



UNITED NATIONS
TURKMENISTAN

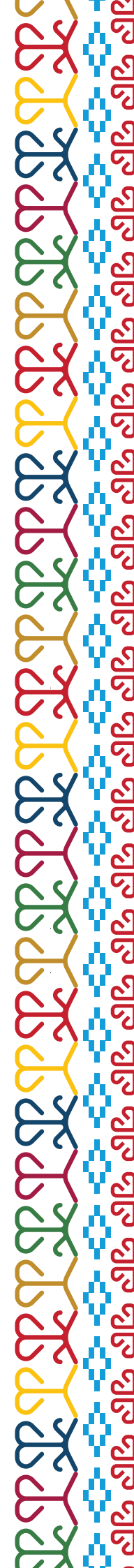


United Nations Annual Results Report 2025

Turkmenistan

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Foreword by Resident Coordinator



It is with great honour and a shared sense of accomplishment I present the 2025 UN Country Annual Results Report for Turkmenistan. This year marks a significant milestone in our partnership: the conclusion of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2021–2025 and the step into our next five-year journey following the signing of the new Cooperation Framework for 2026–2030.

Throughout 2025 our collective efforts were defined by resilience and a commitment to the principle of Leaving No One Behind and inclusion. Together with the Government of Turkmenistan, we have achieved transformative results in the social sector, particularly in social protection and digitalization. The expansion of the social work network to 35 districts and the professionalization of the workforce through university-level programs demonstrate a sustainable shift toward community-based support.

The year was also one of strategic evolution. A landmark achievement in the digital sphere was the deployment of an interdepartmental data exchange platform connecting 10 ministries. Furthermore, the integration of digital solutions—from video-supported tuberculosis treatments to the digitalization of 24/7 financial services—demonstrates that the country is harnessing technology to accelerate the 2030 Agenda.

In 2025, Turkmenistan advanced national priorities amid a more demanding external environment, with export revenues remaining sensitive to hydrocarbon market dynamics. At the same time, evidence from updated household data, especially MICS 7, pointed to some deepening vulnerabilities, particularly for rural households, women in informal work sector and low-income families. This reinforced the importance of targeted, gender-responsive and risk-informed SDG acceleration.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Government of Turkmenistan for its enabling reforms and unwavering support. Our results are a testament to the strength of our partnership, fuelled by a shared vision of an inclusive, diversified, and green economy. I also extend my thanks to our international partners and the 19 UN agencies, resident and non-resident, whose technical expertise and dedication have been the engine of our work.

As we look toward the launch of the new UNSDCF 2026–2030, we recognize the complexities ahead. Turkmenistan's transition as an upper-middle-income country requires robust diversification, innovative financing models, bold steps in advancing the environment agenda and a continued focus on human capital. However, the momentum we have built in 2025 gives me confidence that we are well-positioned to meet these challenges.

The UN remains a reliable partner to Turkmenistan. Together, we will continue to build a future where sustainable development is a reality for all.

Dmitry Shlapachenko
UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan

UN Country Team

The United Nations Country Team (UNCT) in Turkmenistan serves as the primary platform for inter-agency collaboration, ensuring that the collective expertise of the UN system is leveraged to support the national priorities outlined in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF). The UNCT comprises 19 specialized agencies, funds, and programs, providing a cohesive and strategic approach to development assistance, policy formulation, and high-level decision-making. It represents a diverse mix of entities, distinguished by their operational footprint within the country. Eleven UN entities, including ILO, IOM, UNESCO, UNDP, UNICEF, UNODC, UNFPA, WHO, OHCHR, ITC, and FAO, maintain country representation – some on the project level – in Turkmenistan managing

localized operations, facilitating direct government liaison, and overseeing project implementation across health, education, labour, and economic sectors. Eight UN entities - UNECE, UNEP, UNESCAP, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNDRR, and UNOPS - support Turkmenistan from regional or global headquarters. These agencies provide normative support and technical advisory services tailored to the country's specific needs. To mitigate the impact of reduced physical presence for those agencies, the UNCT has reinforced its business model through the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), acting as a bridge and ensuring that the technical expertise of non-resident entities is seamlessly integrated into national planning.



Key development partners of the UN development system in the country

In 2025, the United Nations development system in Turkmenistan continued to work in close partnership with the Government, bilateral and multilateral development partners, international financial institutions, and regional and global funds to advance national development priorities and accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These partnerships combined financial contributions, technical expertise, policy dialogue, and convening power, and were aligned with the Cooperation Framework 2021–2025 and national strategic programmes.

Government of Turkmenistan remained the principal partner of the UN development system, providing strategic leadership, policy ownership, and the largest share of development financing. Government institutions collaborated closely with UN entities across all Cooperation Framework outcomes, including governance and rule of law, economic diversification, environmental sustainability, health and social protection, and education. They engaged with the UN on policy reform, capacity development, data and statistics, and service delivery, including in areas such as digital transformation, climate commitments, public finance management, social protection reform, health system strengthening, education modernization, and SDG monitoring and reporting.

Government funding continued to represent the dominant share of available resources for UN development activities, reflecting strong national ownership and alignment with SDG implementation.

Despite limited donor base in the country, **bilateral development partners** provided both financial resources and policy support, often in close coordination with the UN system. Key bilateral partners included the European Union, Japan, United States, United Kingdom, Canada, Norway, Russian Federation, France, Italy, and other partner countries represented in Turkmenistan. Their cooperation focused on areas such as governance and human rights, climate action, sustainable economic development, health, education, gender equality, and social protection.

The European Union remained a significant partner, including through co-financed initiatives on sustainable economic development, trade facilitation, climate action, health, and data systems, as well as joint policy dialogue and coordination platforms. Bilateral partners also supported regional and cross border initiatives aligned with Turkmenistan's connectivity, trade, and climate priorities.

Global Multilateral funds and vertical financing mechanisms continued to play a critical role in supporting the UN development results in Turkmenistan. The Global Environment Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF), Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the

Montreal Protocol supported national efforts on climate mitigation and adaptation, environmental protection, health system strengthening, and the reduction of ozone-depleting substances.

Engagement with these mechanisms enabled access to specialized technical expertise and long-term financing aligned with global commitments, while strengthening national institutional capacities for planning, implementation, and reporting.

International financial institutions (IFIs) and regional partners, including the World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), collaborated with the UN through policy dialogue, analytical work, and coordinated support to national reforms. Cooperation focused on sustainable economic diversification and a just green energy transition, transport and trade connectivity, climate resilience, energy efficiency, and human capital development.

UN coordinated with the partners within platforms such as the Development Partners Coordination Group (DPCG), which continued to serve as the main mechanism for dialogue, information sharing, and alignment of development assistance with national priorities. Regular DPCG meetings facilitated joint reflection on results, emerging risks, and priorities for subsequent programming cycles. It was critically important that the Government of Turkmenistan participated in such meetings, often providing the direction of where support should be channelled to in line with national priorities.

Partnerships beyond financing

In addition to financial contributions, many partners supported the UN's work through non-financial cooperation, including policy dialogue, joint advocacy, knowledge exchange, data sharing, and regional cooperation. These included international and regional organizations, research institutions, and technical agencies collaborating on SDG data, climate reporting, education reform, health system modernization, and social protection development.

Overall, the diversity of development partners and the mix of financial and non-financial cooperation strengthened the UN's ability to deliver integrated, demand-driven support, enhanced coherence across interventions, and reinforced national ownership of development results. These partnerships laid a strong foundation for the transition to the next Cooperation Framework cycle.

CHAPTER 1

Key developments in the country and regional context

Over the year, Turkmenistan continued to pursue its national development priorities while navigating a more complex regional and global environment. The country's macroeconomic outlook remained closely linked to hydrocarbons: in 2025, growth was reported at 6.3% (with more moderate external estimates), while natural gas output declined (76.5 bcm, -1.4%) and total exports fell by 7.2% to USD 11.2 billion. In 2025, total pipeline gas export volumes to China increased to 79 bcm (of which 45% supplied by Turkmenistan) coincided with lower unit prices - around 10% according to China Customs data,

contributing to a narrowing trade surplus, and underscoring the importance of economic diversification, productivity growth and macroeconomic stability. At the same time, the Government continued persistent efforts in diversifying gas exports in complicated geopolitical conditions. Cooperation with the region advanced, including increased trade with SPECA countries (turnover exceeding USD 2.2 billion, +15% y/y) and continued work on strategic connectivity initiatives.

Social developments pointed to areas where additional attention is needed to ensure progress benefits all

Informal employment remained high and gendered

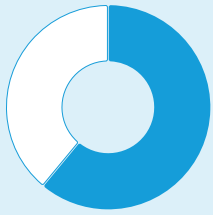
Women

29.5%

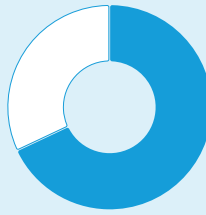
Men

18%





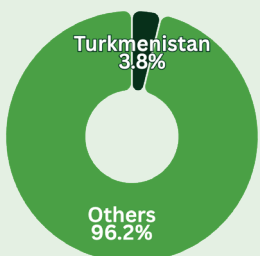
61% of the poorest quintile received any transfer



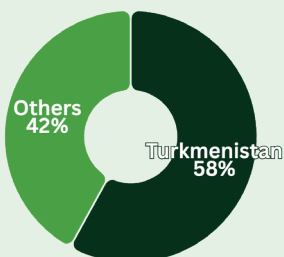
The poorest households spent 68% of expenditures on food.

people, in line with Leave No One Behind and gender equality commitments. Informal employment remained high and gendered (about 18% of men and 29.5% of women), alongside persistent youth exclusion (NEET rate 14.7% for ages 18–24). Social protection coverage showed signs of strain according to MICS 7: only 61% of the poorest quintile received any transfer, while the poorest households spent 68% of expenditures on food. Child stunting increased to 9.2% overall (12% among the poorest), signalling rising deprivations in some groups and locations. These trends reinforce the value of targeted, community-based social services and inclusive labour market measures that expand opportunities for women, youth, persons with disabilities, and rural workers.

