through various digital and youth empowerment platforms while also developing a guide for adolescents on SRH. UN Kenya's efforts to ensure **commodity security** have had a significant impact on maternal and reproductive health outcomes. Through procurement and distribution of life-saving commodities, the UN **helped avert 266,572 unintended pregnancies, 739 maternal deaths, and 59,886 unsafe abortions**, even in humanitarian settings. In addition, the UN Kenya worked tirelessly to combat teenage pregnancy, establishing **multisectoral forums and improving access to youth-friendly services in 50 health facilities**. Through these efforts, 342,964 adolescents and youth were reached with life-saving information and services, highlighting the UN's unwavering commitment to improving Kenya's reproductive and maternal health outcomes.

UN Kenya played a crucial role in the midterm review of the **National Malaria Strategy (NMS)**, ensuring its successful completion.



Maureen Adhiambo Ochieng discusses her baby's health concerns with Dickson Anditi Kibai, a community health volunteer providing post-natal care, at her home in Magunga, Homa Bay County. Photo: UNFPA

Collaborating with the RBM Partnership to End Malaria and the African Leaders Malaria Alliance, the UN mobilised technical support to facilitate both the NMS midterm review and external validation, as well as the development of an addendum to the NMS.

In addition, **the UN provided technical assistance for monitoring, managing, and responding to a malaria surge/outbreak** in the Bureti constituency, specifically in the Litein, Kapkatet and Kusumek villages of Kericho County. This support demonstrates the UN's commitment to combating malaria and promoting effective strategies to reduce the disease's impact on affected communities.

55 women and girls with obstetric fistula have received successful operations, improving their quality of life and health outcomes through the support of UN Kenya. Furthermore, digital platforms have been scaled up to provide women and girls with disabilities greater access to sexual and reproductive health information, improving health outcomes while addressing existing barriers to accessing healthcare.

UN Kenya's strong focus on sexual, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health has fortified Kenya's institutional and technical capacities. This has been critical in ensuring the delivery of quality, equitable, and integrated healthcare services across the country, **with the vital backing of an extensive network of development partners, including the Governments of Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Kenya, Netherlands, New Zealand, South Korea, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, as well as the European Union, Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation, the Joint SDG Fund and consolidated funds from National Committees for UNICEF (Natcoms).**

Contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals



342,964

342,964 adolescents and youth reached with life-saving information and services.



50

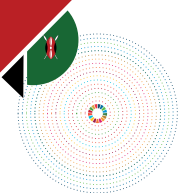
Access to youth-friendly services in 50 health facilities improved.



55

55 women and girls with obstetric fistula have received successful operations, improving their quality of life and health outcomes





Nutrition

The UN has played a critical role in supporting the Government's efforts to **improve nutrition outcomes for children in Kenya**, underscoring the importance of continued collaboration between the UN, the Government and other critical stakeholders to improve nutrition outcomes and accelerate progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

With the support of the Governments of **Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Kenya, Netherlands, New Zealand, South Korea, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, as well as the European Union, Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation, the Joint SDG Fund and consolidated funds from National Committees for UNICEF (Natcoms)**, nutrition outcomes in Kenya have experienced significant improvements.

In response to the current drought in Kenya, the UN provided **emergency assistance to over 800,000 children affected by malnutrition, expanding community-based programming from 8 to 15 counties**. This expansion required significant investment and capacity transfer to the County Governments, leading to the establishment of strong coordination structures and increased presence of outreach sites, enabling services to be provided closer to mobile populations, particularly in the arid and semi-arid regions of Kenya.

Through the UN's support, Kenya's Government has developed a **National Road Map for Child Wasting, part of the first-ever Global Action Plan on Child Wasting**. This plan outlines a framework for actions to prevent and manage child wasting and accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs. By effectively addressing child wasting, Kenya can improve the health and wellbeing of its children and ensure a more prosperous and sustainable future.

UN Kenya has also supported the government's efforts to transition the nutrition supply chain financing and management, including the development of a nutrition transition plan that includes increased domestic financing for the nutrition supply chain. The Government has **allocated USD222,969 towards the procurement and distribution of Ready-To-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF)** through a match fund facility, and Tana River County has committed to take up financial responsibility for the procurement of MAM commodities, starting with KES 6 million in 2022/2023 financial year.

In addition, UN Kenya has supported the expansion of **High-Impact Nutrition Interventions (HiNi) coverage and improved the quality of HiNi service delivery**. This has included the procurement of 78,091 cartons of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) for the treatment of severe acute malnutrition, as well as the development of an Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition modular training package to enhance the capacity of health workers to provide quality treatment of acute malnutrition in health facilities. The expansion and improvement of HiNi programmes are vital for saving lives, promoting health and well-being, reducing inequalities, and fostering sustainable development.



UN Kenya has **built the capacity for community health volunteers and mother-to-mother support groups** to enhance maternal mental health and behaviour change in addressing children's diets. As a result, the treatment programme reached 153,226 children and 91,044 Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLWs), and prevention programmes reached 18,698 children and 30,484 PLWs.

To inform the long-term Universal Child Benefit (UCB), UN Kenya has **supported the Government to undertake Fill the Nutrient Gap and Cost of the Diet assessment in the three UCB counties**.

Through regular engagement with the Data team of the Kenya food security steering group, UN Kenya has supported situation assessment and analysis through nutrition SMART surveys and seasonal assessments. Early warning systems were critical in communicating risk in a timely manner and supporting sector response adaptation.

UN Kenya also **supported the institutionalisation of Positive Deviance Hearth as a national programme**, including training national resource persons on the PD Hearth approach and the development of PD Hearth guidelines explicitly tailored for Kenya. This approach is unique in that it **focuses on 'positive deviants'—families who have well-nourished children despite living in poor conditions— to learn from and replicate their successful behaviors, thereby contributing to improved child nutrition and empowered communities**.



At the Medina Health Centre in Garissa County, Nutrition Officer Aisha Mohamed conducts a routine check-up on Sudeys to monitor his growth and development, as well as to assess his nutritional status.
Photo: UNICEFKenya/2022/LameckOrina



\$222,969

The Government of Kenya allocated US\$ 222,969 towards procurement and distribution of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) through match fund facility.



153,226

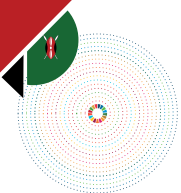
Community health volunteers and mother to mother support reached 153,226 children and 91,044 PWDs and prevention programmes reached 18,698 children and 30,484 PLWs while treatment programmes reached 128,479 children and 87,343 PLWs.



800,000

UN provided emergency assistance to over 800,000 children affected by malnutrition, expanding community-based programming from 8 to 15 counties.





Child and Social Protection

Kenya has achieved a significant improvement in the registration of children under the age of five. The country experienced an **increase in registration for children under one-year-old from 76.2% to 86.2% by June 2022**, as per the Kenya vital statistics report.

UN Kenya was instrumental in supporting the Government to develop and implement policies, legislation, and strategies on child and social protection. This resulted in the review, validation, and submission of the **National Social Protection Policy** for approval, which aligns with the revised Kenya Social Protection Policy. Moreover, the **feasibility study and cost-benefit analysis for the Universal Child Benefit (UCB) have been completed, with four cycles of cash transfer delivered to beneficiaries in selected counties between January and June 2022.**

The UN also facilitated the development of **social protection policies, strategies, and legislation tailored to specific counties' needs and contexts.** These policies have been approved by the respective cabinets, and the counties are now developing implementation plans. The institutionalisation of the child and social protection learning and development programme has been enhanced through the accreditation of 12 Kenya School of Government faculty members and four officers from the State Department for Social Protection as master trainers in social protection.

In addition, the UN has enabled new innovations and technologies to improve **Management Information Systems (MIS) for service delivery.** Management information systems such as the **Enhanced Single Registry (ESR), Consolidated Cash Transfer Programme (CCTP-MIS), and Child Protection (CPIMS)** have been strengthened with additional functionalities. The UN financed data collection in 16 counties, identifying the most vulnerable households for inclusion in the national ESR.

The ESR was used in beneficiary targeting by the Government, NGOs and UN agencies, including the "Lisha Jamii" drought response.

