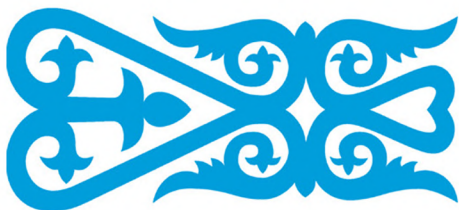




UNITED NATIONS
UZBEKISTAN



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UZBEKISTAN 2023

COUNTRY ANNUAL RESULTS REPORT

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Foreword

Dear partners, colleagues, and friends,

I am delighted to share with you the UN Uzbekistan Country Results Report for 2023. This report highlights the collaboration between the United Nations Country Team (UNCT) and the Government of Uzbekistan to support the country's national priorities and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Throughout 2023, the UN Agencies, Funds and Programs worked to make progress on the goals set out in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2021-2025, supporting national efforts for the people of Uzbekistan to lead healthier, more prosperous, and secure lives. The focus was on areas like effective governance and justice for all, inclusive human capital development, health and well-being, and sustainable, climate-responsible development.

In 2023, Uzbekistan marked a significant milestone with the adoption of the ambitious national development strategy "[Uzbekistan-2030](#)." This strategy outlines a comprehensive roadmap with 100 main targets spanning five priority sectors. The Uzbekistan-2030 Strategy holds the potential to make a substantial impact towards achieving the global SDG objectives. Uzbekistan also presented its [2nd Voluntary National Review \(VNR\)](#) on the nation's progress towards the SDGs, reinforcing its commitments towards the SDG Transformation. The UNCT has accompanied and supported the country in this process.

This report is full of stories illustrating how our efforts have positively impacted the lives of Uzbekistan's people, especially women, girls, youth, and vulnerable individuals across all regions. I invite both our national and international partners to review the report and join us in celebrating the collective achievements that we have accomplished together.

The results of our collective work in 2023 would not have been possible without the close cooperation between the UNCT and a diverse group of partners who have worked together to bring the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to life in Uzbekistan, with a strong emphasis on inclusivity.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the Government of Uzbekistan, civil society, international financial institutions, and development partners for their invaluable collaboration. A special thanks goes to the over 400 dedicated staff of the UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes in Uzbekistan who have shown strong commitment to fulfilling our promises to the Government and people of Uzbekistan.

In closing, I want to reaffirm the United Nations' commitment to continue partnering with the Government of Uzbekistan and stakeholders in achieving the country's vision for sustainable development. Thank you for your continued support and dedication.



Consuelo Vidal Bruce

United Nations Resident Coordinator a.i.
in Uzbekistan



UN Country Team

Uzbekistan joined the United Nations on 2 March 1992 as a new sovereign and independent state. The United Nations Office opened in Tashkent the following year. For more than thirty years, the UN country team (UNCT) in Uzbekistan has brought a wealth of technical capacity to support the Government’s development agenda. In September 2020, the UNCT and the Government of Uzbekistan signed a next generation **UN Sustainable Development**

Cooperation Framework (2021-2025), which articulates the strategic priorities for the UN Development System to support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

The UNCT in Uzbekistan currently comprises 25 UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes working together to advance national development priorities in line with the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Resident UN agencies:



Non-resident UN agencies:

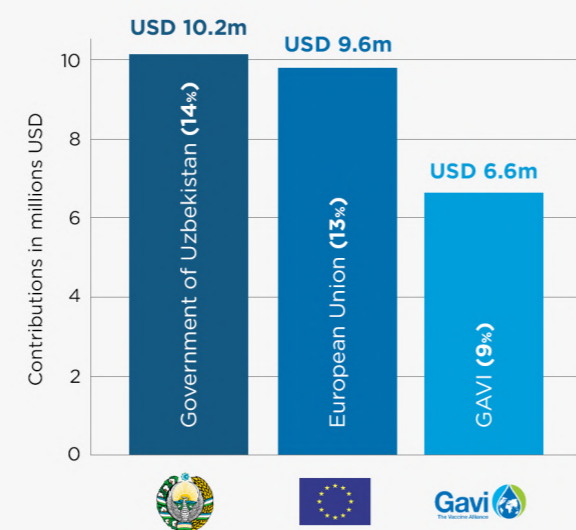


Key Development Partners of the UN in the country

The UN in Uzbekistan recognizes the power of partnerships in achieving the SDGs. The UNCT works closely with a diverse group of stakeholders and partners, which includes the Government of Uzbekistan, both Chambers of the Parliament, national authorities in the regions, civil society, development partners, IFIs, private sector, and academia among other.

The UNCT’s results outlined in this report would not have been possible without the financial support and/or strategic contributions of the following development partners.

Key contributing partners in 2023:



Contributing partners:

	Government of Uzbekistan		Norway		Adaptation Fund
	European Union		Sweden		Alwaleed Philanthropies
	Canada		Switzerland		Conflict, Stability and Security Fund
	Denmark		Türkiye		Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations
	Finland		United Kingdom		Global Environment Facility
	Germany		United States of America		Joint SDG Fund
	Italy		Asian Development Bank		UN Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea Region in Uzbekistan
	Japan		Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank		UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
	The Netherlands		European Bank for Reconstruction and Development		UN PRPD
	Qatar		Islamic Development Bank		UN Peacebuilding Fund
	Russian Federation		KfW Development Bank		Uzbekistan Vision 2030 Fund
	Saudi Arabia		The World Bank		Green Climate Fund
	South Korea				

Key Implementing partners:

	Government of Uzbekistan		Ishonch va hayot		Westminster International University in Tashkent
	Global Fund for Fighting AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria		Development Strategy Center		University of World Economy and Diplomacy
	Yuksalish		Center for Economic Research		National University of Uzbekistan
	Zamin Foundation		National Human Rights Center		Tashkent State Agrarian University
	Barqaror Hayot		IT Park		Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers
	Businesswomen Association "Tadbirkor ayol"		Zhongxing Telecommunication Equipment Corporation		Tashkent Pediatric Medical Institute
	Republican Social Information Center "Istiqbolli Avlod"				Islamic Academy of Uzbekistan

Chapter 1.

Key developments in the country and regional context

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Uzbekistan's socio-economic profile*	2022	2023
GPD growth rate (%)	5.7	6.0
Inflation rate (CPI, %)	12.3	8.7
National Unemployment Rate (%)	8.9	8.1
National Poverty Rate (%)	14.1	11
Debt (% of GDP)	36.4	36.8
International Reserves (USD, billion)	35.8	34.6
Remittances Inflow (USD, billion)	16.9	11.5

*National statistics

Uzbekistan in International Rankings	2022	2023
SDG Index (out of 166)	77	69
Corruption Perception Index (out of 180)	126	121
Index of Economic Freedom (out of 176)	117	109
Global Innovation Index (out of 132)	82	82
Democracy Index (out of 167)	149	148
WJP Rule of Law Index (out of 142)	78	78
World Happiness Index (out of 146)	53	54

Uzbekistan saw several significant political developments in 2023 that will influence its future course until 2030 and beyond.

A new Constitution was adopted in 2023 after a nationwide vote on April 30th. This new constitution strengthens several key areas in line with the SDGs including protections for individual rights, adherence with international law; and social and environmental protections.

President Mirziyoyev was re-elected in July with a strong majority (87.1%). In September, the Government launched the ambitious “Uzbekistan-2030” Strategy. This plan outlines 100 specific goals across five key areas aligned with the SDGs, setting a course for significant socio-economic transformation aiming to halve poverty, boost education access, and pivot towards a green economy by increasing renewable energy use and improving environmental standards. With the strategy, the Government aims to mobilize USD 250 billion by 2030 through public-private partnerships and external funding.

In July, the Government presented Uzbekistan's progress towards achieving the SDGs through the second [Voluntary National Review](#). The report showcased the country's achievements in economic growth and poverty reduction, increased educational coverage, healthcare improvements, and efforts in gender equality and social inclusion, among other. Moreover, through its [National Commitments on SDGs Transformation](#) – closely aligned with the Uzbekistan 2030 Strategy – the Government reconfirmed its pledge to reach agreed targets and take actions towards continued economic reforms, human capital development, gender equality, and green transition.

Over the course of the year, a large-scale [administrative reform](#) was also undertaken with a view of improving government efficiency by streamlining government bodies and merging key ministries. However, the initial plan for administrative reform proved to be ambitious, leading to several reversals and restructurings within a short period.

Uzbekistan saw improvements in global transparency rankings and is actively involved in international [anti-corruption efforts](#). In December, President Mirziyoyev committed the country to developing and implementing a comprehensive [National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2030](#), focusing on enhancing transparency, accountability, and legal frameworks to combat corruption, and underscoring the nation's dedication to integrity and governance reform.

The [National Agency for Social Protection](#) (NASP) was established in June to promote social protection in Uzbekistan and ensure the implementation of the National Social Protection Strategy. In August, Uzbekistan confirmed its high-level commitment to join the UN Secretary General's [Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions](#), a global effort to create

decent jobs, expand social protection, and promote pathways for just transitions.

The [Partnership Compact for Education Reform 2023-26](#) was launched in April to serve as Uzbekistan's roadmap for transforming its education system and ensuring equitable access to quality education for all. Development partners committed to mobilize over USD600 million for the education sector in line with the Partnership Compact defined priorities over the next three years. In December, the OECD released the results of the [PISA 2022 assessment](#), in which Uzbekistan participated for the first time. The country ranked significantly below average in mathematics (72nd out of 88 countries), reading (80th), and science (80th).

In April, Uzbekistan took a major step forward by [criminalizing violence](#) against women and children. In December, the President issued a decree specifically aimed at [boosting women's participation](#) in business and the economy.

In November, the UN Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group examined Uzbekistan's [human rights record](#) through the [4th UPR cycle](#). While the country highlighted progress with new laws, there are recommendations on areas such as freedom of speech, rights of key population groups, and the treatment of human rights activists. Many of these recommendations have been accepted by the country. On a visit to Uzbekistan in March, the UN Human Rights High Commissioner also raised concerns about human rights issues that the Government has committed to address through a Roadmap adopted by the Parliament. At the high-level UDHR75 event in December, Uzbekistan made specific pledges related to human rights education, youth and women's rights, torture prevention, and business and human rights practices.

Uzbekistan resolved [statelessness](#) for nearly 5,000 people in 2023 who were finally recognized as Uzbek citizens. Uzbekistan has drastically reduced the total number of registered stateless persons within its borders from 93,950 in 2020 to 22,496 at the end of 2023, in line with the global #IBelong campaign to end statelessness by 2024. Additionally, Uzbekistan is working on its first law for asylum seekers, bringing its policies closer to international refugee protection standards.

In October, Uzbekistan successfully placed [Eurobonds](#) valued at USD660 million and unveiled its [inaugural green sovereign Eurobonds](#) worth UZS4.25 trillion on the London Stock Exchange. The proceeds are expected to finance [environmentally focused projects](#), such as water-saving technologies, the expansion of railway and metro transportation systems, sanitation initiatives, and the establishment of protective forests to combat wind erosion and water body siltation.

Heavy reliance on natural gas continued to threaten Uzbekistan's [energy security](#), compounded by depleting gas production and growing net imports. A long-awaited energy tariff reform was announced in September with steps to adjust tariffs to full cost recovery levels by 2026.

On December 19, the UN General Assembly unanimously passed the resolution "[Central Asia in the face of environmental problems: strengthening regional solidarity for sustainable development and prosperity](#)." Initiated by Uzbekistan, the resolution: (i) acknowledges climate change as a critical challenge affecting global sustainable development; (ii) emphasizes the need for regional cooperation, particularly in addressing the environmental issues of the Aral Sea region; and (iii) promotes the "Green Agenda for Central Asia" program for sustainable development.