Environmental and climate-related risks remained a key consideration for sustainable development. Water stress, land degradation and more severe climate change impacts continue to affect rural livelihoods and health outcomes. Turkmenistan’s methane emissions profile also highlights opportunities to accelerate cost-effective mitigation: the country ranked 6th globally in energy-related methane emissions in 2024 (3.8% of global; 58% of Central Asia according to IEA). Progress on “green” energy transition indicators remains limited, pointing to the need for a balanced approach that strengthens energy efficiency and diversification while protecting vulnerable households. In the social sectors pressures persisted, including declining Tier I health spending (from 1.4% of GDP in 2023 to 1.3% in 2024) and high out-of-pocket costs, with implications for equitable access—particularly for rural women and low-income families.



Global energy-related methane emissions



Central Asia energy-related methane emissions



Important advancements during the year created openings to address these challenges. The approval of the Concept for the Development of the Labor Market until 2030 provides a platform to tackle structural imbalances, incentivize formalization and expand tailored pathways for women and youth. In addition, the SDG Reporting Roadmap (2025–2027) endorsed in December 2024 is a timely step to strengthen data availability for priority indicators and support national evidence-based SDG implementation and policy making ahead of the next national review.

In line with the Cooperation Framework principles and a human rights-based approach, the UNCT strengthened adaptive, risk-informed engagement—drawing on institutionalized horizon scanning and evidence-based policy dialogue (‘Hard Talks’)—while maintaining focus on high-impact SDG transitions, including jobs and social protection, universal health coverage, digital connectivity, and climate- and water-resilience. No major changes in UNCT composition are reflected for the reporting year; however, the operating context required sharper targeting to ensure that those most at risk of being left behind are reached.

CHAPTER 2

UN development system support to national development priorities through the Cooperation Framework

2.1. Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

In 2025, the UN Country Team in Turkmenistan demonstrated high performance and responsiveness by transitioning from policy support to large-scale institutional implementation, directly aligning with national priorities for digital transformation and economic diversification. A landmark achievement was the deployment of the electronic data interchange system based on X-Road platform which successfully integrated 12 core government information systems across 10 ministries to create a secure data-exchange ecosystem – including passport, accreditation, e-registers, and health data – significantly improving interoperability, service delivery, and digital governance. This was complemented by the launch of the Galkynysh Digital Banking Platform, enabling biometric authentication and 24/7 financial services. To facilitate WTO accession, the UN reviewed 17 national laws for compliance and enhanced risk management within the Single Window system, ensuring national infrastructure meets international trade standards.

The UN achieved tangible cumulative results in data transparency and the reduction of systemic social risks identified in the UN Country Analysis. The implementation of MICS7 and the release of the "Census 2022: Situation of Children" report provided the first-ever disaggregated data on children with disabilities, enabling evidence-based planning for vulnerable populations. Additionally, MICS7 enabled to highlight the progress, and the areas for further interventions regarding the trends in reproductive health, violence against women, and social norms, disaggregated by regions (velayats) and age groups. Risk reduction was further institutionalized through the endorsement of the National Action Plan on Countering Trafficking in Persons 2025–2029, establishing Standard Operating Procedures for victim identification.

Advancing global initiatives, the UNCT moved the climate resilience agenda by submission of the First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) and the development of the NDC 3.0 Roadmap which marked critical milestones in fulfilling international climate obligations. On the ground, these global mandates translated into preparation of a



10-year Roadmap for Renewable Energy Development, the physical restoration of 1,557 hectares of land and the training of over 2,000 beneficiaries in sustainable land management. These efforts were reinforced by the rollout of the Green School Programme in 20 pilot schools, engaging 2,500 students in practical energy audits and safety simulations, thus equipping the next generation for a resilient future.

In 2025, the UN supported modernization of Turkmenistan's health and social protection systems by institutionalizing international standards and scaling essential services, evidenced by the expansion of the clinical laboratory network to 121 facilities and the training of over 1,700 health workers in child illness management. Key health outcomes included updating the National Vaccination Calendar with (i) hexavalent and inactivated poliovirus vaccines (IPV), maintaining a 91% cervical cancer screening rate, and reaching

38,241 children with early development services, which successfully removed 725 children from developmental delay risk registers, and (ii) human papillomavirus (HPV) catch-up vaccination for women up to age 25, in addition to HPV vaccination for all girls and boys. Simultaneously, the UN professionalized the social workforce by creating new posts to scale services to 35 districts and training a pipeline of 100 university students, while institutionalizing a shock-responsive social protection framework through national simulation exercises and a revised Action Plan for crisis-ready cash delivery.

The reporting year was defined by "big-ticket" results in coordination and joint advocacy, specifically in transforming education and gender programming from

awareness to institutional reform. A major success was the Ministry of Education's commitment to pilot a one-year half-day pre-primary preparation program in 55 schools, a strategic shift to address the 56% gap in pre-primary enrolment for 5-year-olds. The UN further supported the drafting of two National Action Plans for 2026–2030, including those on Human Rights and Gender Equality and suggested integration the "Men and Boys Engagement" initiative into the National Youth Policy to tackle harmful stereotypes. In 2025, the UN also supported reforms to strengthen child protection and child-friendly justice in Turkmenistan, including prevention of and response to violence against children, diversion and restorative justice, support for child victims and witnesses of crime, and alternative care reform.

2.2. Achieving Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes and outputs

Outcome 1: Enhanced governance and rule of law

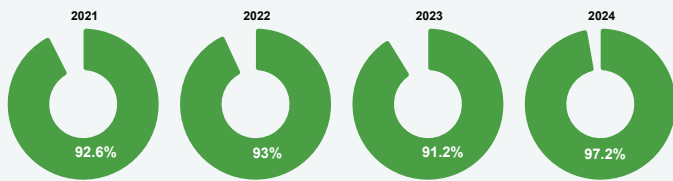


By 2025, people have access to more effective, innovative, and transparent public administration based upon the rule of law, human rights, gender equality, labour rights, and quality data.

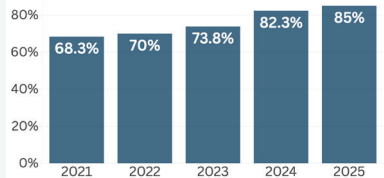
Agencies: ILO, IOM, UNDP, UN ESCAP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, OHCHR, WHO



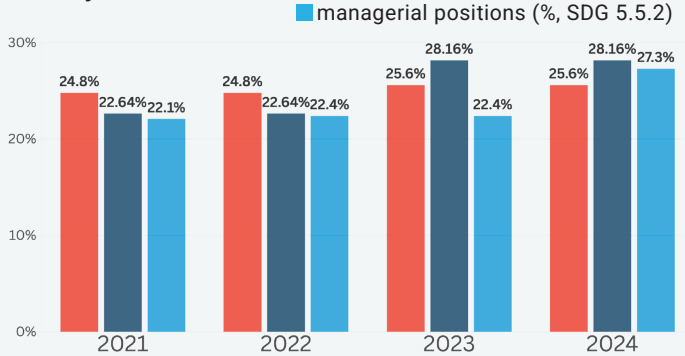
Individuals who own a mobile telephone (% ,SDG 5.b.1)



Statistical capacity indicator for Sustainable Development Goal monitoring (% ,SDG 17.18.1)



Proportion of seats held by women



Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months (% ,SDG 5.2.1)



The UN accelerated Turkmenistan's digital transformation by moving beyond policy toward large-scale infrastructure and capacity building. A landmark achievement was the deployment of the Electronic data interchange system based on X-Road platform, which integrated 12 core government systems—including biometric and passport databases—and established a secure data-exchange ecosys-

tem across 10 ministries. This was bolstered by adoption of the Concept and State Program for the Development of the Digital Economy in Turkmenistan for 2026–2028 and a roadmap for the modernization of the country's IT Park. Capacity-building efforts were extensive, with over 140 civil servants and 120 digital officers trained in AI, cybersecurity, and e-governance through partnerships with

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international institutions like the Estonian e-Governance Academy. Furthermore, the Central Election Commission (CEC) launched a Digital Electoral E-Library, enhancing transparency and modernizing institutional workflows. Legal services improved through redesigned websites for Bar Associations in Ashgabat and the regions.



In 2025 the country made another step to data transparency and evidence-based planning. Through MICS7, the UN generated data for 29 SDG indicators, while the MICS Plus initiative provided real-time insights into the well-being of families in the Aral Sea region. A thematic report, "Census 2022: Situation of Children in Turkmenistan," was released, providing—for the first time—disaggregated data on children with disabilities by age, sex, and location. Additionally, the UN-facilitated national reporting resulted in the release of statistics on 14 SDG indicators under the Roadmap to strengthen SDG reporting 2025-2027.