The UN implemented complementary cash-plus programmes aimed at improving the lives of vulnerable groups in Kenya. These programmes include the **Nutrition Improvement through Cash and Health Education (NICHE), the disability-inclusive cash-plus programme** in Mombasa County, **maternal health cash-plus programmes** in Kakamega and Vihiga, and the expansion of the **National Safety Net Programme** beneficiaries and **Cash transfer programme** for vulnerable groups. UN Kenya further facilitated dialogue on social security benefits, leading to the approval of an Unemployment Insurance Fund.

In addition, the Kenya Community of Practice (CoP) for Social Protection was launched in October 2020, focusing on themes relevant to the universal social protection agenda and shock-responsive.



A mother and daughter pose for a picture at their home in Mombasa town, Mombasa County.
Photo: UNICEFKenya/2022/JamesEkwam

UN Kenya worked with the County Government of Wajir to **design a disability-inclusive programme** anchored on the Wajir County Disability Act 2021, focusing on improving the well-being and income security of PWDs in Wajir County. Wajir County Government responded positively by **allocating Kes.40 million (USD. 327,118) to the county disability fund** in the 2022/2023 fiscal year, representing a remarkable 185% increase from the previous year. This significant increase in funding will help to further enhance disability inclusion in the county, promoting inclusivity and equal opportunities for all.

The UN supported the Government in implementing initiatives to counter child trafficking and smuggling initiatives in line with the national referral mechanism. The UN supported the contextualisation and training of the **Determinant of Migrant Vulnerability (DoMV) model.**

The strides taken to enhance social protection mechanisms have been made possible through the support of a broad network of partners. These include **the European Union, the Fund to End Violence Against Children, the Global Fund to End Modern Slavery, the Mastercard Foundation, Morneau Shepell (Lifeworks Ltd.), Vodafone Foundation, and the Governments of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Kenya, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America** have been pivotal in this transformative journey.



86.2%

Registration rate for children under one-year-old increased from **76.2%** to **86.2%** in 2022.



16

12 Kenya School of Government faculty members and 4 officers from the State Department for Social Protection accredited as master trainers in social protection.



16

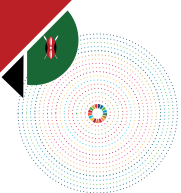
The UN financed data collection in 16 counties to identify the most vulnerable households for inclusion in the national Enhanced Single Registry (ESR).



1.67m

1.67 million people received food and cash assistance in 2022.





Water and Sanitation

In terms of water and sanitation, UN Kenya has made considerable progress in **helping Kenya to improve access to safe water and sanitation** through various initiatives.

The **National Water and Sanitation Investment Plan (NAWASIP) 2023-2030**, which aims to achieve 100% piped water coverage for urban populations and 100% access to improved water sources for rural communities, has been signed by Kenya. UN Kenya supported County Governments in developing county water services strategies to prioritise investment plans and financing mechanisms for rural and underserved communities.

UN Kenya supported strengthening **the capabilities of Government staff and service providers** to deliver high-quality sanitation promotion services. This included conducting water audits, monitoring platforms, groundwater mapping, and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) financing assessments. Furthermore, county-led water and sanitation coordination was established to enable joint planning and oversee sector performance, driving tangible results and ensuring efficient resource allocation.

Through the **drought response activities, UN Kenya provided support to 480,309 people** in Garissa, Mandera, Wajir, Marsabit, Turkana, Isiolo, Tana River and Samburu Counties, enhancing their capacity and skills in household water treatment and safe storage. Specifically, **58 water points were solarised** to provide a reliable and renewable energy source to pump and distribute water in Turkana County. Additionally, **nine sand dams with water collection points were constructed** to improve groundwater recharge and demonstrate effective adaptation techniques. A further 700 non-functional boreholes have been identified, with plans to rehabilitate them to provide access to safe water for over 1 million people and their livestock. These initiatives have significantly

improved access to safe water for the local communities and enhanced their resilience to drought and climate change.

The UN has also **established and trained 61 Water User Associations** on water governance and management of water sources and 7 Water Resource User Associations on sub-catchment plans developed to guide climate change adaptation techniques to enhance sustainability and climate change resilience of communities in Kenya.

Additionally, UN Kenya supported public-private sector partnerships for the promotion of goods and services related to sanitation and hygiene through Make a Splash! partnership. This initiative has **purchased and installed over 14,000 SATO* pans in four counties**, providing safe and dignified sanitation services to vulnerable communities.

UN Kenya's endeavours to improve access to clean water and sanitation facilities in Kenya have been **made possible through the support of diverse partners, including the Associação Obras Sociais Irmã Dulce, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Mastercard Foundation, the Governments of China, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea and the United States of America**. These strategic achievements further enhanced positive impacts on health, education, and economic opportunities.



32-year-old water vendor Mohamud Kahin.
Photo: UNHCR

At the heart of Dagahaley, Daadab, Kenya, 32-year-old Mohamud Kahin and his dedicated colleagues have revolutionised water access for the community. Mohamud and his team operate an innovative water ATM system. This ingenious solution efficiently supplies water to local vendors who, in turn, sell it, making a modest profit.

Mohamud explains the fascinating process: "We use these tokens to run the ATMs. The grey one unlocks the ATM, while the blue one opens the water valve. Each blue token enables the collection of 25 jerricans, after which it must be topped up to continue the water flow."

In a sustainable enterprise model, the water is sold to vendors at a fair rate of 5 shillings per jerrican, who then retail it for 20 shillings. Yet, the real impact of this operation goes beyond the financials.

With a note of pride in his voice, Mohamud shares, "The ATMs have brought water within reach of our community, bridging the gap between necessity and availability. It has also fostered increased trade between the host and refugee communities."

On any given day, their operation facilitates the sale of between 1,000 and 1,500 jerricans, a testament to the profound difference this system has made in the lives of the community members.

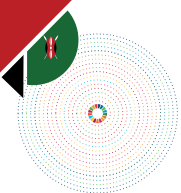
 **480,309**

480,309 people in eight counties have had their capacity and skills on household water treatment and safe storage enhanced.

 **58**

58 water points solarised to provide a reliable and renewable source of energy to pump and distribute water in Turkana County.





HIV Response

In HIV response, UN Kenya contributed to strengthening supply chain systems through digitising family planning commodity management tools, addressing stigma and gender inequalities, and enhancing key population as well as adolescents and young people (AYP) towards prevention, treatment, and care services paths. As a result, the UN procured and distributed life-saving commodities that have contributed to averting unintended pregnancies, maternal deaths, and unsafe abortions.

The UN also supported the **establishment of multisectoral forums and strengthened access to youth-friendly services** in 50 health facilities, reaching 342,964 adolescents and youth with life-saving information and services.

In addition, UN Kenya provided support to **strengthen the capacities of Government, employers, and unions to address HIV-related stigma and discrimination** in the world of work. Through the Central Organization of Trade Unions in Kenya, workers have been mobilised and sensitised to HIV and TB at the workplace, including addressing stigma and discrimination. The People Living with HIV Stigma Index (2021) found that many people delayed taking an HIV test or stopped or interrupted treatment because of fear of stigma and discrimination.

UN Kenya further supported the Government in piloting a nutrition surveillance system in Kilifi County, aiming to monitor the effects of the Dolutegravir (DTG) drug on people living with HIV (PLHIV) in light of reports concerning rapid weight gain and obesity and enabling the Government to closely observe PLHIV clients and provide timely interventions when needed.

The digitisation of HIV clients' records continued in 20 health centres in Kajiado County using phone scanners and the MEZA app. This effort supports the **expansion of electronic medical**

records and aligns with the ministry's objective to digitise all medical records, further demonstrating the UN's commitment to enhancing healthcare management and ensuring better health outcomes for people living with HIV.

UN Kenya also played a crucial role in enhancing reliable strategic information and leveraging strategic partnerships for financing. The UN **brokered and supported the development of the National Framework for Community-Led Monitoring (CLM) for Kenya**.

The UN's efforts have been critical in addressing HIV-related issues and promoting the rights of those living with, at risk of, and affected by HIV, including key and priority populations, for zero HIV-related stigmas, discrimination and GBV. Critical to these efforts has been the support from strategic development partners. These include **the Governments of Canada, Germany, Sweden, the United States of America and the European Union, all of whom contribute significantly to this cause**.