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Chapter 2. UN development system support to national development priorities through the Cooperation Framework


2.1. Overview of Cooperation Framework Results

The United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) anchors the UN system’s activities in Uzbekistan until 2025. The framework builds upon the positive results achieved through collaboration

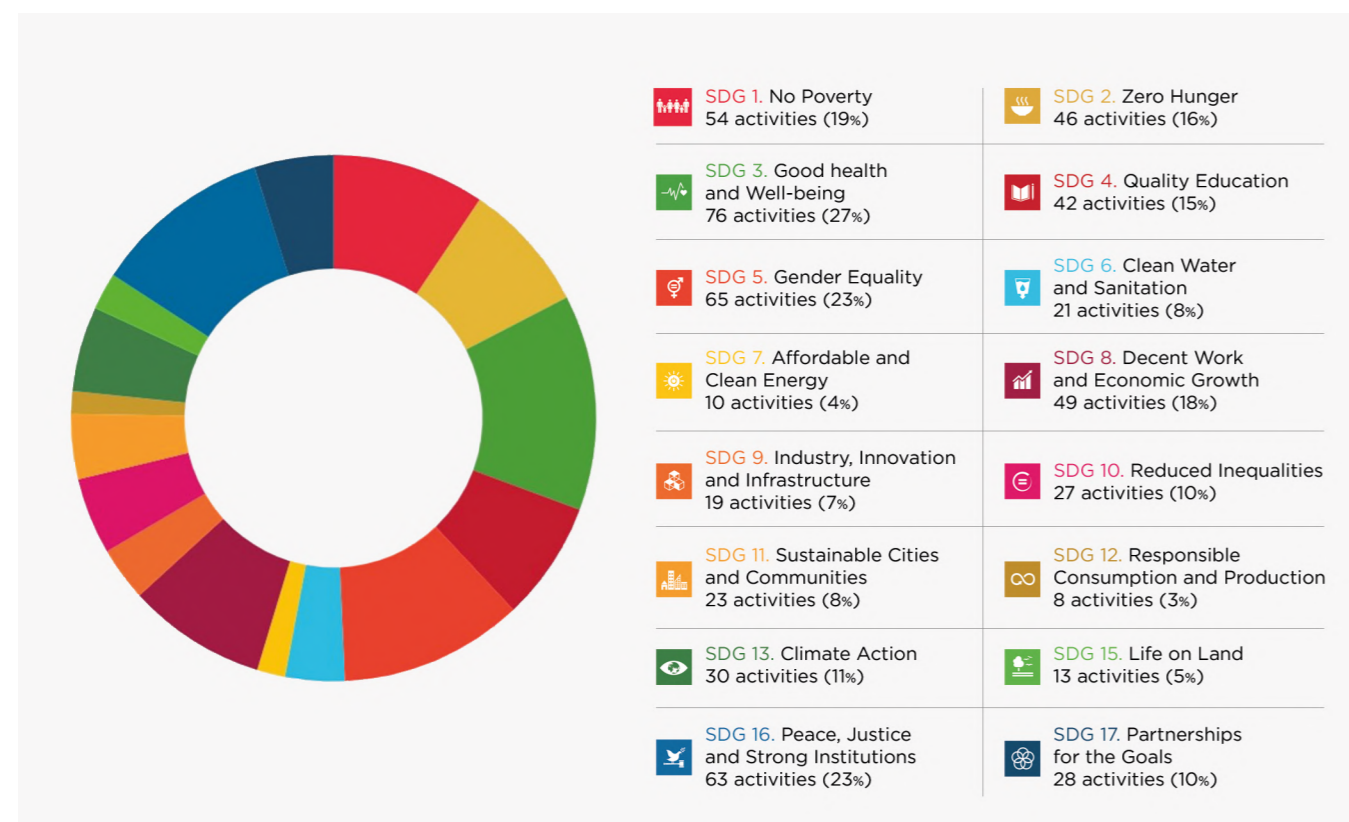
between the Government of Uzbekistan and the UN system. It represents joint commitments towards achieving national priorities aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and international human and labor rights obligations.

 **25 UN agencies are signatories to Cooperation Framework**

Cooperation Framework Structure

 <p>Strategic Priority A: Effective governance and justice for all</p> <p>Outcome 1. By 2025, all people and groups in Uzbekistan, especially the most vulnerable, demand and benefit from enhanced accountable, transparent, inclusive and gender-responsive governance systems and rule of law institutions for a life free from discrimination and violence.</p>  <p>Outcome 2. By 2025, the population of Uzbekistan benefits from more harmonized and integrated implementation of the reform agenda due to strengthened policy coherence, evidence-based and inclusive decision-making and financing for development, mainstreamed in line with national SDGs.</p> 	 <p>Strategic Priority B: Inclusive human capital development leading to health, well-being and resilient prosperity</p> <p>Outcome 3. By 2025, youth, women and vulnerable groups benefit from improved access to livelihoods, decent work and expanded opportunities generated by inclusive and equitable economic growth.</p>  <p>Outcome 4. By 2025, the most vulnerable benefit from enhanced access to gender-sensitive quality health, education and social services.</p> 	 <p>Strategic Priority C: Sustainable, climate responsible and resilient development.</p> <p>Outcome 5. By 2025, the most at risk regions and communities of Uzbekistan are more resilient to climate change and disasters, and benefit from increasingly sustainable and gender-sensitive efficient management of natural resources and infrastructure, robust climate action, inclusive environmental governance and protection.</p> 
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280 activities in Joint Workplan



Source: [UN INFO](#)


In 2023, the UN collaborated with Uzbekistan’s Government and development partners to deliver 280 activities through Joint Work Plans supporting the country’s progress on national SDGs. To maximize their impact, UN agencies are working together to deliver 10 joint programs.

From combating corruption and protecting women and children to improving healthcare and education, the UN’s impact was far-reaching. Through innovative initiatives like green bonds and online service delivery, the UN addressed financing challenges and governance gaps. Skills development programmes empowered youth and rural communities, while environmental resilience was strengthened through water management, climate action support, and expanding protected areas. By advocating for refugees, promoting cultural heritage, and supporting social protection, the UN demonstrated its commitment to leaving no one behind in Uzbekistan’s journey towards a sustainable future.



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Key Results Achieved in 2023




Strategic Priority A: Effective governance and justice for all

Law on criminalization of violence against women and children was adopted.

First sovereign green bonds were issued to attract **USD350 million** for implementation of **green projects**.

National Multidimensional Poverty Index was established capturing crucial aspects of well-being in 11 dimensions.




Strategic Priority B: Inclusive human capital development leading to health, well-being and resilient prosperity

Uzbekistan Partnership Compact for Education Reform 2023-26 was signed raising over **USD 600 million** in funding commitments towards quality and inclusive education.

National Social Protection Agency was established to promote a more efficient and integrated social protection system.

Uzbekistan joined the **Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions** to create decent jobs and extend social protection to millions of Uzbek people.



Strategic Priority C: Sustainable, climate responsible and resilient development

Uzbekistan joined **Protocol on Water and Health** to set and report on integrated targets on water, sanitation, hygiene and health.

First National State of Environment Report prepared providing a snapshot of current environmental trends and reviewing relevant policy measures to address environmental challenges in Uzbekistan.

Two natural and cultural sites included in the World Heritage List.

In July 2023, Uzbekistan presented its second Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the ECOSOC High-level Political Forum in New York. The UN played a key role in helping Uzbekistan prepare for this VNR. In particular, the UN facilitated participatory consultations to collect the

view of different stakeholders on the country’s progress on the SDGs. Also, the UN supported Uzbekistan to connect with other countries preparing a VNR, including Mongolia and Tajikistan, to exchange experiences and learn from each other through peer review.



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Youth 2030

In 2023, in line with the Youth 2030 Strategy, the UNCT worked closely with various stakeholders and the UN Youth Advisory Board towards young people’s empowerment, development and engagement, providing skills training opportunities and

establishing regular online and offline engagements between young people and UN Senior managers. Partnerships with local youth networks, academia, high schools, and lyceums was also an important element of the UN’s work to advocate for the values of the UN, including “Leave No One Behind” and the national SDGs.



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Disability Inclusion

In 2023, in line with UN Uzbekistan Disability Inclusion Strategy, the UNCT worked closely with various stakeholders to support the realization of Uzbekistan’s commitments under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ratified in 2021 and the development of disability-inclusive policies. The UNCT also led efforts to enhance the capacities of social service providers and national stakeholders in Uzbekistan, focusing on inclusive disability budgeting practices, refining disability measurements and assessments, and improving the collection and utilization of disability-related data and indicators. The UNCT engaged with 122 organizations of persons with disabilities to strengthen their capacities on legal awareness, child protection from GBV, and the stigmatization and discrimination of women and girls.

2.2. Cooperation Framework priorities, outcomes and outputs

Strategic Priority A: Effective governance and justice for all

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OUTCOME 1

By 2025, all people and groups in Uzbekistan, especially the most vulnerable, will demand and benefit from enhanced accountable, transparent, inclusive and gender responsive governances and rule of law institutions for a life free from discrimination and violence.

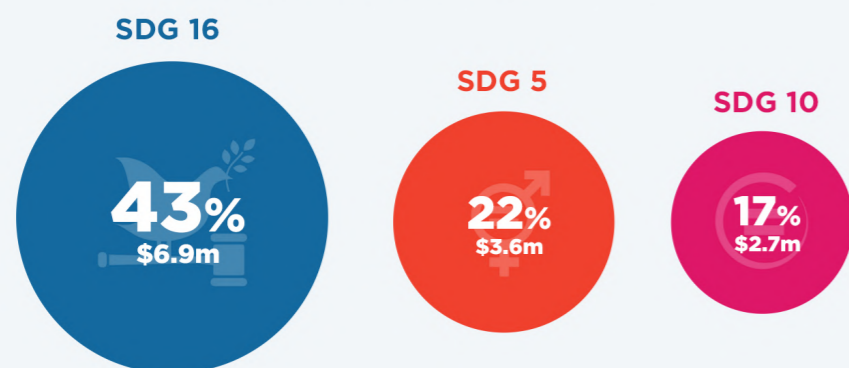
Contributing agencies:



National SDGs:



Key contributions to SDGs:



Funding Snapshot:



Improving Governance and Anti-Corruption

The UN helped facilitate the online delivery of 16.4 million public service applications in 2023, with 579 services available at my.gov.uz. Uzbekistan has been steadily improving its score on Transparency International's corruption perceptions index, from a score of 17/100 in 2013 (ranked 168th out of 177 countries) to a score of 33/100 in 2023 (ranked 121st out of 180 countries). This incremental progress reflects the effectiveness of anti-corruption measures such as the [Law on Anti-Corruption](#)



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Screening of Legal Acts. Overall, 40 NGOs, 15 media outlets, 120 journalists, 13,000 pupils, and 660 teachers increased their knowledge in understanding and measuring corruption through UN-supported workshops and dialogues.

Strengthening Security and Cross-Border Cooperation

The establishment of a [new Border Liaison Office](#) and training for customs officers by the UN led to the interception of over USD 4 million worth of illegal commodities. Combating trafficking in persons was another key focus, with the creation of the [Central Asia Law Enforcement Network against Trafficking in Persons](#) and training initiatives to detect human trafficking.

With funding from the [Peacebuilding Fund \(PBF\)](#), the [Joint UN Programme on cross-border cooperation between Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan](#) supported 20 local government representatives in border regions with Kyrgyzstan to improve their skills in identifying issues on cross-border relations and conflict resolution.