Strategic focus was placed on strengthening the criminal justice system's resilience against transnational threats and modernizing the legal framework. The UN drove the development of the National Action Plan on Countering Trafficking in Persons 2025–2029, adopted in 2025. The support in developing the draft Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the identification and referral of victims was critical, moving toward a victim-centred approach. In parallel, the UN strengthened national capacities to investigate cybercrime and handle digital evidence, strengthening the capacities and fostering regional and inter-regional practical collaboration and information exchange of the customs and border control authorities in detecting, managing and countering high-risk consignments and passengers and thereby facilitating legitimate trade and travel while ensuring the integrity of trade and transport corridors. In the electoral sector, a comprehensive legal analysis provided an Options Paper for a Single Voter Registry, bringing Turkmenistan closer to international standards of International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

Following a significant milestone with the establishment

of a dedicated Unit on Women's and Children's Rights within the Ombudsman's Office, the UN supported child rights governance and justice for children, including child-sensitive procedures, protection measures for child victims and witnesses of crime, and diversion and restorative justice approaches in line with international standards. These efforts laid the foundation for more coordinated child protection and justice responses under the next programming cycle. The Interagency Commission on Human Rights drafted the next National Action Plan on Human Rights 2026–2030 to implement UPR recommendations. Progress was also seen in the labour sector, where, following the UN recommendations, the government invalidated paragraph 2 of Article 404 of the Labor Code, clarifying that the state labour inspectorate holds primary monitoring responsibility.



The UN put further efforts to transition gender programming from awareness-raising to institutional reform and behavioural change. A gender review of four major national Codes provided recommendations to align legislation with international protection standards against Gender-Based Violence (GBV). This institutional shift was further operationalized through realization of the Gender action plan for tuberculosis (TB) services, which provided 60 TB doctors, 18 primary healthcare providers, and 14 staff members of National Red Crescent Society with specialized GBV training. To ensure sustainability, an online gender-sensitive healthcare course is currently under development to standardize these practices across the sector. The impact of this integrated approach extended directly to patient care; psychological counselling for 66 TB patients and their families (including 44% women) resulted in measurably improved treatment adherence in complex drug-resistant cases. Furthermore, legal literacy sessions empowered 125 TB patients to better navigate their rights within the healthcare system. Complementing these results, the "Men and Boys Engagement" initiative was successfully piloted in sports schools and recommended for integration into the National Youth Policy for 2026–2030, marking a significant step in tackling harmful stereotypes and "toxic masculinities" at the community level.

Investment in human capital focused on youth employability and the sustainability of social services. The UN provided vocational trainings equipping over 900 young people with hard skills resulting in 136 employments. Under the Core Diagnostic Instrument (CODI) of social protection assessment, the UN built the capacity of the Ministry of Finance and Economy to utilize budget assessment tools for children and analyse social expenditure. Legis-

lative and policy foundations were also advanced through the development of the "Strong Family" roadmap and the Concept for the Development of the Alternative Care System. These efforts were informed by analytical work on the situation of children in alternative care and aimed to support a gradual transition from institutional care toward family-based and community-based care options, in line with international child rights standards.

Outcome 2: Sustainable economic diversification

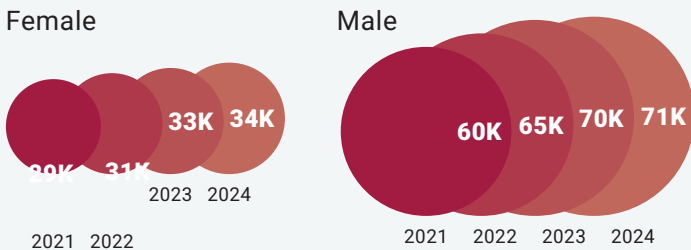
By 2025, conditions for sustainable and inclusive economic diversification are strengthened with competitive private and financial sectors, enhanced trade and investment promotion, and the adoption of new and digital technologies.

Agencies: **UNDP, FAO, UNECE, UNCTAD, ITC**

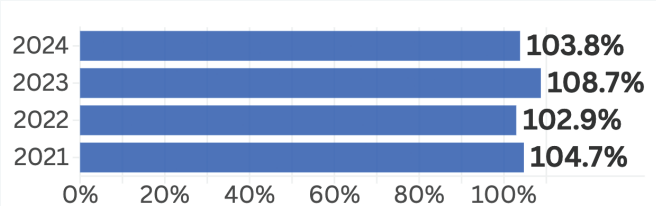


Over 1350 people benefitted from the skills building events and lifelong learning programmes with UN support (OI 4.3)

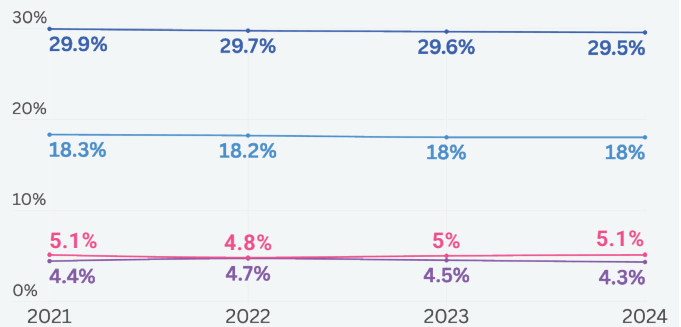
Number of entrepreneurs (SDG 5.5.2)



Annual growth rate of real GDP per employed person (% , SDG 8.2.1)



Proportion of informal employment in total employment (% , SDG 8.3.1), and unemployment rate (% , SDG 8.5.2)



The UN advanced Turkmenistan's digital ecosystem across the banking, land management, and transport sectors. A major milestone was the launch of the new Digital Banking Platform Galkynysh, which transitioned the State Bank of Foreign Economic Affairs into a digital ecosystem featuring biometric authentication and 24/7 service access. In land administration, the Concept for the Development of Digital State Land Cadastre in Turkmenistan for 2025-2030 was finalized and special data model was introduced to support the government's move toward a standardized, service-oriented system in land governance.

The progress was made in strengthening Turkmenistan's capacity for WTO accession. The UN completed a road-

map for future WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) implementation and established a coordination mechanism for Single Window (SW) system piloting, including the procurement of all necessary ICT infrastructure. Legislative alignment continued with the review of 17 national laws to ensure compliance with WTO regulations and the initiation of a WTO-related academic curriculum in partnership with the World Trade Institute.

Throughout 2025, capacity-building initiatives in Turkmenistan focused on the strategic themes of transport digitalization, WTO accession, and climate resilience. Key thematic clusters included the harmonization of multimodal corridors, the digitalization of customs and trade

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documentation. Substantial training was also provided in SME export readiness for the agribusiness and textile sectors, climate finance, and the implementation of a digital land cadastre. In total, these programs reached over 850 participants—including government officials, customs officers, and private sector representatives—through a diverse array of international study visits, technical workshops, and practical simulations designed to align national systems with international best practices.

Besides, Turkmenistan's statistical capacity was modernized to align with international SNA 2008 standards. The UN developed a quaternary notation system to reflect all financial transactions and introduced a new methodology for balance sheets through a gender lens, enabling more inclusive economic analysis. In financial markets, a comprehensive Programme of Securities Market Development until 2030 was prepared, alongside draft legal acts for a Unified Central Depository and bond issuance rules.

Aysoltan Annamamedova: Turkmenistan's Rising Talent in Digital Innovation

Aysoltan Annamamedova, a fourth year student at the Oguz Khan Engineering and Technology University of Turkmenistan, strengthened her digital and innovation skills through participation in the UN supported Future Skills Sprint in Istanbul, following the successful completion of intensive online coursework. Through hands on exposure to emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, Industry 4.0, and sustainability driven digital solutions, the initiative enhanced her technical expertise, confidence, and readiness for the future of work, demonstrating the impact of UN led regional programmes in equipping young people in Turkmenistan with skills for the green and digital transition.

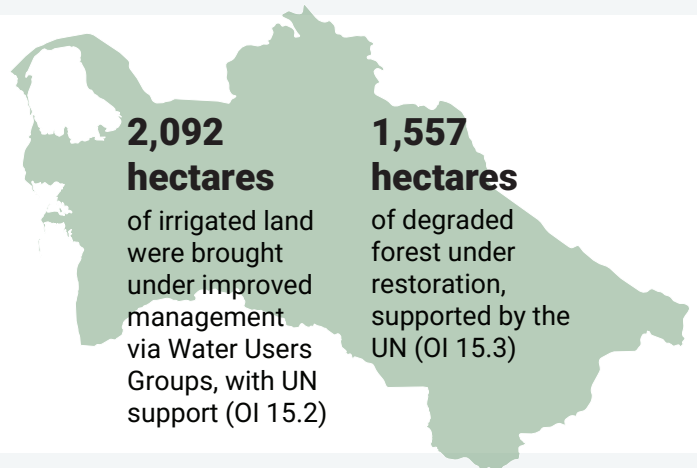
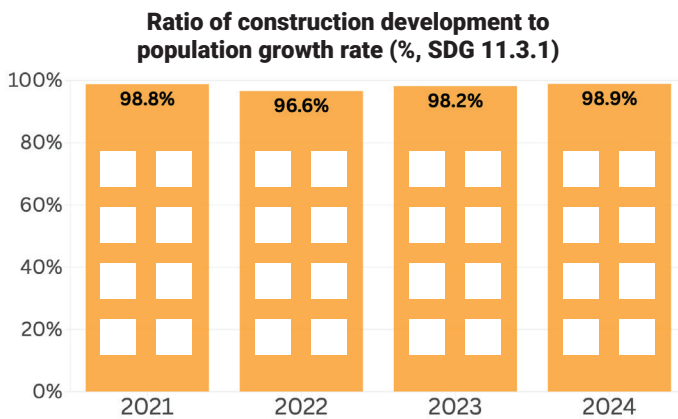
[Read more here](#)



Outcome 3: Strengthened environmental management and climate resilience

By 2025, there is effective design and implementation of disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation and mitigation measures, enabling a more rational use of resources, increased resilience, and a 'green' economy transition

Agencies: **FAO, IOM, UNDP, UNECE, UNEP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNIDO, WHO**



Over **2,000 people (incl. 34% of women)** directly benefitted from the UN capacity building initiatives to protect nature and promote sustainable use of resources in 2025 (OI 12.3)

In 2025, United Nations agencies supported Turkmenistan to fulfil its international climate obligations through submission of the First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) to the UNFCCC and to conduct a stocktaking of the current NDC towards the development of the NDC 3.0 document as well as advancing climate change mitigation and green energy transition, climate adaptation, sustainable resource management, disaster risk reduction and urban resilience. In a context of rising water stress and the country’s significant methane emissions profile, UN support prioritised ‘no-regrets’ measures that strengthen resilience and unlock cost-effective mitigation and a gradual green transition.