Addressing Gender-based Violence

The UN's work in addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Kenya has had a significant impact on communities, survivors, and vulnerable populations. UN Kenya collaborated with the duty bearers of Garissa, Wajir, Kilifi, Kajiado and West Pokot counties to review and develop County Gender-Based violence policies. The impact of this work is evident in the **enhanced and effective development and implementation of Ending Violence Against Women and Girls (EVAWG) policies** in these counties.

The UN offered **protection services to 3,724 GBV survivors from refugee and host communities**. These services included clinical care, medical screening, psychosocial counselling, dignity kits, referrals, legal aid and representation at law courts.

The UN empowered 3,940 vulnerable women and out-of-school girls by increasing their knowledge and skills in enhancing their resilience as a means of reducing GBV cases. Additionally, the UN has **reached 395,840**

community members through advocacy campaigns to prevent and end GBV.

This work has led to increased awareness of referral pathways, increased awareness of referral pathways, improved reporting of GBV cases within 72 hours, and the inclusion of women in community security meetings.

The UN recognises the correlation between gender inequalities and GBV and HIV infection and has provided technical input on GBV and HIV, data requirements, and utilisation of tools under the Ministry of Health. Additional support has been provided to enhance the **provision of stock out of commodities for prevention and treatment**.

Through its **one2one** hotline and mobile-based platforms, UN Kenya **empowered 17,007 adolescents and young people to access information on HIV, GBV, and SRH**. Moreover, the UN facilitated access to HIV, GBV, and SRH services at health facilities for 5,850 adolescents and young people (Female-3,706, Male-2,144) in June 2022.

These results have been significantly amplified by strategic support and funding from invaluable international partners, including **the European Union and the Fund to End Violence Against Children, as well as the Governments of Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States of America**, whose substantial contributions were instrumental roles in **bolstering the development and implementation of effective policies while enabling the provision of essential support to survivors, empower vulnerable groups**, enhance awareness, and facilitate access to crucial information and services.

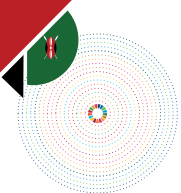
Contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals



395,840

The UN reached 395,840 community members through advocacy campaigns to prevent and end GBV.





2.2.2 Peace

Peace and Human Security

The UN played a critical role in supporting Kenya to strengthen peace and human security. Leading up to and following the August 2022 general elections, the UN **provided analytical, programmatic, and diplomatic support to promote peace and reduce the risk of violence.** The UN's strategy was based on the assessment that Kenya's national institutions were robust and independent enough to ensure peaceful elections. The UN supported civil society actors, including women, youth, and human rights defenders, to promote a peaceful and inclusive process. The implementation of a national platform for early warning, mediation, and international coordination **contributed to an ecosystem of prevention, steering the country through the elections and political transition.**

The peaceful outcome resulted from various interventions by Kenyan state and civil society actors, including preventive actions at local, national, and regional levels. **UN entities provided early planning, analysis, and preventive engagements, putting national institutions at the forefront of preventive action.** The National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) offered a roadmap for peaceful elections, which the UN supported through strategic partnerships and programming.

The UN built the capacity of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) to manage election-related disputes and promote electoral security. This initiative bore fruit, as the **Dispute Resolution Commissioners of the IEBC were able to resolve 162 nomination-related disputes.** This success was made possible thanks to the training of 409 officials in elections-related dispute resolution. Additionally, 91 individuals received capacity-building on electoral security, risk management, and coordination, while 11 monitors were deployed to ten counties to monitor election hate speech.

To combat hate speech and misinformation on social media, UN Kenya supported a coalition of three Kenyan organisations who **worked together to counter hate speech and misinformation.**

Over 890 cases of hate speech, incitement, and misinformation were identified and acted upon by national actors and global tech companies. Virtual round tables with global tech companies led to the removal of harmful content and the monitoring of political advertisements with serious cases referred to relevant authorities.

Peace messaging and counter-narrative utilising over 60 social media influencers and local radios were also pushed on **Facebook, Twitter, TikTok and other platforms reaching over 12.4 million users online.** At the same time, the same **messages were transmitted in local vernacular stations reaching over 10.4 million users.**



UN Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, Ms Hanna Tetteh (seventh from the left), UN Peace & Development Advisor, Ms Rana Taha (first from the left) and IEBC Chair Wafula Chebukati (fourth from the left) graced the launch of the National Peace & Mediation Team in Nairobi, July 2022.
Photo: PDU/ IRCK

The UN provided technical and advisory support to national and regional stakeholders, leading to the **reactivation of the Platform for Peace, a coordinated electoral violence prevention initiative.** The platform enhanced early warning and response through cohesion monitors and a peace messaging hub. The UN also supported the **establishment of a Women's Mediation Network and a National Peace and Mediation Team.** These teams mediated politically-related conflicts, mobilised Kenyans to uphold the rule of law, and diffused political tension during pre- and post-election periods.

These strategic results were largely **achieved through crucial strategic support and partnership from the Governments of Canada, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States alongside substantial backing from key international partners such as the European Union and the UN Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund.** The collective commitment and efforts made by these global partners were instrumental in fostering a robust ecosystem of prevention. This, in turn, allowed Kenya to navigate its way successfully through a critical political juncture. This broad-based range of diverse partnerships symbolised the extensive investment of the international community in fortifying Kenya's democratic resilience.

 **12.4m**

Peace messaging and counter-narratives on social media reached over 12.4 million users online.

 **10.4m**

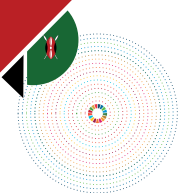
Peace messages transmitted in local vernacular stations reached over 10.4 million users.

 **890**

Over 890 cases of hate speech, incitement, and misinformation were identified and acted upon by national actors and global tech companies.

Contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals





Women, Peace and Security

UN Kenya's efforts in Women, Peace, and Security agenda ranged from diversified strategies, including policy enhancement, localisation of collaboration with international bodies, active engagement of traditional leaders in gender-sensitive dialogues, and harnessing the power of technology in the hands of young girls. These strategies have **enhanced Kenya's multifaceted approach to peacebuilding and gender equality**.

Global Women, Peace, and Security Index recognised **Kenya as one of the top ten most improved countries globally and the top six in Africa**, moving from 107 in 2017 to 90 in 2021/2022 in the index ranking. This improvement can be attributed to various factors, including the improved policy environment through the Kenya National Action Plan II (KNAP II) and the localisation of the agenda at the county level by County Governments. There has also been an increased focus on developing and implementing County Action Plans on UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325: Women Peace and Security strengthened institutions such as the State Department of Gender and the National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management, and increased awareness of the agenda.

The UN provided technical gender expertise to **strengthen peace and security structures and institutions overseeing implementation and coordination**, including reporting. Kenya's commitment to the WPS agenda was clearly demonstrated through its priorities during its terms at the UN Security Council, where **Kenya prioritised the WPS agenda at the global, regional, and national levels**. These efforts have contributed to improving the country's ranking and have enhanced the visibility and recognition of Kenya's commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment in the peace and security sector.



Governor Fatuma Achani (front centre) leading a UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR 1325) march in Kwale County, alongside Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Gender and Affirmative Action, Aisha Jumwa (left of centre). UNSCR 1325 recognises the vital role of women in conflict prevention and resolution. Photo: UN Women/Luke Horswell.

Due to capacity development provided by UN Kenya, **30 Al Fatah Council of Elders have advanced the role of women in peace, security, and disaster risk reduction (DRR) governance**. The elders have collaborated with other stakeholders to create solutions addressing disasters and conflicts. These trained elders are now more **enthusiastic and receptive to the idea of gender-sensitive DRR**. They have shared their experiences and perspectives on breaking harmful cultural norms and practices, as well as overcoming institutional, structural, and legal barriers that impede women's equal influential participation in peace, security, and disaster risk reduction efforts.

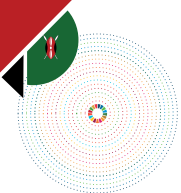
Lastly, the MobiPeace Hackathon for Social Justice and Peace event **equipped 50 young girls with practical coding skills for mobile app development for peacebuilding**. The girls developed three mobile applications towards promoting peace in Sheng, Swahili and English, thereby **showcasing the potential of young people in contributing to peace-building efforts**.