Empowering Women and Youth

In 2023, Uzbekistan made significant progress in addressing [gender-based violence \(GBV\)](#) by [criminalizing violence against women and children](#). The [Gender Equality Seal programme](#) has streamlined gender equality within public institutions. 260 religious leaders (233 women and 27 men) built their knowledge on addressing GBV and promoting reproductive health.

300 vulnerable youth in Fergana region participated in skills development courses with the [Youth and Child-Friendly Local Governance](#) model being piloted in five cities.

[U-Report](#) continued to give young Uzbekistanis a voice on numerous development issues, reaching 370,000 young people in 2023.

Protecting Children

The UN continued to advocate for the ratification of the Third Optional Protocol to the [Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) and the adoption of the "Law on the Children's Ombudsperson". A [Strategy and Plan of Action on Children's Access to Justice](#) was developed to foster the establishment of a more specialized child justice system. Overall, more than 2,000 children (942 female, 214 Afghan) and 255 adults (167 female, 72 Afghan) received child-friendly and gender-sensitive legal aid.



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882,5k people benefited from improved local public services and upgraded resilient infrastructure

16,4 mln people used digital technologies and services aimed at improving their lives

35,2 mln people supported in having access to justice

Support to people in need of international protection

Protection



245

Afghan families (1,224 people) received general counselling on political asylum procedures

1,325

professionals received training on child protection support and standards



444

host and Afghan community members received training on GBV prevention

Livelihoods and resilience

1,041

people trained in income-generating activities



Health and Nutrition



415

Afghan citizens supported to access secondary and tertiary healthcare services

5 primary healthcare facilities and **1** district hospital equipped with climate-resilient WASH facilities, including installation of sanitation facilities and waste management system, solar panels, and solar water heaters

Education

526

school-aged children supported to access primary education



WASH

349

healthcare providers and schoolteachers received training on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene management



In a Foreign Land, Afghan Children Dream Again, with EU-UNICEF Education Support

Hamza (11) wants to be a footballer, while his shy brother Uzair (10) wants to be an engineer. Bahrom (13) emphatically states he is going to be a gamer. On the surface, they are carefree boys in Uzbekistan's Termez City. They are not. This group of boys was uprooted by conflict in neighboring Afghanistan. Now across the border, as the boys go back to school, they can dream about a future again. With the support of the European Union, UNICEF has been working with the Ministry of Preschool and School Education to identify and enroll out of school children. Currently, 215 Afghan children study in Termez schools, and 18 out-of-school Afghan were recently admitted to schools. To augment support for this influx of Afghan children, teachers and psychologists are being trained on how to assess learning needs of the children and design individualized programmes to support them, while school materials such as reading books have been procured and delivered. [Find out more.](#)



Combating Stigma

Throughout 2023, the UN utilized social media platforms and disseminated content related to [HIV awareness and prevention](#). In collaboration with @NMAGap a [podcast video](#) was produced featuring Shokhjakhon Azizov, an HIV+ young person. He shared his personal experience related to living with HIV, and the podcast generated 241,000 views in the three months since it was released on 13 December 2023.



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Supporting Refugees and Statelessness

The UN continued to advocate for Uzbekistan's accession to the [1951 Refugee Convention and Statelessness Conventions](#) by providing analytical reports and facilitating discussions with government officials.



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Key results in numbers



16.4 million public service transactions delivered online



USD 4 million worth of illegal commodities intercepted



182 women leaders joined the National Women Leaders' Caucus



2,137 children and 255 adults received legal aid

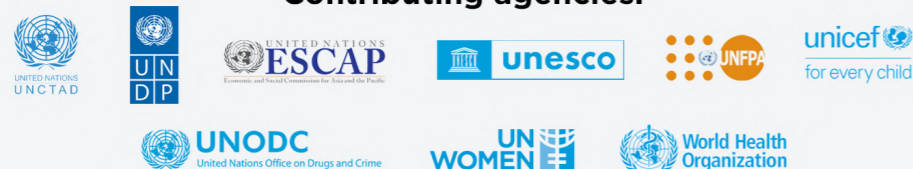
Key challenges

- Limited provision of legal aid
- Absence of national asylum legislation and procedures
- Regular shifts in both national leadership and organizational frameworks

OUTCOME 2

By 2025, the population of Uzbekistan will benefit from a more harmonized and integrated implementation of the reform agenda thanks to strengthened policy coherence, evidence-based and inclusive decision making, and financing for mainstreamed development in line with national SDGs.

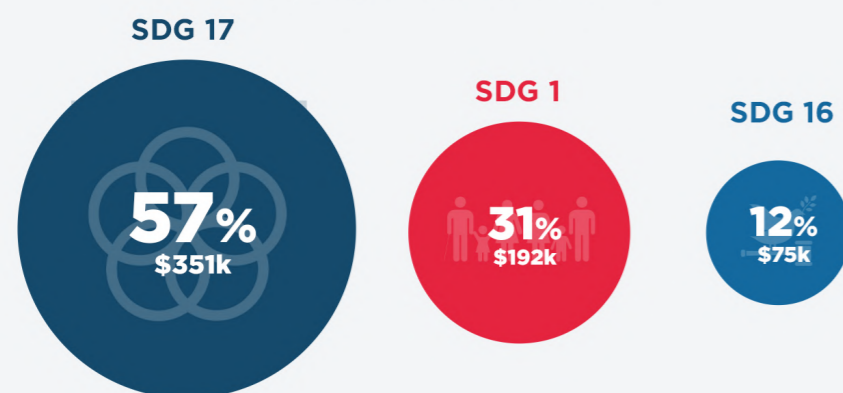
Contributing agencies:



National SDGs:



Key contributions to SDGs:



Funding Snapshot:



Financing SDGs

In October 2023 Uzbekistan issued its first [green sovereign Eurobonds bonds](#), raising USD 350 million for implementation of green projects related to water conservation, eco-friendly transportation, sanitation improvements, and efforts to combat land degradation. This initiative was bolstered by [Climate Budget Tagging](#), which will ensuring transparency by linking investments to actual spending. Over [80 public officials](#) improved their skills in Programme-Based Budgeting and Results-Based Management with UN training. The [Global Tax for SDGs Initiative](#)

supported Uzbekistan in aligning tax policies with SDGs, while the [Tax Inspectors Without Borders Programme](#) strengthened capacity to combat evasion.

Collecting and Analyzing Data

The upgraded census information management system will ensure secure and accurate data collection for the 2024 Population Census. A national population forecast team was established and equipped with advanced demographic analysis tools. A first-time study on the “Situation of elderly people in Uzbekistan” laid the foundation

\$350m

annual volume of innovative finance accessed/leveraged for the SDGs

for the [Strategy on Healthy Aging](#) and the introduction of the [Active Aging Index](#) in the country. [Child-related SDG data](#) collection and reporting by the government were bolstered through the UN’s support, including for the Transformative Monitoring for Enhanced Equity database, developing and presenting a Voluntary National Report, and advocating for conducting Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey. Finally, a [High-level International Conference on Demographic Resilience](#) was organized to establish a regular platform to link policies in different areas to demographic trends in Uzbekistan.

Measuring Poverty

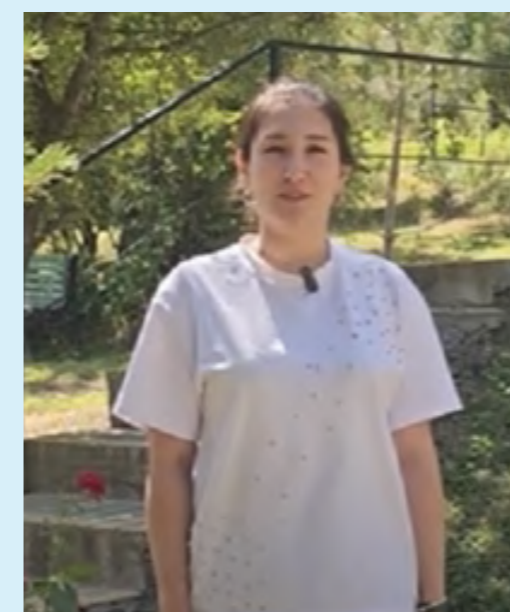
As a result of collaboration between the government and the UN, Multidimensional [Poverty Index \(MPI\)](#) was developed and approved. The resulting study captured crucial aspects of child well-being across [11 dimensions](#) with 44.7% of children under 18 estimated to be multidimensionally poor.

6 institutions

with increased statistical knowledge and capacities, to produce and disseminate high-quality, timely and reliable disaggregated data, and to report on sustainable development



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[Find out more.](#)

Story of Muazzam

Muazzam Sobirova is a member of the cohort of young researchers who actively participated in an intensive summer school for young demographers held in October 2023. 15 young researchers across Uzbekistan specializing in demographics participated in the programme organized by UNFPA with “Oila and Mahalla” scientific research institute.



I have been able to directly apply the acquired knowledge to enhance the quality of my research. By exploring diverse methodologies encompassing fertility, mortality, migration, and population projections within the realm of demographic studies, I have significantly elevated my analytical capabilities and research efficiency, says Muazzam.



Key results in numbers



USD 350 million raised in the first sovereign green Eurobonds



Over 80 public officials improved their knowledge in Programme-Based Budgeting and Results-Based Management



15 young demographers recruited into a national population forecast team

Key challenges

- Limited capacity for data collection and analysis
- Limited evidence-based decision making

New Legislation

- Amendments to the Criminal and Administrative Liability Codes
- Strategy and Plan of Action on Children's Access to Justice
- Law on State Funded Legal Aid
- Law on Anti-Corruption Screening of Legal Acts



**Strategic Priority B:
Inclusive human capital development
leading to health, well-being
and resilient prosperity**

OUTCOME 3

By 2025, youth, women and vulnerable groups will benefit from improved access to livelihoods, decent work and expanded opportunities generated by inclusive and equitable economic growth.

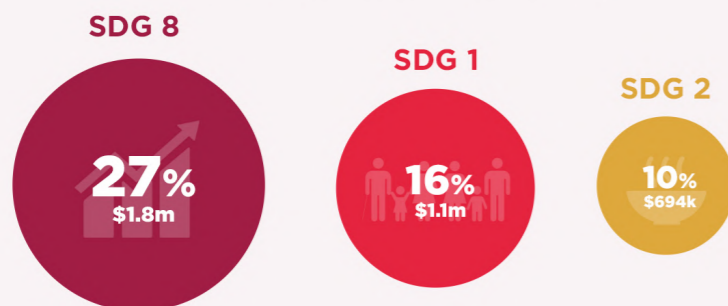
Contributing agencies:



National SDGs:



Key contributions to SDGs:



Funding Snapshot:



Enhancing Employment Opportunities and Skills

In 2023, over 300 jobs were created with 40% filled by women. Around 1,400 micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) – half of them women-led – benefitted from digital entrepreneurship, business development, and trade acceleration initiatives supported by the UN.

Over 7,500 young people and women, including 35 Afghan citizens and 79 children with disabilities gained new skills through social innovation, STEM, and digital skills programmes. Additionally, 358 community representatives learned about alternative income-generation opportunities, including handicrafts and entrepreneurship.



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9,131 people benefited from income generating activities

The UN supported the development of a Professional Education Strategy for 2030¹. Six National Occupational Standards were developed in agriculture and irrigation, while competency-based curriculum was developed for six agriculture qualifications in 4 pilot colleges. The Skills Technology Foresight (STF) tool was introduced to anticipate future skill needs and inform proactive policy in skills development.

Supporting Rural Livelihoods

Focusing on rural communities, the UN equipped 525 households with new skills in horticulture, crop diversification, and irrigation, increasing food security and incomes. Reaching even more people, 1,600 community representatives gained new skills in handicrafts, entrepreneurship, and sustainable forest management. 135 farmers enhanced their knowledge on sweet cherry pruning, sustainable irrigation, and integrated pest management in Fergana region.