UN-led initiatives established the technical and regulatory infrastructure necessary for a low-carbon transition by focusing on industrial decarbonization and energy efficiency. Strategic outputs included a comprehensive baseline assessment of methane emissions and renewable energy potential, alongside a 10-year Roadmap for Renewable Energy Development containing over 50 specific activities. Five new 35 kV transformers were installed in 2025 to modernize the grid and enhance energy efficiency. Capacity building supported these frameworks, with over 15 officials trained in methane monitoring and more than 40 specialists engaged in renewable energy policy. Simultaneously, the nation achieved a major milestone by completing a national inventory of ozone-depleting substances and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), surveying 427 enterprises to build a data-driven waste management system. These efforts were reinforced by the training of 40 customs officers in HFC import control and the certification of 12 national technicians in the safe handling of natural refrigerants.

Climate adaptation results included large-scale land restoration reaching over 1,5 thousand hectares and improved management of over 2 thousand hectares of irrigated land, alongside the integration of science-based tools into rural livelihoods. This physical restoration was supported by technical milestones, including the

registration of Turkmenistan’s first soil laboratory in the Global Soil Laboratory Network (GLOSOLAN) and the establishment of local nurseries with a capacity for 450,000 seedlings annually. Institutional capacity was further strengthened through the training of over 2 thousand beneficiaries (including 34% women) in sustainable land management and the development of a National Action Plan on the cryosphere to monitor glacial impacts on water security. Furthermore, locust management training reached over 100 participants across three regions, enhancing regional food security.

UN agencies focused on future-proofing urban centers and institutionalizing safety within the national education system. Ashgabat advanced its urban resilience by joining the Coalition of Resilient Cities in Central Asia and identifying eight priority areas for integrating disaster risk reduction into the city's 2045 Master Plan. Seismic monitoring capabilities were modernized through the installation of a broadband seismic station in Ashgabat and specialized training for young seismologists.



Raising a Generation of Climate Leaders: Gulshat and Selbi Empower Youth for Climate Action

Youth leaders Gulshat Ayydova and Selbi Matveliyeva have played a pivotal role in advancing youth led climate action in Turkmenistan by building national platforms for environmental education, advocacy, and policy engagement. Through initiatives such as Eco Camps, the Climate Action Network Turkmenistan, and the organization of multiple UNFCCC endorsed Local Conferences of Youth, they have empowered young people with skills in climate leadership, negotiation, and policy analysis, culminating in the development of a National Youth Statement for COP30 and strengthening youth contributions to national and global climate processes.

[Read more here](#)

Outcome 4:
Quality, inclusive health and social protection

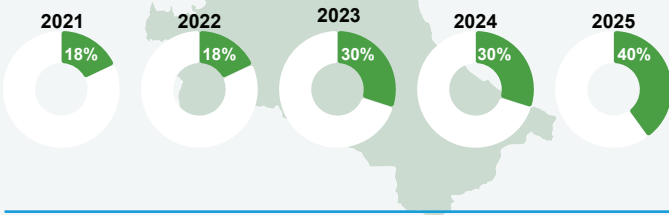


By 2025, the population of Turkmenistan enjoys higher quality and inclusive health and social protection services

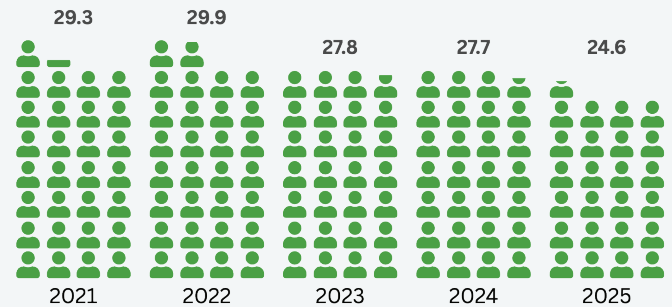
Agencies: IOM, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO



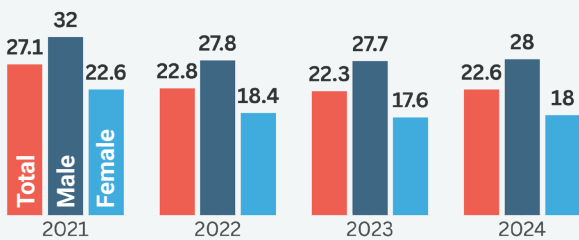
Share of etraps providing early intervention services to under 5 children (%)



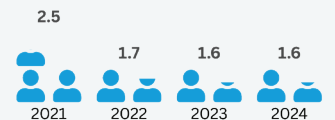
TB case notification rate per 100,000 population (SDG 3.3.2)



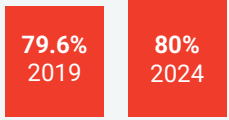
Mortality rate attributed to cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes or chronic respiratory disease (per 100 000 population, SDG 3.4.1)



Maternal mortality ratio per 100 000 live births (SDG 3.1.1)



Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15–49 years) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods (SDG 3.7.1)



The UN supported the development of 5 national policies on nutrition, paediatric clinical guidelines, breastfeeding promotion, and expanded reproductive health access for women in remote areas or those with multiple children (OI 3.1)

Over 354 thousand people benefited from UN supported health services (OI 3.3) including:
a) 729 in communicable diseases (tuberculosis)
b) over 313 thousand in sexual and reproductive health
c) nearly 40 thousand in Integrated Management of childhood illnesses (IMCI) services

National Action Plan on Strengthening Social Protection System Preparedness for Shocks developed with UN support (OI 1.1)

Over 228 thousand people including health workers and young people benefited from online sources, education articles and sessions covering healthy lifestyle, sexual and reproductive health, gender, inclusion, and effective nutrition conducted with UN support (OI 4.3)

In 2025, UN-led initiatives improved the availability and quality of medical services through large-scale procurement and technical modernization. Against declining public health spending as a share of GDP and high out-of-pocket costs, UN focused on strengthening systems and improving equitable access—especially for rural households, women and low-income families. The UN made more than 120 types of quality-assured essential medicines available to patients with non-communicable diseases, rare diseases, and maternal and neonatal emergencies, significantly improving access

to life-saving treatment and reducing out-of-pocket expenses. This effort was bolstered by the supply of additional laboratory equipment and expansion of the clinical laboratory network from 114 to 121 facilities including 86 (71%) at the primary healthcare level and the training of 357 laboratory specialists. A 40 kW solar system was piloted in a remote hospital, ensuring uninterrupted power for critical care and enhancing resilience through cleaner, sustainable infrastructure. To ensure standardized treatment, a bilingual mobile application containing detailed treatment protocols was



distributed to physicians. Additionally, mobile resource team provided over 4,900 medical and legal consultations to Afghan migrants and local communities in Ahal province, improving case management and local medical staff capacity.

Key health outcomes included updating the National Vaccination Calendar with

(i) hexavalent and inactivated poliovirus vaccines (IPV), maintaining a 91% cervical cancer screening rate, and reaching 38,241 children with early development services, which successfully removed 725 children from developmental delay risk registers, and

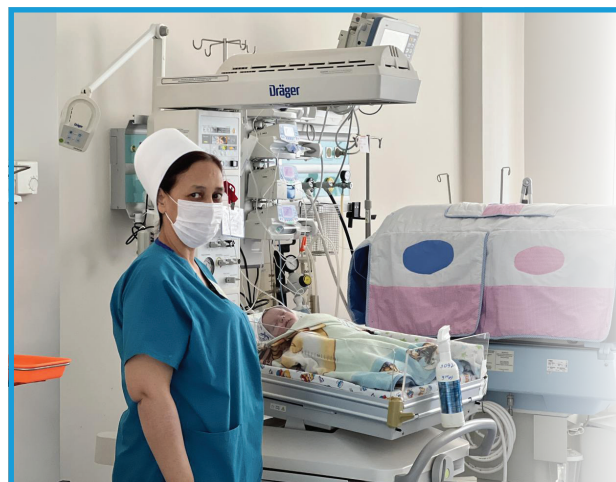
(ii) human papillomavirus (HPV) catch-up vaccination for women up to age 25, in addition to HPV vaccination for all girls and boys.

In 2025, Turkmenistan advanced its health security and pandemic readiness through UN-supported initiatives that reinforced both national and regional capacities. Key achievements included maintaining the WHO-recognized status of the National Influenza Center (NIC) with enhanced capabilities in sequencing and

PCR diagnostics, as well as the finalization of a National Pandemic Preparedness Plan (NPPP). Turkmenistan became the first country in the WHO European Region to pilot the Facilitated Assessment: Influenza Vaccination Programmes Review (FAIR) tool for seasonal influenza vaccination, while simultaneously implementing a "One Health" approach via the Pandemic Fund to strengthen epidemiological surveillance and antimicrobial resistance (AMR) monitoring across Central Asia. These efforts were underpinned by the development of a National Operative Plan (2025–2027) for laboratory services and consistent participation in global accountability frameworks, ensuring a robust and standardized system for future health emergencies.