The remarkable strides made by Kenya in the Global Women, Peace, and Security Index are a **testament to Kenya's commitment to elevating the role of women in peace and security, challenging traditional norms, and investing**

in capacity-building initiatives that directly impact the community. These commendable strides have been made possible through the strategic partnership and support of partners like the **European Union and the United Nations Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund**, as well as support from the Governments of **Canada, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States**, each of which has played a pivotal role in the brighter path ahead, as Kenya continues to break down barriers and create a more inclusive, peaceful society.

Contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals





2.2.3 Planet

Disaster and Risk Management

Kenya is on the frontlines of the climate emergency and in 2022, the country faced a fifth consecutive failed rainy season. The UN worked closely with the Kenyan Government to **address the ongoing drought and to prepare and respond to disasters**. To this end, the UN provided financial support to the Government to improve its drought early warning system at the National Drought Management Authority, helping to monitor, prepare for, and take early action in the face of drought.

Additionally, the UN supported the Kenya Government in **developing a reporting framework for tracking disaster-related losses through the Sendai monitor**. The reporting will enable the country to measure direct economic losses, including damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services.

At the county level, enhanced institutional and human capacities have **improved local resource allocation for disaster risk management (DRM)**. **The UN provided early warning to 23 counties through the drought early warning system**. In addition, the **UN supported the development of hazard atlases in 14 counties and child-focused hazard profiles in 15 counties**. These hazard profiles will support DRM legislative and resource allocation to enhance risk knowledge. The Government has subsequently finalised and printed hazard profiles for the Counties of Elgeyo Marakwet, West Pokot, and Wajir.

Coordination mechanisms have also been strengthened in five counties of Wajir, Garissa, Kilifi, Marsabit, and Tana River through mainstreaming coordination functions in DRM policies and bills. UN Kenya further provided technical support to Marsabit County to develop county sectoral contingency plans and formulate disaster risk reduction interventions.

Moreover, UN Kenya was pivotal in building community resilience to climate change and other shocks. In response to the drought situation, the **UN provided food assistance to identified food-insecure Kenyans, targeting up to 539,450 people who are in IPC 4 conditions and residing in 12 of the worst-affected counties in the ASAL**. Food assistance was provided through both in-kind food distributions and cash transfers based on the context. Furthermore, refugees in Kakuma and Dadaab refugee camps and Kalobeyei settlement are receiving monthly life-saving food assistance to meet their basic food and nutrition needs. The food assistance provided in **cash transfers and in-kind food distributions currently meets up to 80% of the minimum food basket**.

Generally, the UN's support for Kenya has **played a vital role in enhancing institutional and human capacities, building community resilience, providing food assistance, and strengthening coordination mechanisms**. These efforts were

made possible through the collective support of strategic partners, namely the Governments of Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea and the United States of America, alongside the European Union and the Green Climate Fund, the Mastercard Foundation and the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), whose collective contributions have been instrumental in helping Kenya mitigate and manage disasters, especially during the worst drought in recent memory.



A UN staff member interacts with the community in Turkana County to gain a deeper understanding of their situation and the impact of the drought on their lives. Photo: OCHA



Community members receive relief food at Maalim, Garissa County, during the launch of the flash appeal in November 2022. Photo: UNEP



 **539,450**

539,450 people in 12 of the worst-affected counties in Kenya's ASALs provided food assistance during the drought.

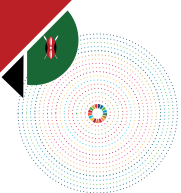
 **23**

The UN provided early warning to 23 counties through the drought early warning system in Kenya.

 **80%**

Refugees in Kakuma, Dadaab, and Kalobeyei settlements receive food aid through cash transfers and in-kind food distribution, which together fulfill up to 80% of their minimum food requirements.





Resilience and sustainable natural resources governance

UN Kenya supported various forest and landscape restoration and governance initiatives that strengthened the capacities of 21,259 beneficiaries (11,247M, 10,012F) from 4,251 households. These initiatives **enhanced the beneficiaries' skills and knowledge** in forest and landscape restoration, agro-forestry, resource mapping, forest and restoration monitoring, bio-enterprise development, efficient water use and management, and resource mobilisation.

The UN further **strengthened the institutional capacity of Government and community entities engaged in the conservation and restoration** of the Kirisia forest in Samburu through the provision of infrastructural support in the form of a tractor, tipping trailer, water bowser, and four motorbikes issued to KFS. A concept for the rehabilitation of 20 Km of Murram roads within the forest was developed, and the co-financing modality has been agreed upon with KFS.

The UN also facilitated resource mapping and development of maps for Leparua, Ilingwesi, Lekuruki, and Oldonyiro conservancies in Laikipia/Isiolo counties representing a total area of **112,042 ha put under improved management and biodiversity**.

Moreover, a baseline assessment of land use patterns in Mount Kulal and Mukogodo Ecosystems indicated that 27,874 ha of Mt Kulal and 23,406 ha of Mukogodo are degraded. Subsequently, **a draft 5-year (2022-2026) Forest and Landscape Restoration Implementation Plan (FOLAREP)** with the goal to restore and sustainably manage deforested and degraded landscapes have been subjected to stakeholder consultations, and a final draft is to be presented to a national stakeholders' forum for validation.

In policy support, the UN supported the **review and development of 8 policy instruments for the sustainable use and management of natural resources**.

UN Kenya participated in policy dialogues during the National Landscape Restoration Scaling Conference and the XV World Forestry Congress in South Korea to influence strategic decisions on the environment.

To enhance resilience to shocks and threats affecting agri-based livelihoods, the UN **intensified efforts to economically empower 14,524 persons (77% female) in 12 counties** through nutrition-sensitive agricultural production and climate-smart agriculture.

418,700 smallholder producers in nine arid counties received safety net food assistance to address the rising food insecurity and prevent the adoption of negative coping mechanisms. The food assistance was part of an integrated approach to building climate resilience through improved access to food, water for irrigation and climate-smart agricultural practices, including **reclaiming and restoring 3,300 hectares of land for productive use**.

In addition to enhancing the resilience of smallholder farmers and pastoralists, UN Kenya provided **modern fishing equipment to fisherfolk and agricultural equipment to women in pastoral households affected by drought in Tana River County**. These inputs were aimed at stabilising livelihoods, and reports from beneficiaries indicated that the distributed items were already contributing to increased incomes. With the start of the fishing and agricultural seasons, further stability of livelihoods is expected. Furthermore, capacity building for 12 technical personnel from various ministries, including Environment and Tourism, was conducted to promote the Geoparks concept as a tool for sustainable development in Kenya. This capacity-building effort supported the **establishment of the Aspiring Baringo Geopark, a site with extraordinary geological, biological and cultural diversity**.

UN Kenya has made significant strides in supporting forest and **landscape restoration initiatives, enhancing the capacity of beneficiaries, strengthening institutional infrastructure, and contributing to sustainable land management**. These **efforts have been enabled through the support of a diverse group of partners, including Adaptation Fund, Associação Obras Sociais Irmã Dulce, Central Emergency Response Fund, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, Mastercard Foundation, Stiftung Auxilium, as well as the Governments of Australia, China, Germany, Japan, South Korea and the United States of America**. These collaborations have not only improved biodiversity and the ecological health of key landscapes but also empowered communities and individuals, bolstering livelihoods against climate shocks and threats. Significantly, they have also played a crucial role in policy dialogues, promoting sustainable resource use and management.



Photo:WFP/Arete/Fredrik Lerneryd

For fifteen years, Adow battled the challenges of farming with an outdated, diesel-powered pump. It was a costly, noisy, and polluting ordeal until UN Kenya intervened, revolutionising his life and farming practices.

With the UN's assistance, Adow replaced his old pump with an environmentally friendly, solar-powered water system and storage tank and introduced high-yielding papayas to his farm. They also trained him in modern farming methods, exponentially enhancing his skills. The UN installed a protective net tunnel garden on Adow's land for growing beetroots, coriander, kale, and spinach. This innovation guarded his crops and improved soil moisture retention.

The UN's support has transformed Adow's farming, making it more efficient, diverse, and profitable. His enhanced income now safeguards his family against drought impacts. His aspirations include expanding his farm and educating his children.

Reflecting on his journey, Adow acknowledges, "Without the UN, farming would have been difficult."