As a result of joint UN programmes aimed at empowering youth and vulnerable citizens in the Aral Sea region, 3 vocational training centers were established and have already reached over 1,000 youth, women, farmers and migrants with skills training in alternative income-generating activities. 150 youth, women, and persons with disabilities increased their knowledge of new technologies and digital products through workshops. Additionally, access to electricity was improved for 8,922 rural

¹ Pending endorsement of the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan

6,054 people directly benefited from improved access to skills and lifelong learning programmes, including for comprehensive sexuality education



Empowering Dreams through IT

In southern Uzbekistan, Saidmakhmud and Jakhongir embarked on a mission to run a technological renaissance by running an IT center that is expected to serve as a hub for learning, innovation, and empowerment. With the backing of UNDP, the center has flourished into an innovation hub, empowering a diverse cohort of 120+ students eager to acquire the digital skills with cutting-edge technology and mentorship. [Find out more.](#)

Water-smart Greenhouses in Uzbekistan: Story of Odina



By applying new “smart” farming techniques, Odina now grows about 400 kilograms of tomatoes per week during the harvest season, whereas before, she hardly produced even 120 kilograms. Along with the quantity, the quality of the product has also improved. The fruits are consistently smooth, large, and more flavorful than the previous ones. Odina learned to utilize these transformative techniques through the project, “Smart Farming for the Future Generation”, implemented by FAO, with financial support from the Republic of Korea. Of all the tools introduced by the project, Odina considers the drip irrigation system the most useful and effective one. [Find out more.](#)

2,599 additional jobs created and jobs retained

people (49% women) through the installation of new transformers, while clean drinking water was provided to over 9,000 people through new water networks and purification equipment. 8,430 rural youth (49% girls) benefitted from free access to internet through 15 Free Wi-Fi zones established in Bozatau, Kungrad and Muynak districts.



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1,388 private sector entities improved performance, business transactions, and/or income generation

Creating enabling environment:

- Capacity building programme on innovation for the circular economy.
- Support to WTO accession process.
- Conducted Road Safety Performance Review.
- Research on digital inclusion and upskilling of people with disabilities.
- Study and roundtable on startup ecosystem in Central Asia.

Compliance with international labor standards and ILO Conventions:

- Strengthened capacity on gender equality, forced labor, and standards compliance.
- Enhanced capacity on active labor market programmes and entrepreneurship training.
- Supported capacity development for civil society activists.
- Facilitated tripartite dialogue and international experience sharing.



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Key results in numbers



2,500 youth skilled through UN programmes



More than **3,500** people benefitted from income-generating activities



6 National Occupational Standards developed



Almost **200** youth from rural areas enrolled in new education programmes



over **300** jobs created

Key challenges

- Social gender norms and stereotypes
- Barriers for disability inclusion
- Lack of institutional capacity and financial resources

OUTCOME 4

By 2025, the most vulnerable benefit from enhanced access to gender-sensitive quality health, education and social services.

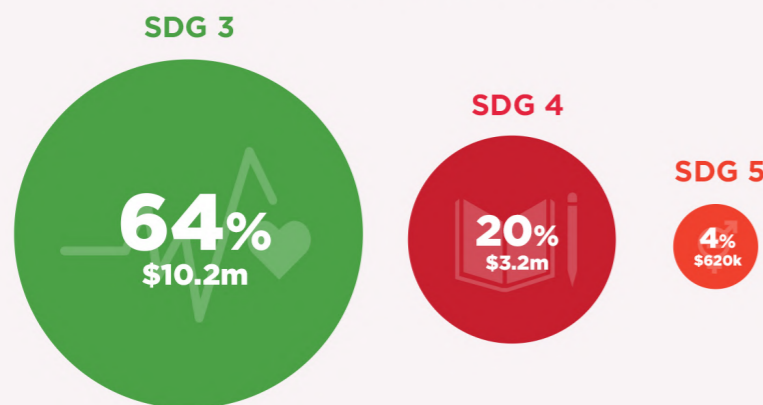
Contributing agencies:



National SDGs:



Key contributions to SDGs:



Funding Snapshot:



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Strengthening Health System

The UN’s partnership with Uzbekistan is yielding impressive results in public health.

Fighting tuberculosis (TB): Shorter treatment regimens led to a 15% increase in treatment success rates, while the [National TB Programme](#), updated protocols, and electronic surveillance, strengthened the fight against the disease.

Strengthening HIV Response: Legal assessments, improved data usage, and workshops bolstered the national response to HIV. A roadmap to eliminate [mother-to-child transmission](#) benefitting 900,000 women was established, and [Antiretroviral therapy](#) coverage soared to 84.4%, reaching 41,090 people living with HIV.



Better Labs for Better Health

Well-functioning and sustainable laboratory services that adhere to international standards of quality and safety are essential for strong health systems and improvements to public health. In Uzbekistan, the WHO [Better Labs for Better Health](#) (Better Labs) initiative has been running since 2016 to tackle the issue of public laboratories, particularly those in rural areas, not being able to provide quality services for the detection, assessment, response, notification and monitoring of health threats. This initiative has had a positive impact on the quality and safety of laboratory services in the country, enabling them to provide reliable and timely results, and strengthening the public health system’s capacity to comply with International Health Regulations.

In November 2023, 15 laboratory specialists from republican and regional perinatal centers were trained to use the WHO tool to assess the laboratory system of perinatal centers.

“ I’ve personally identified key areas for improvement and gained valuable insights on organizing our workdays more efficiently. This lesson holds particular significance in our service, where our dedication revolves around the well-being of our patients – our primary objective is ensuring their happiness and health. ”

Khatira Rizaeva, the head of the clinical diagnostic laboratory in Tashkent. [Find out more.](#)

Reproductive & Maternal Health: [Contraceptive procurement](#) increased fivefold, a stock management tool was developed, and a [national cervical cancer prevention roadmap](#) was established, including [HPV testing](#) as the primary screening method.

Child Health & Nutrition: Over 1.4 million children benefitted from improved nutrition through micronutrient powder programmes.

A nationwide [Electronic Immunization Registry](#) was implemented by the Ministry of Health with UN support. UN assistance also helped modernize the [National Immunization Programme](#), ensuring consistent [vaccine supply for 3.5 million children](#).

Primary Healthcare: A home visiting model was deployed by the Ministry of Health with support from the UN, benefiting 320,289 individuals in Karakalpakstan, including



Universal Patronage System revolutionizes primary health in Uzbekistan

Barno is a patronage nurse in Nukus, Karakalpakstan. She visits 285 families in her polyclinic’s catchment area, prioritizing pregnant women, women who have just delivered, newborn babies and persons with disabilities. Nurses like Barno provide a vital link between the primary health care facility –known as the Polyclinic in Uzbekistan– and the community (Mahalla), delivering care right at the doorstep. Home visiting by these nurses is critical, providing holistic support to families on childcare, nutrition and child development.

UNICEF supported the introduction of the Universal Progressive Model of Home visiting in Uzbekistan. With UNICEF support, a team of experts from the Ministry of Health adapted guideline and developed a pocketbook on implementing the Universal Progressive Model of Home Visiting. UNICEF, together with the Ministry of Health trained a team of trainers who trained all patronage nurses on new methodology. Since the introduction of the updated home visiting model, more than 4 million mothers and children in Uzbekistan, especially disadvantaged families, are more visible and have improved access to services. [Find out more.](#)

106,447 people benefited from UN-supported health services

156,485 women and children. Additionally, mental health services were improved for 6 million adolescents in schools.

Ensuring Quality Education

The UN supported the launch of [Uzbekistan Partnership Compact for Education Reform 2023-26](#), which was mobilized over USD 600 million in funding commitments. The [National Policy Frameworks for Inclusive Education](#) paved the way for equitable learning while real-time monitoring ensured internet connectivity in 10,000 schools. Over 300 experts and teachers enhanced their knowledge on information security. [Eduten](#) – a Finnish-based digital learning platform developed in partnership with the UN – was launched in Uzbekistan. As a result, Uzbekistan was selected as one of six [Global Learning Pioneer Countries](#), with the expectation to scale up digital solutions that successfully improve children’s learning outcomes and equitable access to quality education.

[Technical and Vocational Education and Training](#) saw a quality boost with the development of National Occupational Standards and Competency-Based



© WHO Uzbekistan

4.8 mln people accessed basic services (child, disability, unemployment, maternity benefits, GBV response, child protection and care services)

Curriculum for six selected occupations in the agriculture and irrigation sectors. Primary education embraced [rule of law](#) topics, while youth engagement flourished through [Model UN](#), [life skills training](#), and [sexual and reproductive health education](#).

Enhancing Social Protection

2023 was a remarkable year for social protection in Uzbekistan. The UN supported the newly established [National Agency for Social Protection](#) by sharing [international expertise and knowledge](#). Over 900 [social workers](#) improved their skills in child protection and care. As a pilot region, the Surkhandarya region saw significant enhancements in access to integrated social services, benefitting [15,348 individuals \(8,869 children, 8,306 females, 489 Afghan\)](#).

[Emergency preparedness](#) of Uzbekistan’s social protection system was bolstered through a scale up of [emergency cash transfers](#) and the integration of a [GBV](#)

[Safety Audit Tool](#). 196 children (100 female) and 64 women returned from Afghanistan, Iraq, and Syria benefited from reintegration support. The UN also supported Uzbekistan in providing services for [children with disabilities](#) through trainings, modeling inclusive schools, and raising awareness about [disability rights](#). Over 200 [service providers](#) enhanced their capacity in responding to GBV, while [3,754 children living with HIV \(2,207 female\)](#) benefitted from UN-supported psychosocial support.

In 2023 Uzbekistan joined the [Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions](#) as a pathfinding country. Global Accelerator supports countries committed to create decent jobs, expand social protection and promote pathways for just transitions. This engagement has the potential to impact [5 million people \(1.5 million children\)](#) vulnerable to poverty, [1 million people with disabilities](#) and nearly [6 million people working in the informal sector](#).

Key results in numbers

- Over USD 45 million** mobilized to improve maternal and neonatal health
- 1.4 million children** benefited from improved micronutrition
- 9.5 million people** informed on COVID-19 vaccination
- Over USD 600 million** mobilized for education reform
- 4.8 million children** covered with child benefits

Key challenges

- Limited health worker capacity and outdated medical equipment
- HIV stigma and discrimination
- Low equity in education
- Fragmented access to disability-inclusive infrastructure and services



Strategic Priority C: Sustainable, climate responsible and resilient development

OUTCOME 5

By 2025, the most at-risk regions and communities of Uzbekistan will be more resilient to climate change and disasters, and will benefit from increasingly sustainable and gender-sensitive efficient management of natural resources and infrastructure, robust climate action, inclusive environmental governance and protection.