Strategic focus on policy support and specialized training enhanced the national capacity to manage child health. At the primary healthcare level, a national assessment of services was conducted to integrate "Universal Progressive Home Visiting," and more than 1,700 health workers were trained in the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI). Forty-three paediatric intensive care physicians completed specialized training, establishing a sustainable pool of trainers and improving neonatal resuscitation skills. Furthermore, the reliability of life-saving oxygen systems in Mother and Child Health hospitals was improved through expert-led preventive maintenance agreements.



**Breath of hope:
How oxygen is saving Turkmenistan’s babies**

With support from UN and the Ministry of Health and Medical Industry, the installation of new oxygen stations in maternal and child health centres has significantly improved access to uninterrupted, life saving oxygen for more than 1,500 children annually in Turkmenistan. This intervention has strengthened neonatal and pediatric care, particularly for premature babies and those with respiratory conditions, while reducing reliance on invasive ventilation and enhancing health workers’ capacity through specialized training—resulting in faster recovery and improved survival outcomes for the most vulnerable newborns.

[Read more here](#)



In the realm of child development,
**38,241 children received services in demonstration facilities, with
4,120 receiving early intervention support that led to
725 children being successfully removed from developmental delay risk registers.**

UN agencies institutionalized nutrition and developmental monitoring to secure long-term health outcomes for children. Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the State Bread Association to sustain the national flour fortification program to address micronutrient deficiencies. Breastfeeding support was advanced through the submission of a revised draft law and the certification of four primary healthcare facilities in Ashgabat as "Baby-Friendly". In the realm of child development, 38,241 children received services in demonstration facilities, with 4,120 receiving early intervention support that led to 725 children being successfully removed from developmental delay risk registers. National capacity was further strengthened by training 340 health workers on the Guide for Monitoring Child Development (GMCD).

UN-led integrated programs and support addressed reproductive rights and the management of infectious diseases. Turkmenistan maintained a high cervical cancer screening coverage of 91% by institutionalizing the elimination roadmap and establishing a national screening registry. Access to family planning was expanded through the training of 84 specialists in commodity forecasting and the procurement of contraceptives.

In tuberculosis control, more than 700 patients with MDR-TB were enrolled on treatment, including 120 patients using video-supported treatment and 75 smart pillboxes. Digital solutions such as AI/CAD-enabled portable X-ray systems were installed in six TB hospitals, boosting screening and early detection. Extensive diagnostic supplies were secured, including over 1.5 million HIV test systems and new pangenomic medicines for viral hepatitis C. Treatment adherence for MDR-TB was further supported by the National Red Crescent Society through 7,871 home visits

and education for 1,164 individuals. The scope of support was further enhanced by handing over 9 modern medical waste sterilizers for four TB and two HIV/AIDS facilities nationwide to ensure environmentally safe disposal and reducing risks for healthcare workers and patients. The UN further facilitated specialized psychological interventions for individuals diagnosed with tuberculosis to ensure clinical treatment adherence. Furthermore, support was extended to their families to mitigate the disproportionate domestic caregiving burden and to address the pervasive social stigma associated with the disease.

For women affected by domestic violence the UN coordinated with the National Red Crescent Society of Turkmenistan to provide Family Support Services (FSS) across all five velayats and Ashgabat with specialized interventions—including psychological counselling, telephonic crisis support, and comprehensive case management. The UN strategic involvement focused on institutional strengthening and capacity development, ensuring that service delivery protocols align with international best practices and multi-sectoral response standards.

The UN supported the professionalization of the social workforce through the design and delivery of certification training for social workers, policymakers, and academia, alongside revision of the bachelor's curriculum and capacity building of lecturers to train a pipeline of 100 social work students. These efforts enabled the Government to scale up social services from 18 to 35 districts. National capacities for emergency response were also strengthened through simulation exercises, resulting in the development of a draft National Plan for shock responsive social protection.

Outcome 5:
Quality education and skilling



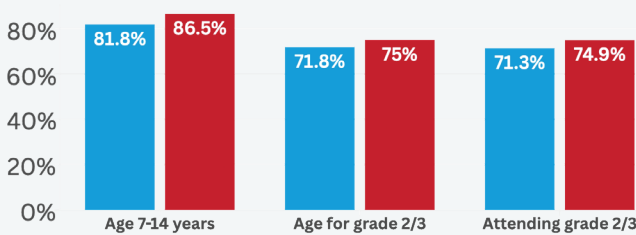
By 2025, the education and skilling system offers all people the skills and knowledge for employment success and enhanced social integration and resilience in a diversifying economy.

Agencies: IOM, UNDP, UNICEF, UNODC

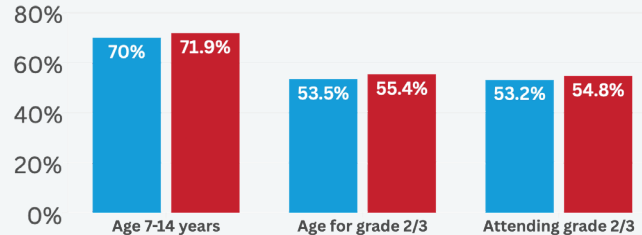


119 women benefited from income generating activities with UN's support (OI 1.5)

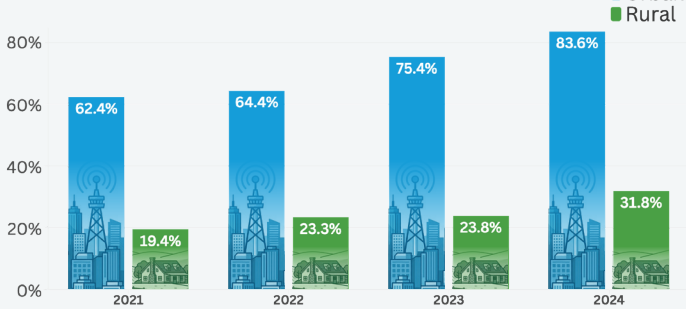
Percentage of children who successfully completed four foundational reading tasks:



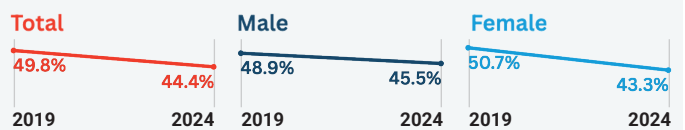
Percentage of children who successfully completed four foundational numeracy tasks:



Internet for pedagogical purposes (% , SDG 4.a.1)



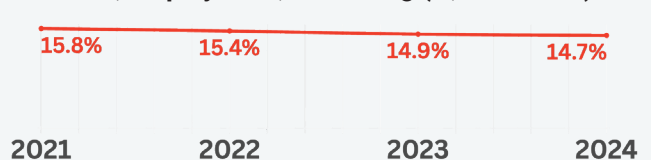
Participation rate in organized learning (one year before the official primary entry age, %, SDG 4.2.2)



Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months (% , SDG 4.3.1)



Proportion of youth (aged 15–29 years) not in education, employment, or training (% , SDG 8.6.1)



4,900 migrants from Afghan and local communities in Ahal province benefited from integrated and targeted interventions, including medical and legal consultations, with UN support (OI 10.3).



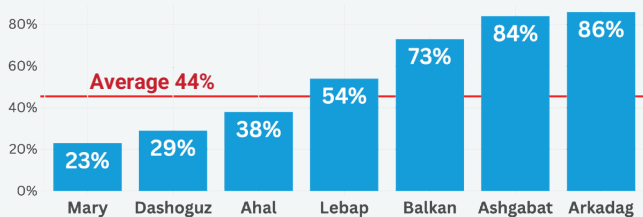
In 2025, the UN continued supporting modernization of the education sector, focusing on expanding access to early learning, professionalizing social services, and empowering vulnerable groups through vocational and life-skills training.

The UN encouraged a strategic transition in the national education agenda by shifting from theoretical mandates to funded, scalable actions. A primary outcome was the development of the National ECD Strategy and Action

Plan for 2026–2030, which establishes a framework for intersectoral coordination across health, education, and social protection. The UN successfully advocated for a new service delivery model to address the evidence-based gap where 56% of 5-year-olds remained outside formal pre-primary preparation programmes (SDG 4.2.2). Participation in pre-primary preparation programmes is particularly low in Mary (23%), Dashoguz (29%), Ahal (38%), which is significantly lower than national average (44%). In September 2026 the Ministry of Education



Participation in pre-primary preparation programmes is particularly low in Mary, Dashoguz, Ahal, which is significantly lower than national average.



committed to start piloting a one-year half-day pre-primary preparation program in 55 mainstream schools, hosting 65 groups to bypass the geographic and financial bottlenecks of the traditional kindergarten system.

To ensure the long-term sustainability of social services, the UN focused on building a qualified national workforce through formal academic and certification programs. The undergraduate programme in Social Work continued at two national universities creating a professional pipeline for the sector. This academic training was complemented by practical results: students conducted supervised field practice with 200 vulnerable families, generating data to improve local support services. Furthermore, 65 practitioners and policymakers completed a five-module Social Work Core Competencies Certification Programme, which successfully enhanced standardized case management and referral pathways across the national system, including for vulnerable children and families requiring coordinated protection support.

Targeted skilling initiatives achieved tangible economic results for vulnerable populations, particularly women and

migrants. In Lebap province, 119 women and girls from Afghan and local communities successfully completed a three-month vocational sewing course. The program moved beyond simple training to ensure economic self-reliance; every graduate received an official qualification certificate and a professional sewing machine to initiate immediate income-generating activities. This results-oriented approach directly addresses the intersection of education and poverty reduction for vulnerable groups.