 **112,042**

112,042 ha put under improved management and biodiversity in Leparua, Ilingwesi, Lekuruki and Oldonyiro conservancies in Laikipia and Isiolo counties.

 **418,700**

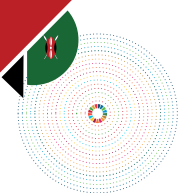
418,700 smallholder producers in nine arid counties received safety net food assistance to address the rising food insecurity and prevent the adoption of negative coping mechanisms.

 **21,259**

The capacities of 21,259 beneficiaries were strengthened through various forest and landscape restoration and governance initiatives through the support of the UN.

Contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals





2.2.4 Prosperity

Sustainable Production

The UN played a vital role in supporting Kenya's sustainable production and efforts to address the impacts of COVID-19 on the country's economy. One significant area of focus was the **engendering of fiscal stimulus packages and recovery efforts put in place by the Government**. UN Kenya developed knowledge products and tools, an advocacy and policy strategy, and provided technical backstopping, statistics, and validation. The UN also collaborated with various state and non-state actors, including academia, to engender fiscal stimulus packages.

The UN's partnerships with multi-agencies, such as the Council of Governors and the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities Secretariat, helped increase understanding and access to Government Procurement. The UN also worked with the State Department of Gender and the Ministry of Agriculture to contextualise women's economic empowerment strategies and **increase women's resilience to climate change and productivity in a changing climate**. Furthermore, the UN enabled gender-responsive systems through the uptake of women empowerment principles. At the same time, the Women's Economic Empowerment strategy under the Sustainable Development for Girls and Women advocated for gender-responsive budgeting in National and County Governments.

Through the support of the UN, Regional economic cooperation has been enhanced through the establishment of the Frontier Counties Development Council (FCDC) Regional Economic Bloc and the review of blueprints for the Lake Region Economic Bloc and Muungano wa Kaunti za Pwani to align with the COVID-19 Socioeconomic Reengineering and Recovery Strategy. This enabled targeted economies of scale between Bloc member counties, leading to improved coordination of policies and the provision of cross or multi-county services,

such as infrastructure and taxes.

The UN **strengthened the capacity of various institutions to enhance food quality standards**. For example, the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) was supported to better regulate and coordinate phytosanitary regulations and to develop a Pesticide Residue Monitoring Scheme and Plant Health Inspection System. The UN also **strengthened the capacity of the Agriculture and Food Authority (AFA) to better regulate and enhance coordination** among regulatory institutions and actors and facilitated the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) to develop and review relevant standards for vegetables, fruits, nuts, and spices and improve the quality infrastructure services.

The UN also focused on improving veterinary systems and public health institutional and technical capacity to address endemic and emerging threats from animal sources, the assurance of safe trade, efficient production, and food safety. Over **115 national and County-level Government officers' technical capacity was strengthened** to maintain animal health, ensure the availability of safe and quality livestock products, respond to livestock-related disease emergencies, and boost livestock productivity. The UN also achieved vital accomplishments, including **strengthening the Veterinary Laboratory Sample Transport and Referral System and Kenya's Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL), which received ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accreditation**.

To boost food security and reduce food loss and waste, the UN supported initiatives to enhance post-harvest management, local agro-processing, value addition, and market access. For example, the UN **provided in-kind food storage facilities with thermohydrometers** to the major refugee and host communities in Kakuma and Lodwar towns. It also facilitated market linkage forums between sellers in Kakuma and

fisherfolk in Lake Turkana- Kalokol Impressa Beach management unit to improve sales to the refugee market, thereby contributing to improved sales of fresh fish by the fisherfolk in Kakuma markets.

UN Kenya partnered with the Government and research institutions to **enhance food safety and quality assurance** through a comprehensive approach that focuses on prevention, detection, decontamination, and support for Government systems, policies and analysis. Aflatoxin-free peanut varieties were introduced for local production, and 350 smallholder farmers (52% women) adopted these varieties across 62 hectares in three counties.

UN Kenya provided laboratory equipment to county public health departments and trained 64 public health officers in effective food surveillance, sampling, and rapid analysis. These efforts **increased localised testing capacity for commodities prone to mycotoxins, thereby reducing the presence of contaminated food commodities in local markets and public institutions**. This collaboration demonstrates the UN's commitment to promoting safe and high-quality food for the population, contributing to better public health outcomes.

The UN grew the capacity and skills of farmers in Kitui, Laikipia and West Pokot Counties on the **understanding and utilisation of gender-sensitive Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) technologies and practices**. The UN also strengthened the capacity of women farmers from Business Savings Groups (BSGs) in West Pokot in basic financial literacy and group saving. With the adaptation of gender-sensitive CSA technologies, the farmers are expected to improve their income and play a better role as value chain actors in their community. Each County Government mapped available national policies and strategies on CSA and climate change adaptation (CCA) against their existing county-level policies and strategies.

UN Kenya has played a crucial role in promoting sustainable production, bolstering economic recovery, and enhancing food security and safety in Kenya, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. **In collaboration with strategic partners, including the Governments of Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, South Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, as well as the Big Heart Foundation, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Mastercard Foundation and the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF), UN Kenya has been instrumental in bolstering Kenya's economic recovery in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the concerted efforts of these strategic partners, the UN has supported a more inclusive and resilient economy, taking into account gender equality and climate change adaptation.**



ISO/IEC 17025:2017

The UN supported various key accomplishments, including strengthening the Veterinary Laboratory Sample Transport and Referral System and Kenya's Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL), which received ISO/IEC 17025:2017 accreditation.

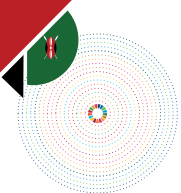


115

Over 115 national and County-level Government officers' technical capacity was strengthened to maintain animal health, ensure the availability of safe and quality livestock products, respond to livestock-related disease emergencies, and boost livestock productivity.

Contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals





Decent jobs, income and entrepreneurship opportunities

The UN made significant **contributions to women-owned Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)** by raising awareness of the Government's affirmative procurement programme - AGPO. The UN worked with the Council of Governors (COG) AGPO secretariat to train SMEs in procurement processes in four counties, promoting women empowerment principles and establishing high-level corporate leadership for gender equality.

UN Kenya further partnered with state, non-state actors and academia to engage women SMEs in the African Free Trade Protocol (AfCFTA), increasing understanding and Access to Government Procurement (AGPO) and contextualising women's economic empowerment strategies.

The UN supported **1,200 smallholder farmers**, of which 53% were women and 25% were youth, to set up Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) **to access financial services and diversify their livelihoods**. Furthermore, the UN supported 25 MSMEs in identifying investment opportunities in key priority sectors and completed the feasibility and master plan for Nyamira Integrated Agro-industrial Park. The UN also supported a further 227 MSMEs in investment profiling and identifying investment opportunities.

Through a collaboration with the County Government of Migori, the **UN supported 1,070 farmers, of whom 74% were female, to transition from tobacco farming to the production of sorghum and High Iron Bean (HIB)**. This intervention allowed farmers to access 11,299 kg of HIB through the community seed system developed under the project, generating earnings valued at USD 231,213.

The UN continued to support youth initiatives aimed at strengthening their capacity to develop agriculture-based enterprises. **81 youths in Siaya**

County received financial and digital literacy skills, and the UN trained 14 agribusiness County officers to mentor and coach the agripreneurs. The UN also profiled and trained 113 Farmer Service Centres, which are being trained on business development and entrepreneurial coaching. Additionally, the UN initiated the potato hub model, **training 575 harvest-service providers in six counties** on good harvesting practices, quality management practices, and pre-and post-harvest management to enhance efficiencies in post-harvest management, aggregation, storage and marketing.

In response to COVID-19, the **UN supported the transfer of three technologies (gasification incinerator for medical waste, solar-powered mobile PCR inspection system, and photocatalytic coating with anti-bacterial effect) from Japan to Kenya** to improve health, sanitary, and hygienic conditions, benefiting four health institutions with 87 engineers and health personnel trained on their use.

UN Kenya's efforts to promote decent jobs and income opportunities were **bolstered by the support of the Governments of Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, South Korea, the United Kingdom and the United States of America as well as strategic support from the Big Heart Foundation, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Mastercard Foundation and the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF)**.