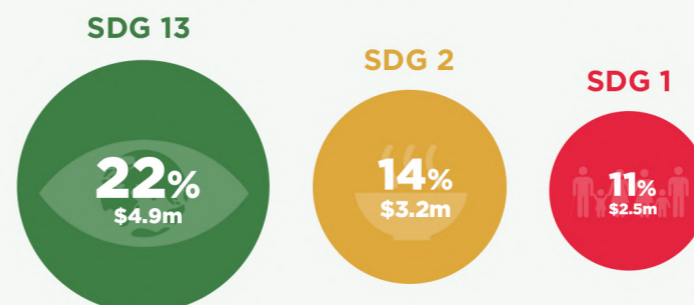
Contributing agencies:



National SDGs:



Key contributions to SDGs:

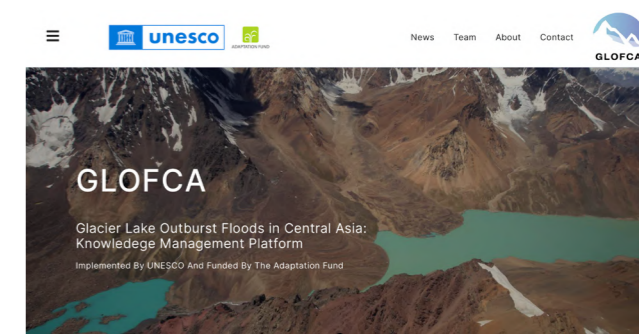


Funding Snapshot:



Strengthening Environmental Resilience

Water management received a boost through cryosphere monitoring (i.e. monitoring the rates at which glaciers advance or retreat), and the establishment of a dedicated platform for glacier flood risks in Central Asia. Environment reporting was improved with the UN's support for a National State of Environment Report. The Syr Darya River received much-needed attention with Phase I of a pollution



31,000 people gained access to and benefited from clean, affordable, and sustainable energy

[prevention project](#) identifying water quality and industrial safety issues. Access to [clean drinking water](#) was provided to 12,574 rural people (5,180 women) in the Aral Sea region. 40 Cluster Community Development Plans were developed through engagement of more than 7,300 rural people (37% women). The [clean energy transition](#) was prioritized with the UN's support to [national SDG7 roadmap](#) development and recommendations for [decarbonizing transport](#) with natural gas.

Improved [medical waste management](#) benefitted over [11.3 million people](#) ([3.8 million children](#)), while [enhanced WASH services](#) in Karakalpakstan reached [320,289 individuals](#) ([6,485 women](#)). Seminars and training on [disaster risk reduction \(DRR\)](#) in schools empowered [1,715 students](#) ([72 students with disabilities](#)), while [10 target](#)



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[schools](#) in disaster-prone regions benefited from improved resilience. [25 automated weather stations](#) were procured and installed, enabling data to be automatically provided to the meteorological network of Uzhydromet. Finally, joining the [Protocol on Water and Health](#) positioned Uzbekistan as a leader in the region to further drive and streamline national action on water, sanitation, hygiene and health.

Support was provided to the [nationwide Yashil Makon](#) initiative both at policy and practical levels. Two complementary feasibility studies were carried out on master planning and designing of innovative finance solutions for afforestation and landscape restoration, with recommendations for financing, localization, value creation, and livelihoods impact. These studies defined a way forward for the Yashil Makon initiative to move beyond a mere afforestation investment and be considered as an economic multiplier, a jobs creator, and an engine of an inclusive green economy.

Growing Dreams: Aybek's Journey to Sustainable Soil Health

Aybek Zhalgashov, a 23-year-old entrepreneur and student, spearheads a cooperative with 12 young people producing vermicompost to address soil degradation issues in the Aral Sea Region. Inspired by his childhood love for agriculture and guided by his family's farming background, Aybek's passion led him to invest in equipment and seek opportunities for expansion. Through a Joint Programme funded by the UN Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea Region (MPHSTF), Aybek and his team received support to enhance their vermicompost production. With their production capacity doubled, they now collaborate with retailers and farmers, generating significant income. [Find out more.](#)



Afghan and Uzbek communities work together to mitigate climate change in Uzbekistan



Surkhandarya region hosts the largest number of Afghan citizens in Uzbekistan. It is also affected by deforestation and dust storms, which have a significant impact on living conditions. As part of an afforestation project initiated by UNDP and UNHCR in cooperation with the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change, 413 Afghan and 362 Uzbek citizens from vulnerable groups participated in cash for work activities to plant thousands of trees in four locations across the region. These activities were combined with training opportunities for participants, improving their knowledge and skills in entrepreneurship, environmentally friendly agriculture practices, and land restoration activities. [Find out more.](#)



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Supporting Sustainable Production and Land Management

Over **680 community representatives** gained valuable skills in sustainable agriculture. Farmers received **17 tons of seeds** for conservation, while training and workshops equipped them with knowledge on **water saving technologies and salt-tolerant seeds**. Sustainable forest management also gained traction with guidance for information systems, national consultations, and training.

Protecting Cultural Heritage

With the UN's support one cultural and one natural site were included in the **World Heritage List**. In addition, 2 historic sites were **rehabilitated** - historic madrassah in Bukhara and mosque in Khiva.



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2.3. Support to Partnerships and Financing the 2030 Agenda

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Key results in numbers

13.5 million children and young people in Uzbekistan benefitted from climate action

11.3 million people benefited from reduced environmental risks

17 tons of seeds distributed to rural households

100,075 ha covered with afforestation activities

Key challenges

- Lack of sufficient capacity and institutional challenges
- Lack of financial resources
- Lack of communication among stakeholders



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Financing the 2030 Agenda

As a result of UN support, Uzbekistan took a step towards green finance securing [USD350 million](#) to fund water conservation, eco-friendly transportation, sanitation improvements, and efforts to combat land degradation. This initiative was bolstered by [Climate Budget Tagging](#) ensuring transparency by linking investments to actual spending.



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Partnership with National Counterparts

In August, the UNCT jointly with the Development Strategy Centre and the Agency for Strategic Reforms conducted national consultations with Government, civil society and the international community to discuss a new national development strategy “Uzbekistan-2030” in the context of SDG acceleration. Stakeholders, including the UNCT, provided comments and recommendations to enhance the strategy’s alignment with the national SDG framework and to mobilize support from partners.

In November, the UN supported a month-long series of 16 roundtable discussions on the SDGs co-chaired by relevant committees from the Senate and Oliy Majlis. Stakeholders from Government, civil society, and the UN exchanged views on progress and remaining challenges.

Initiated by the Uzbek parliament, the “SDG Month” culminated in the Second Global Forum of Interparliamentary Cooperation in Tashkent. This forum focused on the role of civil society engagement in achieving gender equality and advancing sustainable development. Convening a diverse group of stakeholders from governments, civil society, the private sector, and development partners from the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) and Commonwealth of Independent

States (CIS) regions, the forum affirmed Uzbekistan’s commitment to becoming a regional leader in promoting multilateral cooperation to advance the 2030 Agenda.

Partnership Compact on Education

In April 2023, the Ministry of Preschool and School Education, jointly with the Global Partnership for Education, UN agencies, and national and international partners, presented the [Partnership Compact for Education Reform 2023-26](#). It was the result of an innovative planning process guided by extensive consultation and co-creation with all relevant stakeholders within the framework of the Local Education Group, coordinated by UNICEF. Development Partners committed to support the operationalization of the Compact, including through pledging of over USD 580 million to be invested in education in the next three years.



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Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea region in Uzbekistan

Since its establishment in November 2018, the Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea region in Uzbekistan has been a catalyst for the SDGs in Uzbekistan. The Fund uses a transparent and impartial approach to development cooperation. To date, the work of the Aral Sea Trust Fund is possible thanks to the efforts of 7 contributors. Since 2019 together they have contributed [USD 16,248,943](#).

Uzbekistan Vision 2030 Fund

The Uzbekistan Vision 2030 Fund, also known as the “Ishonch Fund,” was established in August 2022 based on an agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the Republic of Uzbekistan on the modalities for the return of illegally acquired assets forfeited in the Swiss Confederation to the benefit of the population of Uzbekistan over a period of ten years. The Fund supports principled, transparent, and effective asset restitution via programmes aimed at accelerating Uzbekistan’s national reform agenda and the Vision 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The financing will be used to bring tangible and transformative results to the people of Uzbekistan. Adopted in March 2023, the first Resource Allocation Strategy focuses on two strategic priorities: i) reduced maternal and infant mortality and ii) inclusive and equitable quality education.

In September 2023, the Fund announced an allocation of USD 43.5 million to support a significantly reducing preventable maternal and newborn deaths in Uzbekistan, implemented jointly by UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO working closely with the Ministry of Health. One of the key goals of the joint programme –which will have national coverage– is to increase the survival rate of low-birth-weight babies from seventy-five percent to ninety percent.

Partnering for Progress: The United Nations in Uzbekistan Joined Forces with Academic Institutions to Advance Sustainable Development

Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT) and the UN in Uzbekistan signed a Joint Declaration of Intent to Partner and Collaborate on 22nd May 2023 to jointly deliver selected sustainable development initiatives aimed at shaping the future of Uzbekistan. In addition to WIUT, the Resident Coordinator's Office in Uzbekistan has signed Joint Declarations of Intent with the University College London and the Wageningen University.

Fostering Sustainable Growth: A Tri-Sector Collaboration

The UNCT, Westminster International University in Tashkent, and Uzbekistan's private sector convened a Forum on "Championing Business Sustainability in Uzbekistan." Central to the event was the unveiling of the SDG report, which highlighted the private sector's role in advancing sustainable development with contributions to 49 national SDG targets across 16 national SDGs.

South-South Cooperation: VNR Twinning Exercise

Uzbekistan joined forces with Tajikistan and Mongolia in 2023 to share experiences, lessons learned, and best practices in crafting Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). This Twinning exercise, supported by the UN, fostered knowledge exchange among government, civil society, and private sector representatives from all three countries. Additionally, Uzbekistan hosted a study tour for representatives from Tajikistan and Mongolia, showcasing good practices of its ongoing structural reforms.

Partnership for the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions

In 2023, the Government of Uzbekistan committed to the UN Secretary General's



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Global Accelerator (GA) on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions. At the request of the Government, the UNCT partnered with the GIZ and the World Bank to establish the GA Country Team to deliver coordinated support for the initiative. Extensive consultations with parliamentarians, government officials, academics, social partners, human rights defenders, and civil society, facilitated by the UN and development partners, were instrumental in identifying key entry points and thematic priorities for GA implementation.

Partnering with World Bank

The UN joined forces with the World Bank to integrate the MPI survey questionnaire into the Household Budget Survey (HBS). This wider survey will capture both monetary and non-monetary dimensions of poverty, providing a more comprehensive picture of poverty in Uzbekistan.

In partnership with the World Bank, the UN supported the establishment of the National Social Protection Agency in June 2023.

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



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10 Joint programmes implemented in 2023

Programme	Implementing Agencies	Contribution to SDGs
Multi-faceted response to the food and energy emergency in Uzbekistan	UNICEF, FAO, ILO	SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 8, SDG 10
Shared Prosperity through Cooperation in Border Regions in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan	FAO, UNFPA	SDG 2, SDG 5, SDG 8, SDG 13, SDG 16
Transformation of Social Service Delivery: Implementing Human Rights-Based Approach for Children, Youth, and Women with Disabilities in Uzbekistan	UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, OHCHR	SDG 1, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 16
Towards universal health coverage and security in Karakalpakstan	WHO, UNOPS	SDG 3, SDG 8, SDG 11
Unleashing young people's and vulnerable citizens' creativity and innovation by strengthening their adaptive capacity to address the economic and food insecurities in the exposed communities of the Aral Sea region	UNDP, UNFPA, FAO	SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 5, SDG 6, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 11, SDG 15
Laying the foundations for people-centred, climate-resilient primary health care and water, sanitation and hygiene practices at healthcare facilities and schools in Karakalpakstan	UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA	SDG 1, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 13
Empowering Youth Towards a Brighter Future through Green and Innovative Development of the Aral Sea region	UNDP, UNICEF, FAO	SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 5, SDG 6, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 11, SDG 15
Climate-resilient primary health care and water, sanitation and hygiene practices	UNICEF, UNFPA, FAO	SDG 1, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 13
Every Mother and Child Survives and Thrives: Reducing Preventable Maternal and Newborn Deaths in 227 Perinatal Centres of Uzbekistan	UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO	SDG 1, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 13
Master planning and innovative financial solutions to support the implementation of the Yashil Makon Initiative of the Republic of Uzbekistan	UNDP, UNECE, UNHCR	SDG 1, SDG 3

Strong UNCT coordination is key for successful implementation of the UNSDCF. The UNCT strove to improve its collaboration, focusing on coherence, effectiveness, and efficiency. A collaborative approach was fostered, leveraging the expertise and capacities of all UNCT members, regardless of location.