The UN successfully integrated emerging global challenges into the national curriculum and youth outreach programs. A major achievement was the formal approval and rollout of the Green School Programme in 20 pilot schools included conducting energy audits and establishing student-led Environmental Committees. The program engaged over 2,500 schoolchildren and 700 personnel in practical safety simulations, first aid training, and energy audits. This was supported by the finalization of digital CCA and DRR curricula and manuals for preschools in both the Turkmen and Russian languages. Additionally, the UN "Friends in Focus" initiative empowered teenagers (ages 14–17) through peer-to-peer education to build personal resilience and resistance to harmful behaviours, effectively positioning youth as active contributors to community safety. In 2025, the full adaptation and translation of the "Climate Box" interactive toolkit into the national language were finalized, receiving official endorsement from the relevant authorities for nationwide distribution in early 2026. This milestone was supported by significant capacity-building initiatives, during which 184 educators—comprising 145 women and 39 men—were trained on utilizing the toolkit and integrating climate change education and disaster risk reduction strategies into the national school system.

2.3. Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

In 2025, the United Nations development system in Turkmenistan strengthened its role as a strategic convenor and partner to support the mobilization, alignment, and more effective use of financing for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). UN support focused on improving the quality of partnerships, leveraging diverse sources of finance, and strengthening policy dialogue around prioritized, costed SDG transition pathways, in close alignment with national development programmes and the Cooperation Framework 2021–2025.

The joint SDG gaps and financing analysis conducted

with national counterparts highlighted additional financing needs to deliver national SDG transition targets by 2030 estimated at 49.3 billion Manat (USD 14 billion) or about 2.8 per cent of GDP annually (and 5.5 per cent of GDP annually to meet global targets). Reinforcing the importance of moving beyond fragmented project financing toward more strategic, programmatic approaches this evidence strengthened the case for accelerating work on an SDG Financing Strategy as part of INFF and for using SDG-focused “Hard Talks” as a structured policy dialogue tool to agree on prioritised, sequenced, and costed SDG transition packages.

Strategic partnerships advancing SDG transitions

Against this backdrop, the UN leveraged partnerships with the Government, bilateral partners, international financial institutions, and global vertical funds to advance SDG-related reforms and investments in:

the area of digital governance and public sector reform (*deployment of the national X-Road data-exchange platform*), laying the foundation for more efficient public service delivery and data-driven decision-making, supporting SDGs 9, 16, and 17.

economic diversification and trade facilitation (*supporting WTO accession and digital trade reforms such as a national roadmap for implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, and coordination mechanisms for piloting a Single Window system as well as and capacity-building programmes for public officials and private-sector stakeholders*) helping align policy reforms with future investment and financing opportunities in trade and transport connectivity.

Leveraging climate and environmental financing partnerships

In the climate and environment domain, the UN supported national institutions in:

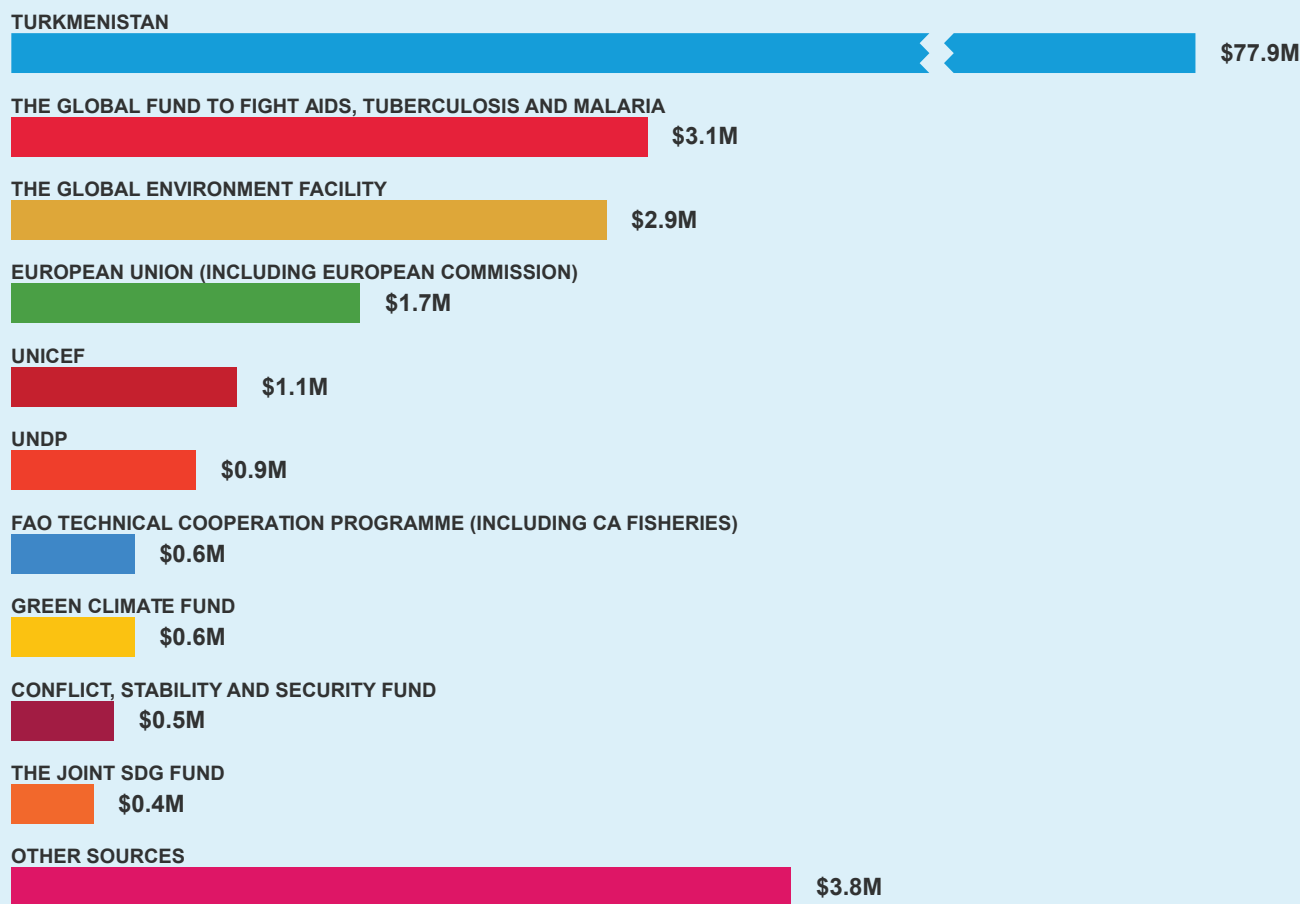
engaging with multilateral and vertical financing mechanisms such as GEF and GCF

preparation of Turkmenistan’s First Biennial Transparency Report under the UNFCCC development of a roadmap for the next Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0), and formulation of long-term renewable energy and methane-mitigation strategies. strengthened institutional readiness for climate finance while advancing SDGs 7, 12, and 13.

UN’s leveraging of grant financing, technical assistance, and national co-financing supported land restoration, sustainable land management, and the phase-out of ozone-depleting substances, helping align environmental investments with national planning frameworks and international commitments, while strengthening national monitoring and reporting capacities.



2025 UNSDCF Annual Funding Framework available funds disaggregated by Contributing Partners (sources of funding)



Partnerships strengthening health and social protection financing

In the health and social protection sectors, partnerships with global funds such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, bilateral donors, and national institutions contributed to improving access to essential services and more resilient systems, the modernization of diagnostic systems, piloting of digital treatment adherence solutions, and strengthening of community-based service delivery.

In parallel, UN partnerships supported reforms in social protection financing and delivery, including technical assistance on social expenditure analysis, shock-responsive social protection planning, and the professionalization of the social work workforce. These initiatives improved the effectiveness and targeting of public spending, particularly for vulnerable groups, contributing to SDGs 1, 3, and 10.

Coordination platforms and financing effectiveness

The Development Partners Coordination Group, chaired by the UN Resident Coordinator, remained the primary platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue on development cooperation and financing. In 2025, discussions increasingly focused on aligning partner support with national

priorities, improving coherence across climate, economic, and social sectors, and identifying opportunities for joint advocacy and complementary financing in support of SDG transitions.

Beyond mobilizing additional resources, UN support emphasized improving the SDG alignment and effectiveness of existing public expenditures. Through policy dialogue and technical assistance, the UN supported strengthening of the national SDG-aligned planning, budgeting, and statistical systems, including the use of SDG data to inform prioritization, sequencing of reforms, and identification of efficiency gains.

Looking ahead

Overall, UN support to partnerships and financing reinforced a shift from fragmented, project-based engagement toward more strategic, evidence-driven and programmatic approaches focused on SDG transitions. By anchoring partnerships in robust financing analysis, strengthening coordination platforms, advancing INFF-related work, and using SDG-focused policy dialogue to prioritise and cost national transitions, the UN helped lay the groundwork for a more coherent and sustainable financing framework to advance the 2030 Agenda during the next Cooperation Framework cycle.

2.4. Results of the UN working more and better together: UN coherence, effectiveness and efficiency

In 2025, the UN Country Team strengthened its integrated policy support to national partners, demonstrating the value of coordinated UN action despite growing system-wide funding constraints. Joint engagement with bilateral and multilateral partners produced tangible results, particularly in advancing regional and global connectivity. This included UN-led multi-stakeholder discussions on transport connectivity and trade value chains during SPECA Week 2025 (held in early 2026), which convened RCO economists from all SPECA participating states, UNECE and UNESCAP experts, and IFIs (EBRD, ADB, and the WB). It helped to frame joint efforts to implement the Pact for the Future and Awaza Programme of Action for LLDCs (2024–2034) priorities.

Institutionalized horizon scanning supported more anticipatory, joined-up UN engagement, helping partners identify early signals and agree on timely course corrections while sustaining longer-term SDG transitions.