In the heart of Daadab, Garissa County lies a beacon of hope and empowerment - DM Records. This is the only studio within the Dadaab refugee camp, a cornerstone of entrepreneurship that the United Nations Kenya has made possible for young creatives. Deng Chol Aguer, a producer at DM Records, stands as a testament to the transformative power of this initiative.

Deng's passion for music resonates through the walls of the studio. "I love music; it is my solace in times of stress," he shares. Yet, his engagement with DM Records transcends his personal love for music. "This studio helps me gain experience in music production," Deng explains, "and it allows me to earn a living to support my family."

Established in Hagadera in 2015, DM Records has grown into a multifaceted production house. Beyond creating music, the studio produces videos, composes music, and offers graphic design services. It is not just a space for creating art; it is an enterprise that provides marginalised groups with a platform for gainful engagement and decent work.

This story of Deng and DM Records underscores the incredible power of UN Kenya's initiatives. It highlights how the creation of entrepreneurial opportunities can uplift marginalised communities, fostering a sense of purpose and providing the means to a better life.

1200
1,200 smallholder farmers supported to set up Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs).

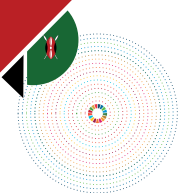
14
14 agribusiness County Officers trained to mentor and coach the agripreneurs.

54,000
54,000 young people (55% women) received agricultural extension services, financial literacy training, and agribusiness opportunities.



1,070
1,070 farmers, 74% being female, supported to transition from tobacco farming to production of sorghum and High Iron Bean (HIB), generating earnings valued at USD 231,213.





2.2.5 Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

The UN system in Kenya continued to enhance its strategic partnerships with the Government (national and county), State Agencies, Non-Government Organizations, Development Partners, International Financial Institutions, Academic and research institutions and the private sector towards the achievement of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda.

UN Kenya worked very closely with the Government to **enhance its capacity to achieve its national priorities**. UN agencies actively participated in the sector working groups by providing technical support to the Government. Through the sector working groups, UN agencies influenced the Government budget allocation and policy directions. This also enabled the UN agencies to better align their programmes with the national and sub-national (county) priorities.

During this period, the UN **successfully launched the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) with the President of Kenya**. The LNOB report raised awareness of the people and regions that are being left behind – namely, the women, children, ASALs and people living in informal urban settlements. The LNOB report also provided the basis for the UN Agencies to focus its development intervention on the regions and persons at risk of being left behind. LNOB lens was used to develop the UNSDCF as well as the Country.

UN Kenya also played a crucial role in the **development coordination within the UN agencies and among the development partners**. The Head of the UN Resident Coordinator has been the co-lead for the Development Partners Group at the level of Heads of Cooperation and played a significant role in enhancing donor coordination in the country. This role helped bring the UN closer to the country's development partners and was an important avenue for the Government to reach out to the development partners.

Cognisant of the importance of delivery of SDGs at local levels, UN Kenya, continues to play an essential role in strengthening devolution in the country. UN agencies **collaborated closely with the Council of Governors to enhance coordination of the counties and provide technical expertise to the counties** in developing and implementing their Country Integrated Development Programmes (CIDP). Through this technical support, the counties are enabled to develop gender and child-sensitive budgeting as well as tracking and reporting on the SDGs.

Through the SDG Partnership Platform stationed at the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), UN Kenya has played a **catalytic role in supporting SDG financing in Kenya**. The SDGPP also collaborated with the Financing for Sustainable Development Office (FSDO) Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) to align finance with national and global sustainable development objectives.

Notably, **three UN-led innovative financing mechanisms introduced by the SDGPP benefitted from the Technical Assistance mechanism in 2022**. These include the Green Financing Facility & Rural Credit Guarantee Scheme for the Rural Kenya Financial Inclusion Facility (RK-FINFA), Generation Unlimited Kenya Strategy, and the Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Development Impact Bond (ASRH DIB) Consortium.

The ASRH DIB programme, in particular, has been significantly scaled up through the SDG Partnership Platform support. This collaborative programme is projected to **improve the lives of half a million adolescent girls aged 15-19 across 10 Kenyan counties by enhancing access to reproductive health and HIV services**.

Titled "Championing the World's First ASRH DIB," secured USD 7 million in catalytic funding from the Joint SDG Fund in 2022, **setting the**

foundation to unlock an additional USD 18 million for the four-year plan extending from April 2022 to March 2026.

The SDG Partnership Platform has also served as a convening force within Kenya's impact investing community. It **facilitated the formation of a Taskforce, currently in the process of legal registration**, which will affiliate with the Global Steering Group for Impact Investing (GSG). A significant stakeholder forum held by the SDGPP in March 2022 fostered practitioner engagement, revitalised the Impact Investing-Kenya Taskforce, and advanced preparations for the Africa Summit 2023 - a critical congregation of the continent's impact investing practitioners.

The SDG Partnership Platform conducted training sessions on the Public-Private Collaboration (PPC) Strategy and Resource Guide. These sessions **enriched 70 officers from Central and Coastal Bloc counties with vital knowledge and skills**. Consequently, these officers are now better equipped to prepare

projects, engage the private sector and implement sustainable financing mechanisms for Universal Health Coverage. This capacity building initiative is a significant step towards fostering robust public-private partnerships.

With a steadfast dedication to the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda, UN Kenya's efforts have been significantly amplified through its strategic partnerships and targeted interventions. **The strategic support from prominent global partners, such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Global Environment Facility, the Joint SDGs Fund, the European Union and Vital Strategies Inc., as well as the Governments of Canada, China, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States of America, has been instrumental in fortifying these efforts**. Their collective contributions have invigorated UN Kenya's capacity to create robust initiatives, foster synergies across sectors, and catalyse transformative change towards sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda in Kenya.



A consortium of UN Kenya partners and Triggerise receives a check for over \$7 million from the Joint SDG Fund for the world's first Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health Development Impact Bond in Kenya. Photo: UNRCO/ Augustine Karani



2.3 Results of the UN working more and better together

The UN's impact in Kenya has been significant, thanks to collaboration and coordination among its various agencies. The UN Development System Reforms have **equipped UN Kenya to deliver more results by working more closely together**. The reforms have made this possible by “empowering” the RC as an “honest broker” and “one-stop shop” for partnership; by ensuring that all individual UN Kenya agencies’ country programme documents derive directly from the Cooperation Framework and carry forward its joint priorities; and by permitting the RC to drive this transformative action through UN Kenya agencies supported by the first-ever **UN Kenya Country Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF)**.

The “SDG MPTF Kenya,” established in mid-2022, has already **received the first contributions from a growing number of development partners and private foundations, including the Governments of Norway, Sweden and Switzerland, as well as Rockefeller, Merck, Hilton Conrad and Ford Foundations**. In 2022, the new UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework was a testament to this joined-up approach. The design of the UNSDCF is deliberately joined up with no agency-specific objectives. Instead, the work is stove piped under three main Strategic Priorities and only five Outcomes.

This joined-up design of the UNSDCF is intended to **drive and promote joint action over the next years that the UN agencies collectively contribute to**. Facilitated by the reinvigorated RC mandate, UN Kenya also decided to deliver 50 per cent of its programming under the UNSDCF through joint programmes, and UN Kenya is now systematically developing these up to 17 joint programmes, again to drive joint action and thereby achieving scaled-up results and improved impact.