UN Results Groups, Thematic Groups, and Programme Support Groups ensured coordinated and synergistic efforts towards achieving joint priorities. Joint Work Plans were updated with new output indicators that better reflect the impact of UN activities on the SDGs. Furthermore, the UNCT successfully adopted the DCO Guidance for joint programming, providing a clear framework for developing and implementing effective joint programs.

In 2023, the UNCT launched two new Joint Programmes (JPs), bringing the total number of JPs to 10. Joint programming enables better coordination and collaboration among UN agencies, avoiding duplication of effort and promoting integrated solutions to development challenges, consistent with the interrelated nature of the SDGs.

Throughout 2023, the UNCT remained steadfast in its commitment to promoting human rights and LNOB in Uzbekistan. The UNCT played a vital role in addressing key human rights concerns, including through joint analysis and joint advocacy.

Communicating as One

The UN Communication team delivered clear and supportive messages regarding the 2030 Agenda, the SDGs, and the international UN normative agenda, all while ensuring a unified UN image in the country. The team commemorated various significant UN observance days and weeks alongside national and international partners, such as [International Women's Day](#), [UN Day](#), [the 16 Days Campaign](#), [World Environment Day](#) and [International Youth Day](#). Under UN RC leadership, the UNCT launched the "Road to the Summit" campaign, which successfully

mobilized partners and stakeholders, including young people, around the SDG Summit and SDG transformation.

The team facilitated 15 "SDG dialogues" and "Leave No One Behind" sessions, engaging over 1,500 participants including students, school children, academics, youth leaders, and international youth. The team collaborated with numerous universities and supported the organization of 3 [Model UN conferences](#), notably the largest Model UN Conference in Central Asia – the Tashkent International Model United Nations (TIMUN)– which gathered more than 550 young leaders from 14 countries.

Youth for the SDGs

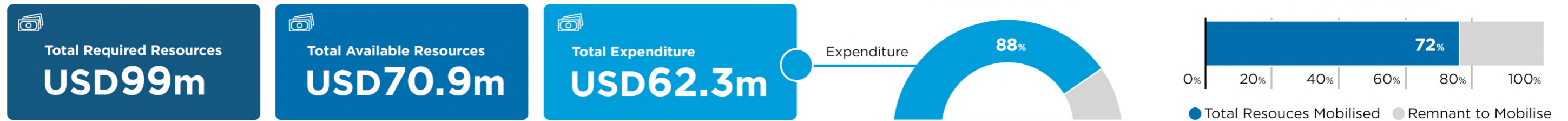
In July, UNCG launched the "Youth for the SDGs" social media campaign in support of the 2023 SDG Summit. Social media followers created 27 video messages emphasizing the importance of the SDGs and the pressing need for their implementation. The initiative engaged 17,000 individuals across Instagram, X, and Telegram, with the involvement of various social media influencers, activists, journalists, and academia.



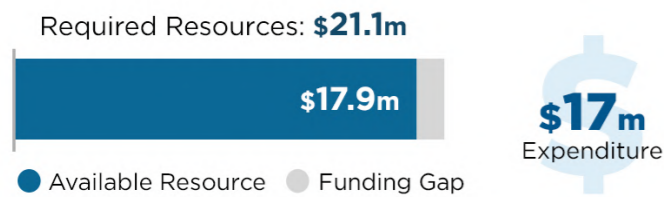
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2.5. Financial Overview and Resource Mobilization

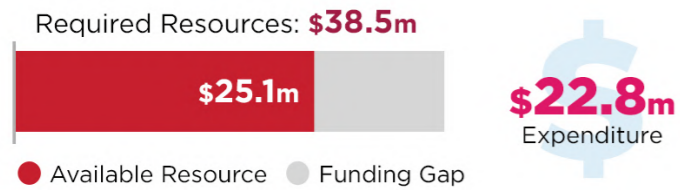
2.5.1. Financial Overview for 2023



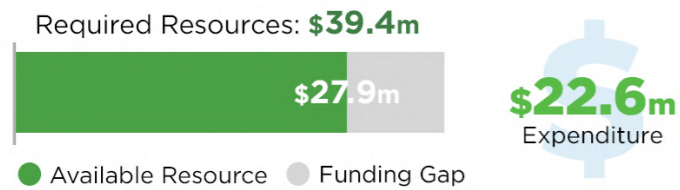
Strategic Priority A: Effective governance and justice for all



Strategic Priority B: Inclusive human capital development leading to health, well-being and resilient prosperity



Strategic Priority C: Sustainable, climate responsible and resilient development

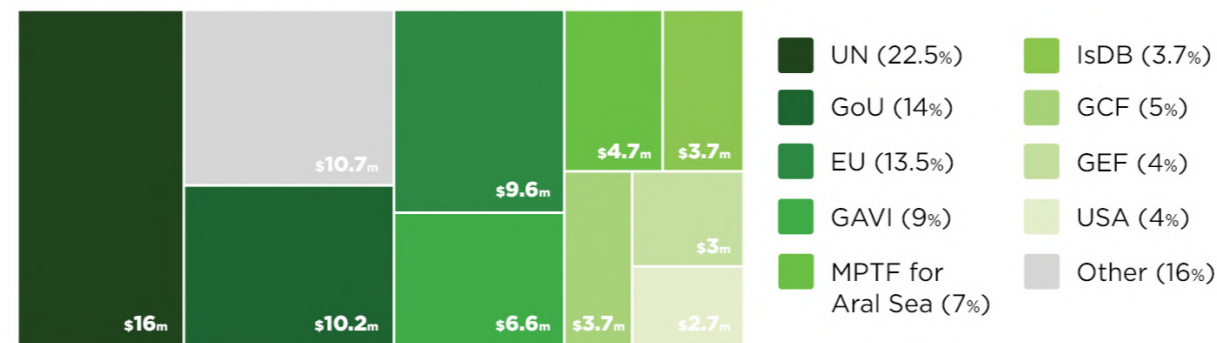


- SDG 1
- SDG 2
- SDG 3
- SDG 4
- SDG 5
- SDG 6
- SDG 7
- SDG 8
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- SDG 10
- SDG 11
- SDG 12
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- SDG 15
- SDG 16
- SDG 17