The RCO provided significant coordination support to the Government and UN OHRLLS to host the Third LLDC Conference that reinforced LLDC countries’ commitments to sustainable connectivity, economic diversification, human capital development, climate resilience, and regional cooperation. The UN facilitated multiple side

events highlighting issues of women participation and the participation of 15 UN Resident Coordinators from the LLDC countries making the event a great success.

The UNCT helped shift national attitudes toward inclusion of women, girls, and persons with disabilities through high-level conferences, inclusion festivals, and legislative alignment consultations. The Government also agreed to engage in SDG-focused “Hard Talks” across nine thematic areas, with first dialogues on pre-primary education and community based social services held in January 2026, preparations underway for the dialogues on universal health coverage, food security and water management, decent jobs and financing the energy transition. In 2025, UNCT successfully implemented the Joint Programme “Support to Policy Making and Building National Capacity towards Green Energy Transition in Turkmenistan” (inspired by a Hard Talk and financed by), which strengthened national policy-making and technical capacities on renewable energy and energy efficiency for around 80 technical specialists and 50 policymakers, informed the integration of climate measures into sectoral and national policies, and thereby supported Turkmenistan’s just green energy transition and progress towards its carbon-neutral development commitments.





The UN system contributed to regional policy dialogue on food and nutrition security and climate-resilient agrifood systems during the high-level FAO Regional Conference hosted by Turkmenistan in January 2026 initially planned for November 2025. The first ever visit of the FAO Director-General to Ashgabat underscored the One Health approach, while the signing of the Host Country Agreement paved the way for opening the FAO country office in Ashgabat.

With the signing of the 2026–2030 Cooperation Framework, the UNCT expanded to 20 entities, including ITU. This configuration enables flexible business models—combining in-country, regional, and global expertise—to deliver integrated, demand-driven support. The Cooperation Framework guides UN efforts to strengthen national systems and capacities across three strategic priorities: (A) good governance and inclusive & diversified economic growth, (B) environment and climate change mitigation and adaptation, and (C) equitable social development and well-being. The UN support is grounded in UN Country Analysis, including multidimensional risk analysis, horizon scanning, and anticipatory planning.

In 2025, the UNRC certified the CPDs of UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, and the CPF of FAO as derived from the new Cooperation Framework. The UNRC also supported UN Women’s engagement with the Government toward establishing a country office, including during the International Conference on the Role of Women in Modern

Society, which brought together delegations from a dozen countries and experts from across the UN system.

The UNCT continued advocating for five joint programmes—on youth empowerment, green energy transition, digital governance, methane emissions reduction, and a Regional Climate Technologies Center—supported by policy discussions with decision-makers and technical experts. While Government approval is pending, the UN mobilized interest from IFIs and bilateral partners.

Guided by the UN80 initiative, the UNCT advanced operational efficiency through the Business Operations Strategy covering 17 common services. Estimated cost avoidance in 2025 reached USD 83,000, demonstrating concrete efficiency gains and reduced transaction costs.

Communicating Together

In 2025, the UN Country Team in Turkmenistan communicated jointly around the agreed priorities of the UN’s 80th anniversary (UN80), disability inclusion, gender, youth, and climate, ensuring coherent messaging and broad public engagement across the country.

UN80 served as the central communications theme, emphasizing partnership, multilateralism, and collective action. The year featured UN80 marathons across the country, a concert, exhibition, and a high-level conference

marking the signing of the UNSDCF 2026–2030, setting the direction for the next cooperation cycle.

Disability inclusion was elevated through consistent messaging around participation, dignity, and accessibility. The UN spotlighted the “We Are Different – We Are Equal” Festival, inclusive artistic performances, CRPD-aligned advocacy work, and ongoing disability-strategy development. Communications also reinforced broader themes such as inclusive services, human-centered health approaches, and reducing stigma, aligning with the UN’s commitment to leaving no one behind. For the second year in a row, the Government of Turkmenistan participated in the event, with the Deputy Foreign Minister and the Resident Coordinator opening the Festival.

The UN emphasized gender equality by highlighting the development of the National Action Plan on Gender Equality 2026–2030, while also fostering public dialogue through the Women’s Leadership Dialogue. In 2025, the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign strengthened advocacy around digital safety, online GBV, ethical media reporting, and youth engagement—supported by training, joint events, and nationwide outreach.

Youth-focused communication highlighted the UN’s growing engagement with young people through YouthLead activities, collaboration with Young SDG Ambassadors, and the presentation of the Young Professionals Programme (YPP). This work aligned with broader UN efforts that promoted youth empowerment, equitable access to opportunities, and skills for the future. A flagship initiative of the UN RC and the Government of Turkmenistan was a training of young diplomats of Central Asian Countries in Ashgabat with the support of UNCT and UNRCCA.

Climate action emerged as a stronger communications priority through initiatives such as LCOY (Local Conference of Youth) and the Summer Climate Camp, both of which cultivated youth leadership on climate resilience.

Across all priority areas, the UN produced a wide range of stories, blogs, articles, and online campaigns, ensuring continuous visibility of joint achievements. These communications collectively strengthened public understanding of the UN’s work and amplified themes such as health resilience, inclusive development, social protection, gender equality, climate readiness, and youth innovation.



2.5. Evaluations and Lessons Learned

Following the final evaluation of the UNSDCF 2021-2025, the UNCT in Turkmenistan, in partnership with the Government, has systematically implemented a series of strategic recommendations to enhance the impact and sustainability of joint development efforts.

To enhance planning and implementation structures, the UN and the Government updated and endorsed the Terms of Reference (ToRs) for Results Groups and the Steering Committee designed to drive more strategic discussions and cross-sectoral synergies.

A significant focus was placed on improving the results framework and data collection systems. UNCT members have ensured that their individual programming results are directly aligned with the specific Outputs and Outcomes of the UNSDCF. The Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Group functions were updated to utilize the UNINFO platform, facilitating standardized data comparability across agencies. In collaboration with the State Statistics Committee, the UN initiated the implementation of the Roadmap on SDG indicators endorsed in late 2024 to enhance national data transparency. The UNCT endorsed a comprehensive MEL plan for the full duration of the upcoming 2026-2030 cycle.

The transition to the new 2026-2030 cycle has been used as a vehicle to institutionalize the Leave No One Behind (LNOB) principle. The UNCT established a participatory process for the new Theory of Change, ensuring that the needs of marginalized groups—particularly regarding gender equality, disability inclusion, and human rights—are prioritized across all Outcomes. Practical capacity-building, including training on gender markers and mainstreaming, was conducted for UN staff in late 2025 to support this mandate. To foster inclusive development, the UN (i) expanded Results Groups to include a broader range of stakeholders as active members of Results Groups, and (ii) initiated the development of a Partnerships Platform for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to increase engagement with marginalized communities, with a concept note already drafted and target indicators set for 2026.

Efforts to ensure financial sustainability are currently underway through the adopted Resource Mobilization and Partnerships Strategy (RMPS) aimed at diversifying funding sources beyond the Government and traditional donors.



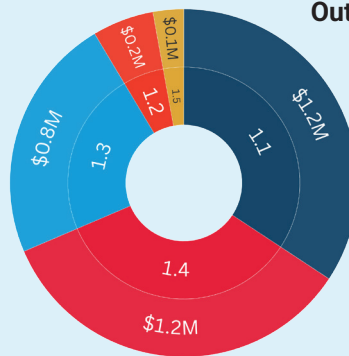
2.6. Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

2021-2025 UNSDCF Annual Funding Frameworks combined (disaggregated by UNSDCF outcomes and outputs)

Disaggregated by QCPR functions, gender, human rights, and peace markers

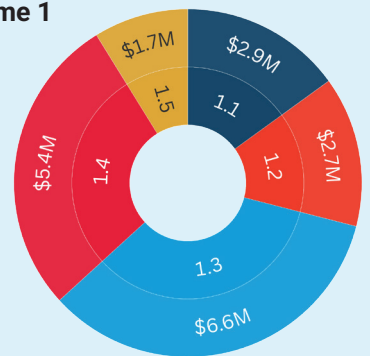
QCPR function	Spent (2025)
Normative Support	\$0.55M
Policy Advice and Thought Leadership	\$0.00M
Data Collection and Analysis	\$0.06M
Capacity Development/Technical Assistance	\$31.9M
Convening/Partnerships/Knowledge Sharing	\$0.18M
Direct Support/Service Delivery	\$0.25M
Support Functions	\$40.3M
Other (including coordination)	\$0.01M
Multiple QCPR function in one activity	\$16.5M
Gender marker (gender equality/women's empowerment)	
0 - Not expected to contribute	\$1.58M
1 - Limited contribution	\$42.2M
2 - Significant contribution	\$44.2M
3 - Principal contribution	\$1.71M
Human rights marker (realization of human rights)	
0 - Not expected to contribute	\$4.10M
1 - Limited contribution	\$56.6M
2 - Significant contribution	\$26.2M
3 - Principal contribution	\$2.79M
Sustaining peace markers	
0 - Not expected to contribute	\$0.68M
1 - Limited contribution	\$55.8M
2 - Significant contribution	\$0.86M
3 - Principal contribution	\$0.58M
N/A	\$31.8M

2025 (Expenditures)

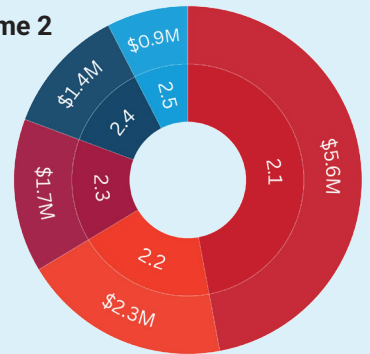
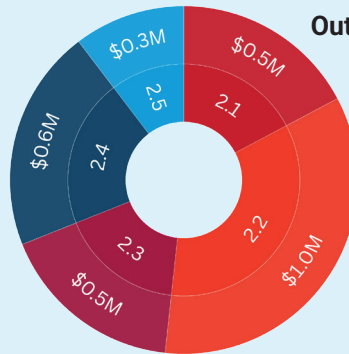