UN Kenya, in collaboration with key stakeholders from various sectors, supported

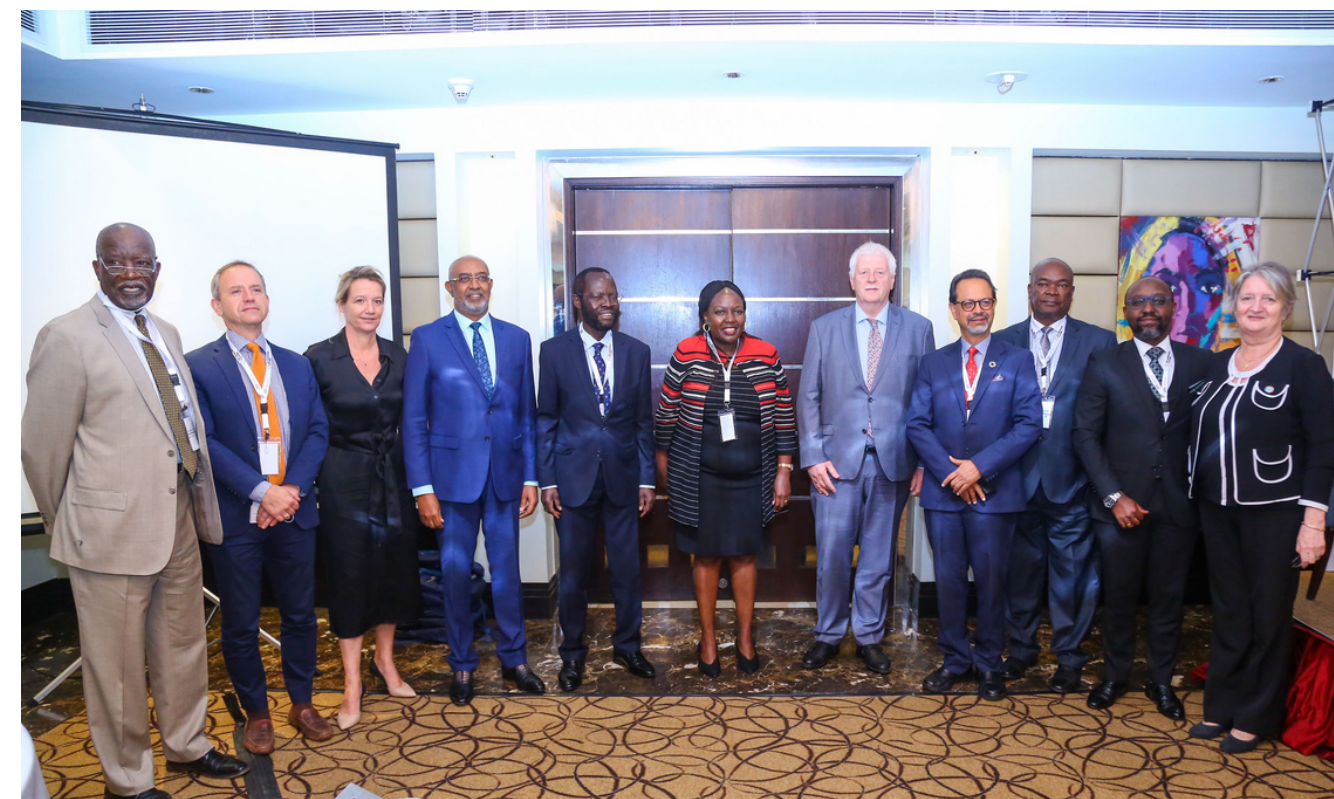
the Government of Kenya in developing the SDGs Recovery and Acceleration Strategy (2022-2030).

By leveraging the expertise and resources of the Government, civil society, private sector, academia, and the UN system, this collaborative effort aims to accelerate the implementation of specific SDGs and drive sustainable development across Kenya.

The UN played a critical role in mitigating the impact of the drought by mobilising US\$ 110, 612,197 that enabled the provision of critical humanitarian assistance to affected communities in complementarity with Government-led relief efforts. Under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator (RC), UN Kenya provided a range of support, including food assistance, clean water and sanitation, livelihood recovery, and reproductive health services.

Regarding devolution, **UN Kenya played a critical role in jointly enhancing service provision** by supporting the formulation and implementation of policies and regulations. This support enabled gender mainstreaming and inter-county economic cooperation, resulting in more effective service delivery.

Ahead of the 2022 Kenyan elections, Kenya’s constitutionally-mandated “**national peace infrastructure**”, and particularly the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC), developed a farsighted Roadmap for Peaceful Elections, together with a National Strategy for Countering Hate Speech. Amongst the many elements of support to this initiative, **the RC led UN Kenya to create an innovative, high-tech consortium to help the competent national authorities track and counter hate and incitement speech in real-time**. All data was provided in real-time to the NCIC, which liaised with other Kenya security institutions for appropriate actions. Peace messaging and counter-narrative campaigns also reached millions of users through social media channels and local radio.



Multistakeholder partners, including ambassadors, officials from the Ministry of Health in Kenya, the UN Resident Coordinator, and other representatives from the UN, participated in a conference exploring the digitisation of health at scale. Photo: PharmAccess/ SDGPP



Anne Atieno, 28, gets her COVID-19 vaccine at Kuoyo Health Centre, Kisumu County. Photo: UNICEFKenya/2022/Lameck Orina



2.4 Evaluation of the UNDAF and Lessons Learned

As part of the process to develop the new UNSDCF 2022-2026, a comprehensive evaluation of the UNDAF was undertaken, and the UN agencies developed a Common Country Analysis. The UNDAF evaluation assessed the programmes' relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, and sustainability and identified improvement areas.

One of the key findings of the evaluation was that the Common Country Assessment (CCA) that had informed UNDAF 2018-2022 was pitched at the national level, had less focus on, and provided limited guidance for UN work at the county level. The CCA provided a comprehensive analysis of socio-economic challenges and issues at the national level. Still, there was limited disaggregation of the issues at the county level due to data limitations.

The evaluation also found that the UN in Kenya had clear and highly rated comparative advantages. However, there was a risk of the UN's role and influence declining if the application of the comparative advantages did not evolve in tandem with Kenya's changing socio-economic and political context.

Given Kenya's positive economic macro-trends, increasing size of the private sector and human resources capacity, the UN's overall role and influence were at risk of declining unless it could harness its comparative advantages. The evaluation recommended that the UN develop an UN-wide framework to guide how the UN could work with County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) to improve the results of UN work at the county level. The UN was also recommended to use the next UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) to re-engineer its positioning in Kenya to prioritise issues, geographical and population targeting, and use strategies that matched its

capacity and comparative advantages in order to maximise its value addition.

Another key finding of the UNDAF evaluation was that with the declining donor funding to Kenya and variations in progress across SDGs at national and county levels, the UN had to reconsider its positioning in Kenya through the next UNSDCF to prioritise issues and sectors, geographical coverage, and population targeting that matched its capacity, resources and comparative advantages to maximise its value addition. The evaluation recommended that the UN develop the new UNSDCF integrated across sectors to improve programme cohesion, maximise synergies, and promote Delivering as One.

The new UNSDCF 2022-2026 has responded to these findings. The UNSDCF has a targeted set of priorities stretching over several sectors with a handful of joint outcomes. The UN is no longer "stretched out too thinly over too many areas". The UNSDCF has also identified the populations most at risk of being left behind in Kenya, and programming will focus on these populations where the UN is seen as having the most added value, thereby contributing to lifting Kenya overall closer to the attainment of the SDGs.