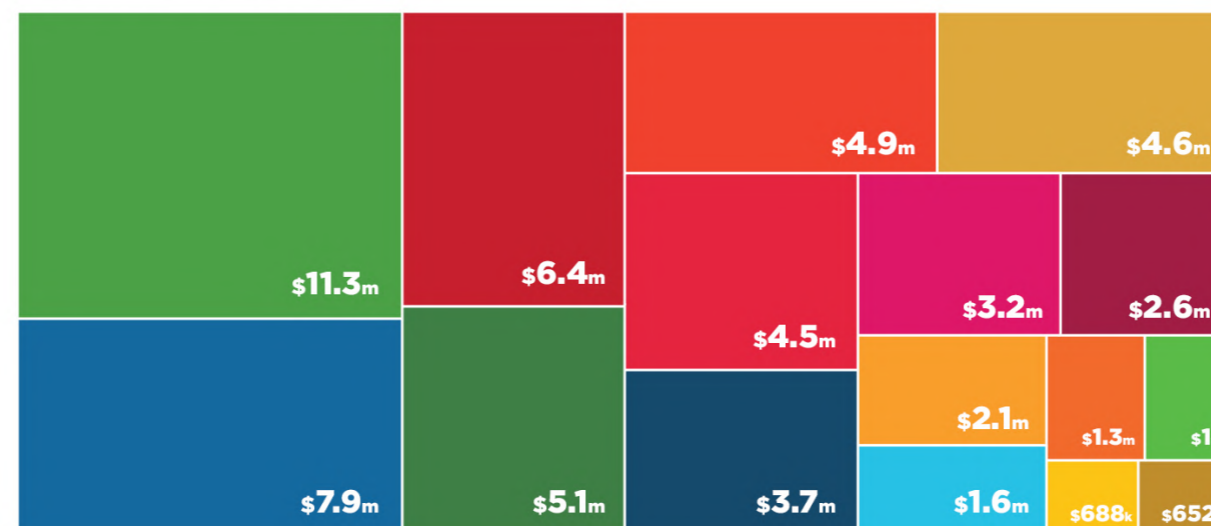
Expenditures by funding modality



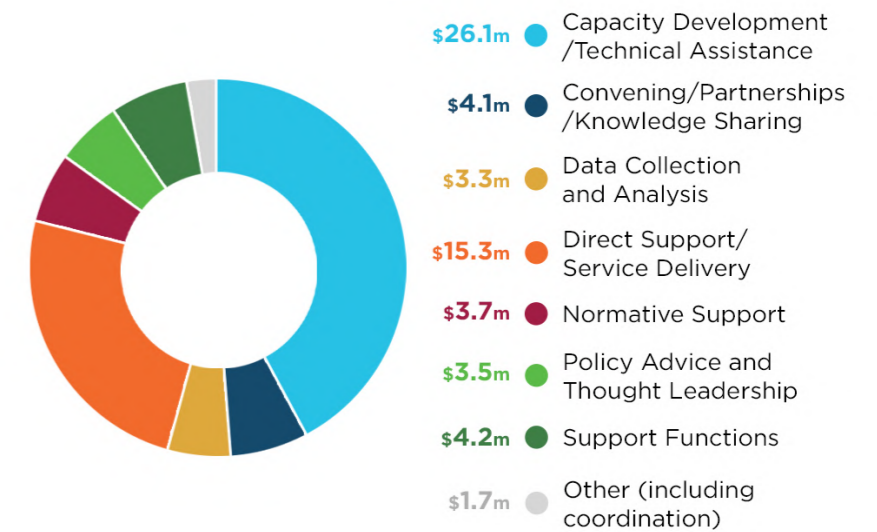
Contributions by funding source



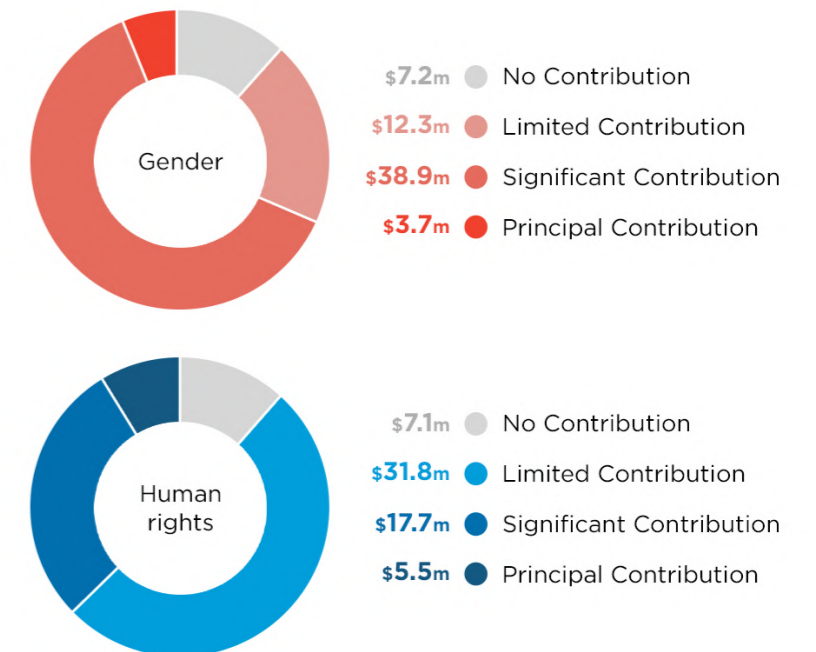
Expenditure by SDG



UN Support Modality



Markers

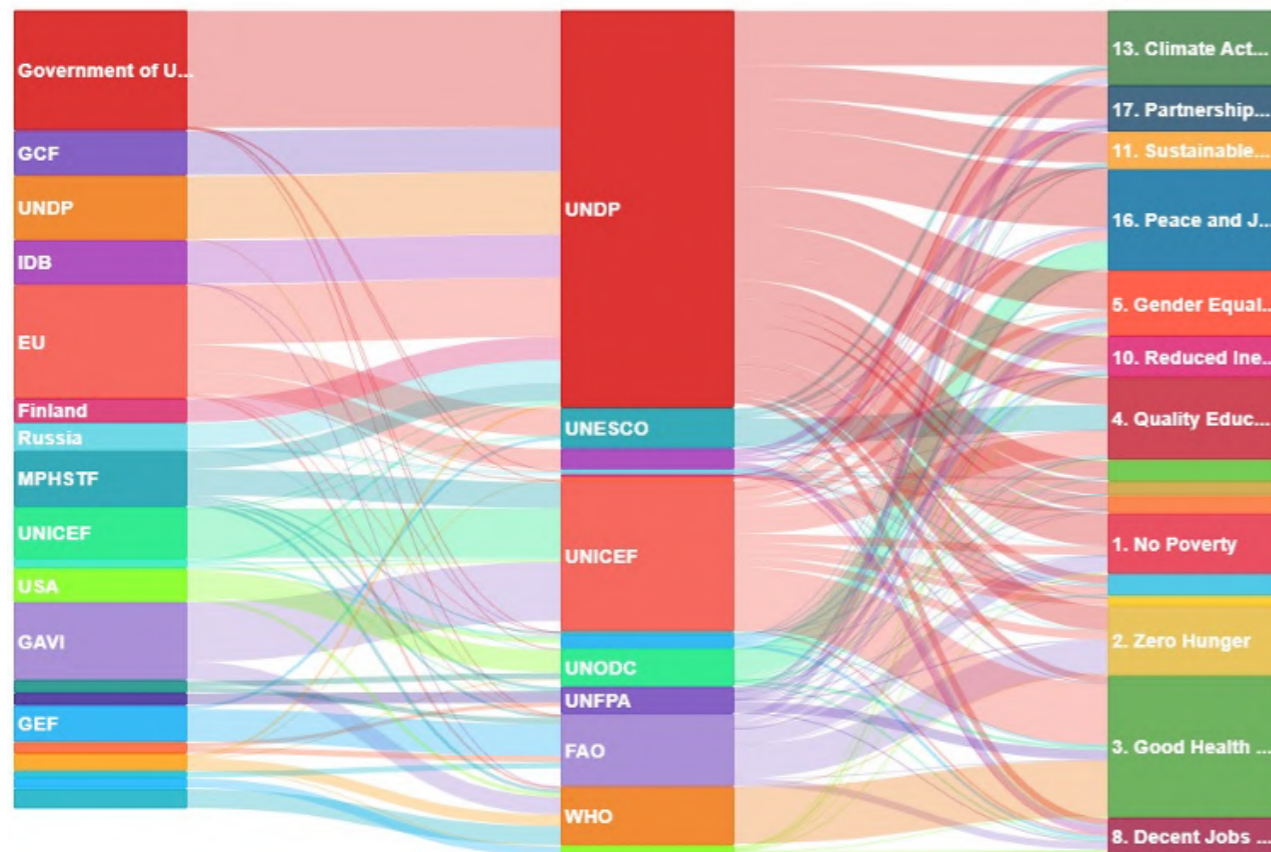


2.5.2. Resource mobilization and quality of funding

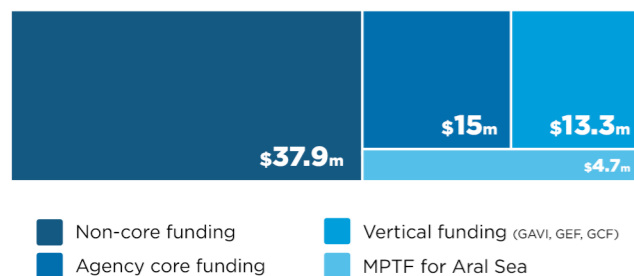
Effective resource mobilization is crucial for the UN to deliver results in Uzbekistan. To ensure the sustainability of development efforts, diversification of the funding

landscape is important. Fostering collaboration with a wide range of partners, the UN in Uzbekistan secured than **USD70 million in 2023**, covering **72% of the required budget**.

Key development partners, funding and recipients per SDG in 2023



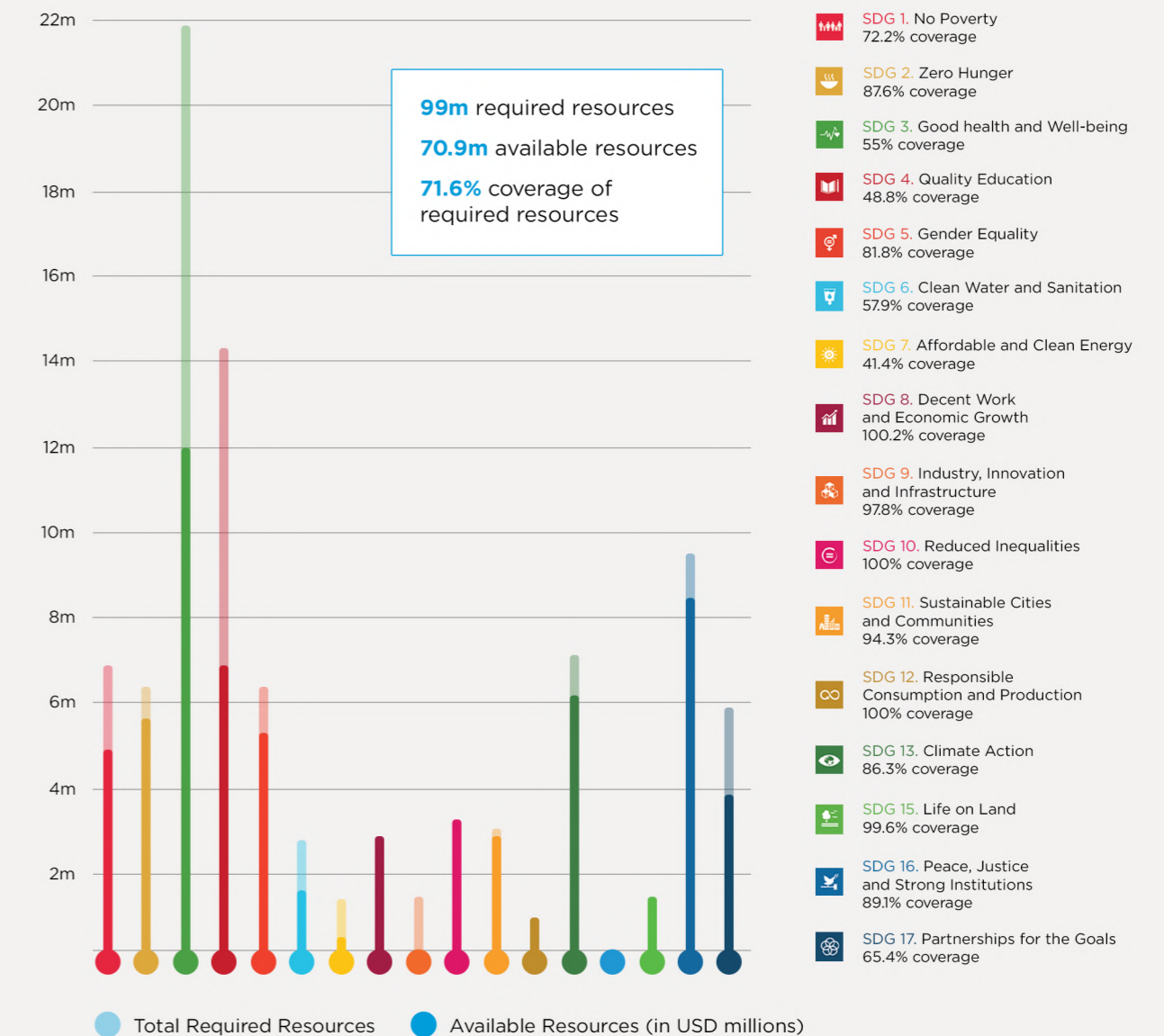
Source: [UN INFO](#)



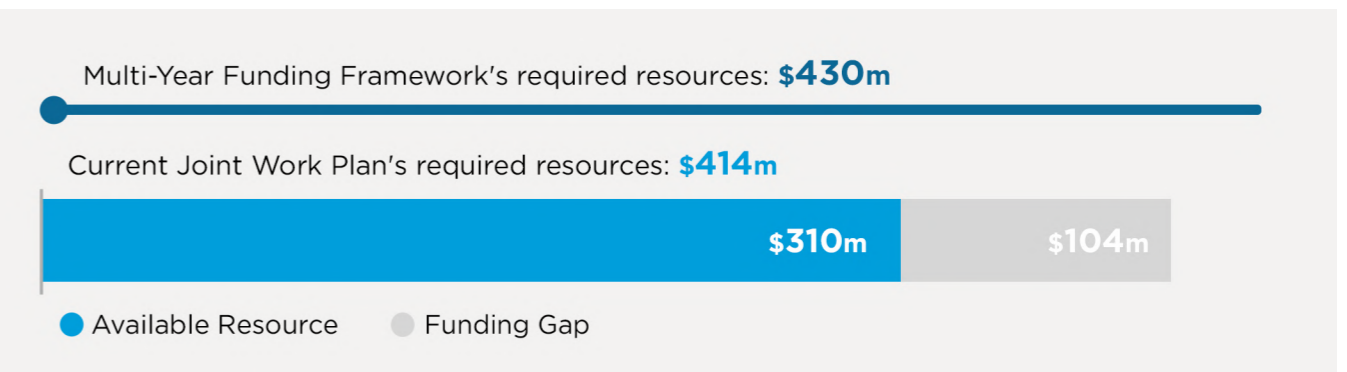
The Government of Uzbekistan remained one of the largest contributors to the UN with 14% of available resources. More than a third (40%) of available resources for UN programming came from core UN funds and vertical funding.