Total for 5 years (Expenditures)

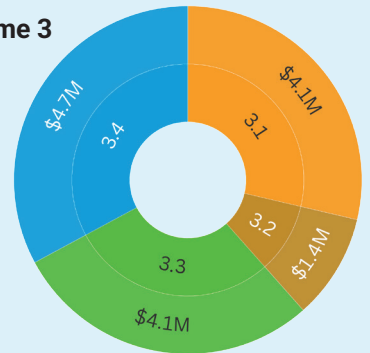
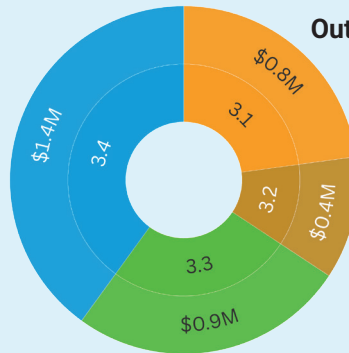
Outcome 1



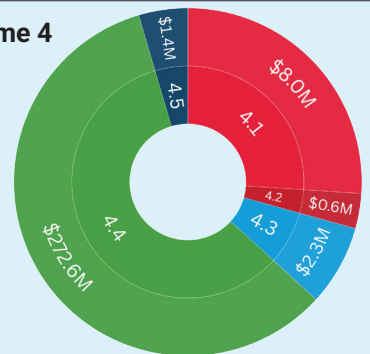
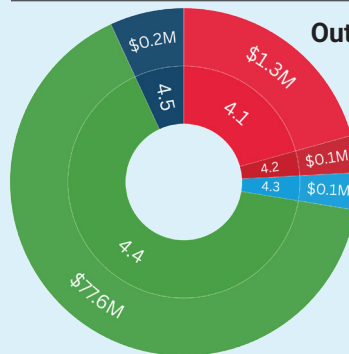
Outcome 2



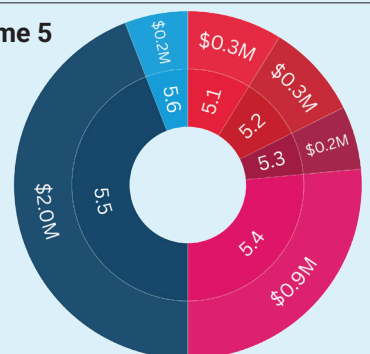
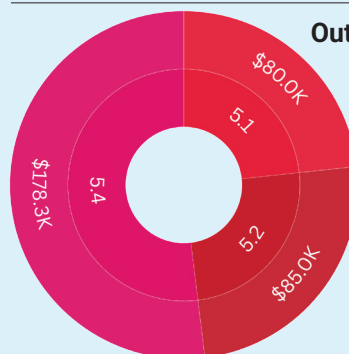
Outcome 3

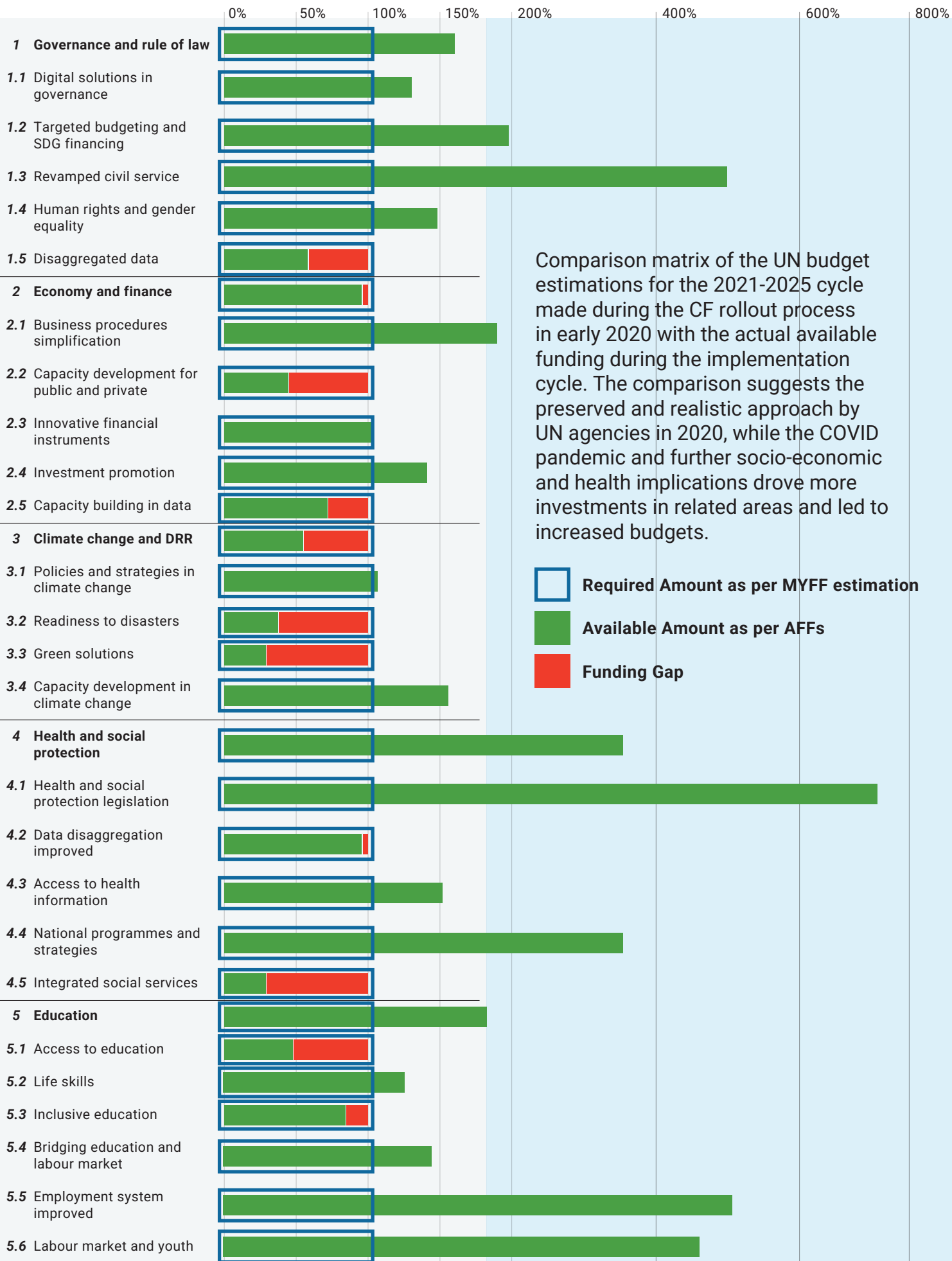


Outcome 4



Outcome 5





CHAPTER 3

UNCT key focus for next year

The new UNSDCF 2026-2030 cycle begins with a strategic focus on realization of long-term national plans, accelerating digital transformation across all sectors, and navigating the financial transition associated with Turkmenistan's status as an upper-middle-income country.

The initial year of implementation is structured around four Outcomes, each targeting specific systemic reforms including:

Governance and Human Rights (Outcome 1): A primary goal is the adoption and launch of the National Action Plans (NAPs) for Human Rights and Gender Equality (2026-2030), alongside a new gender-sensitive Youth Policy. The UN intends to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Ombudsman's Office and support the development of a national programme on child protection and justice for children, including stronger protection measures for child victims and witnesses of crime, and the advancement of diversion and restorative justice approaches. The UNCT prioritizes high-quality data through the MICS+ surveys and the development of a National Strategy for Demographic Resilience.

Economic Diversification (Outcome 2): Priorities include supporting Turkmenistan's WTO accession and integrating Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) into global value chains. The UN will focus on creating vocational centers for "green" and digital specialties and expanding youth access to international learning platforms.

Climate Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction (Outcome 3): The focus is on fulfilling international commitments, including updating the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0) and expanding early warning systems for natural disasters. The "Green School" program will be scaled to additional educational institutions. More efforts will be directed towards methane reduction, including through a joint programme. The UN will continue to support government efforts to establish the Regional Climate Technology Center for Central Asia and the Desertification Centre establishment initiative.

Social Services (Outcome 4): Digitalization is the centrepiece of the health priority, including the implementation of the ICD-11 and the development



of digital tools for reproductive health. In education, the UN will support the National Strategy for Early Childhood Development (2026-2030) and pilot pre-school preparation programs in 55 schools. In social sphere, the UN aims to strengthen the social and child protection systems by scaling up specialized services for vulnerable children and families, further professionalizing the social work workforce, advancing alternative care reform toward family-based solutions, and reinforcing prevention and response mechanisms related to violence against children through more integrated, child-sensitive services.

The UNCT identified several critical risks and hurdles that could impact the first year of the new cycle, including (i) projected gradual reduction in direct UN funding coupled with the limited interest from the broader donor community. This necessitates a shift toward Government co-financing and the implementation of innovative SDG financing mechanisms, (ii) digitalization gaps and the need for a more unified, cross-sectoral strategy in digital economy projects, (iii) need to build the capacity of young specialists to sustain envisaged reforms, and (iv) data availability, inconsistency in data access and utilization which may hinder evidence-based policy making.

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The Office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan

Address: 21 Archabil Street,
Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, 744036
Email: rcs-tkm-rco@un.org

 <https://turkmenistan.un.org/en>

 https://www.instagram.com/un_turkmenistan/

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