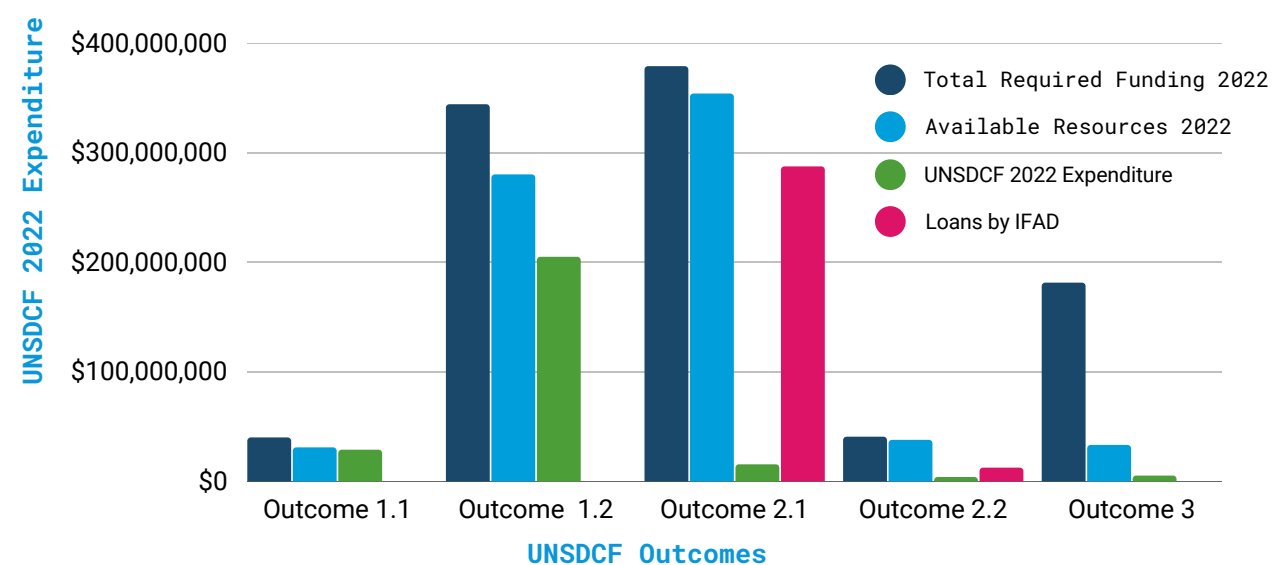
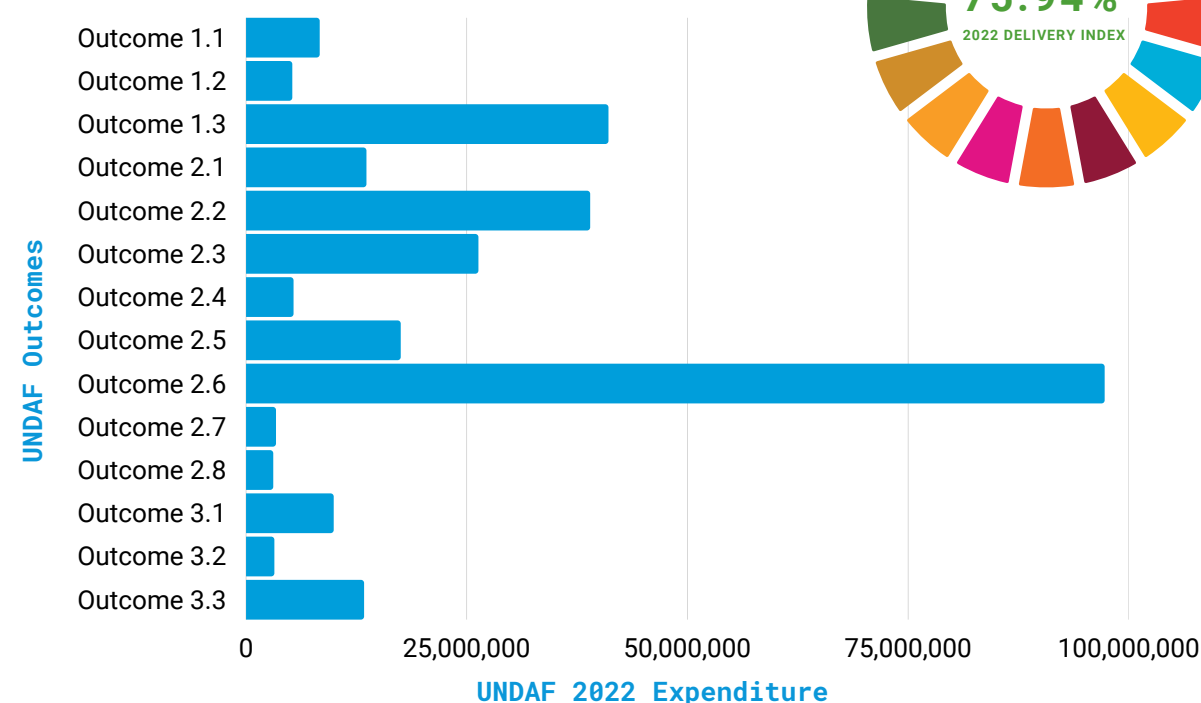
The UNSDCF has put "partnership" as an overall Enabler for the achievement of the priorities, including creating linkages between the UN and the private sector. UN Kenya has also opted to drive joint action systematically and pooled funding for the delivery of the UNSDCF.



Kika, a 41 year old mother of 6 looking after her farm in Kalobeyei.
Photo: UNHCR

2.5 Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

2.5.1 Financial Overview



2.5.2 Resource Mobilization and Quality of Funding

UN Kenya's UNSDCF (2022-2026) resource requirements estimates are US\$2.4 billion. To achieve the resource target, UN Kenya mobilises resources from diverse partners. The partners can be clustered as follows:

1. Official Development Assistance from UN Member States
2. Multilaterals
3. Global Funds & Trust Funds
4. Foundations and Philanthropies
5. Private sector

UN has received significant financial contributions from the Member States. The key contributors include, among others, the **Governments of Australia, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Slovakia, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, Qatar, the United Kingdom (UK), the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the United States of America.**

The Multilaterals that fund the UN include the **GAVI Alliance, European Investment Bank, the World Bank, EU Trust Funds and Trademark East Africa.** GAVI Alliance and Global Fund have been instrumental in supporting health-related programmes.

The Global Funds received by UN Kenya include the **Green Climate Fund (GCF), The United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security (UNTFHS), United Nations Road Safety Fund (UNRSF), UNESCO's Global Media Defense Fund (UNESCO-GMDF), United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP), Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) and UN Democracy Fund (UNDF).**

UN Kenya has also benefited from the generosity of foundations and philanthropies. Some of the major contributors include **Rockefeller Foundation, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, FORD Foundation, Conrad Hilton Foundation, Children's Investment Fund Foundation, IKEA Foundation, The Big Heart Foundation, King Baudouin Foundation United States, UNICEF-QATAR-AE Foundation, The Mastercard Foundation, Safaricom Foundation and Equity Foundation, among others.**

The private sector has also been instrumental in funding UN Kenya programmes. Some of the key funders include **Vital Strategies Inc., International Trade Center, Sanyo Electric Company LTD, Huawei, Prada, Equity Bank and Ken Wellthy corporation.**



United Nations Kenya Key Focus for 2023

The UN Country Team's focus for Kenya in 2023-2024 will revolve around several key areas. Firstly, the UN Country Team will continue supporting Kenya's rebuilding efforts after the devastating impact of COVID-19. The UN will continue collaborating with the Government, development partners, and other stakeholders in supporting sustainable socio-economic recovery from the pandemic, from driving an environmentally sustainable economic recovery to social protection and strengthening the health system towards building a stronger, more resilient Kenya that can withstand future crises.

Another key priority will be deepening devolution and promoting inclusive governance, in line with Kenya's ongoing efforts to strengthen local-level decision-making and service delivery. This will involve supporting initiatives to build the capacity of County Governments, promote gender mainstreaming, and foster inter-county economic cooperation. Devolution remains critical to strengthening governance in Kenya and service delivery at the grassroots level. Devolution has provided an opportunity for local communities to participate in governance processes, promoting democratic participation and accountability.

As a direct implication of the climate emergency, Kenya will continue to see consecutive failed rains combined with extreme weather events, and this will likely exacerbate the humanitarian situation, especially in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) counties of Kenya. UN Kenya and humanitarian partners in Kenya have already launched a flash appeal for \$472.6 million to help 6.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in 2023, as the crisis is expected to worsen.

The UN Country team will therefore support Kenya's increasing humanitarian responses, particularly in light of the ongoing impact of the drought in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) counties. This will involve mobilising resources and working in complementarity with Government-led relief efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to affected communities.

To tackle these challenges, at the core of the priorities for UN Kenya in 2023 is the operationalisation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework Kenya 2022-2026 (UNSDCF). Key to operationalising the Cooperation Framework is the systematic development and launch of a set of joint programmes. The UN Country Team will use joint programmes working collaboratively with the government and other partners to achieve maximum impact and ensure relevancy to Kenya's development needs. The ambition is to use joint programmes to deliver 50 per cent of the programming under the UNSDCF, and the design and start of these joint programmes are therefore critical in 2023.

Building on the newly established "SDG Multi-Partner Trust Fund Kenya," the UN will keep exploring opportunities for pooled funding. Pooled funding has emerged as a critical and effective approach for development cooperation, as it enhances greater collaboration, coordination of resources and streamlining of funding towards development initiatives. The UN will collaborate with development partners to identify priority areas for funding and ensure that resources are utilised effectively to achieve maximum impact. By pooling resources, donors maximise the impact of their contributions while reducing administrative costs and duplication of efforts, benefiting both the Government and the development partners, making it an effective approach to development cooperation.

*Hydroponic farming of vegetables at the Olympic High School.
Photo: WFP/Martin Karimi*



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