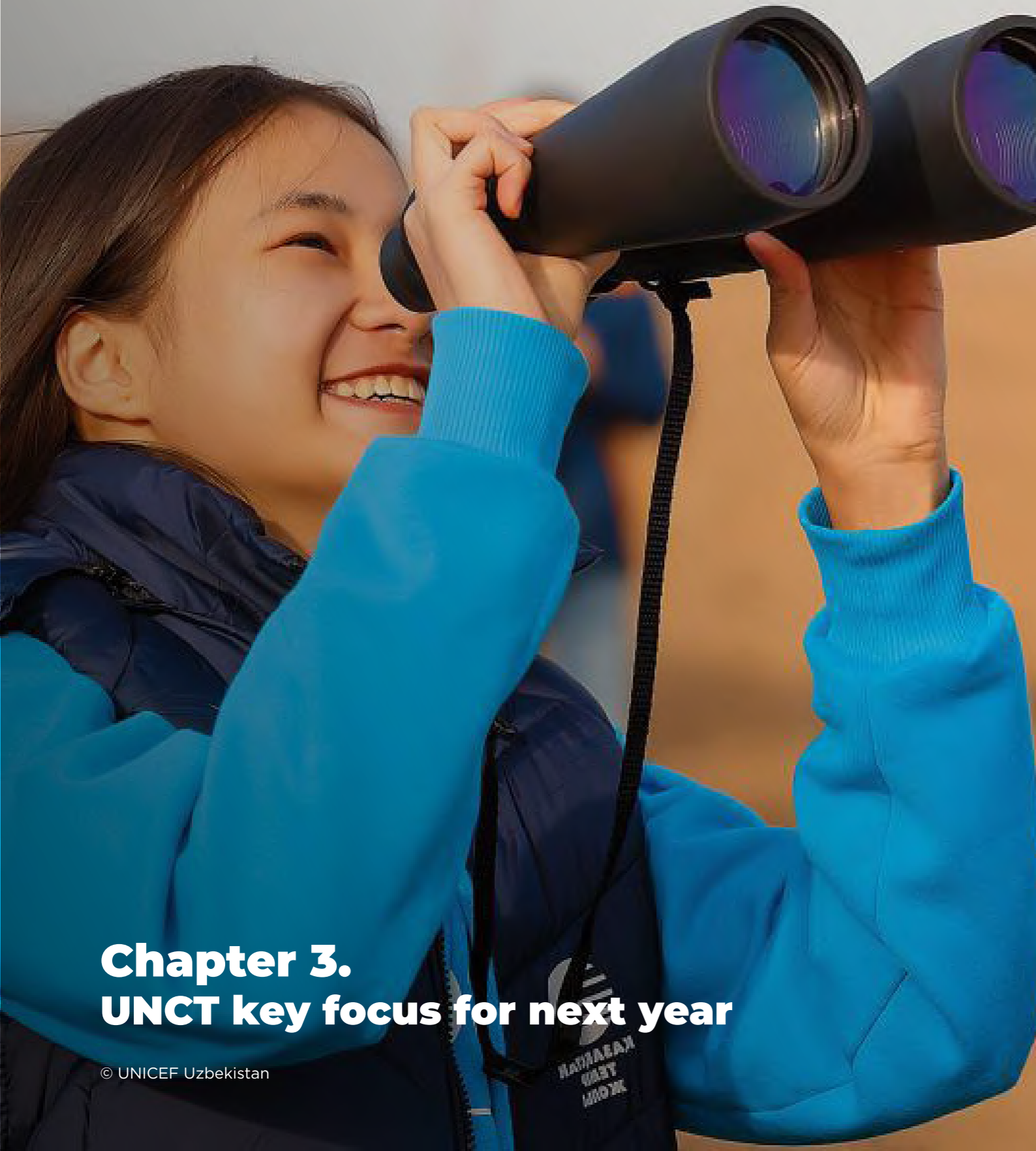
Global and regional shocks, declining economic growth, government budget constraints and shifting donor priorities represent key challenges for mobilizing additional resources. Diversifying the UN's funding pool beyond traditional donors is vital to bridge SDG gaps and achieve lasting results. The **Uzbekistan Vision 2030 Fund** stands as a prime example of an innovative financing approach in Uzbekistan. In 2023 over **USD 43 million** were allocated towards enhancing maternal and neonatal health in the country. By utilizing recovered assets for the public good, the Fund tackles funding shortfalls and directly addresses national priorities aligned with SDGs.

The UN funding gap by Sustainable Development Goal in Uzbekistan in 2023



Source: [UN INFO](#)





Chapter 3. UNCT key focus for next year

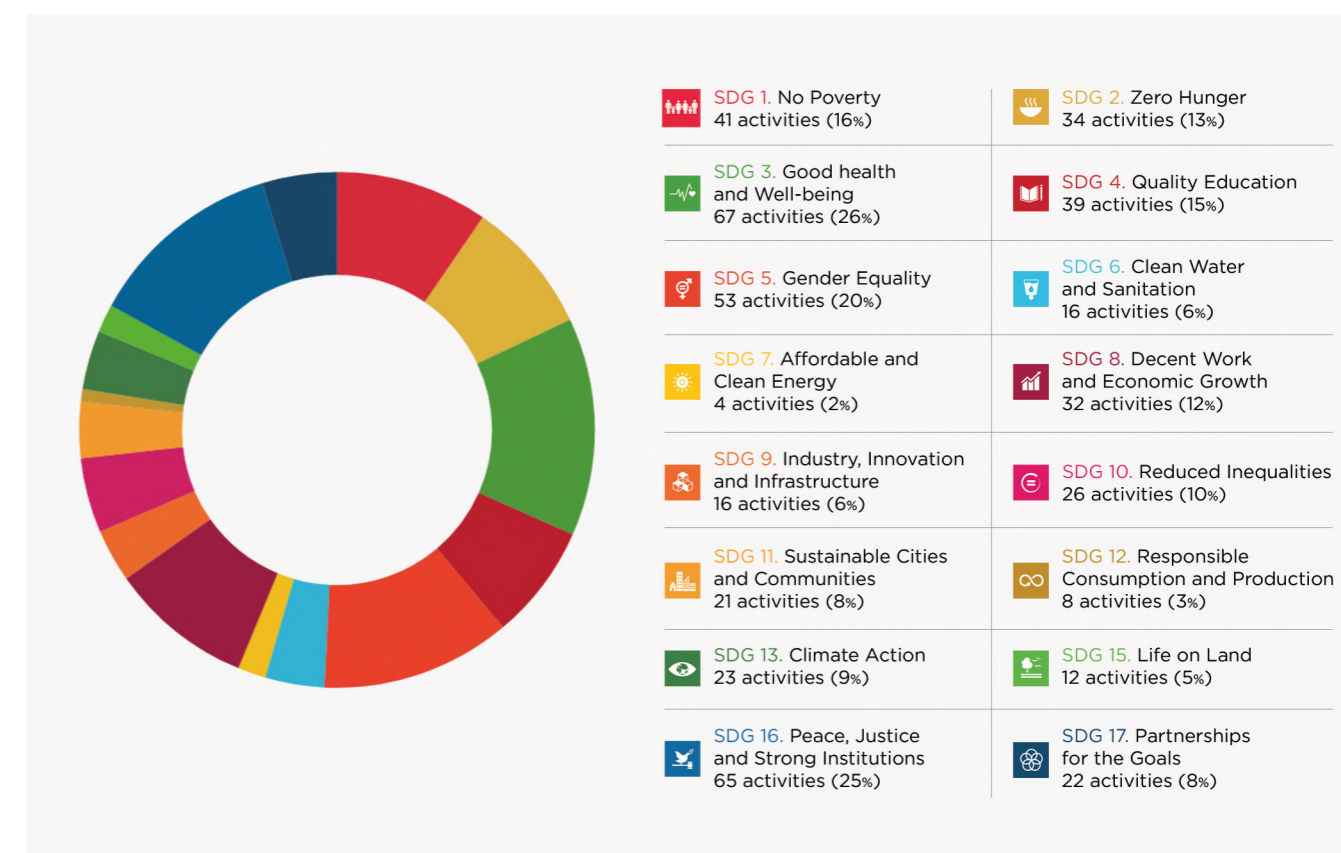
In 2024, the United Nations will continue to support Uzbekistan in realizing the national SDGs and leaving no one behind. The UN will extend its ongoing, fruitful cooperation with national and international partners and continue to deliver results for the people of Uzbekistan, striving towards a more just, equal, and resilient society by 2030.

In 2024, the UNCT will mobilize stakeholders in Uzbekistan in preparation for the Summit of the Future. These work will include information sessions to raise awareness about the Summit of the Future and thematic dialogues based on “Our Common Agenda” policy briefs with national governments, regional institutions, civil society, private sector and academia.



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UN activities planned for 2024 per SDG 260 activities in Joint Workplan



Source: [UN INFO](https://www.un.org/ru/infocenter)

The three strategic priorities of the Cooperation Framework will continue to guide the UN’s collaborative endeavors in

Uzbekistan. Key areas of focus are presented below.

Effective Governance and Justice for all

Governance and Rule of Law

- Enhancing law enforcement capacities to combat corruption, trafficking, violent extremism and organized crime.
- Promoting child-friendly and gender-responsive justice systems.
- Strengthening rule of law and institutional frameworks for human rights protection.
- Empowering women and girls in leadership and decision-making roles.
- Strengthening civil society engagement.

Data Management and Capacity Building

- Improving statistical capacities for data collection, analysis and evidence-based policy making.
- Supporting investment and financial cooperation initiatives.

Inclusive Human Capital Development Leading to Health, Well-Being and Resilient Prosperity

Livelihoods

- Enhancing skills training and economic empowerment for youth, women, and other vulnerable groups
- Improving migration policies and labour market governance to protect migrant workers and address market needs.
- Promoting sustainable infrastructure development and facilitating cross-border trade.

Health

- Strengthening health systems through capacity building and improved public health infrastructure.
- Supporting the promotion of healthy lifestyle and nutrition.
- Enhancing emergency and response health preparedness.

Education

- Supporting competency-based education reform with a focus on digital learning and inclusive education.
- Strengthening national curriculum framework and teacher learning.
- Promoting ethics and culture of lawfulness in education system.

Social Protection

- Strengthening social security and welfare systems, including through capacity building, improved legal frameworks, new financing methods and expansion of social insurance coverage.
- Enhancing access to integrated, multi-sectoral social services for vulnerable groups, including GBV survivors, victims of human trafficking, migrants, and refugees.

Sustainable, climate responsible and resilient development

Green economy

- Supporting sustainable energy transition and the development of a national SDG7 Roadmap.
- Supporting the development of sustainable inland transport and accelerating investments for low-emission vehicles.

Sustainable agriculture and rural development

- Modernizing agriculture and irrigation practices to adopt sustainable and climate-resilient approaches.
- Enhancing the resilience and inclusive socio-economic development of the rural communities.

Climate change adaptation

- Developing sector-driven national adaptation plans and promoting climate-resilient livelihoods.
- Promoting civic engagement in climate action.

Environmental management

- Strengthening sustainable management of forests and supporting afforestation.
- Improving governance, capacity, and infrastructure in the areas of water and sanitation.
- Enhancing industrial safety and management of hazardous chemicals and waste.
- Strengthening biodiversity conservation, including through finance solutions.

DRR and emergency preparedness

- Establishing robust humanitarian supply chains and multi-sectoral coordination platforms.
- Enhancing disaster risk management systems to mitigate the impacts of emergencies and disease risks.

Cultural heritage preservation

- Safeguarding and promoting cultural heritage and strengthening disaster risk management for cultural sites.

List of acronyms and abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	UN	United Nations
COP 28	2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference	UN ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
CPI	Consumer Price Index	UN HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
CRPD	Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
CSO	Civil society organization	UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
DRR	Disaster risk reduction	UNCG	United Nations Communications Group
EU	European Union	UNCRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	UNCT	United Nations Country Team
GBV	Gender-based violence	UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
GDP	Gross domestic product	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
HBS	Household Budget Survey	UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus	UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
HPV	Human papillomavirus	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
IFI	International Finance Institution	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
ILO	International Labour Organization	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
IOM	International Organization for Migration	UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
ITC	International Trade Centre	UNICRI	United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute
ITU	International Telecommunication Union	UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
JWP	Joint Work Plans	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys	UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
MPHSTF	Multi-Partner Human Security Trust Fund for the Aral Sea Region	UNPRPD	UN Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Fund
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index	UNRCCA	United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund	UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
NCD	Noncommunicable diseases	UPR	Universal Periodic Review
NGO	Non-governmental organization	VNR	Voluntary National Report
OHCHR	United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
PBF	Peacebuilding Fund	WB	World Bank
PHC	Primary health care	WTO	World Trade Organization
PSEA	Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse	MUN	Model United Nations
QCPR	Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review		
RCO	Resident Coordinator Office		
RRP	Refugee response plan		
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals		
SME	Small and medium enterprise		
STEM	Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics		
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training		

